

36

THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD.

VOLUME VII.

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

—
London :

PUBLISHED BY E. W. ALLEN, AVE MARIA LANE, LONDON.

AND OF ALL BOOKSELLERS.

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THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 313. —VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1888.

ONE PENNY.

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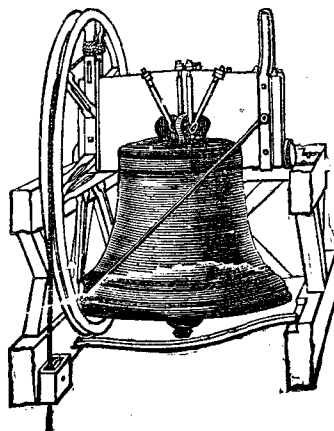
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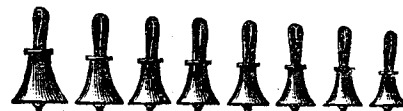
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THE ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

On Saturday, March 10th, a social gathering of the above Society was held at "The Poltimore Inn," for the purpose of presenting Mr. W. Mundy with a handsome framed photograph group of the members, he being about to leave this city for Birmingham.

Mr. FERRIS SHEPHERD occupied the chair, and on making the presentation on behalf of the members, alluded to the kind and genial disposition of Mr. Mundy, and the great loss the Society would sustain by his departure. This, he said, was the second member of no mean ability who had received their tuition at St. Sidwell's, and gone to Birmingham. What was their loss was Birmingham's gain. At the cutlers' town they had certainly a lot more scope for their ringing abilities, and so perhaps on the whole it was best, so as it could be a benefit to the Exercise. They could ill afford the loss of such men from the West of England, where good change-ringers were scarce; they must however make the best of such matters, and wish the recipient every success.

Mr. W. MUNDY, on receiving the present, said that he was very sorry to leave them all, but it was a matter of business, and so it could not be avoided. With regard to the present, he must say that he should be very proud of it and value it very much, and he hoped that he should have the pleasure of ringing a good many more peals with them. Although he was going from among them he should never forget the pleasant time he had spent with the St. Sidwell's Society. He thanked them all for their kindness, and hoped that he should be spared to come down and see and ring with them again. He should endeavour to do his best with regard to ringing in Birmingham if he could get in with a Society. He hoped that the St. Sidwell's Society would prosper and go ahead, which he had no doubt they would if they stuck together.

Mr. T. J. LAKE then made a few remarks. In speaking of the Society he said that it could boast of sending to other towers men who need not to be afraid to stand in with any band in the Exercise as regards striking their bells. Although Mr. Mundy was going from them no doubt he would do justice to the Society in which he first learnt to ring.

Mr. J. MOSS then proposed the health of Mr. W. Mundy. In doing so he observed that while Mr. Mundy had been among them he had gained the respect of all connected with it. He was he knew speaking the sentiments of all when he said that he was very sorry that he was going to leave them, but he knew that though distant he would never be forgotten, and as a change-ringer no doubt he would make a good headway in the town he was about to go. In conclusion he wished Mr. Mundy a most successful career in Birmingham, and also good health to enjoy it.

The toast was drunk with musical honours, the company standing and singing "Auld Lang Syne." The rest of the evening was spent in singing, etc., Mr. E. Shepherd presiding at the piano, and a very present evening was spent. Before the above took place the following rang the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire (Triples (2520 changes), at St. Sidwell's church, in 1 hr. 30 mins. F. Davey, 1; E. Shepherd, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; S. Binfield, 4; W. Munday, 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd (conductor), 7; B. Mundy, 8.

RINGERS' OUTING.

On Tuesday, March 13th, the Ryde (I.W.) Band visited Newport, where they were met by the Newport band, and rang the plain course and a few short touches of Grandsire Triples. S. Salisbury, 1; O. Combes, 2; H. Jennings, 3; W. Jennings, 4; G. Derrick (conductor), 5; J. Norris, 6; A. Carley, H. Hatcher, W. Baker, 7; A. Ward, 8. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles on the back six. *W. Jennings, 1; *O. Combes, 2; *H. Jennings, 3; W. Baker, 4; *G. Derrick (conductor), 5; *A. Ward, 6. *First attempt at Doubles. After a slight refreshment the handbells were brought into use, and the plain course and some touches of Grandsire Triples were rung. R. Ward, 1-2; W. Ward, 3-4; G. Derrick (conductor), 5-6; H. Jennings, 7-8. The Newport band very cleverly played some favourite ballads on their splendid peal of twenty-seven bells. The ringers beg to thank Mr. Moody, foreman of the Newport band for having everything in readiness.

STRATTON, STRAWLESS, NORFOLK.—RESTORATION OF THE BELLS.

The fine ring of six bells in St. Margaret's church in this parish had for a long time been in a most unsatisfactory condition, as they were neither tunable nor ringable. Some months ago, Miss Helen Matchett, daughter of the rector, made an appeal for funds to put the bells into a fitting and proper condition. Too much credit cannot be given to this young lady for the energy she has displayed. All lovers of bells and all practical ringers, as well as the parishioners, must tender her their hearty thanks. Thursday, March 15th, was the day appointed for the opening ceremony. At 11 a.m. a short and simple service was conducted in the church by the rector (the Rev. H. H. Matchett, M.A., R.N.). Special Psalms and Collects were used, and the well-known hymn,

"Now at length our bells are mounted,
To their holy place on high,

was very heartily sung by the choir and the ringers and the congregation present. Immediately after service ringing commenced. A well-struck 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung by the following band. F. Day (Eye), 1; G. Day (Eye), 2; Rev. N. Bolingbroke (Secretary of the Norwich Association), 3; G. Moy (Aylsham), 4; P. Sadler (St. Peter Mancroft), 5; Captain A. P. Moore (Redenhall), 6. The Aylsham band next took the ropes and did some excellent ringing, as also the St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, band at a later hour. The ringing was continued by the local men and others from Coltishall, Hevingham, Marsham, and Worstead. The work of restoring the bells has been carried out by Messrs. G. and F. Day, of Eye, Suffolk. The old frame has been strengthened, and the bells have been re-hung with new stocks, wheels, and all other gear. The bells have been fitted with reversible crown staples, so that at any time the clappers may be made to strike upon a fresh point. They have also been tuned, so now give forth a sound musically correct. A chiming apparatus on the Ella-combe system has been constructed, and is the gift of the rector and his family in memory of Queen Victoria's Jubilee. The visitors were hospitably entertained during the day at the rectory. The handbell ringing and tune-playing of Mr. Knights and his company added to the life of the gathering. In the evening the local ringers and other friends were invited to supper at the parish schoolroom.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A Committee Meeting of this Guild was held on Saturday last, March 17th, in the Chapter House of the Cathedral, with the Archdeacon of Chester in the chair. The following local branches were reported: 1, Wirral with 11 churches and 69 ringing members, 14 probationers, and 5 honorary members; 2, Macclesfield with 7 churches and 30 ringing members, 2 probationers, and 4 honorary members; 3, Grappenhall with 4 churches and 27 ringing members, 4 honorary members; 4, Run-corn with 1 church and 7 ringing members.

A certificate of membership, and also a notice of union, and a form of prayer for the belfries, were agreed upon. The Annual Meeting was fixed for Bank Holiday, August 6th, at Chester. The Committee hope that before that time all the belfries in the Diocese will have joined the Guild.

THOMAS GREENALL, *Hon. Sec.*

Grappenhall Rectory, Warrington, March 20, 1888.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Wimbledon, by the kind permission of the Rev. Canon Haygarth, on Easter Monday, April 2nd. The tower will be open for ringing from 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The tea at 6 p.m. at the Welcome Coffee Tavern, will be free to all those ringing members whose subscriptions are paid, and who send notice to the Manager by Thursday, March 29th (at the latest) of their intention to be present. All others will be charged 1s. 6d. a head. The business meeting will follow the tea.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

WANTED.—Situation in any capacity where practical carpentering would be essential. Good scholar. Change-ringer. Excellent references.—ED. LEE, Bridge Cottage, Bagshot, Surrey.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ON Friday evening, March 16th, a supper took place at the St. Paul's Meeting-House, "The Goose and Gridiron," St. Paul's Churchyard, to celebrate the non-conducted peals (Holt's Original, and Holt's ten-part), rang on handbells by Messrs. Mitchell, Buckingham, Winny, and McLaughlin, and also the peal of Stedman Triples likewise rang on handbells, and conducted by Challis F. Winny. Eighteen sat down to supper, namely, Messrs. Winny, Haworth, Rowbotham, J. M. Hayes, H. R. Newton, Dawe, Horrex, G. Mash, McLaughlin, Judd, and R. T. Woodley (Hon. Sec.), and Messrs. W. H. L. Buckingham, Mitchell, Cartmel, and Debenham (St. Albans), and Messrs. W. Baron, J. Barry, and G. Wild, of the Royal Cumberland Youths. Amongst others invited but could not attend were Messrs. M. A. Wood, Cooter, French, Gibbs, and Gover, and T. Waller, H. Lewis, N. N. Hills, and W. Battle (St. Albans). The room was tastefully arranged, the tables being lighted with fairy lamps, and Mr. Making had successfully attended to the foraging department.

Mr. WOODLEY having taken the chair, and Mr. W. BARON the vice-chair, supper was successfully negotiated in four courses. After the cloth was removed,

The CHAIRMAN gave the toast which always stands first at any festive assembly, namely, "The Queen and Royal Family."

The next toast was "The Ancient Society of College Youths, and the London and Provincial Associations."

Mr. G. MASH replied on behalf of his own Society, and Mr. BARON for the remainder. The latter alluded to the non-conducted peals, stated that he considered it an honour to be umpire to them, and also the Stedman Triples, and wound up by adding that he hoped it would not be long before he was asked to be umpire at an attempt for a silent peal of Stedman.

The next toast was that of "The Non-Conducted peal band," (Messrs. Winny, Mitchell, Buckingham, and McLaughlin), was well received, the Chairman praising the patience and perseverance shown by them, and which ultimately led to success, and enabled them to accomplish their performances.

Mr. WINNY and Mr. BUCKINGHAM having replied, the toast of "The Ringing Periodicals" was given, coupled with the name of Mr. J. R. Haworth, and to which he suitably replied. It having leaked out that the 16th was Mr. Dawe's birthday, the Chairman at once asked the company to drink Mr. Dawe's health, which was accordingly done.

Mr. DAWE replied in an exceedingly humorous manner. Just as Great Paul's brother had struck the last blow of the midnight hour, and which ushered in the festival of St. Patrick, and likewise Mr. Winny's birthday, Mr. Making proposed amid applause the health of Mr. Winny. Musical honours, and a reply from Mr. Winny brought Mr. Baron to the front, who proposed the toast to the Chairman, which Mr. Dawe seconded. This was carried in the usual way. After the Chairman's reply, "Auld Lang Syne" terminated the proceedings.

During the evening a non-conducted touch of Stedman Triples was rung by Messrs. Mitchell, 1-2; C. F. Winny, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; G. McLaughlin, 7-8. Also a course of Grandsire Caters. J. Mitchell, 1-2; C. F. Winny, 3-4; G. Cartmel, 5-6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7-8; E. P. Debenham, 9-10. Amongst those who added to the harmony with songs were Messrs. Newton, Wild, Judd, Woodley, Rowbotham, Haworth, Barry, and Baron.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting will be held at Romford, on Saturday, April 7th. The belfry of St. Edward's church (eight bells), which has lately been restored and the bells rehung, will be at the disposal of members of the Association during the day. A meat tea (price 6d. to members who give notice to the Secretary before Tuesday, April 3) will be supplied in the National School-room at 5 p.m., and the usual business meeting will be held afterwards. Return tickets at reduced fares will be issued by the Great Eastern Railway to members who inform the Secretary before April 3 from what station they intend to travel, and exhibit at the booking office their receipt for the current year's subscription.

T. L. PAPILLON, *Hon. Sec.*

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford.

RE-OPENING OF THE PARISH CHURCH BELLS, LEEDS, YORKS.

ON Easter Monday, April 2nd, the above bells, which have been undergoing a thorough repair by Messrs. T. Mallaby and Sons, Masham, Yorks., will be re-opened by the Leeds company attempting the late J. Tebbs' celebrated peal of Grandsire Caters (5579 changes), containing the sixty course-ends, commencing at 6 o'clock a.m. After the peal the tower and handbells will be at the disposal of visitors during the day. The Leeds company will be glad to see as many brother ringers as can make it convenient to attend, and will also do their best to make up companies.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The Sixth Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Derby, on Easter Monday, April 2nd, 1888, and the usual towers (except St. Luke's) will be open for ringing between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., and from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Committee meeting in St. Andrew's parish room, at 3 p.m. Tea in the School-room at 4 p.m., tickets 1s. each. General meeting and election of officers immediately after tea, to which all ringers and friends are earnestly invited.

The Easter handbell competition will take place after the general meeting.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, *Hon. Sec.*

5 St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE REPORT for the past year is now ready for distribution, containing times of practice at churches in union; performances; balance sheet; and list of members. It is issued at the reduced price of twopence to members whose subscriptions have been paid, and it is hoped that as many members as possible will take copies, so that the whole edition may be utilised. Members requiring copies will please send word to

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the above Association will take place on Easter Monday, April 2nd, at Worcester. As no definite arrangements have yet been made, full particulars will appear next week.

J. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Devizes, on Wednesday, May 30th next. Full particulars will be published shortly before that date. A supplementary meeting will be held at or near Dinton, in August next.

J. R. JERRAM, *Secretary.*

A CO-OPERATIVE FESTIVAL.—The National Co-operative Flower Show, which created so much interest at South Kensington last year, will assume much larger proportions this year, and will be held at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, August 18th. The Prize Schedule shows that upwards of £320 have been subscribed in prizes as against £60 last year, and every kind of Vegetable, Fruit, Flower, and Honey in season, is included in the 200 different classes. If the entries are at all in proportion to what they were at the last show it will be one of the largest collections of *bona fide* cottagers' productions ever held. There is also to be an exhibition of home industries which should be very instructive, and an exhibition of produce from co-operative workshops both English and foreign. Cheap excursions will be arranged in connection with almost every Co-operative Society in the kingdom, so that their members—there are now upwards of a million—will be able to attend the first holiday festival for Co-operators which has been held. The Secretary of the Show, Mr. W. Broomhall, of 1, Norfolk Street, Strand, will send particulars to all interested enquirers.

NOTICE.—The long peal of Grandsire Caters at Appleton will not be attempted on Easter Monday, but on some future day which will be duly announced.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE
MAJOR.

5056.

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

2 3 4 5 6 B M W H

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

The fourth and sixth their extent in 5-6, and
the and and 3rd never in 6th's place.

A 1/2 PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES

1260.

By EDWARD F. STRANGE, *London.*

2 3 4 5 6 B W H

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

Twice repeated.

This quarter-peal contains the Queen's, tit-
tums, and twelve 6-7's.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6

5 3 4 2 6 8th in three.

4 3 6 2 5 M

3 6 4 2 5 H

6 4 3 2 5 H

3 4 5 2 6 M

5 2 4 3 6 8th in two.

4 2 6 3 5 M

2 6 4 3 5 H

6 4 2 3 5 H

2 4 5 3 6 M

5 4 6 3 2 M

4 6 5 3 2 H

6 5 4 3 2 H

4 5 2 3 6 M

The last nine courses twice repeated, with
single instead of bob at the last middle pro-
duces:— 4 3 2 5 6

The whole repeated.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE
MAJOR.

5952.

By H. DAINS, *London.*

2 3 4 5 6 B M W H

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

This peal has the 4th, 5th and 6th their
extent in 5-6 without the 2nd or 3rd ever being
there.

If the bobs at home in the 5th, 6th, 7th, 23rd,
24th and 25th courses are omitted, the peal is
reduced to 5056 changes; and contains the 4th
and 6th the extent in 5-6, and is the first ever
obtained on this plan.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5040.

By DANIEL PRENTICE, *Ipswich.*

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

2 3 5 6 4 2 2 1

3 4 5 6 2 1 2

6 5 4 3 2 2 2

5 2 4 3 6 1 2

5 4 3 2 6 1 2

Repeated.

This peal has the 6th its extent at home.

5080.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

5 2 3 6 4 2 2 2

2 5 4 6 3 2 2

5 3 4 6 2 1 2

4 6 5 3 2 1 1

2 4 3 6 5 2 1 2

6 3 4 2 5 2 2

3 5 4 2 6 1 2

2 4 5 3 6 2 2

2 5 3 4 6 1 2

2 3 4 5 6 1 2

This peal has the 6th its extent in 5-6.

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES.

5040.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

6 4 3 5 2 - -

3 5 6 4 2 - -

2 6 5 4 3 - -

4 2 5 6 3 - -

5 4 3 2 6 - -

6 3 4 2 5 - -

4 2 6 3 5 - -

5 6 2 3 4 - -

3 5 2 6 4 - -

4 2 3 5 6 - -

Five times repeated.

Single for a bob at the end of the 3rd and
6th parts.

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD ROYAL.

5040.

By A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, *Duffield Bank.*

1 2 3 4 5 I B O

3 1 2 4 5 - -

5 2 1 4 3 - -

1 5 2 4 3 - -

3 2 5 4 1 - -

5 3 2 4 1 - -

2 5 3 4 1 - -

1 3 5 4 2 - -

5 1 3 4 2 - -

5 3 1 4 2 - -

4 1 3 5 2 - -

Nine times repeated, with bobs for the single
except in the 6th part.

The peal as given above runs to 6000, if,
however, the three B's bracketed are omitted
in eight of the ten parts, the number is reduced
to 5040.

First rung at Duffield, Derbyshire, on Monday, March
19th, 1888. Conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5600.

By JOE BEANLANDS, *Ilkley.*

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

4 5 2 3 6 - -

2 4 5 3 6 - -

5 2 4 3 6 - -

4 3 5 2 6 - -

5 4 3 2 6 - -

3 5 4 2 6 - -

4 2 3 5 6 - -

3 4 2 5 6 - -

2 5 3 4 6 - -

3 5 6 4 2 - -

Four times repeated.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5184.

By SAMUEL WOOD, *Ashton-under-Lyne.*

2 3 4 5 6 M O W H

5 4 6 3 2 2 - 2

3 5 4 2 6 - 2

3 6 5 2 4 2 1

2 3 6 4 5 2 2 2

3 4 2 5 6 2 2

Twice repeated.

Rung at St. Peter's church, Ashton-under-Lyne, on
March 13th, 1888. Conducted by its composer.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, MOSSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

The dedication of the new bells will take place on Saturday, March 31st. On Easter Sunday morning, a company of ringers from St. Chad's, Saddleworth, will attempt a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, and on Easter Monday, April 2nd, the bells will be at liberty all day, when the Committee will welcome all ringers who can make it convenient to attend. A free dinner will be provided at two o'clock for all those ringers who give notice of their intention to be present on or before Wednesday, March 28th, to John Holden, 48 Stamford Road, Mossley, near Manchester.

The new bells arrived on Monday, March 12th, and as they were conveyed up to the church on a lorry about noon, as the mill people were just at liberty, they were scrutinised by many of the residents. We append the weights and names of the donors, as indicated on the bells:—

	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	Donors.
Treble.—	4	3	5	Young men of Sunday School.
Second.—	5	0	3	Mr. Hugh Kershaw.
Third.—	5	2	22	Rev. A. Hall.
Fourth.—	6	0	9	Mr. Hugh Kershaw.
Fifth.—	7	1	8	Miss Mary Wrigley.
Sixth.—	7	3	25	The Mayor, Mr. John Mayall.
Seventh.—	9	1	4	Mr. John Knott.
Tenor.—	13	2	14	Councillor Beswick.

Weight of tenor clapper, 29½ lbs., and of treble do., 21½ lbs. The total cost of bells and fixing is about £560; Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel, London, are the founders, and the hanging has been proceeded with during the week. The dedicatory service is to be held on Easter Eve, on which day the first formal peal will be rung, Mr. John Holden, of Mossley, an important member of the Bells Committee, and president of the United Counties' Association, is getting together a band of ringers for the purpose. It is understood that the order for the new organ will shortly be placed in hand, if such is not already the case.

STOULTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

Midway from Worcester and Pershore stands the village of Stoulton, with its little parish church and its Norman tower containing five bells. The first four were cast by Rudhall a century ago, the fifth having recently been added by Warner and Sons. On Thursday, March 8th, by the invitation of the Rev. K. Kingsford, four of the Worcester company, assisted by Mr. P. Brown (formerly churchwarden at St. Helen's, Worcester, and an honorary member of the Diocesan Association), rang on the bells several 6-scores of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, conducted by S. Cotton and H. B. Kingsford. After lowering the bells, a move was made to the rectory, where the worthy rector had provided a good repast, which was much appreciated. After the inner man had been supplied, the handbells were brought into requisition, and several good touches of Grandsire Triples, Grandsire Minor and Plain Bob Minor were rung by H. B. Kingsford, S. Cotton, T. Gwynn, W. Pudge, T. Brown, F. Owen, etc. The Captain (Mr. T. Brown), warning the company of midnight, a start was made for the faithful city, which was reached safely, all having thoroughly enjoyed their outing. The Worcester company wish through the medium of this paper to thank the Rev. K. Kingsford for his hospitality.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Annual General Meeting of this Association will be held at Bedford, on Easter Monday next. Change-ringing at St. Paul's and St. Mary's churches during the day. A dinner will be provided at the "Clarence Hotel," at 1.30, to be followed by the transaction of the usual business. At 5.30 p.m. a short special service will take place at St. Paul's church. Members and friends desirous of dining with the Society are requested to send in their names without delay to

CHARLES HERBERT, Hon. Sec.

Woburn, Beds., March 19, 1888.

WANTED, immediately, a Churchman, as BELL-INSTRUCTOR to the Hereford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers.—Apply to the Rev. G. M. CUSTANCE, Secretary, Colwall Rectory, Malvern.

RE-OPENING OF BARNWOOD BELLS, GLOUCESTER-SHIRE.

These bells have lately been rehung in iron carriages and the frame strengthened by the addition of some extra struts, perpendicular bolts, angle plates, &c. The work was entrusted to Mr. W. Morris, bell-hanger, of Painswick, in this county, by the direction of Mr. W. Waller, architect, who resides in the parish and takes a great interest in bell-ringing and also the chief donor towards the alterations. These bells were temporarily opened on Christmas eve, and have been rung at intervals ever since to give them a fair trial, but it was found necessary that some further additional alterations must be done by the proposal of the local band, such as fixing some extra guides for the ropes in the ringing-chamber, for it was a long distance between the floors, which made it rather difficult to ring, especially to strangers, on account of the ropes jumping about. Mr. Waller adhered to the proposal, and engaged Mr. D. Gough, of Gloucester, to fix the guides, which he accomplished in a workmanlike manner. The work being now all done satisfactory, the bells can be rung with pleasure. The final opening took place on Tuesday evening, March 6th, by the local band. A 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung with nine bobs, in 27½ mins., and several short touches in different methods, as follows: 72 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, 60 each of Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob, and 48 of Grandsire Minor. S. E. Romans, 1; J. Yeates, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday morning, March 18th, prior to Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. (nine bobs), the ringers standing as above.

GREAT LEGHS, ESSEX.

After a long period of dilapidation the peal of five at the parish church of Great Leghs were reopened by the Braintree branch of the Essex Association, on Monday, March 12th, 1888. Eighteen 6-scores were rung during the afternoon by the following: T. Watson, F. Bumstead, F. Rudkin, S. Hammond (conductor), H. E. Hammond, H. and A. Bowell. The ringers were afterwards entertained to tea by the Rev. Dr. Guy. After tea a selection of tunes were played upon the handbells, also touches of Doubles, Minor, Grandsire Triples and Bob Major, double-handed. The bells are a fine maiden peal by Miles Gray, dated 1634, tenor about 12 cwt. They have been thoroughly restored by Mr. H. Bowell, of Ipswich, and the go of the bells is all that can be desired. A young band has been formed here, and it is hoped before long will practice change-ringing.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

There will be a meeting on Easter Monday, at Ely. The tower of St. Mary's will be open to ringers. Dinner and business meeting 2 p.m., charge 2s. As this meeting is most important, the committee earnestly hope for a large attendance. Members and friends intending to be present should signify their intentions without delay to the Hon. Sec. The usual concession has been applied for to the G. E. R.

K. H. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

The Cambridge Road, Ely, March 19.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

The above society of change-ringers beg to announce that it is their intention to hold a ringing day at the above place on Easter Monday, when they will be pleased to welcome as many visitors as may be disposed to attend. A dinner will be provided at the "Green Dragon" inn at two o'clock, tickets 2s. 6d. each. Those visitors who intend dining with the society, will oblige by forwarding their names not later than Saturday, March 24th, to the Secretary, W. C. DYMCK.

"Green Dragon" Inn, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

The usual QUARTERLY MEETING will be held at "The Ring of Bells," on Thursday, March 29th, at 7.45 p.m.

W. H. GODDEN, Sec.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"And the years roll on."

Six years of journalistic life. In a nation's history that would be a small matter, but with the individual it may be a period of considerable moment. Particularly so is it in the case of "THE BELL NEWS," and the reminiscences in which you, Mr. Editor, indulge in your leading article of Saturday last, will no doubt "strike a chord" in the hearts of many of your readers. I well remember how that in my earliest days of bell-ringing, it often used to appear to me an anomalous and none the less strange circumstance that reports of peals and other achievements of our brethren should have no place but in a journal devoted to what was termed "sport," much of which was of a very questionable character. I many a time experienced a feeling of shame when I saw these reports mixed up with paragraphs about pugilistic encounters, pigeon-shooting matches, dog races, rat-pit worryings, cock-fightings, and such like. When such was the case, there could be no wonder that respectable citizens held aloof from an art which appeared in close conjunction with such disreputable "pastimes." Thanks to "THE BELL NEWS," the past six years have seen an end to all this; one great blot upon the Exercise has been removed, and we are in the proud position of having an organ of our own; one, which, notwithstanding any slight shortcomings that might have been manifested (which indeed are inseparable from any journalistic enterprise), we have every reason to be more than satisfied with, if that were possible.

I do not write this, Mr. Editor, through any intention to flatter you; but "facts are facts," as the saying goes, and I cannot express my own feelings in the matter otherwise. However, let us hope that the new volume just commencing will, while recording still greater improvement in ringing matters, also be able to report a much more generous support being accorded to this now recognised mouth-piece of the Exercise, which has done such good service to us in the past.

Your proposal with reference to a comprehensive Register of Ringers cannot fail to meet with approval. The advantages of having such a register must be manifest, and as a commencement I would suggest that the secretaries of all our County Associations and Guilds should furnish you with a copy of their annual reports and lists of members. That would be an easy matter for them to do, and by this means you would be able to obtain the names and addresses of a very considerable number of our brethren.

I was glad to see that our old friend, Mr. Henry Johnson's 79th birthday was honoured in proper fashion. When next year he reaches his "four-score," may he be able to see the event celebrated in a right royal manner, and to take part in the festivities thereof.

It is to be regretted that the peal of Stedman Cinques did not "come off," particularly when they had got so well on towards the finish, at the same time, however, it may be some—though scant—consolation to them to know that they were not alone in thus "coming to grief," for I find in last week's issue altogether no less than six such unpleasant events reported. At Loughborough, a mistake occurred after close upon three hours' ringing; at Dudley, a peal of Grandsire Caters, after two hours and

a quarter, was stopped by reason of the bad "go" of the tenor; at Liscard, on the same day, a peal of Bob Major collapsed after nearly all of it had been completed; at Cuckfield, a peal of Triples came to an untimely end after over an hour-and-a-half's ringing; while at Crawley, an attempt for a peal of Union Triples got no further than 1200 changes in 43 minutes. So it will be seen that our friends in their unsuccessful Birmingham peal, failed among a rather numerous company.

Speaking of unsuccessful attempts also reminds me of a communication which I have received from a brother-string in Yorkshire, to the effect that a "silent" peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was attempted last Saturday on the bells of a parish church in the centre of the "heavy woollen district" of that county. The *communiqué* goes on to say that this attempt was successful until the end of the twelfth course was reached, when "a storm arose," and the sudden stoppage of the bells told the hearers outside that this praiseworthy performance had "come to grief." That result was doubtless disappointing no less to the ringers than to those friends who were outside; but at the same time I consider the performance a creditable one, seeing that they were but three courses from the finish when the "crash" came, and that, too, on the first attempt. Yorkshiremen are certainly not noted for "giving in" because of failure, so I expect before long we shall see the report of this peal having once more been commenced, and this time successfully accomplished.

The Silver Wedding of the Prince and Princess of Wales was celebrated amid very mournful surroundings, and no doubt our friends have been in considerable doubt as to what was the most correct thing to do under the circumstances. But as no official postponement of the celebration was announced, I think they did the best thing by each company acting as they thought fit in the matter. The result has been that both the wedding and the death of "Kaiser Wilhelm" have been respected in a manner creditable to the Exercise.

Mr. Attree's analysis for the first two months of the year, of course, does not furnish any reliable ground for making comparisons, but there is one item in the return which appears to me to deserve notice. I refer to the number of peals (eighteen), rung under the head of "Independent Societies." That causes me to infer that our County Associations have not yet by far succeeded in gathering within their ranks all our brethren who are practical change-ringers. Will not this fact induce our friends to put forth further efforts, so that all who have the true interests of ringing at heart may be induced to come in and help on the work of organization? There is no doubt much of the "old leaven" still existing among us, but as a well-known statesman once said, "time is fighting for us, the tide is with us;" and there can be no doubt that with energy and perseverance on our part, we may eventually, if not in the very near future, see the "independent society" a very scarce thing.

FREE LANCE.

STAMBOURNE, ESSEX.

A large clock has just been fixed in Stambourne church, Essex, by the celebrated firm of John Smith and Sons, of the Midland Clock Works, Derby. It strikes the hours upon a large bell, shews the time upon a four feet dial, and is fitted with all the most recent improvements. The same makers have also just erected a large clock at Sydney Park, Gloucestershire, for Charles Bathurst, Esq.

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

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

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

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

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

J. ROLLISON.—Your touch appears this week. Every effort is made to report all that is forwarded, but the space required is sometimes not sufficient for that purpose, therefore we are sometimes obliged to postpone a few touches till the following week.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1888.

THE proposal of a Ringers' Directory which was made in our last number has approved itself to a great many of our readers, who have sent in the information for that purpose. The suggestions made in connection with this matter will receive due attention, and if the favourite idea, that of publication, can be carried out with any prospect of success it will be commenced. There has been a great amount of correspondence received this week with reference to our paper, as frequently happens on the commencement of a new volume; and we thank our friends for their kindly wishes and suggestions, though some of the latter we find impossible to carry out. We shall however consider the propriety of slightly raising the price of publication, a step which has been pressed upon us many times from influential quarters. This will be better than putting what will be thought a tax upon the admission of peals or touches which have been rung, though the treatment of the composition page is still under discussion. What is intended in this direction will however be notified in a week or two, and if any of our readers take exception to the proposal of a very small increase in the price of publication, we shall be willing to listen to their objections.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ST. STEPHEN'S (WESTMINSTER) SOCIETY.

On Saturday, March 18, 1888, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

G. T. McLAUGHLIN Treble.	*W. CARTER 5.
T. R. BELL 2.	H. T. ELLIS 6.
J. N. OXBORROW 3.	J. M. HAYES 7.
J. WILLSHIRE 4.	H. R. NEWTON Tenor.

Conducted by J. M. HAYES.

*First peal with a bob bell. This peal was rung in honour of the dedication of the peal board for the first peal rang by the St. Stephen's (Westminster) society.

PUTNEY, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, March 20, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 16½ cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNY Treble.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM 5.
GEORGE WOODISS* 2.	JAMES HARRIS 6.
JOHN C. MITCHELL† 3.	JOHN SMITH 7.
GEORGE W. CARTMEL† 4.	JOHN M. HAYES Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON, and Conducted by J. M. HAYES.

*First peal. †First peal of Major. ‡First peal of Oxford. It is the first peal of Oxford by the Surrey Association, rang at the first attempt, and was well-struck throughout. Messrs. Woodiss, Smith, and Harris belong to the Kingston-on-Thames band; Messrs. Hayes and Winny from London; the rest from St. Albans.

The Provinces.

LIVERPOOL.—THE LIVERPOOL YOUTHS' SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, March 13, 1888, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5001 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

RICHARD WILLIAMS Treble.	GEORGE FISHER 6.
JOHN R. PRITCHARD 2.	WILLIAM BOOTH 7.
THOMAS HAMMOND 3.	WILLIAM DAVIES 8.
CHARLES WILLIAMS 4.	ROBERT WILLIAMS 9.
HENRY COLEY 5.	WILLIAM BROOKS Tenor.

Composed by JOHN R. PRITCHARD, and Conducted by WILLIAM BOOTH.

HEYWOOD, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 13, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 22½ cwt.

FRANK BIRTWISTLE Treble.	WILLIAM H. WALMSLEY 5.
JAMES PILKINGTON 2.	JOHN HARRISON 6.
JOHN MILLETT 3.	JAMES SCHOLEY 7.
DAVID WILDE* 4.	WILLIAM R. BARRETT Tenor.

Conducted by F. BIRTWISTLE.

*First peal. This is the quickest peal on the bells. F. Birtwistle hails from Rochdale; the rest belong to Heywood.

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

On Saturday, March 17, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 23 cwt.

THOMAS WILSON Treble.	JOHN BUTTERY 5.
WILLIAM P. COOPER 2.	STEPHEN COOPER 6.
JOHN W. WILSON 3.	JOHN COOPER 7.
GEORGE BURROWS 4.	JOHN MARLOW Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by JOHN W. WILSON.

The first peal of this method on the bells.

ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.—THE ORMSKIRK SOCIETY.

Birthday Peal.

On Monday, March 19, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. R. PRITCHARD'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 25½ cwt.

JOHN PRESCOTT Treble.	JOHN ASPINWALL 5.
JAMES SHOLICAR 2.	WILLIAM J. TAYLOR 6.
WILLIAM B. LLOYD 3.	GEORGE PRESCOTT 7.
WILLIAM ELLIS 4.	PETER H. HARVEY Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES SHOLICAR.

Rung in honour of the 21st birthday of Mr. William J. Taylor, his brother strings wishing him many happy returns of the day.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(THE CRAWLEY BRANCH).

Birthday Peal.

On Thursday, March 15, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S 10-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

ALBERT ELLIS Treble.	BENJAMIN KING 5.
FREDERICK RICE 2.	ALFRED F. HILLIER 6.
WILLIAM COLLISON 3.	FREDERICK WICKENS 7.
WALTER PARSONS* 4.	EDWARD PEARCE Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

*First peal with a bob bell. †First peal in the method. The above was rung to commemorate the birthday of the conductor, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns.

PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINSWICK YOUTHS, AND THE
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1888, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 28 cwt.

ALFRED TRIGG Treble.	† JEREMIAH WAGER 5.
ARTHUR J. GWINNETT 2.	* JOSEPH EVERATT 6.
WILLIAM RYLAND* 3.	† GEORGE SMITH 7.
WILLIAM HALE 4.	* THOMAS WRIGHT Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM HALE.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. This is the first peal that has been rung by an entire Painswick band for 26 years. All the above band have been taught the art of ringing by William Hale, who also taught himself, and practised himself with the band by the aid of Mr. J. Snowdon's book. The average age of the ringers is 27 years. Mr. David Marmont attested to the good ringing and time of the peal. The same peal was rang here on the occasion of the Queen's accession to the throne.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND THE
WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, March 18, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14½ cwt.

GEORGE CHARMAN Treble.	DAVID JORDAN 5.
ALFRED D. MILLS 2.	EDWIN JORDAN 6.
THOMAS M. STEDMAN 3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7.
ROBERT JORDAN 4.	W. L. CHAMBERLAIN Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This is the first one-part peal of Grandsire Triples by the Sussex Association, and the quickest peal on the bells. *First peal of Triples.

HAVANT, HANTS.—THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN
GUILD AND SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, March 19, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. FAITH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN STAPLES* Treble.	*GEORGE BAKER 5.
JOHN W. WHITING* 2.	*WILLIAM L. CHAMBERLAIN 6.
JAMES HEWETT* 3.	*GEORGE WILLIAMS 7.
CHARLES PRIVETT* 4.	GEORGE PASSINGHAM Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This peal was intended to have been rung with the bells half-muffled, in respect to the memory of the late Mr. C. Boxall, of Dorking, Surrey, a highly respected member of the Winchester Diocesan Guild; but on the band arriving, the authorities objected, he not having been an inhabitant of the town. This is the quickest peal on these bells. *Members of the Sussex County Association.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.
(DUFFIELD BRANCH.)

On Monday, March 19, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

GEORGE DAWSON Treble.	HARRY C. WOODWARD 6.
JOHN HOWE 2.	GEORGE HINGLEY 7.
SAMUEL JOHNSON 3.	ALFRED ROBINSON 8.
WILLIAM WAKLEY 4.	BENJAMIN SUGDEN 9.
WILLIAM HICKLING 5.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD Tenor.

Composed and conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

This peal, which has the 6th at home throughout, is the first ever rung in the method on ten bells. The calling will be found on another page. In the absence of a member of the Duffield Society (Mr. Evan Moreton), Mr. Wakley kindly came over from Burton to complete the band.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—TENTERDEN, KENT.

On Monday, March 19, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 30 cwt. in Db.

JOHN BARTLETT Treble.	JAMES SHARP 5.
GEORGE CRAMP 2.	HENRY G. RUMMERY 6.
ALBERT EDGAR NUNN 3.	GEORGE NEVE 7.
ROBERT EDWARDS 4.	HENRY HOLDSTOCK Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEVE.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(THE CRAWLEY BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, March 20, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

ALBERT ELLIS Treble.	FREDERICK WICKENS 5.
BENJAMIN KING 2.	ALFRED F. HILLIER 6.
GEORGE WICKENS 3.	WILLIAM COLLISON 7.
WALTER PARSONS* 4.	EDWARD PEARCE Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

*First peal in the method.

APPLETON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 20, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,

5376 CHANGES. Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM FINCH Treble.	JESSE AVERY 5.
EDMUND HOLIFIELD 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 6.
THOMAS PAYNE 3.	GEORGE HOLIFIELD 7.
WILLIAM BENNETT 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(THE BRIGHTON BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, March 21, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PENNING'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE THWAITES Treble.	ARTHUR A. FULLER 5.
HARRY WESTON 2.	GEORGE F. ATTREE 6.
GEORGE A. KING 3.	*HORACE CORNWALL 7.
JOHN JAY, SEN. 4.	EDWARD BUTLER Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY WESTON.

*First peal with a bob bell. The above is the first time this peal has been rung in Sussex.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

EDWARD HULL* Treble.	GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. 5.
E. PERCY DEBENHAM .. 2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 6.
JOHN C. MITCHELL 3.	THOMAS WALLER 7.
HENRY LEWIS 4.	ARTHUR HULL Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD PERCY DEBENHAM.

*First peal. This, the first peal of the St. Peter's Society, was rung as a compliment to the Vicar, the Rev. H. N. Dudding and his family on the occasion of the baptism of Horatio Nelson Nugent Dudding, the Vicar's infant grandson. Mr. E. Hull was elected a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association previous to starting for the peal.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1888, 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.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY Treble.	THOMAS WILDE 5.
JOHN HOLDEN 2.	JAMES RADCLIFFE 6.
FRANKLIN BRIERLEY 3.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF 7.
WILLIAM MIDDLETON .. 4.	JOHN PYE, SEN. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by FRANKLIN BRIERLEY.

The brothers Brierley, Messrs. Holden and Radcliffe hail from Saddleworth; T. Wilde from Hyde; W. Greenleaf from London; J. Pye, sen. from Glossop; Middleton belongs to Mottram.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, March 13, 1888, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

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

JOSEPH ETCELLS Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 5.
JOHN LEIGH 2.	JOHN THORP 6.
SAMUEL WOOD 3.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 7.
THOMAS WILDE 4.	GEORGE LONGDEN Tenor.

Composed and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

Date Touches.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Monday evening, March 5th, a date touch in the following methods, in 1 hr. 14 mins.: two 720s and a 408 of Bob Minor, and 40 of Bob Doubles. J. Preble, 1; H. Cheeseman, 2; A. Beer, 3; J. Andrews, 4; C. Laker, 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OSSETT (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, March 18th, for Divine Service at the church of Holy Trinity, a date touch of Kent Treble Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 15 mins. A. Spurr, 1; M. Garforth, 2; G. Crawshaw, 3; W. Schofield, 4; J. A. Idle, 5; J. Chappel, 6; D. Stephenson (conductor), 7; W. Dixon, 8. Composed by G. H. Hardy. Tenor 26½ cwt.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Friday, March 9th, at St. Saviour's church, by the St. Mary's society, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 14 mins. J. Rollison, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; T. Hart (conductor), 3; L. Huggett, 4; E. Willoughby, 5; T. Lewis, 6; G. Willoughby, 7; J. Lewis, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. This the longest touch upon the bells.

Miscellaneous.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BIRKENHEAD (Cheshire).—On Saturday, February 11th, the ringers of St. Mary's church, Eastham rang at St. Mary's church 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. J. Haspray, 1; C. Baxter, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Parr, 4; J. Hughes, 5; J. Rowlands (conductor), 6.

EASTHAM (Cheshire).—On Saturday, March 10th, being the Prince of Wales' silver wedding day, 720 Oxford Single Bob. J. Haspray, 1; C. Baxter, 2; W. Smith, 2; J. Parr, 4; J. Hughes (conductor), 5; J. Rowlands, 6. Also two 360s of Plain Bob Minor, standing as before, conducted by W. Smith. For Sunday morning service, March 11th, 360 Oxford Single Bob, and 192 Plain Bob, standing as before. For evening service, 720 College Single. J. Haspray, 1; C. Baxter, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Parr, 4; J. Rowlands, 5; J. Hughes (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

CHESTER.—On Saturday evening, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major on the fine ring of bells of St. Mary's-without-the-Walls, to commemorate the silver wedding of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. After ringing three hours and fifteen minutes it came to grief, owing to a shift-course. Walter Cross, 1; Charles Price, 2; Arthur Jones, 3; Alfred Cross 4; —Morgan, 5; Thomas Bethell, 6; Joseph Griffith, 7; Freeman Ball (conductor), 8. Tenor 21 cwt. Composed by C. Price of Eccleston. And on Monday evening, March 19th, at the Cathedral, 720 Treble Bob Minor, in 30 mins. E. Mealing, 1; A. White, 2; W. Cross, 3; R. Holden (Whitchurch), 4; J. Griffiths, 5; A. Cross, 6; F. Ball (conductor), 7; R. Pearce, 8. The above was rung on the inside six bells, and was rung to oblige R. Holden, who was on a visit to Chester.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD (Essex).—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday evening, March 10th, in the tower a course of Grandsire Caters. B. J. F. Keeble, 1-2; B. Keeble, 3-4; A. J. Perkins, 5-6; A. Porter, 7; W. Aldridge, 8; W. Aldridge, 9-10. A course of Treble Bob Major. W. Nash, 1; A. Porter, 2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4; J. Scowen, 5; W. Aldridge, 6; B. Keeble, 7-8. A course of Stedman Triples. B. Keeble, 1-2; A. Porter, 3; W. Aldridge, 4; A. J. Perkins, 5-6; W. Nash, 7-8. 168 Grandsire Triples. B. Keeble, 1-2; W. Nash, 3-4; A. J. Perkins, 5-6; W. Mighill, 7-8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. —Pegrum, 1; B. J. F. Keeble, 2; B. Keeble, 3-4; W. Aldridge, 5; J. Scowen, 6; A. Porter, 7-8.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Tuesday, March 13th, for practice, 1056 of Bob Major. J. Everard, 1; H. F. de Lisle, Esq., 2; R. Wood, 3; F. Radley, 4; A. Edwards, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; W. J. Piper, 7; W. Lincoln (conductor), 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples, with W. G. Dickens, Esq., and 210 with A. Bonnington at the treble. On Sunday, March 18th, for Divine Service in the evening, the second part of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples. R. C. Burrell, 1; J. Everard, 2; H. F. de Lisle, Esq., 3; F. Radley, 4; A. Edwards, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; C. J. Dennison, 8.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Friday, March 16th, 720 College Exercise. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains (conductor), 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Hawkes, 4; A. Edwards, 5; W. Lincoln, 6.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, March 10th, at 7 a.m., in honour of the silver wedding of the Prince and Princess of Wales, a 1036 Grandsire Triples, at SS. Mary and Nicholas church. In the evening, a quarter-peal in the same method, in 47 mins. The following took part in the ringing:—J. S. Wright, G. L. Richardson, R. Mackman, G. Skeef, C. Neaverson, J. W. Jarvis, R. Jarvis, E. Jarvis, J. R. Mackman, R. Skeef.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Saturday evening, March 3rd, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). J. Preble, 1; H. Cheeseman, 2; T. Beer, 3; J. Andrews, 4; C. Laker, 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, March 4th, before service, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). J. Preble, 1; R. Andrews, 2; A. Beer, 3; C. Laker, 4; J. Andrews, 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6. Before the afternoon service, 720 Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles). J. Preble, 1; R. Andrews, 2; H. Cheeseman, 3; J. Andrews, 4; C. Laker, 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday, March 11th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. W. Jackson, 1; A. Cornford, 2; W. Martin, 3; J. Broom, 4; G. Hayes, 5; G. Martin (conductor), 6. And on Sunday evening, March 18th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. W. Jackson, 1; A. Cornford, 2; W. Martin, 3; J. Broom, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NEWCHURCH (Lancashire).—On Saturday, March 10th, at the parish church, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in honour of the Silver Wedding of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. T. Harrison, 1; A. E. Wrecks, 2; H. H. Nutter (conductor), 3; J. Ashworth, 4; J. B. Taylor, 5; G. Lord, 6; J. T. Stott, 7; W. Whittaker, 8. Time 1 hr. 33 mins.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, March 14th, a 720 Bob Minor, in 24½ mins. A. Potter, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; S. Oakes, 3; Jas. Potter, 4; J. Williamson, 5; W. Denner, 6. On Tuesday afternoon, March 13th, 720 Bob Minor was rung in 24 mins., to celebrate the 21st birthday of Miss Martin, eldest daughter of W. Y. Martin, Esq., M.D., of Walkden. J. Brooks (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Potter, 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Sunday evening, March 11th, for Divine Service, 1008 Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins. W. Shardlow, 1; J. W. Thompson, 2; T. Alton, 3; W. Midgley, 4; A. E. Thompson, 5; H. C. Woodward, 6; C. Hart (conductor), 7; T. Albutt, 8. Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

RETTFORD (Notts).—On Sunday, March 11th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, six members of the above Association rang 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles), in 26 mins. J. Briggs, 1; W. Skelton, 2; W. Drake, 3; N. G. Hunt, 4; H. Haigh, 5; R. Potter (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On Saturday, March 17th, at St. Giles' church, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late R. Bracker, Esq., the late superintendent of the Boys' Sunday School, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. Smart, 1; H. Bonney, 2; A. H. Evans, 3; F. Sweetzer, 4; A. E. Reeves, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, March 18th, with the bells half-muffled, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. Blisset, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. H. Evans, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; R. T. Hibbert, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CRADLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday evening, March 13th, at the parish church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor, in 25 mins., with the tenor behind. *G. Dukes, 1; *H. Woodhall, 2; *C. Daniel, 3; C. Beasley, 4; *R. Beasley, 5; H. Mason (conductor), 6; J. A. Meredith, 7. *First 720 in the method. H. Mason hails from Old Hill; the rest are of the local company.

BLACKHILL (Durham).—On Saturday evening, March 17th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's (R.C.) church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and thirty-two singles), in 32 mins. †J. Moore, jun., 1; *J. McPhillips, 2; J. T. Dobson, 3; B. King, 4; A. Nichols, 5; E. Wallis (conductor), 6. Also after service 720 in the same method, called differently, by the same band, in 32 mins. †First 720; *first 720 on a bob bell. Tenor 22 cwt.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Sunday, February 26th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). R. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, jun., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, sen., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, February 27th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles), composed by E. Francis, of Norwich, and conducted by R. Hutton, standing as before. And on Saturday, March 10th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Smith, jun., 1; J. Hinchley, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method for Messrs. G. Smith, jun., Hilling, Dunnett, and G. Smith, sen. Also on Sunday, March 11th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, jun., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, sen., 5; J. Hinchley, 6. And after service on handbells, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 120 Kent Treble Bob. G. Smith, jun., 1; J. Hinchley, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; R. Hutton (conductor), 5-6. Also on Monday, March 12th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Smith, sen., 1; J. Hinchley, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, March 15th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Hinchley, 1; G. Smith, sen. (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, March 16th, 720 in the same method. G. Smith, sen., 1; J. Hinchley, 2; J. Hillings, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. And 360 in the Kent method, G. Smith, 1; J. Hinchley, 2; the rest as before. First touch in the method on the tower bells by Messrs. G. Smith, sen., Hilling, Dunnett, and G. Smith, jun.

DARLINGTON.—On Sunday evening, March 11th, prior to Divine Service at St. Cuthbert's church, the members of the local company rang 1260 Bob Triples in 46 mins. R. P. Russell, 1; W. Stephenson, 2; J. K. Whitfield, 3; A. Ridley, 4; J. Coverdale, 5; A. Hodgson, 6; G. A. Overton (conductor), 7; W. Auld, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

GREENWICH (Kent).—Muffled peals.—On Sunday, March 11th, also on Tuesday, March 13th, at St. Alphage church, the usual muffled peals were rung as marks of respect to his late majesty the Emperor of Germany, and the late T. R. Huntley, Esq., a former churchwarden

of Greenwich. Frederick W. Thornton, 1; John J. Lamb, 2; John Foreman, 3; Harry W. Grout, 4; Robert Shade, 5; William Foreman, 6; William G. Davis, 7; George Thatcher, 8.

HACKNEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, March 18th, at the parish church of St. John, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. J. Carmichael, 1; F. Rumens, 2; G. J. Smith (longest length inside), 3; T. Page (conductor), 4; A. Cutmore, 5; W. B. Manning, 6; A. S. Barrell, 7; Phil Gaymer, 8.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, March 10th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. Wood (Saddleworth), 1; J. Radcliffe (Saddleworth), 2; O. Wood (Saddleworth), 3; A. Rainily (Hayfield), 4; T. Brocklehurst (Hayfield), 5; G. Hibbert (Chapel-en-le-Frith), 6.

HEMPSTEAD (Gloucestershire).—On Monday, March 12th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. W. Pegler, 1; S. Romans, 2; W. Brunsdon, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

HIGHAM FERRERS (Northants).—On Saturday, March 10th, the local company met at the residence of Mr. Thomas Parker, an old veteran ringer, who attained his 90th birthday on that day, and in honour of the old gentleman the company rang on handbells, 360 London Single (eighteen bobs and twelve singles), and 120 Plain Bob. The following took part in the ringing: W. Pettit, G. Heath, A. E. Chapman, J. B. Martin, W. A. Hall, W. Parker, and A. H. Martin. The company wish him many happy returns of the day.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Saturday, March 10th, being the silver wedding day of the Prince and Princess of Wales, the local company rang a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (called differently), in 1 hr. 8 mins., on the back six. G. Winter, 1; J. Clarke, 2; W. Adler, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. Chapman, 5; T. Bates, 6. This is the longest touch by the local company, and the first date touch on the bells.

LONDON.—On Monday, March 12th, at St. Sepulchre's church, the local company assisted by Messrs. Coppage, of the Waterloo Society, and E. Elburn, of Amersham, Bucks, rang muffled touches on the occasion of the funeral of the late Mrs. Bedford, wife of the vestry clerk of this parish.

LIVERPOOL.—On Thursday, March 8th, at St. Peter's pro Cathedral an attempt for a peal of Stedman Caters was unfortunately lost (one of the ringers being unable to ring any further) after ringing 2510 changes, in 1 hr. 45 mins. Richard Williams, 1; Robert Williams, 2; Thomas Hammond, 3; Charles Williams, 4; Henry Coley, 5; John R. Pritchard (composer), 6; William Booth (conductor), 7; William Davies, 8; George Fisher, 9; William Brooks, 10. And on Sunday, March 18th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Francis Xavier, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Donnelly (conductor), 1; W. Bond, 2; T. Moran, 3; T. Donnelly, 4; R. Diggle, 5; W. Kennedy, 6; J. Clarke, 7; S. Hession, 8.

MARLOW (Bucks).—Handbell Ringing.—On Wednesday evening, March 14th, at the residence of Mr. J. C. Truss, St. Peter's Street, 504 Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Holt's ten-part peal. J. C. Truss, jun., 1-2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3-4; H. Buckingham, 5-6; J. C. Truss, sen., 7-8.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Thursday evening, March 15th, for practice at St. Andrew's church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure in 27 mins. B. Townsend, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all except J. Smith, and the first on the bells.

OLD HILL (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday, March 14th, at Holy Trinity Church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure in 28½ mins. W. Bird, 1; R. Bird, 2; A. E. Parsons, 3; C. W. Bassano, 5; *J. Smith (Nether-ton), 5; A. H. Bassano (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. And on Saturday, March 17th, 720 Oxford Single Bob Minor, in 26 mins. C. Daniel (Cradley), 1; A. E. Parsons, 2; C. W. Bassano, 3; C. Beasley (Cradley), 4; H. Mason, 5; A. H. Bassano (conductor), 6. This is A. H. Bassano's fiftieth 720, and C. Beasley's first 720 in the method. Also on Sunday, March 18th, 500 Duffield Major. W. Bird, 1; W. Green, 2; C. W. Bassano, 3; J. Palmer, 4; H. Mason, 5; H. Cartwright, 6; A. E. Parsons, 7; A. H. Bassano (conductor), 8.

OXFORD.—On Thursday, February 9th, at St. Peter's-in-the-East, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. West, 1; C. Tolley, 2; P. A. Hind, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; A. E. Hind, 5; W. Baston (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, February 16th, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Hind, 1; C. Tolley, 2; J. West, 3; P. A. Hind, 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; A. E. Hind, 6. And on Sunday, March 4th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. West, 1; C. Tolley, 2; P. A. Hind, 3; J. W. Washbrook, 4; W. Jeffery, 5; A. E. Hind (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, March 8th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. West, 1; C.

Tolley, 2; P. A. Hind, 3; W. Baston (conductor), 4; A. E. Hind, 5; A. Browning, 6. And on Sunday, March 11th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. T. Blackburn (Salisbury), 1; A. Browning, 2; C. Tolley, 3; W. Fineb, 4; W. Jeffery, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, March 10th, a mixed band met and rung at St. Mary's church 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 25 mins. H. Symonds, 1; W. Hollocks, 2; J. Scowen, 3; J. Moore, 4; H. Smith, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. This was rung to celebrate the silver wedding of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales.

READING (Berks).—On Saturday, March 10th, at St. Lawrence's church, in honour of the silver wedding of the Prince and Princess of Wales, a 755 of Grandsire Caters, in 33 mins. J. F. Tarrant, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; A. E. Reeves, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; G. Talbot, 6; J. E. Willshire, 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; W. Robins, 10. Also a 575 in the same method, in 24 mins. J. F. Tarrant, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; J. E. Willshire, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; G. Talbot, 6; W. Goseltine, 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; W. R. Pocock, 10.

SALISBURY.—On Sunday, March 11th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, 700 Grandsire Triples. W. Wise, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; C. A. Clements (conductor), 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; W. E. Tydeman, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; W. M. Lush, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

SELBY OAK (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, March 6th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 896 Grandsire Triples. G. Hale, 1; A. Cole, 2; E. Parker, 3; H. Smith, 4; E. Boylin, 5; E. Bryant (conductor), 6; T. Lewis, 7; J. Dowler, 8.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—Chiming.—On Sunday, March 11th, for Divine Service in the afternoon at St. Peter's church, a plain course of Stedman Triples by the local company. H. Lewis, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; G. W. Cartmel, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. And for evening service six courses of Grandsire Triples, and a plain course of Grandsire Major. A. Barnes, 1-2; H. Lewis, 3-4; E. P. Debenham, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8.

STISTED (Essex).—On Tuesday, March 13th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), in 24 mins. And a 216 (twelve bobs and two singles), and a 72 (six singles). C. Duncomb, 1; A. Chaplin, 2; F. Saunders, 3; E. Chaplin, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, March 17th, for practice at St. Thomas' Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. *J. Barber, 1; T. Barber, 2; W. Harris (conductor), 3; G. H. Pagett, 4; H. Deakin, 5; W. A. Pugh, 6. *First 720. Messrs. J. and T. Barber hails from Clent; H. Deakin from Woolaston, the rest are local men. Also on Monday, March 19th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with the tenor behind, in 30 mins. J. Pagett, 1; J. Guest, 2; C. Barrett, 3; H. Harris, 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; W. A. Pugh, 6; J. Crump, 7. Mr. Guest hails from Brierley Hill, the rest are local men.

TAUNTON (Somersetshire).—On Saturday last, March 10th, in honour of the Royal Silver Wedding, several plain courses of Grandsire Triples was rung. F. J. Burge, 1; C. E. May, 2; G. E. Harborne, 3; T. Radford, 4; J. Burge, 5; J. Maddock, 6; T. Doble, 7; E. Wyatt, 8. And on the following evening, for service, some more courses were rung all standing as before except W. Pearce, who rang the tenor. This is the first touch of Triples by all but the 7th man.

WESTMINSTER.—On Saturday, March 10th, at St. Stephen's church, Rochester-row, in honour of the Prince and Princess of Wales' Silver Wedding, a 742 of Grandsire Triples, in 29 mins. J. T. Reed, 1; J. N. Oxborrow, 2; G. T. McLaughlin, 3; H. S. Ellis, 4; E. Duff, 5; H. R. Newton (conductor), 6; J. Willshire, 7; W. Cropley, 8. Handbell Ringing.—On Wednesday, March 14th, at the residence of Mr. H. R. Newton, the following members of the St. Stephen's (Westminster) society, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) in 37 mins., on handbells retained in hand. H. R. Newton (conductor), 1-2; G. T. McLaughlin, 3-4; J. M. Hayes, 5-6; H. T. Ellis, 7-8.

JASPER SNOWDON'S LAST BOOK.

"GRANDSIRE," THE METHOD, ITS PEALS, AND HISTORY.—We are glad to see this book, the last of Mr. Snowdon's works, out, and we hope to review it in due course.

NEW COMET.—A new comet was discovered by Sawerthal and observed at the Cape Observatory at 2h 33m. a.m. on the 19th ult., when its position was R.A. 19h. 11m. 32.5s. (increasing 7m. daily); N.P.D. 146deg. 3min. 44sec. (diminishing 1deg. 15min. daily). It is thus described—"Seventh magnitude, nucleus well defined; tail 2deg. long; visible to the naked eye."

Correspondence.

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

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

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—In a recent issue appears a date touch of Minor, rung at St. John's church, Darlington, on the evening of March the 6th, recorded as the first date touch rung by the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association this year. I beg to refer the author of that paragraph to a date touch of Stedman Triples, published in your esteemed paper on January 21st last, and rung on the 16th previous to that date at Sharow, near Ripon, by members of the above Association, consequently the former date touch rang at St. John's church will be the latter, and the last mentioned become the first. T. C.

REPLY TO MR. BROWN.

SIR,—In reply to W. Brown's bogie letter, had he published my letter to him in full respecting the 2520 of Court Bob Triples rung at Spalding, I should not have troubled you again with this tirade. I don't wish to split hairs with W. Brown. In the first place he calls it "Mackman's half-peal." If he will refer to "THE BELL NEWS" of January 28th he will find no half peal mentioned. If he thinks it means something more than 2520, then we will conclude he is a veritable G. O. M. W. Brown has made his second suppose. I proved his first suppose to be wrong, viz.: the first and second half jumbled together by the figures I sent him, that he don't choose to acknowledge. As for his second suppose, whether it be my own invention or not, I am quite ready to stand by anything I have rung and published. As for W. Brown's ordinary bob and single crotchet, perhaps he is not aware that there is a peal of Grandsire Triples that don't come round with bobs and singles, which has been rung and published in "THE BELL NEWS" several times. My empty excuse for not answering W. Brown's first letters I don't pretend to notice any letters of that kind, while the writer hides behind initials, as an innocent party is often accused. Now I know its only W. Brown. B.—Bedford, Beds., as he addresses himself. I will give him an invitation if he gives me twenty-four hours' notice, to come and ring a peal with us in the method of any of my inventions I have published. He shall be satisfied. R. MACKMAN.

Halmer Cottage, Spalding.

A WITHDRAWAL.

SIR,—I wish to thank Mr. Heywood for pointing out the Stedman Triples; I did not notice that I was treading so close on our old friend, so I withdraw all claim thereto. Now, Sir, as to the composition page we seem in a fix; some have got no taste and some no proof; I suppose that is it. I have been careless enough to be among the latter on one or two occasions, but I can promise that I resign the non-proof gang. It is not want of ability that causes these mistakes always, but simply this: A man puts aside a peal to prove, and picks it up at some other time in a hurry, and thinks it proved and sends it for publication, perhaps among others; but the former there is no excuse for at all. Now who would think of ringing a peal of Major with the 2nd tingling behind the tenor at backstroke, if they could possibly help it? We have had the pleasure of trying the experiments of musical properties, and find that peals of Major where the 2nd or 3rd bells dodge with the tenor on the wrong are not near so good as the 4th, 5th, and 6th alone. It is very easy to sit down and compose an haphazard peal as one would call it, but it is another thing to work out a plan for a certain number and certain properties. I feel convinced that composers of the latter type could be counted on one hand almost; but on the other hand how is a young composer to get on if he is not allowed to make a mistake and be corrected? That is exactly what makes him scientific and careful in the matter; he keeps saying "I have a lot to learn yet," and consequently by degrees makes a good man. Is there one of our best composers who have never made a mistake, or who could not be criticised in his productions? No, certainly not, we have all our failings, one's ability is better than another's perhaps, but that ability is often spoilt for want of generosity or even politeness to our fellow-beings. Many a good man has been spoilt through want of mutual sensibility for another, one perhaps not being able to offer any remunerative return. Public criticism gives all this, providing a man can humble himself to it, but when some people are once sat on they are cowed, and perhaps for ever; while others use a fresh spirit and make good men; and except for the chance of a free passage for their productions, they too, might for ever remain in obscurity. J. W. WASHBROOK.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co., Printers, Exeter.

Obituary.

CHARLES BOXALL.

WITH deep regret we have to announce the death of the above-named gentleman, at the age of 67, which took place at his residence, Arundel Lodge, Howard Road, Dorking, on Monday, February 23rd, after a short illness. The mortal remains were interred on the following Saturday in the Dorking Cemetery, amid universal sorrow and sympathy, a large number of deceased's friends following the sad cortege, amongst whom were about thirty ringers from Dorking, Leatherhead, Ashstead, Reigate, Betchworth, Buckland, etc. Deceased was a member of the College Youths, the Winchester Diocesan Guild, and had been a member of the local company for over fifty years, he having rang his first peal at the age of seventeen; he was also captain and treasurer of the local society. Deeply muffled touches of Grand-sire and Union were rang before and after the funeral service, and in the evening an attempt was made for a peal, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 1 hr. 50 mins. Muffled touches were also rung on the Monday evening following.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A formal meeting was held in the Church Schoolroom, Clay Cross, early in October, 1887, which was adjourned till October 27th, when the following belfries were represented: Ashover (five bells); Old Brampton (five bells); Crich (five bells); Clay Cross (six bells); North Wingfield (six bells); South Normanton and Morton (five bells). The Rev. —. Shipton (of Brampton), was elected to the chair, when the following gentlemen were unanimously elected as officers. President—Rev. Canon Massey, South Normanton; Vice-President—Rev. J. B. Nodder, Ashover; Hon. Treasurer—Rev. Jos. Oldham, Clay Cross; Hon. Secretary—Mr. J. Green, Clay Cross. The objects of the Association are similar to those adopted by the Midland Counties' Association. The first Annual Meeting will be held at Clay Cross on Easter Monday, when a sermon will be preached in St. Bartholomew's church by the President. The bells will be open at 10 a.m., when all ringing friends will receive a hearty welcome.

THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.

On Saturday, March 18th, a very handsome board was unveiled in the tower of the church of St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, by the Vicar (Rev. W. M. Sinclair), in commemoration of the first peal rung by the above Society. After a few appropriate words of encouragement to the members, the same band rang a peal of Grandsire Triples (see peal column) in honour of the occasion.

NOTICE.—Good Friday occurring next week, this paper will be published a day earlier than usual. Peals intended for publication must come to hand not later than Wednesday morning; everything else on Tuesday morning.

A dog belonging to a change-ringer used to accompany his master to the belfry of St. Martin's church in Leicester, and upon the commencement of a touch he would lay himself quietly down, nor attempt to stir, till the bells came round, which intimated the finishing of the peal, and which he always noticed. He would then get up, shake himself, and prepare to be off from an amusement for which he had considerable less relish than his master. Tradition states that the late George Stockham, so many years steeple-keeper at St. Clement Danes, possessed a quadruped of the same species, who was accustomed to bark when "that's all" was uttered by the bob-caller.

THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—An interesting extract from the thirty-ninth Annual Report of this company will be found in our advertisement pages. It substantiates the assertion that the "Prudential" is doing good in both the "Ordinary and "Industrial" branches of its operations. When it is known that over seven million and a half policies of this company are in force, there can be no question at all as to the position and status of the "Prudential" among assurance societies.

The chapel erected by Mrs. Fraser at the cathedral in memory of her late husband, the Bishop of Manchester, has been completed by the erection of what the *Manchester Guardian* describes as an exceedingly beautiful screen, with folding doors. The cornice, which is of an elaborately carved vine pattern, is surmounted by a carved cresting. Between the muntins and above the doors, and on each side of the doors, is a variety of exquisite tracery, with battlemented pinnacles. The tracery of the panels below the lock rails is similar in treatment, but worked on the solid of the panels. The lock rails and the door head are also elaborately carved; while the principal stiles of the screen consist of very finely carved buttresses, with pinnacle terminations.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION,

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 19TH.

By the Arundel branch at Arundel.—On Sunday, March 11th, for Divine service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins., by a mixed band. W. Short, 1; E. Brackley, 2; *W. L. Chamberlain, 3; G. Balchin, 4; C. Blackman (conductor), 5; G. Smart, 6. W. Short from Warnham; Smart and Brackley hail from Steyning. *First 720.

By the Billingshurst branch at Billingshurst.—Recently a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. C. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; W. Wadey, 5; J. T. Chantler (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Warnham Court Bob. C. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; W. Wadey, 5; J. T. Chantler (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Bob. C. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; J. T. Chantler, 5; W. Wadey (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of College Single. G. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; W. Wadey, 5; J. T. Chantler (conductor), 6.

By the Brighton branch at St. Peter's, Brighton.—On Thursday, March 15th, a 518 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. G. A. King, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; W. C. Marshall, 3; G. Thwaites, 4; F. Fisher, 5; J. E. Worsell, 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; J. Mockett, 8. And on Sunday, March 18th, a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire, in 44½ mins. H. Weston, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; *G. Thwaites (conductor), 4; G. C. Hammond, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; H. Cornwall, 7; J. Mockett, 8. *First quarter-peal as conductor. Also on Monday, March 19th, a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 18 mins. G. Thwaites, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; J. Searle, 3; J. Jay, 4; G. A. King, 5; J. Reilly, 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; H. Cornwall, 8.

By the Chailley branch at Chailley.—On Saturday, March 17th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. J. Reynolds, 1; A. Brown, 2; A. Gorrington, 3; Henry Cornwall, 4; W. Pelling, 5; O. Gatland (conductor), 6; This is the first 720 by a Chailley band for more than twelve years.

By the Crawley and Balcombe branches at Crawley.—On Sunday, March 18th, a 910 of Court Bob Triples, in 29 mins. *F. Streeter, 1; F. Rice, 2; *E. Streeter, 3; *J. Cheeseman, 4; *H. Meads, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; *J. Gasson, 7; E. Pearce, 8. *Hail from Balcombe.

By the Crawley branch at Crawley.—On Thursday, March 12th, a 5040 of Grandsire Triples, in 2 hr. 57 mins. For particulars see peal column. G. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

EASTER HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.

THE MIDLAND RAILWAY.—The printed Easter Holiday announcements of this company state that the booking offices at St. Pancras and Moorgate Street Stations will be open for the issue of tickets throughout the day on Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, March 28th, 29th, and 31st, so that passengers desirous of obtaining tickets beforehand may do so at any time prior to the starting of the trains. Tickets will be dated to suit the convenience of passengers. There is an accelerated service of express and mail trains leaving London (St. Pancras) week days only, to Carlisle, Scotland, Belfast, Leicester, Derby, Manchester, Southport, Liverpool, Nottingham, Sheffield, Leeds, and Bradford. Corresponding trains are run in the opposite direction. On Good Friday, March 30th, the trains will run as appointed for Sundays, except the newspaper express leaving St. Pancras at 5.15 a.m., which will run to Bedford, Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Sheffield and Manchester, same as on ordinary week-days. The 8.55 a.m. local train Sheffield to Leeds, &c. will wait the arrival of the newspaper express at Sheffield. Third class passengers are conveyed by all trains. The same company will run cheap excursion trains from London to Leicester, Nottingham, Newark, Lincoln, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Burton, Derby, Liverpool, Manchester, the Furness District, Morecambe, Leeds, Bradford, Carlisle, Scarborough, Bridlington, Whitby, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Thursday, March 29th. Tickets for starting from St. Pancras station by any of these excursions can be obtained on the two previous days to the running of the trains at the Midland booking office, St. Pancras station; at the Tourist office in front of St. Pancras station; at the Midland offices, 445, West Strand (opposite Charing Cross station and hotel); 10a, New Bond Street; 5, Charing Cross (corner of Northumberland Avenue); 33, Canon Street; 13, Aldersgate Street; 272, Regent Circus, Oxford Street; and Gloucester office, 495, Oxford Street; at the London, Brighton and South Coast Company's offices, 8, Grand Hotel Buildings, Trafalgar Square, and 28, Regent Circus, Piccadilly; at Cook's Tourist offices, Ludgate Circus, Fleet Street; 35, Piccadilly; 99, Gracechurch street; and 82, Oxford Street; and on the day of the running of the trains at the stations only.

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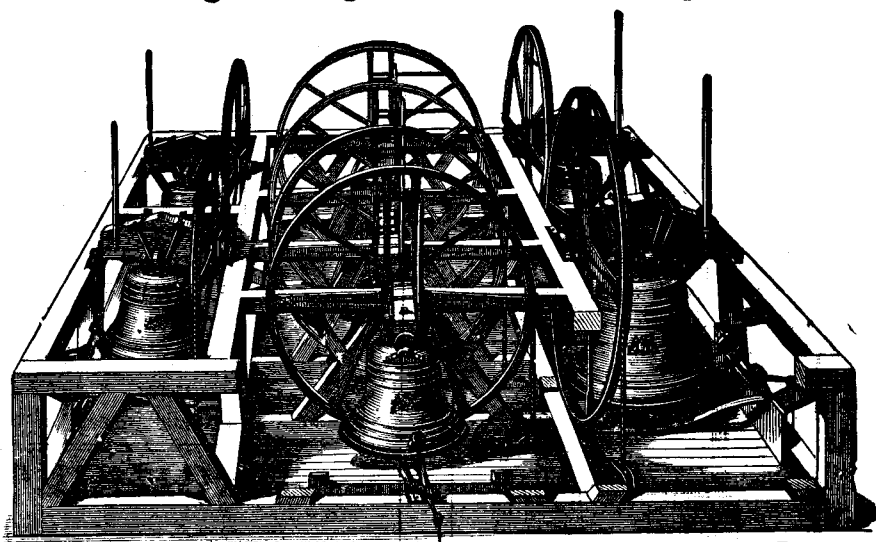


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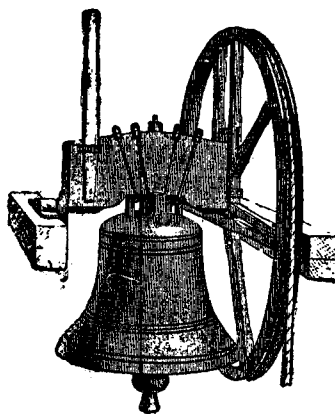
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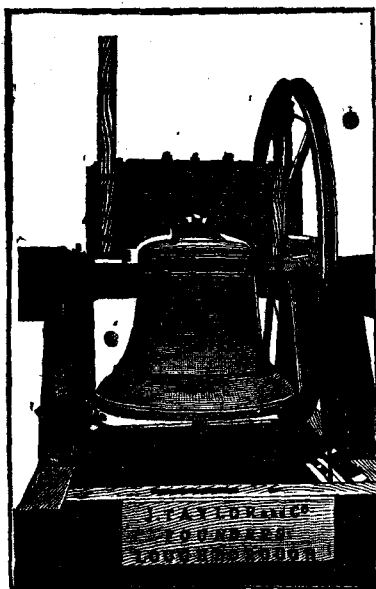
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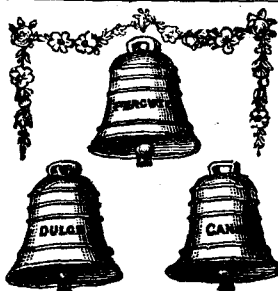
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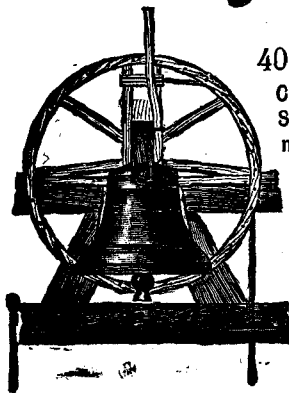
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No. 314.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1888.

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BRIDGNORTH.

Dear is the hallow'd morn to me
When village bells awake to day;
And by their sacred minstrelsy,
Call me from earthly cares away.

Half-way on the main road between Wellington and Kidderminster, on the banks of the river Severn, which here divides it into two portions called the High and the Low Town, is situated the ancient historical old borough of Bridgnorth, in the county of Shropshire, particulars whereof I promised in a previous issue of this paper to place before its readers.

Bridgnorth derived its chief importance from its situation on the river, and was a thriving inland port. Previous to 1862 the commercial traffic was principally carried on by means of barges and boats plying up and down the stream, the navigation giving employment to a great number of the labouring classes, but rendered dangerous owing to the rocky beds in the river, requiring some experience on the part of the bargee, especially in flood time. In February 1862, the Great Western Railway Company opened the line connecting Shrewsbury, Droitwich, Wellington, and Worcester, known as the Severn Valley Railway, from the fact of its running almost side by side with the river for a distance of over thirty miles. The traveller cannot avoid being impressed with the unusual scenery it affords. In many places this river is extremely tortuous, but at Bridgnorth presents a very serviceable and straight reach. Frequent serious floods have occurred here—in 1869 the gasworks, established in 1838, were flooded, and the whole town put in darkness for three nights, rendering candles and other lights in great demand; another happened in 1852, and a third in 1879 washed away the floating public baths from its moorings, having only been built a year—so that it was damaged considerably by being dashed against the bridge. The bridge, a handsome stone structure, was erected in 1823, in lieu of an old but inadequate one built by the Saxons, several improvements being made thereto in 1824 and 1852. In the latter year, the tolls, which had been in force since 1796, were abolished, and in 1868 the bridge clock was illuminated.

Standing on the centre of the bridge, and facing the source of the river on the right hand side, a commanding eminence, appropriately termed the high rock, rises to a height of several hundred feet, and on the other side of the river, and almost opposite rises the tower of St. Leonard's church, loftily surmounting clusters and tiers of houses—curious old red brick and tile buildings, which render the place so picturesque.

In the Low Town a large spinning and dying establishment exists. The cemetery, which was consecrated by the Bishop of Hereford on July 25th, 1855, is a little way out, and prettily arranged on the slopes of the neighbouring hills, which seem to terminate with the High Rock, its precipitous edge suddenly rising from the borders of the river. Both towns are supplied with water forced by powerful pumping machinery up to a tremendous reservoir on the ridge of the hills, ninety feet above the battlements of St. Leonard's tower. The Upper Town is on the western bank of the river, crowding on the sides and summit of a red sandstone rock, which rises to a height of nearly 200 feet above the river level. The appearance of this part of the town is remarkably picturesque, and the view is very fine, especially from that part where the remains of the castle stand, where a terrace has been laid out overlooking the Low Town, the river, and a widely spreading country. This walk extends 622 yards, in a circular form, similar to the north and east Terraces of Windsor Castle, but at a greater height, and was greatly admired by King Charles I., who was at Bridgnorth three times during the civil wars, and preferred it to all towers in the kingdom. Visitors universally consider it highly interesting, and are charmed by the beautiful scenery it opens to view. The impression made upon me on the occasion of my first visit to this walk, now five years ago, will ever be remembered with delight. Under the brow of the hills are many rude dwellings cut out of the sandstone rock, with several caves over which the inhabitants have small gardens—that give the whole a romantic appearance. The road from the Low Town to the High Town winds round the rock, but the nearer approaches for foot passengers are by several flights of steps—one of which, called the Stoneway Steps, formed of pebbles, cased in an iron framework, consists of 179 steps. These were re-constructed with blue paving bricks in 1877. The town comprises the two parishes

of St. Magdalene and St. Leonard's, the population in 1840 nearing 6000. It is twenty miles from Shrewsbury, 139 from London, and thirteen from Wolverhampton, the latter journey I walked in April 1883 much to my enjoyment. The principal trade is an extensive establishment for the manufactory of carpets, rugs, matting, worsted spinning, etc. My friend, Mr. John Overton, kindly shewed me over the factory of Messrs. Southwell and Sons, and explained the various weaving machinery, which in their almost lifelike action are truly marvellous.

The Town Hall is an antique structure, built in 1652, the upper part being half timbered, supported on pillars and arches of bricks. A large room is appropriated to the magisterial and business purposes of the town, that underneath by the market people.

The church of St. Leonard, an ancient and venerable building, rebuilt in 1448, was nearly destroyed during the Civil War, but repaired soon after the Restoration. The old tower was built in 1477. On the 31st March, 1646, a great battle was fought near St. Leonard's churchyard, the Royalists being routed, and their leader Colonel Billingsley killed. The Royalists then took refuge in the Castle, after setting fire to the houses in the High Street. The church is built of red sandstone, in the Gothic style of architecture. The interior consists of nave, side aisles, and chancel. The latter underwent complete reparation, and later on, in 1863, the north and south aisles were rebuilt. The south compartment was separated from the body of the church by three arches. The church is well seated, and has a powerful, fine-toned organ, opened on the 27th November, 1867. The roof is supported by a framework of oak, each beam of which is ornamented by a figure of an Apostle. The east window was restored and beautified in memory of the late Thomas Whitmore, Esq., who by will gave the rectorial tithes due to him as lay proprietor, to the minister of this church, and also to that of St. Mary Magdalene. On the south side is a stained glass memorial window, "restored in 1847 in memory of Mr. Boulton, formerly of the Grammar School, by a priest of the English Church, as a poor offering of thankfulness to Almighty God for many means of grace and good instruction vouchsafed both in this Church and in the adjoining Grammar School."

The tower was rebuilt in 1871, and is a massive square structure, very well arranged, and possessing a good clock. The belfry and ringing room is reached by an easy staircase of stone at the angle. The ropes fall in good circle, bells go moderately well, and the draught is convenient. The ringing room is clean, well kept, and well lighted, and is provided with the Ellacombe patent chiming apparatus, with which I played several Lenten hymns upon the bells during Lent on Sundays. The bells were originally a peal of six. Messrs. Warner and Sons, of the Crescent Foundry, were called in and entrusted to carry out the casting, and a new treble and tenor was added by them to make the octave, the old treble of the six being recast, and the whole hung and properly arranged in a solid oak frame. The following are the inscriptions:

On the treble and tenor:—"Cast by John Warner and Sons, London, 1874."

3rd.—"Recast by John Warner and Sons, London, 1874."

2nd.—"LÆTA : CHORUM : PERAGIT : ME : TINTINNANTE : CORONA."

4th.—"MORIGERIS : VOCEM : VOVEO : FEMEMQUE : REBELL."

5th.—"NOS : RESONARE : JEBENT : MYSTERIA : FUNERA : FESTA :

Thomas Milner : Luke Milner : Wardens 1631."

6th.—"LAUS : DOMINO : TERRAE : PAX : ALBAE : GRACIA : GENTI."

7th.—"QVARTA : FVI : NVNC : SEXTA : SONO : MODVLATO : TONABO."

Diameter of tenor 48½ inches, weight about 22 cwt.

All the old bells are bolted to their stocks, as the cannons are entirely broken off.

This additional inscription also appears on the second bell:—

"THOS : ROBERTS : OF : SALOP : CAST : THESE : SIX : 1681."

Between the tower wall and the bell-frame is a 3-foot foot-way round the bells. The following wording is the copy of a tablet fixed in the tower, and the peal mentioned as having been rang by a Birmingham company, was the only one rang in Bridge-north until 1887, when a peal was achieved by a friendly band on January 15th, 1887. The first was conducted by John Bannister, the second by J. W. Washbrook.

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DIX by

GING;

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"S. Leonard's Bells.

"A peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at the opening of these Bells, on the 7th day of March, 1874, by eight ringers of the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham.

STATED RINGERS.		STATED RINGERS.	
1874.		1880.	
J. Overton,	Treble.	J. Overton,	Treble.
E. Parker,	2nd bell.	T. Lloyd,	2nd bell.
J. W. Parker,	3rd "	J. Andrews,	3rd "
J. Southwell,	4th "	J. Southwell,	4th "
W. Lowe,	5th "	E. Hall,	5th "
W. Browne,	6th "	C. Groves,	6th "
E. J. Brown,	7th "	W. Lowe,	7th "
R. Wyde,	Tenor.	E. J. Brown,	Tenor.

The stated ringers mentioned on this board are the local men, who are not members of the St. Martin's company. It is well worth one's while to climb on to the tower roof, to obtain the splendid view afforded thereby, the High Rock, the Brown Clee hills, and the famous Wrekin, being conspicuous landmarks.

This church had near it a college for the habitation of two chantry priests appointed to pray for the rest of the soul of Thomas à Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury. It was destroyed with most part of the High Town and church, at the time the parliamentary forces took possession of Bridgnorth. The living is a perpetual curacy, held by the present incumbent since Easter, 1883, when the writer had the pleasure of hearing him deliver his introductory sermon.

In close proximity also, is a handsome old half-timbered house bearing the date of its erection, 1580, in which was born in 1729 Bishop Percy, the publisher of "Reliques of Ancient English Poetry," in 1764, a very striking example of the architecture of that day, as it has undergone very little alteration during the three centuries it has been in existence.

The church dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene is an handsome edifice in the Grecian style of architecture, built in the year 1792 of white freestone, at a cost of over £6000. The interior is spacious and handsome, and has a good organ. The altar is of oak, richly carved. The church in ancient records is styled, "Liberia regia Capella," that is, a free chapel of the Kings made exempt from episcopal jurisdiction by King John, who visited this town personally on his way to Worcester. It was made parochial in the reign of Edward III.

Formerly on the site of this church was a fine collegiate Chapel founded by William the Conqueror, which had a dean and five prebends. It was taken down through the panic caused by the fall of St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, and replaced by the present edifice, which has a graceful tower of Grecian features, surmounted by a cupola, and possessing a clock with four dials, and a good peal of six bells which are not in very good going order, the inscriptions on which are given herewith:—

Treble.—"Abraham : Rudhall : of Gloucester : cast us all : 1713."
 2nd.—Mr : Richard Cornes : Minr : Mr. Richd : Colley : Churchwardens : 1713 : "
 3rd.—"GENEROA : DEDIT : DIERAS : HAEC : BIS : VILLA : VIRGINTI : A Θ R 1713."
 4th.—"VR : PUSIS : ITERUM : NOBIS : CONCORDIA : FIAT : A : R 1713."
 5th (no cannons).—NUMINIS : AD : OULTUS : CONCORDI : VOCE : VOGENIUS. A Θ R 1713."
 Tenor (diameter 37½ inches, key Bb, weight about 9 cwt.)—"Benjamin Pagett : Francis Benbow : Churchwardens. A Θ R. 1764."

The ringing room is a snug little place, 12 ft. 6 ins. square. Originally each ringer had his name on a small board fixed on the wall opposite the bell-rope he handled—only one is left and he still rings the same bell.

THOMAS HIGGINS,
No. 4. Ringer. 1863.

The lines here given appear on a seedy-looking tablet in the belfry of doubtful age, and affords some amusement to ringers of the present generation:—

"If that to ring you do come here,
 You must ring well with hand and ear,
 And if a bell you overthrow,
 Fourpence you pay before you go.

And if you ring with spur or hat,
 Sixpence is due to pay for that.
 And if you here swear or curse,
 Twelve pence is due, pull out your purse.
 Pay the sexton what is his fee,
 For he that swears shall not go free.

Similar lines to the foregoing I found in a neighbouring church during one of my rambles,—but the two concluding were:—

"Pay the sexton what you forfeit,
 Or else, kind sir, your coat pays for it."

It was advisable, therefore, in the earliest days of the art, to ring with your "coat on" for fear of the penalty.

Near by the church of St. Mary are the ruins of a castle fortified by Robert de Belesme, the third Norman Earl of Shrewsbury. The erection was on the site of a former structure, but a portion of the square tower now standing, 17 degrees out of the perpendicular, is the only relic of this baronial fortress left. A romantic act of loyalty is related of Herbert de St. Clare, who with King Henry II., was besieging the castle of Bridgenorth, and seeing one of the enemy taking aim at his sovereign, stepped before him and received the arrow in his own breast, and thereby his death wound. In the civil wars the castle was garrisoned for the king, who marched here from Shrewsbury to meet the parliamentary army. The gates and town walls were thrown down by the enemy, the corporation afterwards rebuilding the north gate, which still stands.

The Free Grammar School, facing St. Leonard's churchyard, was founded more than 300 years ago by the bailiffs and burgesses, for the purpose of affording free of expense to "all comers," instruction in literature and good learning until they should be capable to be sent to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge." The earliest mention of the almshouses is in a document dated Sep. 2nd, in the 6th year of the reign of King Charles I. These with the Grammar School has been constantly enriched by suitable bequests. Numerous wealthy charities exist, one I will cite—Edward Careswell, by will dated Feb. 3rd, 1689, left upwards of 1000 acres of land chargeable with the maintenance of eighteen scholars in the college of Christ Church, Oxford.

In 1756, Francis Moore, founder of "Old Moore's Almanack," was born in Bridgenorth, and in 1788 the first printing press in this town was established.

Historically Bridgenorth is a place of great antiquity originally called Brugia or Bruges, and derived its name from the bridge here built over the Severn. The first memorable transaction of this town we find was in King Alfred's day A.D. 894, when the Danes being driven from Norfolk were forced to leave their ships and spend the winter at Brug-upon-Severn, on the borders of Wales, where they built a strong fort. It subsequently underwent the common vicissitudes of the country, being harassed both by Danes and Saxons till Roger de Montgomery having obtained a grant of the Earldom of Salop built a new castle here. His eldest son, Robert de Belesme in Henry the First's reign declared for Curthose and fortified his castle against the king. After a siege of three weeks it was surrendered, and with the rest of his possessions annexed to the crown. The fee of the keeper of this castle in Elizabeth's time was £9 2s. 6d. The castle not having been a sufficient defence to the crown, without walls about it, an aid was granted for walling the town in the 11th year of Henry III., for two years, and another aid for the same purpose was granted six years later. The first charter of which any knowledge exists is the 16th of King John, which grants to Burgesses of Bruges and their heirs certain liberties and free customs and freedom from toll throughout the kingdom, excepting the London liberties. Henry III. in his 10th year of reign granted a fair to be held on St. Luke's day, which subsequently became remarkable for the sale of hops, cheese, and walnuts.

The old corporation consisted of two bailiffs, a recorder and his deputy, 24 aldermen, 48 common councilmen, 2 chamberlains, 2 bridge masters, town clerk, sergeants at mace, and other officers. The bailiffs were chosen every year in a most remarkable manner. After 14 men had been sworn they were locked up and neither permitted to eat or drink until a selection had been made, a regulation which had sometimes occasioned long fasting. At the election in 1793, the jury fasted no less than 74 hours.

W. H. F.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Let us take time by the forelock."

Three rings restored and another new ring to be opened is surely good news for one week. If only the improvement in the actual work of change-ringing keeps pace with the improved state of the bells, there will be every reason to be gratified at these continued signs of progress.

* * * * *

Two peals reported last week are deserving of special notice. The first peal of Duffield Royal is now an accomplished fact, and those who took part in it—particularly the talented composer and conductor—are to be congratulated not merely for the peal itself as a peal, but because in my own mind I am convinced that this method—although as yet very tardily adopted by the Exercise—will be the Standard Method of the future, and consequently this performance will become historic.

* * * * *

The other peal to which I have the pleasure of referring, is one of Grandsire Triples rung at Painswick. We are told that this is the first peal rung by an entire Painswick band for 26 years. That is of itself a sufficiently pleasant and characteristic feature to make it notable. But we are also informed that the whole of the band have been taught by one who was himself self-taught. All credit is thus due to Mr. Hale for the great amount of patience and perseverance which he must have manifested in his uphill work of training himself and his band amid such difficulties. I myself have been in the similar position of having to rely upon books in my work of teaching myself and my band, and can therefore estimate from personal experience the immense amount of time and labour which he must have bestowed upon his "young ones." The Society of Painswick Youths will be sadly lacking in their duty if they do not perpetuate this peal by a tablet in their belfry, and thus in some slight degree acknowledge the long and painstaking work of their instructor.

* * * * *

The Exercise will, I feel sure, welcome the appearance of the late Jasper Snowdon's last work on Grandsire, which is advertised in this week's issue. The last work of any popular author derives additional importance from that fact alone, and although I have not as yet had the opportunity of carefully perusing the volume, I am convinced that it will be a work of great practical utility. The portrait and memoir, together with the appendix by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies (himself no mean authority on the method) will no doubt make the book specially valuable; we may therefore safely conclude that Mr. Snowdon's last contribution to our ringing literature will be of no less importance than the valuable ones from the same pen which preceded it.

* * * * *

From the announcements which appear this week, it would seem as if the Exercise intended to have a very general "field day" on Easter Monday next. Here is an opportunity which I most sincerely hope our friends will not allow to escape them of advancing the work which we all should have at heart. While we are thus enjoying ourselves on this great festival of the Church, let us all resolve to combine business with pleasure, and do our best to embrace the opportunity afforded by helping on in every way the work of organising our forces, of improving our status, and of furthering the true interests of change-ringing in whatever way we may find practicable; remembering the injunction—"Whatsoever thou doest, do it with all thy might."

The announcement that the proposed long peal of Grandsire Caters at Appleton, on Easter Monday is postponed, will doubtless be noticed with regretful feelings; but whatever may be the reason for this step, it is to be hoped that when the attempt is made, it will be rewarded with a successful issue.

* * * * *

I notice the venerable "Holt's Original" peal of Grandsire Triples has been rung at Warnham, Sussex, in two hours and thirty-seven minutes. That means over thirty-two changes per minute. I wonder if the ringers of this peal had a notion that they were engaged in a race against time; for that speed seems to me more compatible with racing each other than good ringing.

FREE LANCE.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 26TH.

By the Brighton branch at St. Peter's, Brighton.—On Sunday, March 25th, a 518 of Grandsire Triples, in 17 mins. J. Reilly, 1; G. Thwaites (conductor), 2; A. A. Fuller, 3; W. Allfrey, 4; G. King, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; H. Cornwall, 7; J. Jay, 8.

By a general band at Felpham.—On Saturday, March 17th, a 120 of Bob Doubles. F. Beer, 1; H. Pay, 2; C. Clear, 3; C. Hills, 4; C. Blackman (conductor), 5; H. Irish, 6. Also a 108 of Bob Minor. H. Pay, 1; C. Hill, 2; C. Clear, 3; F. Finch, 4; C. Blackman (conductor), 5; G. Balchin, 6. And 120 of Bob Minor. F. Beer, 1; C. Blackman, 2; C. Clear, 3; G. Balchin, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6.

By the Steyning branch at Steyning.—On Sunday, March 18th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Matthews, 1; G. Smart (conductor), 2; C. Chambers, 3; E. Brackley, 4; C. Tyler, 5; J. Woolgar, 6. And on Thursday, March 22nd, on handbells, a 360 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Matthews, 1; G. Gatland, 2; G. Smart (conductor), 3; E. Brackley, 4; C. Tyler, 5; C. Tyler, 6. And on Friday, March 23rd, on handbells, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Matthews, 1; F. Morris, 2; G. Smart (conductor), 3; G. Gatland, 4; C. Tyler, 5; C. Tyler, 6. And on Sunday, March 25th, a 720 of London Scholars' Exercise. J. Matthews, 1; E. Brackley, 2; C. Chambers, 3; G. Smart, 4; G. Gatland, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6.

By the Warnham branch at Warnham.—On Saturday, March 24th, a peal of Treble Bob Major, in the Kent Variation, 5088 changes (for particulars see peal column).
G. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

ST. JAMES'S CHURCH, GRIMSBY.

ON Easter Monday, the tower of the above church will be open for ringing from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., when all ringers will be welcome. Also the unveiling of the peal-board to commemorate the first peal rung on the bells by the Hull branch of the Yorkshire Association on Saturday, February 27th, 1887.

THE OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE BOAT-RACE.

A correspondent of the *Guardian* says that public interest in the boat-race is gradually declining year by year. Certainly the crowds on Saturday last were not quite so thick as before, except at the start and the finish, but the miserable weather goes some way to account for sensible folks staying at home. Many ladies were present, but they did not attract the attention which no doubt they deserved, because their dresses were generally adapted to the sombreness of the atmosphere about them. The spirited advertisement which was carried on last year in the shape of seven large steamers occupied by wearers of the Waterbury watch was not repeated; but a feeble imitation was attempted by vendors of a patent medicine. But it was not stated whether the persons on board had been dosed before starting. Not many famous or familiar faces were to be observed at the race; none of the Bishops and Judges, who owe part at least of their success in life to the moral pluck and physical strength which are tested, if they are not developed, by rowing in the boat race. The Cambridge stroke started at 42 to the minute, the Oxford at 40; but before they passed the London Boat House both had slowed down—one to 36, the other to 38. The time became slower, in spite of the attempted spurts attempted by the Oxford crew, and after Cambridge had secured a substantial lead of three lengths, they settled down to the comparatively leisurely time of 34 to the minute, and the latter easily won by seven lengths.

Review.

"GRANDSIRE," THE METHOD, ITS PEALS, AND HISTORY.

By the late Jasper Whitfield Snowdon, with Portrait and Memoir, edited by his brother, William Snowdon, together with an Appendix by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies.

Once more the familiar name and the touch of the master hand, the renewal, as it were, of past friendships in present intercourse with the latest thoughts of the most powerful ally the ringers of England ever owned. The name of JASPER WHITFIELD SNOWDON must ever remain prominent to the farthest future of change-ringing, yet with a freshness impossible in the well worn leaves of his former works comes this new child of the unceasingly active brain, addressing old friends with an almost personal greeting, and recalling vividly and to the life the ready and pertinent words of advice of former days.

In no whit does the posthumous work of which the title is inscribed above fall short of the high standard of its predecessors. Although interrupted in completion by the Author's untimely decease, his scheme, already fully sketched out both in private papers in the possession of Mr. William Snowdon, and in letters to his close friend, the Rev. Charles Davies, has, by the united efforts of these gentlemen, been brought to a successful issue. "Grandsire" is now placed before the Exercise, like all the Author's previous publications, at a price so moderate as to make it evident that those responsible for its launch expect no remuneration for their large outlay of time and trouble; to quote words from the preface, the volume is "a work of love in memory of, and as a tribute of regard to one who has gone." As such it will be received by the ringing world with grateful appreciation, a feeling that will rise to admiration when the full value of the book is thoroughly realised.

To review within the space of a newspaper article in other than a cursory manner two hundred pages teeming with scientific and historic detail is a manifest impossibility. We can but touch briefly upon the general arrangement and more salient points of the work, leaving it to our readers to inform themselves more fully by a perusal of the volume itself.

In the Preface a clear outline is given by the Editor, Mr. Wm. Snowdon, of the Author's views and intentions. "His change-ringing series," we are told, "was to include the best and most popular methods practised. His plan was to have followed this work on Grandsire with one on Stedman, and completed the set with the Surprise methods." As to the particular volume under notice, a letter from the Author to Mr. Davies, out of which a long quotation is given, sets forth in minute detail the arrangement of the subject. The original intentions have been faithfully carried out by the Editor. Wisely, however, he has concluded to add an Appendix containing the valuable researches of Mr. Thompson and Mr. Davies as to the whole peal of Grandsire Triples; thus the work is brought fully up to date.

The first twenty pages are devoted to an interesting memoir of the Author. There is little here to comment on. The life is that of an active English gentleman, full of the reforming power which so surely shews itself in all who live under a sense of their duty to their neighbours. Narrated with perfect simplicity, the tricks and pleasantries of the boy are followed by the amusements and relaxations of the man. No attempt is made to select incidents illustrative of the strong points of his character to the exclusion of others less individual. The result is on the face of it a fair record of an honourable, unselfish, and exceptionally active life, in which, among many interests, the improvement of the art of change-ringing seems to have held a foremost place.

It will be unnecessary to bestow more than a passing glance on the first three chapters. They contain an elaborate and accurate explanation of every point in connection with the practical ringing of Grandsire Doubles, Minor, and Triples, with ample touches and directions for calling them. The whole of this part is upon the same lines as the Author's well known "Rope-sight," and is of course intended only for comparative beginners. In the fourth and six following chapters we reach the interesting part of the volume, and find the most perfect list of peals of Grandsire Triples yet published, carefully divided according to the number of parts in which each is composed, and accompanied by most valuable notes, both historical and analytical. When we say that between forty and fifty peals are presented, few of which are devoid of special interest, our readers will understand the comprehensive nature of the collection. We have for the first time in book form the composition of Garthorn and Vicar, and of our more modern composers, Messrs. Davies, Penning, Hollis, &c., and the convenience for comparison and reference, of this section of the volume, cannot be over-estimated. Of the peals, perhaps the most valuable to conductors are the first five-part touches of 4830 by Mr. Davies, with the complementary leads added by Mr. Penning, because, in these, common bobs and singles are alone employed, and the calling is withal easy to acquire. Previously, a conductor wishing to call a peal containing

only the two strictly legitimate calls, was, in his choice, confined to Holt's laboriously mastered one-part composition (afterwards supplemented by Mr. Penning's able productions on the same plan) and the perhaps unnecessarily discredited Bob and Single peals, of which latter the music is, except at the singles, from the frequency of the double dodging undeniably excellent.

Of peals with more than two kinds of call the Author is justly critical (see p 72), and it is matter for regret that the simple peals Mr. Hollis should come under this denomination, as well as some less important peals by other composers. As an interesting specimen may lastly be noticed Mr. Thompson's three-part peal with the three missing leads added by means of a Holt's plain and a Holt's bob single. In our opinion Mr. Davies' way of presenting this composition viz.: with one single at the third lead and the other at the finish would have been still more convenient if he had placed both single at the commencement. In support of this course we refer our readers to the Author's own words on page 96, where he says: "when two extra calls only are used, let them be got over as soon as possible and not left to the end when everyone is more likely to be nervous, and the least hitch may therefore endanger the accomplishment of the peal."

Space compels us to pass on to what, to many, will prove the most attractive part of the work, as it certainly is that in which the Author's peculiar talents are most fully evidenced; we refer to the "History of Grandsire." A most valuable and important addition is made, in this section, to the existing literature upon the subject. Not only are the earliest performances in the method clearly set forth, but by a most ingenious but strictly logical piecing together of a vast number of isolated scraps of information, unearthed from the most various sources, the Author places before us what without doubt are the actual compositions rung on the several occasions, thus proving past contradiction which of these achievements are to be handed down to posterity as worthy of acceptance.

In addition to the history of Triples, that of performances on all the higher number of bells, both odd and even, is given, and the most celebrated peals and the longest lengths are carefully set forth and commented on. In fine, this part of the book bears witness of an even greater amount of trouble and research that was bestowed upon the justly celebrated "History of Treble Bob."

We now come to the Appendix which, as already remarked, is from the pen of the Rev. Charles Davies. Sound and practical directions are here given to conductors and composers together with an important exposition of the varying and reversing of peals. The sentence: "all touches and peals may be looked upon as being of a circular form" contains a truth which Mr. Davies does well to force home. A diagram is given showing that, "viewed logically and mathematically, a composition has neither beginning nor end." Were the truth of these words more generally understood, we should see less piracy of the productions of eminent composers by feeble members of the craft. We may, however, suggest that it would have been more correct to insert, after the words "all touches and peals," *that come round naturally*; for the definition does not apply either in this or any other method to compositions that come round at hand, or in other irregular ways.

The concluding portion of the volume will scarcely be read or understood except by those who have dipped deeply into the composition of peals of Triples. That complete peals on this number of bells present difficulties entirely absent from compositions on higher numbers is only too well known. No composer previous to Mr. Davies possessed the necessary knowledge of the science of ringing, combined with analytical and mathematical powers sufficient to embolden him to attack the problem of discovering the arithmetical laws upon which the extent of changes on seven bells depends. That such laws existed was certain. So far as five-part, or more properly ten-part peals are concerned, Mr. Davies may be said to have completely investigated the question, and to these his attention has been chiefly confined. This enquiry naturally throws much light upon the subject generally, so much so that, taken together with Mr. W. H. Thompson's invaluable demonstrations, the way is well paved for future investigators who may turn their attention to the laws of one-part peals. Upon this branch Mr. J. F. Penning could doubtless give important information, which in the hands of competent mathematicians might bear good fruit.

Mr. Davies' tables and explanations, though intricate, are by no means so difficult to follow as might appear the case at first sight, and the results obtained therefrom may be accepted as strictly correct, borne out as they are by those of other composers. The exhaustive treatment of the three-lead peal principle, in which all possible radical variations are given in a compact table, is also worth attention; as is too the concluding review of Mr. Thompson's famous pamphlet, "A Note on Grandsire Triples," in which the impossibility of obtaining the whole peal by means of common bobs only is clearly proved. Without attempting to follow the successive steps of this closely reasoned demonstration, we may point out to those of our readers who

have been denied a mathematical education, and to whom therefore the comprehension of the proof will be impossible, the broad principle upon which it is founded, a principle not only underlying this particular method, but so long as the course of the changes is not turned, every method on all numbers of bells in all questions of "extents."

Every "extent" must consist of complete courses only, no lead of a course can be omitted. As we must start with the plain course any "extent" must contain the whole of this course. We may add courses to this initial course as we please, but we shall find that it is impossible, try as we may, to bring our touch or peal round if we add an uneven number of complete courses to the initial one. Any even number of courses may be added, but never an odd number. This admits of clear proof. Consequently any touch or peal of complete courses must consist of an odd number of such courses, that is, of the one initial course and the even number of courses added. Now as any "extent" clearly consists of an even number of courses, it is also clear there must always be one odd course that can never be got in. Upon this principle depends Mr. Heywood's lately published proof of the reasons for the impossibility of "the twelve courses." Mr. Thompson, we understand, is now engaged in shewing the bearing of the principle upon the 59 courses obtainable out of "the 60." It is immaterial in its application to Grandsire Triples whether the word "course" refers to five plain leads or to three leads with a bob at each. Thus, in Holt's original, it is a course of three bob leads that is omitted, in Mr. Hollis' peals it is a course of five plain leads. A further deduction, doubtless true but not yet proved, may be drawn from Mr. Thompson's investigations, namely that "extents" are always possible by bobs only, in methods in which either the bob or the plain-lead end, or both, turn the course of the changes, as for instance in Bob Triples; also, as a consequence, in in-course methods by the use of singles.

We dilate somewhat fully on these points in the hope that those composers who peruse "Grandsire" may be led to study what is advanced in the Appendix with special care, in order that, having mastered what is already known, they may attempt themselves to work out some of the remaining problems. The Appendix as a whole may be pronounced by no means the least important part of the treatise, and in selecting Mr. Davies to prepare it, the Editor chose the only composer possessing the requisite knowledge for the task.

It may be thought from our very favourable comment that we are not disposed to criticise too narrowly Mr. Snowdon's last work, or the way in which his wishes have been carried out. The fact is that we fail entirely to find any defects worth notice. Opinions may differ as to the desirability of this or that treatment of certain parts of the subject, or as to the insertion or exclusion of this or that item. Into this we are not disposed to enter. The volume as it now appears is accurate, interesting, and valuable, and must at once take its place as one of the standard books on the science. Let us also hope that, although the Author has, alas, not lived to prepare the remaining works which it had been his intention to issue, Mr. William Snowdon may see his way to confer an additional benefit upon the Exercise by reprinting, with such notes as may be requisite, the excellent papers upon Stedman and the Surprise peals which formerly appeared in our columns under his brother's name, and thus complete the intended series of that eminent writer.

Correspondence.

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

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

AN ERROR.

SIR,—I see in your last issue that on Thursday, March 8th, by the invitation of the Rev. H. Kingsford, four of the Worcester Company, assisted by Mr. Brown (formerly churchwarden of St. Helen's), paid a visit to Stoulton parish church, and rang several 6-scores, &c., on the bells. Now, sir, what I wish to state is that your correspondent is in error, as Mr. Brown is not an honorary member of the Diocesan Association, as he states in his report.

J. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

INDEPENDENT SOCIETY PEALS.

SIR,—"Free Lance" having called attention to the fact that eighteen peals have been rung by non-Association bands during January and February, it may be interesting, if not useful, to publish a list of the counties in which they have taken place: Lancashire, 6; Staffordshire, 2; Gloucestershire, 2; also Devonshire, Northamptonshire, Middlesex, Cheshire, Suffolk, Yorkshire, Huntingdonshire, and Warwickshire one each.

Brighton.

G. F. ATTREE.

NO CLAIM.

SIR,—By omitting to look through "Rope-Sight" when I composed the peal of Bob Triples, and published in last week's issue, I find on page 91 the same peal by T. Morris, therefore I withdraw all claim.

Bracebridge Street, Birmingham.

JOHN CARTER.

SURPRISE MINOR METHODS.

SIR,—"Free Lance" having commented on the seven Surprise methods which appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of the 10th instant, I should much like to hear what that critic has to say about the two methods (?) known as "Violet" and "New London Pleasure."

Wakefield.

J. T. HOLLIS.

RINGING IN LENT.

SIR,—There may be various opinions as to the propriety, or impropriety of ringing during Lent, but I should say that there are few churchmen who would think it consistent to ring during Passion week. Nevertheless, on Monday evening last (the Monday before Easter), during the evening service in Salisbury Cathedral, while our good Dean was earnestly trying to impress upon us the solemn teaching of the season of Passiontide, the bells of St. Paul's, Fisherton, were distinctly audible "pealing forth merrily," as local newspapers are fond of expressing it. I have no sympathy with those who would silence bells during the whole of Lent, but I do think ringers might deny themselves a little pleasure for one week only during the whole year.

Salisbury.

J. R. JERRAM.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—I should feel obliged to any of your readers if they could inform me whether it is possible to produce a long touch of Grandsire Triples with a call at every lead with ordinary bobs and singles.

The longest touch I have been able to produce with consecutive calls is 252, which is as annexed:—

The great and only drawback which I can see in preventing long touches of Grandsire being called at consecutive leads is that three pairs of figures seem to be connected with each other, that if one is called in front or in any particular place, the other will necessarily be in another certain place. The three pairs of figures thus connected are 5, 7, 6, 4, and 2, 3, and if for an example we take the 5th and 7th we see that if the 5th is called in front the 7th is likewise called there too, and *vice versa*, and the same applies to the two other pair of figures. The following Quarter-peal is to my mind the nearest that can be produced (with the use of Grandsire Bobs and Singles) to consecutive calls. It contains 58 singles and 22 bobs, making altogether 80 calls, therefore leaving only ten plain leads.

I shall be glad to hear of any quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing as many calls, or if there are any containing more calls than 80, as I have been unable myself to find there are any containing these qualities. I should also like to know if it is possible to produce a peal on the above plan which would of course give 320 calls out of a possible 360, as I have not seen a peal containing more than 240 calls.

2 3 4 5 6 7
S 5 7 2 6 3 4 1
S 6 4 5 3 7 2 1
B 2 3 6 7 4 5 1
S 7 5 2 4 3 6 1
B 6 4 7 3 5 2 1
S 3 2 6 5 4 7 1
S 5 7 3 4 2 6 1
B 6 4 5 2 7 3 1
B 3 2 6 7 4 5 1
repeated.

2 3 4 5 6 7
B 7 5 2 6 3 4 1
B 6 4 7 3 5 2 1
S 3 2 4 5 6 7 1
S 7 6 3 4 5 2 2
S 4 2 7 5 6 3 1
S 5 3 4 6 2 7 1
S 6 7 5 2 3 4 1
S 2 4 6 3 7 5 1

9 times repeated.
Bobs to be substituted for singles at the 4th and 6th calls in the 5th and 10th parts.

GEO. THWAITES.

Brighton, March 19th.

NOTICE OF A LONG PEAL.—A peal of 10,000 Bob Major will be attempted at St. Mary de Crypt church, Gloucester, on Easter Monday, by eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

LLANGOLLEN (North Wales).—On Wednesday, March 14th, at the Parish church, on the occasion of the marriage of R. L. Baker, Esq., two touches 350 and 518 of Grandsire Triples, the above are the longest touches rang by the local ringers. Joseph Evans, 1; R. S. Horspool, 2; D. E. Evans, 3; James Davies, 4; J. W. Davies (conductor), 5; J. W. Parry, 6; Thomas Davies, 7; Walter Scott, 8. Tenor 17½ cwt.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO., Printers, Exeter.

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

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1888.

THE daily press, and in fact every other kind of journal which is supposed to cater for the benefit of general news-mongers, have recently devoted a no inconsiderable part of their columns to a succinct account of that disgusting and brutal exhibition known to the "sporting" dilettanti as "the fight for the championship." The heroes—save the word—of these pugilistic encounters, appear by all accounts to have regarded themselves as a species of public benefactors, while those who, having more money than sense, are the chief supporters and patrons of such exhibitions, consider themselves in some degree as the saviours of society in general. We have nothing to do with either principals or seconds, or with those who, neglecting matters of import to which it is their duty to attend, fight with eagerness to possess a correct knowledge of the time and place of combat, ignoring the connection they may for the nonce secure with what may safely be termed the scum of mankind. It is with our contemporaries of the press that we fall foul of, in that they pander to a depraved taste instead of endeavouring to correct it. The same journals would dismiss from their observation a clever bell-ringing performance with a short paragraph. Some will no doubt argue that this is owing to ignorance of the art. Perhaps we could not expect a writer on any of the daily papers to do any "gush" upon the recent long peal at Appleton. But, let it be understood, not for the reason that he knew nothing about it. If one having the control of the columns of such an organ was an enthusiastic ringer he would be prevented from singing the praises of his favorite exercise by the objection that the subject was of no public interest. But if he was a believer in pugilism, or anything else, no matter how low and vulgar, that was held to be popular, unlimited *blanche carte* would be allowed him, and he would dilate upon such matters to the top of his bent.

We do not want to enjoy the notoriety of the pugilistic arena, or anything approaching it. Ringing, as becomes its associations and surroundings, must ever be held select, if not strictly religious. Yet it seems deplorable that we may talk of our doings in the art without obtaining one eager listener, or one desirous of engaging in its practice, while if some athletic occupation, needing not the exercise of one's brains perhaps, is mentioned, the interest displayed is astonishing. This is not gratifying of course, but we must be content to put up with it. There may perhaps be means adapted to make the beauties of ringing more generally known and understood, which

would in time render it more popular than at present. We should be more than satisfied if churchfolk paid it a greater attention. At one time the Oxford University Society seemed to be an augury for ringing extension. Is it waiting for the sister university to do something?

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—EASTER HANDBELL COMPETITION.

NOTICE.—In consequence of there being no entries for the plain course of Grandsire Caters, this prize will be thrown open to any company, free of entrance fees. No notice will be requisite. First: £1 10s.; Second: 15s.

The Metropolis.

SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

(No date mentioned), in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	ARTHUR JACOB 5.
THOMAS TITCHENER 2.	WILLIAM DORAN 6.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 3.	SAMUEL JARMAN 7.
JAMES HANNINGTON 4.	ALFRED DAWES.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

THE ALL HALLOWS (TOTTENHAM) SOCIETY AND
 THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 24, 1888, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 SHIPWAY'S SIX-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

THOMAS C. GROVE Treble.	JOSEPH WAGHORN 5.
ARTHUR HUBBARD 2.	GEORGE B. LUCAS 6.
ALFRED FOX.. .. 3.	HENRY A. BARNETT 7.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 4.	WILLIAM PYE-ENGLISH .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE B. LUCAS.

First peal in the method by all. It is also the first peal in the method by the All Hallows' Society and the Essex Association, and the first peal in the method upon these bells.

The Provinces.

HAGBOURNE, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, March 23, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 23½ cwt.

EDWARD PETHER Treble.	JOSEPH F. NAPPER 5.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK 2.	CHARLES W. ALLEN 6.
FRANK NAPPER 3.	WILLIAM NAPPER 7.
DENNIS NAPPER 4.	ALFRED WOODLEY Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

ABINGDON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 24, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;
 Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM FINCH Treble.	WILLIAM JEFFERY 6.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK 2.	HAROLD HUMFREY 7.
ALBERT KIMBREY 3.	THOMAS PAYNE.. .. 8.
THOMAS SHORT 4.	JOHN BROWN 9.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON 5.	WILLIAM NAPPER Tenor.

Composed by J. Cox, and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Tuesday, March 19, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5151 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt. in C.

THOMAS RUSSAM Treble.	WILLIAM KENT 6.
BERNARD WITCHELL 2.	THOMAS REYNOLDS 7.
HENRY BASTABLE 3.	THOMAS MILLER 8.
JOHN BUFFERY 4.	HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. .. 9.
CHARLES STANBRIDGE .. 5.	ALFRED THOMAS Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by JOHN BUFFERY.

This peal has the 6th twenty-four courses behind the 9th and 8th respectively.

LIVERPOOL.—THE LIVERPOOL YOUTHS SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, March 20, 1888, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

RICHARD WILLIAMS Treble.	JOHN R. PRITCHARD .. 6.
ROBERT WILLIAMS 2.	THOMAS BYRON 7.
WILLIAM WOODHEAD .. 3.	HENRY COLEY 8.
CHARLES WILLIAMS 4.	WILLIAM DAVIES 9.
THOMAS HAMMOND 5.	WILLIAM BROOKS Tenor.

Composed by ROBERT WILLIAMS, and conducted by JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

Mr. Byron hails from Prescott, and this is his first peal of Caters.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE WARNHAM BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 24, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

GEORGE CHARMAN Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT 5.
WALTER CHARMAN* 2.	FELIX KNIGHT 6.
THOMAS ANDREWS 3.	HARRY COOK 7.
JOHN R. REILLY 4.	HENRY CHANDLER Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, Conducted by HENRY CHANDLER.

*First peal of Treble Bob Major. Mr. Reilly hails from Brighton.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 24, 1888, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

JAMES TRAPPITT Treble.	EDWARD MOSES 6.
EDGAR BENNETT 2.	CHARLES BANCE 7.
GEORGE WELLING 3.	*JOSEPH FAYERS 8.
WILLIAM BURKIN 4.	JOHN PLOWMAN 9.
DR. A. B. CARPENTER .. 5.	CHARLES GORDON Tenor.

Conducted by EDGAR BENNETT.

*First peal of Royal. The peal, which was in one main course, was composed by the late H. Hubbard, and has the 6th its extent wrong and right.

NEWCHURCH, ROSSENDALE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 24, 1888, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

T. HARRISON Treble.	J. B. TAYLOR 5.
A. E. WREAKS 2.	G. LORD 6.
I. W. LAYCOCK* 3.	F. BIRTWISTLE 7.
H. H. NUTTER 4.	W. WHITTAKER Tenor.

Conducted by A. E. WREAKS.

*First peal.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Handbell Ringing.

On Friday, March 23, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT NO. 1, BUCKINGHAM TERRACE,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

HENRY LEWIS 1-2.	GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. 5-6.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 3-4.	E. PERCY DEBENHAM .. 7-8.
THOMAS WALLER 9-10.	

Composed by J. Cox, and Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

Umpire: Mr. E. Hull. This peal was attempted on March 13th, 1888, being Mr Lewis's birthday, but unfortunately came to grief after ringing 3960 changes.

Date Touches.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, March 18th, for Divine Service in the evening, a date touch of 1888 changes, in 1 hr., in the following methods: 448 Plain Bob (composed by C. E. Wilson, Walton-on-the-Hill, Lancashire), 360 Yorkshire Court, 360 Canterbury Pleasure, 360 College Single, 360 Oxford Bob. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

STAPLEHURST (Kent).—On Monday, March 19th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 12 mins. W. Walter, 1; W. Collison, 2; J. G. Tillmon, 3; W. Pope (conductor), 4; H. J. Pope, 5; W. E. Pope, 6; E. Pope, 7; T. Colvin, 8.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Wednesday evening, at St. John's church, 720 College Single, in 25 mins. J. Bolton, 1; J. Little (first 720), 2; H. S. Taylor (first 720), 3; R. Moncaster, 4; W. D. Lister (first 720), 5; J. H. Whitfield (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BISHOP STORTFORD (Herts).—On Saturday, March 17th, at St. Michael's church, 704 Oxford Treble Bob Major. C. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; W. Watts, 3; J. Luckey, 4; G. Prior, 5; H. Prior, 6; I. Cavill, 7; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 8. And a plain course of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. G. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; W. Watts, 3; J. Luckey, 4; C. Prior, 5; H. Prior, 6; I. Cavill, 7; H. J. Tucker, 8. The above was rung with the bells muffled, as a token of respect to the memory of the late Emperor of Germany. Tenor 20 cwt.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, March 25th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor. T. Watson, 1; F. L. Bumsted, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; H. E. Hammond, 6.

FARNHAM (Essex).—On Thursday, March 15th, four 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles. G. Milthing, 1; G. Prior, 2; J. Dillow, 3; H. Prior (conductor), 4; W. White, 5. And four 6-scores in the same method by the local company. G. Milthing, 1; J. White, 2; J. Dillow, 3; W. Dillow, 4; W. White (conductor), 5. This is the first change-ringing ever done by a local company at Farnham. The above band have been instructed by H. Prior, of Stanstead, Essex.

HARWICH (Essex).—On Sunday, March 11, the St. Nicholas's company rang 504 Grandsire Triples, for service. Brewster, 1; G. Barclay, 2; Aldis, 3; Huff, 4; Peachey, 5; Green, 6; Easter (conductor), 7; Knock, 8. And 168 Grandsire Triples, on seven bells. Barclay, 1; Brewster, 2; Green, 3; Peachey, 4; Ramplin, 5; Easter, 6; Knock, 7. On Friday, March 16th, 392 Grandsire Triples. A. Knight, 1; Brewster, 2; Peachey, 3; Huff, 4; Easter, 5; Ramplin (conductor), 6; Knock, 7; Barclay, 8. In the account last week of the Silver wedding peal by this company, William Easter should be read for William Caster, and Gordon Barclay for George Barclay.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, March 25th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (three bobs and eighteen singles). R. Burrell (first 720), 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Harvey, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. J. Piper (composer and conductor), 6. R. Burrell hails from Chelmsford, the rest are of the local company.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

UPTON-ST.-LEONARDS (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, March 10th, eight members of the local band attempted to ring Mr. Hubbard's ten-part peal of Bob Triples (to celebrate the silver wedding day of the Prince and Princess of Wales), but after ringing nearly 1500 changes, in 48 mins., it came to grief through the sudden breakage of the fourth rope, which was a great annoyance to all. J. Middlecote, 1; J. Yeates, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; D. J. Aston, 5; S. E. Romans, 6; A. A. Waite (conductor), 7; T. White, 8. It is rather remarkable for the third man took part in ringing a peal on the day the above named were married. Also on Saturday, March 17th, a 1008 of Bob Major, in 42 mins. W. J. Sevier, 1; J. Yeates, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; D. J. Aston, 5; S. E. Romans, 6; A. A. Waite, 7; H. G. Gardener (conductor), 8. And a 224 of Kent Treble Bob Major. H. G. Gardener, 1; J. Yeates, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; D. J. Aston, 5; S. E. Romans, 6; W. J. Sevier, 7; A. A. Waite, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FRITTENDEN (Kent).—On Saturday, March 24th, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 40 mins. Joseph G. Tillmon, 1; Walter Pope, 2; Charles Walter, 3; William E. Pope, 4; Edgar Pope, 5; Edgar Taylor, 6; Thomas Daynes (conductor), 7; Walter Rofe, 8. The above was rung with the bells wholly muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. Robert Mercer, who had been churchwarden for over half a century.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, February 19th, for morning service, 240 Grandsire Doubles. For evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor. On Sunday, March 11th, for morning service, 240 Stedman Doubles; for evening service, 720 Yorkshire Court. The following took part in the above: T. Newman, H. Smith, G. Essex, J. Hands, E. Menday, E. Pottinger, H. Simmonds, F. Simmonds, and C. Parfett. Conducted by T. Newman. On Friday evening, March 16th, with the bells half-muffled, 448 Plain Bob, 360 Yorkshire Court, and 360 Canterbury pleasure, in 45 mins. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. The above was rung as a token of respect to the memory of the late Emperor of Germany. On Sunday, March 18th, for morning service, 448 Plain Bob Minor, and 120 Stedman Doubles. F. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 25th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Yorkshire Court. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; G. Essex, 3; E. Menday, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. T. Newman, 1; E. Menday, 2; J. Hands, 3; H. Smith, 4; G. Essex, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Saturday, March 10th, at All Saint's, Boyne hill, eight members of the local company rang a 576 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells deeply muffled. H. Gilding, 1; H. Rogers, 2; J. W. Wilkins (conductor), 3; F. Bissley, 4; A. Hoskins, 5; Edward Rogers, 6; Edwin Rogers, 7; W. Dentry, 8. The above was rung as a tribute of respect to the deceased Emperor (whose age was afterwards tolled on the tenor), and also for the late Admiral Sir Cooper Key, who resided in this neighbourhood and was much esteemed by all who knew him.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, March 18th, at St. Martins, for morning service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. Benjamin Starkey, 1; Harry Mills, 2; Samuel Jesson, 3; William Pardoe, 4; George Hughes (conductor), 5; William Rock Small, 6. All the above are members of the Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association. This is the first 720 of Bob Minor rang by the Tipton band. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

BRISTOL.—On Saturday evening, March 17th, at the church of St. Michael, five members of the St. James's society, Bristol, with Mr. Alfred York, rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. A. York, 1; A. Howell, 2; G. Pymm, 3; W. W. Porch, 4; H. Tucker, 5; H. Porch (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. H. Tucker, 1; G. Pymm, 2; A. Howell, 3; W. W. Porch, 4; H. Porch (conductor), 5; A. York, 6. And a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. H. Tucker, 1; W. W. Porch, 2; H. Porch (conductor), 3; A. York, 4; G. Pymm, 5; A. Howell, 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BAGSHOT.—On Monday evening, March 5th, at St. Anne's church,

a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. A. Harding (first 720 Minor), 1; F. Frances, 2; T. Gould, 3; H. Stapleton (first 720 with a bob bell), 4; C. Lee, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. Tenor 21 cwt. And on Saturday morning, March 10th, seven 120's of Grandsire Doubles called differently. A. Harding, 1; T. Gould, 2; F. Francis (conductor), 3; H. Stapleton, 4; E. Spooner, 5; W. Harding, 6. And in the evening, several 120's with W. Varndell at the tenor. Also on Thursday, March 22nd, 720 of Bob Minor (fifteen bobs and six singles), the Rev. C. D. P. Davies three-part peal. A. Harding, 1; T. Gould, 2; F. Francis, 3; H. Stapleton, 4; E. Lee, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles, on handbells. H. Stapleton, 1; E. Lee, 2; F. Francis, 3; T. Gould, 4; E. Spooner (conductor), 5; W. Varndell, 6. First 120 of Stedman by all.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Tuesday, March 20th, at All Saints' church, was rung a 168 of Grandsire Triples. Rev. H. A. Spyers, 1; A. Williams, 2; O. Coombes, 3; W. Jennings, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; J. Norris, 6; W. H. Carley, 7; A. Ward, 8.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

PUDSEY (Yorks).—On Saturday, March 24th, at the parish church an attempt was made for a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, but after ringing 4096 changes in 2 hrs. 28 mins., it came to grief, owing to one of the ringers missing his sally, and the bell being overturned. On making enquiries, it was ascertained that the stay had been broken before, and had been wrapped with wire instead of being replaced by a new one. B. F. Lamb, 1; H. Raistrick, 2; S. H. London, 3; S. Langstaff, 4; J. Broadley, 5; J. H. Hardcastle, 6; W. E. London, 7; F. London (conductor), 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Tuesday, March 6th, at the parish church, 720 Violet Treble Bob. G. Croucher, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Moses, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, March 17th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Saunders, 1; T. Andrews, 2; F. Arnold, 3; W. Short, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Sanders, 1; F. Bridger, 2; T. Andrews, 3; W. Short, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Single Bob. F. Arnold, 1; T. Andrews, 2; R. Arnold, 3; W. Short, 4; *F. Sanders, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, March 11th, for Morning Service, 720 Bob Minor. T. Andrews, 1; F. Sanders, 2; F. Arnold, 3; W. Short, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Messrs. Andrews and Short hail from Warnham, Sussex. *First in the method with a bob bell.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Friday evening, March 23rd, for practice, at the parish church, a 720 and 144 of Plain Bob Minor. A. Spurge, 1; W. Moore, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; W. Bearman, 4; S. Sargent, 5; E. Radley (conductor), 6. Messrs. Radley and Chaplin hail from Stisted the rest are local men.

BRISTOL.—On Monday, March 12th, at St. Peter's church, 240 Grandsire Major. G. Staddon, 1; C. Gordon, 2; C. Trevett, 3; A. Anderson, 4; E. Duckham, 5; E. Beake, 6; F. Price, 7; G. Daltry (conductor), 8. And on Monday, 19th, at St. Stephen's church, 720 Grandsire Major. C. Gordon, 1; A. Anderson, 2; W. Parsons, 3; F. Price, 4; S. Phillips, 5; G. Daltry, 6; W. Emery, 7; J. Hinton (conductor), 8. Also 720 Bob Minor. *C. Burden, 1; *F. Price, 2; *S. Phillips, 3; A. Anderson, 4; *W. Parsons, 5; J. Hinton (conductor), 6. And 720 Treble Bob Minor. *C. Burden, 1; *F. Price, 2; J. Hinton (conductor), 3; *S. Phillips, 4; *W. Emery, 5; *G. Daltry, 6. And on Tuesday, March 20th, 720 Treble Bob Minor. *G. Colston, 1; *F. Elles, 2; *E. Duckham, 3; S. Phillips, 4; W. Emery, 5; J. Hinton (conductor), 6. And touches of Grandsire Triples, in which Messrs. Young, Gould, and Trevett, took part. *First 720 in the method.

COOKLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday evening, March 20th, for practice at St. Peter's church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. W. Smith, 1; G. Salter, 2; T. Salter, 3; J. Bennett, 4; H. Adams, 5; H. Williams (conductor), 6. Also 360 Bob Minor, with H. Adams, 3; T. Salter, 5; the rest as above.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—On Sunday, March 25th, at St. Mary's church, for evening service, 720 Grandsire Minor (twenty-six bobs and ten singles), in 26 mins. J. Spencer, 1; T. Townson, 2; J. Burrows, 3; M. Addy, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; T. Watson (conductor), 6.

ELMORE (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday evening, March 15th, at the parish church, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. E. Taylor, 1; W. Ward, 2; T. Harmer (conductor), 3; R. Ellis, 4; R. Prosser, 5; D. Pockett, 6.

FARNHAM (Essex).—On Thursday, March 22nd, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26½ mins. H. J. Tucker (conductor), 1; G. Prior, 2; W. Prior, 3; W. Watts, 4; *F. Chapman, 5;

7 mins. A. Ald, 3; H. E. Spooner, 4; A. Harding, 5; E. L. 120's with 12nd, 720 of P. Davies, 3; H. Also 120 of Lee, 2; F. Varnell, 6.

All Saints' Spyers, 1; nings (con-

sh church r, but after v, to one rned. On en broken eplaced by don, 3; S. London, 7;

the parish lger, 2; F. dauctor), 6. Saunders, ld, 5; W. lers, 1; F. W. Sadler ld, 1; T. W. Sadler g Service, ld, 3; W. i. Andrews od with a

practice, at Spurge, 1; mt, 5; E. m Stisted,

urch, 240 ett, 3; A. G. Daltry urch, 719 ursons, 3; J. Hinton Price, 2; ton (con- *F. Price, y, 5; *G. b Minor. ps, 4; W. Grandsire ook part.

20th, for nins. W. ms, 5; H. ms, 3; T.

Marys's bobs and Burrows,

15th, at h called utor), 3;

Mary's kler (con- pman, 5;

H. Prior, 6. And 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. T. Prior, 2; W. Watts, 2; H. Prior, 3; W. Prior, 4; G. Prior, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Plain Bob Minor (thirty bobs and ten singles), in 25½ mins., composed by W. Gordon, of Stockport. T. Newman, 1; W. Prior, 2; G. Prior, 3; W. Watts, 4; H. Prior, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method, and first 720 of Grandsire and Double Oxford on these bells. Messrs. Newman and Tucker hail from Bishop Stortford; F. Chapman from Little Hadham, and the rest from Stanstead. Tenor 11 cwt.

GLoucester.—On Sunday, March 25th, at the parish church of St. Nicholas, for Confirmation Service, and on the occasion of the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol doing duty at that place, six 6-scores of Grandsire, and six 6-scores of St. Dunstan's Doubles. S. Dix, 1; S. Romans, 2; R. J. Wilkins, 3; W. J. Sewier, 4; R. Brunson, 5; J. Merchant, 6.

HAGLEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, March 18th, after afternoon service at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 26 mins. F. Wright, 1; H. Morris, 2; J. Smith, 3; W. Short, 4; J. Barber, 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6. The above which was rung at the first attempt, has a call every treble lead. Messrs. Wright, Morris, and Smith, belong to the local company; Short and Barber, to Clent; Martin to Belbroughton. First 720 of Grandsire by all except the conductor.

HALIFAX (Yorkshire).—On Sunday last, March 25th, for Divine Service in the evening at All Souls' church, a date touch of 1888 changes of Kept Treble Bob Major was rung in 1 hr., 13 mins. H. Reynolds, 1; T. Parker, 2; G. H. C. Copping, 3; J. S. Ambler, 4; H. Payne, 5; C. E. Stewart, 6; A. S. Nicoll, 7; S. W. Stewart (conductor), 8. Tenor 25½ cwt.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Sunday evening, March 18th, at the parish church, 518 Grandsire Triples. J. Bennett, 1; T. Bennett, 2; T. Salter, 3; J. Bennett, 4; H. Adams, 5; H. Williams (conductor), 6; J. Crane, 7; T. Walters, 8.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES (Surrey).—On Saturday, March 10th, at the parish church, 629 of Grandsire Caters. G. Naish, 1; C. Slade, 2; H. Parslow, 3; J. Parslow, 4; G. Woodiss, 5; W. E. Garrard, 6; J. Strutt (conductor), 7; G. Gray, 8; J. Wright, 9; J. Smith, 10. And on Sunday, March 11th, 756 of Stedman Triples. J. Strutt, 1; J. Parslow, 2; H. Parslow, 3; C. Slade, 4; J. Wright (conductor), 5; G. Gray, 6; J. Smith, 7; G. Naish, 8. Also on Sunday, March 18th, 1133 of Grandsire Caters. G. Naish, 1; C. Slade, 2; J. Harris, 3; J. Parslow, 4; G. Woodiss, 5; W. E. Garrard, 6; J. Strutt (conductor), 7; G. Gray, 8; J. Wright, 9; J. Smith, 10. And on Tuesday, March 20th, 504 of Stedman Triples. J. Strutt, 1; A. Challis, 2; H. Parslow, 3; C. Slade, 4; J. Parslow, 5; G. Gray, 6; J. Wright, 7; G. Naish, 8. Also 700 of Grandsire Triples. W. E. Garrard, 1; J. Parslow, 2; G. Naish, 3; A. Challis, 4; G. Gray, 5; G. Wright, 6; J. Strutt, 7; C. Slade, 8. Both conducted by J. Strutt.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday evening, March 22nd, the local company rang a touch of 1134 Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. A. Trigg, 1; A. J. Gwinnett, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; D. Marment, 5; J. Everatt, 6; G. Smith, 7; John Powell, 8. And on Saturday, March 24th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. A. Trigg, 1; A. Gwinnett, 2; Wm. Ryland, 3; Wm. Hale (composer), 4; D. J. Aston, 5; Wm. Sevier (conductor), 6; G. Smith, 7; J. Powell, 8. Also the first three 504s of Holt's 10-part, conducted by Wm. Hale, standing as above. Also a short touch with Master E. E. Bewick, tenor. Bewick, Aston, and Sevier hail from Gloucester; the rest are local men.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Sunday morning, March 18th, for Divine Service at the parish church, touches of Grandsire Triples were rung as a token of respect to the memory of the late Emperor of Germany. S. V. Salisbury, 1; O. Coombs, 2; W. Baker, 3; W. Jennings, 4; G. Derrick (conductor), 5; J. Norris, 6; E. Hatcher, 7; A. Ward, 8. Tenor 26½ cwt.

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Saturday, March 17th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Stubbs, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; *A. H. Martin, 4; *A. E. Chapman, 5; W. A. Hall (conductor), 6. And 144 of Kent Treble Bob. G. Kirk, 1; F. Gilbert (conductor), 2; R. Pendred, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; J. Stubbs, 6. And a 240 of Double Oxford. N. Martin, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; F. Gilbert (conductor), 3; W. A. Hall, 4; J. Stubbs, 5; H. Stubbs, 6. And a 324 of London Single. J. Stubbs, 1; Fred. Kirk, 2; R. Pendred, 3; N. Martin, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. And a 144 of London Single. W. J. Gilbert, 1; R. Pendred, 2; A. H. Martin, 3; W. Pettit, 4; H. Stubbs (conductor), 5; J. B. Martin, 6. *First in the method. W. Pettit, A. H. and J. B. Martin hail from Higham Ferrers, A. E. Chapman from Rushden. The visitors on their way to Raunds, stopped at St. John-the-Baptist, Chelveston, and with the assistance of W. A. Hall, rang six 6-scores of Bob Doubles. W. Pettit,

1; A. H. Martin, 2; J. B. Martin, 3; A. E. Chapman, 4; W. A. Hall, 5. The 2nd, 4th and 5th men conducting two each.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—On Tuesday, March 13th, for practice, a 360 of Yorkshire Court, 360 of Oxford Bob, 360 of Plain Bob and 144 of London Single. The ringers were as follows: J. Bailey, Fred Clayton, G. Heath, G. Burton, C. Green, A. E. Chapman, J. B. Martin, W. A. Hall, W. Pettit and A. H. Martin. And on Thursday, March 15th, at the house of Mr. A. E. Chapman, on handbells, a 720 of London Single. C. Green, 1; *J. B. Martin, 2; A. H. Martin, 3; *W. Pettit, 4; A. E. Chapman, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Plain Bob. A. H. Martin, 1; A. E. Chapman, 2; W. Pettit, 3; W. A. Hall (conductor), 4; C. Green, 5; J. B. Martin, 6. *First 720.

SALISBURY.—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday, March 20th, at the house of Mr. Gifford, Devizes Road, 2562 Grandsire Triples, being the last half of Holt's ten-part peal, in 1 hr. 15 mins. A. W. Barkus, 1-2; W. E. Tydeman, 3-4; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 5-6; W. Wise, 7-8. And on Monday, March 19th, 1008 in the same method. W. Wise, 1-2; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 3-4; W. W. Gifford, 5-6; S. Lawrence, 7-8. And on Friday, March the 23rd, Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted in honour of Mr. W. E. Tydeman's birthday, but it unfortunately came to grief after ringing 3518 changes. A. W. Barkus, 1-2; W. E. Tydeman, 3-4; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 5-6; W. Wise, 7-8.

SETTLE (Yorks).—On Saturday evening, for practice at the church of the Holy Ascension, 720 Bob Minor, W. Middleton, 1; W. Fell, 2; J. Gornall, 3; C. E. Bygrave, 4; W. Hardacre, 5; H. Ingham (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 rung on these bells which were dedicated in December last, and the ringers are very much indebted to Mr. J. McKell, of Gargrave, for his instruction.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—Chiming.—On Sunday, March 25th, at St. Peter's church, for evening service, 742 of Grandsire Triples, the last of Holt's Original. H. Lewis, 1-2; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. And on Monday, March 19th, for practice, 350 Grandsire Triples. W. Little, 1; A. Barnes, 2; E. Hull, 3; J. Brewer, 4; E. P. Debenham, 5; H. Lewis, 6; T. Waller (conductor), 7; T. Conley, 8. And on Saturday, March 24th, on handbells, 1120 Bob Major. J. C. Mitchell, 1-2; G. W. Cartmel, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6; E. P. Debenham, 7-8.

SOWTON (Devon).—On Sunday, March 18th, nine members of the St. Edmund's society, Exeter, paid a visit to the above village, and rang 1050 of Grandsire Triples. T. Townsend, 1; E. Pitt (conductor), 2; S. Herbert, 3; H. Swift, 4; W. Goss, 5; W. Marsh, 6; W. Richardson, 7; H. Webber (first 1050), 8. Also touches of 168, 236, and 462 were rung in which Messrs. Carnell and Roberts took part.

SPROUTON (Suffolk).—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday, March 10th, for practice, at the parish church, 900 of Bob Royal. T. Steward, 1-2; C. Mee (conductor), 3-4; F. Mee, 5-6; A. C. Durrant, 7-8; D. Prentice, 9-10. And on Saturday, March 24th, four of the above attempted Holt's original peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing just over 900, through a change-course, the Umpire called stand. T. Steward, 1-2; C. Mee (conductor), 3-4; A. C. Durrant, 5-6; D. Prentice, 7-8. Mr. W. L. Catchpole, umpire. And for practice, the same evening, about 1500 of Grandsire Caters. T. Steward, 1-2; C. Mee (conductor), 3-4; A. C. Durrant, 5-6; W. L. Catchpole, 7-8; D. Prentice, 9-10. And a course of Stedman Caters, standing as above.

STOKE PRIOR (Worcestershire).—On Monday, March 12th, at St. Michael's church, the local company, assisted by Messrs. Crump and Hayward, of Bromsgrove, who have been instructing the company, rang for practice 720 Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. H. Thompson, 1; J. Thompson, 2; W. Lewis, 3; G. Hayward, 4; J. Mason, 5; E. Crump (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 by the local company.

WEST HAM (Essex).—On Thursday evening, March 15th, at Holy Trinity church, for practice, 720 Grandsire Doubles. W. Brown, 1; *A. Wright, 2; A. White (conductor), 3; W. H. Dallimore, 4; *J. R. Lowe, 5; W. Baldwin, 6. Tenor 7½ cwt. *First 720. This is the first 720 by the local company, who have been instructed by Mr. H. Randall, of West Ham.

WAKEFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, March 18th, for service a 719 of Grandsire Caters. W. Milnes, 1; G. Firth, 2; R. Wrigley, 3; T. Prince, 4; T. Blackburn (Salisbury), 5; J. T. Hollis (conductor), 6; G. Marsden (Ossett), 7; T. Ormonde, 8; T. Moorhouse, 9; J. Styles, 10. Tenor 32 cwt.

WANTED.—Situation in any capacity where practical carpentering would be essential. Good scholar. Change-ringer. Excellent references.—Ed. Lee, Bridge Cottage, Bagshot, Surrey.

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THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 24th, eight members of the above society met at St. Mary's church, Old Battersea, and rang a long peal of Grandsire Triples, 1740 changes, in 56 mins. H. A. Hopkins (conductor), 1; W. Partington, 2; C. E. Malim, 3; A. G. Thomas, 4; H. S. Thomas, 5; W. Baron, 6; H. L. Partington, 7; G. Wilde, 8. This was rang to commemorate the anniversary of Mr. Baron calling Holt's Original for the first time in that tower on Saturday, March 24th, 1871. After ringing the above, Mr. H. S. Thomas kindly invited the band to dinner with him, to which ample justice was done. The cloth having been removed a very pleasant evening was spent, which all present enjoyed. Before departing, Mr. Malim thanked Mr. Thomas, on behalf of the company, for the kind way in which he had received them, and hoped he should be able to invite them to dinner with him when his birthday came. Mr. H. S. Thomas, in replying, said that he was pleased to hear that all had enjoyed themselves, and hoped it would not be the last time he should meet them on such an occasion, but be able to meet them for many years to come. The company then departed having spent a most enjoyable evening.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

The above society of change-ringers beg to announce that it is their intention to hold a ringing day at the above place on Easter Monday, when they will be pleased to welcome as many visitors as may be disposed to attend. A dinner will be provided at the "Green Dragon" inn at two o'clock, tickets 2s. 6d. each. Those visitors who intend dining with the society, will oblige by forwarding their names not later than Saturday, March 24th, to the Secretary, W. C. DYMCK.

"Green Dragon" Inn, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

ALDBOURNE, WILTS.

Two old tradesmen and respected inhabitants of this village have recently been removed, after long illness—Mr. James Barrett, boot and shoe maker, and Mr. James Smith, willow manufacturer. Both took part in the two peals of 5040 Grandsire Triples in March, 1837. They were both interred on Thursday, March 22nd, and after the funeral the ringers paid a tribute of respect by ringing a half-muffled touch, consisting of the usual whole pull and stand, on the bells of the parish church.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting will be held at Romford, on Saturday, April 7th. The belfry of St. Edward's church (eight bells), which has lately been restored and the bells rehung, will be at the disposal of members of the Association during the day. A meat tea (price 6d. to members who give notice to the Secretary before Tuesday, April 3) will be supplied in the National School-room at 5 p.m., and the usual business meeting will be held afterwards. Return tickets at reduced fares will be issued by the Great Eastern Railway to members who inform the Secretary before April 3 from what station they intend to travel, and exhibit at the booking office their receipt for the current year's subscription.

T. L. PAPILLON, Hon. Sec.

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE REPORT for the past year is now ready for distribution, containing times of practice at churches in union; performances; balance sheet; and list of members. It is issued at the reduced price of twopence to members whose subscriptions have been paid, and it is hoped that as many members as possible will take copies, so that the whole edition may be utilised. Members requiring copies will please send word to

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

NOTICE.—The silent peal which was attempted at Dewsbury on March 17th, will be attempted again on Saturday, April 7th.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The next Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held on Easter Monday, April 2nd, in the Chapter House Worcester Cathedral, at 2.30 p.m. The Rev. T. R. Claughton, M.A., canon of Worcester, has kindly consented to preside. The towers of All Saints, St. Helen's, St. Swithin's, St. Martin's, St. John's, and arrangements are being made for the cathedral bells (if possible) to be opened for ringing. All members who have not received notice, to take this as one, and to note that all contributions are due, and should be paid at this meeting, so that all names can appear in the annual report. Business; To read notice convening meeting; to read minutes of last meeting; confirming (or otherwise) of same; to propose new members; to consider a resolution passed at a previous meeting; election of president, vice-presidents, lay vice-presidents, Master Secretary, Treasurer, and other miscellaneous business.

J. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The Sixth Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Derby, on Easter Monday, April 2nd, 1888, and the usual towers (except St. Luke's) will be open for ringing between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., and from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Committee meeting in St. Andrew's parish room, at 3 p.m. Tea in the School-room at 4 p.m., tickets 1s. each. General meeting and election of officers immediately after tea, to which all ringers and friends are earnestly invited.

The Easter handbell competition will take place after the general meeting.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

5 St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Devizes, on Wednesday, May 30th next. Full particulars will be published shortly before that date. A supplementary meeting will be held at or near Dinton, in August next.

J. R. JERRAM, Secretary.

NOTICE.—The long peal of Grandsire Caters, 13,265 changes will be attempted at Appleton, Berks, on Wednesday, April 11th, by ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and the Appleton society, at 6 a.m.

ST. STEPHEN'S, BRISTOL.—The Ancient Society of St. Stephen's Ringers have decided to immediately open the west door of this church, and their architect, Mr. W. Paul, will commence the necessary work at once. The door, although not completed because when carried out fully it will be in keeping with the fabric as restored, will be in a condition to be used on Easter Sunday. The tiling, under the superintendence of the society's architect, will shortly be commenced.

It is generally said of the French that they are not a sporting nation, but an incident which occurred in a churchyard near Paris the other day would seem to shew that the notion is not entirely well founded. A funeral was taking place, when a hare suddenly made its appearance on the scene, and at once the beadle and the mourners started in wild pursuit. After an exciting chase, the beadle managed to knock the animal over by hurling his baton of office at it, and the hare was secured. It is sad to learn that the beadle's sporting tastes got him into trouble, for the local magistrate fined him thirty francs for killing game with prohibited arms.

Diss (Norfolk).—Handbell Ringing.—On Sunday, March 11th, at the house of Mr. J. Souter, a date touch of 1888 Oxford Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 9 mins. E. Hayward, 1-2; E. Broom, 3-4; J. Souter, 5-6; J. Rudd, 7-8. Composed by S. Marsh, of West Bromwich, and conducted by J. Souter. This is the longest length in the method rung by the above company. Also a date touch of 1888 Bob Major, in 1 hr. 6 mins. E. Hayward, 1-2; E. Broome, 3-4; E. W. Debenham, 5; J. Rudd, 6; J. Souter, 7-8. Composed by B. Francis, of Bressingham, and conducted by J. Souter. The above is the longest touch by E. W. Debenham.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5151.

By HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., *Birmingham*.

2 3 1 4 5 6 5 16

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

2 1 4 5 6 3†

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

Round next change.

* Produced by bobs at 2, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16.

† Produced by bobs at 3, 4, 6, 8, 11, 12, 13. First rung at St. Martin's church, Birmingham, March 20th, 1888. Conducted by John Buffery.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5040.

By DANIEL PRENTICE, *Ipswich*.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

This peal has the 2nd and 4th each six course-ends at home, and the 6th the extent in 5-6.

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS.

5016.

By JAMES MOTTS, *Ipswich*.

2 3 4 5 6 W H

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

Rung at Ipswich, on handbells, March 12th, 1888. Conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5152.

By A. E. DURRANT, *Ipswich*.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

The peal has the 2nd at home at twelve course-ends, and the 6th its extent home at five course-ends.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5056.

By JOHN SIDEBOTHAM, *Mottram-in-Longendale*.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5004.

By G. HAYWARD, *Bromsgrove*.

2 3 4 5 6

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

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

The last eight courses five times repeated, 8th in two instead of 7th in and out at three, produces:— 2 3 4 5 6 9 7 8 Calling the 9th, 7th, 8th, 4th and 2nd into the hunt completes the peal.

This peal contains the 5th and 6th each twelve times each way in 5-6.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5056.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

2 3 4 5 6 7 W IN H

5 2 3 7 6 4 - - -
 3 5 2 7 6 4 -
 2 3 5 7 6 4 -
 5 7 2 3 6 4 -
 2 5 7 3 6 4 -
 7 3 2 5 6 4 -
 2 7 3 5 6 4 -
 3 2 7 5 6 4 -
 5 3 2 4 6 7 - - -
 2 5 3 4 6 7 -
 3 2 5 4 6 7 -

Three times repeated.

Single instead of a bob at home in the last course of the 2nd and 4th parts.

This peal contains the 6th its extent home throughout, Queen's, tittums, Whittingtons, and most of the 4-6-8 and 5-6-8 music.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SUR MAJOR.

5376.

By J. W. WASHBROOK, *Oxford*.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

Twice repeated.

The above peal has the 2nd and 3rd never in 6th's place.

Rung for the first time on Tuesday, March 20th, 1888, at Appleton, Berks. Conducted by its composer.

The peal of Bob Major by J. Beanlands, which appeared in our last issue, is false.

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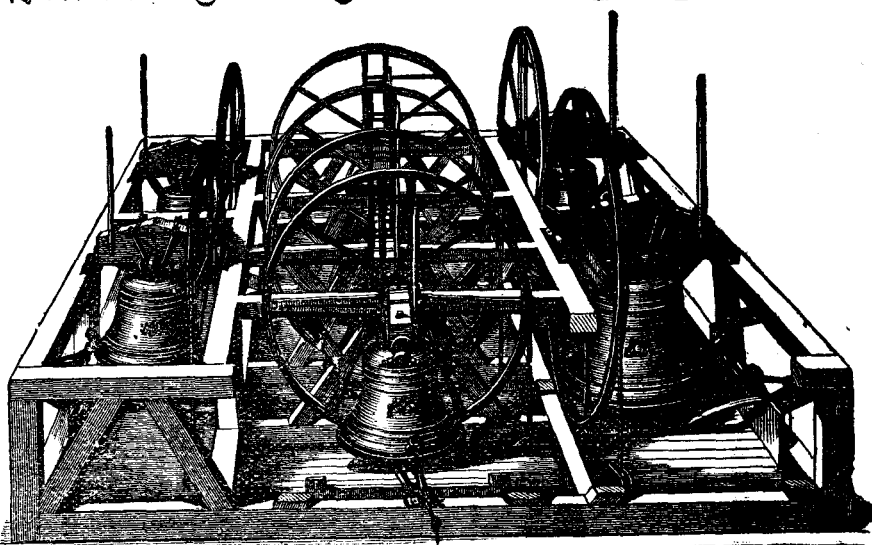
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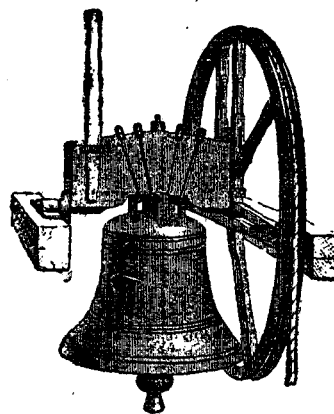
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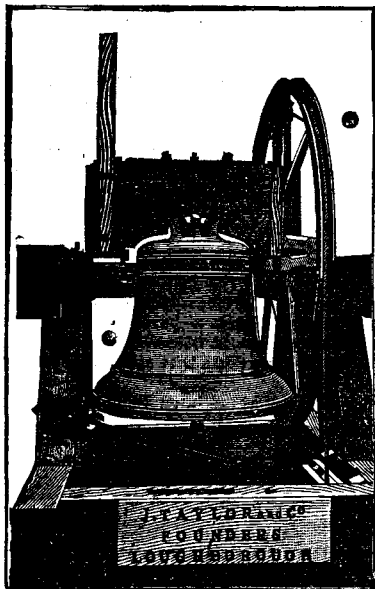
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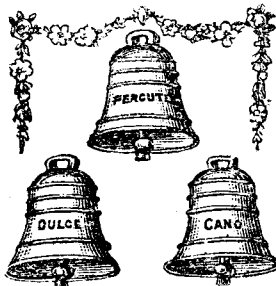
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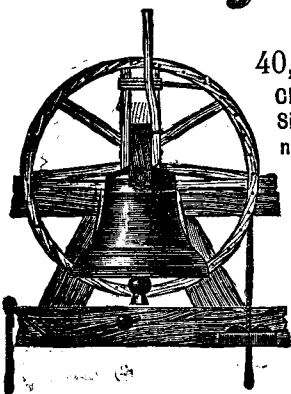
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No. 315.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1888.

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THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—DISTRICT MEETING AT STEYNING.

The second District Meeting of this Association for the present year was held on Easter Monday at this ancient town, and was attended by nearly forty members from branches connected with the parish churches of Angmering, Arundel, Brighton, Chailley, Goring, Steyning, and Warnham. Ringing was commenced about 9 o'clock with a 720 of Woodbine, and was continued with 720s in different Minor methods throughout the day. At 12 o'clock, through the kindness of the Vicar, the Rev. A. Pridgeon, a special service was held in the parish church (St. Andrew), a fine building of the Norman period. The service was followed by an impressive address by the Vicar. Luncheon was served at the "Norfolk Arms," and at the conclusion thereof a business meeting was held and presided over by the Rev. Pridgeon, he being supported by the Rev. R. F. Tompkins, Treasurer, Rev. C. W. A. Napier, Rural Dean, Rev. R. Hay Pitt (Farham). The minutes of a district meeting held at Buxted, on the 4th of February, were read and confirmed, and the following honorary members were then proposed: Rev. T. Dunlop (Vicar of Henfield), Rev. R. Fisher (Vicar of Arundel), Rev. C. B. Walters (Curate of Lymminster), Col. Ingram (Steyning), and Dr. Robinson (churchwarden of Midhurst). A new branch was elected, consisting of ten ringers connected with Seaford parish church, while additional members to existing branches and independent members brought the total at this election to twenty-two active members. A motion was then proposed and carried, "That in future the district meetings of the Association be held alternately at eight-bell and six-bell towers, and that the present number of meetings be doubled." It was then decided that as meetings are held alternately in the eastern and western division of the county, that instead of each meeting choosing the place for holding the next meeting (which is in the other division of the county), it should select the place for holding the next meeting in its own division. In accordance with this, Angmering was selected as the place for holding the next six-bell tower meeting in West Sussex. It was then decided to hold the annual general meeting at Brighton on Whit-Monday. Votes of thanks to the Rev. A. Pridgeon for arranging the service and presiding at the luncheon and meeting concluded the business.

The large square tower of Steyning church, which is shortly to undergo thorough repair, at present possesses a ring of six bells, dated 1724, with a tenor of 12 cwt. It is the intention of the authorities as soon as possible to augment the present six by two trebles. This addition will give the energetic local band an opportunity of practising the fifteen methods in Major, instead of Minor, as at present rung by them. The ringing chamber, which is square, lofty, and well lighted, has during the past few weeks undergone thorough restoration, the walls being matchboarded, stained and varnished, as are also the seats, table, etc. The walls are ornamented with three white marble peal tablets in black and gilt frames, and twenty-two smaller tablets in oak frames, recording 5040s, twenty-four of the above twenty-five peals being rung by the Steyning branch within twelve months of their accomplishing their first peal in seven different methods. It should also be mentioned that the whole of the labour in fitting up the belfry in its present condition was voluntarily supplied by the ringers. The following is a record of the ringing by various mixed bands during the day: A 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob. G. Gatland, 1; C. Chambers, 2; C. Tyler, 3; J. Searle, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. A 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. A. Fuller, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; J. Searle, 3; J. Reilly, 4; F. Morris, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. A 720 of Plain Bob. J. Smart, 1; H. Evans, 2; C. Chambers, 3; J. Woolgar, 4; W. Pelling, 5; T. Parsons (conductor), 6. A 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. T. Stedman, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; T. Andrews, 3; W. Short, 4; S. Brooker, 5; J. Searle (conductor), 6. A 360 Kent Treble Bob. J. Smart, 1; T. Searle, 2; G. Gatland (conductor), 3; G. Thwaites, 4; F. Morris, 5; E. Brackley, 6. A 240 of Canterbury Pleasure. C. Hills, 1; W. Short, 2; T. Searle, 3; C. Chambers, 4; C. Blackman, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. A 720 of Kent Treble Bob. T. Andrews, 1; T. Stedman, 2; J. Jay, 3; S. Brooker, 4; J. Searle, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. A 720 of Plain Bob. J. Matthews, 1; G. Thwaites, 2; E. Brackley, 3; Heneage Cornwall, 4; G. F. Attree, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. A 360 College Exercise.

T. Andrews, 1; W. Short, 2; T. Stedman, 3; S. Brooker, 4; J. Searle, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. A 240 of London Scholars' Pleasure. J. Matthews, 1; G. Gatland, 2; C. Chambers, 3; C. Tyler, 4; J. Searle, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Thwaites, 1; J. Reilly, 2; G. F. Attree, 3; C. Chambers, 4; C. Tyler (conductor), 5; J. Woolgar, 6.

THE ST. PETER MANCROFT (NORWICH) SOCIETY AT KING'S LYNN.

Easter Bank Holiday will be a day long to be remembered by all true lovers of ringing in and around the ancient borough of King's Lynn. At an early hour in the morning the Lynn ringers raised their bells, and everything being in order, they went to the railway station to meet their visitors, who arrived by the 10 a.m. train. The Norwich company was accompanied by Captain Moore, of the Redenhall band, the Rev. H. E. Bulwer, the Rev. N. Bolingbroke (Hon. Sec. of the Norwich Diocesan Association) and others from Diss and elsewhere, in all about sixteen. They proceeded to the tower of St. Margaret's church, and having taken their posts at the different bells, rang a well-struck course of Kent Treble Bob Royal. After morning service the tenor-men changed places and a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal was commenced, but after about ten minutes came to grief, owing to the 5th and 6th changing course. After three or four more attempts they were obliged to give up all hopes of getting the peal that day.

At four o'clock at the kind invitation of the ex-Mayor (W. Burkitt, Esq.), the ringers proceeded to the Crown Hotel, where an excellent luncheon awaited them, provided by host Heckford. The party numbered about thirty. The Mayor (G. S. Woodwark, Esq.), occupied the chair, and on his right were seated the ex-Mayor (the donor of the feast), and Captain Moore; on the left, Dr. Seccombe, and the Rev. H. E. Bulwer. The vice-chair was filled by Mr. C. Ayre; on his right the captain of the Lynn company, Mr. G. Holland; and on the left the captain of the Norwich company, Mr. F. Knights. After doing ample justice to the good things provided for them, the Mayor proposed the healths of "The Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the Royal Family." The Norwich company having rung the National Anthem in full harmony on their sweet-toned handbells, the Mayor next proposed "The health of Mr. Burkitt," who responded, and in the course of his remarks said that he had known several of the Lynn company for more than thirty years, including the late Mr. Agger and Mr. Hammerton, men of great fame in the art of ringing, and he sincerely hoped that the young company would try to follow in their footsteps. He was pleased with the way in which they were progressing in the art. He then proposed the healths of Captain Moore and Dr. Seccombe, who responded, the former saying that he was glad to hear that they had augmented the ring to ten, and although unsuccessful in their attempts that day, he hoped that on the next visit they would be more fortunate.

Dr. SECOCOMBE said that the Lynn people ought to be proud of their noble ring of bells, and very thankful to Mr. and Mrs. Burkitt for their jubilee gift of two trebles which completed the ring. He hoped that he might live long enough to ring 5040 changes on them before he died.

After some more handbell ringing, Mr. AYRE proposed "The Health of the Mayor," who suitably replied.

An adjournment was then made to St. Margaret's tower where several courses of Grandsire Caters, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Royal, and Stedman Caters were rung, the tone of the two new trebles being pronounced good. Visits were made to St. Nicholas' chapel, and touches of Treble Bob were rung by the Norwich and Diss men, assisted by some of the Lynn company, the go of the bells being much appreciated. Altogether a most enjoyable day was spent by the Lynn ringers and their visitors.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Easter Monday, the local members of the above Guild rang a peal of Bob Major, and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Martin's, and 2030 of Grandsire Triples at St. Thomas's church, of which accounts appear among the peals and touches. The members dined together in company with Mr. A. H. Handcock after the peal, and spent a pleasant evening.

EARLSHEATON, YORKSHIRE.—HANDBELL CHANGE-RINGING CONTEST.

The above contest took place at the house of Mr. John Tolson, Park Hotel, on Saturday, March 31st, when the following prizes were awarded for the best two courses of Grand-sire Triples and Grandsire Major, viz., first prize, £2 10s.; second prize, £1 5s.; third prize, 15s. The following bands took part: Almondbury sen., Almondbury jun., Almondbury Youths, Liversedge sen., Liversedge jun., Batley Carr, and Huddersfield. Almondbury sen. won the first prize, Liversedge jun. second, and Liversedge sen. third. Also a bottle of rum was won by Mr. L. Illingworth, of Liversedge jun., for the best 5-6 in this contest, given by Mr. A. Goodall. An extra prize was won by Liversedge jun. for the best six-score of Oxford Treble Bob on six bells. Praise is due to Messrs. A. Goodall, W. Byram, J. Ruddlesden, and G. Taylor, for their able management during the evening. The judges were Mr. John Garforth, Mr. J. H. Dixon, and Mr. C. A. Fox, of Dewsbury.

BOLLINGTON, CHESHIRE.

On Friday, March 30th, the members of the St. Mary's parish church society, Stockport (after ringing for morning service) went by train to Bollington, near Macclesfield, and rang for afternoon service, a 600 of Stedman Triples. E. Leonard, 1; J. Booth, 2; H. Meakin, 3; S. Meakin, 4; J. Meakin, 5; L. Meakin (conductor), 6; T. Marshall, 7; W. Sharples, 8. Also after service, a number of touches of Grandsire Triples, with the assistance of a few of the Bollington band, under the conductorship of Messrs. L. Meakin and T. Marshall.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Devizes, on Wednesday, May 30th next. Full particulars will be published shortly before that date. A supplementary meeting will be held at or near Dinton, in August next.

J. R. JERRAM, Secretary.

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."

SOCIETIES' CLAIMS.

SIR,—Will you kindly make it known that as every ringer in the 10,080 of Double Norwich, and the 12,041 of Stedman Caters, lately rung at Appleton, were College Youths, both peals belong to the College Youths, as well as the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

REV. F. E. ROBINSON, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.
Drayton Vicarage, April 2nd, 1888.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to correct the foot-note to the record of the peal (Holt's Original), rung at Warnham, on Sunday, March 18th, and published in your issue of March 24th, stating that "this is the first one-part peal of Grandsire Triples by the Sussex Association." The same peal was rung at Brighton a few years ago, and conducted by Mr. Searle, but probably that was before the above-named Association was formed. At any rate the peal was rung upon handbells by four members of the Association at St. Albans, in April, 1887.

A MEMBER OF THE SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.

A REPLY TO "FREE LANCE."

SIR,—In reply to "Free Lance" on the venerable Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples being rung at Warnham, in 2 hrs. 37 mins. as conductor of the peal, I wish to state that it was rung as the late Mr. J. Holt composed it, and well-struck throughout. I think our critical friend "Free Lance" has shewn a little partiality as I see no reason why Holt's original peal of Grandsire Triples should not be rung in as quick time as Thompson's three-part (which was rung a short time since on a slightly heavier tenor than Warnham, in two hours and thirty-seven minutes), or that one was at a racing pace more than the other.

Bex Mill, Midhurst, Sussex.

GEORGE WILLIAMS.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT OF RINGING FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 3RD, 1888:—

By the Angmering branch at West Tarring.—On March 25th, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Bushby, 1; H. Evans, 2; C. Clear, 3; J. Parson, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6.

By the Balcombe branch at Balcombe.—On Wednesday, March 15th, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob. H. Meads, 1; R. Streeter, 2; F. Streeter, 3; T. Streeter, 4; E. Streeter, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Violet Treble Bob. R. Bourne, 1; A. Stoner, 2; E. Streeter, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Oxford Single Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Streeter, 2; J. Gasson, 3; T. Streeter, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Cheeseman (conductor), 6. And on Easter Sunday, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Bourne, 1; A. Stoner, 2; J. Gasson, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob. R. Streeter, 1; A. Stoner, 2; J. Gasson, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all. And a 360 of Oxford Single Bob. J. Gasson, 1; R. Streeter, 2; R. Bourne, 3; T. Streeter, 4; A. Stoner, 5; J. Cheeseman (conductor), 6.

By the Brighton branch, at St. Peter's, Brighton.—On Saturday, March 31st, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 20 mins. C. E. Golds, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; J. Searle, 4; W. C. Marshall, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; Horace Cornwall, 7; J. Jay, sen., 8. This touch was rung with the bells half-muffled, on the occasion of the funeral of Mr. G. A. Lihow, a member of the St. Peter's society and a late deputy organist at the church. And on Easter Sunday morning, for seven o'clock service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. J. Jay, sen., 1; G. Thwaites, 2; A. A. Fuller, 3; G. F. Attree, 4; J. E. Worsell, 5; H. Weston (conductor), 6; H. Cornwall, 7; J. Mockett, 8. And for eleven o'clock service, a 518 of Grandsire Triples, in 27 mins. J. Jay, 1; G. Thwaites (conductor), 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; H. Cornwall, 4; A. A. Fuller, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; H. Weston, 7; J. Mockett, 8. And for afternoon service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. P. Allfrey, 1; J. E. Worsell, 2; W. Allfrey, 3; H. Cornwall, 4; A. A. Fuller, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; G. Thwaites, 7; J. Mockett, 8. And on Tuesday, April 3rd, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 17 mins. J. Neves, 1; W. Palmer, 2; G. F. Attree, 3; J. Fox, 4; G. A. King, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon (Writtle), 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; H. Cornwall, 8. And a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 17 mins. A. A. Fuller, 1; F. W. Fisher, 2; G. Thwaites, 3; J. Reilly, 4; G. A. King, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; H. Cornwall, 8.

By the Christ Church, Eastbourne, branch at Christ Church.—On Sunday, March 11th, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob. F. Dyer, 1; P. Peters, 2; J. Sharpe, 3; F. Harding, 4; G. Howse, 5; T. Smith (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, March 15th, a 360 of College Single. W. Clements, 1; T. Smith, 2; P. Peters, 3; F. Harding, 4; J. Sharp (conductor), 5; R. Howse, 6. And a 360 of Duke of York. F. Dyer, 1; P. Peters, 2; T. Smith, 3; F. Harding (conductor), 4; H. Colbran, 5; J. Sharp, 6. And on Friday, March 16th, a 360 of Yorkshire Court. W. Clements, 1; G. Howse, 2; J. Sharp, 3; F. Harding, 4; P. Peters, 5; T. Smith (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Woodbine. F. Dyer, 1; J. Sharp, 2; G. Howse, 3; F. Harding (conductor), 4; P. Peters, 5; T. Smith, 6. And on Sunday, March 25th, a 360 of Woodbine. F. Dyer, 1; G. Howse, 2; P. Peters, 3; T. Smith, 4; F. Harding (conductor), 5; J. Sharp, 6.

By the Ringmer branch at Ringmer.—On Monday, March 19th, three 120's of Stedman Doubles. C. Painter, 1; H. Jones, 2; A. E. Paris, 3; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 4; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 5; T. Miller, 6. And on Thursday, March 22nd, on handbells retained in hand, two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. T. Miller, 1; A. E. Paris, 2; H. Jones, 3; G. C. Hammond, 4; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 5-6. And several courses of Grandsire Triples. A. E. Paris, 1-2; G. C. Hammond, 3-4; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 5-6; H. Jones, 7-8. And on Sunday, March 25th, 168 of Grandsire Triples. A. Slarks, 1; H. Jones, 2; A. E. Paris, 3; J. Worsell, 4; J. Mockett, 5; C. Painter, 6; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 7; T. Miller, 8. In the evening an attempt was made to ring a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, which was unfortunately lost after ringing nearly 600 changes.

By the Steyning branch at Steyning.—On Sunday, April 1st, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Matthews, 1; E. Brackley, 2; J. Woolgar, 3; C. Tyler, 4; G. Gatland, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Smart, 1; J. Searle (Brighton), 2; G. Gatland, 3; C. Chambers, 4; G. Smart, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. And a 720 of College Exercise. J. Searle (Brighton), 1; E. Brackley, 2; C. Chambers, 3; C. Tyler, 4; G. Gatland, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Matthews, 1; E. Brackley, 2; G. Gatland, 3; T. Searle, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6.

By the Warnham branch at Warnham.—On Easter Sunday morning, at 4.30 a.m., a peal of Union Triples, in 2 hrs. and 56 mins. (for particulars see peal column).

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

A DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

1888.

By W. H. HOWARD, York.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

2 1 3 5 4 7 6 9 8

2 3 1 4 5 6 7 8 9

3 2 4 1 6 5 8 7 9

3 4 2 6 1 8 5 9 7

4 3 6 2 8 1 9 5 7

4 6 3 8 2 9 1 7 5

6 4 8 3 9 2 7 1 5

6 8 4 9 3 7 2 1 5

8 6 9 4 7 3 1 2 5

8 9 6 7 4 1 3 5 2

9 8 7 6 1 4 5 3 2

9 7 8 1 6 5 4 2 3

7 9 1 8 5 6 2 4 3

7 1 9 5 8 2 6 3 4

1 7 9 8 5 6 2 4 3

1 9 7 5 8 2 6 3 4

The above to be rung for the first lead.

9 8 7 6 5 4 2 3

6 4 9 3 8 2 7 5

6 3 4 2 9 5 8 7

6 2 3 5 4 7 9 8

2 5 3 6 8th in three.

3 2 5 6 7th in three.

5 3 2 6 7th in three.

3 6 2 5 8th in three.

6 5 2 3 8th in three.

2 6 5 3 7th in three.

5 2 6 3 7th in three.

3 2 4 5 8th in two and at home.

2 5 4 3 8th in three.

4 2 5 3 7th in three.

5 4 2 3 7th in three.

4 3 2 5 8th in three.

3 5 2 4 8th in three.

2 3 5 4 7th in three.

5 2 3 4 7th in three.

2 4 3 5 8th in three.

4 5 3 2 8th in three.

3 4 5 2 7th in three.

5 3 4 2 7th in three.

2 3 4 5 8th in and out at two

with a double.

TWO DATE TOUCHES OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By S. MARSH, West Bromwich.

1888.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

- 2 4 5 3 6 I 2 2

2 4 3 6 5 2 2 1

6 3 4 2 5 2 2

- 2 5 3 4 6 I 2 2

- 2 3 4 5 6 I 2 2

This touch contains nine 8-6's.

1888.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

5 2 3 6 4 2 2 2

- 2 4 3 6 5 2 1 2

- 6 3 4 2 5 I 2

- 2 5 3 4 6 I 2 2

- 2 3 4 5 6 I 2 2

This touch has all the 6-4's, 6-5's, 4-6's, 5-6's, and six 8-6's.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By SAMUEL WOOD, Ashton-under-Lyne.

6048.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

6 2 5 3 4 2 I 2

2 6 4 3 5 2 I 2

3 2 4 6 5 I I

5 2 6 4 3 I 2 I

2 5 3 4 6 2 I 2

4 2 3 5 6 I - 2

Twice repeated.

6144.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

6 2 5 3 4 2 I 2

2 6 4 3 5 2 I 2

3 2 4 6 5 I I

5 3 6 2 4 2 I 2

3 5 4 2 6 2 I 2

4 2 3 5 6* 2

* In and 5ths.

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5120.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, Liverpool.

2 3 4 5 6 7 W B I M H

5 2 3 7 6 4 - - -

3 5 2 7 6 4 - - -

2 3 5 7 6 4 - - -

2 3 7 6 5 4 - - -

6 2 3 4 5 7 - - -

3 6 2 4 5 7 - - -

2 4 3 6 5 7 - - -

2 3 4 6 5 7 - - -

4 2 3 6 5 7 - - -

3 4 5 2 6 7 - - -

2 3 5 4 6 7 - - -

Three times repeated.

Bob instead of a single at home in the eighth

course of the 2nd and 4th parts.

This peal contains the 6th twenty-four times

wrong, the 4th and 5th each fourteen times

in 5th's place, with Queens and tittums.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

By DANIEL PRENTICE, Ipswich.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

5 2 3 6 4 2 2 2

2 4 3 6 5 I 2 2

6 3 4 2 5 2 2

5 6 2 3 4 2 I 2

6 4 2 3 5 I 2

2 5 3 4 6 I I 2

2 3 4 5 6 I I 2

5088.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

5 2 4 3 6 I I

6 4 2 3 5 I I

6 2 3 4 5 I 2

3 2 4 6 5 2 I

Repeated.

This peal has the 5th and 6th in 6th's place

throughout, and is the first produced with

these qualities.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5058.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, Liverpool.

2 3 4 5 6

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

3 4 2 5 6 9th in three.

6 5 4 3 2 8th in two.

2 3 5 6 4 8th in two.

5 2 3 6 4 9th in three.

4 6 2 5 3 8th in two.

3 5 6 4 2 8th in two.

2 4 5 3 6 8th in two.

5 2 4 3 6 9th in three.

6 3 2 5 4 8th in two.

4 5 3 6 2 8th in two.

2 6 5 4 3 8th in two.

5 2 6 4 3 9th in three.

6 5 2 4 3 9th in three.

3 4 5 6 2 8th in two.

2 6 4 3 5 8th in two.

4 2 6 3 5 9th in three.

6 4 2 3 5 9th in three.

5 3 4 6 2 8th in two.

2 6 3 5 4 8th in two.

3 2 6 5 4 9th in three.

4 5 2 3 6 8th in two.

6 3 5 4 2 8th in two.

2 4 3 6 5 8th in two.

These twenty-four courses repeated except 1st course call 9th with three, brings up 23456978. Round by calling 9th and 8th in and out at three with a double.

Rang at St Peter's, Liverpool, on February 9th, 1888, conducted by Thomas Hammond,

This peal has the second at home at the twelve part-ends.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

6000.

By G. HAYWARD, Bromsgrove.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

2 3 5 6 4 2 2 I

2 5 6 3 4 I 2

2 6 3 5 4 I 2

2 5 4 6 3 2 I I

2 4 6 5 3 I 2

2 6 5 4 3 I 2

Repeated.

This peal has the 2nd at home at every course-end throughout the peal, and is the first published on this plan.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5080.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, Liverpool.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

2 4 5 3 6 I 2

2 5 3 4 6 I 2

2 5 4 6 3 2 2 I

2 4 6 5 3 I 2

2 6 5 4 3 I 2

2 6 4 3 5 2 2 I

2 6 3 5 4 2 2 I

2 3 5 6 4 I 2

2 5 6 3 4 I 2

2 3 4 5 6 2 I I

Second at home ten courses.

RINGERS' OUTING.

The Easter operations of the Whitstone band of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers, though not on so extensive a scale as some of the doings of the Exercise on Easter Monday, were nevertheless sufficiently interesting to those engaged in them. The programme comprised an hour's ringing on the newly-hung bells of St. David's, Exeter, followed by a fashionable breakfast at the Coffee Tavern, a short trip by rail to Whimble, more ringing there, and after returning to Exeter a pilgrimage to the familiar shrine of St. Thomas-the-Martyr. All the contemplated manoeuvres were executed punctually with one exception. On arriving at St. David's about 11 a.m., the band found the church occupied by wedding parties. Fortunately connubialists at Exeter have not yet discovered that they can be lawfully married after 12 o'clock. A council of war was held, and it was determined to breakfast at once, leaving the temple of Hymen in quiet possession of the enemy until he should be compelled to withdraw of his own accord through a mistaken sense of duty. Accordingly, firing commenced soon after noon, and we can only hope that the vanquished were consoled by hearing several well-struck 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles rung in their honour without having to pay the customary fee. There are six bells at St. David's, all by T. Mears, 1817, tenor 9 cwt. They are a pretty peal for change-ringing, and they go as well as possible, though the belfry is cramped, and it says much for the zeal of the ringers that they propose to find room for two more ropes and a heavier tenor. At Whimble there is a very broad tower, of low altitude, conspicuous from the South Western Railway, which contains four ancient and interesting bells, and two new trebles by Llewellyns and James, recently added. The bells go admirably, and the ringing chamber, on the ground floor and open to the church, is spacious and airy, and altogether the sort of place one would choose for a long peal of 12,000 changes. The six bells of St. Thomas's were cast by the Penningtons, of Cornwall, in 1789. The tenor is said to weigh 14 cwt., and from their tone, and the size of the wheels one would suppose them to be heavier than the bells at Whimble, though the diameters given by Ellacombe do not support that view. The Whitstone band consisted of the following members: S. Preston, 1; H. Baxter, 2; W. Preston, 3; W. Serecombe, 4; G. Baxter, 5; M. Skinner, 6. They were accompanied during the day by Mr. C. Pearson, honorary member of the band, who occasionally took a rope. The local ringers were for the most part making holiday elsewhere, but the Whitstone band are grateful for the civility of those who met them, and to the clergy for permission to ring.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, BLACKHILL, DURHAM.

On Easter Monday, April 2nd, the members of this Society paid a visit to Christ Church, Tynemouth, being kindly invited by W. Reed, Esq., some time ago, breaking the journey at Newcastle to see a few old friends. A message awaited them at the station to visit St. John's, at ten a.m., where they found Mr. F. Lees and Mr. E. Wallis all in readiness for a pull, and the following touches were brought round: a 504 of Grandsire Triples. *J. Moore, jun., 1; *J. McPhillips, 2; *J. Moore, 3; *B. King, 4; T. Denton, 5; E. Wallis (conductor), 6; A. Nichols, 7; F. Lees, 8. And 672 of Grandsire Triples. J. McPhillips, 1; F. Lees, 2; J. Moore, 3; T. Denton, 4; S. Power, 5; E. Wallis (conductor), 6; A. Nichols, 7; *R. Moore, 8. *First attempt on eight bells. After parting with old friends, go was called for the house of Mr. E. Wallis, where a plentiful supply of sandwiches and coffee was in readiness and at the kind invitation of Mrs. Wallis were soon brought to grief. A move was then made to North Shields by the two p.m. train, where they found Mr. W. Reed and Mr. Wignell awaiting them. Arriving at the church they found the bells up and ready for action and were not long in having a few gos, and a 504 of Grandsire Triples were brought round. J. Moore, jun., 1; *J. T. Dobson, 2; Joel Hern, 3; R. Wignell, 4; J. Moore, 5; E. Wallis (conductor), 6; A. Nichols, 7; *C. McElrue, 8. *First touch on eight bells. The society wish to thank Mr. Reed, Mr. F. Lees, and all who in any way contributed towards their enjoyment, through the medium of this paper, thus concluding an enjoyable holiday trip.

THE ORMSKIRK SOCIETY.

ON Easter Monday, April 2nd, eight members of the above Society paid a visit to Hoghton, and the Rev. J. Shortt having given permission to ring, a start was made for Holt's ten-part peal, when after ringing 4522 changes, the go of the tenor was so bad that the tenor ringer (being so exhausted in attempting to keep her going the whole of the peal) had to set her, and the remainder of the peal was rung without a tenor in 2 hrs. 44 mins. After a chat with the worthy vicar a start was made for Blackburn. Here again permission was given to ring, so a start was made for another peal which was accomplished in 2 hrs. 50 mins., after which the inner man began to speak about being neglected, no one having partaken of anything to eat since 6 a.m., so at the invitation of Mr. John Walker they gladly consented to accompany him to his home, where they found Mrs. Walker had a first-class repast awaiting them, and to which it need scarcely be said ample justice was done. Dinner over, and being greatly refreshed, the handbells were brought into requisition, when Messrs. Walker, Taylor, Ellis and G. Prescott rang several courses, after which a visit was paid to the various places of interest until time to start for home, which was reached shortly after 10 p.m., thus bringing to a close a hard but very pleasant day. The ringers would like to take this opportunity of thanking all their friends who assisted to make the day so enjoyable.

THE SOUTHPORT SOCIETY.

ON Easter Monday, April 2nd, the Christ Church society, Southport, had a very pleasant outing to Hoghton and Blackburn. On arriving at Hoghton they found a company in possession of the tower ringing Grandsire, so they walked with the vicar to his house and rang a few tunes and a plain course of Grandsire and Bob Major on the handbells, Mr. and Mrs. Shortt expressing themselves highly pleased with the ringing. By this time the bells had ceased, so they moved towards the tower, where they set to in earnest and rang a date touch of Bob Major (see another column). After refreshing the inner man at the "free" house of a fellow-ringer, they caught the train to Blackburn, and rang a 336 of Bob Major on the parish church bells. L. Tyldesley, 1; Joseph Rimmer, 2; James Rimmer, 3; Walter Hewitt, 4; James Rimmer, 5; Richard Hill, 6; William Baldwin, 7; A. Lawrance Porter (conductor), 8. The ringers were quite astonished to find it was almost train time, therefore they had to hasten to the station, and only caught the iron horse, when after numerous sundry shakings and joltings it steamed into Southport about 8 o'clock in the evening. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar of Hoghton for the use of the bells.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A Meeting was held at Ely, on Easter Monday. Members from Cambridge, Soham, Bury St. Edmund's, and Mildenhall attended; and the tower of St. Mary's was, by kind permission of the Vicar and churchwardens, open to the ringers. The go of this fine peal was all that could be desired, and some good touches were rung. The members dined together at the "Crown and Anchor," under the presidency of the vicar and his curate, several of the principal parishioners joining them; the churchwardens were unavoidably prevented from attending. After a hearty meal a business meeting was held, when the hon. sec., the Rev. K. H. Smith, made a statement, and urged all ringers to join a society which aimed at the amelioration and amalgamation of all interested in the art. M. Potter, Esq., M.A., tendered his resignation as treasurer, and a vote of thanks was accorded him for past services, and Mr. Sayer, of Ely, was appointed in his place. Several new members were elected, and Wisbeach was selected as the next place of meeting on the August Bank Holiday.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—
By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO., Printers, Exeter.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Be circumspect."

Mr. Jerram last week calls attention to a point which—although the question has been raised beforetime—deserves the serious consideration of the Exercise, namely, the ringing during Lent, and particularly during Passion week. I very much fear that our brethren as a body do not as yet adequately realise their position in the Church; that they are too prone to forget that the bells they ring are the "outward voice" of the Church, proclaiming in turn its seasons of sorrow and rejoicing. In our enthusiasm we are apt to forget that the bells are not placed in the towers merely for our personal gratification, but that they are instruments in connection with the services of the Church, which should be used in accordance with the varying seasons as they come round. Our bells should proclaim equally the solemnity of the Lenten time just as faithfully and "with no uncertain sound" as they should on the morn of the great festivals ring out their merry peals announcing and welcoming the days of joy and thanksgiving.

With increased intelligence in our ranks, and a more correct appreciation of our true position, I have no doubt that such righteous complaints as that of Mr. Jerram will be rendered unnecessary, and that the varying seasons of the Church will be proclaimed aloud from her towers in a manner both appropriate and intelligible.

My friend Mr. Hollis would like to know my opinion about "Violet" and "New London Pleasure." The observations which I made anent the "Surprise peals" are equally applicable—though perhaps in another way—to these two. I most certainly do not think that they are deserving of the names of two distinct methods. The mere fact of the plain lead of the one being the bob lead of the other, and *vice versa*, does not appear to me sufficient to warrant the dignity of two separate names. The distinction, indeed, would seem in reality more a matter concerning a conductor than anything else.

But these two are not by far the only ones to which Mr. Hollis might have referred—for instance, "Woodbine" and "Oxford Delight," also "College Single" and "Court Bob."

It will perhaps be remembered that I called attention to the matter of collecting and revising these Minor methods a few weeks ago; and one great cause of my doing so was the very point to which I am now alluding. We do not possess a collection of six-bell methods worth the name, and as a natural result (as I showed previously), the same methods are being rung in different places under various names. A person works out a plan of getting a 720 in some different way to what he has hitherto seen; he then dubs it "Court" this, or "Surprise" something else: and fondly imagines that he has benefitted the Exercise by introducing something new; thus the number of these so-called "methods" increases, and the result is chaos.

The question then of course arises—what can be done in this matter to bring about an improved state of things? For my own part I do not see any better mode than the one I previously suggested, viz., the production of a thoroughly comprehensive collection of Minor methods, one competently and carefully revised, and these duplicate and "shady" methods eliminated.

There is plenty of material for a work of this sort; a considerable amount of good will result from it; and (by no means the most insignificant consideration) there will I feel sure be a sufficient good "market" for the book to ensure its success from a financial point of view.

I was pleased to see the information supplied by Mr. Attree with reference to the non-Association peals, to which I called attention, and hope he will in future add that item to his analysis. But what are our Lancashire friends doing that they furnish one-third of the total of these peals by "Independent Societies." They have in their county, I believe, two Associations, which is not the case in any other, and yet their number of peals by outsiders is so much in excess of any other. There may of course, and probably are, reasons for this which I know not of; but it certainly does appear on the face of it that our friends of the County Palatine who are aiming at possessing an efficient organisation, have plenty of work before them.

And now, Mr. Editor, just a word with you. I don't altogether "fall in" with your sweeping condemnation of our general daily press in regard to its treatment of our favourite art. Time was, as most of us will know, when the individuals who made it their study and science to batter their opponents' physiognomies out of all recognisable shape were regarded as gentlemen compared with the class of beings who then occupied our belfries. But you will not venture to argue that such is the same now. And if the daily press does give undue prominence to such exploits of a doubtful respectability, is it not because they have got all classes of people to cater for? We can never expect change-ringing to become what is generally termed "popular," because like any other scientific pursuit, its intricacies are so numerous, and the difficulty of understanding it so great, that it is impossible for it ever to obtain that hold on the public mind which these out-door "sports," with their attendant excitement, have secured.

At the same time, I do not think we have much cause to grumble at our treatment by the public press. I believe that every year finds the columns of the "fourth estate of the realm" more open to us, and our art more understood and favourably considered by those whose control it. I could name several newspapers in my own neighbourhood which but a very few years ago would not insert even the report of a peal rung, which will now not only give us good reports of our ringing performances, but will also favourably comment upon them. I believe that the daily and weekly press of the country, taking it altogether, is ever ready to commend a work of improvement, and as the reformation which has been going on in the Exercise of late years becomes more and more manifest, there can be no doubt that we shall find the press ready and willing to help us.

FREE LANCE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting for ringing only will be held at Bingley, on Saturday, April 14th. By kind permission, the ring of eight at the parish church will be placed at the disposal of the visitors from three o'clock. All ringers are cordially invited.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFORD.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Bloxwich, on Saturday, April 14th. Members to assemble in the tower at 2.30 p.m.
J. R. KEBLE, Hon. Sec.

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

One copy, 12 months 6s. 6d.

" 6 " 3s. 3d.

" 3 " 1s. 8d.

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1888.

EASTER has again come round, and with it appears a revival of peal-ringing. During the Lenten season which is just over, many thought it the correct thing to abstain from ringing altogether, and await the coming of the great Christian festival; to commence with greater zest on that morning which commemorates the event which manifested the triumph of the Redeemer over death and the tomb. Others have kept merely to the routine of weekly or fortnightly practice, while some have seemed to totally ignore the lessons which the Church enjoins upon all within her fold. It would not be wise to comment upon these varieties of action. The ordained ministers of the Church are beyond doubt the best arbiters of what should not be, and *vice versa*, and where some of them may be of opinion that the season of Lent does not require so strict an interdict as putting the bells to silence during the whole period, of course ringers have no right to question their conclusions.

But it is with the season of Easter that we now have to do. Whatever the effect of conscientious scruples existing within the forty days of Lent as to ringing, no such doubts trouble us now. This was fully established in the early morn of Sunday last, when the bells from hundreds of steeples of Christian churches over the whole universe published the fact that a great festival had arrived, a festival as important as any in the Church's year. And though there may be instances where in announcing this, the ringers themselves may unfortunately have not yet become inspired with the spirit which should animate them in proclaiming the Resurrection, yet it is satisfactory to know that such instances are becoming scarcer year by year.

The Monday of Easter week has always been regarded by ringers as an excellent day to meet for peals with brethren of other neighbourhoods than their own. At a time when facilities for travelling were so few, the ringers of a bygone age were apt to look forward to Easter-Monday for the only "outing" they could secure during the year. And we think the day still maintains its favorite position among the Exercise. The notices inserted lately in our columns by the secretaries of the various associations bear out this; and a great many ringing meetings have also taken place, and visits have been made by ringers which have not been announced beforehand. Let us hope all these reunions have been profitable to those partaking in them.

At Eastertide it is usual to elect those important officers, the Churchwardens. With many of these gentlemen ringers are brought frequently into contact during their term of office. Now and then we hear of them being disagreeable and acting in a manner repugnant to the cherished ideas of ringers. But we think this the exception, not the rule. There is a very old axiom to the effect that it is wise to maintain a good relationship with the incumbent, while ignoring the opposition or unfriendly attitude which may be exhibited by the warden, on the principle that the interference of the latter will be of a fleeting character. This seems at first sight the surest game to play, though it savours of cunningness. By all means respect the wishes and inclinations of the incumbent in every particular, but there is no reason why endeavours should not be made to conciliate the wardens. And a short touch or two, welcoming them on their accession to office, will in most cases, be an act to promote a mutual understanding between them and the ringers. Among the clergy and churchwardens greater efforts should also be made for recruits to our ranks. When either of them can be prevailed upon to become real useful working members, what a power is gained to the art, for such an example becomes contagious. Next Easter we hope to be able to hear that many more of the clergy and churchwardens are good ringers.

The Metropolis.

STRATFORD-LE-BOW, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, April 2, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

THOMAS BAKER* Treble.	RICHARD J. TURNER .. 5.
WILLIAM CECIL 2.	HENRY SPRINGALL .. 6.
JAMES PETTIT 3.	SAMUEL HAYES.. .. 7.
ARTHUR CUTMORE 4.	DANIEL SUTTON Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

*First peal with a bob bell. First peal as conductor. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the rector and churchwardens for their kindness in allowing them the use of the bells on this occasion.

OLD BATTERSEA, SURREY.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, April 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

ARTHUR SWEETMAN* Treble.	HENRY S. THOMAS .. 5.
HENRY A. HOPKINS 2.	GEORGE WILD 6.
CHARLES E. MALIM 3.	WILLIAM BARON 7.
WALTER PARTINGTON.. .. . 4.	WILLIAM AMBROSE Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BARON.

*First peal.

WOOLWICH, KENT.

On Monday, April 2, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

HENRY BRIGHT Treble.	WILLIAM WATCHORN .. 5.
WILLIAM J. COOK 2.	GEORGE CONYARD 6.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 3.	EDWARD E. RICHARDS .. 7.
WILLIAM BEDWELL 4.	JOSEPH LAW Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE.

The Provinces.

CANTERBURY, KENT.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, April 2, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,
AT THE "CHICHELE TOWER" OF CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5009 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt. in C.

WILLIAM COOTER Treble.	MATTHEW A. WOOD .. 6.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 2.	HENRY G. FAIRBRASS .. 7.
REV. F. J. O. HELMORE, M.A. 3.	R. T. WOODLEY 8.
FRANCIS E. DAWE 4.	JOHN M. HAYES 9.
WILLIAM D. SMITH 5.	EDWIN HORREX.. .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., of Birmingham, and
Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

The above peal, which has never been previously performed, is the first in the method on the Cathedral bells. The Rev. F. J. O. Helmore and H. G. Fairbrass belong to Canterbury; the rest hail from London. The ringers take this opportunity of tendering their sincere thanks to the Dean for granting permission, also for his kindness in entertaining them at an excellent banquet, and his instructions for all the objects of interest in this historical building to be pointed out by the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore.

CAPEL, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 31, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,
5040 CHANGES; IN SEVEN DIFFERENT SURPRISE
MINOR METHODS, UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:—

LONDON, SUPERLATIVE, WELLS, YORK, CAMBRIDGE, AND CHICHESTER,

Tenor 7½ cwt.

MARK JENKINS Treble.	ALFRED D. MILLS 4.
ROBERT JORDAN 2.	EDWARD JORDAN 5.
THOMAS M. STEDMAN .. 3.	DAVID JORDAN Tenor.

Conducted by DAVID JORDAN.

This peal was rung at the first attempt, and is the first in Surprise methods by all the above, and the first in the South of England, and the first also by the Guild.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE WARNHAM BRANCH.)

On Sunday, April 1, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

GEORGE WOODMAN* .. Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT 5.
WALTER CHARMAN* 2.	HARRY COOK 6.
GEORGE CHARMAN* 3.	HENRY CHANDLER 7.
THOMAS ANDREWS 4.	THOMAS HOGSFLESH .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY CHANDLER.

* First peal in the method. This peal was commenced at 4.30 a.m. and completed before the first service at 6.0 a.m.

CODDENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(THE HELMINGHAM BRANCH.)

On Monday, April 2, 1888, in Five Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 10,176 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

WILLIAM DYE Treble.	HARRY PEPPER 5.
GEORGE PERRY 2.	JOSEPH FAYERS.. .. 6.
WALTER WHITING 3.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, SEN. 7.
DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. 4.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by the late W. HARRISON, and Conducted by
WILLIAM DYE.

This is the longest peal on the bells, and the first 10,000 by all. J. Fayers hails from Mitcham, Surrey.

ROCHDALE, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 2, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 17 cwt.

FRANK BIRTWISTLE .. Treble.	JOHN HARRISON 5.
GEORGE HOYLE 2.	A. ED. WREAKS 6.
JAMES PILKINGTON 3.	JAMES SCHOLEY 7.
ERNEST BISHOP 4.	JOHN MILLETT Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN MILLETT.

The above is the eighth time Mr. Millett has called the Original, having called it from every bell. Mr. Bishop hails from Bury; Wreaks from Manchester; Hoyle and Birtwistle from Rochdale; the rest belong to Heywood.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

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

On Tuesday, April 3, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

GEORGE ROBINSON .. Treble.	HARRY WAKLEY 5.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	H. D. BETTERIDGE.. .. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY .. Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

In this composition the 4th and 6th are their extent in 5-6, and the 2nd and 3rd never in 6th's place.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 3, 1888, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

JOHN HOWE Treble.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 6.
WILLIAM WAKLEY 2.	HARRY WAKLEY 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 3.	HENRY D. BETTERIDGE.. 8.
SAMUEL JOHNSON 4.	BENJAMIN SUGDEN 9.
WILLIAM HICKLING 5.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

This composition has the 6th at home throughout, and the treble only four courses behind the 7th. It is H. Wakley's 100th peal.

WEST BROMWICH.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Tuesday, April 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

BENJAMIN STARKEY .. Treble.	WILLIAM F. HARTSHORN 5.
JOHN FRISBY 2.	THOMAS HORTON 6.
SAMUEL REEVES.. .. 3.	WILLIAM R. SMALL .. 7.
ADAM HICKMAN HILL .. 4.	CHARLES COTTERELL .. Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES,

†First peal.

TAMWORTH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Wednesday, April 4, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDITHA,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 22 cwt.

A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. Treble.	H. D. BETTERIDGE.. .. 5.
ARTHUR WAKLEY 2.	HARRY WAKLEY 6.
JOHN AUSTIN 3.	WILLIAM WAKLEY 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	GEORGE ROBINSON .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE.

On Monday, April 2, 1888 in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

JOHN PRESCOTT	Treble.	JAMES SHOLICAR	5.
HENRY WINROW	2.	GEORGE PRESCOTT	6.
WILLIAM ELLIS	3.	JOHN WALKER	7.
WILLIAM J. TAYLOR	4.	PETER H. HARVEY	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES SHOLICAR.

John Walker belongs to the local company, the rest hail from Ormskirk.

HOGHTON, LANCASHIRE.—THE ORMSKIRK SOCIETY.

Birthday Peal.

On Monday, April 2, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN PRESCOTT	Treble.	WILLIAM J. TAYLOR	5.
JAMES SHOLICAR	2.	HENRY WINROW	6.
WILLIAM B. LLOYD	3.	GEORGE PRESCOTT	7.
WILLIAM ELLIS	4.	P. H. HARVEY	Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES SHOLICAR.

Rung in honour of the conductor's 35th birthday; his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns.

GREAT MARLOW, BUCKS.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Monday, April 2, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 16 cwt.

W. MANNING	Treble.	W. WILDER	5.
W. E. GARRARD	2.	W. THORN	6.
R. FRENCH	3.	A. HAYWARD	7.
H. LANGDON	4.	E. ELBURN	Tenor.

Conducted by R. FRENCH.

The ringers beg to thank the Rev. A. Fearon (the vicar), for the use of the bells also A. H. Cocks, Esq., the foreman ringer, and to A. W. Truss, the steeple-keeper, for having everything in such good order. Manning hails from Pinner; Wilder from Slough; Elburn from Amersham; the rest from London.

HATTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

On Monday, March 2, 1888, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

5040 CHANGES OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES;

Being Forty-two 6-scores, each ten 6-scores called differently,

Tenor 14½ cwt. in F♯.

JOHN BAYLISS	Treble.	WILLIAM MALE	4.
JOHN COGBILL	2.	WILLIAM CLARKE	5.
REV. H. C. COURTNEY	3.	JOSEPH BARNETT	Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BAYLISS.

All belong to the local company. First 5040 by all. Rung at first attempt.

LOUGHTON, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 2, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E♯.

JAMES RANN	Treble.	JAMES PRIEST, JUN.	5.
JOHN GOBBETT	2.	EDWIN BARNETT	6.
EDWARD BACON	3.	WILLIAM LEBBON	7.
FREDERICK FREEMAN	4.	WALTER CLARK	Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM LEBBON.

This is the quickest peal on the bells, and was rung in honour of the wedding of Walter Clark, which took place the previous day, and is the first peal that ever any of a local band has taken part in on these bells.

IGHTHAM, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 2, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

5040 CHANGES: BEING FORTY-TWO 6-SCORES OF BOB DOUBLES.

Tenor 9 cwt.

FRANK TAYLOR*	Treble.	*ROBERT EDGE	3.
REV. H. POLEHAMPTON*	2.	FREDERICK SHOORBRIDGE	4.
CHARLES TAYLOR			Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES TAYLOR.

*First peal. Before starting for the peal the Rev. H. Polehampton and Mr. F. Shoorbridge were elected members of the above Association. After the peal the ringers were kindly invited to the Workman's Institute to supper.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Monday, April 2, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 17 cwt.

WILLIAM A. KEEBLE	Treble.	WALTER BATTLE	5.
ACLAND J. PERKINS	2.	ALFRED PORTER	6.
BENJAMIN KEEBLE	3.	WILLIAM NASH	7.
R. M. PRATT	4.	SAMUEL JAMES	Tenor.

Conducted by A. J. PERKINS.

This peal was rung upon the birthday of the brothers Keeble (not twins), both occurring upon the same day, and is the first double birthday by brothers recorded. Messrs. Battle and Pratt hail from St. Albans. It is Messrs. Pratt's and James and W. Keeble's first peal; and W. Nash's first peal inside at the first attempt, and was W. Keeble's first attempt. Messrs. Battle, Pratt, Perkins and B. Keeble are all connected with the printing trade, and previous to the starting for the peal, a 168 of Grandsire Triples (double handed upon hand bells) was rung as a printer's touch. Mr. Pratt was elected a member of the association before starting.

READING, BERKS.

ST. LAWRENCE'S SOCIETY, READING.

On Monday, April 2, 1888, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S ONE-PART. Tenor 28 cwt.

BENJAMIN WHITE*	Treble.	WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS	5.
HENRY WHITE	2.	WILLIAM NEWELL	6.
WILLIAM H. HOLLOWAY	3.	J. MARTIN ROUTH, ESQ.	7.
TOM HIBBERT	4.	*C. CHAPMAN	Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS.

*First peal.

SALISBURY.—THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 2, 1888, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

ANNABLE'S COMPOSITION. Tenor 15 cwt.

SYDNEY LAWRENCE	Treble.	WILLIAM E. TYDEMAN	5.
ARTHUR W. BARKUS	2.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD	6.
ALFRED P. GODDARD	3.	JAMES R. JERRAM	7.
CHARLES A. CLEMENTS	4.	THOMAS BLACKBOURN	Tenor.

Conducted by W. W. GIFFORD.

This is the first peal of Bob Major ever rung in Wiltshire, and the first in the method by all except Messrs. Jerram and Clements.

SPELDHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, April 1, 1888, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

HENRY EDWARDS	Treble.	FRANK STILL	5.
JAMES BAKER	2.	FRED STILL, JUN.	6.
JAMES MAYNARD	3.	CHARLES CHAPMAN	7.
GEORGE TURLEY	4.	HENRY ANSCOMBE	Tenor.

Conducted by FRED STILL.

Date Touches.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

MACCLESFIELD (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, March 14th, at the parish church, on the back eight, a date touch of Stedman Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. J. Parish, 1; J. Holt, 2; C. Bamford, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; J. Morledge, 5; E. Matthews (composer and conductor), 6; W. Ingham, 7; J. Brutt, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HOGHTON (Lancashire).—On Easter Monday, April 2nd, by the Southport company, at the parish church, a date touch of Bob Major (composed by H. J. Tucker, Bishops Stortford), in 1 hr. 15 mins. Rimmer (aged 16), 1; R. Hill, 2; J. Rimmer, 3; W. Hewitt, 4; Rimmer, 5; Harry Baldwin, 6; W. Baldwin, 7; A. Lawrance Porter (conductor), 8.

Miscellaneous.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Good Friday, March 30th, for morning service, at 10.30 a.m., with the bells half-muffled, a 360 of Yorkshire Court. C. Parfitt, 1; H. Simmonds, 2; G. Essex, 3; J. Hands, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also for evening service, with the bells half-muffled, a 720 of Yorkshire Court. C. Parfitt, 1; H. Simmonds, 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; J. Hands, 4; E. Menday, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Oxford Bob. C. Parfitt, 1; T. Newman, 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; J. Hands, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; E. Menday (conductor), 6. Also on Easter Sunday, at 6.0 a.m., the bells pealed forth merrily, with a 720 of Yorkshire Court. H. Simmonds, 1; H. Simmonds, 2; E. Menday, 3; J. Hands, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also for evening service, a 360 of College Single. C. Parfitt, 1; F. Simmonds, 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; J. Hands, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. After evening service, a 720 of Yorkshire Court. F. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; H. Simmonds, 3; J. Hands, 4; E. Menday, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRANDESTON (Suffolk).—On Thursday, March 1st, six members of the above Society rang for practice: 720 Cambridge Surprise. S. Wightman, jun., 1; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; G. Wightman, 4; W. G. Crickmer, 5; S. Wightman, sen., 6. And on Sunday, March 4th, 720 Superlative Surprise, 120 London Surprise, S. Wightman, 1; A. S. Wightman, 2; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 3; G. Wightman, 4; W. G. Crickmer, 5; S. Wightman, 6. On Sunday, March 11th, 720 Coventry Surprise, and 120 London Surprise, S. Wightman, 1; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 2; A. S. Wightman, 3; G. Wightman, 4; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 5; S. Wightman, 6. These are the first 720s of Superlative and Coventry on the bells, and were rung at the first attempt. And on Sunday, March 25th, 720 London Surprise (which has not been rung in the tower for over 130 years), 120 Coventry Surprise, 120 Superlative Surprise, 120 Cambridge Surprise, 120 Morning Exercise, 120 Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. S. Wightman, jun., 1; W. G. Crickmer, 2; A. S. Wightman, 3; G. Wightman, 4; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 5; S. Wightman, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Easter Sunday, for Divine service in the morning at S. Michael's church, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; W. Hammond, 2; S. Hammond (conductor), 3; F. L. Bumpstead, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. And for evening service, 720 of Kent Treble Bob, standing as before.

GREAT BADDOW (Essex).—On Easter Sunday, for Divine service in the evening, at S. Mary's church, 720 of Grandsire Doubles, with the two trebles leading and tenor covering. H. Richell, 1; R. Newman, 2; H. Dawson, 3; A. Richell, 4; W. Newman, 5; F. Newman, 6; C. H. Howard (conductor), 7; W. Outter, 8. C. H. Howard hails from Braintree.

WHITTLE (Essex).—On Tuesday, March 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. R. C. Burrell, 1; W. Rowland, 2; F. Radley, 3; A. Shuttleworth, 4; A. Edwards, 5; W. Lincoln (conductor), 6; W. J. Piper, 7; *W. G. Dickens, Esq., 8. *First quarter-peal. Messrs. Burrell and Rowland are from Chelmsford; Piper and Shuttleworth from Withford. And on Easter Day, at 7.0 a.m., the 3rd part of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples. *W. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; A. Edwards, 3; F. Radley, 4; R. Wood, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; C. J. Dennison, 8. *Longest touch of Triples.

And for Divine Service in the evening, 1008 of Grandsire Triples (the 4th and 5th parts of Holts ten-part peal). J. Everard, 1; A. Edwards, 2; F. Radley, 3; A. Shuttleworth, 4; W. Lincoln (conductor), 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; A. Tarbun, 7; C. J. Dennison, 8. And on Easter Monday, an attempt was made to ring Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2100 changes, in 1 hr. and 20 mins. W. Brazier, 1; W. Lincoln (conductor), 2; A. Edwards, 3; F. Radley, 4; H. F. deLisle, Esq., 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; A. Tarbun, 7; E. Scotcher, 8.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING.—On Easter Sunday, April 1st, at St. Mary and St. Nicholas, at 7.0 a.m., a 840 of Union Triples. G. Skeef, 1; J. W. Jarvis, 2; R. Jarvis, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman, 6; J. S. Wright, 7; E. Jarvis, 8. Also at 10.0 a.m., a 546 of Union Triples. And for evening service, at 6.0 p.m., 546 of Grandsire Triples, and after service, 1008 of Grandsire Triples. G. L. Richardson, 1; J. W. Jarvis, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; R. Skeef, 5; R. Mackman, 6; J. Brown, 7; E. Jarvis, 8.

EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WEST KEAL.—On Easter Day, for afternoon service at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. J. Simpson, 1; W. Vickers, 2; J. A. Hand, 3; J. Green, 4; H. Daulton (conductor), 5; J. Seymour, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

PERRY BAR (Staffordshire).—On Monday, April 2nd, at St. John's church, eight members started for a peal, but failing in the attempt rang 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 36 mins., composed by H. Johnson, sen., of Birmingham. W. E. Smith, 1; W. Lawrence, 2; H. Brown, 3; J. Sanders, 4; E. Unitt, 5; G. Smith, 6; W. Long (conductor), 7; C. Fluck, 8. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. H. Brown, 1; *W. E. Smith, 2; *W. Carte, 3; G. Smith, 4; J. Sanders, 5; W. Long (conductor), 6. *First 720.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, April 1st, at St. Martin's church, a 720 Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. Benjamin Starkey, 1; Adam Hall, 2; Harry Mills, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; George Hughes, 5; W. R. Small, 6. Conducted by George Hughes. And on Saturday, March 24th, on the occasion of a confirmation service being held by the Lord Bishop of Lichfield, 518 Grandsire Triples was rung in 20 mins. B. Starkey, 1; A. Hill, 2; H. Mills, 3; S. Jesson, 4; W. Micklewright, 5; J. Smith, 6; G. Hughes, 7; E. Goodreds, 8. Conducted by A. Hill, and was his first touch as conductor. Messrs. Micklewright hails from Dudley; Smith from Netherton; the rest belong to the local company. All the above are members of the Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Easter Sunday, at the parish church, 720 College Exercise. J. Akehurst, 1; A. Mills, 2; E. Jordan, 3; R. Jordan, 4; T. Stedman, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent. J. Akehurst, 1; E. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; T. Stenman, 4; R. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And for morning service, 720 College Pleasure. J. Akehurst, 1; A. Tidy, 2; A. Mills, 3; M. Jenkins, 4; T. Stedman, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BOUGHTON (Kent).—On Easter Sunday, April 1st, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. W. Hope, 1; J. Burch, 2; G. A. Ransom, 3; R. Castle, 4; F. T. Harriss, 5; W. W. Boulden (first 720 as conductor), 6.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Easter Sunday, at the parish church for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Grandsire Minor. G. Elcombe, 1; L. Digweed, 2; W. Harper, 3; A. Cornford, 4; W. Martin, 5; G. Hayes (conductor), 6. And on Easter Monday, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. Broom, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. Ring, 3; W. Martin, 4; G. Martia, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WORCESTER.—On Easter Monday, April 2nd, at S. Martin's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). *H. B. Kingsford, 1; S. Cotton, 2; W. Page, 3; L. Longley (conductor), 4; R. Hall (West Bromwich), 5; T. Gwynn, 6. *First 720.

BOOKING (Essex).—On Easter Monday, April 2nd, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). A. Spurge, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; J. Hayes, 5; E. Carter (conductor), 6. Time 27 mins. Mr. Calthorpe hails from Braintree; Mr. Carter from London; the rest are local men. Tenor 19 cwt.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Friday, March 23rd, at the Parish Church St. Michael, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. G. Smith, sen., 1; J. Hinchley, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith (first in the method), 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, March 25th, for Divine service, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. On Monday, March 26th, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. G. Smith, sen., 1; J. Hinchley, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, April 1st, for morning service, two 720's of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. G. Smith, sen., 1; J. Hinchley, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. Also for Divine service, in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor. R. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hillings, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. Also after divine service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; J. Jackson (Tibbenham), 4; J. Hinchley, 5; G. Websdel, 6. Also on Sunday, March 18th, the local company, assisted by E. Colman, of Tibbenham, rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. G. Smith, sen., 1; J. Hinchley, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; E. Colman, 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, March 19th, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Smith, sen., 1; J. Hinchley, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6.

COTGRAVE (Notts).—On Good Friday, March 30th, for Divine Service in the evening, with the bells half-muffled, 120 of Grandsire Doubles. W. White, 1; F. J. Menting, 2; W. E. White, 3; F. R. White (conductor), 4; T. Squires, 5. This is the 1st 120 by the ringers of 1st, 2nd and 5th, and the first 120 rung at Cotgrave for many years.

GLOUCESTER.—On Easter Sunday, April 1st, for evening service, at the church of St. Michael, 699 of Grandsire Triples. G. Wanklin (conductor), 1; W. Pegler, 2; H. L. James, Esq., 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; R. Brunsdon, 5; H. Mitchell, 6; W. Sevier, 7; J. Stephens, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. 48 lbs. in E.

HULL (Yorkshire).—On Easter Sunday morning, April 1st, the following company met at St. James' church to attempt half a peal of Grandsire Triples, but not having time to finish it before service it was brought round at 2184, in 1 hr. 15 mins. G. M. Brownrigg, 1; T. Stockdale, 2; R. Chaffer, 3; W. T. Verity, 4; F. Drabble, 5; W. Southwick, 6; J. W. Stickney (conductor), 7; F. Sharpe, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. This is the longest length ever rung by the 4th and tenor men.

IGHTHAM (Kent).—On Tuesday, March 13th, at the church of St. Peter, with the assistance of three members from Wrotham, 1200 of Bob Doubles, in 37 mins. F. Taylor, 1; Rev. H. E. Polehampton, 2; R. Edge, 3; F. Shoobridge, 4; C. Taylor (conductor), 5. Also on Tuesday, March 20th, with two members of the Wrotham Society, 1440 changes in the same method, F. Webb taking the treble, the rest standing as before, and conducted by C. Taylor.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Easter Sunday, at the parish church, for Divine Service in the morning, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. J. Bennett, 1; T. Bennett, 2; H. Adams, 3; J. Bennett, 4; J. Crane, 5; T. Salter, 6; H. Williams (conductor), 7; T. Walters, 8. The above touch contains the Queen's, titmums, the twelve 7-4's and twelve 6-7's, and is taken from Snowdon's Grandsire. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 504 in the same method, taken from the same work. J. Bennett, 1; H. Adams, 2; H. Williams (conductor), 3; J. Bennett, 4; T. Bennett, 5; J. Leach, 6; T. Salter, 7; T. Walters, 8.

NORTH WINGFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Monday, April 2nd, the Eckington company visited the above parish church, and rang a 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and 240 of Violet. And at Clay Cross, on the same day, a 720 of Oxford. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; J. Shaw, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. A. Knight, of Chesterfield, rang the 4th in the Kent.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—Handbell Ringing.—On Thursday evening, March 29th, at the house of G. Winter, Bond Street, five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, on handbells retained in hand, in 18 mins. J. Clarke, 1-2; T. W. Chapman (conductor), 3-4; G. Winter, 5-6. This is the longest touch of Doubles on handbells retained in hand by the Nuneaton company.

NUNNEY (Somerset).—On Tuesday, March 6th, at the parish church, six 6-scores Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 25 mins. A. Flower, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; W. S. Fricker, 3; J. Rebbeck, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5; O. Nicholas, 6. First 6-score by all except the conductor. S. Lawrence and T. Blackburn hail from Salisbury, W. O. Fricker, and J. Rebbeck from Frome. This is the first 6-score ever rung on the bells.

OLD HILL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, March 24th, a non-conducted 720 of Grandsire Minor, at Holy Trinity church, in 28 mins.

J. Palmer, 1; H. Mason, 2; A. H. Bassano, 3; C. W. Bassano, 4; E. Parsons, 5; R. Bird, 6. Rung in perfect silence, the first time by all. On Wednesday, March 28th, 720 of Association Exercise, in 15 mins. A. E. Parsons, 1; C. W. Bassano, 2; W. Bird, 3; W. Green, 4; H. Mason, 5; A. H. Bassano (conductor), 6. The first in the method by all. On Saturday, March 31st, 720 Single Court Bob, 28½ mins. C. Beasley, 1; W. Green, 2; H. Cartwright, 3; C. W. Bassano, 4; W. Bird, 5; A. E. Parsons, 6. Conducted by C. W. Bassano (his 50th 720). First in the method by all.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Monday, April 2nd, at All Saint church, a 336 of Grandsire Triples was rung. Rev. H. A. Spyers, 1; O. Combes, 2; W. Baker, 3; W. Jennings, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; J. Norris, 6; E. Hatcher, 7; A. Ward, 8. And another 336 in the same method. W. H. Carley, 7; the rest as before. W. Baker hails from Rochester.

SALISBURY.—Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, March 25th, 1554 of Grandsire Triples. W. S. Wise, 1-2; A. W. Barkus, 3-4; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 5-6; S. Lawrence, 7-8. And on Tuesday, March 27th, a 1610 of Bob Major, in 50 mins. W. E. Tydeman, 1-2; A. W. Barkus, 3-4; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 5-6; W. S. Wise, 7-8. And on Easter Sunday, April 1st, for Divine Service at St. Martin church, a 1260 of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins. C. A. Clements, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; W. E. Tydeman, 5; T. Blackburn, 6; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 7; W. Tryhorn, 8. And on Easter Monday, April 2nd, at St. Thomas, 2030 Grandsire Triples (being the first two parts of Hollis's five-part peal, in 1 hr. 20 mins. W. W. Gifford, 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; C. A. Clements, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Also at St. Martin church for evening service, 1260 Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins. W. S. Wise, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; W. E. Tydeman, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; C. A. Clements, 8.

SODBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Easter Monday, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. H. Tiley, 1; W. Tiley, 2; G. Guy, 3; J. Bawn (conductor), 4; A. Pike, 5; A. Bawn, 6. The above company belong to Stapleton, who also visited Iron Acton church, and rang 360 in the same method, and several six-scores of Plain Bob Doubles. The ringers wish to take this opportunity of thanking the rectors of each church for their kindness in allowing them to ring.

SOUTHWOLD (Norfolk).—On Easter Sunday, April 1st, at the parish church by the local company, 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and twelve singles), in 26½ mins. G. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; H. Hurr, 3; T. King, 4; E. W. Goldsmith, 5; F. Haken (conductor), 6. Also several touches during the day, with the men stationed the same with the exception of the treble, which was taken by W. Land. And on Easter Monday, April 2nd, by the same company, 720 of Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 25½ mins. H. Thompson, 1; F. King, 2; G. Thompson, 3; H. Hurr, 4; E. W. Goldsmith, 5; F. Haken (conductor), 6. Also 72 of Bob Minor (four bobs and two singles). H. Thompson, 1; T. King, 2; G. Thompson, 3; C. Goddard, 4; E. W. Goldsmith, 5; F. Haken (conductor), 6. And on handbells, rung in the belfry, 360 of Bob Minor (twenty-four singles.) J. Taylor, 1; G. Thompson, 2; H. Hurr, 3; T. King, 4; E. W. Goldsmith, 5; F. Haken (conductor), 6.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Easter Day, for Divine Service in the afternoon at St. Peter's church, three plain courses of Grandsire Caters, by the St. Peter's Society. *W. Little, 1; E. P. Debenham, 2; *E. Hull, 3; *H. Brewer, 4; *A. Barnes, 5; J. C. Mitchell, 6; G. W. Cartmel, 7; W. H. L. Buckingham, 8; T. Waller, 9; *D. Gibbons, 10. Also another plain course, with *A. Hull on the treble and the others standing as before. *First time at Caters. This is the first occasion that Caters has been recorded to have been rung by a local band in St. Albans.—Chiming.—On Good Friday, for the morning service, 144 Grandsire Caters. H. Lewis, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; G. W. Cartmel, 5-6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7-8; T. Waller, 9-10. This is the first touch of Caters chimed by the company. For evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples, composed by H. J. Tucker. H. Lewis, 1-2; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. And on Easter Eve, for morning service three plain courses of Stedman Triples. J. C. Mitchell, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8.

TIBENHAM (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, March 20th, at the parish church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Houlton (conductor), 1; J. Jackson, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; J. Hinchley, 5; G. Websdel, 6. And a 528 in the same method. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; G. Mason, jun., 3; J. Colman, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; G. Websdel, 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; J. Jackson, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; J. Colman, 5; G. Websdel, 6.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—On Easter Sunday, April 1st, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (composed by G. Thwaites, of Brighton), in 45 mins. W. Coakham, 1; J. H. Wilkins, 2; G. Grimwade, 3; H. Boast, 4; R. J. Maynard, 5; J. Cullen, 6; T. Maynard (conductor), 7; W. Crockford, 8.

WOLSTANTON (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday evening, March 20th, at the parish church, by the St. Margaret's society, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, on the back six, in 28½ mins. *F. Grocott, 1; *T. Miller, 2; *W. Fitchford, 3; *H. Fitchford, 4; *A. Grocott, 5; W. Miller (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday evening, March 25th, for Divine Service, another 720 in the same method, the second bell being omitted, and the tenor covering. F. Grocott, 1; W. Fitchford, 3; T. Miller, 4; H. Fitchford, 5; A. Grocott, 6; W. Miller (conductor), 7; W. Slater, 8. *First 720 in the method.

WREXHAM (North Wales).—On Monday, April 2nd, at St. Giles' church, an attempt was made to ring a 10,008 of Grandsire Caters, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. and 38 mins. through the breaking of the 8th rope. C. Price, 1; J. Moulton (conductor), 2; R. Jones, 3; J. Williams, 4; G. E. Turner, 5; E. Rowlands, 6; J. Rodgers, 7; T. Newell, 8; J. Eachus, 9; J. Kendrick, 10. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. Messrs. Eachus, Rogers, and Turner hail from Manchester; Price from Eccleston; Moulton from Chester; the rest belong to Wrexham. The peal is the composition of Mr. Henry Johnson of Birmingham.

Obituary.

We have to chronicle with deep regret the death (at the early age of 38) of the Rev. Augustin Starey, Vicar of Charing, Kent. His face was a well-known one at Tottenham, Middlesex, where prior to the year 1883, he was the senior curate at the parish church. It was during his curacy there, and very much through his exertions, that the two trebles were added to the old peal of six, to complete the octave, in the year 1881. He rang in the first peal upon the bells on the 24th June, 1882, the peal being Holt's ten-part.

When appointed to the Vicarage of Charing, he at once set to work to improve the ringing, taking great pains to teach his ringers change-ringing, and in his last illness would attend practice and ring, even when it caused great pain to do so. He had a good head for mathematics, and a good ear for time and tune, and it was perhaps these qualifications which induced him to take up bell-ringing, the study of which he pursued with great enthusiasm.

Upon receipt of the news of his death at Tottenham on Sunday, March 25th, the bells were half-muffled for the evening service, and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples rung by the following members of the All Hallows society. T. Hughes, 1; J. Waghorn, 2; T. Grove, 3; J. Waghorn, jun., 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; W. Pye-English, 6; H. Barnett (conductor), 7; G. Richards, 8. The funeral took place at Tottenham on Wednesday, March 28th. Before proceeding to the cemetery, a short service was held in the parish church. The "Dead March" from *Saul* was played as the mournful procession entered the sacred edifice, the "Dies Irae" being subsequently sung by the choir of All Hallows. After the ante-service was concluded, a procession was formed to the cemetery in the following order: Rev. Prebendary Wilson, M.A. (vicar), officiating; Rev. A. F. King, M.A., and Rev. W. R. H. Arundel, M.A. (curates); Rev. W. Almack, M.A., and Rev. E. Hobson, M.A.; Mr. J. Langran, Mus. Bac., and the choristers; Rev. W. Starey, M.A., Mrs. A. Starey, the Misses Starey, Mr. Starey, and numerous friends and relatives of the deceased. The cemetery having been reached, the burial service was concluded, and the hymn, "Jesus lives! no longer now," was sung. The coffin was of polished oak, and bore the inscription:

"Augustin Starey, priest.
God be merciful to me a sinner."

The grave is situate as near as possible under the shadow of the church tower where he had loved to ring. After the funeral, the members of the All Hallows (Tottenham) society of ringers, met and rung the usual whole-pull and stand as a last token of respect for one to whom they are so much indebted for the position which they now hold.

THE TROUBLES OF AN AUNT.—When the late Dr. Norman Macleod paid one of his visits to Balmoral in 1863, he was taken into the confidence, in a rather old-fashioned way, of the Princess Beatrice. Her Royal Highness was then a little lady of six summers, and found it very hard to get the proper degree of respect and obedience from her nephew and niece. "What do you think?" she complained. "I am an aunt, Dr. Macleod, yet my nephew William (of Prussia) won't do what I bid him! Both he and Elizabeth refused to shut the door. Is that not naughty?"—From "Little Folks" Magazine for April.

Church News.

The Archbishop of Canterbury will receive the Bishops attending the Lambeth Conference at his cathedral on the 30th of June, and will deliver an address of welcome.

On Easter Day a handsome silver-gilt cross, presented by the Queen in commemoration of her Jubilee, was placed on the altar at St. George's Chapel, Windsor.

The Record understands that there was probably a considerable excess of expenditure over the income of the Church Pastoral Aid Society for the financial year which ended on Saturday.

At the Easter vestry at Denmead, Hants, on the names being put of two Churchmen and regular communicants, whom the vicar stated that he should be happy to approve of if elected as churchwardens for the ensuing year, the votes of several cottagers were objected to as not being ratepayers. The vicar ruled that in a new ecclesiastical parish all householders whether paying rates directly or indirectly, had a right to vote, and he stated that he should accept all such votes. His ruling was protested against by the minority.

At the Easter vestry at Wakefield, the vicar (Canon Straton), said the parish church had been restored at a cost of £30,000, and made a glory to that part of Yorkshire, and when they handed it over to the cathedral authorities it would be perfectly free from debt. The Bishop had taken as a temporary residence for two years a house in South-parade, but because he was coming to live at Wakefield they must not think that he would be Bishop of Wakefield only, and they must not expect him to take part in every petty ceremony in the town, or they would drive him away from among them.

The London Diocesan Conference will hold its second session in the Hall of King's College, on Tuesday and Wednesday next. The agenda include the following resolutions. "That, while prosecuting her mission among the poor, the Church should not be unmindful of her duty to the richer classes." "That Churchmen should carefully consider the attitude which the Church ought to assume towards the Socialistic tendencies of the present day." "That, in the opinion of this conference, the operation of the law of divorce has been, and is, very injurious to national morality." "That the laxity of the observance of the Sunday amongst the higher classes has an injurious influence on the religion of the community."

The Guardian says that the Bishop of London has taken an extraordinary step with regard to his diocesan conference, and one not likely to revive the somewhat failing vitality of that body. The Rev. H. W. Webb-Peploe sought, we understand, to bring forward the following resolution: "That this conference, recognising the fact that in the metropolitan cathedral members of all schools of thought in the Church of England are accustomed to meet for worship, deploring the introduction there of a reredos the ornamentation of which is calculated to arouse (and has aroused) difference of opinion, and to hurt the consciences of many Churchmen." The Bishop has exercised his veto and has refused to allow the subject to be discussed.

The Bishop of London has contributed to his *Diocesan Magazine* a useful statement with respect to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. His lordship says:—"The commissioners now hold £900,000 a year in trust for a great number of different parishes, etc., and have £100,000 a year still free from which to make grants. The conclusion to which the commissioners have been driven is this; that henceforth they must only grant lump sums, and not annuities, except so far as the annuities shall be the future dividends derived from the investment of these lump sums. The £100,000 which they have to give away at the end of this year will at the utmost provide £2,750 a year (taking interest at 2½ per cent.); whereas in 1880, they granted £27,000 a year, charging it on their whole property."

The London Diocesan Magazine says that the prayers of the Church are earnestly asked that the Holy Ghost may direct those with whom the appointment lies in their choice of the "man after God's own heart" to succeed Bishop Walsham How. One of the chief aims of the Bishop of Bedford has been to increase the supply of clergy and Church workers for East London, and through the East London Church Fund eighty-two additional clergy and eighty-three additional lay workers, male and female, have been added to the staff of the Church. But some returns as to the supply of clergy, recently laid before the Evangelistic Committee of this fund, show that upon the usual calculation which allows one clergyman for every 2,000 souls, for the deaneries of Hackney, Spitalfields, and Stepney, and the parish of Tottenham, at least 100 more parish priests are required at once. The work of the East London Church Fund seems to be scarcely more than begun.

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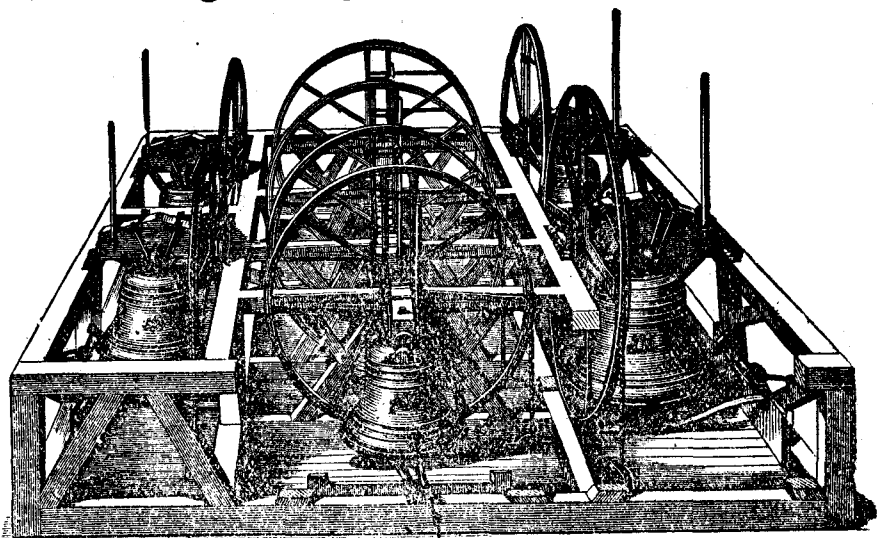
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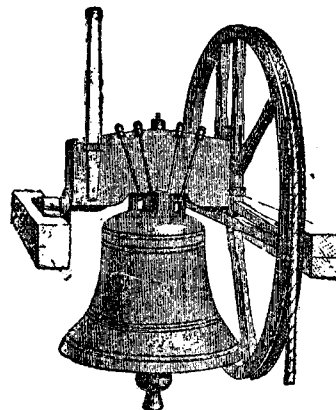
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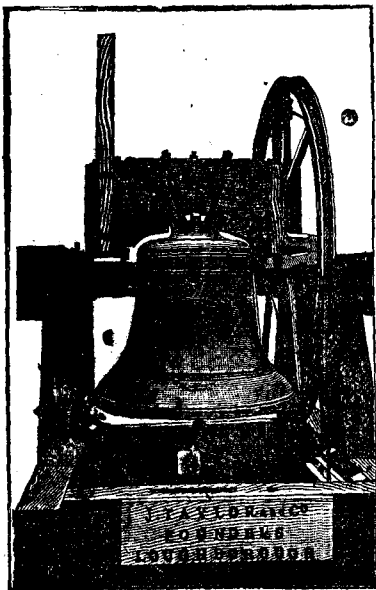
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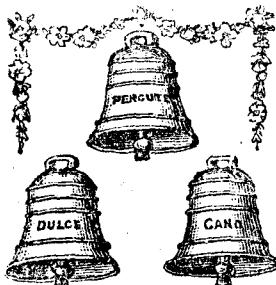
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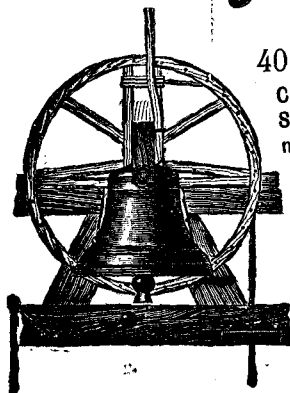
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No. 316.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1888.

ONE PENNY.

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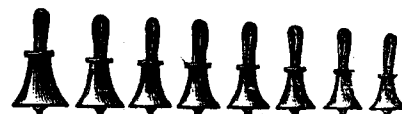
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DEDICATION OF A NEW RING OF BELLS AT THE PARISH CHURCH, MOSSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

A new peal of eight bells has just been hung in the tower of the above-named church. Last September a committee was appointed to arrange for the furnishing and providing a peal of bells and an organ. An appeal was made for funds, with the result that the eight bells required were given by the following donors: Treble, young men of St. George's Sunday School; 2nd, Mr. Hugh Kershaw, with his daughter's name inscribed on the bell, "Emma Kershaw"; 3rd, Rev. Anthony Hall, Vicar; 4th, Mr. Hugh Kershaw, inscribed with his son's name, "Master Hugh Kershaw"; 5th, Miss Mary Wrigley, Hey; 6th, Councillor John Mayall, J.P., Mayor; 7th, Mr. John Knott; 8th, Councillor Andrew Beswick, J.P. The names of the donors are inscribed upon the bells, except those given by Mr. Hugh Kershaw, on which are inscribed the names of his two children as above. The weight of the tenor is 12 cwt. 2 qrs. 14 lbs., note F sharp. The cost of the fittings, hangings, etc., has been met by subscriptions. The bells have been cast and hung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry, London, and are a very fine and sweet-toned peal. Saturday, March 31st, was appointed for the dedicatory service. At 6 p.m. a short service was conducted in the church by the Vicar, special psalms and collects being used, and the Rev. Canon Davenport Kelly, M.A., Rector of St. Matthew's, Manchester, preached a most appropriate sermon. During the offertory the well-known hymn, "Now at length our bells are mounted," was very heartily sung by the choir, ringers, and congregation present. Immediately after the Benediction the bells pealed forth for the first time, rung by eight members of the Saddleworth Society, who have undertaken to ring them for twelve months. The real opening peal was rung by the same company on Easter Sunday morning, a report of which will be found in the peal column. The services on Sunday were all well attended. The preachers were: morning, the Vicar; afternoon, the Rev. T. Butterworth, M.A., Vicar of Hurst; evening, the Rev. Canon Eagar, M.A., Rector, and Rural Dean of Ashton-under-Lyne. The offertories amounted to the handsome sum of £50. On Easter Monday, ringers attended from Huddersfield, Dewsbury, Almondbury, Ashton-under-Lyne, Hyde, Stalybridge, St. Paul's Staley, Mottram, Glossop, Hayfield, Worsley, Preston, Stockport, Lindley, Liverpool, Northwich, Leesfield, Glodwick, Oldham, Moorside, Earlsheaton, Kirkburton, Armitage Bridge, Birstal, Holmfirth, Friezeland, and Saddleworth, and rung touches all day in various Major and Minor methods.

At 2 p.m. a dinner was provided at the "Bull's Head" Inn at which 166 ringers sat down. Great satisfaction was expressed by them all at the sweetness of tone and the ease with which the bells could be rung. The total cost of the bells and fittings is about £550.

At the Easter vestry meeting held the same day a vote of thanks was moved by John Kershaw, Esq., J.P., and seconded by Councillor Mills, churchwarden, to Mr. John Holden, for services rendered during the hanging of the bells, and superintending the arrangements for the opening, and ringing of the bells during the day, and carried unanimously, to which Mr. Holden replied in suitable terms. Great praise is due to Mr. Greenleaf, from Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's, who has carried out the work in such a creditable, efficient, and praiseworthy manner.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 2nd, this Association held its first Quarterly Meeting of the year at Wimbledon, by the kind permission of the Rev. Canon Haygarth. Tea was served at the "Welcome" Coffee Tavern at 6 p.m., and some thirty members enjoyed a hearty meal. The new certificates of membership having been distributed to those who were present (either personally or by proxy) the chair was taken by Mr. Russell, and the usual business was proceeded with. The Secretary reported that there were fifteen peals to be entered in the book, and a resolution that they be so entered was passed. Five new members were elected. It was resolved that the next district meeting be held at Epsom, and the annual meeting at Bletchingley.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

UNVEILING OF A PEAL WINDOW AT SHAROW, RIPON.

It was decided last year by the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association that all peals rung by members as Jubilee peals, should be inserted in the peal book with a special illumination and the royal coat of arms, and as Mr. T. Clark is a vice-president of the Association, he determined to do his best to secure this honour for his own band. It is to be regretted that only two such peals were rung by this Association, one of which was conducted by Mr. Clark at Sharow, on December 9th, 1887, being a 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major, and rung by the local band. It will be remembered that on the occasion of the Ripon millenary, a peal was rung, which Mr. Clark has recorded on stained glass and placed against one of the cathedral belfry windows. This new method of recording peals proved so satisfactory and pleasing, that he determined to have one of the belfry windows at Sharow filled in with stained glass to record this Jubilee peal. He was supported by the Vicar and gentry of the village in the matter of funds, and the work was entrusted to Messrs. Wailes and Strang, of Newcastle, a very old established and well-known firm of glass stainers, who in the present instance fully sustained their reputation. The window is about five feet by two feet, and the design is exceedingly pretty. An angel appears standing holding a scroll, with the particulars of the peal and the names of the ringers, vicar, and churchwardens. Immediately above the angel is a bell, and the border is filled in with crowns commemorating the Jubilee year. The colours are most harmonious, and the effect in the belfry is most pleasant. On Easter Tuesday, the ringers assembled at one o'clock, and rang several touches until two o'clock, by which time the Vicar (the Rev. H. D. Cust Nunn), Captain Cameron (churchwarden), and several ladies and gentlemen had arrived in the belfry. The Vicar addressed this congregation by stating that anything brought into the church for purposes of decoration should be received and dedicated in a suitable way, and he therefore proposed to read two prayers which he had purposely composed. After this he made several eulogistic remarks with regard to the amount of work done by Mr. Clark for the good of the ringers, both as to their comfort in the belfry, and their advancement in the science. He also referred to the example set by him to the ringers, by his regular attendance at service after calling others to worship. He then called upon the Rev. S. H. Powell, one of the oldest and most influential supporters of the church, to unveil the window.

Mr. POWELL then removed the curtain, and the window was at once greatly admired by all present. He then endorsed the Vicar's statements with regard to the respect and esteem in which Mr. Clark was held by all his neighbours, and congratulated him on the cleanliness and orderly condition of the belfry, which he had not visited for many years.

Mr. CLARK returned thanks for the good opinions which had been expressed, and hoped to continue his exertions in the interests of the belfry for many years to come.

After the company had left the belfry, and during the vestry meeting which followed, a touch of about 400 Stedman Triples was brought round at hand. J. Flower, 1; J. Baines, 2; A. Pratt, 3; R. S. Story (Newcastle), 4; A. Ingleby (conductor), 5; T. Metcalfe, 6; J. Robart, 7; J. Flower, 8. After this a peal of Stedman Triples was attempted, but was unfortunately lost after ringing about three-quarters of an hour. A. Pratt, 1; T. Metcalfe, 2; A. H. Clark, 3; R. S. Story, 4; A. Ingleby, 5; W. Pick, 6; T. Clark (conductor), 7; J. Flower, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. Further touches of Stedman and Grandsire completed the ringing, when the bells were lowered in peal in first-class style, and the company adjourned to Mr. Clark's house, where his good lady and her sister entertained them with a most substantial and abundant tea. The evening was spent in handbell ringing, bringing to a close one of the happiest days the ringers of Sharow have ever spent, and their best thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Clark for their kindness and hospitality on this occasion.

A REQUEST.—The Hon. Sec. of the Worcester and adjoining Districts Association requests that the Secretary or leader of each company will forward to him the names and addresses of each member, also time and nights of practice as early as possible.

WOMBOURN JUBILEE MEMORIAL CLOCK.

A clock which has been placed in the tower of Wombourne (Staffs.) parish church as a permanent memorial of the Queen's Jubilee, was on Easter Monday afternoon formally dedicated and set in motion by the Earl of Dartmouth (Lord-Lieutenant of the County). The ceremonial threw the usual quiet village into quite a flutter of excitement, and attracted from all round the country side the presence of a large number of people, who, having secured seats within the handsome church, watched with interest the initiation of the proceedings and joined in the special service that followed. The cost incurred in purchasing and placing the clock in the tower has been about £120. The public subscriptions contributed amounted in the aggregate to over £100, and whatever balance remained would, it was hoped, be wiped off by the collection made at the dedicatory service. The clock, which was supplied and fixed by Messrs. John Smith and Sons, of the Midland Clock Works, Derby, has Cambridge chimes, and strikes the hour upon the tenor bell. There are two dials, each six feet in diameter, with cast iron framework and a background of copper-coloured hue, the hands, figures, and minutes being gilded. The Earl of Dartmouth (who was accompanied by Lady Georgina Legge), upon his arrival at the church, was received at the porch by the vicar, (the Rev. W. J. Heale), the churchwardens (Messrs. Henry Hill and C. A. Izon), the members of the Jubilee Committee, and others. The vicar read an address, and his lordship, attended by the vicar and others, passed into the church, where at the conclusion of the processional hymn, "Jerusalem on High," the vicar, standing beneath the tower, pronounced a special prayer of benediction, after which Lord Dartmouth by pulling a cord set in motion the clock, which struck the hour of four. The remainder of the special service was afterwards proceeded with. After the service a meat tea was held in the schoolroom, and in the evening a miscellaneous entertainment was given, Wombourne being quite *en fête* upon the auspicious occasion, the inhabitants all being highly pleased with so splendid a work of mechanism as their new parish clock, the makers coming in for no small praise.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting will be held at Crayford, on Monday, April 16th. It is intended to visit also Dartford and Erith churches. Committee meeting near Crayford church, at 2 p.m., to settle the day of annual meeting and other business. Please communicate with the Secretary, REV. R. K. HUGESSEN.
Wrinsted Court, Lenham.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Harborne, on Saturday, April 21st. By kind permission, the tower will be open for ringing at 4 o'clock, meeting to take place afterwards, when all members and friends are invited to attend.

J. CARTER.

Obituary.

WILLIAM AMOS.

With deep regret we have to announce that the above-named gentleman expired early on Monday morning, April 2nd, at his own residence near the church, Lavenham, at the age of 63. His mortal remains were interred in their last resting place on the following Friday, in the churchyard of SS. Peter and Paul, amid universal sorrow and sympathy, so highly was he respected and esteemed. His large-hearted sympathy endeared him both to young and old, and his connection with the office of church clerk has extended twenty years. Though not a ringer he was a cheerful companion and of a very agreeable and most jocund disposition. Those who knew him cannot help recalling the many pleasant hours enjoyed in his company. Such a loss by his death in the parish cannot easily be replaced. On the following evening the local company (with the exception of Messrs. Symonds and Snell from Preston), paid their last tribute of respect to their deceased friend, by ringing deeply muffled touches of Bob Major.

* * A number of touches and other matters are left over till next week.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT OF RINGING FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 10TH, 1888:—
By the Brighton branch at St. Nicholas, Brighton.—On Sunday, April 8th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 40 mins. Jesse Neves, 1; J. E. Worsell, 2; J. Searle, 3; John Fox, 4; H. Boniface, 5; W. J. Fisher (first quarter-peal as conductor), 6; G. A. King, 7; W. Palmer, 8. And on Tuesday, April 10th, a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 18 mins. G. Thwaites, 1; W. Palmer, 2; G. F. Attree, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; H. Weston, 5; G. A. King, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; H. Boniface, 8. And at St. Paul's church, Brighton, on Sunday, April 8th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins. P. Allfrey (first quarter-peal), 1; W. Allfrey (conductor), 2; — Biggerstaff, 3; G. Hill, 4; W. C. Marshall, 5; J. Reilly, 6; A. Bennett, 7; J. Salmon, 8. And at St. Peter's, Brighton, on Thursday, April 5th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18½ mins. J. Searle, 1; J. Jay, 2; G. F. Attree, 3; J. E. Worsell, 4; G. A. King, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon (Writtle), 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; W. F. Vernon, 8. And a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 17½ mins. J. Reilly, 1; G. A. King, 2; A. A. Fuller, 3; J. Searle, 4; J. Jay, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon (first touch), 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; W. F. Vernon, 8. And on Sunday, April 8th, a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 17½ mins. J. Reilly, A. A. Fuller, 2; J. Jay, 3; G. A. King, 4; W. Allfrey, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; J. Mockett, 8.
By the Crawley branch at Charlwood.—On Sunday, April 1st, a 720 of Oxford Bob, in 23½ mins. T. C. F. Thorne, 1; G. Dickens, 2; E. Dewey, 3; A. Ellis, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; M. Heffer (conductor), 6. And a 720 of College Single, in 23 mins. T. C. F. Thorne, 1; G. Dickens, 2; A. Ellis, 3; A. F. Hillier, 4; M. Heffer, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Bob, in 24 mins. T. C. F. Thorne, 1; M. Heffer, 2; E. Dewey, 3; A. Ellis, 4; B. King, 5; G. Wickens (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 23 mins. T. C. F. Thorne, 1; G. Wickens, 2; A. Ellis, 3; B. King, 4; M. Heffer, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. And a 204 of Oxford Bob, in 17 mins. T. C. F. Thorne, 1; A. Ellis, 2; A. Mills, 3; G. Wickens, 4; M. Heffer, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. *First 204 with a bob bell. And at Crawley, for Divine Service in the evening, a 700 of Grandsire Triples, in 26 mins. B. Payne, 1; T. Smith, Esq., 2; W. Parsons, 3; J. Newnham (conductor), 4; W. Collison, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; J. Ward, 8. And at Lindfield, on Monday, April 2nd, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. *J. Cheeseman, 1; G. Wickens, 2; E. Dewey (Reigate), 3; F. Rice, 4; W. Collison, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; *J. Gasson, 7; G. F. Scott, Esq. (Lindfield), 8. And 168 of Grandsire Triples. *J. Cheeseman, 1; G. Wickens, 2; E. Dewey, 3; W. Scott, Esq., 4; F. Rice, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; W. Collison, 7; *J. Gasson, 8. And 1204 of Grandsire Triples. J. Cheeseman, 1; G. Wickens, 2; E. Dewey, 3; F. Rice, 4; W. Scott, Esq., 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; J. Gasson, 7; W. Collison, 8. And 910 of Court Bob Triples. G. Wickens, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Collison, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; F. Rice, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; J. Gasson, 8. And 1260 of Court Bob Triples, in 47 mins. G. Wickens, 1; *H. Meads, 2; J. Gasson, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; F. Rice, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; W. Collison, 8. *Hail from Balcombe. And on Tuesday, April 2nd, 928 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 37 mins. G. Wickens, 1; J. Newnham, 2; J. Gasson, 3; W. Collison, 4; H. Meads, 5; F. Rice, 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; F. Wickens (conductor), 8.
By the Cuckfield branch at Cuckfield.—On Saturday, March 24th, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 4000 changes in 2 hrs. and 23 mins., it came to grief. R. Nash, 1; W. Gibson, 2; W. Fox, 3; H. Mitchell, 4; R. Walters, 5; H. Bowell, 6; F. Hounsell (conductor), 7; F. Smith, 8. And on Saturday, March 31st, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples which came to grief after ringing 4500 changes, in 2 hrs. 42 mins.; the band as above. And on Saturday, April 7th, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples came to grief after ringing 4256 changes, in 2 hrs. 35 mins.; the band standing as before.
By a mixed band at Ringmer.—On Saturday, April 7th, a peal of Grandsire Triples, Rev. C. D. Davies' ten-part, No. 1 (for particulars see peal column).
By the Warnham branch at Warnham.—On Thursday, April 5th, a 5040 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 2 mins. (for particulars see peal column). On Tuesday, April 8th, an attempt for a peal of Treble Bob Major failed, after ringing 1700 changes, band as above. And on Saturday, April 8th, a 5040 of Canterbury Pleasure Triples, in 2 hrs. 50 mins. (for particulars see peal column). And on Sunday, April 8th, a 504 of Union Triples. G. Woodman, 1; C. Blackman, 2; G. Charman, 3; T. Andrews, 4; W. Short, 5; W. Charman, 6; H. Chandler (conductor), 7; T. Hogsflesh, 8. And a quarter-peal of Union Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. F. Knight, 1; H. Burstow, 2; T. Andrews, 3; G. Charman, 4; W. Short, 5; C. Blackman, 6; H. Chandler, 7; T. Hogsflesh, 8. And a 504 of Union Triples. F. Knight, 1; T. Brown, 2; T. Andrews, 3; G. Charman, 4; W. Short, 5; C. Blackman, 6; H. Chandler (conductor), 7; T. Hogsflesh, 8. First touches in the method by C. Blackman, who hails from Arundel.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Magnus est veritas et prevalebit."

As I anticipated last week, Easter Monday has been characterised this year by a very considerable amount of change-ringing. This is very satisfactory, but what is even more so, is the varied character of the performances. From the 10,176 of Kent Treble Bob at Coddendam to the modest half-peal of Minor by the young band at a place which shall be nameless, all our brethren seem to have been animated with the same determination to do something on that ancient holiday.

The list of peals and touches reported is moreover of a very interesting nature, and although I might be possibly laying myself open to the charge of making invidious distinctions, I cannot help noticing some of the performances as being of rather more than ordinary interest.

Take first the peal of Stedman Caters at the venerable cathedral of Canterbury by the College Youths, the first in the method on these bells. I have no doubt that not the least enjoyable part in connection with this peal was the excellent banquet at which we are told they were entertained by the Dean at the conclusion of the ringing.

The Warnham men were evidently in good earnest when they started "into changes" by 4.30 on Easter Day morning. I have I admit, some doubts as to the appropriateness of peal ringing on Sundays, but on an occasion like this, I can imagine no more "royal" and praiseworthy way in which to usher in the Great Festival in which we commemorate the words "He is risen," then to ring as the Warnham men did, a peal previous to the first celebration of that Sacrament which He instituted, after the solemn Lenten season has ended. I would like to shake hands with the Warnham men for this, but as that is physically impossible, I hope they will take the will for the deed.

Allow me also to compliment the Coddendam band on their successful accomplishment of a 10,176 of Kent Treble Bob. According to present appearances, this year bids fair to be characterised for its "long lengths."

There was certainly no lack of ringers at Duffield on Easter Tuesday, as surely a peal of Superlative Surprise Major followed by a peal of Duffield Royal would be quite sufficient work for one day. I imagine some of our friends of the Midland Counties' Association will have had a pretty brisk time of it this Easter; with their Annual Meeting on Monday, two peals on Tuesday, and another on Wednesday.

Speaking of Duffield tempts me to add that if any of our friends have an inclination this summer to see a real good old English village, they ought to pay a visit to this place. Reposing in a beautiful valley, the stream winding its way along, near which, a short distance from the dwellings, in the midst of "God's Acre," stands the venerable parish church; while on the hill side near at hand, is seen the home of the popular squire. It is just such a place as painters love to depict on canvas, and poets to describe in flowing verse. Its name is now a "house-

hold word" amongst us, and I do not doubt that during the coming months its visitors will be both numerous and frequent.

What is the object of our Loughton friends in telling us that their peal of Grandsire Triples is the quickest on the bells? Do they imagine that some extra credit is due to them from this fact? I have several times noticed a tendency on the part of peal ringers to parade the quickness of their ringing. That is to my mind a mistaken notion. Speed is all very well and requisite in racing matches, but in ringing I consider the statement that a peal was "well struck throughout" infinitely more to the credit of the ringers than the boast of its beating record in the matter of time.

I am reminded by the foregoing, of Mr. George Williams' rejoinder with respect to my remarks on his Warnham peal. It is no justification to them that another company has galloped through a similar peal at the same quick rate. To use an old adage—"Two blacks don't make one white," and because I did not happen to criticise the former peal in question, Mr. Williams has a notion that I am guilty of partiality. Let me assure him that he is altogether mistaken—never more so, in fact in all his life: and without further comment I would with all good feeling commend to his notice the preceding paragraph.

Our friends who met at Wrexham on Easter Monday, are to commiserated on the failure of their bold attempt at a 10,008 of Grandsire Caters. And all through the breaking of a rope. Vexing, wasn't it?

"There is no rose without a thorn" is a homely saying, the truth of which is demonstrated this week. Amid the reports of our jubilant peals this Eastertide, it is sad to read of the demise of one of our enthusiastic brethren in the art, the Rev. Augustin Starey. Our friends of Charing and Tottenham will no doubt feel most acutely his loss: but their bereavement will be shared by the Exercise generally, for we can ill afford to lose a single guiding spirit. As Christian men, however, we may have faith that our Master will raise up others to fill the gaps caused by the removal of those who have done good service in the past, and gone to their reward. If the Rev. A. Starey was not given length of years, I do not doubt that while here he faithfully did what he could, and will leave behind him among those who knew him personally "the remembrance of the just man made perfect." May we all in like manner, when our time of departure arrives, leave behind us pleasant memories among those who remain here with whom we have been associated.

There is one more point to which I would allude, namely, the ringing of the bells half-muffled for the Good Friday services, which I see has been done at some places: This plan seems to me most appropriate. Does it not appear anomalous that on the most solemn day of the Church's year, when we commemorate the propitiatory death of Our Saviour, that our bells should be rung in the same manner as they are on the following Sunday morning when we celebrate His rising from the dead, and thus completing His great work of redemption? In many places we ring our bells half-muffled during the last hours of each expiring year; we ring our bells muffled at the death of a friend; should we not then as Churchmen consider it even more incumbent on us to do likewise on the day when we commemorate the death of our Lord and Saviour? Think of this.

FREE LANCE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the above Association was held in the Chapter House, Worcester Cathedral, on Easter Monday. The Rev. T. L. Claughton, M.A., Canon of Worcester (in the absence of the Dean) presided. There were also present the Revs. Canon Cattley and W. R. Carr, Vice-Presidents, C. Chaytor and W. C. Gibbs, Messrs. H. B. Kingsford, W. H. Fussell (Hereford Guild), S. Spittle (Master), J. Smith (Hon. Sec.), and a large number of members from Arley, Aston, Bromsgrove, Brierley Hill, Coseley, Croome, Dudley, Hagley, Hanbury, Hanley Castle, Kidderminster, Leigh, Netherton, Stoke, Stourbridge, Tipton, Worcester, Westbromwich, etc.

The CHAIRMAN, on behalf of the Dean and Chapter, welcomed the members of the Association to Worcester, and remarked that they at the mother church of the diocese should always be pleased to receive them with open arms. Speaking of the clergy he thought that a great many who were not members of the Association took a great interest in the bells and their ringers. Referring to Canon Catley, he would like to call him the father of bell-ringers (if he might be allowed), owing to the interest he had taken in the work for such a great number of years. He then proceeded to speak of the healthiness, as well as the usefulness of the science of change-ringing, and trusted the efforts of the Association would result in the spread of the art to every tower in the diocese.

A letter was read from the President (Dr. Gott), Dean of Worcester, apologising for his absence. The minutes of the last annual meeting being read and confirmed, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Dr. Gott; Vice-Presidents, the Revs. Canon Cattley and W. R. Carr; Lay Vice-Presidents, Messrs. J. Naylor (Dudley), H. B. Kingsford (Stoulton); Master, S. Spittle (Dudley); Hon. Sec., J. Smith (Netherton); Hon. Treasurer, E. Crump (Bromsgrove). Several alterations were made in the rules. The Secretary proposed a new rule (which was carried) be added: "Whereby each company in union shall appoint a local Secretary, who shall forward all communications in reference to the Association to the Hon. Sec., and make all arrangements for meetings held at his centre." He also suggested that each company have a code of rules for their own guidance, and that quarterly meetings be held for the transaction of any business, conducive to the welfare of their Society, having as their President the vicar or rector, vice-presidents, curates and churchwardens, for the time being.

The third annual report was read, which, after some discussion, was unanimously adopted.

On the motion of the Rev. W. C. Gibbs (Hagley), seconded by Mr. J. Prestidge (Netherton), it was unanimously resolved that the President be requested on some future occasion, convenient to himself, to give an address upon the subject "The deepening of the religious life of the members of this Association." The thanks of the meeting were given to Canon Claughton for presiding; to the Dean and Chapter for the use of the Chapter House; to the officers for their past services. Each of the towers in the city, including the Cathedral, were open (by kind permission) during the day, and ringing was freely indulged in.

EASTER MONDAY AT WALTHAM ABBEY.

On Easter Monday the local Society held a ringing day here, there being a good muster of ringers from the following places: London, West Ham, Tottenham, Walthamstow, Edmonton, Hertford and Ware. During the day touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Treble Bob and Bob Major were rung. The proceedings were opened by eight members of the local society ringing a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. W. C. Dymock, 1; J. Barker, 2; T. Pallett, 3; G. Thurgood, 4; D. Tarling, 5; W. A. Alps (conductor), 6; T. Colverd, 7; R. Holgate, 8. At two o'clock, twenty-one of the party sat down to a good dinner at the head-quarters of the society, the Green Dragon Inn, Rev. F. B. Johnston, vicar, presiding, after which ringing again became the order of the day. Dinner over, and the usual toasts having been honoured,

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing "Success to the Waltham Abbey Society," said that he was glad to learn that the society

was in a good position, and he trusted it would continue so, coupling with the toast the name of Mr. Dymock (hon. sec.).

Mr. Dymock having returned thanks for the hearty way in which the toast had been received, said he had much pleasure in stating that the society was in every way prosperous. They numbered now twelve members who could ring half-pull, and there were signs of progress which bade fair for the Society to be still more prosperous.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the toast of "Our Visitors," said it gave him much pleasure to meet them together with the local society, and he should at any time be pleased to welcome them on any future occasion as he had done that day. He had much pleasure in coupling with the toast the name of the vice-chairman, Mr. A. Hubbard, of the All Hallows' (Tottenham) society.

Mr. HUBBARD thanked the Vicar for the very kind and welcome manner in which the visitors had been welcomed. He pointed out how different it was now as compared with what it was 25 years ago. The presence of our clergy at the dinner table did a very great deal to assist the various Associations in bringing about belfry reform, and they as ringers owed much to those gentlemen for their valuable assistance.

Mr. ALPS, having made reference to the fact that there were a few young men (non-ringers) who were anxious to learn, said that he was confident that the pulse of unity was now beating within every individual member of the society, for which in a great measure their thanks were due to the Chairman.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar and Mr. Hubbard for presiding, and having been replied to, the party repaired to the tower. The ringers expressed themselves deeply gratified in seeing the new clock, and also with the general appearance and good order of the belfry.

It is only fair to add that Mr. Parnell, the gentleman who gave the new clock with illuminated dials to the parish, some time ago provided mats, matting, and curtains, in order to make the ringing chamber as comfortable as possible for the ringers, and some of the visitors expressed their wishes that other parishes had gentlemen to make such handsome gifts as the clock and the furnishing of their belfry in the like manner.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The Sixth Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Derby, on Easter Monday, April 2nd, 1888, and the towers of All Saints, St. Alkmund's, St. Andrew's, and St. Werburgh's, were open for ringing from 10 a.m. A committee meeting was held in St. Andrew's parish room at 3 p.m. Tea and subsequent general meeting in the Schools at 4 p.m., the President, A. Percival Heywood, Esq., in the chair. Between seventy and eighty members and friends were present from Duffield, Burton, Nottingham, Long Eaton, Loughborough, Leicester, Melbourne, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and Derby. Two honorary and eight ringing members were unanimously elected.

The President stated that during the first quarter of the year eleven peals had been rung by the Association, and with the exception of Treble Bob Major (in which two peals had been scored), one peal each in the following methods, viz.: Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Double Oxford, New Cumberland Surprise, Superlative Surprise, Cambridge Surprise (Burton Variation), Stedman Caters, and Duffield Royal. That was an achievement of which the Association might be proud, and he hoped that at least one peal would be rung in every method practised by the Association during the present year, which would not only keep up the reputation of the Society, but excel any previous record. The officers' report and treasurer's accounts having been passed, the following officers were unanimously re-elected, viz.: President, A. Percival Heywood, Esq.; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. William Wakley; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Joseph Griffin. A hearty vote of thanks to the vicars and churchwardens for the use of the bells and to the chairman for presiding, brought a very successful meeting to a close. The handbell competition, the prizes of which were given by the President, took place after the meeting, which was also a great success.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.
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DISTRICT MEETING OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of the above Association was held at Romford on Saturday, April 7th, when there was a good muster of members from several towers in the upper portion of the county. The whole of the renovations of the belfry is now completed, and the improvements made since the last visit of the Association gave general satisfaction to those present, and the tower will now stand upon an equal footing with any other in the county. Ringing commenced at two p.m., and during the afternoon and evening numerous short touches of Bob Major, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, were rung by various mixed bands. A capital meat tea was provided in the Boys' Schoolroom at 5 p.m., Canon Hitchcock presiding, supported by the Rev. T. L. Papillon, Hon. Sec., about forty-five members being present. After tea the following were elected: Messrs. Copsey, Mighill, Pegrum, Roughton, and Liddall (Romford); Aldridge (Brentwood); Emery (Writtle); Lucas (East Ham); Dallimore (Plaistow); Norris and Spring-hall (Sawbridgeworth); and G. Pye (Little Heath). The following provisional elections were also confirmed: A. Hulls, E. Hulls, R. M. Pratt, and A. Newton.

THE HON. SEC. read a letter from Canon Wigram relating to the question of extending the Association so as to combine the Herts and Essex Association into a Diocesan Association, and after a brief discussion, the suggestion of the Hon. Sec., that the question should be considered at the Annual Meeting was agreed to. The Hon. Sec. said that upon the last visit of the Association, certain suggestions were made respecting the need of improvements in the tower, including the re-hanging of the bells, with the result that to-day the Association found that the suggestions made had been acted upon, and there was now a great improvement in the tower. He therefore considered that the thanks of the Association were due to the Vicar and Churchwardens for the ready manner in which they had come forward and carried out their wishes, and would move that the Association would record its best thanks to the Vicar and authorities for having carried out the improvements in the belfry.

THE CHAIRMAN in acknowledging the same, expressed the pleasure it afforded him to meet the Association, and trusted that it would not be long before another visit was paid to Romford. He was pleased to find that the improvements gave satisfaction to the members of the Association present. It was the visit of the Association that brought the need of some improvement under his notice, for he himself was unconscious of the matter, but after the last visit of the Association, he found the belfry described as a "slaughter-house," and upon making inquiries, he found there was something in it, so as they were doing other things in the church, it was decided to carry out the improvements in the tower, and thus they had been able to set things in order.

THE HON. SEC. reported that he had during the afternoon paid a visit to Hornchurch with some members of the Association, and the band met with a hospitable reception, for the Vicar, who provided tea in the schoolroom, was desirous of as many remaining as could. Upon visiting the tower, the bells were found to be a grand ring of six, but stood sadly in need of overhauling. It was to be hoped that the authorities would as a result of the visit of the band, as representing the Association, take the matter in hand.

OPENING OF BELLS AT NEWTON ABBOTT, DEVON.

The St. Sidwell's branch of the Devonshire Guild visited Newton Abbott on Easter Monday, at the special request of the jubilee committee of that town, to try the bells of St. Leonard's, they having been augmented from six to eight by the addition of two new trebles. The old six, tenor about 9 cwt. in G sharp, are a splendid little ring from the Whitechapel Foundry, in 1772, but unfortunately the new bells do not correspond with them in the least. The go of them is perfect, but only the back six are heard in the belfry, and very faintly outside, giving any person the impression that a bad struck six are being rung. No doubt this will be rectified. There is also an odd bell hung only for the carillon. This carillon has been placed in the tower, and the bells augmented and rehung, as a memorial of the Queen's Jubilee, the whole of which has been carried out by

Messrs. Gillett and Co., of Croydon. The band who were accompanied by ringing friends from Exeter, partook of lunch at the Ship Hotel, after which a move was made to the tower, and a 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung. The ringing-room was then cleared and an attempt was made for a peal, but a false part-end turning up at the third 500, the conductor brought the bells round. The ringing sounded very unpleasant, owing to not hearing two of the bells, and as it was no pleasure to ring the eight, some well struck Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were rung on the back six. At 5 p.m. between twenty and thirty sat down to dinner, including Mr. Batchelor, of Plymouth, who up to this time found himself "out of the hunt" at Torquay, but was soon in again, the "course-ends rolling up splendidly," and although they had several change-courses, it was eventually brought to a close by Mr. Pope, Hon. Sec. to the jubilee committee, thanking the band for coming there that day, and in return Mr. Ferris Shepherd, on behalf of his brother-ringers, thanked the committee for their hearty reception. The following took part in the ringing during the day: Messrs. Stocker, Davey, Mundy, Binfield, Bastin, Rudge, Caryle, Moss, Lake, Kelly, Hodge, Carter, E. and F. Shepherd, and Messrs. Batchelor and Richards, of Plymouth.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, April 1st, eight members of the above Guild rang at the parish church, Daresbury, a 720 of Bob Minor, for each of the services during the day, viz.: at 8 a.m., 10.30 a.m., 3 p.m., and one at the close of the last service. Another 720 in the same method was rung early on Easter Monday morning, in honour of the coming of age of Mr. Gilbert Greenall, only son of Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., M.P., of Walton Hall, Cheshire. The following ringers took part in the above: T. Houghton, sen., P. Hamblett, T. Houghton, jun., P. Johnson, E. de Prez, A. de Prez, and D. Melbourne.

A business meeting of the Grappenhall branch of the above Guild was held on Saturday, April 7th, in the Grappenhall schoolroom, after which six members of the Daresbury Society rang 720 Bob Minor, in about 26 mins. A. de Prez, 1; D. Melbourne, 2; P. Johnson, 3; P. Hamblett, 4; E. de Prez, 5; T. Houghton, jun. (conductor), 6. These bells, the tenor of which is said to be about 13 cwt., go fairly well, but are very false, consequently, good striking for a strange band is almost out of the question.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD AT CHRISTCHURCH, HANTS.

ON Easter Monday, April 2nd, by the kind invitation of the Vicar, the Rev. T. H. Bush, eight members of the above Guild journeyed to Christchurch, Hants, to attempt the first peal on the fine-toned peal of eight bells at the Priory Church. The church is itself a noble structure, and was four hundred years in building. It is now being gradually restored at about £1000 a year. The restoration has been in progress about sixteen years, and will take at present rate fifty years more. The bells are a grand peal, in the key of D, tenor about 30 cwt. Some of the heavy bells were cast by the Monks, and are five or six hundred years old, if not more. They were rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, of Loughborough, in 1885-6, to whom all praise is due for the excellent mechanism in the hanging of the heavy bells, which "go like tops." The bells being up in readiness on the arrival of the band a short touch of Stedman Triples was rung by way of trying the ropes, etc. A start was made for Thurs-tans' peal of Stedman Triples, but failing in this method, after some refreshment another start was made, and after three hours and four minutes had succeeded in ringing Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples. The ringers were heartily congratulated on their success by the local band, as the striking had been good throughout. No time had now to be lost, having only fifteen minutes to catch the train. The band wish to thank the Vicar for his kindness, and hope next time to be successful in a peal of Stedman.

BRADFORD PARISH CHURCH.—A peal of Grandsire Caters (the first on these bells) will be attempted by the local company, on Saturday, April 21st, commencing at 3.30.

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

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

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

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

W. MINETT.—Yes; as you have put it.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1888.

THE phrase which defines a ringing-chamber as a "slaughter-house" may be safely regarded as one more pointed than elegant; more forcible than polite. Yet we had the temerity to use it three years ago after paying a visit to the town of Romford, in Essex, at a meeting of the county Association. The place indeed belied itself, so to speak, for the fabric of the church, with its somewhat stately dimensions and prominent position in the centre of the main thoroughfare of the town, appeared to create the feeling that with such an apparently well-ordered exterior every crevice and nook of the interior would have been considered. The bell-arrangements, however, were found upon examination to be as bad as possible, in fact though our experience has during the past thirty years led us into some queer places, we never recollect anything much worse than Romford was, not even among the neglected steeples of the metropolis, where bells and their fittings are to be found in every stage of decay. The peals rung at Romford previous to the improvement and restoration just accomplished have therefore always engendered a kind of scepticism with regard to their accomplishment, especially when it was known that some of the bands scoring these performances comprised ringers whom a bob-caller would hesitate to invite if something out of the ordinary was to be obtained.

Happily this state of affairs is ended. The bell-chamber of Romford is no longer a "slaughter-house," for we are told the bells "go like tops." And not only so, but the usual adjuncts of the apartment have all been satisfactorily adjusted, and the ringers of the little Essex market town have a ring of bells and steeple "second to none in the county." This is of course as it should be, and we congratulate them in particular and the Essex Association in general, upon such an wholesome change. We are not desirous of taking one grain of credit from the Association when we claim to have a share in the honour of the restoration. Many complaints to the church authorities had we known been made by members of that Association respecting the sad state of the belfry

at Romford, but is it too much to say that these complaints were entirely disregarded till this journal made the matter public property? We think not. The worthy Vicar of Romford has confessed more than once that the journalistic strictures upon his belfry caused him to make inquiries, when he discovered there was "something in them." And our criticisms, no less than the representations of the local ringers or the county Association, have effected such a grand improvement.

We do not expect to be repaid even by bare thanks for doing what is right, and what is held to be our duty. The outcome of our exertions, however, in this Romford matter, is another proof that "THE BELL NEWS" is a power which must sometimes be taken into calculation. The influence in this direction which this paper thus possesses is sufficient to merit the countenance and support of ringers and all those who wish to see bells and belfries restored.

LEEDS PARISH CHURCH.

The bells of this church, after having undergone a thorough restoration by Messrs T. Mallaby and Sons, of Masham, were formally re-opened on Easter Monday. It was originally intended to have commenced the day's proceedings with a peal of Grand-sire Caters, but owing to Early Celebration it was found impracticable. A numerous company of ringers attended during the day, including friends from Birmingham, Newcastle, Bradford, Birstall, Ripon, &c., and the "go" of the bells appeared to give general satisfaction.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A new peal of six bells by Messrs. Taylor will probably be opened on or about Wednesday, April 25th, to which the members of this Association are invited. Further particulars will be given next week.
 G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

NOTE TO THE PEALS AT BURTON-ON-TRENT AND QUORNDON.—In connection with the visit to Burton of Mr. H. D. Betteridge, the St. Paul's society arranged for five peals to be attempted during the four days, Tuesday to Friday in Easter week, a sixth fixture (Duffield Royal), being added to the list by the kindness of A. P. Heywood, Esq. Of these, five were successfully accomplished in as many methods, viz.: Stedman Triples, Double Norwich Court, Superlative Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, and Duffield Royal. The sixth attempt was to have been one of Stedman Caters at Loughborough, but at the last moment it was found impossible to ring there, owing to illness near the church. The enjoyment of the ringers was greatly enhanced by the extreme kindness and hospitality extended to them by Mr. Heywood at Duffield, and by the Messrs. Taylor at Loughborough, and their thanks are also due to the authorities at Tamworth for so readily granting the use of the bells there, and for having everything in such capital order for ringing.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, April 6, 1888, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5062 CHANGES.

FREDERICK G. NEWMAN*...Trebble.	*JOHN N. OXBORROW.. .. 6.
HENRY LANGDON* 2.	*FRANCIS L. DAVIES.. .. 7.
HENRY R. NEWTON 3.	RICHARD T. WOODLEY .. 8.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 4.	JOHN MURRAY HAYES .. 9.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE.. 5.	*WILLIAM CROPLEY .. ..Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, SEN., of Birmingham, and Conducted by JOHN M. HAYES.

*First peal of Stedman Caters. This peal was rung on the occasion of the election of the Churchwardens.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 7, 1888, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNY Treble.	*JOHN N. OXBORROW.. .. 6.
GEORGE W. CARTMEL* 2.	*HENRY G. FAIRBRASS 7.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM* 3.	JOHN M. HAYES 8.
GEO. T. McLAUGHLIN* 4.	*JAMES W. DRIVER 9.
THOMAS MAYNARD* 5.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by FRED. G. NEWMAN.

*First peal of Royal.

The Provinces.

ROWLEY REGIS, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Tuesday, April 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

5040 CHANGES OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES;

Being Forty-two 6-scores, called differently,

Tenor 12½ cwt.

HENRY BENNETT Treble.	BENJAMIN LOWE 4.
RICHARD BAKER 2.	SAMUEL MILLS.. .. 5.
JOHN BATE 3.	BENJAMIN BATE Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL MILLS.

This was rung at the first attempt, and is the first 5040 of any kind ever rang by a Rowley band. Messrs. S. Mills, B. Bate, J. Bate, and R. Baker are new beginners, and knew nothing of ringing whatever previous to joining the company, four months ago.

GLASTONBURY, SOMERSET.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, April 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-two-and-½ Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt. in Eb.

J. F. HASTINGS Treble.	THOMAS SHORT.. .. 5.
SAMUEL HOUNSLOW 2.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK 6.
WILLIAM FINCH 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
JOSEPH FIELD 4.	THOMAS PAYNE.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

This is the first peal ever rung in Glastonbury.

GARGRAVE.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 7, 1888, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

J. H. BELL Treble.	W. BILLOWS 5.
J. WANE 2.	W. D. HILLARY 6.
H. BIRTWISTLE 3.	C. LANGSTROTH.. .. 7.
W. WHITAKER 4.	J. MCKELL Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by J. MCKELL.

This peal, in which the 2nd is kept away from the tenor at the wrong throughout, is now rung for the first time, and contains the 4th, 5th and 6th nine times wrong and the extent right. Messrs Billows and Hillary hail from Skipton, and this is their first peal.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE WARNHAM BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 7, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE TRIPLES,

5040 CHANGES. Tenor 14½ cwt.

GEORGE WOODMAN Treble.	HENRY BURSTOW 5.
WALTER CHARMAN* 2.	HARRY COOK 6.
THOMAS ANDREWS 3.	HENRY CHANDLER 7.
WILLIAM SHORT 4.	THOMAS HOGSFLESH .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by HENRY BURSTOW.

*First peal in the method. The above is the second peal rung in the method.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, April 5, 1888, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056

CHANGES; IN THE BURTON VARIATION.

Tenor 26 cwt.

GEORGE ROBINSON Treble.	HENRY D. BETTERIDGE 5.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	HARRY WAKLEY 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, has the 4th and 6th their extent in 6th's place; the 2nd and 3rd never being in that position.

Rung with the bells half-muffled on the first anniversary of the death of the Rev. James H. Fish, first Vicar of St. Paul's, and founder of the Society. The above was Mr. Betteridge's 50th peal.

QUORNDON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, April 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,

5024 CHANGES. Tenor 14½ cwt.

GEORGE ROBINSON.. .. Treble.	ARTHUR R. ALDHAM 5.
A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.. 2.	HARRY WAKLEY 6.
JOHN AUSTIN 3.	JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

This peal has the 4th, 5th, and 6th consecutively in 6th's place with no other bell there, and is now rung for the first time. It is the first peal of Double Norwich rung in the county of Leicester, and is Mr. Taylor's first peal in the method.

DEWSBURY, YORKSHIRE.

Silent Peal.

On Saturday, April 7, 1888, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

J. GARFORTH Treble.	*G. H. HARDY 5.
J. H. DIXON 2.	*J. W. YATES 6.
LUKE ILLINGWORTH 3.	*G. BOLLAND 7.
B. A. DODSON* 4.	W. COLLINS Tenor.

Composed by G. H. HARDY.

*Members of the Yorkshire Association. Messrs J. H. Hardcastle (Bradford) and Allan Womersley (Aldmondbury) officiated as umpires, and expressed themselves highly satisfied with the manner in which the peal was rung. The striking throughout was excellent, and not a word was spoken in the belfry from the call off until "that is all" was announced. A goodly number of ringing friends from various places also assembled for the purpose of hearing the peal who heartily congratulated the band on the creditable character of their performance. Messrs Garforth and Dixon hail from Dewsbury; Luke Illingworth and W. Collins from Liversedge; B. A. Dodson and J. W. Yates from Birstall; G. H. Hardy from Earlsheaton; and G. Bolland from Tong.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE UNITED COUNTIES' AND LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

Handbell Ringing.

On Sunday, April 8, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-seven and ½ Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. JAMES S. WILDE, 160, GT. NORBURY ST.,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 size in C.

SAMUEL WOOD.. .. 1-2.	GEORGE LONGDEN 5-6.
JAMES S. WILDE 3-4.	THOMAS WILDE 7-8.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

Mr. John Thorp, of Ashton-under-Lyne, acted as referee and marked off the course-ends as they came up. The peal is in five parts, four of which are equal, and has already appeared in a previous number of "THE BELL NEWS." This is the first handbell peal recorded by the United Counties' and the Lancashire Associations, and is also the first handbell peal in the method by all.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(THE WARNHAM BRANCH.)

On Thursday, April 5, 1888, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

GEORGE CHARMAN Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT 5.
WALTER CHARMAN 2.	FELIX KNIGHT 6.
THOMAS ANDREWS 3.	HENRY BURSTOW 7.
HARRY COOK 4.	HENRY CHANDLER Tenor.

Composed by G. H. HARDY, and Conducted by
HENRY CHANDLER.

First peal in the method by all the band, and by the Sussex County Association.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Wednesday, April 4, 1888, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF H. JOHNSON, JUN., 102, QUEEN'S ROAD, ASTON,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 size, key of C.

THOMAS RUSSAM 1-2.	HENRY BASTABLE 7-8.
WILLIAM KENT 3-4.	BERNARD WITCHELL 9-10.
THOMAS MILLER 5-6.	HENRY JOHNSON, SEN. 11-12.

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

The first peal of Stedman Cinques ever rung out of London, and the third ever rung on handbells, and is also the first rung on this plan (see figures) with the large bells turned at the half-way. Mr. A. Thomas, Referee. Mr. Hy. Johnson, sen., G. W. Townsend, W. Bryant, W. H. Godden, and W. Munday, from Exeter, witnesses.

CHRISTCHURCH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD AND THE
SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, April 2, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PRIORY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 30 cwt. in D.

JAMES HEWETT Treble.	WILLIAM L. CHAMBERLAIN 5.
JOHN W. WHITING 2.	FREDERICK HILL 6.
ROBERT JORDAN 3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7.
EDWIN JORDAN 4.	GEORGE PASSINGHAM Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This is the first peal on the bells. Messrs. E. and R. Jordan were elected members of the Royal Cumberland Society before starting for the peal, and hail from Capel, Surrey; Williams from Midhurst, Sussex; Chamberlain from Arundel; J. Hewett from Gosport; Whiting, Hill, and Passingham from Fareham.

PRESCOT, LANCASHIRE.

On Monday, April 9, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

JAMES CHISWORTH Treble.	JAMES ABRAHAM 5.
WALTER FINNEY 2.	JONATHAN FINNEY 6.
JOHN RENSHALL 3.	THOMAS BYRON 7.
JOHN CASE 4.	JOHN MOSTON Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS BYRON.

It being the first peal by W. Finney and T. Abraham, they were the recipients of the congratulations of their brother ringers and friends.

WELLS, SOMERSET.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 2, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 28 cwt.

J. F. HASTINGS Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 5.
JOSEPH FIELD 2.	THOMAS PAYNE 6.
SAMUEL HOUNSLOW 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK 7.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW 4.	WILLIAM FINCH Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

This is the first peal rung in Wells,

CROYDON.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, April 6, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 26½ cwt. in D.

JOHN BRANCH Treble.	WILLIAM BURKIN 5.
EDGAR BENNETT 2.	CHARLES BANCE 6.
JOSEPH FAYERS 3.	JAMES TRAPPITT 7.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER 4.	CHARLES GORDON Tenor.

Composed by J. PLATT, and Conducted by EDGAR BENNETT.
This is the first peal of Treble Bob on the bells, and the conductor's 50th peal.

BENGEO, HERTS.—THE BENGEO SOCIETY, AND
THE HETFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, April 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

**5040 CHANGES; IN SEVEN DIFFERENT MINOR
METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;**

Being a 720 each of the following:—

DOUBLE COURT, COLLEGE SINGLE, OXFORD AND KENT TREBLE BOB, OXFORD BOB, PLAIN BOB, AND GRANDSIRE.
Tenor 7 cwt.

EDWARD CAINS Treble.	JOSEPH POMFRET 4.
WILLIAM BENNETT 2.	HENRY PHILLIPS 5.
MATTHEW ELLSMORE 3.	HERBERT BAKER Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT BAKER.

NEWHEY, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE
ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 7, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 10 cwt.

FRANK BIRTWISTLE Treble.	JOHN HARRISON 5.
A. EDWARD WREAKS 2.	ALFRED CLEGG 6.
GEORGE HOYLE 3.	ERNEST BISHOP 7.
GEORGE E. TURNER 4.	SAMUEL BRIERLEY Tenor.

Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS.

Messrs. Wreaks and Turner hail from Manchester; Birtwistle and Hoyle from Rochdale; Clegg and Brierley from Milnrow; Harrison from Heywood; and Bishop from Bury.

RINGMER, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(RINGMER AND BRIGHTON BRANCHES).

On Saturday, April 7, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
DAVIES' TEN-PART (No. 1).

CHARLES PAINTER* Treble.	GEORGE A. KING 5.
GEORGE C. HAMMOND† 2.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES 6.
HARRY JONES* 3.	JAMES SEARLE 7.
GEORGE F. ATTREE 4.	*GEORGE TAYLOR Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE C. HAMMOND.

*First peal. †First peal of Triples as conductor. Messrs. Attree, King, and Searle hail from Brighton; the remaining five belong to the Ringmer Branch.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 9, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 30 cwt. in Eb.

HENRY G. FAIRBRASS Treble.	GEORGE W. CARTMEL 5.
TOM GRANT* 2.	EBENEZER A. HULKS 6.
NEWMAN N. HILLS 3.	WALTER BATTLE 7.
RICHARD M. PRATT 4.	HENRY L. WADDINGTON Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY GORDON FAIRBRASS.

*First peal with a bob bell. With the exception of Mr. Fairbrass, of Canterbury all are members of the Cathedral Society.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY OF ST. ALBANS, THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Tuesday, April 10, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE TEMPERANCE HOTEL, GEORGE STREET,
ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. 1-2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 5-6.
E. PERCY DEBENHAM .. 3-4.	JOHN C. MITCHELL .. 7-8.
THOMAS WALLER 9-10.	

Composed by the late JOHN COX, and Conducted by
JOHN C. MITCHELL.

This peal was rung in honour of the conductor's 21st birthday.

MOSSLEY, LANCASHIRE.—Opening Peal. THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(THE SADDLEWORTH BRANCH.)

On Sunday, April 1, 1888, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. in F♯.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY Treble.	JOHN T. HOLDEN 5.
JOHN HOLDEN 2.	MOSES BRADBURY 6.
FRANK BRIERLEY 3.	THOS. B. DICKEN 7.
JOSEPH WOOD 4.	EDWARD WOOD Tenor.

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

APPLETON, BERKS.

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

On Wednesday, April 11, 1888, in Eight Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 13,265 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt. in E.

EDMUND HOLIFIELD Treble.	FREDERICK WHITE 6.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW 2.	JESSE AVERY 7.
HERBERT BAKER 3.	GEORGE HOLIFIELD 8.
WILLIAM BENNETT 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK 9.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON 5.	STEDMAN WHITE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

The above is the longest peal ever rung on ten bells, and was rung at the first attempt. The peal contains the 120 course-ends.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CALVERLEY (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, April 8th, at St. Wilfred's parish church, eight members of the above Association rang a date touch of 1888 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 9 mins. John Cordingley, 1; Walter Child, 2; Ezra Keighley, 3; Charles Pratt, 4; Joseph Page, 5; William Hollings, 6; Job A. Ross (conductor), 7; William Davidson, 8.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Saturday evening, April 7th, a date touch of 1888 changes of Bob Major was rung in 1 hr. 20 mins. W. Smith, 1; W. Mynard, 2; J. Carwell-Cooke, 3; Chas. Herbert, 4; A. Morrison, 5; A. Chibnall, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; Mark Lane (conductor), 8.

WOLSTANTON (Staffordshire).—On Easter Sunday, at St. Margaret's church, for Divine Service in the morning, a date touch of 1888 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 10 mins. *F. Grocott (age 14 years), 1; *W. Fitchford (14 years), 2; *T. Miller (14 years), 3; *H. Fitchford (16 years), 4; *A. Grocott (17 years), 5; S. Walker, 6; W. Miller (conductor), 7; *W. Slater, 8. *First date touch. The above touch is a composition by H. Johnson, of Birmingham; and has 6-7 together for 1680 changes.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Sunday, April 1st, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (with nine bobs and six singles). F. Hull, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; I. Hills, 3; H. Chapman, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. Hall, 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). F. Hull, 1; I. Hills, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; H. Chapman, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; J. N. Frossell (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; F. Gilbert, 3; H. Chapman, 4; W. G. Biggs, 5; R. Dunkley, 6. Also at St. Paul's (at 5 a.m.), the last 742 of Holts Original peal of Grandsire Triples. S. J. Cullip, 1; H. Chapman, 2; W. Hall, 3; F. Keech, 4; I. Hills, 5; C. Pass, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; F. Chasty, 8. And for evening service, a 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Keech, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; F. Gilbert, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; R. Dunkley, 5; H. Chapman, 6; W. G. Biggs, 7; I. Hills, 8. And on Monday, April 2nd, a 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major. S. J. Cullip, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; W. H. L. Buckingham (St. Alban's), 3; J. W. Taylor (Loughborough), 4; G. W. Cartmel (St. Alban's), 5; H. Chapman, 6; I. Hills, 7; J. N. Frossell, 8. And at the meeting house (Mr. A. Wheatley's), an attempt was made to ring Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples (upon handbells retained in hand), but came to grief after ringing about 2000 changes. C. W. Clarke, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3-4; G. W. Cartmel (conductor), 5-6; W. G. Biggs, 7-8. Afterwards a plain course of Stedman Triples, in the same order, this was C. W. Clarke and W. G. Biggs, first attempt for a handbell peal. Also on Thursday, April 5th, an attempt was made for Arthur Knights' peal of 5152 Kent Treble Bob Major, but it came to grief when about 1000 changes had been rung, through the 5th rope breaking. F. Keech, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 4; W. G. Biggs, 5; H. Chapman, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 8. Also two courses of Stedman Triples. Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (taken from Troyte's work), in 50 mins. H. Toll, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; W. Hall, 3; H. Chapman, 4; I. Hills, 5; F. Keech, 6; W. G. Biggs, 7; F. Hull (first quarter-peal), 8. Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Sunday, April 1st, at St. James's church, for service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). J. N. Frossell, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; A. Martin, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; R. Dunkley, 5; H. Chapman, 6. And on Saturday, April 7th, for practice, in the afternoon, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs) *C. R. Howard, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; Harry King, 3; C. West, 4; H. Chapman, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. *First 720 of Treble Bob and first attempt. Also a 720 of Bob Minor (eight bobs six singles). F. Hull, 1; I. Hills, 2; C. West, 3; F. Keech, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; C. R. Howard, 6. Also on Sunday afternoon, April 8th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). W. West, 1; C. West, 2; *A. Ingram, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; C. R. Howard, 5; W. G. Biggs (conductor), 6. *First 720 on a bob bell. Also a six-score of Bob Doubles. A. Ingram, 1; C. West, 2; C. R. Howard (conductor), 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; W. G. Biggs, 5; W. West, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Saturday afternoon, April 7th, with the bells half-muffled, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). I. Hills, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; C. R. Howard, 3; H. C. Chapman, 4; W. G. Biggs, 5; F. Keech, 6. Also a 120 of Grandsire Doubles. H. Clifton, 1; I. Hills, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; H. Chapman, 4; W. G. Biggs (conductor), 5; W. West, 6. The above 720 was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last token of respect and regret for the death of their brother string, Mr. William King, who is the first performing member of this Association that has died, and who was one of the young band of change-ringers that started in this parish a few years ago. He entered into his rest on Thursday, March 29th, aged 22 years. Also on Sunday, April 8th, with the bells still muffled, for Divine Service in the morning, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. T. Tysoe, 1; C. West, 2; C. R. Howard, 3; H. King, 4; W. G. Biggs, 5; C. Brockett, 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

CARDINGTON (Beds).—On Monday, April 2nd, at St. Mary's church, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. H. Chapman, 1; *A. Martin, 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; J. Hare, 4; R. Dunkley, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; W. G. Biggs, 7; G. W. Cartmel, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOP AUCLAND.—On Easter Sunday, April 1st, at St. Andrew's parish church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) in 43 mins. *W. Charlton, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; J. Pallister, 3; J. Cleminson, 4; H. C. Mayne, 5; F. Charlton, 6; E. Titt (conductor), 7; F. Castree, 8. Tenor 11 cwt. *Longest touch of Triples. And on Sunday, April 8th, for morning service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Charlton, 1; J. Pallister, 2; H. C. Mayne, 3; J. Cleminson, 4; F. Charlton, 5; E. Titt (conductor), 6.

Also for evening service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Charlton, 1; J. Cleminson, 2; J. Pallister, 3; F. Castree, 4; H. C. Mayne, 5; F. Charlton, 6; E. Titt (conductor), 7; J. G. Pratt, 8.

GAINFORD (Durham).—On Easter Monday, April 2nd, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. J. G. Pratt, 1; F. Castree, 2; J. Pallister, 3; F. Charlton, 4; E. Titt, 5; J. Cleminson (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, April 8th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Michaels church, in 25 mins., a 720 of College Exercise. T. Watson, 1; S. Hammond, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; F. L. Bumpstead, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. Also in the evening, a 360 of Cambridge Surprise, 144 each of Oxford and Kent, and a 120 of Double Court Bob, standing as before.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Monday evening, April 9th, at the parish church, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. L. Digweed, 1; A. Cornford, 2; F. Hayes, 3; J. Broom, 4; G. Hayes, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

PRESTWICH (near Manchester).—On Easter Monday, April 2nd, the St. Anne's Society rang 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, at St. Mary's church, in 28 mins. William Wilde, jun., 1; John Bardsley, 2; John Howard (conductor), 3; James A. Thomas, 4; Wm. Wilde, sen., 5; Peter Smith, 6. All the above belong to Haughton.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—BRADFIELD DEANERY BRANCH.

BEENHAM (Berks).—On Thursday, March 1st, at the parish church, for practice, 360 Oxford Bob Minor; and on Sunday morning, March 4th, for Divine Service, 360 Oxford Bob Minor; also for evening service, 360 Canterbury Pleasure; and on Thursday, March 8th, for practice, 180 Court Bob Minor, and a plain course of Stedman Doubles; also on Sunday morning, March 11th, for morning service, 360 Court Bob Minor; and for evening service, three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles; also on Thursday, March 15th, a plain course and 120 Double Oxford Bob Minor, and two plain courses of Stedman Doubles, and 120 and a 72 of Plain Bob Minor; and on Sunday, March 18th, for evening service, 360 Court Bob Minor; also on Tuesday, March 20th, for practice, 360 College Single, and 120 Plain Bob Minor; and on Sunday morning, 720 Oxford Bob Minor; and for evening service, 360 Court Bob Minor; also on Easter Sunday, for evening service, 360 Court Bob Minor; and on Tuesday evening, April 3rd, for practice, 72 Grandsire Minor, a plain course of Plain Bob Minor, and three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. The following ringers took part in the above: T. Greetham, J. Hissey, G. Webb, H. Hatto, and J. Richardson, and conducted respectively by A. Richardson, J. Hatto, and J. Richardson. Tenor 10 cwt.

THATCHAM (Berks).—On Monday evening, April 2nd, the Beenham company visited the above place, and by kind permission of the vicar rang at the parish church 360 Plain Bob Minor, and 360 Court Bob Minor. G. Webb, 1; H. Hatto, 2; A. Richardson, 3; T. Bidmead, 4; J. Hatto, 5; J. Richardson (conductor), 6. Also two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and 360 College Single was attempted, but owing to the tenor being so very loose on the stock it was almost impossible to ring her, as she gradually got worse. The bells were then lowered in good style, and although these bells are much heavier than those at Beenham, they were raised in peal in capital order. Tenor 18 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, April 8th, after evening service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; J. Hands, 3; E. Menday, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 5. Tenor 17 cwt.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TIPTON.—On Sunday, April the 8th, at St. Martins, a 464 of Bob Major was rung for Divine Service in the morning. And a 252 of Bob Major. Benjamin Starkey, 1; Harry Mills, 2; Adam Hill, 3; Edward Goodreds, 4; William Pardoe, 5; Samuel Jesson, 6; George Hughes (conductor), 7; William Rock Small, 8. And two courses of Stedman Triples. Harry Mills, 1; William Small, 2; William Pardoe, 3; Edward Goodreds, 4; Adam Hill, 5; Samuel Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; B. Starkey, 8. And after Divine Service in the evening a 464 of Bob Major was rung. Samuel Reeves, 1; Harry Mills, 2; Adam Hill, 3; Edward Goodreds, 4; Charles Price, 5; Thomas Horton, 6; George Hughes (conductor), 7; William Small, 8. And three courses of Stedman Triples. Samuel Reeves (conductor), 1; Charles Price, 2; Thomas Horton, 3; Edward

Goodreds, 4; Adam Hill, 5; William Small, 6; George Hughes, 7; Harry Mills, 8. Messrs. Reeves, Price and Horton hail from West Bromwich.

WEST BROMWICH.—On Sunday, April 8th, at Christ Church, a 503 of Grandsire Caters was rung for Divine Service in the afternoon. Harry Mills, 1; Thomas Horton, 2; George Hughes, 3; John Frisby, 4; Adam Hill, 5; James Hall, 6; William Rock Small, 7; Charles Price, 8; Samuel Reeves (conductor), 9; Benjamin Starkey, 10. Messrs. Mills, Hughes, Hill and Small hail from Tipton.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, April 5th, at St. Andrew's church, for practice, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 27 mins. B. Townsend, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; W. Pardoe, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. And on Sunday, April 8th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 27 mins. F. Hotchkiss, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. W. Pardoe hails from Tipton, and this is his first 720 in the above method. W. Micklewright from Dudley.

KEMPSEY, NEAR WORCESTER.—On Saturday, April 7th, eight members of the above Association visited this place, and at the parish church rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). H. B. Kingsford, 1; W. Pudge, 2; W. Page, 3; W. Powell, 4; L. Longney, 5; T. Gwynn, 6. And a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. H. B. Kingsford, 1; W. Powell, 2; S. Cotton, 3; L. Longney, 4; T. Gwynn, 5; J. Hale, 6. A 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). *H. B. Kingsford, 1; W. Powell, 2; *S. Cotton, 3; *W. Page, 4; *L. Longney, 5; T. Gwynn, 6. *First 720 in the method. And a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor was attempted, but after ringing 240 changes it came to grief (time not allowing for another attempt). W. Pudge, 1; W. Powell, 2; S. Cotton, 3; T. Gwynn, 4; L. Longney, 5; W. Page, 6. This is the first attempt at Canterbury Pleasure by all, most of the ringers not having seen the method till that evening. All the above were conducted by L. Longney, and are believed to be the first 720s on the bells. Tenor about 14 cwt. in F. H. B. Kingsford hails from Stoulton; L. Longney from Croome; the rest from Worcester.

THE ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

EXETER (Devon).—On Sunday, April 8th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). C. Carter, 1; W. Stocker, 2; F. Davey, 3; S. Binfield, 4; F. Shepherd (conductor), 5; E. Shepherd, 6; J. Moss, 7; B. Mundy, 8. Composed by H. J. Tucker. Time 43 mins. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BAGSHOT.—On Easter Sunday morning, at St. Anne's church, for service, a 360 of Bob Minor (9 bobs). F. Francis, 1; T. Gould, 2; E. Angell (London), 3; H. Stapleton, 4; E. Lee, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. And for service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor (14 singles and 4 bobs). E. Angell, 1; T. Gould, 2; F. Francis, 3; H. Stapleton, 4; E. Lee, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. And after service three 120s of Bob Doubles. A. Harding, 1; E. Angell, 2; H. Stapleton, 3; F. Francis, 4; T. Gould (conductor), 5; E. Spooner, 6. Also two 120s, with R. Weeks at the tenor. And on Tuesday, April 3rd, two 120s of Grandsire Doubles. A. Harding, 1; H. Houlton, 2; T. Gould, 3; H. Stapleton, 4; E. Spooner (conductor), 5; W. Harding, 6. Also a 360 of Bob Minor (6 singles and 3 bobs). A. Harding, 1; H. Houlton, 2; F. Francis, 3; H. Stapleton, 4; T. Gould, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. And on Monday evening, April 9th, a 720 of Bob Minor (8 bobs and 6 singles). F. Francis, 1; H. Houlton, 2; T. Gould, 3; H. Stapleton, 4; E. Lee, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Easter Sunday, April 1st, for evening service at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). W. L. Chamberlain, 1; R. Jordan, 2; F. Hill (conductor), 3; C. Privett, 4; E. Jordan, 5; G. Passingham, 6; J. Whiting, 7; H. Carter, 8.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

COLWALL (Herefordshire).—On Easter Sunday, April 1st, at the parish church of St. James, at 5.30 a.m., several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by J. Field, with C. Pedlingham, tenor. Also on Monday, April 2nd, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 26 mins. Thomas Marshall, 1; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 2; A. C. Buckle, 3; G. Evans, 4; J. Field, 5; J. James, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

DEPTFORD (Kent).—On Wednesday, April 4th, at St. John's church, a 280 of Grandsire Triples. John Rose, 1; Edward E. Richards, 2; Rev. Herbert A. Cockey, 3; William Weatherstone, 4; John Crowder,

5; Joseph Laws, 6; Frederick W. Thornton (conductor), 7; William Jeffries, 8. Also about 500 in the same method. Harry W. Grout, 1; John Rose, 2; William Weatherstone (conductor), 3; Frederick W. Thornton, 4; Rev. Herbert A. Cockey, 5; Joseph Laws, 6; Edward E. Richards, 7; William Jeffries, 8.

GARSTON (Lancashire).—On Easter Monday, April 2nd, at St. Michael's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. John Turner (Garston), 1; Charles Williams (Liverpool), 2; John Aspinwall (Liverpool), 3; Robert Williams (conductor, Liverpool), 4; Sergt. F. Turner (Garston), 5; John R. Pritchard (Liverpool), 6. Also 560 Bob Major. Joshua Large (Widnes), 1; John Turner, 2; John R. Pritchard (conductor), 3; Charles Williams, 4; John Aspinwall, 5; Thomas Morris, 6; Sergt. F. Turner, 7; Robert Williams, 8. Also two touches of Grandsire Triples, with Mr. Smith, of Whitefield, in place of T. Morris.

HORLEY (Surrey).—On Wednesday evening, April 4th, at the parish church, for practice, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Wallis, 1; W. Edwards (conductor), 2; T. Whitmore, 3; E. Dewey, 4; S. Kenward, 5; J. Taylor, 6; T. Sparks, 7; G. Apps, 8. And 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Wallis, 1; T. Sparks, 2; E. Dewey, 3; S. Kenward, 4; W. Edwards (conductor), 5; T. Whitmore, 6; J. Taylor, 7; G. Apps, 8.

LAVENHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, April 1st, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 784 of Bob Major. A. W. Baldwin, 1; W. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Jno. Moore, 4; H. Smith, 5; W. Snell, 6; A. Symonds (conductor), 6; A. Symonds (conductor), 7; W. Moore, 8. Messrs. W. and A. Hollocks, Moore and Snell, hail from Preston; Baldwin from the parish of St. Andrew's the less, Cambridge.

NORTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, March 25th, six members of the local company rang for morning service, at St. James's church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. G. Oates, 1; H. Ward, 2; J. Goucher, 3; J. Biggin, 4; J. Atkin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt. This 720 is the same as Mr. Hammond's, but was called backwards, and contains thirty-six bobs and twenty-four singles, and was rung in honour of the birthday of Mr. J. Atkin.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Wednesday evening, April 4th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (9 bobs), in 25 mins. H. Symonds, 1; A. W. Baldwin, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; J. Moore, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5; W. Hollocks, 6. This was rung in honour of Mr. Baldwin successfully passing the second year Schoolmaster's Certificate Examination, he was formerly of Preston, but now resides in the parish of St. Andrew's the Less, Cambridge.

STANSTEAD (Suffolk).—On Easter Day, April 1st, several courses of Bob Minor were rung on the bells of the parish church before the services by the band of young ringers lately formed here. E. Ableby, 1; A. Smith, 2; R. Gowers, 3; G. Britten, 4; Joseph Wheeler, 5; James Wheeler, 6.

WIGSTON (Leicestershire).—On Easter Sunday, at 7.0 a.m., at the parish church, the local company rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Humberstone (conductor), 1; John Humberstone, 2; James Wilson (Aylestone Park), 3; Richard Roe, 4; Harry Smith, 5; Henry Vann, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

WORCESTER.—On Easter Monday, April 2nd, at St. Helen's church, a 216 of Stedman Triples. *L. Longney, 1; S. Cotton, 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; *T. Gwynn, 4; *W. Page, 5; R. W. Grooves, 6; S. Reeves (conductor), 7; T. Malim, 8. Tenor 18½ cwt. *First touch in the method. Also at All Saints' church, a 504 of Grandsire Caters. T. Horton, 1; S. Cotton (conductor), 2; L. Longney, 3; G. Hughes, 4; I. Hall, 5; W. Page, 6; C. Price, 7; R. Hall, 8; T. Gwynn, 9; T. Malim, 10. Tenor 23 cwt. And a touch of 575 changes was rung in the morning, conducted by S. Reeves. Also at the cathedral a course each of Grandsire Caters and Cinques. Tenor 50 cwt. The above ringing was performed mostly by members of the Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association on the occasion of the Annual Meeting.

Correspondence.

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

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

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Thwaites, the longest touch of Grandsire Triples with a call every lead, is 336. In Mr. Thwaites' two-part touch he has omitted three leads in each part, for the three pairs of bells in question will come to the front eight times each, and with five plain leads, a five-part touch (1680 changes) can be got, which can be cut down to a quarter-peal containing eighty-five calls. Now it must not be thought that by starting from 342567 and 423567, that two more such touches can be got containing the whole 360 leads in

the three touches, because one part is required in two touches, making seventy-two false rows altogether but they can be divided so that the thing becomes true, and then there is the three parts that has been left out, which will require at least five more plain leads, making twenty in all. Now, I believe that with twenty-five or thirty plain leads the peal can be obtained in five parts, and fifty for a ten-part, and thirty for a six-part. I shall be pleased to give Mr. Thwaites any information on the subject if he will send his address.

Farnham Royal, Slough.

J. J. PARKER.

DOUBTFUL AUTHORSHIP.

SIR,—Seeing in "THE BELL NEWS" of last week a peal of Treble Bob Maximus by Daniel Prentice, of Ipswich, said to contain the 5th and 6th in 6th's place throughout, and is the first produced with these qualities, now, Sir, if Mr. Prentice will look at "THE BELL NEWS" for Saturday, July 31st, 1886, he will find the peal there composed by me.

Bromsgrove.

GEORGE HAYWARD.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Thwaites, I send you the following touches. In the first there are calls at 24 consecutive leads. In the quarter peal 85 calls.

2 3 4 5 6 7	1260.	Continued—
- 7 5 2 6 3 4	S 5 7 2 6 3 4	S 5 7 2 4 3 6
S 6 4 7 3 5 2	S 6 4 5 3 7 2	S 4 6 5 3 7 2
S 3 2 6 5 4 7	S 3 2 6 7 4 5	S 3 2 4 7 6 5
S 5 7 3 4 2 6	- 5 7 3 4 2 6	- 5 7 3 6 2 4
S 4 6 5 2 7 3	S 4 6 5 2 7 3	5 6 7 4 3 2
S 2 3 4 7 6 5	S 2 3 4 7 6 5	- 2 4 5 3 6 7
- 5 7 2 6 3 4	S 6 4 5 3 7 2	- 7 3 2 6 4 5
S 6 4 5 3 7 2	S 6 4 7 3 5 2	S 6 5 7 4 3 2
S 3 2 6 7 4 5	- 2 3 6 5 4 7	S 4 2 6 3 5 7
S 7 5 3 4 2 6		
S 4 6 7 2 5 3		
- 3 2 4 5 6 7		
Repeated.		

Four times repeated.

By omitting one call in the touch of 24 leads and repeating four times, 1680 or one-third of a peal will be produced. I have a peal on this plan containing 345 calls, two of which, however, are not ordinary bobs or singles.

Saffron Walden.

JNO. F. PENNING.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—Allow me to thank the member of the Sussex County Association for pointing out the peal of Grandsire Triples—Holt's Original rang on handbells at St. Albans, in April, 1887. I missed its being a Sussex Association peal in not noticing the footnote below; therefore I wish to add that the footnote to the peal of Grandsire Triples rang at Warnham, on March 18th, should read: The first time Holt's Original has been rung on church bells by the Sussex Association. It is also the second one-part peal of Triples rung on church bells by that Society, the first being Dr. A. B. Carpenter's peal of Union Triples, rang by the Crawley branch at Crawley, on Saturday, May 22nd, 1886, and conducted by

GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Bex Mill, Midhurst.

STAFFORDSHIRE RINGING MATTERS.

SIR,—May I ask some of the members of our prosperous and energetic neighbouring Association for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, whether some arrangement could or not be made whereby the Association for the northern and southern divisions of our shire might amalgamate, and form a well organised county Association, and one able to hold its own among similar institutions? We in North Staffordshire of the Stoke Association, ought to be rather ashamed of our peal record, as compared with that of our southern neighbours, who are exhibiting commendable activity. Also as successful meetings having been held by us for a many months, and our respected honorary secretary being very quiet just now, some of the more energetic members are beginning to fear that our Association is in a fair way for accomplishing a peaceful and quiet decease. This latter would be a deplorable and much to be regretted event, and lest it should occur we ought at once to cast off our lethargy, and make another good start ourselves, or merge ourselves into the Midland Counties' Association, or another prosperous Society. I invite correspondence through your columns on the above subject, and in the meantime subscribe myself

"BIG TOM."

TUBULAR BELLS.—A set of tubular bells has just been erected at Kirton church, Lincolnshire. We are not yet in a position to explain the character of this invention, though several enquiries have been made concerning it. When however the opportunity arrives we will do so.

KETTERING.—THE PARISH CHURCH BELLS.

By kind permission of the Rev. Canon Lindsay, a party of ringers from Wellingborough rang several six-scores of Grand-sire Doubles, with 4 6 8 and 7 4 8 covering, on the bells of the parish church, on Easter Monday. The Raunds, Wellingborough and District Association meeting was arranged for Kettering on that day, but from some cause or other had to be postponed. Kettering bells are now in a very bad state, which is scarcely to be wondered at, seeing that they have not been rehung for about 170 years. Anything in the shape of a peal on them would be an impossibility. However, thanks to the attention given to them by the local ringers, the visitors got on quite as well as could be expected, and much enjoyed their pull in this noted eight-bell tower.

Kettering was one of the first towns in Northamptonshire to obtain a full ring of eight. As far back as the year 1714, the five old bells were taken down and cast into eight. The bell-frame (now becoming unsafe) was doubtless put in at that time. Several of the bells have been recast since that date. The third bell came to grief in 1860, when it was cracked by being thrown out of its bearings by a would-be ringer. It was recast by Messrs. Taylor and Co., but according to general opinion, it is much inferior in tone to the old bell; in fact, it is too sharp and shrill, and does not harmonize with the other bells. This "black sheep" should be again recast when the peal is restored. The late Mr. W. Henson, of Finedon (who knew these bells well), used to say that the old third bell was exceedingly musical, and bore the following inscription: "Richard Sanders of Bromsgrove made us all." It is to be hoped that the old reputation of the town for ringers and ringing may be revived. Several peal tablets in the belfry testify to what has been done in the past. It is gratifying to know that Mr. Taylor, of Loughborough, has been called in to report on the state of the bells and belfry, and advises a complete restoration on an improved plan, with iron frames on the modern principle. At present, what with decayed frames, rotten headstocks, warped wheels, and thick coarse local-made ropes, it would puzzle even a "College Youth" to stand to his bell for a three hours' peal in Kettering belfry. Much credit is due to the local ringers for sticking to their work so well, for they are even now training new hands, despite such discouraging circumstances. It is to be hoped the authorities will also do their share, and put belfry, bells, and fittings, into good order. Below are the inscriptions on the bells, and diameter of mouth of each, as given by Mr. North in "Church Bells of Northamptonshire."

Treble.—"Peace and good neighbourhood, 1714. R.S." [Arms of the See of Peterborough.] Diameter 30 inches.

Second.—"At the sound of my voice lett the people reioyce. R.S. 1714." Diameter 31 inches.

Third.—"J. Taylor and Co Loughborough late of Oxford Bell Founders A.D. 1860." Diameter 34 inches.

Fourth.—"Bryan Hvll Gent 1714 T. Eayre Horo." Diameter 35 inches.

Fifth.—"Non Vox Sed Votvm Non Mvsica Cordvla Sed Cor 1630." Diameter 38 inches. Incised on bell: 1761.

Sixth.—"Thomas Eayre of Kettering Founder Anno Domini 1732. Omnia Fiant Ad Gloriam Dei." Diameter 40½ inches. Five coins on the bell.

Seventh.—"IHS. Nazarenus Rex Ivdeorum Miserere Mei Gloria Patri Filio Et Spiritui Sancto Tho. Eayre Fecit Anno Dom 1722." Diameter 45 inches.

Tenor.—"This bell recast by voluntary subscriptions, 1832. Willm. Cook and John Robinson, C Wardens. Glory be to God on high. W. and J. Taylor, Founders, Oxford and Bideford Devon." Diameter 52 inches.

THE PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES ON HANDBELLS.

As it is not an everyday occurrence to see touches or peals in the above method rung double-handed on handbells, it may be interesting to some of the readers of "THE BELL NEWS," especially those who are fond of change-ringing upon handbells, retained in hand, to know of the progress of this peal from the first practice. It was at the anniversary dinner of Mr. Johnson, sen., on February 28th, that the members who took part in the

peal decided to meet to practice for a peal of Stedman Cinques. The following week found the six members of the Holt Society at their meeting-house, the "Ring of Bells," Aston, having a good try to ring three courses on the back bells, but without success, getting within a few sixes from home. The next meeting was at the house of Mr. T. Russam, on Thursday, March 8th, and was more successful, four courses being attempted, but still without bringing the bells home; another attempt however the same evening resulted in bringing round the first touch of 790. The next meeting was arranged for March 11th, when they surpassed themselves by completing 1047 in fair style considering the short time since they started. The following Thursday found them at it again, when they rang the same 1047, which was well struck. A few days later they attempted a longer touch, which was well rung, and brought round in 1 hr. 1 min., namely, 1575 changes. Having been so fortunate, they decided to start for the peal on the following Thursday at the house of Mr. H. Johnson, 63 Vicarage Road, Aston, when to the surprise of some of them on arriving there they found that A. P. Heywood, Esq. had made a purpose journey from home to listen to them, remarking that he could not resist the temptation, because it was only about twice in a century that any one had the chance to listen to touches on peals of Stedman Cinques rung upon handbells. A start was made at 7:30 p.m. for the peal, and when in the third course the ringing not being satisfactory, they stopped and made another start, this time with more success, for they sailed on course after course till they began to think their efforts would be crowned with success, but it was not to be so, for after ringing so far as thirty-two courses out of thirty-eight, or 4214 changes in 2 hrs. 43 mins., the whole thing came to grief when least expected. They were much disappointed after ringing so near to the finish, but were pleased to learn that Mr. Heywood stayed in the next room long enough to hear twenty-three courses before leaving to catch the train home, and expressed himself highly pleased with what he heard. The next attempt was unavoidably postponed till Saturday, March 31st, when a meeting was arranged at the house of Mr. H. Johnson, jun., 102 Queen's Road, Aston. A start was made at 6.45., when they managed to ring 2200 in 1 hr. 10 mins. Nothing daunted they made another start at 8.5., which also resulted in failure after ringing 1400 changes in 58 mins., so that they had to console themselves with the fact that they had a couple of good practices. Wednesday evening was selected for the next meeting at the house of Mr. H. Johnson, jun., when "go" was called so late as 8.15., and very little else was said except the calls from the conductor, till the well come words—"this is all"—brought a well-struck peal to a successful termination in 3 hrs. 12 mins. As this is only the third peal of Stedman Cinques on record in hand, it may be of interest to know the performers who took part in the previous ones. The first was rung by the St. James Society, on February 10th, 1854, by H. W. Haley, 1-2; J. Cox, 3-4; G. E. Ferris, 5-6; M. A. Wood, 7-8; W. Cooter, 9-10; J. Dwight, 11-12. Time, 3 hrs. 28 mins.; number of changes, 5014. The second was by the College Youths on January 2nd, 1858. H. W. Haley, 1-2; W. Cooter, 3-4; M. A. Wood, 5-6; G. E. Ferris, 7-8; W. Green, 9-10; J. Dwight, 11-12. Time 3 hrs. 25 mins.; number of changes 5016. Both peals were composed and conducted by H. W. Haley. It may be worthy of notice that three of the Holt Society who took part in the Cinques, also took part in the first peal rung in Birmingham or the Midland Counties (viz.: Grand sire Triples) on July 30th, 1873—namely, Messrs. Bastable, Kent and Johnson.

A MUFFLED PEAL AT A WEDDING.—One of the principal inhabitants of a village in the West of England was recently married to a lady residing in the next county. He had given orders that the church bells should be rung to welcome his bride and himself on their return home two days after the ceremony, and the ringers assembled in the belfry at the appointed hour; but just as they were about to begin, a messenger arrived in haste to stop the peal, because the bride, being an austere person of High Church principles, objected to the ringing of bells during Lent, although, apparently, she had no objection to going through the ceremony of marriage during that solemn season. The ringers, disgusted at being brought to the church for nothing, and keenly appreciating the fact there would now be no gratuity, proceeded to ring a muffled peal, which they thought would be in precise accordance with the wishes of the pious bride.—*Kent Messenger*.

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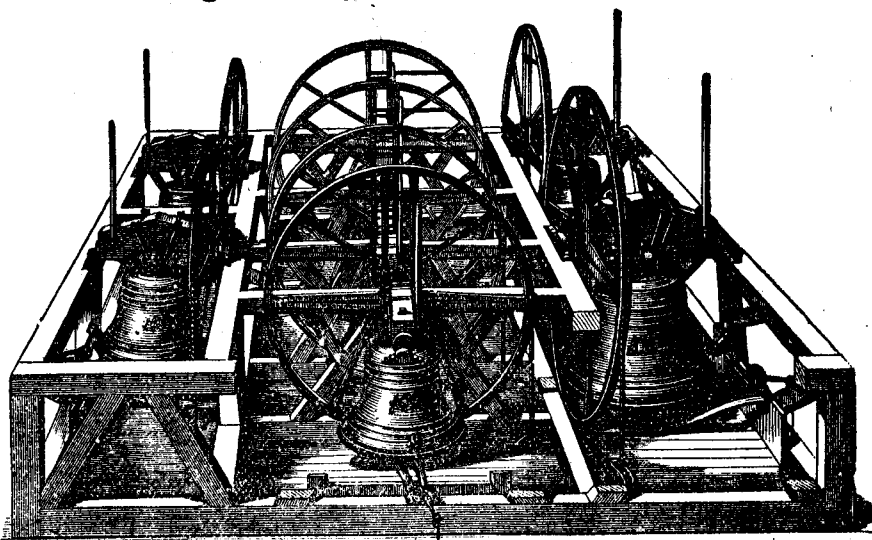
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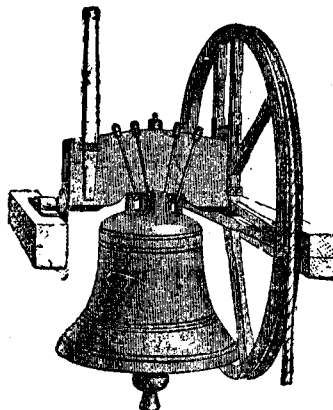
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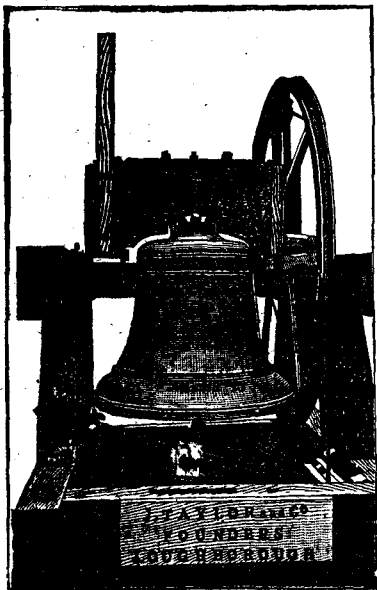
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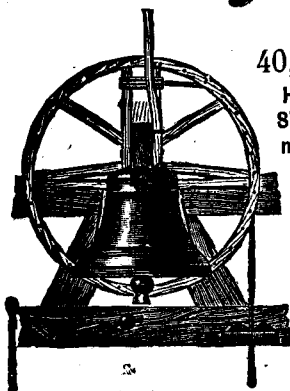
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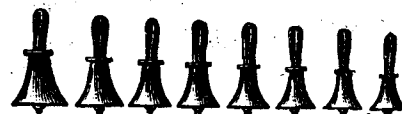
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THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Sixth Annual Dinner and General Business Meeting of the Association took place at the Clarence Hotel, Bedford, on Easter Monday, and was attended by a much larger number of members than usual, more than fifty being present to partake of the sumptuous repast provided by Host Sadler. The Mayor presided, and the vice-chair was occupied by Mr. T. G. E. Elger, among those present being Ald. Hurst, Canon Brereton, Mr. T. Bull, Rev. L. Woodard, Rev. A. C. Downer, Rev. J. Copner, Rev. W. W. C. Baker (Milton Bryant), Rev. E. T. Bird, Councillor Ransom, Mr. C. R. Howard, jun. (Biddenham), Mr. F. A. Chasty, Mr. J. W. Taylor (Loughborough), Mr. W. Chibnall (Apsley Guise), Mr. I. Hills, Mr. J. N. Frossell, Mr. Cullip, Mr. C. W. Clarke (Bedford), Mr. J. Hare (Hitchin), Mr. W. Biggs (Bromham), Mr. W. H. L. Buckingham and Mr. G. W. Cartmel (St. Albans), Mr. Freeman, Mr. Mynard, Mr. C. Booth, Mr. T. Wright (Emberton), Messrs. A. Morrison, W. Turney, W. Starr, F. Tompkins, M. Matthews, E. Keech, A. Tyers and W. Smith, of Woburn, Mr. J. Dickens (Sharnbrook), and Mr. C. Herbert (Woburn), Hon. Secretary.

The Rev. W. W. C. Baker was enthusiastically received on entering the room.

The tables having been cleared, business was proceeded with, letters of regret for non-attendance being read from Archdeacon Bathurst, Rev. E. W. Bowling (Houghton Conquest), Rev. W. S. Baker (Eversholt), and Rev. E. J. Hillier (Cardington).

The Treasurer (Mr. Elger) submitted his statement of accounts for the past year. The balance from the previous year had been £17 6s. 2d.; the subscriptions of hon. members were £2 15s., and of performing members £4 16s.; the total income being £25 3s. 10d. The expenditure had been £7 4s. 9d., and this left a balance in hand of £17 19s. 1d. Mr. Elger thought the members would consider this very satisfactory. They had spent rather more money than last year, but still they were in a very enviable financial position, having a larger balance than societies of that kind generally had. Although they had got some money they must not spend it recklessly, but utilise it in future in the best manner they could for the good of the Association.

Rev. J. COPNER proposed the adoption of the report and the financial statement being glad to know they were so extremely favourable; and credit was due to Mr. Elger for having managed the treasurership so ably, and to Mr. Herbert for what he had done for the Association from the first. Everything proved that the Association was promising well, and he hoped it would be taken up more warmly in the town of Bedford. He was glad to see Mr. Downer and Mr. Woodard present, and also the old familiar face of Canon Brereton, which showed they took an interest in the Association. Mr. Willan (Vicar of Holy Trinity) was unable to come. He was Vicar of the Mayor's parish, but his church had only one miserable bell, and he thought the Mayor might touch him up so that they would get a peal of bells for Trinity church. In his own parish of Elstow they were going on in a progressive way, and he hoped the church tower would soon be restored and an addition made to the bells. They had now a peal of five bells, but they hoped to have eight before long. They meant to have one more at least, and then they would be able to ring a few more changes than they could at present. He hoped he should soon be able to invite some members of the Association to Elstow to ring them some good peals.

Rev. A. C. DOWNER seconded the adoption of the report. Although he was not privileged to have a peal of bells, yet he was not unacquainted with bell-ringing, his former church at Ilkley having a peal of eight bells, which was rung very ably for two hours every Sunday. The ringers were all voluntary, and received some instruction from the late Jasper Snowden, and he thought the Committee could not do better than obtain some of his works. At St. Cuthbert's there was only one bell, the central tower not being strong enough to bear much weight, but he hoped some day to see a peal there, and nothing would give him greater pleasure than to see a tablet in the belfry recording the ringing of so many peals and changes by members of the Association.

The Mayor made a few remarks on the subject of bell-ringing,

tracing its introduction back to the early ages. He suggested that the clergy should look forward to increasing the number of bells in their churches, and that they should sometimes point out to their congregations the use of bells and encourage them to ring them. He had only found out the meaning of Bob Major that day, and he trusted that some day they would be able to ring peals of Bob Major at every church in Bedford. There was a real art in bell-ringing, and he trusted the Association would develop that art, they having his sympathy and best wishes for their future success.

All the officers were re-elected. Mr. C. Herbert, who has been Hon. Sec. from the establishment of the Association in 1882, owing to other onerous duties and the failing health of all the members of his household, begged to be excused from again taking the office of secretary, notwithstanding he would never lose his interest in the work. It was, however, the desire of the members that he should continue the Secretaryship, upon which Mr. Herbert asked that some assistance be given him, whereupon the Rev. W. W. C. Baker, who expressed his willingness to serve, was chosen co-secretary.

Mr. HERBERT stated that this appointment was highly satisfactory, Mr. Baker commanding the love and respect of every individual member of the Association. Mr. Baker was a gentleman with whom any one could work well—he had in fact rendered a willing part already.

The Rev. W. W. C. BAKER, in accepting the post, took the opportunity of personally thanking the members for the present given to him on the occasion of his marriage a short time since.

About twenty new members were elected, some coming from St. Albans and Hitchin. The Mayor was elected an hon. member and was added to the committee. The district meetings were fixed for the last Saturdays in June, September, and December—the first meeting to be held at Woburn. It was resolved that £1 be expended in the purchase of two or three standard works on the art of ringing for circulation among the members, and the Rev. W. W. C. Baker and Messrs. W. Clarke and I. Hills were appointed a Committee to examine and purchase suitable books.

A vote of thanks to the Mayor—proposed by Alderman Hurst who related several anecdotes in connection with bell-ringing, seconded by Mr. ELGER—closed the proceedings.

At repeated intervals during the day, touches were rung upon the bells of St. Paul's church, as well as on those of St. Mary's church. At 5 o'clock a special service with address was held at St. Paul's church and was well attended. The church was exquisitely decorated, and the service particularly bright and hearty.

ST. EDMUND'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

ON Easter Monday, nine members of the above society started from Exeter by the nine o'clock train to visit Torquay, having previously obtained permission from the rector of Babbacombe church to ring.

On their arrival at Newton station they accidentally met Mr. Batchelor, of Plymouth, who upon being invited, accompanied them to Torquay. Arriving there, the morning was spent in sight-seeing, several places of interest being visited, including Daddy Hole Plain, from which part a splendid sea-view was obtained with the aid of a pair of marine glasses. After this they made their way to Babbacombe beach, and inspected "The Glen," the scene of a recent murder. Having looked over the interior of the house, a move was made for the tower, where they found everything in readiness, but were informed the bells had not been rung for fourteen months, but in spite of this the bells go very well, and some good ringing was done, including 1050 Grandsire Triples. T. Townsend, 1; S. Herbert, 2; H. Swift, 3; E. Pitt (conductor), 4; W. Marsh, 5; W. Richardson, 6; F. Batchelor, 7; S. Meadows, 8. After which some short touches in which Messrs. Goss and Webber took part. The party was sorry they were not able to ring at Marychurch, but they were prevented from doing so on account of illness near the church. Torquay was left behind soon after seven o'clock, everyone being pleased with their day's enjoyment.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, (by post Fourpence).—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO., Printers, Exeter.

VISIT OF THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD TO WELLS, SOMERSET.

A few weeks ago an account appeared in our journal of the dedication service at St Cuthbert's, Wells, of three new bells. The peal was originally six; of which the 5th was badly cracked, the 4th and tenor (28 cwt. in Db) grand bells by Bilbie, of Chewstoke, cast about 1780, and the treble and 3rd early 17th century bells, elaborately ornamented, but without any founder's name on them. On the treble is the curious inscription—

"When I was made then people freely gave."

Owing to the energy of the Wells Amateur Ringing Society, and the liberality of various citizens, three new bells have been supplied by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, i.e. two new trebles, the gift of the ringers, and the old 5th recast into the new 7th. The old frame was quite decayed, and has been replaced by a sound and massive substructure of oak, the bells themselves being hung in iron frames. The whole of the work has, we believe, cost about £600.

Everything was completed before Easter Day, when the local company opened the peal at six o'clock a.m., and rang at intervals during the day.

On Easter Monday, eight members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild travelled down from Oxford at the invitation of the Wells society, arriving from Yatton about 2.15 p.m.. The long journey had been enlivened by touches on the handbells, including a non-conducted 504 of Grandsire Triples. The party was met at the station by the Rev. J. Beresford, vicar of St. Cuthbert's, J. N. Knight, E. W. L. Collins, master and secretary of the Wells Society respectively, and others. After lunching and listening to the new peal ringing a welcome to them, they proceeded to the tower, considered by most the finest of the famous Somerset towers. The bells and new frame were examined, and two courses of Stedman Triples rung with about thirty spectators in the ringing-room, nearly all of whom were totally ignorant of the science, though we hope that state of things is not going to last much longer at Wells. At 3.40 a start was made in earnest, and Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples successfully brought round at 6.40 (see last week's "BELL NEWS.")

The next move was to the "Mitre Hotel," where the visitors were invited by the Wells society to their annual dinner. The chair was taken at 7.15 by the Rev. J. Beresford, president, supported by the Very Rev. Dr. Plumptre, Dean of Wells Cathedral, Canon Church, Rev. Prebendary Gibson, Rev. F. E. Robinson, Mr. Holloway, Rev. A. Coode, etc., the company numbering about 70, all told.

After an excellent repast the cloth was removed; and the loyal and patriotic toasts duly honoured, Canon Church proposed "The Wells Society." The Rev. J. Beresford and Mr. Knight responded, and Mr. Collins gave a short resumé of the work connected with the restoration of St. Cuthbert's bells, now successfully accomplished.

The Dean of Wells in an eloquent humorous speech, then proposed "The Visitors from Oxford." He said he liked the word "Guild" for a society of ringers: it had an honest English ring about it, and pointed to the religious side of a ringer's life. He expressed himself greatly surprised at the large number of ringers in the Oxford Guild (nearly a thousand), and was sure that such a society of church-workers must do an immense amount of good, and hoped that soon a Guild would be formed for their own diocese of Bath and Wells. He said that he himself had been prevented from taking up the science by reading in an article that "much patient labour for many years was necessary for its attainment," and he thought that at his period of life he could not spare time for such a stupendous task. He heartily welcomed the Oxford men to Wells.

The Rev. F. E. ROBINSON responded, and gave a short account of his Guild and its work. He laid great stress upon the fact that ringers were churchworkers in the truest sense; they ought to try to do their work in the best possible manner, since it was work for God. Change-ringing was a science which refined, disciplined and educated those who practised it, and, as he looked round on that goodly assembly of young ringers, he hoped the day was not far distant when they would one and

all have mastered the intricacies of that art he loved so well. Above all let them remember that the bells were sacred instruments to be used to God's glory. He thanked the Wells Society most heartily on behalf of himself and his brother-Guildsmen for the kind way in which they had been welcomed and entertained.

Five of the Oxford men then rang a course of Grandsire Caters on their handbells. Songs and other toasts followed, a course of Grandsire Cinques was rung, and Mr. Hounslow whistled a polka, with variations, in his well-known masterly style, which fairly brought down the house. Soon after the company separated after a most enjoyable and instructive evening.

On Tuesday morning the Oxford men met at 7.0 a.m. at the south-western tower of the Cathedral, in order to try and ring a touch on the heaviest peal of eight in England. It ordinarily takes eleven men to ring this peal in rounds; the tenor weighs 57½ cwt., and goes shockingly, and all the framework is weak and out of order. A well-known conductor proceeded to gather together the three "tail-ropes" of the mighty tenor, and pull he off, when, to the amusement of all present he was unable to set he again, and confessed himself beaten for once. However, with three men at her, a fairly respectable 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung by J. F. Hastings, 1; J. Field, 2; T. Short, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; J. Payne, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; W. Finch, J. N. Knight, and Rev. A. Coode, 8. This was followed by a good course of Stedman after which all seemed satisfied, and the bells were lowered. This is the first successful change-ringing on the bells, which at a grand octave in B natural, and only want a thorough overhauling to be pealable. After breakfast and a ramble round the Bishop's Palace (where "the whistler" nearly dropped his "brown paper Gladstone bag" into the moat) the party started for Glastonbury, 10 minutes by rail, where, on the musical peal of eight at St. John's—another grand Somersetshire tower—the rang Brook's Variation of Stedman Triples, in 2 hrs. 53 min. (see last week's "BELL NEWS.") They then rambled about the historic town of Glastonbury, which was originally an island, and said to be the first spot in this country to receive Christianity. The Romanists have endeavoured to fix upon St. Peter the planting of the Gospel here, and as St. Paul is said by some of the early fathers to have preached "to the utmost bounds of the west," there are some of the old divines who have attributed to him that good work; Simon Zelotes, one of the twelve apostles, and Aristobulus, brother of St. Barnabas, whom St. Paul speaks in his epistle to the Romans, have also both been mentioned as having undertaken the conversion of the Britons, yet the most current opinion is in favour of Joseph of Arimathea, who after the dispersion of the converted Jews at Jerusalem, is said to have accompanied Philip the Apostle in France, and by him to have been sent into Britain with other companions to form the Church of Christ. On their arrival they proceeded to the west, where, in the isle of Avalon (sometimes called "Inis wittrim," now Glastonbury) in Somersetshire King Arviragus gave them a piece of land. There, according to Bishop Godwin, Sir Henry Spelman, and Archbishop Ushe, Joseph of Arimathea with his companions in A.D. 61, built the first Christian Church, a small edifice, made of wooden rods interwoven or wattled. In or near this primitive church tradition informs us that Joseph of Arimathea, its founder, was buried, and the following is said to be his epitaph:—

AD BRITONES VENI, POST QUAM CHRISTUM SEPETIV
DOCUI—REQUIEVI.

"I came to the Britons after I buried Christ—
I taught—I entered into my rest."

St. Joseph's chapel is still shewn, a handsome Norman structure supposed to cover the exact site of the "vetusta ecclesia" ancient church. It is now in ruins.

The 4 o'clock train from Glastonbury saw the visitors start on their return journey, after a most pleasant visit to Somersetshire, and one which we sincerely hope may bear good fruit, as a result in the science finding its way into these lovely Somersetshire towers. They wish to thank most sincerely, for the hospitality and kindness, the clergymen at whose churches they rang, the Dean of Wells for his kindness in giving them the opportunity of ringing the cathedral bells, Mr. Knight, the Rev. A. Coode, Mr. Collins, and all the Wells ringers, and Mr. Knight and the ringers of Glastonbury.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this society was held at Crayford on Monday, April 16th, and was attended by members from Woolwich, Gravesend, Swanscombe, and other places. At the Committee Meeting several new members were enrolled. The Annual General Meeting was fixed to be held at Ashford in June. The Secretary desires to take this opportunity of impressing on those who wish the peals they have rung to be entered in the Association Book, that it is necessary they should be sent to him for that purpose, together with the fee of threepence per ringer. He cannot take the reports of peals from the newspapers; they must be vouched for by some responsible person, and it is probable that a rule will soon be made, excluding entirely peals not sent within a reasonable time of their performance. At present, very few peals are sent for entry, compared with the number that are rung, and if this continues, the peal book will be a very unsatisfactory record.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AT WHICKHAM, DURHAM.

On Monday, April 16th, six members from Newcastle visited the above picturesque village and rang two 720's of Bob Minor. R. J. Robson, 1; H. Ferguson, 2; F. Lees, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; W. G. Routledge, 5; W. Story (conductor), 6. Second 720 with twenty-six singles. W. Story, 4; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 6. Tenor 9½ cwt. in Bb. These are the first 720's on the bells which have recently been increased from three to six. The ringers were most kindly received by A. D. Carr, Esq., churchwarden, and also kindly refreshed by him after ringing. A pleasant hour was spent in handbell-ringing, &c., and after offering hearty thanks to the worthy churchwarden for his genial welcome, the party walked home, relieving the monotony of the way by singing popular airs, &c., in chorus, and arriving home about 11.30 p.m., thoroughly satisfied with the evening's outing.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, LEEDS, YORKS.

The members of this society and a few friends accepted the invitation of Mr. M. Brown to dinner on Friday evening, April 13th, to commemorate the re-opening of the Leeds parish church bells. After dinner the usual loyal toasts were duly honoured.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Tom Lockwood), proposed "The Health of the Vicar and Churchwardens," and in doing so alluded to the good feeling that existed between them and the ringers, and also took the opportunity of expressing the thanks of the ringers for the kind manner in which they have responded to the requirements of the belfry in so generously getting the bells repaired, supplying a new set of ropes, and having the belfry thoroughly cleaned and comfortably fitted up.

Mr. H. W. NEEDHAM proposed "The Success of the Yorkshire Association," which was suitably responded to by Mr. W. Snowdon, who said he was always pleased to be amongst Leeds ringers, whom he regarded as old friends, and also alluding to the close intimacy that always existed between them and his brother, the late Jasper W. Snowdon.

Mr. R. BINNS gave the toast of "The Visitors," and Mr. J. WHITAKER replied.

Mr. Tom Lockwood proposed "The Health of the Host and Hostess," which was received with musical honours.

Mr. Brown responded on behalf of himself and Mrs. Brown, and expressed the pleasure it gave him to entertain them.

The musical portion of the evening was made up of songs by several members, and tunes and courses on the handbells.

On Sunday week, at St. Mary's, Summerstown, Tooting, in place of the evening sermon, the Vicar requested Mr. Griffith, F.C.O., of Chislehurst, to read a paper (with musical illustrations by choir and congregation), on "Reform in Church Music." The Lecturer, in surplice and cassock, delivered his address from the reading-desk.

On Friday the Liverpool Cathedral Committee decided to abandon the project, the promised subscriptions not being sufficient to justify proceeding further with it.

THE LONG PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS AT APPLETON.

As was seen by "THE BELL NEWS" of Saturday last, the above peal was successfully rung as announced in "THE BELL NEWS." "Go" was called at precisely 7.45, and "that's all" at 3.50, thus 8 hrs. 5 mins. was occupied in ringing the peal. The striking was simply perfection from beginning to end, and not a word except "bob" spoken for hours at a stretch. This peal, which is the longest of any sort on ten bells, eclipses the long 12,000 rung at Painswick in which Mr. Giles Mansfield took part; this is the third longest peal accomplished by the Appleton Society during the last three months, viz., 10,080 of Double Norwich on January 28th; 12,041 of Stedman Caters on March 5th, and 13,265 of Grandsire Caters on April 11th. And we sincerely hope some energetic band will carry these methods to a still higher number, and strike them as well as the peals rang by the Appleton Society.

THE PEAL.

13265.

2 3 4 5 6

3 2 4 5 6 7th in and out at 2 with D.
2 4 3 5 6 9 8 7
6 5 4 2 3 7th in and out.
2 5 4 6 3 7th in and out at 2 with D.

5 6 3 2 4 8th in and out and 7 8 s.
3 6 4 2 5 8 9
4 6 5 2 3 8 9
6 5 4 2 3 7 8

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

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

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

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

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

The last twenty-four courses four times repeated produce 42563. Round as usual. The above peal is reducible to any number.

First rang at Appleton on April 11th, conducted by its composer,
J. W. WASHBROOK.

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."

STAFFORDSHIRE RINGING MATTERS.

SIR,—I noticed in your valuable paper last week some correspondence under the above heading. If those in the proper position with the Stoke Association will communicate with the Secretaries of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, stating what it is that is required, every attention will be given to the matter.

Perry Barr Vicarage, Birmingham.
10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

REV. J. R. KEBLE, Hon. Secs,
SAMUEL REEVES,

DEVONPORT, DEVONSHIRE.

A Meeting was held at Devonport Dockyard Belfry on Wednesday, April 4th, for the purpose of forming a society in connection with the Devonshire Guild. The secretary of the Guild (the Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote), and Mr. W. Banister, met the band at 7.30 p.m. Several touches of Grandsire Triples were then rung by E. Cross, 1; Hon. Rev. J. S. Northcote, 2; W. Marsh, 3; A. Richards, 4; W. Smith, 5; W. Pyne, 6; J. Steed, 7; W. Cordy, 8. Messrs. P. Manning and W. Allsford also took part in the ringing, Mr. Banister standing out and conducting. An adjournment was then made to the Public Hall, and the Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote being voted to the chair. Mr. Marsh stated that the object of the meeting was to form themselves into a society (with rules, etc.), for the practice and furtherance of scientific change-ringing, and also to connect themselves to the Devonshire Guild.

The CHAIRMAN in a very encouraging address said it would give him a great deal of pleasure to have a dockyard band in connection with the Guild. Referring to the opposition to change-ringing in these parts, he urged them still to persevere, and that after getting in the thin end of the wedge, it wanted to be driven home, and if it should split while driving, take it out and put in another one. He then pointed out how the work of the Guild might be advanced in outlying parishes, and if they wanted an example, let them all work as Mr. Banister had done in his day. He begged them not to stop at Grandsire, but to go on to Stedman and other methods. As it was now getting late it was proposed and carried that the business part of the meeting be adjourned to Saturday, April 7th. Mr. Banister's handbell ringers then performed in a masterly manner several selections on their splendid set of bells. A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought a pleasant evening to a close.

At the adjourned meeting on Saturday, April 7th, (Mr. Banister in the chair), rules for working of the society were drawn up and finally agreed to. Mr. Banister wished them every success, and kindly consented to be their President. He also placed the unlimited use of his magnificent handbells at their disposal. The society will meet to practice Grandsire Triples every Saturday at the Dockyard at 6 p.m., and will be pleased to receive a visit from any brother-string.

ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING of the above Society was held in the belfry of St. Sidwell's church on Tuesday, April 10th, the rector, the Rev. S. W. E. Bird, presiding, and there were also present the Rev. — Branscombe, Messrs. F. Davey, J. Lake, W. Stocker, J. Shepherd, E. Shepherd, J. Moss, E. Carter, S. Binfield, J. Bastin, B. Mundy. The usual election of officers, etc., having been gone through, the Secretary (Mr. B. Mundy), presented the report of the doings of the society for the past year, which showed that the society was still in a flourishing condition. The year just closed has been the most successful during the society's existence, although only three peals of 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples have been rung. It has not been for the lack of attempting more, the members having been very unfortunate. There has been several attempts for a peal of Stedman, which have been unsuccessful. There has been two quarter-peals rung in this method, and a touch of 1512, nineteen quarter-peals and touches over 1000 in Grandsire Triples. Four members of this society have succeeded in ringing their first peal during the year, and hope that before another year is closed, that it will still be more successful.

Mr. FERRIS SHEPHERD then presented the rector with a handsome framed and mounted photograph of the members of the society, as a mark of respect from all the members, he having taken a very deep interest in the welfare of the society.

The rev. gentleman on receiving it heartily thanked the members for their kindness in giving him so handsome a present. It was quite a surprise to him, and he was sure that he should always look upon it with a very great deal of pride, and if it was in his power to do any good for the society, he should be most happy to do it. He also thanked them on behalf of his wife, who had also the society and the bells at heart, and hoped that they would be spared for many years to "Ring out the false, ring in the true."

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1888.

	Jan. & Feb.	Mar.	Total.
Sussex County Association ...	13	10	23.
Ancient Society of College Youths ...	15	5	20.
Oxford Diocesan Guild ...	5	8	13.
Lancashire Association ...	9	3	12.
Midland Counties' Association ...	7	4	11.
Norwich Diocesan Association ...	8	1	9.
St. James Society, London ...	7	2	9.
Yorkshire Association ...	7	1	8.
Essex Association ...	4	3	7.
Gloucester and Bristol Association ...	3	4	7.
Surrey Association ...	4	3	7.
Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford ...	4	1	5.
Salisbury Diocesan Guild ...	4	1	5.
United Counties' Association... ..	2	3	5.
Hertford College Youths ...	4	0	4.
Worcester and Adjoining Districts ...	3	1	4.
Winchester Diocesan Guild ...	2	2	4.
The Holt Society ...	2	1	3.
Society of Royal Cumberland Youths ...	1	2	3.
Liverpool Youths' Society ...	1	2	3.
Hertford Association ...	2	0	2.
Kent County Association ...	1	1	2.
St. Martin's Society, Birmingham ...	1	0	1.
Waterloo Society, London ...	1	0	1.
Birmingham Amalgamated ...	1	0	1.
Eastern Counties' Association ...	1	0	1.
Stoke-upon-Trent Association ...	1	0	1.
All Hallows' Society, Tottenham ...	0	1	1.
Independent Societies ...	18	5	23.
	131	64	195
Less peals entered under two Associations	7	4	11
Total	124	60	184

The above peals were rung in the following methods; New Cumberland Surprise Major, 1; Cambridge Surprise Major, 1; Superlative Surprise Major, 4; Double Oxford Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 5; Stedman Caters, 8; Stedman Triples, 15; Duffield Royal, 1; Treble Bob Royal, 3; Treble Bob Major, 23; Prince Albert Major, 1; Grandsire Caters, 10; Grandsire Major, 1; Grandsire Triples, 70; Grandsire Doubles (5040), 5; Court Bob Triples, 2; Oxford Bob Triples, 5; Union Triples, 2; Bob Maximus, 1; Bob Royal, 1; Bob Major, 6; Bob Triples, 6; in seven Minor methods on six bells, 8; in one ditto, 1; in fourteen methods upon five bells, 2; in six ditto, 1; Total 184. Greatest number of changes in any one of the above peals, 12,041; quickest 5000 upon church bells, 2 hrs. 29 mins., rung at Capel in Surrey. The above-mentioned twenty-three peals by Independent Societies were rung in the following counties; Lancashire 9; Staffordshire, 2; Gloucestershire, 2; Suffolk, 2; also Devonshire, Northamptonshire, Middlesex, Cheshire, Yorkshire, Huntingdonshire, Warwickshire, Bedfordshire, one each.

	1887	1888
Number of peals rung in January	50	52
" " February	76	72
" " March	65	60

Brighton.

GEO. F. ATTREE.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A new peal of six bells by Messrs. Taylor will probably be opened on or about Wednesday, April 25th, to which the members of this Association are invited. Further particulars will be given next week.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Harborne, on Saturday, April 21st. By kind permission, the tower will be open for ringing at 4 o'clock, meeting to take place afterwards, when all members and friends are invited to attend.

J. CARTER.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5003.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool*.

2 3 4 5 6

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

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

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

These twenty-four courses repeated except
 1st course call 8th with three, brings up

4 2 5 6 3

then call the 9th in and out at two.

This peal has the 5th and 6th each twenty-
 four courses behind the 9th.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE
MAJOR.

6048.

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

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

This peal has the 4th, 5th and 6th their full
 extent in 5-6 in twenty-seven courses. This
 peal can be reduced to 5152 by omitting the
 bobs at home when the 5th is in 6th's place, i
 will then contain the 4th and 6th their full
 extent in 5-6.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

14,007.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

2 3 1 4 5 6 5 16

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

The above eleven courses twice repeated
 except first, instead call 4 16, produces:-

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

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

These last eleven courses repeated, produce:

2 1 5 3 6 4
 then the whole repeated except the first course
 of all, instead call 2, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, and
 last course of all instead of calling 5, 16, call
 2, 5, 9, 16, round at two sixes and one change.

* Produced by bobs at 4, 9, 11, 13, 14.

Contains 130 courses with the 4th, 5th and
 6th each forty-three courses behind the 9th,
 and the 2nd and third never there. The first
 half is in the 9-8-7 position.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By S. MARSH, *West Bromwich*.

5000.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

6000.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

Repeated.

These peals have the 5th and 6th their
 extent in 6th's place, the 2nd or 3rd never
 being in that position at a course-end,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

5007.

By H. JOHNSON, SEN., *Birmingham*.

2 3 1 4 5 6 6 19

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

† 4 1 5 2 6 3
 4 1 3 5 6 2 -
 4 1 2 3 6 5 - -
 2 1 4 5 6 3 - -
 2 1 3 4 6 5 - -
 3 1 2 5 6 4 - -
 3 1 4 2 6 5 - -
 3 1 5 4 6 2 - -
 5 1 3 2 6 4 - -
 5 1 3 4 6 2 S -
 5 1 2 3 6 4 - -
 5 1 4 2 6 3 - -
 4 1 5 3 6 2 - -
 4 1 2 5 6 3 - -
 4 1 3 2 6 5 - -
 3 1 4 5 6 2 - -
 3 1 2 4 6 5 - -
 2 1 3 5 6 4 - -
 2 1 4 3 6 5 - -

1 2 3 4 5 6

* Produced by bobs at 1, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13,
 15, 16, 17.

† Produced by bobs at 2, 5, 6, 13, 14, 15, 19.

Rung at Birmingham, on handbells, on
 April 4th, 1888; conducted by H. Bastable,
 and is the first peal rung on this plan.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By S. MARSH, *West Bromwich*.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

3 6 4 5 2 2 - 1 2
 2 3 5 6 4 - 2 2
 4 3 2 6 5 - 1
 4 5 2 3 6 4th & in. 2
 3 4 2 5 6 1 - 2

Twice repeated.

This peal has the 6th the extent wrong and
 right, with all the 8-6's, and the 5th her extent
 right.

SUNDAY CLOSING IN IRELAND.—The select
 Committee of the House of Commons appoin-
 ted to consider the working of this Act, met on
 Monday, April 8th, to take evidence, Solicitor-
 General Madden presiding. The members
 of the committee present were Messrs. T. W.
 Russell, Biggar, P. McDonald, Fry, &c. Mr.
 Reid, Inspector-General of the Royal Irish
 Constabulary, was examined at some length.

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

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1888.

A MEETING has recently been held at Devonport of a character which it would be better if more frequently repeated. The Secretary of the County Guild, in conjunction with Mr. WILLIAM BANISTER, has ventured to lead an attack upon a part of the county where "opposition to change-ringing" was rife. The Hon. and Rev. J. S. NORTHCOTE addressed the local band, a body hitherto it appears devoid of any organisation—and urged them to affiliate themselves to the Devonshire Guild. The result is that at an adjourned meeting satisfactory and gratifying measures having these objects in view were agreed to, and the Devonport branch of the County Guild is now an accomplished fact.

It has not publicly transpired what actual reasons existed which led the two gentlemen above-named to make a crusade against the opponents of change-ringing, but they may very well be imagined. To such a veteran in the art as our old and esteemed friend Mr. BANISTER, it must have long been disappointing that a good society did not flourish in Devonport, a society which would have reflected the triumphs which the Woolwich company scored many years ago. May they go on and prosper, and in the words of Mr. NORTHCOTE, "all work as Mr. BANISTER has worked in his day."

In this visit to Devonport by the ruling spirit of the Devonshire Guild a splendid illustration is afforded of the good work that may be effected by one in his position with a little trouble. We commend the example to other Secretaries of ringing Guilds and Associations. Working up and enquiring into those benighted districts where change-ringing is unknown or tabooed forms the best part of those legitimate objects which associations and guilds should ever have in view. When such visits are accompanied by the ringing of a peal, or short touches, all the better no doubt, especially when such performances are a great novelty to the inhabitants, as was the case at Wells recently, from which city we also hope to hear of

good effect from the proceedings of the Master of the Oxford Guild and his companions.

We would remind our readers that the proposed Ringers' Directory is far from complete in consequence of the non-receipt of a great deal of the required information. There is very little trouble and very little expense indeed in affixing one's name to a post-card and despatching it to the office of this paper. The reason for the many non-responses to our invitation do not, we believe, arise from pecuniary considerations, but solely from neglect. The value of a list of ringers' names and addresses is made apparent to us every week, within the past few days no less than eight applications having been made for the whereabouts of our friends, which information we were only able to supply after much trouble.

FESTIVAL OF THE SONS OF THE CLERGY.

INSTITUTED A.D. 1655.

THE TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY will be celebrated, with a full Choral Service, under the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral, on Wednesday, May 2nd. The choir will consist of 300 voices, and will be accompanied by the organ and a full orchestra. The overture will be Sir Arthur Sullivan's "In Memoriam." The Anthem will consist of a selection from Haydn's "Creation." The Old Hundredth Psalm will be sung before the sermon, which will be preached by the Rev. John G. Richardson, M.A., Vicar of St. Mary's, Nottingham. The service will conclude with Handel's "Hallelujah" Chorus. The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, the Archbishops and Bishops, the Stewards, etc., will attend the service. The north and south doors will be opened at a quarter before three o'clock, exclusively for persons with tickets.

The Metropolis.

TOTTENHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ALL HALLOWS (TOTTENHAM) SOCIETY, AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 14, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HUBBARD'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

THOMAS HUGHES Treble.	GEORGE B. LUCAS 5.
ARTHUR HUBBARD 2.	WM. PYE-ENGLISH 6.
THOMAS C. GROVE 3.	HENRY A. BARNETT 7.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 4.	JOSEPH WAGHORN Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY A. BARNETT.

This is the first peal of Bob Triples by the All Hallows Society on eight bells. It is also the quickest peal rung on these bells.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE ALL HALLOWS (TOTTENHAM) SOCIETY, AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 12, 1888, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

THOMAS HUGHES* Treble.	JOSEPH WAGHORN 5.
ARTHUR HUBBARD† 2.	GEORGE B. LUCAS 6.
THOMAS C. GROVE 3.	JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 7.
HENRY A. BARNETT 4.	WM. PYE-ENGLISH Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN.

*First peal. †First peal of Grandsire Major. This is the first peal on the bells since the recasting of the 4th, and the alterations to the ringing-chamber.

THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER, AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 14, 1888, in Three Hours and Seven and $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 25 cwt.

S. J. REED* Treble.	E. DUFF* 5.
G. T. McLAUGHLIN 2.	H. S. ELLIS 6.
J. N. OXBORROW 3.	J. M. HAYES 7.
H. R. NEWTON 4.	W. CARTER Tenor.

Conducted by J. M. HAYES.

* First peal.

The Provinces.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Wednesday, April 11, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT ST. CHAD'S (R.C.) CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

THURSTANS' TWO-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

HENRY BASTABLE Treble.	BERNARD WITCHELL 5.
ALFRED THOMAS 2.	THOMAS REYNOLDS 6.
JAMES PLANT 3.	HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. 7.
THOMAS MILLER 4.	WILLIAM SANIGER Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY BASTABLE.

It was intended to start for Treble Bob, but being one short for that method the above was rung instead.

LIVERPOOL.—THE LIVERPOOL YOUTHS SOCIETY.

Birthday Peal.

On Wednesday, April 11, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

RICHARD WILLIAMS Treble.	JOHN R. PRITCHARD 6.
WILLIAM WOODHEAD 2.	GEORGE FISHER 7.
WILLIAM BOOTH 3.	WILLIAM DAVIES 8.
CHARLES WILLIAMS 4.	ROBERT WILLIAMS 9.
JAMES EGERTON 5.	THOMAS HAMMOND Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN COX, of London, and Conducted by ROBERT WILLIAMS.

Rung in honour of Mr. John R. Pritchard having attained his 33rd birthday, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns of the day.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 12, 1888, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SNOWDON'S VARIATION OF HOLLIS'S 5-PART PEAL. Tenor 23 cwt.

E. HUGHES* Treble.	G. H. JOHNSON 5.
W. H. ROBERTS* 2.	*WILLIAM FOX 6.
SAMSON BURTON 3.	SAMUEL SIMPKIN 7.
ALBERT LAMBERT* 4.	*D. G. BALDERSON Tenor.

Conducted by G. H. JOHNSON.

* First peal.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, April 13, 1888, in Two Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION.

Tenor 9 cwt.

WILLIAM FINCH Treble.	H. D. BETTERIDGE 5.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON 2.	THOMAS PAYNE 6.
ALFRED BROWNING 3.	HERBERT BAKER 7.
FREDERICK FIELD 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT BAKER.

Although the time may seem almost incredible, it was an exceedingly well struck peal, and is believed to be the fastest on record.

FOXEARH.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 12, 1888, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

SAMUEL SLATER Treble.	JOHN LEE 5.
WALTER PAWSEY GRIDLEY 2.	ROBERT MINGAY 6.
FREDERICK WELLS 3.	GEORGE MAXIM 7.
GEORGE MAXIM 4.	*OLIVER GARWOOD Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN REEVES, and Conducted by

OLIVER GARWOOD.

* First peal as conductor. The peal, in three parts, will be found in Snowdon's *Treatise on Treble Bob*, part ii., page 27, being the reverse peal, and is believed to be now rung for the first time. George Maxim hails from Cavendish, and was elected a member of the Essex Association before starting for the peal.

LISCARD, CHESHIRE.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, April 14, 1888, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

RICHARD S. MANN† Treble.	WILLIAM JAMES 5.
WILLIAM BOOTH 2.	HENRY COLEY 6.
THOMAS HAMMOND 3.	GEORGE FISHER† 7.
JOHN R. PRITCHARD 4.	WILLIAM DAVIES Tenor.

Composed by JOHN R. PRITCHARD, and Conducted by

RICHARD S. MANN.

† First peal in the method. This is the first peal in the method on the bells, and was rung as a compliment to the Vicar, the Rev. J. H. D. Cochrane, it being his birthday. The ringers wish him many happy returns of the day.

MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, April 14, 1888, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt in F#.

FRED. W. COOK Treble.	GEORGE C. TUNNICLIFF 5.
HARRY HOLLINGWORTH 2.	GEORGE A. FISH 6.
JOSEPH WARREN 3.	JOHN VICKERS 7.
HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD 4.	JOHN R. WOOD Tenor.

Conducted by H. C. WOODWARD.

The above is the first peal in the method by all except the conductor, also the first in the method on the bells.

BLETCHINGLEY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Tuesday, April 17, 1888, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

IN ONE MAIN COURSE.

Tenor 19 cwt.

ARTHUR WALLIS Treble.	JOHN BASHFORD, SEN. 5.
JOHN BURKIN 2.	LUKE KILICK 6.
FREDERICK SMITH 3.	WALTER HAWKINS 7.
JOHN BASHFORD, JUN. 4.	WILLIAM MAYNE Tenor.

Composed by Dr. A. B. CARPENTER, and Conducted by

JOHN BASHFORD, JUN.

This peal was rung to commemorate the 69th birthday of Mr. John Burkin.

Canon Brameld, the principal of the Burgh Mission House, who has been made Prebendary of North Kelsey by the Bishop of Lincoln, was presented on Thursday week with a casket containing an illuminated address, signed by the vice-principal and thirty-four past and present students still in England, comprising nearly all the Burgh men who have been wholly under Canon Brameld's training.

On Thursday, Jane Stoddart, the girl that preferred the criminal charge against the late Rev. J. M. Lowther, rector of Bolton, and cousin to Lord Lonsdale, which led to his tragic death, was fined forty shillings at Workington police-court for assaulting a man named White. The defendant admitted that she had been twice convicted of felony.

SPROUGHTON, SUFFOLK.

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

Handbell Ringing.

On Saturday, April 14, 1888, in Two Hours and Eighteen and $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MRS. J. MEE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 size in D.

THOMAS STEWARD 1-2.	ALBERT E. DURRANT .. 5-6.
CHARLES MEE 3-4.	DANIEL PRENTICE .. 7-8.

Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

Referee, Mr. W. L. Catchpole, who marked off the bob leads as they were rung. The above is the first peal of Grandsire Triples on handbells ever rung in the county, also the first by the Norwich Diocesan Association.

SHEFFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 14, 1888, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5024 CHANGES. Tenor 44 cwt.

CHARLES BOWER Treble.	GEORGE HOLMES 5.
WILLIAM BUGAR 2.	CHAS. HY. HATTERSLEY .. 6.
WILLIAM LOMAS 3.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. 7.
JOSEPH MULLIGAN 4.	ARTHUR BRIERLEY Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.
This is the first peal of Double Norwich ever rung in the county of York.

SUTTON COLDFIELD, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, April 14, 1888, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

HENRY BASTABLE Treble.	WILLIAM KENT 5.
THOMAS RUSSAM 2.	THOMAS REYNOLDS 6.
ALFRED THOMAS 3.	THOMAS MILLER 7.
JAMES PLANT 4.	HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. .. Tenor.

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

This peal will in Snowden's *Treatise on Treble Bob*, part ii., page 20, being the reverse variation there given. First peal in the method on the bells. A great improvement has been made to this ringing chamber by the addition of a deadening floor.

ERITH, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 16, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES; 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 19 cwt.

FREDERICK J. CULLUM* .. Treble.	GEORGE CONYARD 5.
FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 2.	REV. E. W. CARPENTER .. 6.
BENJAMIN JOHN SHELDON* .. 3.	FREDERICK J. FRENCH .. 7.
JAMES C. HARVEY 4.	JOHN GARARD Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

*First peal.

SALISBURY, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 16, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-nine & $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

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

JAMES R. JERRAM Treble.	HENRY D. ADAMS 5.
SYDNEY LAWRENCE* 2.	ARTHUR W. BARKUS 6.
WILLIAM J. BAKER 3.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 7.
ALFRED P. GODDARD 4.	CHARLES A. CLEMENTS .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM W. GIFFORD.

*First peal with a bob bell. W. Baker hails from Rochester.

FOXEARH, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Monday, April 16, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

SAMUEL SLATER Treble.	ROBERT MINGAY 5.
WALTER P. GRIDLEY 2.	JOHN LEE 6.
FRED WELLS 3.	*NELSON HAWKINS 7.
GEORGE MAXIM 4.	CHARLES SILLITOE Tenor.

Composed by G. PATRICK, and Conducted by CHARLES SILLITOE.

The above was rung as a birthday peal for John Lee, who attained his 24th year on Saturday, April 14th, and N. Hawkins, who attained his 34th year on Sunday, April 15th. The peal was taken from Hubbard's *Campanalogia*, page 91, and contains the least possible number of changes obtained in twenty-two courses. Messrs. Slater and Wells hail from Glemsford; Hawkins from Belchamp; Sillitoe from Sudbury; the rest are local men. This is the quickest peal yet rang on these bells. *First peal in the method.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL.—On Easter Monday, April 2nd, for the election of church-wardens of Holy Trinity church, a date touch in the three following methods, viz.: 448 of Bob Minor, and 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 13 mins. F. Merrison, 1; H. Jenkins, 2; J. Pollard, 3; J. Dixey, 4; C. Bennett, 5; C. Jackson (conductor), 6. Tenor 25 cwt.

BEVERLEY (Yorks).—On Wednesday, April 11th, at the Minster of St. John of Beverley, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 20 mins., with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of the late James Chapman, who had been a ringer at the Minster for about a quarter of a century. C. Jackson (Hull; composer and conductor), 1; T. Neil, 2; F. Osgerby, 3; J. E. Smelt, 4; W. A. Thompson, 5; C. Bennett (Hull), 6; D. H. Roberts, 7; J. Witty, 8. The above touch contains the twenty-four 6-7's. Tenor 30 cwt.

CARSHALTON (Surrey).—On Sunday, April 8th, for evening service, the members of the local company rang a date touch of 1888 changes of Grandsire Doubles, with 4, 6, 8 behind, in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. Stedman, 1; C. E. Buckingham, 2; *H. T. James (composer and conductor), 3; W. Broomsgrove, 4; J. Harding, 5; W. Saunders, 6; E. Hollands, 7; *H. Brooks, 8. Tenor 12 cwt. 2qrs. 14lbs. *Members of the Surrey Association.

MATLOCK (Derbyshire).—On Saturday afternoon, April 14th, at the Parish Church, a date touch, 1888 changes, of Grandsire Doubles, in 1 hr. and 10 mins. W. Skirrow, 1; T. Clay, 3; W. A. Margerrison, 3; T. Ballington, 4; G. Lee, 5; W. N. Statham, 6. The above was conducted by Mr. G. Lee, verger of St. Luke's church, Derby, who has (through the kindness of the Rev. J. W. Kewley, Rector of Matlock) been giving lessons in the art of change-ringing to the Matlock company during the winter. This is believed to be the first date touch rang on the bells. Tenor 17 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Tuesday, April 10th, at the church of St. Saviour, Southwark, a touch of 1000 Kent Treble Bob Royal, in 50 mins. Rev. H. A. Cockey, 1; J. Pettit, 2; R. Woodley, 3; H. Springall, 4; S. Joyce, 5; G. T. McLaughlin, 6; W. Greenleaf, 7; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 8; E. Horrex, 9; F. G. Newman, 10. Tenor 52 cwt.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, LONDON.

ST. SEPULCHRE'S (Snow Hill).—On Tuesday, April 3rd, ten members of this Society attempted a peal of Grandsire Caters, which came to grief after ringing 3 hours 30 mins., through two bells changing course. F. G. Newman (conductor), 1; J. Nelms, 2; H. Langdon, 3; J. Rumsey, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; J. M. Hayes, 6; A. E. Church, 7; W. W. Thorne, 8; J. Barry, 9; D. Lovett, 10. Tenor 32 cwt. in C \sharp .

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Sunday, April 8th, at St. Paul's church, for evening service, a 518 of Grandsire Triples, containing the twelve 4-6's. F.

Smith, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; F. Keech, 4; I. Hills, 5; C. Pass, 6; W. G. Biggs, 7; W. Betles, 8. Also on Sunday, April 15th, for morning service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples (H. J. Tucker's). F. Smith, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; H. Toll, 3; I. Hills, 4; F. Keech, 5; C. Pass, 6; H. Chapman, 7; F. Hull, 8. Also for evening service, a 560 of Bob Major. C. R. Howard, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; I. Hills, 4; H. Chapman, 5; F. Keech, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; J. N. Frossell, 8. Also a 336 of Grandsire Triples (Penning's). F. Smith, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; H. Chapman, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; F. Keech, 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Betles, 8. Also a 168 of Grandsire Triples. F. Smith, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; C. R. Howard, 3; I. Hills, 4; J. N. Frossell, 5; H. Chapman, 6; W. Hall, 7; F. Chastey, 8. *Handbell Ringing*.—On Tuesday, April 10th, at Mr. A. Wheatley's, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). C. R. Howard, 1; H. Chapman, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; 4; *W. G. Biggs (conductor), 5-6. *First 720 in the method double-handed.

BIDDENHAM.—On Friday, April 13th, for practice in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). *H. Clifton, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; A. Ingram, 3; C. R. Howard, 4; H. King, 5; H. Chapman (conductor), 6. First 720 as conductor. *First 720 and first attempt. And a touch of Kent Treble Bob and several 6-scores. Also on Sunday, April 15th, for Divine Service, by the local company several touches of Bob Minor.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.

GAWSWORTH (Cheshire).—On Friday evening, April 13th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 27 mins. A. Lawton, 1; A. B. Lomas, 2; C. Pastles, 3; D. Lomas, 4; J. Hammond, 5; W. Henshall, 6. Also on Sunday morning, April 15th, for Divine Service, 336 in the same method, standing as before, conducted by W. Henshall.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DURHAM.—On Monday evening, April 16th, at St. Oswald's, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (containing eighteen bobs and eighteen singles). W. G. Newton, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; J. E. Avery, 3; W. Noble, 4; L. Newton, 5; C. J. Butterworth (conductor), 6. Also on Monday evening, March 9th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. W. G. Newton, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; Chas. Bradford, 3; W. Prince, 4; J. E. Avery, 5; C. J. Butterworth (conductor), 6.

JARROW GRANGE.—On Sunday, April 15th, at Christ Church, for evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 29 mins. F. Harvey, 1; R. Smith, 2; W. Holmes, 3; R. Heron, 4; F. Patterson, 5; R. Oliver (conductor), 6. First 720 for 1st and 2nd men. Tenor 17 cwt.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—On Sunday, April 1st, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. W. Charlton, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; J. Pallister, 3; J. W. Cleminson, 4; H. C. Mayne, 5; F. Charlton, 6; E. Titt (conductor), 7; F. Castree, 8. Time 43 mins. Also on Sunday, April 8th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Charlton, 1; J. Pallister, 2; H. C. Mayne, 3; J. W. Cleminson, 4; F. Charlton, 5; E. Titt (conductor), 6. And a 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Charlton, 1; J. W. Cleminson, 2; J. Pallister, 3; F. Castree, 4; H. C. Mayne, 5; F. Charlton, 6; E. Titt (conductor), 7; J. G. Pratt, 8. And on Tuesday, April 10th, for practice, two touches of Plain Bob Major, 336 changes each. W. Charlton, 1; A. J. B. Waldron, 2; J. Pallister, 3; J. W. Cleminson, 4; H. C. Mayne, 5; F. Castree, 6; F. Charlton, 7; E. Titt (conductor), 8.

GAINFORD (Durham).—On Monday, April 2nd, at the parish church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 28 mins. J. G. Pratt, 1; F. Castree, 2; J. Pallister, 3; F. Charlton, 4; E. Titt, 5; J. W. Cleminson (conductor), 6.

SHAROW.—On Monday, April 16th, at the Parish Church, for practice, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins. J. Flower, 1; Joseph Baines, 2; A. H. Clark, 3; A. Pratt, 4; A. Ingleby 5; W. Pick, 6; T. Clark (conductor), 7; T. Faubert, 8. All the above are members of the Sharow society. Tenor 13 cwt.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday evening, April 3rd, five members of the local band, assisted by Mr. W. Peglar, of Hempstead, rung for practice a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. W. Peglar, 1; A. A. Waite, 2; W. J. Sevier, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; J. Yeates, 6. Also on Sunday morning, April 15th, for Divine Service, a 360 of Canterbury Pleasure (with four bobs and two singles). S. E. Romans, 1; J. Yeates, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; A. A. Waite, 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (with nine bobs), in 27 mins. D. J. Aston, 1; S. E. Romans, 2; J. Buffery (Birmingham), 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. A. Waite (con-

ductor), 6. Mr. J. Buffery is a member of the above association, and kindly paid us a visit, he being engaged in hanging a peal of bells near this place.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday evening, April 14th, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (with nine bobs), in 28 mins. D. J. Aston, 1; S. E. Romans, 2; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; H. G. Gardener, 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (with sixteen bobs and two singles), in 28½ mins. S. E. Romans, 1; R. J. Wilkins, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; J. Buffery (Birmingham), 4; H. Mitchell, 5; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 6. And a 460 of Stedman Triples. H. G. Gardener, 1; S. E. Romans, 2; W. J. Sevier, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; D. J. Aston, 5; H. Mitchell, 6; J. Buffery (conductor), 7; T. White, 8. This meeting was called with the intention of ringing a peal of Bob Major, but being one short the above was rung to accommodate Mr. J. Buffery, who so kindly paid us a visit with the intention of taking part in the peal.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, April 15th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. F. Simonds, 1; J. F. Hastings, 2; R. Menday, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; G. Essex, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 1; G. Essex, 3; E. Menday, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. The bells were stopped in the evening owing to illness. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday evening, April 15th, at St. Margaret's church for Divine Service, it being also Hospital Sunday, the following members rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. Raynor, 1; A. Osborne, 2; C. Waterman, 3; J. Raynor, 4; J. P. Kidd, 5; J. Tulett (conductor), 6. C. Waterman belongs to Shorne.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP.—On Sunday, April 8th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Oxford Single (nine bobs and six singles), in 25½ mins. W. Ormerod, 1; James Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; Arch Chew, 4; A. White, 5; Z. Lord (conductor), 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

SHEPESHED (Leicestershire).—On Easter Tuesday, a 360 of Grandsire Doubles. William Cooper, 1; John Buttery, 2; George Burrows, 3; James Jarvis, 4; Stephen Cooper (conductor), 5; William Walker, 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MOSSLEY (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, April 10th, at the parish church of St. George, the Saddleworth branch of this Association rang 1120 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major. James Thorpe, 1; John Holden (conductor), 2; J. Turner, 3; James H. Shaw, 4; James B. Dicken, 5; Moses Bradbury, 6; Thos. B. Dicken, 7; Edward Wood, 8. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. John Holden (conductor), 1; James H. Shaw, 2; James B. Dicken, 3; Moses Bradbury, 4; Thos. B. Dicken, 5; Wm. Bradbury, 6. This is the first 720 on the bells.

ANSTEY (Herts).—On Monday, April 2nd, at the Chequers inn, the local company, with Hugh Scarlett, of London, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, on handbells, in 40 mins. A. Danes, 1-2; H. Scarlett, 3-4; T. Coxall, 5-6; W. Coxall, 7-8. Composed by Harvey Reeves. And three courses of Grandsire Cinques. S. Coxall, 9-10; J. Chappell, 11-12. Conducted by Hugh Scarlett.

BISHOPS STORTFORD.—On Tuesday, April 3rd, the following met for the purpose of ringing a peal of Grandsire Triples, but meeting one short, a 720 of Double Bob Minor, in 28 mins. F. Chapman, 1; W. Watts, 2; W. Prior, 3; G. Prior, 4; H. Prior, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Also a 1890 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. T. Newman, 1; W. Prior, 2; W. Watts, 3; H. Prior, 4; G. Prior, 5; F. Chapman, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; J. Sampford, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Saturday, April 7th, at St. Mary's church, two 720's of Bob Minor, in 56 mins., the first contained eighteen bobs and two singles and was conducted by C. Bearman, the second with forty-two singles, and was conducted by W. Moore. A. Spurge, 1; W. Moore, 2; E. Chaplin (Stisted), 3; S. Sargent, 4; E. Radley (Stisted), 5; C. Bearman, 6. The above was rung in honour of the marriage of William Bearman, one of the local ringers, which took place on that day. And on Sunday, April 15th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor and 120 of Oxford Treble Bob. A. Spurge, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; E. Claydon (Stebbing), 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, April 3rd, at St. Michael's church, for practice, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Smith, sen. 1; R. Hutton, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, April 5th, two 720's of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. G. Smith, sen., 1; R. Hutton, 2; J. Hinchley (conductor), 3; others as before. And on Sunday, April 8th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and 360 of Bob Minor. R. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. And on Monday, April 9th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Smith, sen., 1; J. Hinchley, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Thursday, April 5th, at the Parish Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. S. Slater (conductor), 1; G. Maxim (Foxearth), 2; J. Lee (Foxearth), 3; R. Mingay, 4; G. Maxim (Cavendish), 5; O. Garwood, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. S. Slater, 1; G. Maxim (Foxearth), 2; J. Lee, 3; E. Wells, 4; G. Maxim (Cavendish), 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6.

DEPTFORD.—On Saturday, April 14th, at St. John's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. J. Rose, 1; W. Pead, 2; W. Bedwell, 3; W. Weatherstone, 4; E. E. Richards, 5; J. Law, 6; A. G. Freeman (conductor), 7; F. Palmer, 8. The above was rung on the 46th birthday of Mr. Joseph Laws. It was intended to have started for a peal, but owing to the wife of the Vicar (Rev. Hore) being seriously ill, a quarter-peal was rung instead.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Thursday, March 8th, being confirmation services held in this church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. John Slater, 1; Joseph Slater, 2; C. Honeybell, 3; F. Wells, 4; S. Slater, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. Other touches were rung. Also on Easter Day, April 1st, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. John Slater, 1; Joseph Slater, 2; C. Adams, 3; C. Honeybell, 4; E. W. Downs, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. Several touches were rung before each service, this is the first time these bells have been rung before the services on Sundays, within the memory of the oldest inhabitant.

HACKNEY (Middlesex).—On Good Friday, March 30th, at St. John's church, for Divine Service in the morning, the last 700 of Holt's Original, with the bells half-muffled. J. Carmichael, 1; F. Rumens, 2; G. J. Smith, 3; T. Page, 4; G. Page, 5; A. Cutmore, 6; W. D. Smith (conductor), 7; P. Gaymer, 8. And on Easter Sunday, for Divine Service in the morning, 840 of Grandsire Triples. G. J. Smith, 1; F. Rumens, 2; J. Carmichael, 3; T. Page, 4; A. Cutmore, 5; W. A. Masters (Scots Greys), 6; W. D. Smith (conductor), 7; P. Gaymer, 8.

HARLOW (Essex).—On Easter Monday, April 2nd, an attempt was made to ring Mr. York Green's 5056 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, but after ringing 4680 changes in 3 hrs., it came to grief. C. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; W. Watts, 3; J. Luckey, 4; G. Prior, 5; H. Prior, 6; Isaac Cavill, 7; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 8. Tenor 21 cwt. 3 qrs. 5 lbs.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Sunday morning, April 15th, for Divine Service, 1050 of Grandsire Triples, in 34 mins., being the first part of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' 5-part peal, and three extra leads. J. Bennett, 1; T. Bennett, 2; H. Adams, 3; T. Salter, 4; J. Bennett, jun., 5; J. Crane, 6; H. Williams (conductor), 7; T. Walters, 8. Also for evening service a 504 in the same method. J. Bennett, 1; H. Adams, 2; H. Williams (conductor), 3; T. Bennett, 4; J. Bennett, 5; J. Crane, 6; T. Salter, 7; T. Walters, 8.

LEICESTER.—*Muffled Peal.*—On Easter Monday, April 2nd, at St. Margaret's church, with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Mrs. Jones, widow of the Rev. Timothy Jones, many years vicar of St. Margaret's church, 809 of Grandsire Caters. William Walker, 1; James Jarvis, 2; George Burrows, 3; Alfred Wilson, 4; William Cooper, 5; John Buttery, 6; Thos. Wilson (conductor), 7; Joseph Needham, 8; Stephen Cooper, 9; Charles Biddles, 10. Tenor 30 cwt. in D.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Easter Day, April 1st, for morning service, 448 of Bob Major, for afternoon service, 784 of Bob Major, and for evening service, a 1008 of Bob Major. S. Slater (conductor), 1; A. Ambrose, 2; P. C. S. Scott, 3; A. Symonds, 4; H. Duce, 5; H. Smith, 6; J. Bird, 7; Z. Salter, 8.

MARLOW (Bucks).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, April 7th, at the residence of Mr. J. C. Truss, St. Peter's street, 120 of Stedman Doubles. H. Buckingham, 1-2; J. C. Truss, 3-4; J. C. Truss, sen., 5-6. The singles were made on 1-2.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, April 8th, for evening service, a 720 of Violet Treble Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Martin, 3; J. W. Brough (conductor), 4; J. Wood, 5; W. Baddeley, 6.

OLD HILL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, April 7th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 29 mins. W. Green, 1; J. Palmer, 2; C. Beasley,

3; A. E. Parsons, 4; H. Mason, 5; R. Bird (conductor), 6. And a 720 of College Single Minor, in 31 mins. W. Bird, 1; J. Palmer, 2; H. Mason, 3; C. Beasley, 4; R. Bird, 5; A. E. Parsons (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. On Sunday, April 8th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. H. Cartwright, 1; J. Palmer (first 720 in the method), 2; C. W. Bassano, Esq. (conductor), 3; H. Mason, 4; W. Green, 5; R. Bird, 6. And on Saturday, April 14th, a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob, in 29 mins. J. Palmer, 1; A. E. Parsons, 2; H. Cartwright, 3; C. W. Bassano (conductor), 4; R. Bird, 5; H. Mason, 6. This is the first in the method by all. And on Sunday, April 15th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. R. Bird, 1; W. Foxall, 2; J. Palmer, 3; H. Mason, 4; C. W. Bassano (conductor), 5; H. Cartwright, 6; W. Bird, 7; A. E. Parsons, 8.

PIMLICO.—On Sunday, April 15th, at the residence of Mr. Engerfield, a 476 of Grandsire Caters, on handbells retained in hand. S. J. Reed, 1; H. R. Newton, 2; G. T. McLaughlin, 3; A. Engerfield, 4; E. Duff, 5; W. Carter, 6; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 7-8; J. N. Oxborough, 9-10. *Longest touch of Caters.

PETERBORO'.—On Thursday, April 5th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (26 singles), in 27½ mins. A. Willerton, 1; W. Johnson, sen., 2; C. W. Holdich, 2; H. Beeson, 4; C. Brice, 5; W. Johnson, sen. (conductor), 6.

PRESTWICH (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, April 10th, at the parish church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Gratrix, 1; R. Fitton, 2; H. Grant, 3; J. Brooks, 4; W. Warburton, 5; J. Heywood, 6. Tenor 15½ cwt. J. Gratrix hails from Manchester; W. Warburton from Whitefield; the rest belong to the local company.

SALISBURY.—On Wednesday, April 11th, at St. Martin's church, several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung in honour of the marriage of Miss E. A. Clements, sister of Mr. C. A. Clements, with the Rev. D. M. Thomas, curate of Penarth, South Wales. A peal was started for in the afternoon, but it unfortunately came to grief after ringing 1 hr. 45 mins. J. R. Jerram, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; C. A. Clements, 8. And on Saturday, April 14th, 1056 Bob Major. W. S. Wise, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; W. J. Baker (Rochester), 3; H. D. Adams, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; C. A. Clements, 7; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 8. And several short touches of Grandsire Triples.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Saturday, April 14th, at St. Peter's church for practice, a 350 of Grandsire Triples. H. Brewer, 1; H. Rowe, 2; A. Barnes, 3; J. Brewer, 4; E. P. Debenham, 5; H. Lewis, 6; T. Waller, 7; D. Gibbons, 8. And a 97 in the same method. J. Brewer, 1; H. Rowe, 2; A. Barnes, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; H. Lewis, 5; G. W. Cartmel (conductor), 6; T. Waller, 7; D. Gibbons, 8. *Handbell Ringing.*—On the same evening, two courses of Grandsire Triples. H. Lewis, 1-2; H. Rowe, 3-4; E. P. Debenham, 5-6; J. Brewer, 7-8. And a plain course of Grandsire Cinques. T. Waller, 1-2; H. Brewer, 3; J. Brewer, 4; E. P. Debenham, 5-6; G. W. Cartmel, 7-8; W. H. L. Buckingham, 9-10; A. Barnes, 11-12. H. Rows, hail from Hatfield, and the above are his first attempt at Triples on church bells. And on Sunday, April 8th, for evening service, at the Cathedral, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans) in 47 mins. G. W. Cartmel, 1; T. Grant, 2; H. G. Fairbrass, 3; R. M. Pratt, 4; W. Battle, 5; E. A. Hulks, 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; H. L. Waddington, 8. *First quarter-peal of Stedman.—*Handbell Ringing.* On Saturday, April 14th, on handbells retained in hand, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 36 mins. A. Barnes, 1-2; J. C. Mitchell, 3-4; C. W. Clarke (Bedford; conductor), 5-6; W. Biggs (Bedford), 7-8. And a touch of Grandsire Caters. H. Lewis, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3-4; G. W. Cartmel, 5-6; C. W. Clarke, 7-8; W. Biggs, 9-10. And a 336 of Grandsire Triples, with E. P. Debenham (conductor), 3-4; and D. Gibbons, 7-8.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, April 7th, at St. Thomas church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with the tenor behind, in 30 mins. W. A. Pugh, 1; J. Guest (conductor), 2; H. Harris, 3; W. Short, 4; J. Barber, 5; G. W. Pagett, 6; C. Barrett, 8. J. Guest hail from Brierley Hill; Messrs Short and Barber from Clent. *First in the method.

TONBRIDGE (Kent).—On Sunday, April 15th, for Divine Service in the evening, at the Parish Church, several plain courses of Grandsire Triples. J. Chivers, 1; H. C. Corke, 2; F. Cavalier, 3; F. Warwick, 4; C. Mitchell, 5; F. W. Buckingham, 6; C. E. Warner, 7; G. Rabbitt, 8.

TIBENHAM (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, April 11th, a mixed company rang at the parish church, a 360 of Double Court Bob. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Manser, jun., 2; J. Hilling, 3; J. Jackson, 4; J. Hinchley, 5; G. Websdell, 6. And a 720 in the same method. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; J. Colman, 2; the others standing as before.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, LISCARD, CHESHIRE.

Saturday, April 14th, being the birthday of the esteemed vicar, the Rev. J. H. D. Cochrane, it was thought to be a fitting opportunity to ring a peal. Accordingly the band of ringers who opened the peal last December crossed the briny ocean from Liverpool, and arrived safely at the tower at 4.30 p.m. Shortly after their arrival, the vicar entered the tower, and wished them success in their attempt. At 4.45 "go" was called for a peal of Bob Major, and after 3 hrs. and 2 mins. good ringing, the welcome words "that is all" was called at 7.47 (see peal column). On the completion of the peal, the Vicar again entered the tower and heartily congratulated the ringers on their success, they in their turn wishing him "many happy returns of the day." An adjournment was then made to the mission room where they found a substantial repast laid out, about twenty ringers sitting down to it, Mr. Leather presiding, and to which each man did ample justice. After grace was said, the remainder of the time was spent in pleasant conversation until the time came for their departure, the genial clerk of the church, Mr. Roberts, accompanying them to the boat.

Considering Mr. Cochrane is not a ringer himself, it is very gratifying to find he takes such a personal interest in ringing matters, anything pertaining to the ringers comfort being thoughtfully considered by him, and upon each of their visits he has met them in the belfry before and after the ringing. They wish also through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to tender their thanks to Mr. Roberts, the clerk, for having everything in readiness for them, nothing being left undone for their comfort.

VISIT TO BERGHOLT, SUFFOLK.

ON Wednesday, April 11th, a company of ringers from Great Bentley, Great Bromley, Heigham, and Ipswich, paid a visit to East Bergholt. It will be remembered that this noble ring of five bells hang in a square cage on the ground at the back of the church. The visitors after tapping some Grandsire Doubles on them, and ejecting the cords off the clappers, the bells were raised, and six of the local company started into rounds, and a few changes were made, which was done well, as they have to handle them by the stock, but the worst part is the noise. The bells were then given up to the visitors to try their skill. H. Bowell (Ipswich), 1; J. Starling (Great Bromley), 2; W. Smith (Heigham), 3; J. Smith (Heigham), 4; W. Nevard (Great Bentley), 6. Tenor 26 cwt. The above also rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, three courses of Bob Major, and 720 Bob Minor, on the handbells. W. Nevard, 1-2; W. Smith, 3-4; J. Smith, 5-6. Also some courses of Grandsire Triples with A. Bowell and C. Ablitt.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT RINGING MEETING was held at Bingley on Saturday, April 14th, when members and friends attended from Bradford, Bolton, Shipley, Saltaire, Keighley, Rothwell, etc. The local company commenced the proceedings by attempting a date touch of Oxford Treble Bob Major, which was unfortunately lost after ringing an hour. The bells of the parish church were then, by the kind permission of the Vicar and Churchwardens, placed at the disposal of the visitors, and touches of Minor and Major were rung during the afternoon and evening.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the next Quarterly Meeting will be held at St. Alban's church, Rochdale, on Saturday, May 5th. There will be a short service in the church at 5 p.m., at which members and friends are asked to attend. The business meeting will be held in St. Alban's schoolroom, Drake Street, immediately after service, and over which the vicar, the Rev. W. Cooper, M.A., has kindly consented to preside. The bells (8), tenor 17 cwt., will be at the disposal of members from 2.30 p.m., up to the commencement of the service, and again at the close of the meeting. Members on arrival to meet in the schoolroom, where companies can be formed for ringing. The committee will be very pleased to see as many as possible at both the service and the meeting.

JOEL REDFORD, } Hon. Secs.
A. E. WREAKS, }

ST. NICHOLAS, GREAT YARMOUTH.

The ringers of this ancient cathedral-like edifice was never more honoured than when on Thursday, April 5th, the much esteemed vicar (the Rev. W. Donne, M.A.), invited them to meet in the belfry Mr. James F. Hastings, of Wells, Somersetshire, who had expressed a direct wish to have a touch on the fine peal of ten, tenor 30 cwt. It may be remembered that Mr. Hastings is well up in the art of ringing, having on the two days previous taken part in two 5000's of Stedman Triples at Wells and Glastonbury respectively. During the day of his visit touches of Grandsire Triples were rung. J. F. Bray, 1; M. Long (conductor), 2; A. Webber, 3; J. F. Hastings, 4; W. Secrett, 5; D. Hayward, 6; W. Fletcher, 7; T. Tooley, 8. Also a touch of Grandsire Caters. M. Long (conductor), 1; R. Christian, 2; W. Blyth, 3; A. Webber, 4; J. F. Hastings, 5; D. Hayward, 6; W. Secrett, 7; T. Tooley, 8; W. Fletcher, 9; G. Crowe, 10. The vicar of Yarmouth treated the company in a most generous spirit, with which they were all well pleased. It understood that Mr. Hastings is coming to reside at Yarmouth in a couple of months' time.

RE-OPENING OF CHALGROVE BELLS, OXON.

ON Thursday, April 12th, these bells having been refitted, were re-opened and re-dedicated. A new oak frame had been erected, the treble recast, and all the bells rehung. At 4 p.m. the Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild arrived with six of his brethren, and having raised the bells in peal, rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor on them. Rev. F. E. Robinson, 1; H. D. Betteridge, Esq., 2; F. Field, 3; C. Trinder, 4; H. Baker, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Tea was then provided at the Vicarage, after which Evensong was held at 7.15 p.m., at which the sermon was preached by the Master. A 360 of Double Court was rung before the service, and a 720 of Grandsire Minor afterwards.

Obituary.

THOMAS GREENWOOD.

We regret to have to record the death of the above-named ringer, who died at Marham, Norfolk, on Tuesday, April 10th, in his seventy-fourth year. Deceased was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and the Norwich Diocesan Association. In July, 1884, he took part and conducted a peal of 10,080 Oxford Treble Bob Major at Marham, and assisted in ringing fourteen other peals of 5000 and upwards, comprising the following methods: Bob Royal, Treble Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, and Double Norwich Court Bob. He has rang in thirty different towers in London, and seventy-five in the country, where he was known and respected as a first-class ringer for many years. He was interred at Marham, his native place, on Saturday, April 14th, being carried to the grave by the Aylsham and Marham ringers, who directly after the funeral rang muffled touches of Bob Minor at Marham, and in the evening rang about 1000 of Bob Major at Aylsham.

GEORGE MORGAN.

It is also our painful duty to announce the death of the above-named ringer, who died at his residence, Hill-grove Hill, Bristol, on Sunday, April 8th, aged thirty-three years. He was a member of the St. Stephen's society, and was an officer of that society. His business had prevented him from being among them much of late, but he was ever ready to oblige when he could, and his sudden death has called forth expressions of deep sorrow from all who knew him. Various lengths of Grandsire and Treble Bob, Triples and Major, was rung during the week with the bells muffled, at the churches of St. Nicholas, St. Stephen, St. Mary Redcliff, St. Philip, and St. Matthew. Friday being the day of the funeral, the usual whole pull and stand was rung, and afterwards several ringers followed his remains to the cemetery.

The consecration of Canon Pulleine as Suffragan-Bishop of Penrith is fixed for St. Philip and James Day, May 1st.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Nothing succeeds like success."

It is a truthful saying that a ringer's life bristles with disappointments. On opening "THE BELL NEWS," I felt most acutely my last experiences in that direction when reading the report of the dedication of a new peal at Mossley, inasmuch as in arranging for my Easter holiday I did not decide to travel into Lancashire and have the pleasure of joining in the festivities at that place. The report shews many commendable features in connection with the opening of this new peal; features which I hope to see reproduced many times in the future. In the first place the manner in which the new peal was obtained; each bell being presented separately, from his worship the Mayor of borough to the young men of the Sunday School; then the solemn dedicatory service on the Saturday evening; on the following morning the joyful welcoming of the Church's great festival in commemoration of the risen Saviour. Then on the Monday the hearty greeting given to all brother-strings to come and try their hand on the new peal, an invitation which was evidently accepted in the manner in which it was given. I do not doubt that all connected with this event will have very pleasant recollections thereof, and I would like to say more, but space forbids.

The Sharow band, and particularly its "guiding spirit," Mr. Thomas Clark, is to be congratulated on the possession of the peal window in their belfry, and which was unveiled on Easter Tuesday. The idea of perpetuating peals by means of stained glass instead of wall tablets, is—if rather novel—yet a very pleasing one; and although the impracticability of carrying out this plan to any great extent is obvious, I think the example of our Ripon and Sharow friends might be followed in many instances with highly satisfactory results.

Your many reports of Association meetings should be—and I have no doubt will be—read with much interest. They tell their own story of continued success and still greater improvement in connection with our art and work. They demonstrate forcibly the fact that the Exercise is growing week by week more alive to its duties. They denote the existence of that *esprit de corps* which is so essential to the efficient working of any society, and which is becoming more and more manifest as years go on. They shew also that the desire for more perfect organisation and a closer bond of union is steadily growing stronger amongst us. What will be the ultimate result of all this no one can doubt.

The President of the Midland Counties' Association had good grounds for his congratulatory remarks to the members at their Annual Meeting on their peal record for the last quarter. Eleven peals comprising no less than ten different methods is a "total" of a very creditable nature.

The Exercise will, I have no doubt, be much pleased to know that our friends of the Oxford Guild have been successful with their long peal of Grandsire Caters. They have thus given to the ringing world two very formidable records to break. Who is going to do it?

As I ventured to anticipate a fortnight ago, our Yorkshire friends have again "tackled," and this time successfully, the silent peal of Kent Treble Bob Major. From the report, it would appear that the peal was a thoroughly good one in every respect, thus I have no doubt that all—ringers, umpires, and listeners—would be alike gratified at the performance.

This peal, I observe, will come under the head of "Independent Societies," although a sort of half-and-half, and it brings to my mind the paucity of Association peals which have been reported from Yorkshire of late. What are our friends in the premier county doing just now? Have they temporarily retired from peal ringing, or are they more busily engaged in the work

of organisation, and training their young ones? I cannot believe that there is any flagging of zeal amongst them. There must be some reason for this sudden dropping off in the number of their ringing performances. Come, Yorkshiremen, "Line up!" Let us see your names if we cannot see your faces.

I notice with pleasure that the Burton men still keep green the memory of the late Rev. J. H. Fish, and have fitly commemorated the anniversary of his death with a half-muffled peal. They have not thus not only paid a tribute to the memory of their late chief, but have also shown a good example to their neighbouring county, who suffered a similar bereavement.

It was rather amusing to read the account of bells being rung muffled at a wedding in Kent. Were I on a jury trying these ringers for the "offence," I should certainly go in for returning that celebrated verdict of "Served her right." If the bride's austere notions prevented her from allowing the bells to be rung during the season of Lent, they should in all consistency have detained her from having the ceremony performed at all during that period.

There is a cry from Staffordshire for more unity—more organisation. Will that appeal be made in vain? Men of the Midlands, amid all the good work which is going on around you, will you allow one failing place to exist in your midst? I say, rouse yourselves; remember the old maxim "bear and forbear;" do not allow any personal pique or jealousy to mislead you, but by the exercise of brotherly love unite yourselves, and thus help on the march of progress.

In my opening remarks I mentioned the disappointments so irreparable to the life of a ringer. To those of our friends who in experiencing these unpleasant features feel sometimes inclined to give up the work, I would commend a careful reading of the history of Stedman Cinques on handbells which we are favoured with in last week's issue. Each recurring failure seemed to make the men more enthusiastic, and their perseverance was rewarded by a successful issue on Wednesday last. Here is a practical exposition of the historic story of Bruce and the spider, and an exemplification of the truth of the old proverb in our school books, "If at first you don't succeed, try, try, try again."

In your grand total of twenty-three peals recorded last week, a considerable number of them present very interesting features. I am reluctantly unable to refer to them all as I should wish, through the fear of trespassing too much on your valuable space: but I cannot help congratulating the Lancashire and Cheshire men on the accomplishment of their first peal of Treble Bob on handbells, and the St. Peter's society of St. Albans on their peal of Grandsire Caters (also on handbells), rung on their conductor's twenty-first birthday.

As I had occasion, Mr. Editor, recently, to call into question some of your remarks, on the other hand I cannot close my notes this week without a word of congratulation to you on the excellent appearance of last Saturday's paper. There was valuable and interesting news in abundance, and I most sincerely trust that the information contained therein will be carefully perused, and no less carefully studied by our brethren throughout the country.

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THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Lincoln, on Saturday, April 28th. Tea will be provided at 5 o'clock at the Guild Court (foot of the Steep Hill) at 1/3 each, members free; after which the business meeting will be held. Members and visitors intending to be present at tea are requested to communicate with me not later than Wednesday, April 25th. J. W. WATSON.

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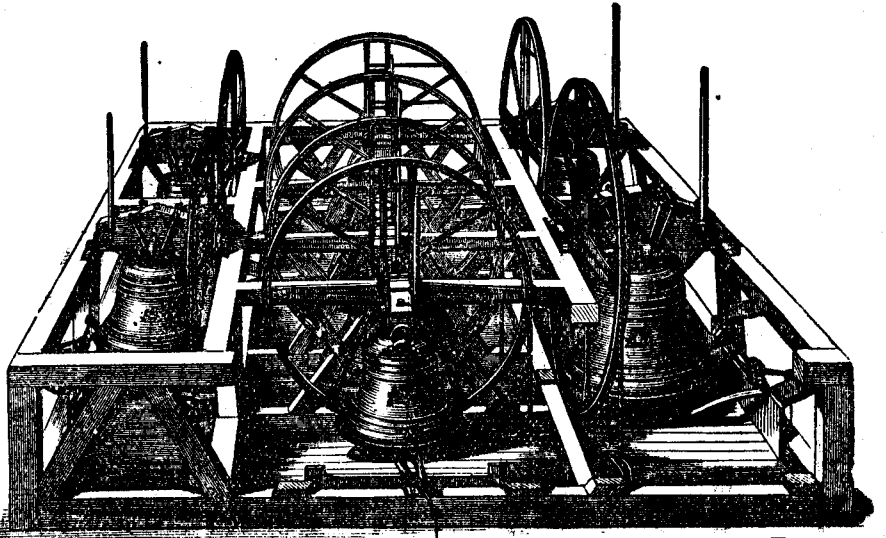
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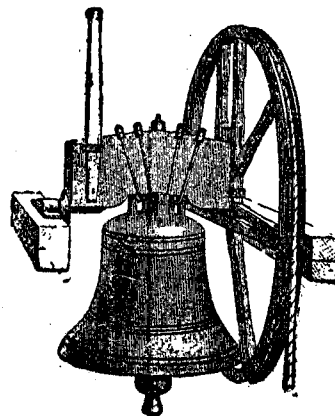
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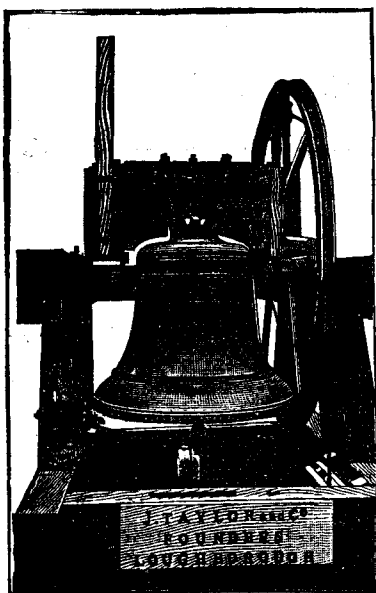
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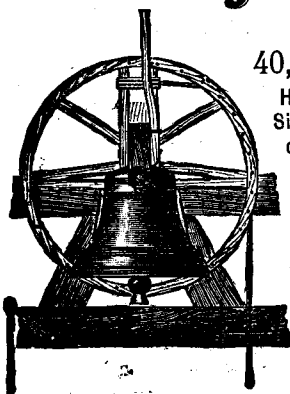
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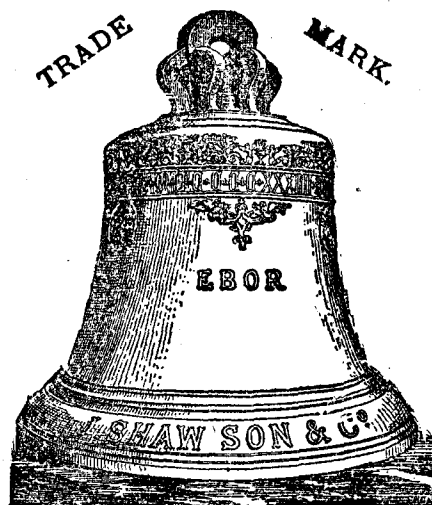
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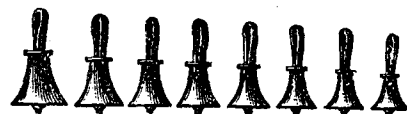
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The Society Edmund C. Mars warden, H. We Meadow

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THE ST. EDMUND'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

The First Annual Meeting of the members of the above Society was held on Thursday evening, April 19th, in the St. Edmund's Schoolroom, Exeter, under the presidency of Mr. W. C. Marsh. There were also present Messrs. E. Short (churchwarden), Sydney Herbert, H. Swift, W. G. Goss, Tidball, W. H. Webber, W. Richardson, T. Townsend, H. Roberts, S. Meadows, E. Pitt, Coombes, A. Searle, and F. Twiggs.

The Assistant Secretary, Mr. HERBERT, read the annual report, from which it appeared that the number of members had reached the total of thirty-five, which it was hoped to still further increase. The work done since the Society's existence had been of a very satisfactory character, and far exceeded the most sanguine expectations of the officers. The Society was only formed about nine months since, and since then up to the present time numerous touches of over 1000 changes had been rung, including three quarter-peals of Grandsire Triples. Two of the latter were composed and conducted by Mr. E. Pitt, while the other was composed by Mr. Gardiner, of Gloucester, and conducted by Mr. Marsh. The members also rang the first date touch of 1888 changes in the city, which was the composition of the conductor, Mr. E. Pitt. To crown the whole work the Society, after having only been formed about seven months was able to record the first peal of 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples ever rung on the bells, the time occupied being two hours fifty-four minutes. The members who rang the peal were complimented by several outsiders on their capital performance, and tribute was paid by brother campanologists in the north of England, who happened to be on a visit to the ever faithful City, to the excellent and skilful manner in which the bells were rung. The peal was conducted by Mr. E. Pitt. The Assistant Secretary went on to state that he was happy to be able to report that the Society was making steady progress with the more noble and beautiful method of Stedman Triples, having already been able to master the plain course. Reference was also made to the several places visited by the Society for ringing purposes, and the report concluded by stating that two entertainments had been given by the Orpheus Minstrels, to whom the Society's warmest thanks were due for their kind and gratuitous services. The two entertainments were of a successful character, and, with the exception of a few shillings, the requisite money was raised wherewith to provide the Society with a new peal of handbells. The report was unanimously adopted.

Mr. H. SWIFT read the Treasurer's statement, showing that after meeting all expenses there was a balance left in hand of £1 3s. 4d. The report was considered highly satisfactory, and adopted.

Mr. W. C. Marsh, Mr. Herbert, and Mr. Swift were elected as Hon. Secretary, Assistant Secretary, and Hon. Treasurer respectively, and were awarded a hearty and unanimous vote of thanks for their services in the past. Mr. E. Pitt, the conductor, was also heartily thanked for his services, and tribute was paid to the ability, tact, and care which he ever displayed in the belfry. According to the rules the amount of subscription is 5s. per annum per member.

The CHAIRMAN said that it had been found that the expenses of the Society could be defrayed if a much smaller subscription than had hitherto been paid, namely, 2s. 6d. per member (the 5s. having previously been reduced to that amount) was contributed.

After some discussion it was unanimously resolved to reduce the amount of yearly subscription to 1s. per member. It was also resolved to purchase a peal of fourteen handbells, the few shillings required over and above the £5 derived from the proceeds of the two entertainments to be taken from the balance in the hands of the Hon. Treasurer. Attention having been called to two or three matters connected with the belfry,

Mr. E. SHORT, churchwarden, said that he should be most happy to see that anything required was provided, and that necessary repairs should be executed. He also stated that it was intended to place a set of chimes in the tower shortly. A hearty vote of thanks having been awarded to the Chairman, the meeting terminated.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO., Printers, Exeter.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

The Quarterly Meeting in connection with the above society was held on Saturday, April 14th, at Bloxwich, when the following places were represented: West Bromwich, Wednesbury, Walsall, Willenhall, Wolverhampton, Darlaston, Wombourn, Perry Barr, Lichfield, and Tipton. Ringing commenced shortly after three o'clock, with a touch of Grandsire Triples, and was kept up during the afternoon and evening with touches in the Grandsire, Stedman, and Treble Bob methods. At five o'clock a short service was held in the parish church, conducted by the vicar, the Rev. J. Barrow, who in some well-chosen remarks very kindly welcomed the society to Bloxwich, and gave the members some good instruction with regard to their duties to the Church as bellringers, after which a Coms mittee Meeting was held in the vestry, when eight new members were elected, and it was also arranged to hold the Annual Meeting at Lichfield on Saturday, June 30th. At six o'clock the ringers adjourned to the schoolroom, where they found an excellent tea in readiness, to which upwards of thirty members and friends sat down, when ample justice was done to the good things provided.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, for his address in the afternoon, who in responding, said that although he could not at present boast of having a scientific change-ringing band, he had no doubt before long he should have a band both fit and willing to become members of the society. A vote of thanks to the ladies for their kindness in presiding at the tables brought the meeting to a close.

HAGLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.—RINGERS' SUPPER.

ON Saturday, April 14th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. F. Wright, 1; T. Barber, 2; T. Lees, 3; W. Short, 4; J. Barber, 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6. The ringing being over, an adjournment was made to the "Bird in Hand" Inn, where a capital supper was in readiness, and after justice had been done to the good things provided, and the cloth drawn, Mr. H. Martin was called to the chair, and Mr. T. Barber to the vice-chair, they being the two oldest ringers present.

The CHAIRMAN said that they all knew that the supper that evening was to commemorate their first 720 by some of their own band, and he hoped that now they had accomplished their first 720 of Minor, they would not be long before they succeeded in a peal of Triples, as he knew of others who would render them all the assistance they could in the noble art. They had a beautiful peal of bells, and in good going order, and he was sure their rector was fond of ringing, and would like them to make good ringers.

Singing then commenced, which was accompanied by a violin. Votes of thanks were past to the Host and Hostess for the excellent way in which the supper was got up, also to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, which brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

OTLEY PARISH CHURCH BELLS.

After having been rung for over 108 years, this fine peal of eight bells came to grief while ringing for service on Sunday, April 15th, on account of the sixth bell cracking right up to the waist. Upon examination it was found that the clapper had almost worn a hole through the bell. The remainder of the bells were then looked over, and found to be much worn, so the churchwardens decided to have the cracked bell recast, and the whole of the peal quarter-turned and rehung, with all new fittings, and Messrs. Shaw, Son, and Co., bell founders, Bradford, have now the work in hand. The new bell will weigh about 12 cwt.

NEWBURN-ON-TYNE.

The opening of this new peal of six, tenor 16 cwt., by Messrs. Taylor, has been postponed. As soon as the date is fixed, probably the second week in May, notice will be sent to those societies of ringers within distance.

G. J. CLARKSON,

Stockton-on-Tees.

INTERESTING ASSEMBLY AT SOWERBY, YORKS. JUBILEE OF THE PARISH CLERK, WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL.

Recently, through the generosity of the Vicar of St. Peter's, Sowerby, the Rev. A. L. W. Bean, and the two churchwardens, Mr. John Rawson, of Brockwell, and Mr. W. A. Nicholl, tea was served at the "King's Head" inn, Sowerby, to about thirty-three guests, in honour of Mr. William Sottanstill, the veteran clerk of Sowerby church, who has just served in that office for half a century. After tea the Rev. A. L. W. Bean took the chair. There were also present the Rev. A. H. S. Bean, Vicar of Maltby; the Rev. J. Eales, the recently appointed curate of Sowerby; Mr. W. A. Nicholl, Mr. Booth Sharp, A.C.O., and the ringers of Liversedge Parish church, as well as those of Sowerby, with Mr. William Sottanstill. The proceedings, after tea, were commenced by the Liversedge ringers giving a selection of music on the handbells, which proved a capital change-ringing performance.

The CHAIRMAN, in the course of an interesting address, said the year 1887 was the year of Jubilee of our beloved Queen, but they had met that day to do honour to their esteemed friend, Mr. W. Sottanstill, clerk to St. Peter's church, Sowerby, whose jubilee they wished to celebrate. Mr. Sottanstill had been connected with St. Peter's for thirty years before he received the appointment of parish clerk, so that he was an authority on matters connected with the history of the Church for a long period. As scholar, teacher, singer, ringer, and parish clerk his connection with the church extended over eighty years; in fact, the interests of his long life were bound up with the church which he loved. The chairman also referred to the fact that Mr. Sottanstill received the appointment as parish clerk from the Rev. W. H. Bull, a former incumbent at Sowerby, who was still living. Though 91 years of age, Mr. Bull told him that he was able to take a walk of three miles every day, and to spend some time in digging his garden. He hoped their old friend would be spared to them for some time yet, and that when he had finished his course here, he might attain to a better life hereafter. He had great pleasure in being deputed to give a copy of "The Elements of Campanologia," a work on bell-ringing composed by their old friend Mr. Sottanstill many years ago, to each of the Sowerby ringers. The work would be found of great use to them, and he might tell them that it had cost the author the leisure hours of forty years, and he had thus set them all an example of industry and patience. He hoped the work would be preserved, not only as an authority on bell-ringing, but as a memento of their old friend, Mr. Sottanstill.

The Rev. A. H. S. BEAN also spoke of the pleasure it gave him in being deputed by their old friend to present the original manuscript of "The Elements of Campanologia" to Mr. John Rawson, of Brockwell, who he was sorry was unable to be present. The work was a marvel of industry and patience.

Mr. JAMES SMITH, on behalf of the Sowerby church ringers, of whom he was leader, presented to the Rev. A. H. S. Bean, on the occasion of his leaving Sowerby, a photographic picture, having the Sowerby handbells shown in the centre, near the base, above which was a portrait of Mr. Sottanstill, the other members of the society of ringers, with their tutor, Mr. James Smith, being placed in suitable positions, the whole being enclosed in a gilt frame, which had the following inscription:—"Presented to the Rev. A. H. S. Bean, M.A., by the St. Peter's Society of Change-Ringers, Sowerby." The portraits had been taken by Mr. Heap, of Sowerby. In making the presentation, Mr. Smith alluded to the kindnesses they had received at the hands of Mr. Bean, the interest he had manifested in their work especially in regard to handbell ringing. They all wished him success in his new sphere.

The Rev. A. H. S. BEAN, in the course of his reply, said the picture would remind him of the sweet Sowerby bells, and, with another picture he had previously received, would tell him of the kind hearts he had left at Sowerby.

Mr. J. NAYLOR said he rose to propose the health of the hero of the evening, of a man who had attained four score and seven years, whose eye was still undimmed, and his natural force unabated. Mr. Sottanstill was 27 years of age at the death of George III; he lived through all the events of the reigns of George IV. and William IV. and has been spared even to celebrate the jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. He was five

years old when the battle of Trafalgar was fought and won by Nelson, and he appeared to have taken Nelson's famous motto for his guide through life: "England expects every man to do his duty." At the battle of Waterloo he was 15 years of age, and he could well remember the defeat of Napoleon on that famous battle-field. He could remember Sowerby when it was without both canals and railways, when pack-horses came up the valley, and the time when a man's wife rode on the pillion behind him when they visited their friends at a distance. Their old friend had now been clerk for fifty years, and they were met to celebrate his jubilee. Of most of them he could say he had been present at their christening, and if they had not all got wives, it was not his fault, for he had been ready to take his part. He had been connected with the church and schools for the past eighty years as scholar, teacher, singer, ringer, and parish clerk. Mr. Sottanstill remembered when the Wesleyans established the first Sunday school in 1805, and the formation—one or two years afterwards—of another Sunday school by the vicar of Sowerby, the Rev. J. Ogden, the scholars of which were taught in the pews of the church till the erection of a school in Back-lane in 1817, the new and more commodious premises opposite the church being erected in 1859. Mr. Sottanstill, after remaining some time a scholar, became a teacher in the school, and he occupied that position for 46 years. During that time at least 600 scholars must have come under his tuition. He occupied a place in the choir from 1815 to 1834, and from 1820 to 1834 he was also a ringer. The climax of his fame was reached by the publication of his work on campanology, by which he popularised the art of bell-ringing, and made Sowerby famous in the annals of that pleasing art. The chief lessons to be drawn from a life like that of Mr. Sottanstill was that diligent perseverance and an unostentatious pursuit of duty brought their own reward. It was with great pleasure he proposed they should drink to the health and happiness of the venerable old man.

The company responded with great heartiness.

The Liversedge Ringers having given another pleasing performance on the handbells,

The Rev. J. EALES replied on behalf of Mr. Sottanstill, thanking the vicar, churchwardens, and his friends for the kindness shown to him in his old age. The following are some particulars of his life, written by himself. He (William Sottanstill) was born at Sowerby on the 9th of July, 1800. His father, John Sottanstill, was a ringer at St. Peter's, Sowerby, soon after the present bells were hung in 1781, and continued a ringer till 1827. He lived to a good old age, and passed away on the 29th of November, 1859, when he was 87 years of age. He (William) commenced to ring in 1820, and five years later he turned his attention to the composition of bell music. He composed two volumes, the first being for two, three, four, five, and six bells, and the second for seven and eight bells. He was forty years in completing the first. His attention was first directed to ringing when a young man by hearing the sound of St. Peter's Church bells, one Sunday morning, when he was powerfully impressed by their sweet tones, and he resolved he would learn to be a ringer. He got several other young men to join him, and they got on very well. Their first attempt at a peal of Bob Major took place on the 14th of September, 1823, and they afterwards attempted a peal of 5,000 changes. After ringing for over three hours, they were obliged to call "stand," on account of a mistake by the conductor. The peal of 5,024 changes of Treble Bob Major (being No. 1, p. 393, in his work on Change Ringing, published in 1867) was rung at Elland Church, in February, 1828, in two hours and fifty-nine minutes, and that was the first peal he conducted. The second peal (p. 470 of the same work), consisting of 5,664 changes of Treble Bob Major, was rung at St. Peter's, Sowerby, for the first time on the 5th of November, 1832, in three hours and twelve minutes. The band of ringers were:—Nicholas Hitchen, 1; William Whiteley, 2; William Sottanstill (conductor), 3; Eli Hellawell, 4; James Nicholl, 5; Abraham Nicholl, 6; John Nicholl, 7; Thomas Nicholl, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. There had been many changes in the art of ringing since he first commenced. Reference had been made to the first Sunday school, in Sowerby, started by the Wesleyans. He was a scholar at that school, and when teaching was over the scholars were marched in order to St. Peter's to service. The Rev. Joseph

Ogden was incumbent at that time, and he resolved to establish a Sunday school. He appointed John Barraclough and his wife, of Sowerby Town, to teach boys and girls; he also appointed Samuel Mitchell, of Sowerby-street; John Broadbent, of Triangle; and Gilbert Walsh, of Mill Bank, as teachers, and they taught at their own homes, the children being afterwards marched to service in church. The last-named teacher was the nephew of the Rev. J. Walsh, who was minister at St. Peter's in 1750. Gilbert's father entered the army, and on his death Gilbert was placed under the care of his uncle, the Rev. J. Walsh. Gilbert Walsh had his boys at Thorp, when the hall was building, but the boys did so much mischief that he was obliged to take them away. They were then taught in the pews of the church till the owners complained that the pews had been cut with knives. The boys were then removed to the old school, and the girls were taught in the prayer-house at the almshouses till 1817, when a school was erected on the south-east side of the church. The present school was built in 1859. He well remembered the day (March 22nd, 1837) when he was appointed parish clerk by the Rev. W. H. Bull, and what the latter said to him. He had done duty under three ministers, viz., the Rev. W. H. Bull, the Rev. Richard England Brook, and the Rev. A. L. W. Bean, and twenty curates (applause).

MR. ROBERT CLARK proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for their having supplied the means for the entertainment of those present. This was seconded by Mr. B. Horsfall and carried, and the Chairman responded. The Liversedge ringers gave another touch on the handbells.

At the request of Mr. Sottanstill, the Rev. A. H. S. BEAN thanked the Liversedge ringers for their splendid services on the bells that day.

MR. LUKE ILLINGWORTH replied in an effective speech, in which he said he and his father had known Mr. Sottanstill for over 60 years. He was glad to have the opportunity of taking part in the ringing of his jubilee peal.

The Sowerby ringers followed with another touch on the handbells.

MR. R. HANLEY, in a very humorous speech, referred to his introduction to Mr. Sottanstill eight years ago, and to his intercourse with him since. He greatly prized his friendship.

It may be added that Mr. Sottanstill, who was present during the whole of the proceedings, appeared to be in good health, and to greatly enjoy the honour done him.

During the afternoon, two touches composed by Mr. Sottanstill, were rung on the Sowerby church bells in honour of the event. The first, by the Sowerby Society, consisted of 1887 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. Sutcliffe (conductor), 1; Thomas Berry, 2; R. Normanton, 3; J. Smith, 4; H. Wolfenden, 5; D. Howarth, 6; J. W. Barrett, 7; W. Oates, 8. The second touch, by the Liversedge Society, consisted of 1887 changes of Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 9 mins. J. W. Lang, 1; J. Knott, 2; L. Illingworth (conductor), 3; S. Goodall, 4; H. Brook, 5; M. Ramsden, 6; A. Briggs, 7; W. Collins, 8. The performances were exceedingly creditable to the ringers and to the composer in whose honour they were given.—*Local Paper.*

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Harborne, on Saturday, April 21st. By kind permission, the tower will be open for ringing at 4 o'clock, meeting to take place afterwards, when all members and friends are invited to attend.

J. CARTER.

Obituary.

SAMUEL ALLEN.

We regret to have to record the death of the above-named ringer, who died at Dronfield, near Sheffield, on Monday, April 16th, in his 75th year. The deceased rang his first peal—5040 on six bells—at Dronfield, on Whit-Monday, June 5th, 1842. The funeral took place on Wednesday, April 18th. Ringers were present from Sheffield, Staveley, Norton, Penistone, Ecclesfield, and Eckington. Muffled peals were rang on the bells after the funeral.

SIR PRYCE JONES ON BELLS.

ON Friday evening, April 6th, a musical evening was given in the Public Rooms, Newtown, presided over by Sir Pryce Jones.

The Chairman, in opening, said the programme was a rather long one, and no doubt would prove most interesting. It was no part of his programme, however, to enter on anything like a speech, but perhaps there were many present who would naturally enquire what the proceeds arising from that concert would be given to. To those enquiring minds he would say that it was for the purpose of starting a nucleus for the formation of bell ringers' club, and to enable the society to purchase handbells if the funds would admit. It was an instance of how local history repeated itself. He well remembered whilst a boy being one of many on the corners of the street listening to the practices on the bells of Newtown parish church. There was, at that time, a keen competition between Newtown bell-ringers and their neighbouring bell ringers; and their most dangerous rivals belonged to the parish of Bettws. There were numbers besides himself who could remember the competitions in their old parish church, which was now partly decaying. Bells were and had been from time immemorial associated with almost every important event connected with a person's life. They announced the arrival of the son and heir, and with peals of joy they rang out their congratulations when he attained his majority, or when he married. They tolled his parting knell, and last of all, they rung the muffled peal o'er his grave. If he was successful in his enterprises socially, commercially, or politically, the bells announced the fact. The bells had been useful even in calling attention to disasters such as fires, and there were those who would remember the fire at the factory near at hand, when the alarm was given by the church bells. The parish bells of Newtown were not only perfect in their musical tone, but there were none sweeter than theirs. He was satisfied that he was speaking the sentiments of not only members of the Church, but of those who consistently attended other places of worship, that they, like all Englishmen would regret and mourn the day when those historical bells and the belfries which contained them should cease to exist and never again be heard. Who was there, Nonconformist or Churchman, who would not think it strange if they did not hear on Christmas Eve or New Year's morn the bells of their parish church? The funds that they required were not great, and surely the little money that was required would not be denied. He would be glad to start the list if it were necessary that subscriptions should be started for it. As he saw many people before him who had on several occasions interested themselves in the events of his life, and he and his family had to thank them for their kindness and support, they would forgive him for mentioning that on April 6th, 1859, now twenty-nine years ago, he was married in the Newtown parish church. It was a coincidence, but it was a remarkable one, as he had nothing to do with fixing that date for their entertainment. On that day the bells rang merrily, and he could remember the people gathered round the church gates, and his carriage window was accidentally smashed to pieces, and people said "What ill luck." He confessed that it had not been ill luck either on his or his wife's part, and that proved the exception of those sayings. He trusted that the programme would afford them pleasure that evening.

A capital programme of music was then gone through. The accompanists were Mr. J. Macrone and Mr. A. Williams. The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

BREDENBURY, HEREFORDSHIRE.—RINGERS' OUTING.

On Monday, April 9th, by the kind invitation of Mr. W. H. Barneby, the Suckley band visited the parish church and rung a six-score of Grandsire Doubles. The ringers wish to thank Mr. Barneby for the kind manner in which he provided for them, and to acknowledge the courtesy which they met from the Bredenbury ringers.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

There will be a committee meeting held on Saturday, May 5th, in the church room, Stoke, to elect a clerical Treasurer.

E. GLOVER, *Hon. Sec.*

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS, GREENWICH, KENT.

In 1782 a society, yecept the Trinity Youths, was formed at Deptford, Kent, with headquarters at St. Nicholas church, for the purpose of furthering the art of change-ringing. For some years the society flourished, and according to the peal-book, several creditable performances were duly accomplished under its auspices, including a 10,080 of Bob Major at St. Mary's, Lewisham, and numerous peals in the more intricate methods at Greenwich, Woolwich, Lewisham, and Deptford. Tablets recording these are still to be seen in the respective towers. Unfortunately by death of members, lack of support, and other causes, the society gradually decreased, until two only could lay claim to membership. A short time ago, however, it was suggested that if the society of Trinity Youths could be resuscitated, it would not only be a boon to the ringers of this district, but would tend greatly to advance the Exercise and save young beginners numerous journeys to London in search of practice. This suggestion met with very cordial support, and arrangements were thereupon made for a meeting at St. Alphege, Greenwich, on Tuesday, April 17th, to discuss and if possible to bring the matter to a successful issue. 'There was a goodly array of ringers, "Stoney Bob" and Stedman being alike represented, and during the evening several touches of Grandsire, from Doubles to Caters, with a sprinkling of Bob Major, were brought round.

Ringings being concluded, Mr. W. Weatherstone introduced Mr. Richard Smith, aged 79, one of the remaining members of the old society, and stated that his colleague, Mr. James Dyer, aged 85, was unable to be present through illness. He however, had appointed Mr. Weatherstone to act as his proxy in conjunction with Mr. Smith for the election of new members. This was therefore at once proceeded with, the following names being eventually submitted and accepted, making with the two old members a total of fifteen. Messrs. J. Dyer, R. Smith, W. Weatherstone, H. A. Cockey, A. G. Freeman, F. W. Thornton, E. E. Richards, J. Laws, W. Bedwell, J. Crowder, W. G. Davis, J. Lamb, W. Foreman, S. Gibbs, and W. Everard. The next business was to elect officers, the following selections being unanimously made: Master, Mr. William Weatherstone; Secretary, Mr. Frederick W. Thornton; Treasurer, Rev. H. A. Cockey; Senior Steward, Mr. J. J. Lamb; Junior Steward, Mr. W. Bedwell. The officers-elect having expressed their thanks, it was decided to make St. Alphege, Greenwich, the society's headquarters, meeting each Tuesday at 7.30 p.m., until further notice. The framing of rules, etc., was postponed for some future occasion. There are several good rings in this district, viz., Greenwich (ten bells), Deptford (St. John's and St. Nicholas), Lewisham, Lee, and Woolwich, eight bells each. With the exception of the latter place, but little half-pull ringing has been done, although several peals have been rung by the St. James' and other London Societies.

The Secretary will be glad to receive the names of any ringers in the neighbourhood willing to join, who may be unable to attend the next meeting. It is earnestly hoped that members of kindred societies will co-operate, and thus endeavour to make the Society of Trinity Youths a complete success.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A bye Meeting of this Association will be held at Westbury-on-Severn (six bells), on Tuesday, May 1st, 1888. Short service at 11.30, in the parish church; dinner at the "Red Lion" at one o'clock. 1s. 6d. allowed to members who have given notice to Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Magor Vicarage, Monmouth, not later than Thursday, April 26th. Trains: Gloucester, 9.20; Grange Court, 9.35; Bristol, 7.55; Chepstow, 10.3; Newnham, 10.43. Return: Grange Court, 7.26; Gloucester, 7.45; Newnham, 6.35; Chepstow, 7.10; Bristol, 9.12.

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The above Association will hold a quarterly meeting at Walsden parish church, on Saturday, May 5th, at 5 o'clock, in the schoolroom. The bells will be at the disposal of members and friends at two. Subscriptions are now due.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

On Monday evening, April 16th, the local company met for practice on the bells of SS. Peter and Paul. A start was made for a touch of Bob Major, but after ringing fifteen minutes a loud report was heard upon the floor underneath the bells. This caused the ringers to set their bells, and upon entering the bell-chamber found the clapper of the 7th bell broken off within twelve inches of the crown staple. A short touch of Bob Minor on the front six brought the evening's practice to a close. But by Saturday evening the clapper was again repaired and restored to its proper place, and an attempt was made to ring 1680, the first part of Holt's three-part peal of Bob Major, which was brought round in 1 hr. 12 mins. W. Hollocks, 1; C. Fisk, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Jno. Moore, 4; H. Smith, 5; W. Snell, 6; A. Symonds (conductor), 7; W. Moore, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in F. This is the longest touch in any method by the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th men. Messrs. W. and A. Hollocks, Moore and Snell hail from Preston; the rest are local men.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the next Quarterly Meeting will be held at St. Alban's church, Rochdale, on Saturday, May 5th. There will be a short service in the church at 5 p.m., at which members and friends are asked to attend. The business meeting will be held in St. Alban's schoolroom, Drake Street, immediately after service, and over which the vicar, the Rev. W. Cooper, M.A., has kindly consented to preside. The bells (8), tenor 17 cwt., will be at the disposal of members from 2.30 p.m., up to the commencement of the service, and again at the close of the meeting. Members on arrival to meet in the schoolroom, where companies can be formed for ringing. The committee will be very pleased to see as many as possible at both the service and the meeting.

JOEL REDFORD, } Hon. Secs.
A. E. WREAKS, }

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.--ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

On Saturday last, April 21st, a meeting of the above branch took place at the parish church, Newchurch. During the afternoon and evening several 500s of Grandsire Triples, touches of Plain Bob and College Single. A meeting was held in the schoolroom, presided over by Mr. Nutter, of Ramsbottom, and it was decided to hold the next ringing meeting at Christ Church, Bacup. During the meeting eight new members were proposed from the belfry of St. Saviour's, Bacup, the branch now numbering upwards of fifty members. Votes of thanks were accorded to the rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells and school, and to the chairman for presiding, which brought the meeting to a close, thirty members having been present and taken part in the ringing.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Lincoln, on Saturday, April 28th. Tea will be provided at 5 o'clock at the Guild Court (foot of the Steep Hill) at 1/3 each, members free; after which the business meeting will be held. Members and visitors intending to be present at tea are requested to communicate with me not later than Wednesday, April 25th. J. W. WATSON.
15, Knight Street, Lincoln.

FOY, HEREFORDSHIRE.

The ringers of this parish have lately been presented with a new set of muffles for the use of the church bells, and a set of handbells, twenty in number, by their Vicar, the Rev. T. C. Wilton.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

The first quarterly meeting of the Macclesfield branch of the above Association was held at Bollington, on Saturday, April 14th, when members attended from Macclesfield, Bollington, Prestbury and Gawsorth. Thirteen fresh members were elected, bringing the total up to forty-four. After the meeting touches of Grandsire and Stedman were rung on the tower bells,

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Sir,—I
Grandsire:
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Sir,—
Triples

Correspondence.

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

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

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—I should like to follow up my remarks of February 4th on Grandsire Triples with another plan, "A six-part peal containing the 6th and 7th always called before." After arranging a table of lead-ends with the 6th and 7th called before, it can be seen at a glance that the thing will not come in two three-part touches, and that sixty more calls must be used, making 180 in all, which admits of 120 problems. In two cases the thing comes in two three-part touches and eighteen three-lead bits. These three-lead bits can be inserted with thirty-six Grandsire singles, and the getting into the second half can be done with a Grandsire ten-part or six-part single, but as there is no call at a 6-7 in either of these cases, the neatest arrangement is with six-part singles. I enclose a peal on this plan, which contains several interesting features, but taking the number of calls—so many of which are singles—into consideration, I am afraid the whole thing is objectionable. The next plan on the list is the twenty-four 6-7's. This plan gives a better excuse for the using of singles. In the first place it costs 120 bobs to extract the twelve out-of-course 6-7's, which means twelve three-lead bits, and then twenty-four Grandsire singles must be substituted for bobs to insert them, and the thing appears in six two-part touches, or twelve parts alike. Now the first thing that occurred to me was to see if the thing would come in three parts without increasing the singles with 135 calls. The nearest approach is three long parts and three short ones out of fifteen problems. After trying for a six-part or three-part with 150 calls with no better result, although there are 120 problems, I returned to the 135 calls where I have a kind of six-part which I enclose. I have not given an arrangement with 5-6-7's for part-ends, because it would contain twelve more singles; the plan is capable of many interesting variations, including a kind of twelve part I have with 130 calls. I think it is curious that the following peal should contain all 2-3's, 3-5's, and 5-2's in the first three parts, and all 3-2's, 2-5's and 5-3's in the last three parts.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7

6 7 2 4 5 3 2
5 3 6 2 4 7 2
4 7 5 6 2 3 2
S 6 3 4 2 7 5 1
5 2 6 7 3 4 1
4 7 5 3 2 6 1
S 3 6 4 2 7 5 1
4 7 3 6 5 2 3
2 6 4 5 7 3 1
7 3 2 4 5 6 2
S 6 5 7 2 4 3 2
3 2 6 4 5 7 1
7 4 3 5 2 6 1
S 5 6 7 2 4 3 1
6 7 5 2 4 3 4
4 3 6 5 2 7 2
7 5 4 2 3 6 1
3 6 7 4 2 5 2
6 7 3 4 2 5 4
4 7 6 5 3 2 5
7 6 4 5 3 2 4
4 3 7 6 2 5 3
S 6 5 4 2 3 7 1
7 2 6 3 5 4 1
4 3 7 5 2 6 1
S 5 6 4 2 3 7 1
3 7 5 4 2 6 2
2 6 3 5 4 7 2
7 5 2 4 6 3 1
2 6 7 5 3 4 3
FL 2 4 5 3 6 7 2

Five times repeated,
with a Holt's six-part
single at the end of the
third and sixth parts.

Farnham Royal, Slough.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7

7 5 2 6 3 4 1
3 4 7 2 6 5 2
5 2 3 6 4 7 1
4 7 5 3 6 2 2
3 7 4 2 5 6 5
S 7 2 3 6 4 5 5
5 6 7 4 2 3 1
3 4 5 2 6 7 1
S 2 7 3 6 4 5 1
6 7 2 5 3 4 5
4 5 6 3 7 2 1
6 7 4 5 2 3 3
7 4 6 5 2 3 4
6 2 7 4 3 5 3
7 3 6 2 5 4 3
2 3 7 4 6 5 5
5 4 2 6 3 7 1
3 7 5 2 6 4 2
2 7 3 4 5 6 5
S 7 4 2 6 3 5 5
5 6 7 3 4 2 1
2 3 5 4 6 7 1
S 4 7 2 6 3 5 1
3 5 4 2 6 7 2
Twice repeated.
With a Grandsire
Single at the end of
the third and sixth
parts.

3 2 4 5 6 7

5 7 3 6 2 4 1
3 2 5 7 4 6 3
6 7 3 4 2 5 1
7 3 6 4 2 5 4
4 3 7 5 6 2 5
2 5 4 6 3 7 1
3 7 2 4 6 5 2
4 7 3 5 2 6 5
S 7 5 4 6 3 2 5
2 6 7 3 5 4 1
4 3 2 5 6 7 1
S 5 7 4 6 3 2 1
6 7 5 2 4 3 5
7 5 6 2 4 3 4
2 5 7 3 6 4 5
4 3 2 6 5 7 1
5 7 4 2 6 3 2
2 7 5 3 4 6 5
S 7 3 2 6 5 4 5
4 6 7 5 3 2 1
2 5 4 3 6 7 1
Twice repeated.

J. J. PARKER.

THE PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES AT DRAYTON, BERKS.

SIR,—In your issue of the 21st inst., I observe a peal of Stedman Triples rung by the members of the Oxford Guild at the above place

in 2 hrs. 27 mins. The members of the Oxford Guild have done some wonderful things of late, but this surpasses all their previous accomplishments. Surely they must have made a mistake in the time, or one of their watches took a fit to stop for a quarter of an hour, or perhaps they got into a scramble and opened into some convenient change to bring the bells round and thus cut out five or six courses.

11 Church Row, Bethnal Green.

G. MUSKETT.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—The report of the seven 720 Surprise methods rung at Capel on Saturday, March 31st, and appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of April 7th should read Durham, London, Superlative, Wells, York, Cambridge, and Chichester, instead of London, Superlative, Wells, York, Cambridge, and Chichester.

D. JORDAN.

TREBLE BOB MAJOR COMPOSITIONS.

SIR,—It has been the aim of some of our friends of late years to try and keep the 2nd bell away from dodging with the tenor at the wrong, and peals of 5000 changes and upwards have been composed upon the plan, and thus the desired object is obtained. The object of this letter may or may not be known, but the fact is that several old peals are capable of variation in such a way as to develop the much desired quality. Here is an illustration from an old peal of mine, first rung in the year 1880 at the Chapel-of-Ease, Islington, London. In the variation the 2nd bell is never in 6th's place at a course-end.

ORIGINAL PEAL.

5088.

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

VARIATION PEAL.

5088.

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

Each twice repeated.

H. DAINS.

147, Barnsbury Road, London, N.

AN OMISSION.

SIR,—I omitted to state in the report of the peal of Grandsire Caters, on handbells, at St. Albans, on the 10th inst., that Mr. David Gibbons, of the St. Peter's Society kindly acted as umpire, and also that Mr. Henry Lewis heard a good part of the peal.

J. C. MITCHELL.

QUICKLY RUNG PEALS.

SIR,—In your issue of April 21st, I find a notice of a peal of Stedman Triples rung at Drayton in 2 hrs. 27 mins., being supposed the quickest on record. It probably is in the method, but a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on the front eight at Christ Church in this town on October 25th, 1852, in 2 hrs. 23 mins., tenor 8 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs. I may also remark that other quick peals have been rung in this parish and district, notably the following at All Saints in this parish on April 8th, 1884; Treble Bob Triples, in 2 hrs. 45 mins.; September 15th, 1847, 5024 Treble Bob Major, in 2 hrs. 48 mins., tenor 15 cwt.; Tipton, February 2nd, 1852, 5056 Treble Bob Major, in 2 hrs. 45 mins., tenor 12 cwt.; November 21st, 1849, at Christ Church, 5075 Grandsire Caters in 2 hrs. 57 mins.; May 10th, 1852, 5082 Grandsire Cinques in 3 hrs. 14 mins., tenor 24 cwt.; and 5003 Grandsire Caters in 2 hrs. 54 mins., at Wednesbury, tenor 24 cwt. These I think will be found to be some of the quickest ever rung. I may say the whole of these bells are hung in towers of limited size, and therefore are short in the stroke, which may account for their being able to be taken along so quickly.

S. MARSH.

West Bromwich.

NARROW ESCAPE OF BELL RINGERS.—At Halstead, Essex, on Sunday morning, April 22nd, when the bells were chiming for service, a weight of the new clock and chimes, weighing 6½ cwt., erected in the tower of the parish church to commemorate the jubilee, fell, crashing through the belfry floor into the church, and smashing a seat. One ringer, named Chaplin, had a narrow escape, the weight almost grazing him, while another, named Gladwell, was struck on the head with a piece of loose metal. Sacks of sawdust are placed underneath the weights to break a possible fall, but the course of this weight was diverted by striking against a beam. There was no one in the church at the time of the occurrence.

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

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1888.

The Provinces.

GLDOWICK, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Friday, April 20, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

JOSEPH SHAW	Treble.	CLEMENT DRONSFIELD ..	5.
FRED COCKS	2.	ALBERT CLEGG	6.
SAMUEL STOTT	3.	THOMAS BARRATT	7.
EDWIN B. SHAW	4.	LUKE HAMPSON	Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, of Birmingham, and Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

The above peal is in twelve parts. The Brothers Shaw hail from Leesfield; Thomas Barratt and Luke Hampson from Moorside.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, April 21, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 12 cwt in G.

WILLIAM HENRY GODDEN ..	Treble.	WILLIAM MUNDAY	5.
THOMAS MILLER	2.	ARTHUR J. JONES	6.
CHARLES STANBRIDGE ..	3.	† JAMES PLANT	7.
THOMAS REYNOLDS	4.	* WILLIAM JACKSON	Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PLANT.

*First peal. †First peal in this Society as conductor.

DERBY.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.—DERBY DISTRICT.

On Saturday, April 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW LITCHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

CHARLES DRAPER	Treble.	CHARLES HART	5.
THOMAS ALTON	2.	ALBERT ED. THOMPSON ..	6.
JOHN WM. THOMPSON ..	3.	HARRY C. WOODWARD ..	7.
WILLIAM B. MIDGLEY ..	4.	GEORGE MOTTASHAW ..	Tenor.

Composed by L. STAINS and Conducted by HARRY C. WOODWARD.

First peal in the method by all except the conductor, and the first peal of Treble Bob on the bells. It is also believed to be the first peal in the method ever rung in Derby in which all the ringers belonged to the town. The peal is in two parts, and consists of fourteen courses, and is considered a production of great merit, the calling of which will be found on page 220 of Shipway ("BELL NEWS" edition).

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, April 19, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,

5056 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

GEORGE ROBINSON	Treble.	JOHN CARTER	5.
JOHN AUSTIN	2.	HARRY WAKLEY	6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY	3.	THOMAS HOLMES	7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN	4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY	Tenor.

Composed by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq., and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

This composition, which is now rung for the first time, contains the whole musical extent of the 6th, viz.: twelve times in 6th's place, and six times in 4th's, the 2nd never in 6th's place. Rung to celebrate the marriage of Rowland Cartwright (Master of the St. Benedict's society, Wombourne, and an honorary member of the St. Paul's society), with Frances Catherine, second daughter of the late Rev. E. W. Stubbs, vicar of Sturcheley, Salop. Mr. John Carter hails from Birmingham and this is his first peal in the method.

FOXEARH, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Friday, April 20, 1888, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 8½ cwt.

SAMUEL SLATER	Treble.	GEORGE MAXIM	5.
WALTER P. GRIDLEY ..	2.	ROBERT MINGAY	6.
JOHN LEE	3.	OLIVER GARWOOD	7.
FREDERICK WELLS	4.	CHARLES SILLITOE	Tenor.

Composed by W. D. CROFTS, and Conducted by CHARLES SILLITOE. The peal will be found in Snowdon's "Treatise on Treble Bob," part II, page 22, and is now rung for the first time. It was rung as a birthday compliment to Master W. F. Foster, eldest son of the Rev. J. F. Foster, who attained his 13th year on that day. This is the longest peal yet rung on these bells. Messrs. Slater, Wells, and Garwood hail from Glemford; Sillitoe from Sudbury; the rest are local men.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Handbell Ringing.

On Friday, April 20, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE MEETING HOUSE, "THE HALBERT INN," NORTHGATE ST.,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 22 size, in C.

WILLIAM MOTTS	1-2.	FREDERICK TILLET	5-6.
JAMES MOTTS	3-4.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE ..	7-8.

Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

Umpires: Messrs S. Tillett, W. P. Garrett and A. E. Durrant, who with other ringers gave applause to the finish of a fine struck peal. This peal was attempted on Thursday to be rung in honour of the memory of Lord Beaconsfield, but after ringing upwards of 300 changes a shift occurred, and stop was called. It is the first rung in the method by four members of the St. Mary-le-Tower society and Norwich Diocesan Association, and was rung upon the Rev. A. H. Hayes' splendid-toned peal of eight bells kindly lent to R. Brundle.

QUORNDON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(THE LOUGHBOROUGH BRANCH).

On Saturday, April 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt. in F#.

CHAS. SMITH	Treble.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN., Esq. ..	5.
R. LANE	2.	J. WARD	6.
J. C. DICKENS	3.	W. BIRKINSHAW	7.
J. HARDY	4.	A. R. ALDHAM	Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON, and Conducted by A. R. ALDHAM.

Messrs. Dickens and Ward hail from Long Eaton.

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

On Saturday, April 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5058 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt. 3qrs. in Eb.

WILLIAM COOPER Treble.	THOMAS HORTON 6.
JOHN TINSLEY 2.	WILLIAM SMITH 7.
SAMUEL REEVES 3.	WILLIAM R. SMALL 8.
JOHN FRISBY* 4.	CHARLES PRICE 9.
ADAM H. HILL* 5.	JAMES HALL Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, SEN., of Birmingham, and Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

*First peal of Caters. The peal has the 5th and 6th each twelve times wrong and right, without a 8-9 or a 7-8 being called.

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.
WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Nine and-a-half Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5075 CHANGES.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

THOMAS ALBUTT Treble.	WALTER REA 6.
OLIVER JAMES 2.	GEORGE HAYWARD 7.
HARRY MASON 3.	ALFRED MOORE 8.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 4.	GEORGE BOURNE 9.
WILLIAM JAMES 5.	JAMES PARRY Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE HAYWARD.

H. Mason hails from Old Hill, this being his first attempt to ring Caters. W. H. Fussell from Slough, the rest belong to Bromsgrove. The figures of this composition which is now rung for the first time, will be published in a future number.

BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.

THE BRADFORD OLD SOCIETY AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 27 cwt.

A. MOULSON Treble.	THOS. POLLITT 6.
J. H. FISHER 2.	J. ANGUS 7.
H. RAISTRICK 3.	J. H. HARDCASTLE 8.
BEN F. LAMB 4.	F. LONDON 9.
J. BROADLEY 5.	G. A. O. NETTLETON .. Tenor.

Composed by THOS. POLLITT and Conducted by J. H. HARDCASTLE.

This is the first peal of Caters by all the company, and the first on these bells. It was also rung at the first attempt. Mr. B. T. Copley officiated as umpire, and he pronounced the peal to have been well rung, not a single "slip" of any moment occurring from beginning to finish; his opinion being endorsed by several ringing friends who heard the peal from the outside.

ROYDON, ESSEX.

THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, April 24, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

5040 CHANGES, IN SEVEN DIFFERENT MINOR METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:—

DOUBLE COURT, COLLEGE SINGLE, OXFORD AND KENT TREBLE BOB, OXFORD BOB, PLAIN BOB, AND GRANDSIRE.

Tenor 8cwt. 3qrs. 18lbs.

EDWARD CAINS Treble.	JOSEPH POMFRET 4.
WILLIAM BENNETT 2.	HENRY PHILLIPS 5.
MATTHEW ELLSMORE 3.	HERBERT BAKER Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT BAKER.

This is the first time these bells have been rung, having only just been hung. The first five are new, by Mears and Stainbank, and the tenor by Pack and Chapman in 1776.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—EASTBOURNE BRANCH.

On Saturday, April 21, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

J. ROLLISON Treble.	T. HART 5.
C. HARFFEY 2.	T. LEWIS 6.
E. WILLOUGHBY 3.	*T. WILLOUGHBY 7.
L. HUGGETT 4.	J. LEWIS Tenor.

Conducted by T. WILLOUGHBY.

First peal in the method at Eastbourne, also in the method by all. *First peal as conductor.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

WILLIAM COBB* Treble.	FREDERICK FIELD 5.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON 2.	H. D. BETTERIDGE, ESQ. 6.
CHARLES TRINDER 3.	THOMAS SHORT 7.
REV. CANON WIGRAM 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal of Major. This peal has the 4th, 5th and 6th eighteen times in 6th's place, and is now rung for the first time. Canon Wigram belongs to Hertford.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, THE LANCASHIRE AND UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATIONS.

Handbell Ringing.

On Sunday, April 22, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. SAMUEL WOOD, 168, BURLINGTON ST.,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13 size in Eb.

SAMUEL WOOD 1-2.	GEORGE LONGDEN 5-6.
JAMES S. WILDE 3-4.	JOHN THORP 7-8.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN THORP.

Umpires.—Mr. W. Jakeman, who marked off the course-ends as they came up. The following members of the Ashton-under-Lyne society also listened to the peal, viz Messrs Mellor, J. Wood, J. Crabtree and S. Taylor, and complimented the ringers on the able way in which it had been struck.

DORCHESTER, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 23, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Treble.	FREDERICK FIELD 5.
CHARLES TOLLEY 2.	HARRY COBB 6.
CHARLES TRINDER 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
REV. CANON WIGRAM 4.	WILLIAM COBB Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

HAGBOURNE, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, April 25, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 23½ cwt.

JAMES PETHER Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 5.
ERNEST NAPPER 2.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK 6.
REV. CANON WIGRAM 3.	WILLIAM NAPPER 7.
DENNIS NAPPER 4.	ALFRED WOODLEY Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

HADLOW, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, April 22, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 15 cwt.

ERNEST NEWMAN Treble.	HARRY PEARCE 5.
WILLIAM ELDRIDGE 2.	ALCHIN MOORCRAFT 6.
WILLIAM BELL 3.	GEORGE BELL 7.
GEORGE NEWMAN 4.	WILLIAM BELLINGHAM .. Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY PEARCE.

*First peal, age 15. Moorcraft and Pearce hail from Maidstone; the rest from Mereworth.

SALISBURY, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

Handbell Peal.

On Sunday, April 22, 1888, in Two Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. W. E. TYDEMAN, 49, CASTLE STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 13 size in E.

ARTHUR W. BARKUS† .. 1-2.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 5-6.
WILLIAM E. TYDEMAN .. 3-4.	*WALTER S. WISE .. 7-8.

Conducted by WILLIAM W. GIFFORD.

*First peal. †First peal on handbells. Umpire, Mr. William Scammell, who marked off all the bob-leads as they were rung.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(No date mentioned), in Six Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 10,304 CHANGES.

Tenor 20½ cwt.

J. MOTTS Treble.	W. MOTTS 5.
W. BUTTON 2.	A. J. LINCOLN 6.
F. WILSON 3.	R. W. STANNARD 7.
H. J. BUTTON 4.	F. J. TILLET Tenor.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, Chesterfield, and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

The above is the longest ever rung in Suffolk, in any method. It is also worthy of notice that the average age of the company was only 21 years, as well as being all single men. Also that one of the ringers was only 17 years old. And great credit is due to the tenor man for the able way in which he rang his bell, he being only 20 years old. Messrs Motts and Tillett are from Ipswich; the rest belong to the local company.

Date Touches.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

EPSOM (Surrey).—On Monday, April 23rd, at the parish church, a date touch of Union Triples, 1888 changes, in 1 hr. 3 mins. Alfred E. Bassett, 1; William Sanders, 2; Thomas Miles (conductor), 3; G. Wyatt, 4; Harry Pederick, 5; James Easton, 6; Jesse Hawkins, 7; G. Pederick, 6. Composed by Josiah Wathen, of Tewkesbury. This touch was rung to commemorate the 19th anniversary of the peal rung by four fathers and their four sons, and also Jas. Easton's birthday, his brother strings wishing him many happy returns.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

PUDSEY (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, April 21st, at St. Lawrence's church, eight members of the above Association rang a date touch of 1888 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 10 mins. Fred Schofield, 1; Simeon Longstaff, 2; Arthur Spurr, 3; George Crawshaw (conductor), 4; James A. Idle (composer), 5; Joseph Chapel, 6; David Stephenson, 7; Willoughby Dixon, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

HALIFAX.—On Sunday, April 22nd, All Souls church, for evening service, a date touch, of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 74 mins. H. Reynolds, 1; T. Parker, 2; G. H. C. Copping, 3; J. S. Ambler, 4; H. Payne (conductor), 5; C. E. Stewart, 6; G. D. E. Mercer, 7; S. W. Stewart, 8. Tenor 25½ cwt.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Saturday, April 21st, the following members of the local company met at St. Gregory's church, and rang a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 14 mins. Felix Tolliday, 1; Harry Harper, 2; W. Bayley Ransom, Esq., Maurice Silvester, 4; Charles Sillitoe (conductor), 5; Walter Gigg, 6; William Howell, 7; Arthur Scott, 8. Composed by Dan Prentice, of Ipswich. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Sunday, April 22nd, for Divine Service, the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). *F. Smith, 1; H. King, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; †H. Clifton, 4; C. W. Watson, 1; S. Hammond, 2; F. L. Bumstead, 3; C. H. Howard, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; H. E. Hammond, 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DURHAM.—On Sunday, April 22nd, at St. Oswald's church, evening service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. G. Newton, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; W. Noble, 3; J. Butterworth (conductor), 4; L. Newton, 5; W. Prince, 6. Also Monday evening, April 23rd, for practice, several touches of Grandsire Minor, including a 320. W. G. Newton, 1; L. Newton, 2; Bradford, 3; C. J. Butterworth (conductor), 4; W. Noble, 5; J. Avery, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, April 22nd, for Divine Service, St. Michael's church, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise, in 25 mins. Watson, 1; S. Hammond, 2; F. L. Bumstead, 3; C. H. Howard, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; H. E. Hammond, 6.

COGGESHALL (Essex).—On Sunday, April 22nd, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; W. Dyer, 2; D. Ellis, 3; S. Hammond, 4; Jas. Nicholls, 5; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob. T. Watson, 1; W. Dyer, 2; J. Sadler, 3; S. Hammond, 4; Jas. Nicholls, 5; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 6. Tenor 22 cwt. Messrs S. and H. E. Hammond and Watson hail from Braintree.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FOLKESTONE (Kent).—On Tuesday evening, April 17th, for practice a touch of 840 Grandsire Triples. John Croucher, 1; Frederick Finn, 2; James Fisher, 3; Edmund Potter, 4; Henry Croucher, 5; Samuel Barker (conductor), 6; Frederick Slingsby, 7; George Millen, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Monday evening, April 16th, for practice, at the parish church, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor, in 25 mins. J. Worsley, 1; W. Harden, 2; E. Baldock, 3; Rev. L. Brine, 4; D. Hall, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6. First 720 of the method by the Malling company.

WROTHAM (Kent).—On Friday, April 13th, a 720 of Bob Minor at the parish church. F. Taylor, 1; W. Taylor, 2; G. Barham, 3; G. Osborne, 4; F. Shoobridge (conductor), 5; C. Taylor, 6; J. Rodgers, 7. On Friday, April 20th, 360 in the same method. *W. H. G. mer, 1; Rev. H. E. Polehampton, 2; *G. Barham, 3; A. Phyll, 4; W. Taylor, 5; R. Edge, 6; C. Taylor (conductor), 7; J. Rodgers, 8. Fourth and tenor covering. *First 360 of Bob Minor. Also 252 of Triples. F. Taylor, 1; F. Shoobridge, 2; G. Barham, 3; W. Taylor, 4; J. Rodgers, 5; G. Osborne, 6; C. Taylor (conductor), 7; Phyll, 8.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

RETTFORD (Notts).—On Sunday, April 22nd, six members of the above association, rang for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty bobs and thirty singles), in 26½ mins. J. Briggs, 1; H. Hall, 2; W. Drake, 3; N. G. Hnnt, 4; J. W. Clarke, 5; R. Potter (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, April 22nd, for morning service three 120's of Grandsire Doubles, on the back five. H. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; G. Essex, 3; J. Hands, 4; T. Newman (conductor), 5. Also for evening service, a 720 of Plain Bob. G. Essex, 1; F. Simmonds, 2; J. Hands, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; T. Newman, 5; E. Menday (conductor), 6. After service a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; E. Menday, 3; J. Hands, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

ST, SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

EXETER.—On Sunday, April 22nd, at St. Sidwell's church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes) in 1 hr. 14 mins.

rom Thurstans' peal, in 43 mins. W. Stocker, 1; A. Shepherd, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; F. Davey, 4; S. Binfield, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd (conductor), 7; B. Munday, 8. Tenor 24 cwt., in D.

THE ST. JOHN'S SOCIETY, WATERLOO.

LONDON.—On Sunday, April 15th, eight members of the above society, rang for Divine Service at St. John's church, Waterloo road, 1316 of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. C. Chaplin, 1; W. Broadbent, 2; Walter Partington, 3; S. G. Davies, 4; F. L. Davies (conductor), 5; Rev. A. W. Jephson, 6; H. L. Partington, 7; W. Ball, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Sunday, April 22nd, six members of the above Guild, rang at the parish church, a 720 of Wells Surprise, in 23 mins. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; F. Jordan, 3; M. Jenkins, 4; A. Mills, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also a 720 in three different methods, viz.:—240 each of London Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Superlative Surprise, in 23 mins. Standing as before.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WORCESTER.—On Sunday, April 22nd, at St. Michael's church, Stoke Prior, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 27 mins. W. James, 1st 720 of Treble Bob 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; O. James, 3; T. Albott (first on a bob bell), 4; G. Hayward (conductor), 5; W. Rea, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Saturday, April 14th, a bob and single variation peal of Grandsire Triples, composed by B. Annable, but after ringing 2 hrs. 42 mins., it came to grief owing to a late call. J. Bennett, 1; T. Bennett (his longest length), 2; J. Carter (conductor), 3; J. Bennett, jun., 4; T. Salters, 5; W. H. Fussell (Slough), 6; R. E. Grove, 7; T. Walters, 8. Tenor 29½ cwt.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ASHLEWORTH (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, April 15th, at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. H. G. Gardner, 1; J. Buffery (Birmingham), 2; S. Romans, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt. in E. Also 720 Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. T. Pegler, 1; J. Buffery, 2; S. Romans, 3; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 4; H. Mitchell, 5; William Sevier, 6.

BARLOW MOOR (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, April 10th, at Christ church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Oaks, 1; W. Holbrook, 2; G. Pearson, 3; J. Darbyshire, 4; J. Wilde (conductor), 5; T. Brickell, 6; P. Brickell, 7; J. Gadd, 8. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), on the back six. G. Pearson, 1; W. Holbrook, 2; J. Wilde, 3; T. Brickell, 4; J. Darbyshire, 5; P. Brickell (conductor), 6. First 720 of Grandsire Minor on the bells. And on Sunday morning, April 22nd, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Pearson, 1; W. Woodhead (Rusholme), 2; W. Holbrook, 3; J. Darbyshire, 4; J. Wilde (conductor), 5; T. Brickell, 6; P. Brickell, 7; J. Gadd, 8. Also on Tuesday, April 17th, at the Didsbury parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles). P. Brickell (conductor), 1; W. Jones, 2; J. Wilde, 3; J. Shawcross, 4; J. Banks, 5; J. Pearson, 6.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—At the church of St. Lawrence, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. H. Barnes, 1; J. Yates, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 4; A. A. Waite, 5; H. G. Gardner, 6. Followed by 6-score of Stedman, conducted by J. Yates. Tenor 14 cwt.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Tuesday, April 3rd, at the parish church, a 720 of Violet Treble Bob. F. Sanders, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Moses, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, April 22nd, 720 of College Single. J. Poplett, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Moses, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles). J. Robinson, 1; F. Bridges, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Moses, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Bob. J. Robinson, 1; F. Arnold, 2; F. Sanders, 3; W. Sadler, 4; R. Arnold, 5; E. Moses (conductor), 6.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, April 15th, at St. Michael's church, 360 Double Court Bob Minor. S. Hammond (conductor), 1; F. L. Bumpstead, 2; F. Rudkin, 3; J. T. Barker, 4; E. Claydon, 5; H. Hammond, 6.

DARTFORD (Kent).—On Tuesday, April 17th, at Holy Trinity church a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). F. Cullum, 1; E. W. Snowdon, 2; F. J. Gamlin (Rhyl), 3; J. Blackman, 4; George Conyard (conductor), 5; E. Everson, 6.

EXETER.—On Sunday, April 22nd, at St. Edmund's church, 1316 Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. S. Herbert, 1; H. Swift, 2; E. Pitt,

3; A. Searle, 4; W. Goss, 5; W. Marsh (composer and conductor), 6; W. Richardson, 7; A. Webber, 8.

GAWSWORTH (Cheshire).—On Monday evening, April 16th, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. A. Lawton, 1; A. B. Lomas, 2; C. Postles, 3; D. Lomas, 4; J. Hammond, 5; W. Henshall (conductor), 6.

HORLEY (Surrey).—On Wednesday evening, April 18th, for practice, an attempt was made for a half peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 1736 changes, in 1 hr., and 6 mins., a change course occurred, and the conductor called stand. A. Ellis, 1; W. Edwards, 2; T. Sparks, 3; E. Dewey, 4; W. Collison, 5; T. Wickens (conductor), 6; J. Taylor, 7; W. Wallis, 8. And a 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Wickens, 1; W. Edwards, 2; T. Whitmore, 3; E. Dewey, 4; W. Collison, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; J. Taylor, 7; A. Ellis, 8. And on Sunday evening, April 22nd, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 43 mins. A. Ellis, 1; W. Edwards, 2; E. Dewey, 3; G. Wickens, 4; W. Collison, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; B. King, 7; W. Wallis, 8. And a 350 of Grandsire Triples. A. Ellis, 1; W. Edwards, 2; *E. Dewey (conductor), 3; G. Wickens, 4; W. Collison, 5; F. Wickens, 6; B. King, 7; W. Wallis, 8. After evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, taken from "THE BELL NEWS," in 44 mins. A. Ellis, 1; W. Edwards, 2; E. Dewey, 3; B. King, 4; F. Wickens, 5; G. Wickens, 6; †W. Collison (conductor), 7; W. Wallis, 8, †First quarter-peal as conductor. *First touch as conductor.

IGHTHAM (Kent).—On Tuesday, April 24th, at St. Peter's church, two six 6-scores of Bob Doubles, in 50 mins. *John Webb, 1; Rev. H. E. Polehampton, 2; Fred. C. Webb, 3; George Moore, 4; Fredk. Shoebridge (conductor), 5. *First 6-score.

LONDON.—Handbell Ringing.—On Thursday evening, April 12th, at the "Goose and Gridiron," St. Paul's churchyard, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 40 mins. William Baron, sen., 1-2; Challis F. Winny, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; George Wild (conductor), 7-8.

NORTON (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, April 17th, six members of the local company rang, at St. James's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. (with fourteen singles and four bobs). J. Atkin, 1; *G. Butcher, H. Ward, 3; J. Biggin, 4; J. Goucher, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. *First 720 with a bob bell. Also on Sunday, April 22nd, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Samuel Allen, of Dronsfeld, who has rung several 720's at this church, and was well respected by all who knew him. *G. Butcher, 1; H. Ward, 2; *J. Goucher, 3; J. Atkin, 4; W. Biggin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt. *First 720 in the method.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Thursday evening, April 19th, at the parish church, for practice, two 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles. W. Adler, 1; G. Winter, 2; J. Clarke, 3; H. Horwood, 4; T. W. Chapman (conductor), 5; M. George (Coventry), 6. Also six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (each called differently). W. Adler, 1; C. Winter, 2; J. Clarke, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. W. Chapman, 5; M. George, 6. Two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. M. George, 1; T. W. Chapman (conductor), 2; G. Winter, 3; J. Clarke, 4; W. Adler, 5; C. Palmer, 6. This was Mr. George's first touch on the treble. On Friday evening, April 20th, at the house of G. Winter, ten 6-score of Grandsire Doubles (each called differently), on handbells, retained in hand, in 40 mins. J. Clarke, 1-2; T. W. Chapman (conductor), 3-4; G. Winter, 5-6. Longest touch on handbells by the above. And 168 of Grandsire Triples, on handbells, retained in hand. J. Clarke, 1-2; T. W. Chapman, 3-4; H. Horwood (conductor), 5-6; G. Winter, 7-8. First touch of Triples in hand by the Nuneaton company.

OVERBURY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday evening, April 17th, date touch of 1888 changes was rung in 1 hr. 10 mins., being fifty 6-scores and 88 odd changes of Grandsire and St. Dunstan's Double. The odd changes and seven of the six scores were St. Dnnstan Doubles. C. Wittle, 1; A. Devereux, 2; H. Payne (conductor), 3; J. Adkins, 4; A. Attwood, 5. This is supposed to be the longest touch ever rung on these bells.

PULFORD (Cheshire).—On Thursday evening, April 5th, the local company rang 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Jones, 1; D. West, 2; G. Jones, 3; J. Mercer, 4; W. Thomas, 5; J. Morgan (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 8th, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 College Single. S. Jones, 1; D. West, 2; W. Morgan, 3; J. Mercer, 4; W. Thomas, 5; J. Morgan (conductor), 6. On Monday, April 9th, 720 Grandsire Minor. A. Matthews, 1; D. West, 2; G. Jones, 3; J. Mercer, 4; W. Morgan, 5; J. Morgan (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, April 12th, 720 Oxford Bob. S. Jones, 1; D. West, 2; J. Jones, 3; J. Mercer (first 720 in the method), 4; W. Morgan, 5; G. Morgan (conductor), 6. These are the first 720s in all the above methods by D. West.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday evening, April 22nd, for Divine Service, at St. Margaret's church, a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. E. Raynor, 1; J. Tullett, 2; W. Baker, 3; G. Lindoff (R.E.) 4; A. Osborne (first 720 in the method), 5; M. Warwick (R.E., conductor), 6.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—On Thursday, April 19th, at the parish church, 360 London Single, 360 College Little, 360 College Single, 360 Oxford Bob, 360 Plain Bob, 72 Double Court, and 120 Plain Bob. And the same evening, in the National Schoolroom, on handbells, 360 Double Court, and 252 Bob Triples. The following took part in the above: J. Bailey, G. Heath, F. Clayton, G. Burton, A. E. Chapman, W. A. Hall, and A. H. Martin. The above was rung on the occasion of the Bishop of Peterborough holding a confirmation at the above church. On Friday, April 20th, at the residence of Mr. A. Clayton, on handbells, 504 Bob Triples. *A. Clayton, 1; *W. Pettit, 2; *G. Burton, 3; *G. Heath, 4; *J. B. Martin, 5; *A. H. Martin, 6; W. A. Hall (conductor), 7-8. And 360 Yorkshire Court. J. Bailey, 1; A. H. Martin, 2; J. B. Martin, 3; W. Pettit, 4; W. A. Hall (conductor), 5-6. And 360 Plain Bob. W. A. Hall, 1-2; W. Pettit, 3; J. Bailey, 4; A. H. Martin (conductor), 5-6. *Longest touch.

SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Herts).—On Tuesday evening, April 17th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. N. W. Tarling, 1; A. Brown, 2; W. Morris, 3; W. J. Pleasance, 4; *F. W. Tarling, 5; F. Chapman, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; P. Springham, 8. Composed by Mr. Thwaites. H. J. Tucker hails from Bishops Stortford; F. Chapman from Hadham, the rest are local men. *First quarter-peal. Tenor 25 cwt.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Sunday, April 22nd, the local company met at St. Peter's church, and rung for evening service a touch of 576 changes of Bob Major. F. Tolliday, 1; M. Silvester, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; W. Howell, 4; H. Harper, 5; A. Scott, 6; W. Griggs, 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. After evening service, a touch of 756 Stedman Triples. J. Campin, 1; M. Silvester, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; W. Howell, 4; H. Harper, 5; A. Scott, 6; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 7; H. Brackett, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. in Eb.

STEBBING (Essex).—On Sunday, April 15th, for morning service, at St. Mary's church, two 6-scores of Grandsire and one of Plain Doubles. W. Emery, 1; E. Claydon, 2; J. T. Barker, 3; F. Rudkin, 4; E. Hynds, 5. Also two 6-scores of New Doubles, and two of St. Simon's Doubles. A. Barker, 1; J. T. Barker, 2; E. Claydon (conductor), 3; E. Hynds, 4; F. Rudkin (Braintree), 5.

WELLS (Somerset).—On Tuesday morning, April 3rd, at 7 a.m., a 504 and 84 of Stedman Triples, being the first touches of any description ever rung on the bells. J. F. Hastings, 1; J. Field, 2; S. Hounslow, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; T. Payne, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; W. Finch, T. Short, Rev. —. Coode and S. Collins, 6. Tenor 57½ cwt.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT OF THE RINGING FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING APRIL 23rd, 1888.

By the Arundel branch at Arundel.—On Sunday, April 15th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Union Triples. G. Treagus, 1; F. Luxford, 2; H. Haggett, 3; W. Short, 4; G. Balchin, 5; H. Chandler, 6; C. Blackman (conductor), 7; R. Goacher, 8. Also a 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Treagus, 1; C. Blackman, 2; O. Evershed, 3; W. Short, 4; G. Balchin, 5; F. Luxford (conductor), 6; H. Chandler, 7; R. Goacher, 8.

By the Balcombe branch at Balcombe.—On Thursday, April 12th, a 360 of College Single. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Bourn, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; A. Stoner, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Bourn, 2; E. Streeter, sen., 3; T. Streeter, 4; A. Stoner, 5; J. Cheeseman (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Woodbine Treble Bob. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourn, 2; E. Streeter, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Gasson, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, April 19th, a 360 of Violet Treble Bob. R. Bourn, 1; R. Streeter, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; T. Streeter, 4; H. Meads, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also a 240 of Plain Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; T. Streeter, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; R. Streeter, 4; A. Stoner, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also a 120 of Duke of York. R. Bourn, 1; A. Stoner, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; E. Streeter, 4; H. Mead, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6.

By the Brighton branch at St. Paul's, Brighton.—On Thursday, April 12th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. P. Allfrey, 1; G. Biggerstaff, 2; W. C. Marshall, 3; G. A. Hill, 4; J. E. Worsell, 5; W. Allfrey (conductor), 6; A. Bennett, 7; H. Cornwall, 8. And on Sunday, April 15th for service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. J. Eves, 1; G. Biggerstaff, 2; W. C. Marshall, 3; G. A. Hill, 4; W. Allfrey, 5; J. Reilly, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; J. Salmon, 8.

And at St. Nicholas's, on Saturday, April 14th, an attempt for a peal of Stedman Triples, which came to grief after ringing 1380 changes, in 45 mins. Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 1; W. Palmer, 2; G. F. Attree, 3; C. Tyler, 4; G. A. King, 5; G. C. Hammond, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; W. Robinson, 8. And the same evening, at St. Peter's, Brighton, another attempt was made which also proved unsuccessful after ringing 2700, in 1 hr. 39 mins. A. A. Fuller, 1; H. Weston, 2; G. F. Attree, 3; G. A. King, 4; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 5; G. C. Hammond, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; W. Robinson, 8. And on Sunday, April 22nd, for morning service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 17½ mins. G. F. Attree, 1; J. E. Worsell, 2; A. A. Fuller, 3; H. Cornwall, 4; J. Jay, 5; H. Weston (conductor), 6; G. Thwaites, 7; J. Mockett, 8. Also for evening service, the last 742 of Holt's Original, in 28 mins. G. F. Attree (conductor), 1; G. Thwaites, 2; G. A. King, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; J. E. Worsell, 5; J. Jay, 6; H. Cornwall, 7; J. Mockett, 8. Also on Monday, April 23rd, a 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major. A. A. Fuller, 1; G. A. King, 2; W. Allfrey, 3; G. F. Attree, 4; G. Thwaites, 5; J. Searle, 6; J. Reilly, 7; H. Weston (conductor), 8.

By the Chailey branch at Chailey.—On Wednesday, April 11th, on the occasion of the wedding of T. S. Drury, Esq., and Miss Ingram, of Chailey, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Reynolds, 1; A. Brown, 2; A. Gorrings, 3; H. Cornwall, 4; W. Pelling, 5; G. Gatland (Steyping, conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Bob Minor, in 13 mins. J. Reynolds, 1; A. Brown, 2; A. Gorrings, 3; H. Cornwall, 4; G. Gatland, 5; W. Pelling (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, April 21st, a 360 of Bob Minor, in 13 mins. J. Reynolds, 1; *J. Langridge, 2; A. Gorrings, 3; H. Cornwall, 4; W. Pelling, 5; O. Gatland (conductor), 6. *First 360 with a bob bell. Also on Sunday, April 22nd, a 360 of Bob Minor. J. Reynolds, 1; C. Brown, 2; A. Gorrings, 3; H. Cornwall, 4; W. Pelling, 5; O. Gatland (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins., by same band as above.

By the Crawley branch at Crawley.—On Monday, April 9th, a 928 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 35 mins. G. Wickens, 1; J. Newnham, 2; B. King, 3; W. Collison, 4; M. Heffer, 5; F. Rice, 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; F. Wickens (conductor), 8. Also a date touch (1888 changes) of Treble Bob Major, in 66 mins. G. Wickens, 1; J. Newnham, 2; B. King, 3; W. Collison, 4; M. Heffer, 5; F. Rice, 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; F. Wickens (conductor), 8. Also on Sunday, April 15th, a 1260 of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. A. Ellis, 1; J. Newnham, 2; E. Dewey, 3; F. Rice, 4; W. Collison, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; M. Heffer, 7; E. Pierce, 8. Also a 168 of Grandsire Triples. W. Ward, 1; J. Newnham, 2; E. Dewey, 3; G. Wickens, 4; W. Collison, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; J. Gasson, 7; E. Pierce, 8. Also a 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 23 mins. G. Wickens, 1; J. Newnham, 2; E. Streeter, 3; F. Rice, 4; W. Collison, 5; M. Heffer, 6; J. Gasson, 7; F. Wickens (conductor), 8. And for evening service, a 1120 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 41 mins. G. Wickens, 1; J. Newnham, 2; E. Streeter, 3; F. Rice, 4; W. Collison, 5; M. Heffer, 6; J. Gasson, 7; F. Wickens (conductor), 8. Also on Monday, April 16th, a 2520 of Plain Bob Triples, in 1 hr. 27 mins. A. Ellis, 1; J. Newnham, 2; G. Wickens, 3; F. Rice, 4; W. Collison, 5; A. F. Hillier (conductor), 6; F. Wickens, 7; E. Pierce, 8. An attempt for a peal, but through a change-course the conductor called "stand."

By the Cuckfield branch at Cuckfield.—On Saturday, April 21st, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. L. Gibb, 1; R. Nash, 2; W. Fox, 3; W. Gibson, 4; H. Howell (conductor), 5; D. Denman, 6; F. Hounsell, 7; F. Smith, 8. And on Sunday, April 22nd, for Divine service in the evening, a 1120 of Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins. L. Gibb, 1; W. Gibson, 2; W. Fox, 3; H. Mitchell, 4; R. Waters, 5; H. Howell, 6; F. Hounsell (conductor), 7; F. Smith, 8.

By the Eastbourne branch at Eastbourne.—On Saturday, April 21st, at St. Mary's church, a peal of Bob Triples, in 2 hrs. 57 mins. For particulars see peal column.

By the Ringmer branch at Ringmer.—On Easter Sunday, April 1st, for morning service, a 216 of Bob Minor. A. Slarks, 1; C. Painter, 2; H. Jones, 3; A. E. Paris, 4; J. T. Rickman, 5; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 6. And for evening service, an attempt for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, but unfortunately a change-course occurred after ringing nearly 1200 changes. C. Painter, 1; Rev. C. D. Davies, 2; H. Jones, 3; A. E. Paris, 4; J. T. Rickman, 5; G. Washer, 6; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 7; A. Slarks, 8. And on Tuesday evening, April 3rd, with the bells deeply muffled, as a last token of respect to A. Christie, Esq., who was interred on that day, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, rang in whole pulls. G. C. Hammond (conductor), 1; C. Painter, 2; A. E. Paris, 3; H. Jones, 4; A. Slarks, 5; F. Newnham, 6. Also on Sunday, April 15th, a 630 of Grandsire Triples. A. Slarks, 1; A. E. Paris, 2; J. T. Rickman, 3; H. Jones, 4; G. Washer, 5; C. Painter, 6; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 7; T. Miller, 8.

By the Steyning branch at Steyning.—On Thursday, April 19th, a 720 (on handbells) of Kent Treble Bob. J. Matthews, 1; G. Smart (conductor), 2; E. Brackley, 3; F. Morris, 4; C. Tyler, 5-6. And on Saturday, April 21st, a 720 (on handbells) of Kent Treble Bob. J. Matthews, 1; F. Morris, 2; G. Smart, 3-4; C. Tyler (conductor), 5-6.

Church News.

The afternoon lecture at St. Philip's, Regent-street, next Sunday, will be delivered by Dr. Taylor, Master of St. John's, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, on the Didache.

The Bishop of Sydney intends to sail on Monday by the *Oceana* and hopes to arrive in England about June 15th. Letters may be addressed to him at 25, Delahay Street, S.W.

Archdeacon Hessey is still too unwell to hold his usual visitation of the clergy this year, but the churchwardens will be cited to appear and be admitted in the vestry of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, on May 7th.

At a meeting of the Fellows of Sion College yesterday, it was resolved on the motion of the Rev. J. L. Fish, seconded by the Rev. T. Darling, that a petition against the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill should be presented to the House of Lords.

In the case of *Hakes v. Bell Cox*, in which Mr. Bell Cox is appealing, a petition was presented to the House of Lords on Monday by Lord Penzance, asking to be made a party-respondent, the agent for Mr. Hakes consenting. The petition was referred to the Appeal Committee.

A window has been placed in the parish church of St. Martin-in-the-fields as a memorial of the Rev. W. G. Humphry, the late vicar. The subject is the Resurrection. In the lower compartment the three Maries are at the tomb, and the angel is pointing upwards and saying, "Why seek ye the living among the dead?" Two cherubs above bear the words, "Victor Mortis." In the upper window is a figure of our Lord.

The Rev. William Bouverie Pusey, only surviving brother of Dr Pusey, has died at St. Leonard's, aged seventy-seven. Mr. Pusey, who was the youngest son of the Hon. Philip Bouverie (who assumed the surname of Pusey), only surviving son of the first Viscount Folkestone, graduated from Oriel in 1831. He was ordained in 1832, and for some five-and-thirty years held the family living of Langley, near Maidstone.

The death took place on Tuesday, April 17th, of the Rev. Henry Morris, rector of Withcall, near Louth, in his fifty-eighth year. Mr. Morris was presented to the living in 1869 by the Lord Chancellor, having previously been incumbent of Holy Trinity church, Reading. For the last two months he had been laid up with an incurable disease, and his death was, therefore, not entirely unexpected. During the nineteen years of his pastorate a grand work has been done in the parish of Withcall. A beautiful church has been built, new schools have been built, and everything now is in the most perfect order, and it is not too much to say that the rector's death will cause a loss that will be most deeply felt by all, and by none more than the poor, who were his constant care.

On Sunday morning, the Rev. Evan Rowlands, a clergyman, who had gone to Carlisle on Thursday, died under sad circumstances. He took longings in Castle street, the landlady asking a shilling for a bed. He begged her to make it ninnence, and as he appeared ill and seemed to have seen better days, she consented. He was out on Friday and on Saturday, seeking subscriptions for a book he had written, *Gems for Appointed Feasts*. On Saturday, he became very ill, and he died during the night. His diaries showed that he had been all over the east coast. He was to have been buried on Monday at the expense of the parish, but Canon Richmond, who was with him for some time on the night of his death, undertook the burial at his own expense.

On Tuesday, April 17th, the funeral took place of the Rev. Robert Blayney Wright, Fellow of Worcester College, and for the last thirty-seven years rector of Frinstead, Kent. He was son of the Rev. E. Wright, who held the living of Piteford, Northamptonshire, for thirty-six years. The parishes of Frinstead and Milsted were formerly united, and there had been no resident clergyman in the former until 1867, when the late Lord Kingsdown bought the advowson and presented to it his nephew, Mr. Wright. The transformation effected in the place and people has been most remarkable, and is cause for much gratitude. More than twenty of the neighbouring clergy testified their esteem by attending the funeral in their surplices, the officiating clergy being the Rev. Musgrave Hilton, and the Rev. J. W. Nutt, Rural Dean. The church was crowded with friends and parishioners of the deceased, and the coffin was covered with exquisite wreaths and flowers, was followed by his two brothers and two sisters, and other relatives.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—ERECTION OF A PEAL-BOARD AT STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

ON Tuesday, April 3rd, the members of the Stockton society met together to celebrate the erection in the ringing-chamber of the parish church of a peal-board, to commemorate two peals of 5040 changes, each in seven methods of Surprise Minor, one rung on May 24th, 1887, and the other as a Jubilee peal on November 9th, of the same year. The board is the work of a local artist, and was placed for a time in the principal entrance to the church, in order that it might be seen by the parishioners, many of whom warmly expressed their admiration of it. The upper part is adorned with the Royal Arms, the lettering being in gilt on a soft green back ground. After ringing 720 York Surprise, the company adjourned to the "Royal Oak," where they partook of supper. After the removal of the cloth, the loyal toasts were duly honoured. These were afterwards followed by a series of toasts, which brought out the eloquence of each of the company in turns. The proceedings were enlivened by songs and touches upon the handbells, which included a course of Treble Bob Major by four of the company. The strictures recently passed upon these methods by "Free Lance" were referred to as emanating from a quarter incompetent to judge upon what constitutes a legitimate distinction between one method and another, an opinion which has since been endorsed by another society in the south.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Notice is hereby given that the annual general meeting of this Association will be held at Brighton, on Whit-Monday, May 21st, 1888. Details of arrangements will be published in next issue.

Brighton.

GEO. F. ATTREE.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

ON Saturday, April 21st, the parish church ringers, with their wives, assembled together at the "Golden Lion," Churchgate, and partook of a knife and fork tea, supplied by the hostess, Mrs. Hamer, the occasion being promoted by the painful necessity of one of their brother ringers, John Newburn, leaving them to go to America. After the inner man was justly attended to, and the cloth removed, a very enjoyable evening was spent in songs and handbell ringing by the ringers. A song entitled "Bells in the Tower," was rendered by Mr. Peter Nuttall, and Mr. R. Hart very pathetically gave "Night Duty in the Street." Afterwards a course of Grandsire Triples was rung, after which Mr. John Whitehead sung "Where is my boy to night," also a tune on the handbells, viz., "Soldiers' joy horn-pipe," which was encored again and again, and they replied with "Washing Day," a merry little air. Mr. John Newburn then sang "The boat that first brought me over," after which the meeting was brought to a close by thanking him very heartily for his past services, and many many well wishes in his new home. Afterwards the meeting was closed by a vote of thanks being given to the Chairman (Mr. James May), and the vice-chairman (Mr. W. Gorton), and also to Mrs. Hamer, the Hostess, and by request a short touch of Grandsire Triples was given. J. Whitehead, 1-2; W. Holden, 3-4; J. Higson, 5-6; J. Newburn, 7-8.

THE IRISH EXHIBITION IN LONDON.—In addition to the already remarkable list of persons prominent in politics, religion, law, literature, and society, who have given their active support to this peaceful effort to benefit the sister kingdom, are the following:—The Earl of Leitrim, who has joined the Executive Council, the Earl of Aberdeen, the Lord Mayor of Dublin, the Earl of Dufferin, the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, and Sir Algernon Borthwick, Bart., M.P. Many of the Corporations in Ireland, including Dublin, Belfast, and Waterford, have officially taken up the subject, and have strongly urged upon the trading community in their respective districts, their conviction that Irish industries are likely to be substantially benefitted by a comprehensive display in London of what Ireland's markets and manufactories can produce. A most significant fact tending to show that one of the primary objects of the promoters is likely to be fully realised, occurred at the Mansion House in Dublin, at a meeting over which the Lord Mayor (Mr. Sexton), presided.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"The bells, the bells of motherland,
Of England green and old,
That out from fane and ivied tower
A thousand years have tolled;
How glorious must their music be
As breaks the hallowed day,
And calleth with a seraph's voice
A nation up to pray!"

ARTHUR CLEVELAND COX.

In your last Saturday's reports of meetings, two points are raised which to my mind are deserving of the very greatest consideration of the Exercise; and I feel I shall not be using your valuable space to little purpose, if I refer to them at some length this week. These points, moreover, will not fail to have additional importance attached to them by reason of their having been raised by two high dignitaries in Church and State. Placed in conjunction with each other, they bring to the front most forcibly the duties of our clergy and ringers with respect to the work in which we are engaged, and to the Church to which we belong.

* * * * *

His Worship the Mayor of Bedford (who I was exceedingly pleased to see presided at the Annual Meeting of that County Association), suggested that the clergy "should sometimes point out to their congregations the use of bells, and encourage them to ring them." This suggestion is a veritable *multum in parvo*; and the more I look at it, the more I am impressed with its value, if properly acted upon. In the round of our Church's year—in addition to the set Fasts and Festivals—we have special sermons and addresses with reference to our choirs, our Sunday and week-day schools, our Missions, our poor, and our various parochial organisations; why, then, should we not have annually an address devoted to that branch of Church work in which we are most intimately engaged, in all churches which are the fortunate possessors of a ring of bells and an intelligent body of men able and willing to use them? Dearth of knowledge naturally begets lack of sympathy, and where there exists an indifference on the part of the parishioners towards the efforts of the ringers, may it not in almost every instance be truthfully attributed to the fact of their ignorance in ringing matters? Then what plan could possibly be conceived more calculated to remedy this state of things than the suggestion made by the Mayor of Bedford? If once a year the vicar of the parish explained to his people the use of the bells and the work of the ringers, there can be no doubt whatever that by this action would arise a closer bond of union between clergy, ringers, and parishioners, which would tend to the mutual benefit of all, and our Church would be the gainer thereby.

* * * * *

Here is work for our County Associations to take up. Every week almost almost discloses new channels for good in which they may move. If the time should be deemed premature for the adoption of a general "Ringers' Sunday" throughout the country, at any rate it is within the bounds of practicability for them to induce our clergy to set apart at least one service during the year for this special purpose. Even if difficulties stood in the way (as they naturally will do), and its general adoption was very tardy, we should remember the old saying that "Rome was not built in a day," so neither may the desire of our hearts meet with a speedy fulfilment. But at the same time, we may keep plodding on, ever having in view the object to be obtained, and if we do this, success is (humanly speaking) certain.

* * * * *

Although we may find in sadly too many instances a grievous indifference on the part of our clergy to the work of the ringer; yet, on the other hand when we look around and see how that we number in our ranks so many energetic parish priests who are enthusiastic change-ringers, and see also how many more we have who, though not practical ringers themselves, are no less earnest in promoting and encouraging the work, we surely ought to take heart and be much encouraged for the future.

* * * * *

As my foregoing remarks respecting the duties of the clergy have been called forth by the words of a layman in high position

in the State, my next point—that of the duties of ringers towards the Church—is raised through a remark made by a high dignitary of the Church—the Dean of Wells. He was, he said, "greatly surprised at the large number of ringers in the Oxford Guild (nearly a thousand), and was sure that such a society of Church workers must do an immense amount of good." He is food for reflection. Apart from the strictly religious aspect of the question (which I leave for better hands than mine to deal with), I would address myself as a layman to my brother laymen on our duties and responsibilities as loyal sons of our mother Church in one particular direction—that of Church defence. While we are busily engaged in the pursuit of our loved art, we should never allow our pleasure to cause us to forget those duties which we owe to her, or lose sight of those responsibilities. We see our Church surrounded by enemies—from the Romanists on the one hand, through the labyrinth of "isms" which exist amongst us, to the secularist and infidel on the other. We see organisations existing and men banded together for the express purpose of effecting her destruction; enemies are numerous and as unscrupulous as they are active; they are "always at the gate." This, it may be said, has been the case for centuries back. True; but that fact in itself proves the necessity of constant watchfulness and zeal on the part of her sons. Every year gives evidence that her enemies are striving to strengthen their position, and devising new modes of attack; consequently, if her defenders are not at least equally diligent in repairing the breaches and strengthening the fortification, they will be culpably negligent in their duty. Then, to bring the matter home. We should specially remember always that we are Churchmen first, and ringers after. We possess, as ringers, numerically strong and powerful organisations throughout the country; it would indeed be difficult to mention any other specific body of men in connection with the Church which can equal ours in numbers and intelligence. It is therefore quite within our power to do that "immense amount of good" which Dr. Plumptre speaks about. Shall it ever be said of us that "we have been weighed in the balances and found wanting?" Surely, never. While the enemies of the Church are active, let us be active too. Let every County Association and Guild be in very deed a body of Church defenders; let every company of ringers be a branch of such a body; and let every individual ringer consider himself a member. Then when the day of election arrives we shall by our influence, our work, and our votes, so make our power felt at the polling booths, that we shall effectually

"Confound their politics,
Frustrate their knavish tricks,"

and shew the enemies of our Church that they have a new compact, and powerful organisation to deal with, and that when they next venture to attack, thirty thousand English ringers "will know the reason why."

* * * * *

I had not intended to have referred to essentially ringing matters this week; but I cannot close without noticing two circumstances of a very satisfactory character which you report in your last issue.

* * * * *

The first is the augmentation of the ring at St. Cuthbert's Wells, which we are told has been accomplished through the energy of the Wells Amateur Ringing Society, who have themselves given the two new trebles. This society is to be heartily congratulated on the possession of a ring of eight, and is no less deserving of praise for the very generous manner in which they have carried out their work.

* * * * *

The other circumstance to which I have pleasure in alluding is the fact that at last, Double Norwich has found its way into Yorkshire, a peal having been successfully accomplished at Sheffield, on Saturday, the 14th inst. Let us hope that this method (to which the late Jasper Snowdon devoted a whole volume) has not become so exhausted in its travels that it will be allowed to rest there for a prolonged period, but that we shall see it again figuring in the list of peals performed by the County Association.

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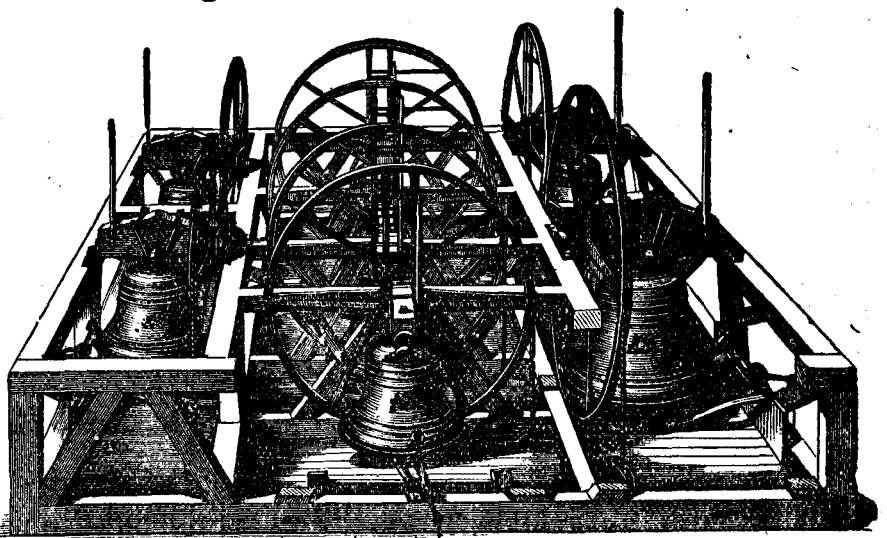
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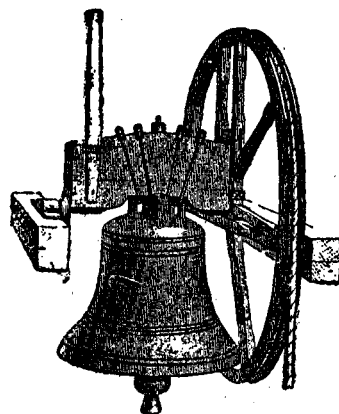
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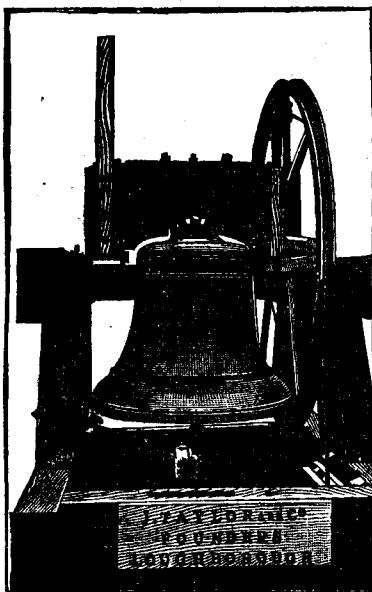
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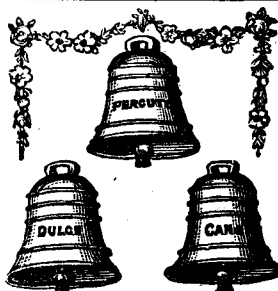
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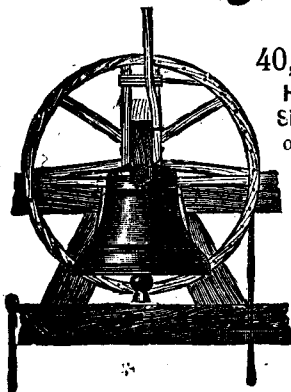
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THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—READING BRANCH.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Reading branch was held on Monday, April 23rd, at the "Wheatsheaf" Hotel. An excellent supper was provided, to which about thirty members sat down. Grace after meat having been said by the Rev. A. E. Molineux, Vicar of Caversham,

Mr. NEWELL, jun., gave a pleasing selection on the piano.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. J. Martin Routh) in giving the toast of "The Queen and the rest of the Royal Family," was perfectly certain that there was no body of men more loyal than the Reading Branch of the Guild. In proposing the "Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," he regretted that Army men were, as a rule, not distinguished ringers. The same, however, could not be said for the Navy, which numbered many skilled in the art, a band of seamen for handbell playing being frequently found on board ship; as for the volunteers, they could be good soldiers as well as good ringers.

"Captain" JOHNSON, in reply, was very pleased to see so many volunteers present. He himself had served fifteen years, and he was perfectly certain that should occasion arise, he and his comrades in arms would never "be backward in coming forward." A melodious glee followed, by Messrs. Egby, Newell, and Paice—"To all you ladies now on land, we men-of-war indite," composed by Lord Dorset in 1664.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read, the election of officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with, the retiring members being unanimously re-elected, viz.: Mr. Routh, chairman of branch; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, as well as representative on the General Committee. A selection on the handbells by the members of the Caversham belfry followed—"Spanish Chant"—which was received with loud applause.

Mr. EGBY, in proposing "The Guild," more especially the Reading Branch, observed that owing to other engagements, he was obliged to take a back seat among ringers. He referred in grateful terms to the vast efforts for improving ringing in the neighbourhood generally made by his friend Mr. Newell, and then commented on the "attitude of benevolent neutrality" taken by the clergy in the town; they had long been in a chrysalis state, he thought it was quite time they emerged into the butterfly stage; they ought to do far more for the Guild than was their habit.

Mr. ROUTH, in reply, stated that great difficulties had to be contended with in Reading; if we went back fifteen years we should find that astounding strides had been made; a few years since there was a great impetus in ringing in the town, but since then there had been a great deal of indolence and apathy. He wanted to see new methods learnt and peals rung. Let the Reading men copy the example of their forefathers, who, when the College Youths came down in 1730 and rang a peal of Bob Major at St. Mary's, at once started to double its length, and no doubt would have done so, had not a rope broken after 8000 changes, "every man," as the tablet states, "being in perfect strength."

The Rev. G. F. COLERIDGE made a statement as to the condition of the Reading branch. Ten members had left the branch during the past year, but for the most part not being practical ringers their loss would not be greatly felt, and had been more than counterbalanced by the accession of several young hands of great promise. The balance sheet was also satisfactory, showing a balance of about £7 in hand, including two guineas deposited with the rector of St. Mary's for the purchase of handbells for Caversham and St. Mary's belfries.

Mr. EGBY followed with the song "The Speaker's Eye."

Mr. THOMAS, who had come down for the occasion from Birmingham, then proposed "The Church." He stated that ringers were always pleased to welcome the clergy, more especially if they happened to be ringers, as so many were becoming. After Mr. Johnson had rendered the "Village Blacksmith,"

The Rev. A. E. MOLINEUX, Vicar of Caversham, responded to the toast. The fact of his being alone there that evening proved that the Reading clergy did not take much interest in ringing matters. There were, however, two sides to the question. The clergy used many times to have complaints to make of the ringers who often came into the belfry, but rarely

or never into the church; times, however, had improved, and now there was a far better understanding between the two bodies than formerly. He thought every clergyman would have to become a ringer if only he was set upon with such determination as he had been when he first came to Caversham. Mr. Newman, as soon as ever he arrived upon the scene, took the bull by the horns, and gave him no peace till he had entered the belfry and had learnt to ring a single bell. Doubtless he would, by this time, have become a skilful ringer, had not his colleague Mr. Coleridge appeared, and took affairs into his own hands; this was the only ground he had for regretting his arrival. He hoped next year to hear a far better account of the clergy. "The Blue Bells of Scotland" having been given on the handbells,

The CHAIRMAN rose to propose "The health of Mr. Newell, the Nestor, the father of change-ringing in Reading." While Mr. Newell was preparing to make a reply to a toast which was wholly unexpected, Mr. Coleridge gave an amusing recitation in the Devonshire dialect, "Thic ole Rifle Corpse."

Mr. NEWELL, who was received with great enthusiasm, said how glad he was to see so many present. Ringing in Reading was prospering, slowly indeed, but surely. He thought it the duty of every ringer in the diocese to belong to the Guild, and instanced the enormous good such annual meetings as at Abingdon and Wycombe did for the cause, ringers were enabled to meet one another and what was more know one another. Soon he hoped there would scarcely be a village where change-ringing was unknown. Reading ought to set a better example to all the towers in the county. St. Mary's tower, which appears on the guild certificate, was a disgrace, that, the chief tower was in the lowest place as regarded real ringing. The rector and churchwardens ought to be present and hear what was said of it.

Glees and songs occupied the remainder of the evening, among the more noteworthy being Mr. Liddiard's, "The Anchor's weighed;" the glee, "The Red Cross Knight," by Messrs. Newell, Egby, and Paice; "Paddle your own Canoe," by Mr. Newell, jun. (though one person at least maintained it was an ancient French song "Pas d'elle yeux Rhone qua nous.") Mr. Egby, "The Dutch clock;" Mr. Newell, "Rouse, brothers, rouse;" "The Convivial Man," by Mr. Sweetzer; "The War Song of the Druids," by the glee party; while on the handbells were given "Caller Herrin," and the "March of the Men of Harlech," where the tenors apparently had a good field-day. A vote of thanks to the Chairman by Mr. Newman brought to a close one of the most social and pleasant evenings ever spent in Reading.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held on Whit-Monday, May 21st, at Chelmsford. Divine Service at 12.30 in St. Mary's church, with an address by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Vicar of Drayton, Berks, and Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Dinner at 1.30 p.m. in the Charity School (tickets, price 1s. each to members of the Association), and business meeting immediately after dinner. The following towers will be open during the day: Chelmsford, 10 bells (except from 10 to 11 a.m. during a parochial service); Great Baddow, Galleyswood and Writtle, 8 bells; Springfield and Widford, 6 bells. Arrangements are being made to start for peals at Chelmsford at 6 a.m., and at Writtle after 6 p.m. Members who desire to avail themselves of reduced railway fares on the day of meeting, and to be present at the dinner, should notify the same to the Secretary on or before Wednesday, May 16th. A special meeting of the Committee will be held at 10.30 a.m. in the Charity School to consider what resolution shall be submitted to the Annual Meeting respecting a suggestion that the Association should be enlarged to include the present diocese of St. Albans—i.e., Essex and Hertfordshire. If any members of the Association who care to do so will attend this meeting, and express their opinion upon the matter, it will materially assist the committee, and perhaps lessen the necessity for long discussion at the subsequent meeting.

T. L. PAPILLON, Hon. Sec.
Write Vicarage, Chelmsford.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO., Printers, Exeter.

ORMSKIRK PARISH CHURCH, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, April 28th, seven ringers from Liverpool visited the above ancient church for the purpose of ringing a peal of Stedman Triples. On arriving everything, including the tenor man, was found in readiness, and accordingly a start was made. After two or three false starts, the final "go" was called at 6.20 p.m., and at 9.21 the welcome words "that is all" announced to the ringers that the first peal of Stedman Triples ever rang on the bells was at last accomplished. A brief summary of the history of these bells may be of interest to our readers, and the following is taken from an old local print.

Change-ringing in Ormskirk seems to have quite a history of its own, which may be interesting to recall. The record stretches back over a hundred years, for we find that in 1777 a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung, and thirty years later in 1807 a half-peal in the same method, the latter by ringers four of whom bore the name of Balshaw. The first complete peal we find a record of was in 1813 when a 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung, conducted by R. Gregory. These ringers styled themselves the "College Youths" of Ormskirk.

From 1813 history is silent as regards change-ringing, and from then until 1874 we seem to have been indebted to ringers from Croston and Liverpool. In the latter year however we have a society of ringers who styled themselves the "Juvenile Youths," who in conjunction with the Liverpool ringers rang several peals of Grandsire Triples (the writer taking part in two of them). These "Juvenile Youths," either from advancing years or advancing ideas, or some other cause resigned in 1883, and the present band was formed, who in 1886 rang a peal (the first since 1813) entirely composed of Ormskirk ringers. This was a peal of Grandsire Triples, composed and conducted by Mr. James Sherrin, and was rang as a birthday peal for Mr. John Prescott, their Superintendent. Though the tenor bell is dated 1497, the old inscription and date is a reproduction, *verbatim et literatim*, for another date on the waist shows that it was recast in 1576 (temp Elizabeth) having probably been severely damaged in the destruction of Burscough Priory at the dissolution. Between the words of the inscription and below them on a neat border are the following armorial badges: branched red and white roses (the Tudor badge), the red dragon (of Wales), the Portcullis (the badge of the House of Lancaster), and the Shamrock (Ireland). The remainder of this peal was cast by Rudhall, of Gloucester, in 1714 and 1774, and the bells bear the following inscriptions:—

Treble—"1774."

Second—"Peace and good neighbourhood, 1774."

Third—"William Grice, Parish Clerk A (device, a bell) R, 1714."

Fourth—"Henry Helsby, A (device, a bell) R, 1714."

Fifth—"Archippus Kippar, Vicar, A (device, a bell) R, 1714."

Sixth—"Benj. Fletcher, Thos. Moorcroft, Thos. Aspinwall, churchwardens, 1714."

Seventh—"Thomas Rudhall, Gloucester, 1774."

Tenor—"I. S. de Barmig et eux me fecerent in honore trinitatis R.B., 1497."

The origin of the inscription on the tenor still remains a puzzle to antiquarians, the most probable solution (yet given) being that the donor of the bell was a James Scarisbrick, who had a wife Elizabeth, and held lands in Burscough and Bretherton. They are proved to have been living from 1494 to 1501. The R.B. standing for the prior of Burscough, the inscription might be translated thus: "James Scarisbrick, of Burscough, Esquire, and Elizabeth his wife, made me in honour of the Trinity, 1497. Robert Burscough." It is rather a singular coincidence that with the exception of the peal in 1813 and another in 1875, and the peal of Bob Major rang on these bells in December last, the name of Prescott appears in each peal rung. And also the ringer of the treble in the Stedman peal on Saturday last is a great grandson of the Thomas Aspinwall, churchwarden, inscribed on the sixth bell. The church at present is undergoing extensive renovation, though due regard is taken to the original designs. A singular feature is the church possesses a tower and spire erected side by side, the spire containing one bell (a ting-tang), and the tower the peal of eight. There is ample room for another peal of eight in the tower, and it is to be hoped before the final completion of the restoration the authorities will endeavour to add four more bells, and thus make the best going peal of twelve in England.

On the completion of the peal the ringers, with the local company adjourned to the "Ship" inn, and partook of refreshments kindly provided by the hostess, Mrs. Mercer. As the time was rather short, a touch of Grandsire Triples and another of Grandsire Caters, along with a humorous song by the celebrated Welshman (Mr. Davies) brought a pleasant evening to a close, the local ringers accompanying them to the train. The visitors desire to thank (through the medium of this paper) the vicar, the Rev. J. E. Woodrow, for the use of the bells, and for his courtesy shewn to them on each of their visits, and to the above-mentioned Mr. John Prescott, the genial superintendent of the ringers for having everything in order for their comfort.

CHARLTON KINGS, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

At the time of the Jubilee commemorations last year, a number of schemes were promulgated in this parish, with a view to perpetuate the memorable event in the country's history, and amongst others it was decided that in addition to a new clock (which has already been erected by the well-known firm at Derby—Messrs. J. Smith and Sons), if sufficient funds could be raised, the ring of six bells, which had got into a very dilapidated and unsafe condition, should be rehung, and if possible augmented to eight. Owing however to other calls upon the liberality of the parishioners, in the shape of a new parsonage house, and a new club house for the working men's society, it was found impossible to raise the full amount required to do the whole of the bell scheme. The only alternative was to do what they could with the means at their disposal, and this the Committee have done to the best of their ability by commissioning Mr. James Barwell, of Birmingham, to entirely rehang the old peal of six with new fittings, etc., together with a new frame, the latter to be constructed so as to admit of two bells being added at a later date should sufficient funds be forthcoming. The first part of the scheme has been carried out to the letter, and it is gratifying to know that the work is in every way satisfactory, and does great credit to the firm and to those who were entrusted with the carrying out of the plans. Some difficulty was encountered owing to the lowness of the ceiling of the ringing-chamber, and the placing of the new clock in position before the bells were touched, but this has been satisfactorily overcome, and nothing now remains but to add the two bells to complete the octave.

On Wednesday, April 25th, it was decided to reopen the bells, and being St. Mark's Day (the patron saint of the church), made it the more appropriate. No ceremony was observed on the occasion other than the usual festival services which are held in the church, and the bells were set going in the afternoon by the ringers of the parish and friends from Cheltenham and Prestbury. It would be superfluous to say that the improvement upon the old state of affairs gave universal satisfaction. Changes in various methods were indulged in until eight o'clock in the evening, when the ringers and a number of friends—upwards of twenty in all—assembled at the "London Inn" to indulge in a goodly repast, which had been provided by host Dyer. The chair was taken by Mr. F. E. Ward, of Cheltenham, Master of the Diocesan Guild, and the vice-chair by Mr. Walter James, leader of the local band.

The cloth having been removed, the usual loyal and complimentary toasts were drunk, and the remainder of the evening passed all too quickly, with a constant flow of vocal and campanalogical harmony.

Amongst those present were Messrs. Phillott, Ward, and Hodges (Cheltenham), T. Davis, D. Davis, and T. Compton (Prestbury), and Buffery, and the members of the local band. It is only due to Mr. James to say that the completion of the bells even at this date is mainly owing to his efforts, and we hope that they will be still further rewarded by having the additional two bells at no very distant date.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

There will be a committee meeting held on Saturday, May 5th, in the church room, Stoke, to elect a clerical Treasurer.
E. GLOVER, Hon. Sec.

THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above society was held at Hogsthorpe on Saturday, April 21st. Ringers attended from Boston, Skirbeck, Freiston, Friskney, Sibsey, and West Keal. The company drove from Burgh-in-the-Marsh, and made a call at Addlethorpe church, which contains a fine peal of six bells, but not in good repair. A 360 of Bob Minor was rung by A. Barber, 1; Rev. H. J. Cheales, 2; F. Smith, 3; J. Mawer, 4; J. M. Rylatt, 5; H. Daulton (conductor), 6. They then journeyed to Hogsthorpe, and having raised the bells, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) was rung in 28 mins. A. Barber, 1; J. M. Rylatt, 2; F. Smith, 3; J. Mawer, 4; H. Daulton, 5; E. Mason (conductor), 6. At 12.30 a special service was held, the address being given by the Rev. Canon Bond, Rector of Anderby, who in his remarks referred especially to the belfry as part of the House of God, and impressed upon those that rung the bells to remember that they were in a court of God's house. As in the days of old, our blessed Lord cleansed the courts of the temple, so he was sure an Association like this was trying to cleanse and reform the belfries. At 2 p.m., dinner was provided at the Saracen Hotel by Mr. C. Griffith, in a very creditable manner. Rev. H. J. Cheales, president of the society, presided, and was supported by the Rev. Canon Bond, rector of Anderby, Rev. A. Soden, vicar of Hogsthorpe, Rev. J. White, rector of Addlethorpe, and twenty-four ringers and friends.

After dinner, the minutes of the last meeting were read by the secretary, Mr. MASON, and confirmed.

The PRESIDENT proposed a vote of thanks to Canon Bond for his kindness in coming and giving them such an instructive address, and also to the Rev. A. Soden for the use of the bells. He said that although Hogsthorpe was rather an out-of-the-way place to get to, they could not have had a better reception than they had that day. Referring to the Society and the rules it put forth he hoped it was doing a good work in the district. With regard to the ringing they had had a very uphill work, but he was glad that some of the companies were making such good progress. He hoped that Hogsthorpe, after their visit that day, would start in earnest for a peal on their beautiful six bells.

The Rev. A. SODEN, in replying, gave the Society a hearty welcome to Hogsthorpe, and said that he and his company should be glad to become members.

Canon BOND also thanked them for having asked him to come among them that day. He said he had not a peal of bells to ask them to go and ring, but he was very glad to become an honorary member of their Association.

Mr. BRADSHAW, churchwarden, also replied on behalf of the ringers, and hoped they would soon be able to ring a peal.

A 600 of Bob Minor was then rung by E. Mason, Rev. H. J. Cheales, J. A. Hand, G. F. Smith, H. Daulton, J. M. Rylatt. As time would not permit a longer stay, the company drove back to Burgh, well pleased with their visit.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of this Association will be held at Brighton, on Whit-Monday, May 22nd. The programme, which will be published next week, will include a special service at the parish church, cold luncheon and business meeting. The three towers, St. Peter's, St. Nicholas and St. Paul's, each eight bells, will be open for ringing during the day. Notice of motion should be sent at least three days prior to the above date.

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

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The next District Meeting will be held at Epsom, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Whit-Monday, May 21st. The tower will be open for ringing from 3 till 9 p.m. The Secretary will be happy to furnish copies of the certificate of membership to all those members whose subscriptions for the current year are paid, and who have not yet had their certificates.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

The date of the peal of Bob Major, rung at Leiston, Suffolk, which appeared in our last issue, should be Saturday, April 21st, 1888.

AN AFTERNOON BY THE THAMES.

Close to the south bank of this beautiful river stands the pretty church of Purley, with its embattled tower, about three miles from the busy town of Reading. This woody spot was on Saturday afternoon the meeting place of several members of the St. Lawrence's society, Reading, and others from Purley and Whitchurch. Permission having previously been obtained of the vicar, the ring of six were soon up in peal and a 240 of Grandsire was rung by, B. White, 1; W. Lawrence, 2; W. Holloway, 3; G. Talbot, 4; W. Williams (conductor), 5; C. Chapman, 6. This was the first touch on the bells, which are not in good tune, the fifth has been recast 1787, the others date back 1649, and are encircled with, PRAYES YE LORD. Now a short stroll through the Park brought us to the river side, which crossed, we found ourselves in the little churchyard of Mapledurham, in less than five minutes, near by the grand old mansion of Blounts. Here the Vicar came to the church and exchanged some kindly words of greeting—soon the bells were pealing to the tune of Grandsire, in which A. West, of Purley, took part. The back five are of splendid tone, but the treble probably belongs to some other peal in another part of the country, being at least a tone sharp. In the church are some fine tombs, a curious font, and an old fire-engine bearing the date 1643, a curious specimen of the days gone by. An enjoyable stroll along the road past the Elizabethan Mansion of "Hardwick" with its back ground of trees and hills, and the pretty village of Whitchurch (Oxon) was reached, here a course of "refreshment Minor" was gone through, afterwards a touch of Grandsire Triples on handbells, with a tenor No. 27 in E, part of a peal of 62. Attention was now turned to the contents of the steeple of the pretty church of St. Mary, and several touches of Bob and Grandsire Minor were rung, with some Doubles to finish. The awkward position of the ropes prevent really successful Minor ringing, as the tenor is most inconveniently placed, but these bells go well, having lately been well overhauled, the greatest drawback being rather noisy in the ringing chamber.

L.

SUTTON-ON-THE-HILL, DERBYSHIRE.

ON Saturday, April 28th, the following members of the Midland Counties' Association (Burton branch), viz., J. Austin, L. Bullock, E. I. Stone, W. H. Stone, W. Burton, W. Orme, W. Smith, G. Robinson, and J. Jaggar, paid a visit to the above place, a picturesque little village, with a fine parish church, standing in a commanding position on a hill some distance away. The bells, which have lately been augmented from three to six, by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, are a pretty little peal, tenor about 12 cwt. in G. After raising them in peal, several 120's of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were rung, followed by a 720 Bob Minor in 27½ mins. W. Orme, 1; J. Jaggar, 2; W. J. Smith, 3; L. Bullock, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; J. Austin (conductor), 6. An adjournment was then made to the Vicarage, where a good substantial spread was placed at the disposal of the visitors, through the kindness of the Vicar, the Rev. R. G. Buckston, to which it is needless to add, ample justice was done. After tea the handbells were brought out, and touches of Grandsire Triples and Stedman Triples were brought round by W. J. Smith, 1-2; J. Jaggar (conductor), 3-4; L. Bullock, 5-6; J. Austin, 7-8. Another move was made towards the tower, and after a few more 120's of Stedman Doubles and a course of Grandsire Minor, the ringing was brought to a close by a good fall. The visitors wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to tender their hearty thanks to the Vicar, for his most kindly welcome on their first visit to Sutton.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A District Meeting will be held at Leatherhead, on Tuesday, May 15th. The belfry will be open for ringing from 11 to 1, from 3 to 5, and from 7 to 9. Lunch at 1 o'clock; tea at 5.30; Committee meeting at 2, to arrange time and place of annual festival and other business. All ringers are invited to take part in the ringing. Members requiring orders for reduced fares must send notice to the Secretary, stating the station from which they intend to start, before Wednesday, May 9.

Purbrook, Cosham.

H. A. SPYERS, *Hon. Sec.*

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE FOURTH GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING of the officers and members of this Association took place at the headquarters—the city of Lincoln—on Saturday, April 28th, under very favourable auspices. Members from Gainsborough, Market Rasen, Louth, Caistor, Scothern, Hull, and the four Lincoln societies were present, the company being augmented by members of the Yorkshire, South Lincolnshire, Midland Counties', and other kindred Associations. Through the kindness of the Cathedral authorities, and the clergy and churchwardens of the city churches, four peals of bells were placed at the disposal of the Association for the day, and it is needless to add that this privilege was taken full advantage of and appreciated by the members.

Shortly before twelve o'clock eight of the members, viz., Messrs. Stiles, Woodthorpe, Doughty, Rose, Vickers (conductor), and W. Stewart, of the Cathedral company, C. Wells, of St. Peter-at-Arches, and W. Lunn, of Market Rasen, met at the Cathedral tower for the purpose of attempting a peal of Bob Triples, and all went merrily for two hours and twelve minutes, when a "change-course" occurred, bringing with it collapse. By three o'clock the visitors began to arrive from all sides, and soon made their presence known at the various towers.

The annual tea was arranged to take place in the Guild Court at the foot of the Steep Hill at five o'clock, by which time between fifty sat down to a substantial spread provided by Mr. Hatton. While assembled at tea, the company were honoured with the presence of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese (Dr. King), whose arrival, as also that of the Rev. Precentor Venables, was the signal for an outburst of applause. When the repast had been discussed to general satisfaction, his Lordship addressed the company.

In opening his remarks, the rev. prelate said this was just one of those kind of things which they should have, because in such gatherings as this they had the pleasure of hope and the pleasure of happiness, which was a pleasure that left no regret afterwards. Out of the thousands that had come into the Lincoln fair he was afraid there would be some, there would be one at least, who would go away and look back to the day with feelings of regret instead of happiness. Those present made pleasure by meeting in this sort of way, they enjoyed it at the time, and they enjoyed it when they came to look back upon the day. So it was a pleasure to him to come amongst them, because he knew what they were—they were those who rang the bells in their old church towers. He firmly believed there was more power to come out of the old churches than they had yet got out. Those old church towers had been a wonderful power when the clergy had been asleep; the old towers had been a witness and a sermon to many in days gone by, and they had done a great deal of good in this country. But far better was it when the clergy were wide awake, when the church doors were open, and the services were as they should be. First let the church be as it should be, and all things in harmony; and let those who rang the bells ring them in such a way as if it was indeed for human beings, for immortal beings, who had come there drawn by the love of God and one another, there to worship God in common. That was what the Church ought to be, and thus when the clergy, choir, and the ringers, and everybody about the church were in harmony, when everyone was doing his work, the Church effected the most good. This Association was doing a good work, and were helping to lift the Church up; the members knew and felt that the belfry was not a place in which they could smoke, drink beer, or use bad language; but the ringers themselves used the same language in the belfry as was used in every part of the church. That was a great difference from what things used to be, and it was the same all down the line. Nothing had done so much harm to the Church as careless clergymen, careless bishops, not doing what they ought to do, and thereby doing much harm. When any member of the Church did harm, it did harm all round, and when they saw the Bishops, clergy, ringers and singers all engaged with their hearts in the work, it was a help all round. It was a peculiar power the ringers had; the ringing of the bells was a peculiarly touching thing; he had often thought of it, not merely as a charm of music, but there was something wonderfully fascinating in it; somehow or other there was something

about bell-ringing that was so English, so homely. It led them to think of their own village bells, and as they thought about it, there seemed to be something about it that was not of this world. The bells were raised above the ground—poised up there between the earth and heaven, there was a sort of heavenward feeling about the sound of the bells, and when the ringers were there with their coats off, they were probably unconsciously touching many a heart and drawing the tear from many an eye that no sermon could get at. People wandering about in the evenings in the lanes, or the man of business in his cart, heard the sound of the bells, and the bell-ringers thereby drew a tear from the eye, or moved the heart heavenward where the clergyman could not get at it. He personally thanked them for their work. Who could tell but the Great One, who knew the value of everybody's work, who could tell what England owed to the bell-ringers who rang the Jubilee peals: and in so doing kindled feelings of devotion and loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign and her family. The bell-ringers of the Jubilee peals did good work in moving people's hearts to maintain England as God would have her be. He wished to remind them that their real power depended on there being true harmony, when there was harmony between the ringers, the bells and the church, that harmony and happiness was so much increased when they saw the men who pulled the ropes were also trying by God's help to get heavenwards themselves. When this true harmony existed, it did make such a difference. God was not mocked, and they might depend on it God knew the value of every man's work, and a good and sincere man contributed happiness to himself, and imparted a sweetness and tenderness to the bells he rang by his character. When there was the harmony all round, it did do a wonderful deal of good, and when the life was in harmony with the heavenly sounding bells, it did make their work so much more beautiful. As he believed when they rang the Jubilee peals they were doing God's work, so he believed they were doing God's work when from the church towers they sent forth those heavenward drawing sounds which led people to think of where their future home was to be. He trusted God would bless the ringers in their own hearts, in their meeting and associating together in this way, and that He would multiply their influences for good.

The Rev. Precentor Venables, a warm friend of the Association, moved a vote of thanks to his Lordship for his kindness in sparing the members a few of his precious golden moments to come amongst them and encourage them in their work, which he himself heartily sympathised with.

The business portion of the meeting followed. The report for the past year was of a very pleasing character. It shewed an increase of thirty-one members (ten honorary and twenty-one ringing members), and a balance in hand of over £12. The venerable Bishop kindly accepted the invitation of the Association to become his patron. The Very Rev. the Dean of Lincoln was unanimously re-elected president; the three vice-presidents (S. F. Hood, Esq., for the Lincoln centre; the Rev. S. W. Andrews, for Market Rasen centre; and F. F. Linley, Esq., for Gainsborough centre) were re-elected, as also were the Hon. Treasurer (Mr. H. Gadd) and the Hon. Secretary (Mr. W. Lunn) both of Market Rasen. Two new honorary members (the Rev. Canon Overton, of Epworth, and the Rev. E. Milner Barry, of Scothern), were enrolled, one probationer passed into the efficient rank, and three new efficient and nine probationary members were elected. It was agreed to hold the July quarterly meeting at Great Grimsby. The help of the Lincoln reception committee, the services of the chairman (F. F. Linley, Esq.), and the kindness of the clergy in granting the use of their church bells, were acknowledged with votes of thanks.

During the evening the members visited the various towers in the city and rang short touches in a variety of methods. Thus ended what was undoubtedly one of the most successful meetings held by the Association.

NEWBURN-ON-TYNE.

The date fixed for the inauguration of this new peal of six, is Wednesday, May 16th. Dedication service, 7.30 p.m. Change-ringers who wish to attend the opening are requested to send in their names not later than Saturday, May 12th, to the Vicar, the Rev. S. Bucknell, in order that dinner may be provided for them.

G. J. CLARKSON.

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."

COALBROOKDALE CHURCH.

SIR,—An article in your issue of March 17, referring to Coalbrookdale church, has been brought to my notice within the last few days. Should any band of ringers have been interested by the account, and would wish to attempt a peal on the bells, I shall be glad to make arrangements for them to do so. I should think some band from the Midland Counties might like to pay us a visit at Whitsuntide, and give a little stimulus to the art.

THE VICAR.

ANSWER TO MR. MUSKETT.

SIR,—I see Mr. Musket does not think it possible to ring a peal at Drayton, Berks, in 2 hrs. 27 mins. If he will favour us with a visit we will show him that the performance was *bona fide* by ringing a still quicker one, on the same bells; and we shall be pleased to see him at a rope, and he will find that there is not time to set his bell and have a walk round, as it is in Stedman Cinques, at 19 per minute, or so, but he must follow our rule, which is: "If he makes a mistake in the slow he will be fined 2s. 6d." So keep your weather eye open, Sir.

J. W. WASHBROOK.

SIR,—The peal of Treble Bob Major, 5088, published by Mr. Samuel Marsh, in "THE BELL NEWS" for April 21st, is Mr. Daniel Wood's peal turned, which he will find in the 1845 edition of Hubbard's work, and most modern works as well, and the peal published by Mr. Marsh, on page 87 of Mr. Snowdon's Work (on which page will be found D. Woods' peal) the 8064 is false. I do not know whether it has been notified before or not, but it is as well that it should be known, as the qualities of the peal might tempt some one to ring it. The peal published by Mr. J. W. Washbrook, 13,265 of Grandsire Caters, should be 13,247, if he has given the peal right.

SAMUEL WOOD.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—In last week's issue there is the account of a peal of Treble Bob Major, rung at Foxearth, Essex, with a footnote to say that it is the first time of its being rung. I wish to inform Mr. Sillitoe that the same peal was rung at Eccles, Lancashire, on Monday, December 2nd, 1884, and published in "THE BELL NEWS" the Saturday following.

A. ED. WREAKS.

SIR,—With reference to [the] touches rung at Nuneaton, Warwickshire, published in your last issue, I wish to say I am the person who rang the 1st and 6th, and not M. George, as there is no such person.

JAMES GEORGE.

THE PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS AT WESTBROMWICH.

SIR,—I saw in "THE BELL NEWS" of the 28th a report of a peal of Grandsire Caters, rung on the 21st inst., at Westbromwich. If that is a fair sample of their ringing they had better not ring many peals, or at any rate not send them for publication, as it is not worth while to dirty the pages of "THE BELL NEWS" with such rubbish, and call it "ringing."

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

AN ENQUIRY.

SIR,—What has become of our Hull ringers? Surely they have not left this "mortal coil," if they have we should be pleased to hear of their resurrection. There was a time when we could be entertained to a merry peal, just to cheer our drooping spirits. But this is a thing of the past. If this should meet the eye of any of our Hull friends, I trust it will be the means of the bell ropes once more being put into operation, and I can assure our Hull ringers that many will welcome once again a series of peals from the old church tower.

Hornsea, April 30th, 1888.

DE LA POER.

PROPOSED NEW BISHOPRICS FOR ESSEX AND SUFFOLK.—The House of Laymen discussed on Tuesday the report of a Committee appointed to consider the question of increasing the Episcopate. The Committee reported that such an increase was desirable, and recommended that as far as possible county boundaries should be adopted as the basis of the boundaries of Dioceses. In the Eastern Counties they recommended the formation of two new Sees—one at Bury St. Edmunds for the county of Suffolk, and the other at Chelmsford for the county of Essex. After a long discussion, the further consideration of the matter was adjourned.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT OF THE RINGING FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 30th, 1888.

By the Brighton branch at St. Peter's.—On Sunday, April 29th, at St. Peter's church, a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 18½ mins. H. Weston, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; G. F. Attree, 3; G. A. King, 4; W. Allfrey, 5; J. Jay, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; G. H. Barnett (Farnham), 8. Also on Monday, April 30th, a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 18½ mins. C. Tyler, 1; J. Jay, 2; G. A. King, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; G. F. Attree, 5; W. Allfrey, 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; H. Cornwell, 8.

By the Chailey branch at Chailey.—On Saturday, April 28th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Reynolds, 1; J. Langridge, 2; A. Goringe, 3; H. Cornwell, 4; W. Pelling, 5; O. Gatland (conductor), 6. *First 720. Also on Sunday, April 29th, for afternoon service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Reynolds, 1; A. Brown, 2; A. Goringe, 3; H. Cornwell, 4; W. Pelling, 5; O. Gatland (conductor), 6.

By the Crawley branch at Charlwood.—On Thursday, April 19th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. *A. Ellis, 1; *G. Wickens, 2; W. Collison, 3; A. F. Hillier, 4; M. Heffer, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. And on Tuesday, April 17th, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob, in 24 mins. G. Pace, 1; *W. Parsons, 2; J. Newnham, 3; W. Collison, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; F. Price (conductor), 6. Also on Wednesday, April 25th, a 5088 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. For particulars see peal column.

By the Cuckfield branch at Cuckfield.—On Sunday, April 29th, a 882 of Grandsire Triples, in 33 mins. L. Gibb, 1; W. Gibson, 2; W. Fox, 3; H. Mitchell, 4; H. Bowell, 5; D. Denman, 6; F. Hounsell (conductor), 7; F. Smith, 8.

By the Eastbourne branch at Eastbourne.—On Saturday, April 28th, at St. Mary's church, a 5040 of Grandsire Triples, in 2 hrs. 50 mins. For particulars see peal column. Also on Sunday, April 8th, at Christ Church, a 720 of College Single. R. Howse, 1; P. Peters, 2; H. Colbran, 3; F. Dyer, 4; F. Harding, 5; T. Smith (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, April 15th, a 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. F. Dyer, 1; G. Howse, 2; P. Peters, 3; H. Colbran, 4; L. Smith, 5; F. Harding (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Oxford Single Bob. W. Clements, 1; H. Colbran, 2; F. Harding, 3; P. Peters, 4; R. Howse, 5; G. Howse (conductor), 6. And on Monday, April 16th, a 720 of College Single. W. Clements, 1; F. Harding (conductor), 2; G. Howse, 3; L. Smith, 4; P. Peters, 5; H. Knight, 6. And on Sunday, April 22nd, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. F. Dyer, 1; G. Howse, 2; H. Colbran, 3; J. Sharp, 4; P. Peters, 5; F. Harding (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, April 23rd, a 360 of Warnham Court. W. Clements, 1; F. Harding (conductor), 2; P. Peters, 3; H. Colbran, 4; J. Sharp, 5; H. Knight, 6.

By the Ringmer branch at Ringmer.—On Sunday, April 15th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. *A. Slarks, 1; *H. Jones, 2; J. T. Rickman, Esq., 3; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 4; *G. Washer, 5; *C. Painter, 6; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 7; T. Miller, 8. *First quarter-peal. Composed by H. Reeves. On Wednesday, April 18th, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples, proved unsuccessful after ringing 2 hrs. A. Slarks, 1; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 2; A. E. Paris, 3; H. Weston, 4; J. Jay, 5; J. T. Rickman, Esq., 6; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 7; T. Miller, 8. And on Wednesday, April 18th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing the twelve 6-7's, in 43 mins. A. Slarks, 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 2; C. Painter, 3; H. Jones, 4; A. Paris, 5; G. Washer, 6; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 7; T. Miller, 8. This is the first quarter-peal by the local company unassisted. And for practice, on Thursday, April 26th, 672 of Grandsire Triples, containing the twelve 6-7's. 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 2; C. Painter, 3; H. Jones, 4; A. E. Paris, 5; G. Washer, 6; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 7; T. Miller, 8. Also two plain courses of Union Triples. A. Slarks, 1; G. Washer, 2; C. Painter, 3; H. Jones, 4; A. E. Paris, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 6; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 7; T. Miller, 8. These are the first courses of Union Triples by the whole band, excepting the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, and were rung at the first attempt. And on handbells retained in hand, a course of Stedman Triples. T. Miller, 1; A. Slarks, 2; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 3-4; C. Painter, 5; H. Jones, 6; G. C. Hammond, 7-8.

G. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

A meeting in aid of the Bishop of London's Fund was held on Monday at Willis's rooms, but was not very largely attended. Bishop Temple, who presided, said there was every reason why they should appeal to the public more earnestly than ever on behalf of the fund, for the increase of the population of London continued with a growing rather than a diminishing ratio. The difficulty of providing the newcomers with the means of grace was thus greater than ever, and there was no prospect that the pressure upon the fund would be lessened for a long time to come. Unfortunately, there had been a very serious falling off in the resources at the command of the Church.

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

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

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher 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 arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1888.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, April 28, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, BETHNAL GREEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

HENRY J. SHADE Treble.	MATTHEW A. WOOD .. 5.
WILLIAM CECIL 2.	ISAAC G. SHADE 6.
JOSEPH WEST 3.	WALTER PRIME 7.
JOHN BONNEY 4.	GEORGE DORRINGTON .. Tenor.

Conducted by ISAAC G. SHADE.

This peal was rung on the anniversary of the birthday of the conductor, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns of the day.

The Provinces.

MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S SOCIETY.

On Sunday, April 22, 1888, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLTS' TEN-PART.

Tenor 16½ cwt. in Ft.

JOHN R. WOOD Treble.	GEORGE C. TUNNICLIFF .. 5.
HARRY HOLLINGWORTH .. 2.	HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD .. 6.
JOSEPH WARREN 3.	JOHN VICKERS 7.
GEORGE A. FISH 4.	FRED. W. COOK Tenor.

Conducted by H. C. WOODWARD.

The above peal was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to the late Rev. Jos. Deans, vicar, who died on April 20th.

BUCKLAND, SURREY.

On Saturday, April 28, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES OF GRANDSIRE AND BOB DOUBLES.

Tenor 10 cwt.

JAMES ROBINSON Treble.	JESSE POPLETT 3.
RALPH ARNOLD 2.	FRANK SANDERS 4.
WALTER SADLER Tenor.	

Conducted by WALTER SADLER.

First 5040 by all except the conductor. First 5040 on the bells. R. Arnold hails from Beichworth.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

On Tuesday, April 24, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

L. W. GRIFFITHS Treble.	DAVID GARBETT 5.
THOMAS ALLDEN 2.	ALFRED BEDDALL 6.
WILLIAM F. HARTSHORNE .. 3.	HARRY HARTSHORNE .. 7.
ALFRED WHATMORE 4.	RICHARD PERKINS Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, of Birmingham, and Conducted by WILLIAM FREDERICK HARTSHORNE.

First peal by all except the conductor, and is his first peal as conductor; first peal in any method on the bells.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE CRAWLEY AND BALCOMBE BRANCHES.)

On Wednesday, April 25, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM COLLISON Treble.	FREDERICK RICE 5.
HENRY MEADS* 2.	ALFRED F. HILLIER .. 6.
EDWARD STREETER* 3.	MARCUS HEFFER 7.
JOHN CHEESEMAN* 4.	FREDERICK WICKENS .. Tenor.

Composed by H. W. HALEY, and Conducted by F. WICKENS.

*Hail from Balcombe, and their first peal of Major.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(BURTON BRANCH.)

On Friday, April 27, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MODWEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

RICHARD LOGIE Treble.	†LEONARD BULLOCK 5.
JAMES HICKLIN 2.	JOHN WALKER 6.
WILLIAM J. SMITH 3.	JOHN JAGGAR 7.
F. J. GAMLIN 4.	JOHN CARVELL Tenor.

Conducted by LEONARD BULLOCK.

†First peal as conductor. F. J. Gamlin hails from Rhyll.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

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

ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.

Handbell Ringing.

On Saturday, April 28, 1888, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE MEETING HOUSE, THE HALBERD INN, NORTHGATE STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 15 size in C.

THOMAS STEWARD 1-2.	ALBERT E. DURRANT .. 5-6.
CHARLES MEE 3-4.	WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. 7-8.

Conducted by THOMAS STEWARD.

Umpires, Messrs. D. Prentice and S. Tillett. This is the first peal on handbells by W. L. Catchpole, and the first as conductor by T. Steward.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A GENERAL MEETING will be held on Whit-Monday at Stockton and Middlesbrough. The peal of 6, tenor 11 cwt., at Stockton parish church, and the peal of eight, tenor 12 cwt., at St. Hilda's, Middlesbrough, will be at the disposal of the ringers. Dinner at two o'clock at the "Half Moon," Stockton.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE
ASHBY PARISH CHURCH SOCIETY.

On Monday, April 30, 1888, in Three Hours and Four and a-half Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 18 cwt. in Eb.

WILLIAM LIGGINS Treble.	JOHN H. DUNMORE 5.
HERBERT CANNER 2.	JOHN JAGGAR 6.
THOMAS JACQUES 3.	WALTER CANNER 7.
JAMES HOPKINS 4.	JOSEPH CURTIS Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

First peal by all excepting the conductor, also first peal in the method on the bells.

BRANDESTON, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(THE CRETINGHAM BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 28, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

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

Being a 720 each of the following:—

LONDON SURPRISE, SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE, COVENTRY SURPRISE, CAMBRIDGE
SURPRISE, MORNING EXERCISE, KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB.

{Tenor 9½ cwt.

STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. ... Treble.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN 4.
WILLIAM G. CRICKMER 2.	DAVID G. WIGHTMAN 5.
ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN 3.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, SEN. Tenor.

Conducted by DAVID G. WIGHTMAN.

First 5040 upon six bells by the treble, second and fourth men; also the seventh
5040 rang upon the bells; the first being rung in 1749.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, THE
UNITED COUNTIES' AND LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

Handbell Peal.

On Saturday, April 28, 1888, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE MEETING HOUSE, THE CROWN INN,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JOHN THORP 1-2.	SAMUEL WOOD 5-6.
GEORGE LONGDEN 3-4.	JAMES S. WILDE 7-8.
THOMAS WILDE 9-10.	

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

Umpires, William Jakeman and Henry Heap. The peal was listened to by
members of the Ashton and Hyde companies.

ROWLEY REGIS, STAFFORDSHIRE.

BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY, AND THE
BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Monday, April 30, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

JOHN CARTER Treble.	REUBEN HALL 5.
JAMES JONES 2.	JOHN T. PERRY 6.
THOMAS HORTON 3.	ALBERT HACKLEY 7.
WILLIAM BROOK 4.	JOHN HOLLIER Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

First peal. First peal in the method. The ringers take the opportunity of
thanking the Vicar for his kindness in granting them the use of the bells, and also
Mr. Bennett (steeplekeeper), for the able manner in which he looked after them.
Rung in honour of the conductor's birthday.

ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.—THE ORMSKIRK SOCIETY.

On Monday, April 30, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. R. PRITCHARD'S SIX-PART. Tenor 25½ cwt.

JOHN PRESCOTT Treble.	JAS. SHOLICAR 5.
W. B. LLOYD 2.	W. J. TAYLOR 6.
JOHN ASPINWALL 3.	GEORGE PRESCOTT 7.
W. ELLIS 4.	PETER H. HARVEY Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES SHOLICAR.

Rung as a farewell peal to Mr. George Prescott, jun., who sails on Saturday next
for St. Paul's, Manitoba, to join his father, a former ringer at Ormskirk.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Monday, April 30, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5104 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

GEORGE ROBINSON Treble.	EDWARD ISAAC STONE 5.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 6.
CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY 3.	HARRY WAKLEY 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by
WILLIAM WAKLEY.Rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of the late Mr. M. T. Bass,
founder of St. Paul's church, the fourth anniversary of whose death fell the day
previous to the peal being rung, viz.: Sunday, April 29th.

BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, May 1, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5014 CHANGES.

Tenor 36 cwt.

HENRY BASTABLE Treble.	JOHN W. CARTWRIGHT 7.
WILLIAM R. SMALL 2.	CHARLES STANBRIDGE 8.
BERNARD WITCHELL 3.	ALFRED THOMAS 9.
WILLIAM KENT 4.	THOMAS REYNOLDS 10.
SAMUEL REEVES 5.	HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. 11.
CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY 6.	JOHN BUFFERY Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by
CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

The figures of this composition were published in "THE BELL NEWS," April, 1882.

MIDDLESBROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 1, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HILDA,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

JOHN NICHOLSON Treble.	EDWARD EDWARDS 5.
JOHN H. BLAKISTON 2.	G. J. CLARKSON 6.
ROBERT BORROWS 3.	HENRY MCADAMS 7.
JAMES MCADAMS 4.	SAMUEL WALKER, SEN. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN H. BLAKISTON.

First 5040 by all except G. J. Clarkson, who hails from Stockton-on-Tees.

HIGHAM, KENT.

(No date mentioned), in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

5040 CHANGES, BEING FORTY-TWO SIX-SCORES OF
GRANDSIRE DOUBLES;

P. DOUST Treble.	C. WATERMAN 3.
A. JEFFREY 2.	H. HUMPHREY 4.
G. DOUST Tenor.	

Conducted by G. DOUST.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(THE ST. MARY'S EASTBOURNE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 28, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 16½ cwt.

J. ROLLISON Treble.	T. LEWIS 5.
E. WILLOUGHBY 2.	T. WILLOUGHBY 6.
C. HARFFEY 3.	T. HART 7.
L. HUGGETT 4.	J. LEWIS Tenor.

Composed by J. J. PARKER, of Slough, and Conducted by T. HART.
The above peal will be found in "THE BELL NEWS," of February 4th, 1888.

SLOUGH, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 28th, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 9½ cwt.

WILLIAM LEADER Treble.	WILLIAM WILDER 5.
ARTHUR JACOB 2.	REUBEN FLAXMAN 6.
ALFRED C. FUSSELL 3.	GEORGE NEWSON 7.
THOMAS W. UDELL 4.	FRANK SINKINS Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

Rung in honour of the Princess Christian's visit to the Slough Institution. First peal by F. Sinkins, who was elected a member of the Royal Cumberland Society in the tower previous to starting for the peal. Messrs. Newson and Jacob hail from London; the rest are local men.

ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, April 28, 1888, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qrs. 25 lbs.

JOHN ASPINWALL Treble.	HENRY COLEY 5.
WILLIAM JAMES 2.	WILLIAM DAVIES 6.
WILLIAM BOOTH 3.	THOMAS HAMMOND 7.
JOHN R. PRITCHARD 4.	GEORGE PRESCOTT Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS HAMMOND.

First peal in the method. This is the first peal in the method on the bells. Mr. G. Prescott belongs to the local company; the remainder to Liverpool.

MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE
ST. MICHAEL'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, April 28, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 16½ cwt. in F#.

JOHN R. WOOD Treble.	HARRY CHAS WOODWARD 5.
JOSEPH WARREN 2.	FRED W. COOK 6.
HENRY HOLLINGWORTH 3.	GEORGE A. FISH 7.
JOHN VICKERS 4.	GEORGE C. TUNNICLIFFE Tenor.

Composed by A. P. HEYWOOD, Esq., and Conducted by
H. C. WOODWARD.

This peal contains all the combinations of 4, 5, and 6, in 5-6, with the 2nd and 3rd never in 6th's place. It was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Rev. Jos. Deans, vicar of Melbourne; also in memory of Francis A. P. Knipe, Esq., who died on Saturday, April 21st, in Australia.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHEFFIELD (Yorks).—On Monday, April 30th, at St. Marie's (R.C.) church, a date touch (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 11 mins. W. Midgley, 1; T. Sarel, 1; Jno. Mulligan (conductor), 3; Jos. Mulligan, 4; E. Woodward, 5; W. Biggin, 6; J. A. Dixon, 7; T. Dixon, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. The above touch is the composition of the late H. Hubbard, Leeds, and it is to be found in the fourth edition of Hubbard's work, 1876.

HULL.—On Monday, April 30th, at Holy Trinity church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 1; T. Stockdale, 2; J. W. Stickney, 3; H. Jenkins, 4; R. Chaffer, 5; G. A. Taylor (Birmingham), 6; C. Bennett, 7; F. Merrison, 8. It was intended to go for a peal to celebrate the return of Mr. G. A. Taylor from China after an absence of eight years, but owing to the absence of one of the company through illness a late meeting was the result. Tenor 25 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday, April 29th, at St. Mary's church, for Divine service in the afternoon, 360 and 120 of Oxford Treble Bob. C. H. Howard, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 5; E. Radley, 6. And after service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. S. Sargent, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; C. Bearman, 4; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 5; E. Radley, 6. First 720 in the method. Time 28 mins. Messrs Hammond and Howard hail from Braintree; Radley from Stisted; the rest belong to the local company. All the above are members of the Essex Association. Tenor 19 cwt.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, April 17th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Toll, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; I. Hills, 3; H. Chapman, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. Howard (first 720 as conductor), 6. Handbell Ringing.—On Thursday, April 13th, at St. Paul's belfry, a 518 of Grandsire Triples. F. Hull, 1; H. Chapman, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3-4; W. G. Biggs, 5-6; I. Hills, 7-8. Also on Sunday, April 22nd, a 720 of Bob Minor (four bobs and fourteen singles). W. Hall, 1-2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3-4; W. G. Biggs, 5-6. And on Tuesday, April 24th, the first part of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1-2; W. Hall, 3-4; W. G. Biggs, 5-6; I. Hills, 7-8. Also on Thursday, April 26th, on the occasion of a wedding, a 672 of Grandsire Triples, containing all the 5-7-6's and 5-6-7's. F. Hull, 1; H. Chapman, 2; W. Hall, 3; F. Keech, 4; C. W. Clarke (composer and conductor), 5; C. Pass, 6; J. N. Frossell, 7; W. Bettles, 8. Also a 588, standing as before. Also a 503, containing all the 7-5-6's. F. Hull, 1; C. Pass, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; F. Keech, 5; H. Chapman, 6; J. W. Frossell (conductor), 7; W. Bettles, 8. And a quarter-peal (1260 changes, taken from Holt's Original), in 50 mins. F. Hull (first quarter-peal), 1; W. Hall, 2; C. R. Howard (first quarter-peal), 3; J. N. Frossell, 4; H. Chapman, 5; C. Pass, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; W. Bettles (first quarter-peal), 8. Also a 224, conducted by W. Hall. Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

CARDINGTON (Beds).—On Saturday, April 28th, eight members of the above association attempted at St. Mary's church, J. Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but it came to grief when 3,276 changes had been rung in 2 hrs. 8 mins. C. R. Howard, 1; I. Hills, 2; C. Pass, 3; W. G. Biggs (conductor), 4; F. Keech, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6; H. Chapman, 7; F. Hull, 8. This was the first attempt for a peal by the treble and tenor men.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

TIVERTON.—On Wednesday, April 25th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, the second half of Brooks' peal of Stedman Triples, in 1 hr. 34 mins. E. Munday, 1; J. Grater, jun., 2; W. Grater, 3; J. Grater, 4; R. Grater, jun., 5; T. Harvey, 6; J. Babbage (conductor), 7; S. Hoare, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—On Sunday evening, April 29th, for service, 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 36 mins. R. Burrows, 1; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 2; S. Walker, 3; J. McAdams, 4; E. Edmondson, 5; C. Wilkinson, 6; H. McAdams, 7; S. Walker, sen., 8. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

WALPOLE (Norfolk).—Recently by the voluntary band, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Brett, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; H. Allen, 4; Dr. Seccombe, 5; W. Wright, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Hendry, 1; W. Day (conductor), 2; H. Hill, 3; Dr. Seccombe, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; R. Grimes, 6. Also a 720 of College Single. J. Hendry, 1; W. Day (conductor), 2; H. Hill, 3; J. Brett, 4; H. Allen, 5; R. Grimes, 6. Also a 720 of London Single. J. Hendry, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Allen, 3; Dr. Seccombe, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; R. Grimes (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Hendry, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Allen, 3; J. Brett, 4; H. Hill (conductor), 5; R. Grimes, 6.

TERRINGTON (Norfolk).—Recently at St. John's church, by kind permission of the rector, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Hendry, 1; H. Allen, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; J. Brett, 4; R. Grimes, 5; W. Wright, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, April 29th, for Divine service, at St. Michael's church, in the morning, 600 of Kent Treble Bob, in 20 mins. T. Watson, 1; F. L. Bumstead, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6. Also for evening service, a 720 of Double Court Bob, in 25 mins. T. Watson, 1; F. L. Bumstead, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. Also on Tuesday, May 1st, on the occasion of the Bishop of Colchester holding a confirmation, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. W. Hammond, 1; F. L. Bumstead, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 24 mins. W. Hammond, 1; F. L. Bumstead, 2; S. Hammond, 3; C. H. Howard, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. And after the service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, standing as before.

ROMFORD (Essex).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday evening, April 28th, 532 Grandsire Triples. W. Pegrum, 1; R. Mighill, 2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6; W. Nash, 7-8. This touch contains the whole of the 7-5-6's.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Easter Sunday, April 1st, for Divine Service, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. W. Brazier, 1; J. Dains (conductor), 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Harvey, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. J. Piper, 6. Also on Sunday, April 8th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. W. Harvey, 1; W. J. Piper, 2; J. Dains, 3; W. Rowland, 4; E. Scotcher, 5; A. Tarbun (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, April 15th, for Divine service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. J. Piper, 4; E. Scotcher, 5; A. Tarbun (conductor), 6. And on Friday, April 20th, a 720 of College Exercise. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains (conductor), 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; A. Edwards, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. J. Piper, 6. And on Friday, April 27th, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; E. Scotcher, 4; W. Brazier, 5; W. J. Piper (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of New London Pleasure (twenty-one bobs). *E. Scotcher, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Harvey, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. J. Piper (composer and conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. †First 720 with a bob bell.

WHITTLE (Essex).—Recently, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (forty-two singles), on the back six. W. Emery, 1; F. Radley, 2; A. Edwards, 3; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 4; W. J. Piper, 5; W. Lincoln (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—BRADFELD DEANERY BRANCH.

BEENHAM (Berks).—On Sunday, April 8th, for morning service, at the parish church, a 360 of Single Oxford Bob. And for evening service, a 720 of Court Bob, and after evening service, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. Also on Sunday, April 15th, for evening service, a 360 of College Single, and after evening service, a 360 of Canterbury Pleasure. Also on Monday, April 16th, for practice, a 360 of Double Oxford Bob. Also on Sunday, April 22nd, for morning service, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. Also on Monday, April 23rd, for practice, a 180 of Plain Bob and 120 of Single Oxford Bob, and a 120 Double Oxford Bob. Also on Sunday, April 29th, for morning service, a 360 of Double Oxford Bob Minor. And for evening service, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob, in 23 mins. (quickest 720 on the bells). And after evening service, a 360 of Grandsire Minor. The following ringers took part in the above: G. Webb, J. Hissey, T. Greetham, H. Hatto, T. Bidmead, A. Richardson, J. Hatto, and J. Richardson. Conducted by J. Richardson. Tenor 10 cwt.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, April 24th, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor. F. Simmonds, 1; T. Newman, 2; J. Hands, 3; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 4; E. Menday, 5; H. Simmonds (first in the method as conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; T. Newman, 4; G. Essex, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday evening, April 29th, for Divine service, a 360 of College Single. C. Parfitt, 1; F. Simmonds, 2; H. Simmonds, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Menday, 5; T. Newman (conductor). Tenor 17 cwt.

ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY, NORWICH.

NORWICH.—On Thursday evening, April 26th, six members of the above society, met at St. John's church, Maddur Market, and rung a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. A. G. Warnes, 1; W. Blyth, 2; F. H. Knights, jun., 3; W. Bales, 4; E. Francis (composer and conductor), 5; J. Skinner, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Wednesday, April 25th, an attempt was made to

ring Carter's bob-and-single variation of 5040 Grandsire Triples. After ringing 2500 changes it came to grief. G. Hitchman, 1; J. Jones, 2; W. Brook, 3; C. Carmell, 4; C. Barnacle, 5; J. T. Perry (conductor), 6; A. Hackley, 7; C. Sparkes, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

AYLESFORD (Kent).—On Monday, April 30th, at St. Peter's church, a 252 and 504 of Bob Triples, were rung on the occasion of a wedding. R. Cossam, 1; T. Homewood, 2; T. Durban, 3; W. Wilson, 4; J. Mitchell, 5; E. Perrim, 6; E. Price (conductor), 7; W. Harris, 8. Also a 420 and 252 in the same method. R. Cossam, 1; T. Homewood, 2; E. Paice (conductor), 3; W. Wilson, 4; J. Mitchell, 5; E. Perrim, 6; T. Durban, 7; W. Harris, 8. And a 252, T. Durban (conductor).

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday, April 22nd, for Divine Service, in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob. G. Ellcombe, 1; L. Digweed, 2; 2; W. Martin, 3; J. Broom, 4; G. Hayes, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, April 29th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Martin, 1; C. Waterman, 2; G. Hayes, 3; B. Spinner, 5; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. And for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Plain Bob. W. Jackson, 1; C. Waterman, 2; A. Cornford, 3; J. Broom, 4; W. Harper, 5; G. Hayes (conductor), 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. L. Digweed, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. Hayes, 3; C. Waterman, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. C. Waterman hails from Shore, and this is his first 720 of Oxford Treble Bob.

WROTHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, April 29th, after evening service, a 504 of Bob Triples. W. Hosmer, 1; F. Taylor, 2; F. Shoobridge, 3; W. Taylor, 4; G. Osborne, 5; R. Edge, 6; C. Taylor (conductor), 7; J. Rogers.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, April 28th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. M. Shillock, 1; H. Morris, 2; J. Smith, 3; W. Short, 4; J. Barber, 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, April 19th, for practice, at St. Andrew's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. R. Round, 1; F. Hartshorne, 2; J. Townsend, 3; W. H. Hartshorne, 4; J. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Also on Thursday, April 26th, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 26½ mins. *R. Perkins, 1; H. Mason, 2; J. Townsend, 3; A. E. Parsons, 4; *W. H. Hartshorne, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, April 29th, for morning service, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 25½ mins. B. Townsend, 1; C. Beasley, 2; H. Woodall, 3; J. Meredith, 4; R. Round, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. *First peal in each of the above methods. Messrs. F. and W. H. Hartshorne and R. Perkins hail from Brierley Hill; H. Mason and A. E. Parsons, from Old Hill; C. Beasley, H. Woodall, and J. Meredith from Cradley. All are members of the Association except A. E. Parsons.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHIPLEY.—On Tuesday evening, April 24th, at the Parish church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. T. Lilley, 1; S. H. London, 2; R. Atkinson (first 720), 3; J. S. Clark, 4; J. Lilley, 5; F. London (conductor), 6.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WOODBIDGE (Suffolk).—On Thursday, April 26th, an attempt was made for a peal of Kent Treble Bob (5024 changes), but after ringing 1376 changes, in 50 mins., a change-course occurred, and "stand" was called. W. Arnott, 1; P. Meadows, 2; A. E. Acfield, 3; W. Burch, 4; H. Burch, 5; A. Ward, 6; C. Ward, 7; W. Ward (conductor), 8.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH (Leicestershire).—On Sunday, April 29th, for evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, as token of respect to the late Mr. Emery, who for the last eight years was sidesman at this parish church, and was greatly respected as a townsman. Rev. P. H. Jackson, 1; H. Canner, 2; T. Jacques, 3; J. Hopkins, 4; W. Owen, 5; J. Dunmore, 6; W. Canner (conductor), 7; J. Curtis, 8. The Rev. P. H. Jackson belongs to Beaminster, Dorset.

COTGRAVE (Notts).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, April 28th, a plain course each of the following: Grandsire and Bob Doubles. W. White, 1-2; W. E. White, 3-4; J. C. White, 5-6. Bob Minor. H. White, 1; J. C. White, 2; W. E. White, 3-4; W. White, 5-6. Grandsire Minor. H. White, 1-2; W. White, 3-4; W. E. White, 5-6. Grandsire Triples. H. White, 1-2; W. White, 3-4; W. E. White, 5-6; J. C. White, 7-8.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Sunday Morning, April 29th, for Divine Service, 500 Grandsire Triples. H. Dudley, sen., 1; H. Haley, 2;

Dr. A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 3; S. Fisk, 4; W. States, 5; A. Bruce, 6; R. T. Woodley, 7; T. Verrall, 8. Mr. Woodley hails from London.

DUFFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, April 30th, for Divine Service, in the evening, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1270 changes). G. Dawson, 1; G. H. Phillott, 2; S. Johnson, 3; J. Howe, 4; A. P. Heywood (conductor), 5; E. Moreton, 6; G. Hingley, 7; W. Hickling, 8; B. Sugden, 9; H. Midgley, 10. Time 50 mins.

HARBORNE (Staffordshire).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, April 21st, in the parish church belfry, 120 Grandsire Doubles. A. H. Parker (age 8), 1-2; E. Parker, 3-4; A. E. H. Parker (age 12, conductor), 5-6. It was well struck in the presence of several members of the Association.

LONDON.—On Saturday, April 21st, at St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, Westminster, a quarter-peal of 1260 Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. T. J. Reed, 1; H. R. Newton, 2; J. Pryor, 3; T. R. Bell, 4; E. Duff, 5; H. S. Ellis, 6; J. N. Oxborrow, 7; W. Carter, 8. Conducted by H. R. Newton.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—On Monday, April 30th, at the parish church, 720 London Single. A. Clayton, 1; A. H. Martin, 2; G. Burton, 3; A. E. Chapman, 4; F. Clayton, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. And 360 Oxford Bob. J. Bailey, 1; W. Hall (conductor), 2; W. Lewis, 3; A. H. Martin, 4; F. Clayton, 5; A. E. Chapman, 6. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled, out of respect to the late Alfred Groom, of Denford, Northants, who met with a dreadful accident while at work, on the 24th of April, and which proved fatal in a few hours. The deceased was a member of the Raunds and Wellingborough Association. On Wednesday, April 25th, on handbells, at the residence of Mr. A. Clayton, 504 Bob Triples. A. Clayton, 1; W. Pettit, 2; G. Burton, 3; A. E. Chapman, 4; J. B. Martin, 5; W. Hall, 6; A. H. Martin (conductor), 7; J. Bailey, 8. Also 336 in the same method, with W. Lewis, 1; and W. Hall (conductor). Also 360 Plain Bob. J. Bailey, 1; J. B. Martin, 2; W. Pettitt, 3; W. Lewis, 4; A. H. Martin (conductor), 5; A. Clayton, 6.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Tuesday, April 23rd, at the Cathedral for practice, a 350 of Grandsire Triples. J. C. Mitchell, 1; E. Mitchell, 2; R. A. Fowler, 3; G. Cartmel, 4; R. M. Pratt, 5; W. Battle (conductor), 6; E. Hulks, 7; N. N. Hills, 8. Also a plain course of Grandsire Doubles, with 6, 7, 8 behind. *C. Walklate, 1; E. Mitchell, 2; J. Mitchell, 3; G. Cartmel, 4; W. Battle, 5; R. M. Pratt, 6; R. A. Fowler, 7; H. L. Waddington, 8. Also two more plain courses. Also a plain course, with *C. W. Crouch on the treble; also two more plain courses; also a plain course with *T. Long on the treble and E. Hulks on the tenor; also two more plain courses. *First course. The above was by the local company. Also a 168 of Stedman Triples. E. Mitchell, 1; R. A. Fowler, 2; J. Mitchell, 3; R. M. Pratt, 4; W. Battle, 5; G. Cartmel, 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; H. L. Waddington, 8.

SHADWELL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, April 25th, at St. Paul's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins. *G. Hartnup, 1; C. Relton, 2; W. Cecil, 3; *E. Hall, 4; G. Tanner, 5; H. Springhall (conductor), 6; R. Turner, 7; *S. Parmenter, 1. Composed by J. H. Barrett, of Stepney, and contains the twelve 4-6's, twelve 7-4's, twelve 6-7's. *Longest touch in the method.

STRATTON STRAWLESS.—On Sunday, April 22nd, E. Francis and P. Sadler of Norwich, paid a visit to the above place, and rang at St. Margaret's church, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor (with eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. G. Bean, 1; H. Smithson, 2; P. Sadler (conductor), 3; H. Kidd, 4; J. Bircham, 5; E. Francis, 6. Also after service, a 720 of Bob Minor (with fourteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. H. Kidd, 1; J. Bircham, 2; G. Moy, 3; P. Sadler, 4; B. Stackwood, 5; E. Francis (composer and conductor), 6. Also another 720 in the same method (with eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. P. Sadler (conductor), 1; G. Earle, 2; A. J. Neal, 3; G. Moy, 4; E. Francis, 5; R. Stackwood, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Monday, April 30th, for practice, at St. Martin's church, 518 Grandsire Triples. B. Starkey, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; W. Cheshire, 3; W. Hartshorne, 4; B. Gough, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; T. Hibert, 8. Also 640 of Plain Bob Major. H. Mills, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; W. Hartshorne, 4; T. Hibert, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. Small, 8. Also 408 of Stedman Triples. W. Small, 1; T. Hibert, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; W. Hartshorne, 4; A. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; H. Mills, 8. And 216 Stedman Triples. H. Mills, 1; W. Small, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; A. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; B. Starkey, 8. Hartshorne hails from Brierley Hill; T. Hibert from Reading; W. Cheshire and B. Gough from Coseley; the rest are of the local company.

WHITSTONE (near Exeter).—On Sunday, April 29th, after evening service, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 40 mins. S. Pester (first ten 6-score), 1; H. Baxter, 2; W. Pester, 3; W. Sercombe, 4; G. Baxter, 5; M. Skinner (first ten 6-score), 6.

WHITCHURCH (Oxon).—On Thursday evening, April 26th, at St. Mary, a 720 of Grandsire Doubles, in 26 mins., each 6-score called differently. W. Pocock, 1; Chas. Pocock, 2; W. Lawrence (conductor), 3; E. Bushnell, 4; A. C. West, 5; H. Bushnell, 6. First 720 by the local band who have but recently given their attention to change-ringing.

CANON TRISTRAM.

It must be very disappointing for Canon Tristram, after having represented the archdeaconry of Durham in York Convocation for many years, and having received a majority of votes at the last election, to be deprived of his position of Proctor on the ground that he has no benefice, but a canonry only. But the principle is insisted upon by the Archbishop of York that a Proctor must be beneficed within the archdeaconry which he represents; and this requirement the Queen's Bench has at length decided that it has no jurisdiction to set aside. Whether the Archbishop was right in requiring this qualification for a Proctor, and whether he had authority to decide the point at all are questions left to be determined in some way by the Convocation itself. In such matters at least the Queen's Bench will not interfere. Lord Coleridge's judgement certainly does not detract from the dignity of the Convocations. The Queen's Bench, he says, refuses to "interfere in the internal affairs of an ancient body, as old as Parliament and as independent." In thus dwelling on the ancient rights, and above all the "absolute independence" of the Convocations, the court is laying down broad principles, which in the dim, if not distant future may have a very important effect.—*Guardian*.

A REAL GHOST STORY.—The inhabitants of a sea-side parish in East Kent, not a hundred miles from Reculver, have recently had a ghostly experience, which caused no small sensation. There was not long since a change of vicar, and the new incumbent being zealous for Lenten observances, arranged such a programme of services during Holy Week that the church bell was scarcely silent from morning till night. People began to say that the bell would get so used to tolling that it would soon ring of itself. One night when, after service was over, the sexton had locked up the church, he and the vicar were on their way home. Suddenly they were startled by hearing the church bell tolling again. At first they could scarcely believe their ears, but the bell went on tolling in a somewhat irregular way. Then the Vicar decided that some person must have been left in the church and was giving the alarm in order to get released. The sexton was instructed to return and set the belated bell-ringer free. The night being dark, and his nerves being a little unstrung, the sexton secured the services of the constable, and thus reinforced, returned to the church. A light was procured, the door opened, and a search made for the ringer. There was no ringer! The belfry rope moved to and fro, the bell in the turret kept tolling, but not a soul—or at least not a body—was to be seen. The sexton and the constable feeling the situation grow gruesome, and cold shivers creeping down the small of their backs, beat a hasty retreat to the outside of the church. By this time people, aroused by the continual tolling of the bell, began to assemble, wondering what it all meant, and ere long quite a crowd of the inhabitants were eagerly discussing the mystery—the sexton and the policeman having both solemnly declared the ghostly character of the alarm. The Vicar and churchwardens also appeared on the scene, and people began to suggest that the exorcising powers of the reverend gentleman should be called into requisition. At times the ringing would cease for a few minutes and then re-commence with spasmodic energy, as if the ghosts of a dozen sextons were struggling at the bell rope. An hour passed by. Another search was made in the church by a few bold and adventurous parishioners, but still there was no ringer to be seen. Another hour passed, and another. The excited people returned to their homes to discuss the extraordinary event; the sexton went away in despair, and only a couple of policemen were left in charge of the church and the ghost. At last midnight sounded, and then with a burst of extra-wild ringing the bell ceased to toll. In the early morning light the secret was revealed. Some wicked wag, who had probably availed himself of workmen's ladders, which had during the day been in use against the church, had gained access to the bell turret and had fastened to the clapper a long cord, which was carried to an obscure corner of an adjoining field, from which place of concealment the oracle was worked.

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Obituary.

WILLIAM HULME.

Another link in the chain which binds the present with the past generation of ringers, has been shortened by the death of the above-named gentlemen, who was taken to the majority on Wednesday, April 18th, in the 73rd year of his age. His end was calm and peaceful in the extreme; and to use his own expressions a short time before his death, he passed away

"Fearing, Nothing;
Hoping, Trusting All."

He had been connected with the old church, Macclesfield, for sixty years in various capacities, over fifty of which he had been a ringer, being elected and received his first quarter's pay at Midsummer, 1837, the date of Her Majesty's accession to the Throne. Always spare and delicate, his health failed him some five years ago, when he was superannuated by his brother-ringers. The last occasion when he rang in peal was at the Queen's Jubilee, at which time his own Jubilee as a ringer was celebrated. He was appointed apparitor in 1860, and two years later deputy clerk, succeeding to the office of clerk about 1866, and sexton in 1870, both of which he held at the time of his death. His decease causes the first break in the band which rang the first peal of 5040 ever rang in the Potteries, which took place at Longton old church, on March 31st, 1864. He conducted his first peal in 1841, and his last (which he composed), of over 6000 changes, in 1877. His greatest delight was to talk about ringing and ringers of his day, and always made enquiries about those who were left of his acquaintance in other towns. His retiring habits and extreme modesty almost amounted in him to a fault, yet to know him was to love him. Patient and persevering in all things, truthful and upright in all his dealings, strictly faithful in the discharge of his various duties, it may truly apply to him to quote our immortal bard, that,

"The purest treasure mortal times afford
Is spotless reputation."

The funeral took place at the Macclesfield cemetery on Monday, April 23rd. At the request of the Vicar (the Rev. Canon Turner), the first portion of the service took place in the old church. The body borne by four of the youngest ringers, supported as pall bearers by four of the oldest ringers, was met at the west porch by the Rev. Canon, the wardens, and the choir. The service, which was choral, was very impressive, and was devoutly followed by a large congregation. At the cemetery there was a numerous assemblage, the vicar again officiating. After the service a course on the handbells was rung as a last token of respect by his brother-ringers. The bells were muffled and rung each evening, and prior to the interment and afterwards, a 750 Stedman Triples with the bells half-muffled. M.

REV. JOSEPH DEANS,

VICAR OF MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

We regret to announce the death of the above gentleman which sad event took place very suddenly, on Friday, April 20th, at the advanced age of 84 years. Mr. Deans was ordained deacon in 1827, by Bishop Kaye, and took priests' orders in 1829. He was preferred to the vicarage of Melbourne in 1831, which benefice he held till his death. The deceased gentleman, though not a practical ringer, took a very great interest in bell-ringing. It was chiefly through his instrumentality that a Society of Ringers was formed in Melbourne, of which Society he was the honoured president. He always maintained that it was his dearest wish to see a peal of eight bells in the tower of Melbourne church, which wish he lived to see accomplished, he himself entering heartily into the project for increasing the peal of six to eight, in 1887. On Sunday, April 29th, a peal of Grand-sire Triples was rung to his memory. The remains were interred on Thursday, April 26th, the ceremony commencing with a short service in church. The oak coffin, which was borne on a bier by the ringers, was surmounted by a large brass cross, bearing the inscription, "Joseph Deans, Priest, born December 5th, 1803, died April 20th, 1888, R.I.P." On Saturday, April 28th, a half-muffled peal was rung as a last token of respect. The vacant living is in the gift of the Bishop of Southwell.

F. A. P. KNIPE, M.D.

The above gentleman and ringer died on Saturday, April 21st, in Australia, where he had been practising for the last twelve months or so. Mr. Knipe was a first-class eight-bell ringer. Although we have not his list of peals to hand, he had rung several in different Standard Methods. At one time he practised with his brother, at Melbourne, Derbyshire, and was well known and highly respected by the Melbourne ringers, and also the ringers of the Metropolis, with whom he always liked to have a friendly "pull" while amongst them.

MR. W. H. TUCKER.

It is with feelings of deep regret we have to announce the death of Mr. W. H. Tucker, of Bishops Stortford, who died at his residence on Friday, April 20th, after a short illness of only two days duration. Mr. Tucker was in his 58th year and had held the position of cemetery superintendent from its opening in 1885, he was also sexton for the parish church of St. Michael. For upwards of 250 years the Tucker family have been connected with this town, and for generations they have filled the post of sexton for the parish church. Mr. Tucker was a member of the Bishops Stortford society of change-ringers for about 40 years, during which time he had rung several peals. His genial face will be much missed in the ringing-chamber, for he was one that could always be found there on practice evenings, doing his utmost to help forward a young beginner in the art, of which he was so fond. The respect in which he was held, was shown at his funeral, which took place in the cemetery, on Tuesday, April 24th, in the presence of about 300 of his friends, ringers, and foresters, of which latter community he was a member and trustee. During the evening, several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, with the bells deeply muffled, by T. Newman, W. Ricketts, G. Brand, C. Martin, G. Martin, F. W. Chapman, H. Champness, J. Samford, and F. Roast, assisted by friends from Stanstead, Essex.

CALNE, WILTS.

On Tuesday evening, May 1st, eight members of the local company were present at the annual meeting of the Church of England Temperance Society, and rang several melodies on handbells, in capital style, and were loudly applauded, and which afforded a pleasant change in the programme, which consisted of songs, &c. The ringers have all been trained by Mr. W. Seager (an old ringer), who takes a great interest in it.

FEATS OF EATING.—Tournaments of gluttons were not uncommon up to fifty or sixty years ago. Twenty pounds of cherries are said to have been eaten at one sitting by a competitor at one of these encounters. She was a young girl, and gained the day; but she did not long survive her victory. At Portsmouth a soldier of the Dutch Artillery tried for a trifling wager to eat a pound and a half of beef while standing on his head. He had disposed of a considerable portion, when all at once his comrades observed him making strange faces, and on turning him up he gasped and died. At Fareham, a small town a few miles from Portsmouth, a labourer ate for a wager a bullock's head, weighing ten pounds, with a gallon of potatoes, half a gallon of turnips, and the whole of the soup of the boiling. But perhaps the greatest achievement in these uncleanly competitions was that of a certain Jerry Eke, a Norfolk man, whose powers at harvest suppers were the boast and wonder and envy of the villages round. At a farmers' market dinner a wager was laid for five pounds that he would eat a calf at a sitting. "The calf"—let us hope only a baby calf—was killed. The bones were cut out, the flesh was cut up into minute particles, and apportioned into seventeen enormous pasties, whose outer crust was a thin film of batter made lovely and tempting to every sense, but carefully kept from any ingredients that could cloy the palates. Jerry was called in, he having agreed to the wager with evident delight, and was told that he might fall to. He did so, and steadily gorged. He had made no difficulty of the first nine pasties, but when a tenth was brought in he seemed to flag. To the horror of his backers he sighed and looked perplexed. It was but for a moment, he only desired to expostulate. 'I say, Mas'r, I ain't got nothing to say agin them boys—I loik 'em amazin'; but I'm a-thinkin' et's abaywt time as I should begin upon that ther calf.—From "Casell's Saturday Journal" for May.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"I love you, bells of motherland,
With all this soul of mine,
And bless the Lord that I am sprung
Of good old English line;
And like a son, I sing the lay
That England's glory tells,
For she is lovely to the Lord,
And you—ye Christian bells."

ARTHUR CLEVELAND COX.

A few weeks ago I made enquiry respecting the celebrated Yorkshire ringer and composer, Mr. William Sottanstill, and as my enquiry elicited no response from our friends in that quarter, I was exceedingly glad to read the account of his "Jubilee Celebration" on Saturday last. It was very pleasant reading, not only on account of the interesting story it gave of the veteran's life, but also from the gratifying evidence it afforded that his Yorkshire friends in general and the clergy, wardens, and parishioners of Sowerby in particular had combined to so fittingly celebrate the event. Had publicity been given to it through "THE BELL NEWS" previously, I have no doubt that a still larger number of his admirers would have travelled long distances in order to be present at Sowerby on that day. As it is, we who were thus unfortunately and unavoidably absent must content ourselves with the pleasure of reading the account of the proceedings which you give. We can, however, most heartily join in the wish expressed by the worthy Vicar of Sowerby, that "their old friend would be spared to them for some time yet, and that when he had finished his course here, he might attain to a better life hereafter."

The story of Mr. Sottanstill's life and work is well worth the careful consideration of us all, and particularly of those amongst us whom we are apt to style "the rising generation." It has been a life of constant and unremitting work in connection with the Church which had brought him up from childhood, and towards which in his writings is ever breathed a spirit of sacred love and veneration, which shows him to be a faithful son "not in name only, but in very deed." For over four-score years the events of his life have been bound up with the Church which he loves. From a scholar in the Sunday School he became a teacher, and so continued for forty-six years; for twenty years he was a member of the choir; for half a century he has faithfully performed the duties of parish clerk; and sixty-six years ago the sound of his sweet church bells caused him to enter upon the work of ringing, to which work he has devoted such marked perseverance and ability as to merit the title bestowed upon him by the late Jasper Snowdon, of "prince among Yorkshire ringers." And amid all these manifold duties, we are told that for forty years he devoted his leisure hours to the compilation of a volume which must ever rank as one of the most important possessions of the Exercise. His "Elements of Campanologia" has been for many years my most-valued ringing work, and I can well imagine the immense amount of time, patience, and indomitable perseverance of which it has been the outcome.

Here is a life story worth writing in letters of gold. Here is a worthy example to follow of a long life spent in the performance of faithful unflagging work. We shall not all of us be given Mr. Sottanstill's long length of years: but if we cannot imitate him in this respect, we may at any rate endeavour during the brief space of time allotted to us, to emulate his zeal, patience, perseverance, and industry, and to leave the Exercise better than we found it.

I notice that the 9th of July next will be Mr. Sottanstill's

88th birthday, and do not doubt that the mere mention of this fact will be sufficient to cause that anniversary to be heartily observed by his many friends, particularly in his native county, by jubilant peals.

Mr. Muskett writes very hotly about the quick peal of Stedman Triples at Drayton. Although no doubt sharing his astonishment at the time stated, I cannot agree with his remarks, insinuating as they do such a breach of good faith on the part of the ringers of the peal, more especially so when I look at the names of some of those who took part in it. I have several times had occasion to refer to the surprisingly quick time in which peals are reported to have been rung, but I should be extremely loth to imagine that any such deceit had been practised as that mentioned by Mr. Muskett. No doubt his letter will be replied to from the proper quarter.

At the same time I cannot help noticing the great difference in the time of this peal with one of Double Norwich rung on the same bells on April 21st; the first one being at the rate of 344 changes per minute, and the latter 284, or six changes per minute slower than the first-named. There is certainly a considerable "variation" between the two in that respect.

And now, my friends of Stockton, just a word with you. While I am always glad to see my remarks criticised, and am no less willing to admit the fact if proved to be in the wrong, I certainly do think the concluding sentence of your report uncourteous, to say the least of it. Were I vindictive, I could easily repay that sentence with considerable interest; but I hope vindictiveness forms no trait in my character. If my remarks anent your so-called "Surprise peals" were unfair, or in any way controvertible, why did you not tackle them in the same columns in which they appeared, instead of contenting yourselves with "blackballing" me to your hearts' content in your own private conclave? If met in a proper controversial manner, I am fully prepared to maintain my ground. As it is, however, for the present, I will content myself by asking you in common fairness to substantiate the two statements you make; first, that my strictures emanate "from a quarter incompetent to judge upon what constitutes a legitimate distinction between one method and another," and second, that "another society in the south" has endorsed your opinion. I await your answer.

FREE LANCE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the next Quarterly Meeting will be held at St. Alban's church, Rochdale, on Saturday, May 5th. There will be a short service in the church at 5 p.m., at which members and friends are asked to attend. The business meeting will be held in St. Alban's schoolroom, Drake Street, immediately after service, and over which the vicar, the Rev. W. Cooper, M.A., has kindly consented to preside. The bells (8), tenor 17 cwt., will be at the disposal of members from 2.30 p.m. up to the commencement of the service, and again at the close of the meeting. Members on arrival to meet in the schoolroom, where companies can be formed for ringing. The committee will be very pleased to see as many as possible at both the service and the meeting.

JOEL REDFORD, } Hon. Secs.
A. E. WREAKS, }

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The above Association will hold a quarterly meeting at Walsden parish church, on Saturday, May 5th, at 5 o'clock, in the schoolroom. The bells will be at the disposal of members and friends at two. Subscriptions are now due.

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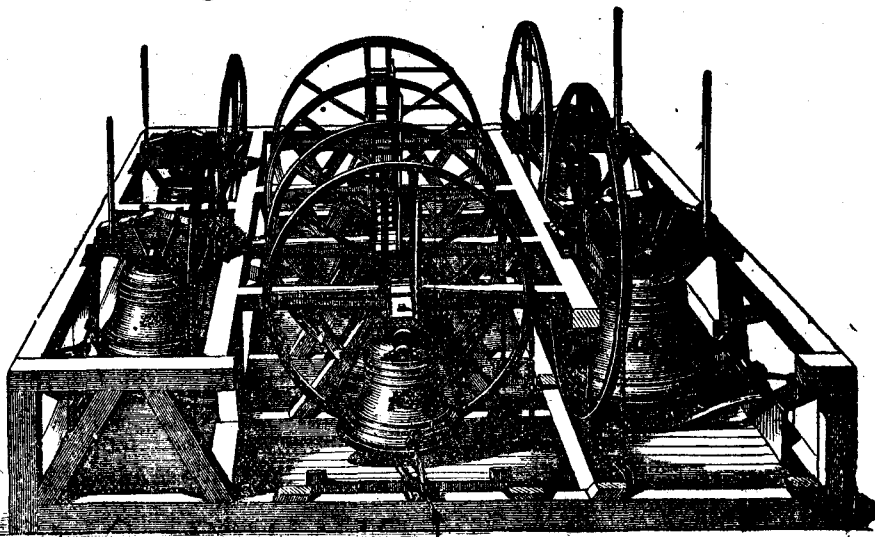
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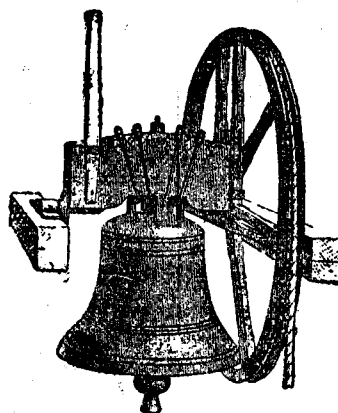
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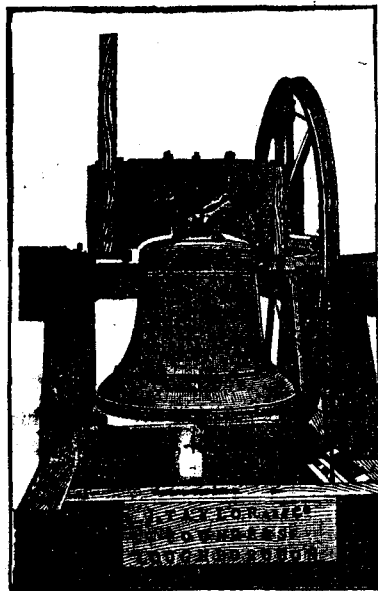
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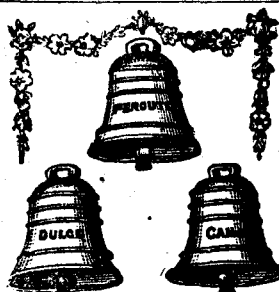
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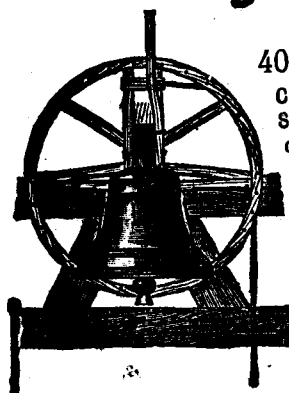
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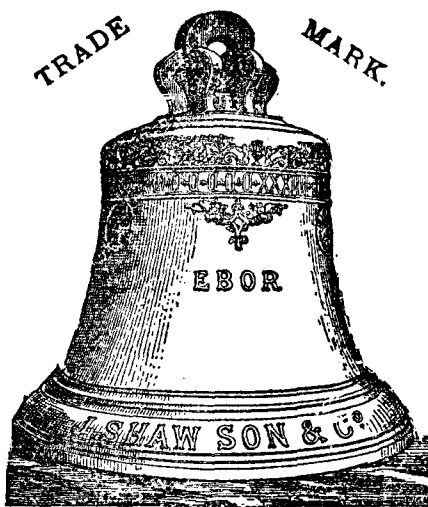
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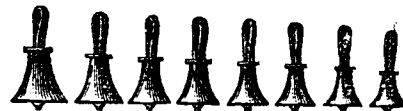
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An Essay on the In and Out-of-Course of the Changes;
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GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the above Association was held on Tuesday, May 1st, at Westbury-on-Severn. Among the company who attended was the Hon. Secretary (the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, vicar of Magor), Mr. F. E. Ward, Master of the Association, Mr. C. E. Boutflower, Secretary for the Bristol Deanery, Mr. J. E. Hern, Secretary for the North and South Forest Deaneries, and about thirty other ringers from various parishes in the county. Ringing commenced early, and some capital touches were rung upon the six bells which comprise the peal in the parish church tower. The morning was not favourable for a large gathering; it was cold, and rain fell heavily. There was a short service, attended principally by the ringers.

The Vicar (the Rev. Canon Jones), addressing those present, said he should address but very few words to them, based upon the words contained in the 4th verse of the first chapter of the Epistle to St. James, but he hoped they would be words of hearty welcome to the Association, to their parish, and more especially to the house of prayer. He (the speaker), had been associated with that institution ever since its foundation. He was glad to see them there, as it was a visit just on the eve of the termination of a very long incumbency and connection he had with the parish of Westbury. He wished them God speed in their undertaking, which he knew must be a labour of love, and if it was properly carried out it would tend to the glory of God. He believed the character of the village, the character of any country place in fact, depended very much upon the character and decorum which the ringers observed in the belfry. It was because he knew how steadily they conducted, that he had the pleasure in so cordially inviting them, but he would remind them that they had undertaken a serious responsibility, which, if it was honourably discharged, would win for them the admiration and respect of those around them. Wherever they went, it was essential that, besides the benefits which the friends derived from the art which they practised, there should go with them that example of good and steady life which would influence those with whom they were brought into association. He was glad to know that matters in that direction had very much improved within his own recollection. He had a lively recollection of the times, and it was not many years ago when the church belfries were in a state of disorder, revelry, and drink, and where matters were carried on in a manner which was highly improper. He was speaking not from what he had heard, but what actually had come under his own personal observation. A change had however come over them, and the ringers were beginning to recognise that they were really officers of the Church, and by the practice of their art were sending messages through the air to the villagers. Speaking more particularly to his own ringers, he said he was well aware they had met with almost every form of difficulty, but they had steadily maintained their position, and had surmounted them. The art of bell-ringing could not be taught or learned in a day, and those who had got a mastery over it could only do so by constant and persevering application and attention to the practice. It was encouraging that they submitted so willingly to the firm discipline that was observed. He hoped it would have an influence for good upon their worldly life, and that it would make them good men. Remember they were servants of God, and by their efforts were contributing to His glory.

Other touches were then rung in a creditable manner, after which, at 1.30., a dinner was served at the "Red Lion" Hotel, by host Nicholls. The vicar presided, Mr. Ward occupying the vice-chair. In addition to the general company, there was also present the Revs. H. H. Hardy (rector of Mitcheldean), G. B. Thorpe (curate), Mr. Marcus Letcher (Cinderford), and Mr. J. Ricketts (churchwarden of the parish).

The CHAIRMAN, on rising, said he had pleasure in submitting to them that good old-fashioned toast of "Church and Queen," which having been given,

The CHAIRMAN next proposed "Success to the Society." In other words, he said they were asked to drink the health of their noble selves. He welcomed them to Westbury right heartily. Not only did they bring out the glory of the church bell music, but he thought the ringers themselves, by their influence, set a good example wherever they went. He trusted at least that their visit to Westbury would not result in the least

possible harm, but that it would stimulate them to higher things. He was very proud the Association had decided to visit Westbury, and, on behalf of the churchwardens and church officers generally, he welcomed them right heartily.

Mr. WARD, who was called upon to respond, said he felt it was an honour to him to be in the proud position of Master of the Association. He looked upon theirs as a very important work, one which he was afraid in past days had been very much neglected. He was glad, however, to observe the evidence which existed that there was an improvement both in the ringers and ringing of to-day, as compared with the past generations. He meant that the ringers were now very generally attending the services in the church as well as the belfry. He wished to see them all regular attendants at the Lord's Supper. They had made a new start, and were gradually becoming to regard themselves as church officers. They felt there was work for them to do. With regard to the progress of their society, he felt there was some ground for congratulation of late, and especially during the last two years. They seemed to have made a jump during 1887. There was a great increase in the number of peals rung. In 1886-7 no less than twenty-two peals of some significance had been rung, while they had to go back nine years further to get a record of thirteen peals altogether. Another especially gratifying feature was the fact that a large number of young men had joined them. It was a very necessary element of their success that there should be a constant supply of new blood. Let every credit at the same time be given to the older members, for without their help how could the young men acquire the art. The Oxford Guild, he pointed out, had succeeded in recording three "record" peals in the present year already. He regretted they had not been so successful, but it was not because they had not striven for it. An example had been set which they would do well to imitate. He thought it was always well to have something in their mind's eye to strive after. In change-ringing the more they learned of the art the more interesting the study of it seemed to become. There were a great many intricacies in the various changes which was a very pleasant occupation for them to work out upon paper. He had spent, probably, more hours in that direction than he had in the belfry, albeit he never missed an opportunity to practice with the ropes whenever it offered. He found that to work out the changes on paper was a very great help to him in the actual work. It was very essential in ringing that there should be a good common-sense feeling between those who took part in it. There ought not to be any antipathies existing between one and another, because any single man could mar the whole peal. When they were ringing it was impossible, in the very nature of their work, to observe anything in the nature of ceremony, and in that circumstance it was highly important that there should be a common understanding. If that was so, and they all knew their work well a false stroke by any one of them need not have too serious a result. It was a very pleasant feature of that meeting that they were received with so hearty a welcome as the vicar had extended to them. There was a fair prospect now of the Society becoming strong. As they increased in numbers so would they, like a snowball, gather strength and importance as time went along. Of course it was not so easy when young blood was first introduced. Men did not always see a given point in the same light the one as the other. Some had not the faculty of picking up a theory so easily and readily as others. Let them in such cases extend to their brothers all the kindness, patience and consideration that they needed, and be sympathetic towards them.

The Hon. Secretary proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens, who he said, had given them such a very warm-hearted welcome to their parish that day. It was pleasant, after the drive from Newnham in the cold rain and blustering wind, to be greeted with the words in which Canon Jones addressed him when he arrived at Westbury. He was sure that toast would be received with enthusiasm.

The CHAIRMAN, in acknowledgement, said there had always been a warm attachment between him and the church officers during his long sojourn at Westbury, which was soon to be brought to an end. A great deal of personal kindness had always been extended towards him. He was glad that one wish he had was that day gratified. He had long anticipated

the pleasure it would give him when the Association paid a visit to Westbury. In that connection, he added that the bells had lately been thoroughly repaired by the daughters of an old parishioner, who in his day worked very hard in the parish for a long time.

Mr. HERN (Newnham) said there was one other toast which must not be overlooked. The least they could do was to thank the worthy secretary for so faithfully discharging his onerous duties. He was sure the hon. secretaryship was a work of care and responsibility, which had and would go on increasing in volume.

The HON. SECRETARY, in reply, said he was not deserving of the flattering words used toward him by the gentleman who submitted the toast of his health to the meeting. He congratulated them upon having a very good Master. He had received great assistance from him, and he had very kindly undertaken many duties which really appertained to the work of the Secretary. That being so he wished to acknowledge it, as he had no desire to sail under false colours.

The company then gave a performance upon the handbells, and after a short time spent pleasantly enough in this manner, they broke up and returned to the belfry, where change-ringing was continued during the remainder of the evening.

In the ringing during the day, the Westbury men played an important part, and rang some well-struck Grandsire Doubles and Minor. The principal touch by the visitors was a 720 Bob Minor. J. H. Brown (Huntley), 1; F. E. Ward (Cheltenham), 2; J. E. Hern (Newnham), 3; R. J. Wilkins (Gloucester, conductor), 4; H. Mitchell (Barnwood), 5; W. Sevier (Gloucester), 6. The above also rang a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, the first on the bells, Mr. T. Brown, of Quedgeley, standing in place of J. H. Brown, conducted by W. Sevier. Some Stedman Doubles were also rung, in which C. E. D. Boufflower, of Bristol, took part.

PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Saturday evening, May 5th, being the seventy-first anniversary of the long peal of 12,312 Grandsire Caters rung in this tower, four members of the local band, assisted by four ringers from Gloucester, met to attempt the Rev. C. D. P. Davies's ten-part part peal of Grandsire Triples, to celebrate the occasion. "Go" was called at twenty minutes past six, and all went well till 9.25, forty changes from rounds, when the fifth man suddenly turned faint and could not finish, so the bells were set. It was a disappointment, as it would have beat all records of Triples on these bells, but it was best to take it in the same light as Mr. William Estcourt did after ringing about five hours in Stedman Caters, when one man dropped. He said "Never mind, it was a good long practice." The local band sincerely trust that seeing the bells go so well, Mr. Washbrook will favour them on a suitable occasion to himself, with a visit, and try and beat the long peal, or as he says "eclipse it," on the same weight of metal, not on those 14½ cwt. candlesticks. The music will repay him, and he will be heartily welcomed. The following were the ringers: A. Trigg, 1; W. Sevier (conductor), 2; F. E. Hart, 3; W. Hale, 4; —. Brunson (St. Michael's, Gloucester), 5; R. Barratt, 6; G. Smith, 7; T. Wright, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. H.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A GENERAL MEETING will be held on Whit-Monday, May 21st, at Stockton and Middlesbrough, when the bells of Stockton (six, tenor 11 cwt.), and St. Hilda's, Middlesbrough (eight, tenor 12 cwt.), will be at the disposal of the ringers. A dinner will be provided at two o'clock, at the "Half Moon," Stockton, at 1s. per head to members, 2s. 6d. to non-members. Members requiring dinner should send in their names not later than Monday, May 14th. The Committee will meet at the hotel at one o'clock.
G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

By kind permission of the Vicar and Wardens, arrangements are being made for holding the next General Meeting at Pontefract on Saturday, June 2nd.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting in connection with the above Association, was held at Harborne, on Saturday, April 21st. At the parish church during the afternoon several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung upon the tower bells and upon the handbells, after which the meeting was held in the schoolroom, presided over by Mr. C. Carmell, vice-president, when the following places were represented: Birmingham, Selly Oak, and Moseley. Mr. Parker was elected Secretary in the place of Mr. J. Wright, the late Secretary, who has gone to America. There were eight members proposed during the evening. Votes of thanks were accorded to the rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells and school, and to the tower-keeper for having all things in readiness. It was decided to hold the next Quarterly Meeting at Bromsgrove.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above was held at St. Alban's, Rochdale, on Saturday last, May 5th. Service was held in the church at 5 p.m. The full choir attended and sang an appropriate anthem, the Vicar, the Rev. W. Cooper, M.A., preaching an excellent sermon. The meeting was held in the school shortly after 6, at which the vicar presided, seven new members being elected, including the vicar. It was decided to form a branch of the Association in the Rochdale district. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the vicar, churchwardens and choir, for the services they so willingly rendered. Ringers were present from Heywood, Bury, Bacup, Ramsbottom, Bolton, Moorside, Rawtenstall, and Ashton-under-Lyne. Touches of Stedman, Treble Bob, Grandsire Triples, and Plain Bob, were rung during the evening.

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held on Saturday, May 5th, at St. Peter's church, Walsden. The bells were set going about 3, by a mixed band. Several other touches were got through. Mr. Thomas Bamford, age 84, of Rochdale, rang in one. The meeting was held in the School at 5, about forty members being present.

The Chairman read a letter from the Vicar of St. Peter's, who should have been in the chair, but was prevented at the last moment. After the meeting the tower was again visited by mixed bands during the evening. Some of the members took the handbells to the "Cross Keys," and touches of Triples and Royal were rung, Mr. Bamford taking 5-6 in three or four touches. A very pleasant day was brought to a close at 8.30. The ringers wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Vicar and churchwarden for the use of bells and schools.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The next District Meeting will be held at Epsom, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Whit-Monday, May 21st. The tower will be open for ringing from 3 till 9 p.m. The Secretary will be happy to furnish copies of the certificate of membership to all those members whose subscriptions for the current year are paid, and who have not yet had their certificates.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

A correspondent writes:—The bells are deaf and dumb now at the village of Tong. Taking our usual afternoon walk around Tong last Sunday we were surprised to hear the bells muffled, and when opposite the Village School we met some young men and enquired how it was the bells were muffled? One young man said "the ringers had got the sack, and it was the last Sunday they had to ring, so they were ringing the 'Dumb March' in *Saul*." On going a little further on we met two young women, and we heard one say to the other—"I should not be surprised if the Emperor is dead, makes the bells be muffled." On arriving at the church we met the dumb ringers, and a person was asking them if there was someone dead? One of the ringers said, "Aye, the bells are dead, and hung up." The saying at Pudsey is "that when they hear Tong bells it is a sign of rain." They can now venture to leave their macintoshes and nellys at home, for it is possible the bells will not be heard any more till the third Sunday after Easter next year.—Latest news midnight.—"All ringers are requested to keep away from Tong during the lock-out."

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THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held on Whit-Monday, May 21st, at Chelmsford. Divine Service at 12.30 in St. Mary's church, with an address by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Vicar of Drayton, Berks, and Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Dinner at 1.30 p.m. in the Charity School (tickets, price 1s. each to members of the Association), and business meeting immediately after dinner. The following towers will be open during the day: Chelmsford, 10 bells (except from 10 to 11 a.m. during a parochial service); Great Baddow, Galleywood and Writtle, 8 bells; Springfield and Widford, 6 bells. Arrangements are being made to start for peals at Chelmsford at 6 a.m., and at Writtle after 6 p.m. Members who desire to avail themselves of reduced railway fares on the day of meeting, and to be present at the dinner, should notify the same to the Secretary on or before Wednesday, May 16th. A special meeting of the Committee will be held at 10.30 a.m. in the Charity School to consider what resolution shall be submitted to the Annual Meeting respecting a suggestion that the Association should be enlarged to include the present diocese of St. Albans—i.e., Essex and Hertfordshire. If any members of the Association who care to do so will attend this meeting, and express their opinion upon the matter, it will materially assist the committee, and perhaps lessen the necessity for long discussion at the subsequent meeting.

T. L. PAPILLON, Hon. Sec.

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford.

SEAFORD, SUSSEX.

A serious accident occurred at the parish church of Seaford just before eight o'clock on Sunday morning to Mr. George Simmons, the vergier and sexton. Having opened the church and made his preparations, he proceeded to toll the bell for service, which is done from the floor, a rope being attached to the proper bell-rope in the ringing-loft. On the previous Saturday evening the bells had been rung and were left up. It has always been the custom that after ringing the seventh bell (at least) should be lowered and the rope from below attached for tolling, but on this particular Saturday evening this wise arrangement was apparently disregarded. Mr. Simmons accordingly went to the ringing-chamber and fastened the rope, but did not observe that the bell he was about to attempt to toll was raised. On coming down he placed his foot in a loop at the end of the tolling rope as usual, but scarcely had he done so when the bell came off, and he being unprepared, was lifted up by the rope for some distance and then precipitated to the floor, falling on his back with considerable force. He was in this manner carried up and down three times before he could become disentangled from the rope. Medical aid was at once obtained, but it was found that no bones were broken, though the spine was injured, and the sufferer, for whom much sympathy is shown, lies in a very precarious condition.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A District Meeting will be held at Leatherhead, on Tuesday, May 15th. The belfry will be open for ringing from 11 to 1, from 3 to 5, and from 7 to 9. Lunch at 1 o'clock; tea at 5.30; Committee meeting at 2, to arrange time and place of annual festival and other business. All ringers are invited to take part in the ringing. Members requiring orders for reduced fares must send notice to the Secretary, stating the station from which they intend to start.

Purbrook, Cosham.

H. A. SPYERS, Hon. Sec.

SOUTHNEWTON, WILTS.

On Saturday, May 5th, these bells were opened by several members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, the peal having been augmented from four to six. During the afternoon a date touch was rung, also a 720 Bob Minor, and several 120's of Stedman Doubles. The company were kindly entertained by the vicar (the Rev. J. H. Penruddocke), and they rang several touches on handbells at the vicarage. The two new trebles are by Messrs. Warner and Sons. An account of the ringing will be found in another column.

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."

"FREE LANCE" AND THE STOCKTON SOCIETY.

SIR,—The remarks of "Free Lance" addressed to the Stockton society appear to convey a veiled intimation that our reputation has had a narrow escape of being crushed out of existence under his giant foot, for having dared to form a correct estimate of his strictures upon certain Surprise methods which were published in the *Clavis* and accepted by the Exercise before the nativity of himself or his grandfather. "Free Lance" expresses a wish to be met in a proper controversial manner and awaits our answer to certain questions. On behalf of the Stockton society, I shall be prepared to accommodate him in both respects, subject to the proviso that he drops his *nom de plume* and states his case and his questions over his own name. My appreciation of *nom de plume* controversialists is not of a kind to induce me to enter the lists for their encouragement or gratification. G. J. CLARKSON.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—Through the medium of your columns, I wish to thank Mr. Parker and Mr. Penning for the answers which they have given to my query. I should like to state that the day previous to receiving "THE BELL NEWS" containing their answers, I became aware of the possibility of the quarter-peal with 85 calls, and which I append.

2 3 4 5 6 7

Continued.

S5 7 2 6 3 4
-4 6 5 3 7 2
-2 3 4 7 6 5
S7 5 2 6 3 4
S6 4 7 3 5 2
S3 2 6 5 4 7
S5 7 3 4 2 6
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-3 2 6 7 4 5

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7 4 5 6 2 3
S6 3 7 2 4 5

Four times repeated.

I should feel greatly obliged to Mr. Penning if he would forward me the peal he speaks of, containing the 345 calls.

33, Crown street, Brighton.

GEO. THWAITES.

THE PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES AT ROWLEY REGIS.

SIR,—On reading your issue of May 5th the report of a peal of Bob Triples rung at Rowley Regis, composed and conducted by John Carter, I was reminded of two peals in that method that have been published in your columns, by Mr. Carter, to which I think he can hardly lay claim. The first of these, published in vol. iv., p. 415, is a variation of Holt's six-part, while the second—also a six-part, published in vol. v., p. 147—is T. Morris's peal with another bell as observation. These peals have now been before your readers for some considerable time, and as they were not challenged at the time it may appear somewhat out of place for me to allude to them now, but in doing so I trust it will be understood that I do not wish to impute to Mr. Carter any impure motive, my only aim being that honour may be rendered to whom honour is due.

YORKSHIREMAN.

THE PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS AT WESTBROMWICH.

SIR,—If your correspondent will be kind enough to state what he means by "rubbish" with regard to the above peal, and will attach his name to it, I have no doubt he will get a reply, but if he is one who goes prying about to see what fault can be found with others' ringing, and never rings himself, except when there is something for the pocket afterwards, I would rather have nothing to do with him.

S. REEVES.

A CO-OPERATIVE FESTIVAL.—The National Co-operative Flower Show which created so much interest at South Kensington last year, will assume much larger proportions this year, and will be held at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, August 18th. The prize schedule shows that upwards of £320 have been subscribed in prizes as against £60 last year, and every kind of vegetable, fruit, flower and honey in season, is included in the 200 different classes. If the entries are at all in proportion to what they were at the last show it will be one of the largest collections of *bona fide* cottagers' productions ever held. There is also to be an exhibition of home industries which should be very instructive, and an exhibition of produce from co-operative workshops both English and foreign. Cheap excursions will be arranged in connection with almost every Co-operative society in the kingdom, so that their members—there are now upwards of a million—will be able to attend the first holiday festival for Co-operators which has been held.

SADDLEWORTH RINGERS AT GLODWICK, OLDHAM, AND MOSSLEY.

ON Saturday afternoon last, May 5th, the Saddleworth Society divided themselves into two companies, one journeying to St. Mark's, Glodwick, Oldham, and the other to St. George's, Mossley. Each attempted and successfully brought round a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5088 changes each, both peals being composed by Mr. John Thorp, of Ashton-under-Lyne, but different compositions. After the ringing both companies met at the "Bull's Head," Mossley, and sat down to an excellent supper, given by the host, Mr. Rhodes, to the ringers and a few friends. Amongst the guests there was Mr. John Knott, the donor of the seventh bell, Messrs. John Taylor, John Moss, Robert Moss, W. Kaye, Jas. Lawton, Ed. W. Platt, John Buckley, T. J. Wild and others. After the removal of the cloth, Mr. James Lawton was voted to the chair, and submitted the toast of "the Queen and members of the Royal Family;" the company, all standing, singing the National Anthem. The ringers rung a course of Grandsire Triples on the handbells. The next toast was the "Vicar and parishioners," coupling with it the name of Mr. Knott, who suitably responded, after which Mr. James Wrigley sung "The shake of the hand."

The health of Mr. John Taylor was next proposed in a very neat speech by Mr. James Wrigley, who is choir-master of Saddleworth church, and spoke of Mr. Taylor's long services at Mossley church as choir-master and sexton. Mr. Taylor has recently resigned the office of choir-master, on account of advancing years, but still retains the office of sexton, and is in his 73rd year.

Mr. Taylor replied in a very humorous and instructive speech, giving a *resume* of his many years' services and difficulties he had had to contend with, interspersed by many an amusing and pleasant incident, after which the following ringers rung a course of Grandsire Caters: James Wrigley, 1-2; F. Brierley, 3-4; John Holden, 5-6; Joseph Wood, 7-8; John T. Holden, 9-10.

Mr. Kaye proposed what he considered the toast of the evening, "Health and success to the Saddleworth ringers," to which Mr. John Buckley replied, and said he was pleased the Saddleworth companies had both been so successful in their peals that afternoon. He was particularly delighted that he had been successful in ringing the tenor at Mossley, and that his sire, Mr. Jos. L. Buckley, had rung the fifth along with him. It was the first peal they had rung together, but he hoped it would not be the last. He thanked Mr. Kaye and the gentlemen present for the kind way in which the toast had been proposed and received.

Mr. J. Turner and Mr. J. Holden also suitably replied.

Mr. T. B. Dicken was in good voice, and rendered "The Holy Friar" in good style. Mr. Wrigley again delighted the company with "The Sunny Side," "Scotch Laddie," "Jenny Jones," and a course of Major and Triples by the ringers, concluding by a hearty vote of thanks to the host and hostess, and chairman, and thus ended one of the ever-to-be-remembered pleasant evenings which are frequently spent together when ringers, friends, and bells are in tune and harmony with one another.

ST. MARY'S-WITHOUT-THE-WALLS, CHESTER.

ON Tuesday, May 1st, a mixed band from Wrexham and Chester, succeeded in ringing Mr. C. Price's peal of 5056 Kent Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs. 12 mins. The peal was rung at the first attempt, and has very musical qualities, containing all the 8-6-7's and all the 8-6's, with the sixth extent in all positions; it being also the second peal ever rung in the city of Chester in the method. The first peal was rung in the tower of St. John's church in 1820, and on an old tablet recording four peals is the one referred to. It runs thus:

"February 4th, 1820. The Society again ascended the tower and rung a complete Peal of Treble Bob Major, 5120 changes, in 2 hrs. 59 mins. E. Edwards, 1; T. Haswell, 2; C. Haswell, 3; G. Sinclair, 4; W. Doyle, 5; J. Carter, 6; R. Hutchinson, 7; J. Andrews (conductor), 8. The peal is the first ever rung in the county. John Edwards and James Fitzgerald, Churchwardens."

On Saturday, May 5th, eight members of St. Mary's company rung for practice, 1008 Plain Bob Major, in 38 mins. R. Mills, 1; F. Fletcher, 2; H. Gipson, 3; G. Caldwell, 4; J. Heald, 5; J. Morgan, 6; W. Thomas, 7; T. J. Bethell (conductor), 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in E flat,

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ON Friday, May 4th, the society of ringers connected with St. Oswald's, Durham, having arranged for a little outing, they met on that historical mound, one mile east of Durham, where, on October 17th, 1346, was fought the battle of Neville's Cross, from which place a pleasant walk of three miles brought them to the picturesque little village of Brancepeth. An halt was made there to inspect the Castle, which is a noble structure, being one of the oldest castellated buildings in the county, having been erected, it is said, by the Bulmer family, and by the marriage of Emma Bulmer to Geoffrey de Neville, it passed into the family of the Nevilles. In 1560 it was vested in the Crown, and sold by Charles I. in 1629, to Ralph Cole, subsequently passing by purchase into the Russell (Viscount Boyne) family, by one of whom, nearly a century ago, the greater part to the place was pulled down, and the present building erected at a cost, it is said, of over £250,000. The church, which stands in the castle grounds, is well worth a visit. It dates from the 13th century, and has many interesting portions, the chief (to the company present) being the belfry. The bells being raised, a well-struck 720 of Bob Minor was rung by the following: W. Prince, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; J. E. Avery, 3; C. Bradford, 4; C. J. Butterworth, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6. While ringing the above some of the local ringers turned up and then a mixed band, assisted by W. G. Newton, of Durham, rung a few Grandsire Doubles. After an interval the following band rang another 720 Plain Bob Minor: W. H. Prince, 1; Hy. Craggs, 2; C. Bradford, 3; J. E. Avery, 4; L. Newton, 5; C. J. Butterworth (conductor), 6. After the bells were ceased the local ringers brought out their handbells, and a few touches of Minor were rung on them. After leaving the church a pleasant stroll through the park was indulged in, where the visitors bid adieu to the local ringers. A stretch of about a mile through the park brought them out on the Durham road again, and after a few changes had been rung at the "Brancepeth Castle" Hotel, the journey home was again started, and after another hour's walk they all branched off for their homes, each expressing the pleasure the little outing had afforded them.

EAST BRIDGFORD CHURCH, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE. A JUBILEE CLOCK.

The village of East Bridgford brought the jubilee celebrations to a fitting conclusion on May the 3rd, by the inauguration of a new clock, which has been placed in the tower of the parish church. The village was again *en fete* to celebrate the completion of the work. In the afternoon a special band of ringers and friends from Nottingham rang several 120s of Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles on the tower bells before and after the dedication service. The church was crowded, and the service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. A. Barker), and his curate (the Rev. J. A. Penny). A special sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Wright, of Coningsby.

An interesting feature of the new clock is the introduction of the Cambridge chimes. The church contains an excellent peal of bells, which have been utilised for the purpose. It is a pleasing addition to the ordinary striking of the hour, that the quarters and the hour will now be marked by Handel's tuneful melody.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of this Association will be held at Brighton, on Whit-Monday, May 21st. The programme, which will be published next week, will include a special service at the parish church, cold luncheon and business meeting. The three towers, St. Peter's, St. Nicholas and St. Paul's, each eight bells, will be open for ringing during the day. Notice of motion should be sent at least three days prior to the above date.

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

NOTICE.—It is intended by eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Norwich Diocesan Association to attempt to ring W. Harrison's 13,440 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, at Harwich, on Whit-Monday, to start about nine o'clock.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5000.

By SAMUEL WOOD, *Ashton-under-Lyne*.

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

Rung on handbells April 28th, 1888, conducted by its composer.

A DATE TOUCH OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

1888.

By CHARLES PRICE, *Eccleston*.

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

This touch has the 6th eight course-ends in 5-6.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By GEORGE H. HARDY, *Earlsheaton*.

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

Twice repeated.

6048.

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

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5280.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield*.

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

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

5024.

By CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, *Sheffield*.

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

Repeated.

First rung at Sheffield, on Saturday, April 14th, 1888, conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

8064.

By GEORGE HAYWARD, *Bromsgrove*.

2	3	4	5	6	
6	5	3	2	4	9th in 2.
3	6	5	2	4	7th in 3.
5	3	6	2	4	7th in 3.
6	5	3	2	4	7th in & out at 3.
2	5	3	6	4	one single.
3	2	5	6	4	9th in 3.
5	3	2	6	4	9th in 3.
2	3	4	6	5	8-9
5	6	3	2	4	8th in 2.
6	2	3	5	4	8th in 3.
3	6	2	5	4	9th in 3.
2	3	6	5	4	9th in 3.
4	5	3	2	6	8th in 2.
3	4	5	2	6	9th in 3.
5	3	4	2	6	9th in 3.
4	2	3	5	6	8th in 3. s

The last thirteen courses five times repeated, with a bob for a single at the 3rd and 6th part-ends, and the 8th in 2, instead of the 7th in and out at 3, produces—

2 3 4 5 6 9 7 8

Call the 7th and 2nd into the hunt.

This peal contains the 5th and 6th their extent behind the 9th, and the 6th its extent home.

From the 5th course in the 4th part, a peal of 5075 changes can be obtained by calling—

8-9, 7-8, 8-9, 9th in 3, and 9th in and at 2.

The 5075 was first rung at Bromsgrove, on Saturday, April 21st, 1888, in 3 hrs. 9½ mins., conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5040.

By C. W. CLARKE, *Bedford*.

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

This part twice repeated, with a single at home in the last course gives—

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

This part twice repeated, single at home in last course, without the 2nd or 3rd being in 6th's place at a course-end.

A PEAL OF NEW CUMBERLAND SURPRISE MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

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

6th eleven times right.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5000.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield*.

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

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5280.

By G. H. HARDY, *Earlsheaton*.

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

Twice repeated.

This peal was rung for the first time without the bcb3 being called, at Dewsbury, on Saturday, April 7th, 1888.

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

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1888.

An important sign of the times with regard to Church affairs is the formation of what are termed Church Councils, *i.e.* bodies selected from the congregation to assist by their advice, in connection with the clergy and churchwardens, upon questions relating to Church management and finance. If the deliberations of these bodies only lead to small benefits in such matters as management and the like, their existence has the grand effect of interesting in Church government those who would otherwise take things as they are and be content on the one hand; or on the other express their non-approval of procedure in a manner which is frequently embarrassing to those responsible for the proper carrying out of the Church's ordinances.

Upon these Church Councils ringers should certainly find a place. Great stress has recently been laid upon the vast importance of ringers performing to the full their duties as Church officers, and interesting themselves in Church management, and upon such councils the presence of ringers in deed, seems particularly appropriate. It may be objected that ringers in general are not of that calibre which the clergy would desire to assist them by their advice and suggestion. We join issue at once with such an hypothesis. Ringers out of number could be named who would immediately secure the confidence of those who selected them for the purpose, and by their talents gain the esteem of their fellows at the Council board.

We commend this idea to the notice of the clergy. Instances have been known where a difficulty to find a "proper" man for warden has arisen, when if the local society of ringers had been thought of, an eligible Church officer for the post would have been found. And in the formation of Church Councils, the clergy would do well for themselves and the future of the Church, if they take care to accept the assistance where possible of one or two of their ringers. They will find, and the Church in years

to come will find also, that in the co-operation of the ringers in ecclesiastical matters they will have a veritable "tower of strength," an additional bulwark of no mean order against the coming enemy.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Devizes on Wednesday, May 30th. Divine Service, with sermon by the Rev. Dr. Burges, at St. John's, at 11 a.m. (collection for the Guild). Meeting for election of officers and other business immediately after service. Dinner at 1 p.m. at "The Bear" Hotel, price two shillings each to ringing members holding tickets, 2s. 3d. to others. The towers of St. John and St. Mary, Devizes, Bishops Cannings, and Potterne, will be open for ringing during the afternoon. Names of those intending to be present must be sent to the Secretary not later than Whit-Monday, May 21st, otherwise the allowance of three shillings per head for travelling expenses will not be granted. J. R. JERRAM, Hon. Sec.

The Provinces.

ABINGDON, BERKS. *ODG*

On Tuesday, May 1, 1888, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PENNING'S ONE-PART.. Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM SPIERS* Treble.	†EDWARD HUMFREY 5.
EDWARD ALDWORTH* 2.	HARRY FRUIN 6.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK 3.	JOHN BROWN 7.
ARTHUR BURGESS† 4.	*WILLIAM CARTER Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. This peal was rung to commemorate the reopening of the bells on May 1st, 1886, when two trebles were added, making a fine ring of ten.

HANDBRIDGE, CHESTER.

On Tuesday, May 1, 1888, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY WITHOUT-THE-WALLS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt. in Eb.

CHARLES PRICE* Treble.	JAMES MORGAN 5.
ALFRED CROSS* 2.	*THOMAS NEWELL 6.
EDWARD ROWLANDS* 3.	WILLIAM WALTON 7.
THOMAS BITHELL† 4.	*JAMES MOULTON Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES PRICE, of Eccleston, and Conducted by JAMES MOULTON.

The above peal, which has never been previously performed, is the first peal rung on the bells. This composition has the 6th the extent in all positions, with the 5th at four course-ends each way in 5-6, and the 2nd only one course-end in 6ths, viz.: the compulsory one. *Members of the Wrexham Society. †Member of the Chester Diocesan Guild.

FOXEARH, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 7, 1888, in Five Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 10,176 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

SAMUEL SLATER Treble.	GEORGE MAXIM 5.
JOHN LEE 2.	WILLIAM HOWELL 6.
WALTER P. GRIDLEY 3.	OLIVER GARWOOD 7.
FRED. WELLS 4.	CHARLES SILLITOE Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON, and Conducted by CHAS. SILLITOE.

This is the longest peal on these bells, also by all the above ringers, and is the longest yet rung by a band of the Essex Association. It is also supposed to be the longest rung in the county in this method, and was rung at the first attempt. Messrs. Slater, Wells, and Garwood hail from Glemsford; Howell and Sillitoe from Sudbury; the rest are local men. The ringers were kindly entertained by the Rev. J. F. Foster and Mr. D. Ward to refreshments after the peal, for which they beg to return thanks. W. Howell was elected a member of the Association previous to starting for the peal.

EYE, SUFFOLK.

Birthday Peal.

On Wednesday, May 2, 1888, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5104 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

F. DAY .. .. .	.. Treble.	J. BUMPSTEAD	5.
G. DAY .. .. .	.. 2.	G. FORD	6.
W. GOODERHAM .. .. .	.. 3.	G. MURTON	7.
R. E. GIBBS .. .. .	.. 4.	H. TORBLE	Tenor.

Conducted by H. TORBLE.

First peal as conductor. First peal in the method by all with the exception of G Day. This peal was rung to celebrate the birthday of H. Torble, his fellow-strings wishing him many happy returns.

MOSSLEY, LANCASHIRE.—THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(SADDLEWORTH BRANCH).

On Saturday, May 5, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION

Tenor 12½ cwt.

J. THORPE* .. .. .	.. Treble.	JOSEPH L. BUCKLEY	5.
JOHN HOLDEN .. .. .	.. 2.	JAMES RADCLIFFE	6.
J. TURNER* .. .. .	.. 3.	THOS. B. DICKEN	7.
JAMES H. SHAW .. .. .	.. 4.	JOHN BUCKLEY	Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and Conducted by JOHN HOLDEN.

The calling will be found on page 12 of Snowdon's Treatise, part 2, The reverse peal. *First peal of Major.

GLODWICK, LANCASHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE AND UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATIONS.—(SADDLEWORTH BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 5, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A. PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

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

Composed by JOHN THORP, Ashton-under-Lyne, and Conducted by FRANKLIN BRIERLEY.

The above peal contains the 5th and 6th the extent at home, and the sixth nine times wrong.

HORLEY, SURREY.

On Saturday, May 5, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

A. ELLIS .. .. .	.. Treble.	M. HEFFER	5.
T. WHITMORE* .. .. .	.. 2.	W. COLLISON	6.
E. DUEY† .. .. .	.. 3.	F. WICKENS	7.
G. WICKENS .. .. .	.. 4.	*W. WALLACE	Tenor.

Conducted by F. WICKENS.

*Members of the Horley society, the remainder belong to the Crawley branch of the Sussex County Association. †First peal with a bob bell. It is 48 years since a Horley ringer took part in a peal.

OSSETT, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 5, 1888, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 26½ cwt.

ARTHUR SPURR .. .. .	.. Treble.	JAMES A. IDLE	5.
WALTER MORTON .. .. .	.. 2.	JOSEPH CHAPPEL	6.
GEORGE CRAWSHAW .. .. .	.. 3.	DAVID STEPHENSON	7.
WALTER IDLE .. .. .	.. 4.	WILLOUGHBY DIXON	Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by DAVID STEPHENSON.

The above was rung in honour of the conductor's birthday.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.

Handbell Ringing.

On Thursday, May 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes,

AT THE OAK LANE ROOMS,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 size in D.

WILLIAM MOTTS	1-2.	JAMES MOTTS	5-6.
WILLIAM P. GARRETT	3-4.	ROBERT HAWES	7-8.

Composed by TOM LOCKWOOD, of Leeds, and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

Referee, Mr. Samuel Tillett, who took down the course-ends as they were rung. First peal on handbells by Robert Hawes.

CAPEL, SURREY.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, May 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES, IN SEVEN DIFFERENT SURPRISE METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:—

ROCHESTER, DURHAM, LONDON, CAMBRIDGE, WELLS, SUPERLATIVE, & WORCESTER.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

JOHN AKEHURST .. .. .	.. Treble.	ALFRED D. MILLS	4.
ROBERT JORDAN .. .. .	.. 2.	EDWIN JORDAN	5.
THOMAS M. STEDMAN .. .. .	.. 3.	DAVID JORDAN	Tenor.

Conducted by DAVID JORDAN.

The above is the first 5040 by the Sussex County Association consisting of seven 720s in Surprise methods.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(BURTON BRANCH.)

Handbell Peal.

On Saturday, May 5, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-seven-and-½ Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. J. JAGGAR, 145, SHOBNALL STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 15 size in C.

WILLIAM J. SMITH	1-2.	LEONARD BULLOCK	5-6.
JOHN JAGGAR	3-4.	JOHN AUSTIN	7-8.

Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

It is the first peal on handbells by all, and is the first double-handed peal rung by the Midland Counties' Association. Umpire, Mr. W. Orme, who marked off every bob lead as they were rung, and ticked off every bell as it made 3rds. Mr. W. Burton was also present.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 5, 1888, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6048 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 21 cwt.

SAMUEL WOOD .. .. .	.. Treble.	FREDERICK DERBYSHIRE	5.
GEORGE LEE .. .. .	.. 2.	THOMAS DERBYSHIRE	6.
JAMES BARRATT .. .. .	.. 3.	WILLIAM DAVIES	7.
JAMES H. RIDYARD .. .. .	.. 4.	RICHARD RIDYARD	Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD and Conducted by RICHARD RIDYARD.

Samuel Wood hails from Ashton-under-Lyne; James Barratt from Eccles; William Davies from Liverpool; the rest are of the local company. This is the longest peal rung on the bells. The peal will be found on page 27 of "THE BELL NEWS" for April 7th, 1888, and is now rung for the first time.

BEDDINGTON.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 8, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

IN ONE MAIN COURSE.

A. J. PLOWMAN Treble.	JOHN PLOWMAN 5.
REV. E. W. CARPENTER .. 2.	CHAS. GORDON 6.
EDGAR BENNETT 3.	JAS. TRAPPIST 7.
A. B. CARPENTER, M.B. .. 4.	CHAS. BANCE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR B. CARPENTER.

CRAYFORD, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 5, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 12½ cwt.

FREDERICK CULHAM Treble.	FREDERICK HAYES 5.
GEORGE CONYARD 2.	GEORGE HAYES 6.
FREDERICK FRENCH 3.	JOHN GARRARD 7.
EDWARD E. RICHARDS .. 4.	WILLIAM SAXBY Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK FRENCH.

HORSMONDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 6, 1888, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

THOS. LAMBERT Treble.	GEORGE HODGE 4.
FREDERICK LAMBERT 2.	RICHARD APPS 5.
WILLIAM LAMBERT 3.	JOHN HICKS Tenor.

Conducted by THOS. LAMBERT.

This is the first 5040 ever known to have been rung on the bells.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

On Monday, May 7, 1888, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 27 cwt in D.

FRANK GOODING* Treble.	GEORGE PYMM 5.
ALFRED PEARCE* 2.	WALTER WILLIAM PORCH .. 6.
HERBERT TUCKER 3.	HENRY PORCH 7.
GILBERT PEARCE 4.	FREDERICK J. PORCH Tenor
	*FRANCIS T. JEWELL Tenor

Conducted by HENRY PORCH.

*First peal. This is the first peal by the society entire, also the first time this composition has been rung in this city, so well noted for Grandsire Triples. The last peal on these bells was rung in 1852.

Date Touches.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE (Durham).—On Tuesday, May 1st, at St. Cuthbert's church, a date touch, 1888 changes, composed of 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor, 360 of Plain Bob Minor, 60 of Double Court Minor, 20 of Plain Bob Doubles and 8 of Singles. J. W. Foster, 1; W. Oliver, 2; T. H. Surtees, 3; T. Bell, 4; F. Barron, 5; J. Spraggon (conductor), 6. Time 1 hr. 11 mins. Tenor 14 cwt.

ELMORE (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday evening, April 24th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1888 changes), in 1 hr. R. Prosser, 1; W. Ward, 2; T. Harmer (conductor), 3; *R. Ellis, 4; *H. Merrett, 5; J. Prosser, 6. Messrs. Ellis and Ward hails from Longney, the rest belong to the local company. *Members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

SOUTHNEWTON (Wilts).—On Saturday, May 5th, a date touch 1888 changes, viz.: 40 of Bob Doubles, and two 720's, 300 and 108 of Bob Minor. W. W. Gifford, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6. Also

a 720 of Bob Minor, by the same except the fourth which was rung by S. Lawrence (first 720 with a bob bell). Also some 120's of Stedman Doubles. W. W. Gifford, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Sunday, April 29th, for Divine Service in the afternoon a 720 of 720 of Bob Minor. H. Clifton, 1; A. Ingram, 2; H. King, 3; C. West, 4; W. G. Biggs, 5; C. R. Howard (conductor), 6.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Tuesday, May 1st, a 360 of Bob Minor. W. West, 1; A. Ingram, 2; H. King, 3; H. Clifton, 4; C. West, 5; C. R. Howard (conductor), 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP.—On Sunday morning, April 22nd, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 720 Oxford Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Ormerod, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. Also in the afternoon for special service, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. White, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; Z. Lord, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday evening, April 24th, for practice, 720 Oxford Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Ormerod, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; J. Smith (Rawtenstall), 5; A. White and W. Smith (conductors), 6.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, March 19th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), in 24½ mins. A. Potter, 1; J. Potter, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; J. Potter (conductor), 5; J. Brookes, 6. Also on Easter Day, 720 Bob Minor in 24 mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Potter, 2; J. Worthington, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. And on Friday evening, April 13th, 720 Bob Minor was rung in 24½ mins. to celebrate the first birthday of the only son of W. J. Martin, Esq., M.D., of Walkden. W. Denner, 1; J. Potter, 2; J. Worthington, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brookes (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, May 6th, being the occasion of the Sunday School anniversary sermons, touches were rung as follows: at 7 a.m., 720 Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs), in 25 mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; Jos. Potter, 2; J. Potter, 3; J. Welsby (Worsley), 4; J. Williamson, 5; J. Brookes, 6. And at 10 a.m., 720 Grandsire Minor in 24½ mins. J. Brookes (conductor), 1; J. Williamson, 2; J. Potter, 3; J. Worthington, 4; A. Potter, 5; W. Denner, 6. First in the method by all on the bells. And at 2.30 p.m., 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-two singles and twenty-eight bobs), in 25 mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Potter, 2; J. Williamson, 3; J. Worthington, 4; J. Brookes, 5; A. Potter, 6. Also at 6 p.m., 720 Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs), in 24½ mins. J. Potter, 1; J. Ridyard (Worsley), 2; J. Worthington (conductor), 3; A. Potter, 4; W. Denner, 5; J. Brookes, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Tuesday evening, May 1st, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. J. Bolton, 1; J. Little, 2; H. S. Taylor, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; W. D. Lister, 5; J. H. Whitfield (conductor), 6. First 720 on the bells and first by all the above. Tenor 10 cwt.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Thursday, May 3rd, at All Saint's church, a 350 of Grandsire Triples. W. E. Ward, 1; O. Coombes, 2; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 3; W. Jennings, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; J. Norris, 6; E. Hatcher, 7; A. Ward, 8.

THE ST. JAMES SOCIETY.

LONDON.—On Sunday, April 22nd, at the church of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins. H. Langdon, 1; F. Bate, 2; W. Weatherstone, 3; W. W. Thorne, 4; W. H. Judd, 5; R. French (conductor), 6; A. Hayward, 7; G. Woodage, 8. The above was rang to commemorate the fixing of a peal board erected for the peal of Stedman Triples by the above band, with the exception of W. H. Judd, in honour of the Queen's Jubilee, and on the birthday of W. H. Judd, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns.

MORTLAKE.—On Saturday, April 28th, at the parish church, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins. F. Bate, 1; R. French (conductor), 2; W. W. Thorne, 3; H. Langdon, 4; A. E. Church (first quarter-peal), 5; W. T. Cockerill, 6; W. H. Judd, 7; H. Flowers, 8. The above was rung in honour of the birthday of H. Langdon.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BOUGHTON, NEAR FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Tuesday, April 24th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. E. E. Foreman, 1; J. Burch, 2; R. Castle, 3; F. T. Harris, 4; G. A. Ransom, 5; W. W. Boulden (conductor), 6. Mr. Foreman hails from Herne Hill, and this is his first 720. The rest belong to the local company. This was rung on the return of Dr. and Mrs. Scatchard from their wedding tour.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday morning, May 6th, for Divine Service at St. Margaret's church, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Tullett, 1; E. Raynor, 2; G. Chantler, 3; J. Raynor, 4; A. Osborne, 5; W. Baker (conductor), 6. This is C. Raynor's first 720 with a bob bell.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHIPLEY (Yorks).—On Tuesday evening, April 24th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. T. Lilley, 1; S. H. London, 2; R. Atkinson (first 720), 3; J. S. Clark, 4; J. Lilley, 5; F. London (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

TIVERTON (Devon).—On Wednesday, May 2nd, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. *Chas. Leat, 1; E. Mundy, 2; *W. Grater, 3; *Ben. Grater, 4; James Grater, 5; John Grater, jun., 6; R. Grater, jun. (conductor), 7; S. Hoare, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. *First quarter-peal.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CHADDESLEY CORBETT (Worcestershire).—On Thursday evening, April 26th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 49 mins. Henry Bough, 1; George Hayward (conductor), 2; Walter Rea, 3; Edward Gilbert, 4; William Hemming, 5; Joseph Perrins, 6; James Broad, 7; James Nicholls, 8. This touch contains the Queens, Tittums, and the twenty-four 6-7s. Messrs. Hayward and Rea hail from Bromsgrove, and are instructors to the above band, supplied by the Association. It is upwards of thirty years since so many Chaddesley men took part in a quarter-peal.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, May 6th, at the parish church, for early morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. M. Shilcock, 1; W. Boughton, 2; G. Workman, 3; T. Barber, 4; W. Huxley, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6.

ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY, NORWICH.

NORWICH.—On Thursday, April 19th, at St. Michael's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins. F. H. Knights, jun., 1; F. Knights, 2; W. Bales, 3; E. Francis, 4; J. Smith, 5; J. Skinner, 6; G. Smith (conductor), 7; W. Blyth, 8. Also a touch of Oxford Treble Bob Major. A. G. Warnes, 1; F. H. Knights, 2; F. Knights, 6; J. Skinner, 8; the rest as above. And a touch of Stedman Triples. W. Freeman, 1; F. Knights, 2; W. Bales, 3; E. Francis, 4; J. Smith, 5; J. Skinner, 6; G. Smith (conductor), 7; W. Blyth, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION

DUFFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Wednesday, May 2nd, the following rang a quarter-peal (Thurstans') of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins. G. Dawson, 1; S. Johnson, 2; B. Sugden, 3; A. P. Heywood (conductor), 4; A. Robinson, 5; H. Midgley, 6; W. Hickling, 7; G. Hingley, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WRITTLE.—On Sunday, April 22nd, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with tenor covering. W. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; F. Radley, 3; R. Wood, 4; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 5; W. Lincoln (conductor), 6; W. G. Dickens, Esq., 7. And on Sunday, May 6th, for morning service, 462 of Grandsire Triples. W. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; A. Edwards, 3; F. Radley, 4; R. Wood, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; A. Bonnington, 8. And for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Everard, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Edwards, 3; F. Radley, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. J. Piper, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; W. G. Dickens, Esq., 8. This quarter-peal, composed by H. J. Tucker, has the 5th at home every three leads. These bells are now being overhauled, and the tenor re-hung by Messrs Mears and Stainbank, to be in readiness for the Essex association meeting, on Whit-Monday.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, May 1st, for practice, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. F. Simmonds, 1; G. Essex, 2; T. Newman, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; E. Menday, 5; J. Hands (first in the method as conductor), 6. Also 360 Yorksire Court. F. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; T. Newman, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; G. Essex, 5; E. Menday (conductor), 6. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles, on the back five. Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 1; E. Menday, 2; H. Simmonds, 3; J. Hands, 4; T. Newman, 5. On Sunday morning, May 6th, for

Divine Service, 720 Oxford Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; T. Newman, 3; J. Hands, 4; H. Smith, 5; G. Essex (conductor), 6. After evening service, 720 Yorksire Court Minor. F. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; H. Simmonds, 3; E. Menday, 4; J. Hands, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

APPLEFORD (Berks).—On Saturday evening, May 5th, 720 Grandsire Minor. D. Brown, 1; E. Pullen, 2; G. Wedlock, 3; D. Napper, 4; E. Napper, 5; W. Napper (conductor), 6. The first 720 of Grandsire Minor by all except the conductor.

ARDLEIGH (Essex).—Handbell Ringing.—On Wednesday evening, May 2nd, a touch of Bob Minor. J. Taylor, 1-2; J. Sergeant, 3-4; W. J. Nevard, 5-6. Also a course each of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples. J. Taylor, 1-2; J. Sergeant, 3-4; W. J. Nevard, 5-6; J. Starling, 7-8.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Sunday, April 15th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 720 Bob Minor. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley, 6. And on Saturday, April 28th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. J. Tacolensstone, 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; J. Cullam (Fundhall), 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, April 29th, for Divine Service (no method mentioned). J. Hilling, 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Cullam, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6.

COGGESHALL (Essex).—On Monday, April 30th, at St. Peter's church, for practice on the back six, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 28 mins. J. Sadler, 1; W. Dyer, 2; J. Nichol, 3; D. Elliott, 4; H. Elliott, 5; J. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also 240 Double Court Bob, standing as before.

EAST HADDON (Northants).—On Wednesday, May 2nd, at the parish church, three 120's of Grandsire Doubles. S. Dunkley, 1; J. Roberts, 2; G. Whiting, 3; H. Cadman (conductor), 4; W. Cole, 5. The above was rung on the occasion of the birthday of Mr. S. Dunkley, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day. This band was not formed till after the Jubilee. All members of the C.E.T.S.

GREAT BROMLEY (Essex).—On Friday evening, April 27th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. *A. Fuller, 1; G. Bowell, 2; J. Starling, 3; H. Bowell, 4; J. Taylor (conductor), 5; W. J. Nevard, 6. *First 720 and first attempt. A. Fuller hails from Little Bentley; H. Bowell from Ipswich; W. J. Nevard from Great Bentley; the rest belong to the local company.

HARROGATE (Yorks).—On Sunday, April 15th, 720 Plain Bob Minor, at St. Mary's church. Jos. Ireland, 1; Wm. Stott, 2; Hy. Robinson, 3; Alf. Atkinson, 4; Hy. Brown, 5; Wm. Turner, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. This is the first 720 which has been rung by local talent since the bells were placed in the tower, over twenty years ago. It is also the first 720 by any of the band. Also a muffled peal was rung (with an open side) the following day, by the same ringers, to the memory of Mr. Jos. Fletcher, who was for a number of years churchwarden of St. Mary's.

HORLEY (Surrey).—On Wednesday evening, April 25th, for practice a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 42 mins. A. Ellis, 1; W. Edwards, 2; T. Whitmore, 3; E. Dewey, 4; B. King, 5; G. Wickens (first quarter-peal as conductor), 6; T. Sparks, 7; E. Taylor (first quarter-peal), 8.

IPSWICH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, April 29th, for Divine Service in the afternoon at St. Matthew's church, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. A. Bowell, jun., 1; A. J. King, 2; H. Bowell, sen., 3; W. Motts, 4; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 5. Also two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. W. P. Garrett, 1; W. Motts, 2; R. Brundle, 3; J. Motts (conductor), 4; W. J. Nevard, 5. Messrs. A. J. King and W. J. Nevard hail from Great Bentley, Essex.

KIRBY-LE-SOKEN (Essex).—On Thursday evening, May 3rd, four members of the Great Bentley company, and A. Fuller, of Little Bentley, paid a visit to the above place, and rang at the parish church four six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. A. Taylor, 1; A. J. King, 2; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 3; A. Fuller, 4; G. Humm, 5.

LONDON.—On Saturday, April 21st, eight members of the St. Stephen's Westminster society rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, at St. Stephen's church, in 46 mins. S. J. Reed, 1; H. R. Newton (conductor), 2; *J. Pryor, 3; T. R. Bell, 4; E. Duff, 5; H. S. Ellis, 6; J. N. Oxborrow, 7; W. Carter, 8. *First quarter-peal with a bob bell. Rung in honour of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts' birthday. On Sunday, April 29th, for Divine Service, 742 Grandsire Triples, in 20 mins. S. J. Reed, 1; H. R. Newton (conductor), 2; E.

Duff, 3; †A. Ingerfield, 4; W. Carter, 5; H. S. Ellis, 6; J. N. Oxborrow, 7; W. Lamb, 8. †Longest touch with a bob bell.

Lowick (Northants).—On Monday, April 16th, at St. Peter's church, 6-score of Canterbury Doubles, and two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. R. Dunkley, 1; G. Guess, 2; W. Fox, 3; C. Swan, 4; G. March (conductor), 5. Also 120 Stedman's Slow Course. R. Dunkley, 1; C. Swan (conductor), G. March, 3; E. Curtis, 4; W. Fox, 5. *Handbell Ringing.*—And in the belfry, 120 Bob Minor. G. Guess, 1; C. Swan, 2; E. Curtis, 3; G. March, 4; W. Fox, 5; R. Dunkley (conductor), 6. Also a 6-score of Bob Doubles. C. Swan, 1; W. Fox, 2; G. March, 3; R. Dunkley (conductor), 4-5; H. Chapman, 6. And on Friday, April 20th, two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. R. Dunkley (conductor), 1; C. Swan, 2; W. Fox, 3; E. Curtis, 4; G. March, 5. Also a 6-score each of St. Simon's and New Doubles. E. Curtis, 1; C. Swan (conductor), 2; G. March, 3; R. Dunkley, 4; W. Fox, 5. And two six-scores of Canterbury Doubles. E. Curtis, 1; W. Fox (conductor), 2; C. Swan, 3; G. March, 4; R. Dunkley, 5. Tenor about 16 cwt. in F. Also on handbells, 108 Bob Minor. E. Curtis, 1; C. Swan, 2; W. Fox, 3; G. March, 4; R. Dunkley (conductor), 5-6. And 120 Grandsire Doubles. C. Swan, 1; G. March, 2; R. Dunkley, 3-4; W. Fox (conductor), 5; H. Chapman, 6.

MANSFIELD (Notts).—On Thursday, April 26th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes, with thirty bobs), in 48 minutes. W. Taylor, 1; G. Walker, 2; G. Hardstaff, 3; F. May, 4; J. Spray, 5; W. Gosling, jun., 6; W. Gosling, sen. (conductor), 7; H. Slack, 8.

NOTTINGHAM.—On Tuesday, April 17th, at St. Mary's church, a touch of 1565 Grandsire Caters, in 1 hr. 2 mins. E. Hughes, 1; S. Simpkin, 2; G. Ashworth, 3; W. H. Roberts, 4; G. H. Denman, 5; A. Lambert, 6; G. H. Johnson (conductor), 7; W. Fox, 8; W. Lee, 9; W. S. Knibb, 10. And for evening service on Sunday, 701 in the same method. H. Wallis, 1; E. Hughes, 2; G. Ashworth, 3; W. H. Roberts, 4; G. H. Denman, 5; A. Lambert, 6; G. H. Johnson, 7; W. Fox (conductor), 8; W. Lee, 9; W. S. Knibb, 10. At All Saints' church, on Monday, April 23rd, the local members of the Midland Counties' Association attempted a peal of Union Triples, which came to grief after ringing over 1700 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. W. H. Roberts, 1; S. Burton, 2; S. Simpkin, 3; A. Lambert, 4; J. Hickman, 5; W. Fox, 6; G. H. Johnson (conductor), 7; D. G. Bolderton, 8.

NUTFIELD (Surrey).—On Monday, April 23rd, for practice at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. C. Sendall, 1; J. Skinner, 2; J. Burkin, 3; N. Hawkins (conductor), 4; J. Tidy, 5; T. Boniface, 6. Also a 360 in the same method. C. Sendall, 1; T. Leeson, 2; E. Fuller, 3; J. Burkin, 4; N. Hawkins (conductor), 5; J. Tidy, 6. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor. C. Sendall, 1; T. Leeson, 2; J. Skinner, 3; J. Burkin, 4; H. Peters, 5; N. Hawkins (conductor), 6.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday morning, April 22nd, for Divine Service at 11 a.m., the local company rang a touch of 602 Grandsire Triples, and 742 of Holt's Original, for Divine Service at 6.30. A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; William Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; G. Smith, 7; T. Wright, 8.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Wednesday evening, April 18th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs), in 25 mins. A. Symonds, 1; A. Hollocks, 2; H. Smith, 3; Jno. Moore, 4; W. Snell, 5; W. Hollocks (first time as conductor), 6.

SOUTHPORT (Lancashire).—On Friday, April 13th, at Christ Church, 720 Bob Minor, in 26 mins. L. Tyldesley, 1; J. Rimmer, 2; R. Hill, 3; J. Rimmer, 4; J. Rimmer, 5; A. L. Porter (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. 8 lbs. First 720 by all except R. Hill.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Friday, May 4th, for confirmation at the Cathedral, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. R. T. Kent, 1; T. Grant, 2; W. J. Richardson, 3; E. A. Hulks, 4; R. M. Pratt, 5; A. Godman, 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; H. L. Waddington, 8. First quarter-peal by W. J. Richardson, from Hatfield. On Sunday, May 6th, for morning service, 336 Stedman Triples. W. Battle, 1; E. Mitchell, 2; T. Grant, 3; R. M. Pratt, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; E. Hulks, 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; H. L. Waddington, 8.

TIBENHAM (Norfolk).—On Wednesday, April 25th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob, and 720 Oxford Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). G. Manser, sen., 1; G. Manser, jun., 2; J. Hilling, 3; J. Jackson, 4; J. Colman, 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, April 22nd, at St. Martin's church, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. Adam Hill, 1; Harry Mills, 2; Edward Goodreds, 3; William R. Small, 4; George Hughes (conductor), 5; Samuel Jesson, 6. Also 252 of Bob Triples, in 9 mins.,

tenor in. Benjamin Starkey, 1; Harry Mills, 2; Edward Goodreds, 3; Adam Hill, 4; William R. Small, 5; Samuel Jesson, 6; George Hughes (conductor), 7. Also 518 Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. Benjamin Starkey, 1; Samuel Jesson, 2; Harry Mills, 3; William R. Small, 4; Adam Hill, 5; Edward Goodreds, 6; George Hughes, 7; George Towers, 8. Conducted by Samuel Jesson.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT OF THE RINGING FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 8th, 1888.

By the Angmering branch at Angmering.—On Saturday, April 28th, a 720 of Bob Minor. E. Parsons, 1; C. Hills, 2; C. Clear, 3; J. Barnett, 4; F. Finch, 5; T. Parsons (conductor), 6. And on Monday, April 30th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Barnett, 2; G. Baker (first 720 in the method), 2; C. Clear, 3; W. Chamberlain, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. G. Baker and W. Chamberlain are from Arundel.

By the Angmering and Goring branches at Goring.—Recently, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. E. Parsons, 1; C. Clear, 2; H. Evans, 3; T. Parsons, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. Also two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. C. Clear, 1; C. Hills, 2; H. Evans, 3; W. Ratley, 4; E. Parsons (conductor), 5; D. Greenyer, 6. Also two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. E. Parsons, 1; C. Clear, 2; C. Hills, 3; H. Evans, 4; T. Parsons (conductor), 5; D. Greenyer, 6. Also 240 of Bob Minor. E. Parsons, 1; H. Evans, 2; C. Clear, 3; C. Hills, 4; F. Finch, 5; T. Parsons (conductor), 6.

By the Balcombe branch at Balcombe.—On Thursday, April 26th, a 360 of Plain Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Bourn, 2; A. Stoner, 3; T. Streeter, 4; E. Streeter, sen., 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Woodbine Treble Bob. J. Cheeseman, 1; R. Streeter, 2; E. Streeter, 4; T. Streeter, 4; A. Stoner, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, April 29th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Streeter, 1; A. Stoner, 2; J. Gasson, 3; E. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Single Bob. R. Bourn, 1; R. Streeter, 2; F. Streeter, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, May 3rd, a 360 of Court Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Bourn, 2; E. Streeter, sen., 3; A. Stoner, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Duke of York. A. Stoner, 1; R. Streeter, 2; J. Gasson, 3; T. Streeter, 4; E. Streeter, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6.

By the Billingshurst branch at Billingshurst.—On Easter Sunday, April 1st, a 720 each of the following: Oxford Bob, Court Bob, College Single and Canterbury Pleasure. P. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; W. Wadey, 5; J. T. Chantler, 6. Conducted by J. T. Chantler, and W. Wadey.

By the Brighton and Heene branches at Heene.—On Saturday, May 5th, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 1050 changes, in 35 mins., it came to grief. B. Bassett, 1; J. Searle, 2; A. Fuller, 3; G. King, 4; W. Palmer, 5; J. Jay, 6; H. Weston, 7; M. Streeter, 8. Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 41½ mins. B. Bassett, 1; G. King, 2; H. Weston, 3; W. Palmer, 4; J. Jay, 5; A. Fuller, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; M. Streeter, 8. Bassett and Streeter belong to the local company and this is their first quarter-peal. The rest belong to Brighton.

By the Brighton branch at St. Peter's, Brighton.—On Sunday, May 6th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), taken from the Original, in 43½ mins. G. F. Attree (conductor), 1; G. A. King, 2; J. S. Worsell, 3; H. Weston, 4; A. A. Fuller, 5; G. Thwaites, 6; H. Cornwall, 7; J. Mockett, 8. Also a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 18 mins. G. Thwaites, 1; J. Reilly, 2; G. A. King, 3; J. Jay, 4; W. Allfrey, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; E. Butler, 8. And on Tuesday, May 8th, on the occasion of a wedding, a 840 of Grandsire, in 29 mins. J. Jay, 1; C. E. Golds, 2; A. A. Fuller, 3; G. A. King, 4; W. C. Marshall, 5; H. Cornwall, 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; G. F. Attree, 8.

At Capel, Surrey, by six independent members of this association, on Thursday, May 3rd, 5040 changes, being a 720 each of seven Surprise methods (for particulars see peal column).

At Horley, Surrey, by six members of the Crawley branch and two of the local band, a peal of Grandsire Triples, Shipway's ten-part (for particulars see peal column).

By the Newick branch at Newick.—On Sunday, April 15th, with the bells muffled, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, by the Messrs Brooks (five members of one family) and J. Smith.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

NOTICE OF A LONG PEAL.—Eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association will attempt 13,440 of Bob Major at Kelsale, Suffolk, on Tuesday, May 22nd.

Church News.

Canon Knox-Little preached at the Chapel Royal, Savoy, on Thursday afternoon, at four o'clock, for the Church Penitentiary Association.

A splendid brass eagle lectern has been presented to Duston Church by a lady whose name has not been mentioned.

A tablet has been placed in the central porch of St. Nicholas', Warwick, containing the names of the rectors and vicars of the parish since the year 1274.

It is proposed to place in Tewkesbury Abbey Church a marble medallion of Mrs. Craik, the author of John Halifax, the scene of which is laid in that town.

By the kind permission of the Duke of Westminster, the annual meeting of the Curates' Augmentation Fund will be held at Grosvenor House on June 6th. Lord Cranbrook will preside.

On Saturday, May 5th, the Bishop of Salisbury presided at a meeting of the Barnes Memorial Committee, which was held at the County Museum, Dorchester, for the purpose of conferring with the parishioners as to the place of the statue. At a recent meeting the parishioners refused to allow its erection in the St. Peter's churchyard as being a desecration of the ground. The Bishop expressed himself in favour of the churchyard site, but the parishioners unanimously decided not to reopen the question. It is expected the statue will now be placed in the principal street in front of the museum.

Another application made to the London Consistory Court was that of the vestry of St. John's, Isle of Dogs, for a faculty authorising the carrying out of certain alterations, including the raising of the floor of the church, the enlargement of the chancel, the erection of gates separating the nave from the chancel, and the erection of a reredos of oak or marble. Chancellor Tristram granted an order for the carrying out of all the proposed alterations other than the reredos. The question as to the design of the reredos is to be further considered.

An oak reredos, representing the Crucifixion and the patron saints of Great Britain and Ireland designed by Mr. T. L. Moore, has been placed in St. Andrew's church, Dunmore, N.B. The nucleus of the cost was provided from the surplus of the fund raised for the erection of the memorial window to the late Countess Dowager of Dunmore, who built and endowed the church, and the balance was provided by Mr. Claud Hamilton, Dunmore Park. A beautiful altar cloth and hangings have been given by the Hon. Mrs. Claud Hamilton. The altar frontal was worked by Miss Edith Wauchope, Airth Castle, and designed by Mr. Temple L. Moore.

On Sunday, May 5th, Bishop Walsham How preached his farewell sermon at St. Andrew Undershaft, Leadenhall-street, of which he had been rector nine years, and on the following day he went to Wakefield. There was a crowded congregation at St. Andrew's to listen to the right rev. prelate's last sermon to his old parishioners, the text of which was Rev. iii. 21. At the conclusion of his discourse, the Bishop bade his parishioners farewell, observing that, if, owing to the larger work which had been assigned to him in East London, he had been less among them than he could have wished, he knew they had not been lost sight of, because his fellow-worker had been with them.

On Wednesday, April 2nd, a new oak eagle lectern was dedicated at the parish church, Stoke-upon-Trent. The Rural Dean (the Rev. Herbert C. Turner), at the commencement of the service, said it was his privilege on behalf of the clergy, formerly or at the present time in the deanery of Stoke-upon-Trent, to present it in commemoration of the consecration to the suffragan see of Shrewsbury of Sir Lovelace Tomlinson Stamer, rector of the parish, and for thirty years Rural Dean. The Bishop then dedicated the lectern according to the Form prescribed in the service for consecration of churches. Subsequently, at a meeting in the adjoining church room, the Rural Dean, on behalf of the clergy, requested the Bishop of Shrewsbury to accept a small volume containing the various diocesan offices, to be used by the Bishop in the discharge of his Episcopal duties.

On Tuesday, May 1st, the foundation stone of the new chancel of St. John's, Perry Barr, was laid by the Hon. Mrs. Calthorpe, wife of the squire of the parish. The service was at 3 p.m., and was held partly in the church, partly on the site of the chancel. The Bishop of Shrewsbury officiated, and preached a powerful sermon on church restoration, taking for his text 1 Chron. xvi. 29. The church was built in 1831-3, and is a specimen of the miserable Gothic of that period, having no chancel, high pews with doors, and a west gallery for organ, choir, and school-children. It is proposed also to reseal

the church with open oak sittings, and build organ chambers and vestries, and eventually, when funds are forthcoming, to add two transepts, and take down the gallery. The entire cost will be about £2,400, towards which £1,300 has been subscribed. Holy Communion was celebrated at 8 a.m., and an evensong service was held in the Mission Church of the parish, when the sermon was preached by the Rev. T. Keble, vicar of Bisley, father of the vicar of the parish.

On Wednesday, May 2nd, a meeting of friends of the Universities' Mission to East and Central Africa, was held at the Holborn Town Hall, to welcome Bishop Smythies, who had been summoned home from Zanzibar to attend the Lambeth Conference. The Bishop, who was consecrated in December, 1883, and who left England for Africa in January, 1884, had it was stated, walked between five and six thousand miles in visiting the different stations of the Mission on the coast and in the interior. He will return to Africa in October next. In the course of the evening, Canon Scott Holland heartily congratulated the Mission and all those interested in the work in Africa, that Bishop Smythies had been preserved, and had come home in excellent health, spoke of the importance and progress of missionary work in East and Central Africa, and pointed out the means by which a true and just idea of the importance of missionary work abroad might be obtained, and of the great good to humanity which had been achieved by it. Bishop Smythies, who was received with prolonged applause, gave an interesting account of the condition of the mission work on the East Coast and on Lake Nyassa in the interior, described the three journeys which he had made on foot from the coast to the lake, when visiting the various stations, and spoke in very hopeful terms of the future. One great aim which they had in view and hoped to carry to success, was the planting of teachers among the large and important people of Magwangwara, who exercised great influence over an immense tract of country in the interior and on surrounding tribes, and whose chief had expressed the wish that missionaries might be stationed on his territory. If this scheme could be carried out, and there was hope that it would be, the effect would be immense, and the results for good very great. It was early days for him yet to speak of the converts made to Christianity by the Mission; but one potent result had been gained—namely, that the Church was now recognised by many of the tribes as a natural peace-maker, and the missionaries had often been called upon by opposing chiefs to make peace between them. Referring to the death of Bishop Parker, who, he said, like Bishop Hannington, had died a martyr to the work, he trusted that this great loss would only arouse others to follow in his path and continue his work. The right rev. prelate then acknowledged the cordial and valuable aid he had received from the Scotch Presbyterian Mission in Africa, and concluded by thanking the company for the welcome they had given him.

On Saturday the Duke of Westminster presided at a meeting which was held at his grace's town mansion in furtherance of the Church House scheme. In opening the proceedings the noble Duke said the want of a Church House had been felt for many years, and it was thought that the revival in Church matters was so considerable that it was fitting to take advantage of the Queen's Jubilee to take steps for the immediate prosecution of that great work. The Church of England was without a central office or place of meeting either for Convocation, or its numerous committees, or the many Church institutions. There was nothing, in fact, in the way of facilities for central organisation and the great Church body. It was curious to observe that Nonconformists should have set an example in this matter. The Independents and Congregationalists had been able to raise no less than £100,000, with which the Memorial Hall in Farringdon-street was built, and he understood that they contemplated further additions to that building to a very considerable amount. The Wesleyans had also got headquarters in Bishopsgate, and had in contemplation large buildings convenient for their purposes on the Thames Embankment. A site for the proposed Church House had been secured on the south side of Dean's-yard, Westminster. It was a large and valuable one, and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners promised it to them on easy terms. He hoped that those who had been holding back from the movement pending a site being obtained would now come forward in support of the scheme. The funds already subscribed amounted to about £50,000. In the first instance they would only take up so much of the site as they immediately required, and it was not intended that they should build all at once because their funds would not allow them to do so, but they would build bit by bit as they came in. It was not too much, however, to look to a future not far off for a handsome building, a worthy memorial of the Jubilee of the Queen, and worthy of the great Church of England.

NOTICE OF LONG PEAL.—A band of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association hope to attempt a long peal of Stedman [Caters] at St. Mary's, Cheltenham, on Whit-Monday next, at 11.30.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Let the Church be as it should be, and all things in harmony. Let those who ring the bells ring them in such a way as if it was indeed for human beings, for immortal beings, who have come there drawn by the love of God and one another, there to worship God in common."
THE BISHOP OF LINCOLN.

I most heartily commend the speech of the reverend Bishop of Lincoln which you report last week, and from which I extract the above, to the notice of our brethren in the art. That speech is characterised—not by any "flower of rhetoric," nor by any grandiloquent style, nor by any attempt at effect; but it is evidently (if I may so term it), a spontaneous outpouring of the spirit, by one of the spiritual fathers of the Church, and it will I feel sure, lose no weight by reason of its plain outspokenness. We want more of this plain speaking, and the North Lincolnshire Association is to be congratulated on being the cause of our being benefitted by the reverend prelate's valuable—if homely—words.

* * * * *

It is, happily, seldom that you have to record so many losses to the Exercise by death in one week as you had last Saturday. This circumstance, however, should cause us to constantly keep in mind the fact that year by year we are losing old familiar faces; that year by year our good and true helpers are called one by one to their rest. That should make us all the more earnest in our endeavours to raise up others that the work may go on. We shall all of us in our Master's good time have to "join the great majority," and we should therefore see to it that we leave some one able to take our places when we are gone.

* * * * *

I cannot help giving a word of praise to the young Parkers of Harborne, on their 120 of Grandsire Doubles on handbells. A peal of Doubles is doubtless not much to look at on paper, but when we see that one of the three was only eight years old, and the conductor but twelve, it will at once appear a very creditable performance on the part of the lads. Let us hope that as they grow older, they will become more proficient in the science, and be an ornament to their profession.

* * * * *

My remarks last week respecting Mr. W. Sottanstill have resulted in my being furnished by a friend in Yorkshire with a story which seems to me so strange that I am constrained to give you the benefit of it. I might add parenthetically that did I not consider my information to have come from a trustworthy source, I would not thus publish it. This story is to the effect that Mr. Sottanstill's literary labours were not confined to his "Elements of Campanalogia," Part 2, but that he also spent a very considerable time in the compilation of two other books which were intended to form parts 1 and 3 of the series. Part 1 was confined to six-bell methods, and Part 3 to Caters, Royal, Cinques, and Maximus. The cost of publishing these two volumes was guaranteed by a well-known baronet, who is now dead, and for some reason or other Mr. Sottanstill was induced to entrust his mss. to a firm of bell-founders in the Midlands (whose advertisements we very seldom see or hear of), and they undertook to see them through the press. So far all appears straight, but here comes the inexplicable portion of the story. This firm not only failed to fulfil their engagement, but have treated with silent contempt repeated applications for the return of the copy. Though this circumstance, the Exercise is deprived of two collections which—judging from the published part 2—must have been of great value. A good comprehensive collection of six-bell methods we certainly do

want very much, and there can be no doubt as to the great usefulness of the collection on the higher number. But what puzzles me in the matter is—of course if I have understood it right—what can be the motive of the holders of these manuscripts in thus preventing their publication? Apart also from their usefulness, looking only at the immense amount of time which must have been spent in them by Mr. Sottanstill, it seems to me actually cruel to that gentleman personally to find such a considerable portion of his life's labours thrown to the winds. I do not think I need do more at present than thus mention this matter, and hope that those of Mr. Sottanstill's friends who are more intimate with it will explain more fully, if necessary, or correct me if I have not properly stated the case. At any rate, I think some effort should be made to get these manuscripts transferred to print, if they are still in existence.

FREE LANCE.

THE PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES AT BURTON-ON-TRENT.

As it seems a customary thing to publish a few particulars when a "first peal on handbells" is rung, I thought a few remarks would not be out of place on this occasion. Last September, J. Austin, W. J. Smith, L. Bullock, and J. Jagger, decided to learn change-ringing, two in hand. We met for practice once every week till the middle of December, but from other engagements did not meet again until the middle of February, when we started practising for the handbell competition, which is held at Derby on Easter Monday. The week before Easter, we decided that if we were successful in winning any prizes, the money should go towards buying a new set of handbells. Well, we were successful, as we won altogether £3 10s., and through the kindness of Mr. J. W. Taylor (who let us have the peal of twelve that were used for the competition at half price), we, for the first time got a peal of handbells to call our own. When at Derby, we heard that the Derby men were trying to score a peal on handbells, so we said we would try to be first, and set to work in real earnest. The first attempt was made April 17th, ringing about 900; the second attempt was made on April 21st, ringing 1442. The next try was on April 25th, coming to grief after ringing 3290 changes, in 1 hr. 49 mins. The fourth attempt, May 3rd, rang about 2450, or close on half-way. Not to be denied we met again on Saturday, May 5th, when "go" was called exactly at 3.25, and part after part went rolling by to the good, but when in the tenth part a slight hitch occurred, which was soon rectified, and the single called, the bells came round at two and a-half mins. past six, thus being two hours thirty-seven-and-a-half minutes in ringing the peal. The ringers wish to thank, through "THE BELL NEWS," those gentlemen who so kindly came forward to act as umpires on each occasion.

J. J.

WARSLOW, STAFFORDSHIRE.

A large new clock has just been erected in the parish church here, by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby. It strikes the hours, shews time upon three dials each four feet across, and is fitted with all the latest improvements so as to keep perfectly accurate time. The old clock and bells were burnt in the tower a short time ago. The same firm have also just completed a large striking clock with two 6ft. 6in. dials, upon the factory tower of Messrs. Clark, Street, near Glastonbury.

NEWBURN-ON-TYNE.

The date fixed for the inauguration of this new peal of six, is Wednesday, May 16th. Dedication service, 7.30 p.m. Change-ringers who wish to attend the opening are requested to send in their names not later than Saturday, May 12th, to the Vicar, the Rev. S. Bucknell, in order that dinner may be provided for them.

G. J. CLARKSON.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co., Printers, Exeter.

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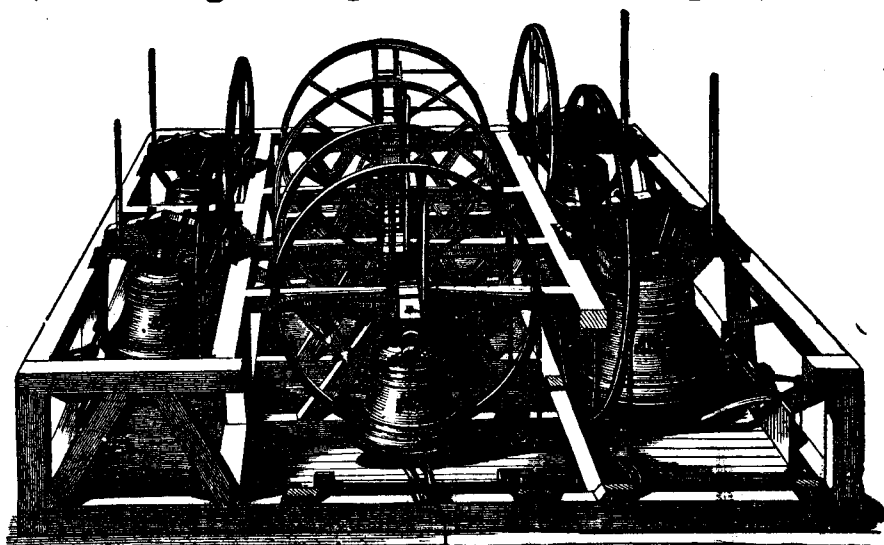
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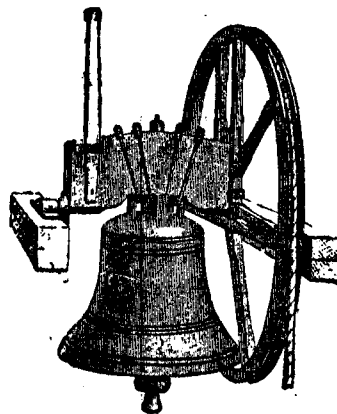
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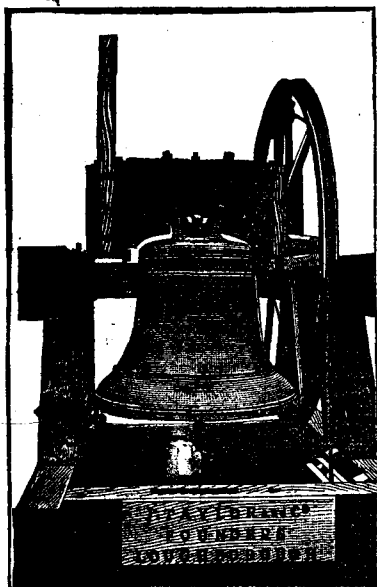
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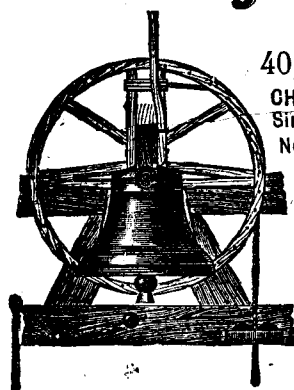
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RE-OPENING OF BELLS AT MONK SOHAM, SUFFOLK.

EVENTS of importance are not of frequent occurrence in the little village of Monk Soham, and it is not surprising, therefore, that considerable interest was evinced there in the re-opening of the ring of five bells in the parish church of St. Peter on Friday, the 11th instant. The bells, like most things of this world, have been affected by years of constant use, and for some time their urgent need of repair has been apparent, and it has been one of the great wishes of the present rector, the Ven. R. H. Groome, until recently Archdeacon of Suffolk, to see them restored. It is mainly through the munificence and untiring exertions of his family that the funds required for the work have been raised. The rector's family have for very many years been intimately connected with the neighbourhood. His father held the benefices of Earl Soham and Monk Soham combined, and was a well-known man in agricultural matters in connection with the county, being one of the foremost members of the Suffolk Association at the time of its formation. He left the living of Earl Soham to his eldest son, who has since died, and that of Monk Soham to his son Robert, who has held it for forty-three years, and has gained a reputation which many may envy. As Archdeacon of Suffolk he earned wide-spread popularity by his unassuming manners and genuine desire to forward every good work in connection with the Church. The clergy still speak of him with affectionate regard as "the Archdeacon," and he has endeared himself to all his parishioners.

The bells are old and interesting. The key is E flat, and the weight of the tenor is 14 cwt. The restoration they have undergone is complete. A new stout English oak frame has been fixed, and the bells have all been turned on new stocks, and fitted with new cast-iron bed-plates and carriages. The frame, which is diagonally braced, is planed and varnished, and the stocks and ironwork have all been painted with three coats in oil. Everything is now in first-class condition, and the bells are now in working order for some time to come.

The restoration of the bells was completed some time ago, but wishing that all the villagers might able to be present at the opening ceremony, the rector put it off until the long-desired warm weather arrived. The day appointed was as lovely a spring day as could be wished for, and the majority of the parishioners appeared to be holiday-making in honour of the event. In the morning a short service was held in the church, and afterwards the opening touch was rung by Rev. N. Bolingbroke (Hon. Sec. of the Norwich Diocesan Association), 1; G. Day (Eye), 2; E. Collins (Worlingworth), 3; F. Day (Eye), 4; D. Collins (Worlingworth), 5. At 1.30 about forty sat down to a substantial luncheon in a marquee at the back of the "White Elm" inn, the venerable rector presiding, supported on the right by the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, and on the left by the Rev. Dr. Raven. After luncheon the chairman welcomed the friends from a distance as well as the neighbours, and said although he had never been a ringer himself he had always taken a great interest in bells, and was glad to see bell-ringing taking a higher position in the future, for it was part of the services of the church and ringers should always look upon it as such. He proposed "The health of Mr. Day," who though he took the work of restoration as a tradesman, had carried it out with the interest of a friend.

Mr. DAY having responded,

The Rev. Dr. RAVEN proposed "The Health of the Chairman," which was enthusiastically drunk.

The CHAIRMAN, in returning thanks, said it had been one of the wishes of his heart that the bells should be restored, and he was glad that he had been spared to see the work carried out. He proposed "The health of the Rev. N. Bolingbroke."

This toast having been drunk and responded to, the company adjourned.

For the afternoon service at 3.30, the church was crowded, many coming from considerable distances to be present. All the principal inhabitants of the neighbourhood were present, as well as the majority of the villagers, and a large number of clergy occupied seats in the body of the church. These included—the Rev. Nathaniel Bolingbroke, vicar of St. Etheldreda, Norwich, and Secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association; the Rev. F. French, Worlingworth; the Rev. R. G. Gorton, Baddingham; the Rev. C. A. Sinclair, Monewden;

the Rev. H. S. Marriott, Wilby; the Rev. W. T. Pratt, Bedford; the Rev. Holmes Pilkington, Framlingham; the Rev. E. H. Frere, Horham; the Rev. W. W. Tyler, Tannington; the Rev. W. J. Benson, Ashfield; the Rev. S. B. Reynolds, Thorndon; the Rev. R. Abbay, Earl Soham; the Rev. — Muriell, Aspall; the Rev. T. S. Shaw, Beddingfield, &c. Every arrangement for the convenience of the public was made by the churchwardens (Mr. J. E. Hammond and Mr. A. Wright), the former of whom has held that important position for 32 years. The Rector conducted the greater part of the service. As is natural in a man nearly 70 years of age, he is getting very feeble now, and the failure of his eyesight, which caused him to resign his position as Archdeacon, is a great trouble to him, but as a natural and impressive reader of prayers, he is still without a superior in the county. The Rev. Dr. Raven, vicar of Fressingfield, read the first lesson, the Rev. Canon Tate, Vicar of Stradbroke, reading the second, and the Rev. H. L. Todd, rector of Occold, assisting in the services. Miss Groome usually presides at the organ, but upon this occasion her place was taken by Mr. Todd, a son of the Rector of Occold. The Rev. Dr. Raven, taking for his text, 1st Cor. xiv. 7, "And even things without life giving sound, whether pipe or harp, except they give a distinction in the sounds, how shall it be known what is piped or harped," preached an interesting sermon, in the course of which he traced the history of bells from the earliest times. Hymns were sung and the *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* were chanted during the service, and after it was over the bells were rung merrily for a considerable time.

THE ROYAL DOCKYARD SOCIETY, DEVONPORT.

On Wednesday, May 9th, eight members of this Society paid a visit to St. Budeaux, a little village three or four miles from Devonport, where there is a pretty peal of bells, recently rehung and made into six by the addition of two new trebles. The band, who journeyed there on shanks' ponies, agreed to meet at the tower at 8 p.m. Just before that time a few of the band was outside the village taking a lesson in natural history, and were agreeably surprised to hear the bells raised in peal by the local company. Making haste to gain the tower, and finding all had arrived, they rung eight 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, the striking being excellent throughout. A good effect was produced in the minds of the local society, these gentlemen taking very kindly towards change-ringing. After a friendly glass and a few songs with the local band, the party had a capital walk home. Harmony was the order of the day, Mr. Pyne, the foreman ringer, playing the banjo all the way. Arriving home just after 11, all agreed that a very pleasant evening had been spent. On Saturday, April 28th, for practice, at the Dockyard Chapel, this band rang two touches of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 420 and 350 changes. The ringers who took part in the above and stood interchangeably, were: W. Pyne, J. Steed, G. Broderick, E. Cross, W. Condy, W. H. Marsh (conductor), A. Richards, E. Hendy, P. Manning.

ST. OLAVE'S, SOUTHWARK, LONDON.

In the reign of Edward VI. in the inventory of church goods then made, we find at St. Olave's this entry: "Item fyve greate belles hanginge in the steeple." Between this and 1719 the peal was augmented to six. In 1719 these six bells were recast and made eight (probably by Abraham Rudhall) and so continued until the year 1843. On the 19th of August in that year a dreadful fire occurred, which totally destroyed the church and bells. The church was rebuilt in the following year in the most gorgeous and magnificent style, and was opened on Nov. 19th, 1844. Unfortunately it was not considered necessary to replace the peal of eight bells, but their place was supplied by hanging three new bells and an old sanctus bell, which had been saved from the fire. Each of the new bells is inscribed "C. & G. Mears, founders, London, 1844." The largest weighs about 18 cwt. The old sanctus bell is inscribed, "Mr. Nicholas Flower, Churchwarden, 1719."

J. R. JERRAM.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO., Printers, Exeter.

"CAMPANOLOGOMANIA."

This formidable word (?) has recently been used by a correspondent of a paper published in a suburb of the metropolis, on "the other side of the water." The writer signs himself at the end of his grammatical epistle "Musicus." Our readers will be able by the following extracts to form an opinion of the poetical fire which Mr. "Musicus" possesses. He begins in this way:—

I dare say that you will, with your customary diligence in search of items of news, chronicle the fact that some company or other of "College Youths" on Friday last ascended the tower of St. Peter's church and rang in so many hours and so many minutes some bell-ringer's—I beg pardon; I suppose to be strictly correct I must say some eminent campanologist's—arrangement of Triple Bob Majors or Grandsire Triples or some other jargon of that kind. You will doubtless, I dare say, record the interesting fact that the illustrious men who rang the peal were so-and-so, and that the peal was conducted by so and so.

And more to the same effect. Then he appears anxious to let the readers of the paper imagine that he "knows something" about what he presumes to write upon. With naive simplicity he goes on:—

I have no sympathy with this change-ringing. I think of the two I would prefer the Scotch bagpipes, though it is said the devil himself invented them. I believe I am not singular in the notion that change-ringing is a great mistake. What would be said of any musician if he sat down to a piano and played the changes on eight notes as these bells are rung in a Triple Bob Major? There is no music in this mechanical variation of figures. If the ringers would ring for about half-an-hour all the musical combinations they can think of, there would be no objection, and we might even go so far as to contribute to the funds when the hat is passed round; but to ask for money to support the present nuisance is simply adding insult to injury. Let us look at the figures of a few changes and see what a dreadful jumble it is. There are eight bells, and I believe they begin the peal in arithmetical sequence thus, 12345678. When this is rung they have a change, and I suppose they ring 21345678. Then the peal goes on something in this fashion—

12345678		87654321
23456781	Or perhaps it may	75643218
34567812	be that they	65432187
45678123	begin at the end	54321876
56781234	and make their	43218765
67812345	way to the	32187654
78123456	front, thus—	21876543
81234567		18765432

Possibly I may be all in the wrong, and I may be told that I know nothing about Grandsire Triples or Bob Majors. I have no wish to know more than I know now, for I know that the bells are a nuisance when they only serve to bring out the perspiration of the men who indulge in this kind of exercise. I will make another guess, however, if only to show the dreadful absurdity of the changes when changing only adds to the dreadful jumble of noise. Perhaps the changes are arranged thus:—

13254768		86427531
16476234	Varied most	64275318
27612681	probably by	42753186
51838455	some such	27531864
44343123	interesting	75318642
72567377	combination	53186427
68785812	as this:	31864275
86121546		18642753

If so, what greater nuisance can be conceived than having to endure three hours and forty minutes of such monotonous "variety." Now if these misguided "youths" would learn to play pretty tunes on the bells, what nice people we should call them! But doubtless they think if they played out of time or out of tune we should be able to detect them, whereas in these so-called Bob Majors no one can tell, and no one cares, whether they ring precisely correct or not, since it makes no difference to the general clang.

Clever man, this Mr. "Musicus." We almost regret we have not the honour of his acquaintance. What do the "misguided youths" think of themselves after this stricture upon them? Will they feel abashed, and in future ashamed to walk only through back slums when they again visit the church tower, to escape the grimaces of the inhabitants? Perhaps Mr. "Musicus" would like to be a witness of their discomfiture in this manner.

We would recommend him to put in an appearance at the belfry one evening to see the marked effect this letter has upon these "misguided youths." He would gain that sort of experience which is said to make foolish people wiser than before. In the next extract "Musicus" attempts to be funny. He says:—

I am told these bells were given to the church by an estimable old printer named Wright. I think in this matter he was very wrong. He lives somewhere away out of the world on Duppas hill, where he cannot hear the bells himself. If he lived where I do, and could not get away from the noise, I am sure he would have been the first to regret his gift. If he had given us something else worth the money, we should have blessed him. He might have bought us many other things of use, a new parson-age, for instance; but I am afraid our gratitude for the bells is very much modified when Triple Bob Majors shew how mad these ringers are, and how mad they try to make us. Do, Mr. Editor, sympathise with the dwellers in this unhappy bell-ridden parish by inserting this letter.

This bell-ridden parish has, we believe, one peal of eight and one of six. We leave our friend "Musicus" now. The Editor of the paper containing this effusion appears to be careful in stating in bolder type than usual that "it should be distinctly understood that he does not necessarily identify himself with any of his correspondents' opinions," and also adds in a manner which we can well understand that "this letter was crowded out last week." He will no doubt consult the tastes and wishes of his readers by "crowding out" Musicus altogether in the future, unless he writes upon some subject which he understands.

THE ANNIVERSARY AT BRAUGHING, HERTS.

THE ANNUAL RINGING FESTIVAL was observed here on Friday, May 11th, the usual day, May 10th, being Holy Thursday. The tenth of May has been for 108 years the Annual Festival in commemoration of the long peal, 12,240 of Bob Major, rung here in 1779, and a good day's ringing is always looked forward to, as it is generally agreed among ringers that the Braughing bells are the finest peal of eight in the county, tenor 19 cwt. in F sharp. L. Proctor, Esq., having arrived with his band from Benington, they were joined by the Rev. F. E. Robinson (Drayton, Berks), Mr. H. Baker (Hertford), and Messrs. Haworth and Chapman (London), Mr. Rochester (Sawbridgeworth), and many others.

Ringings commenced about eleven o'clock with a 504 Stedman Triples, followed by 672 Cambridge Surprise, 448 Superlative, 336 Double Norwich, and several other touches, in all amounting to nearly 3000 changes. The dinner as usual took place at the "Bell Inn," at two o'clock, at which the Rev. P. G. Ward presided, the vice-chair being occupied by the Rev. F. E. Robinson. In the evening the local brass band played several selections from popular airs, under the conductorship of Mr. James Budd, huntsman of the Puckeridge (Herts) hounds, and altogether it was a most successful meeting.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MEMBERS are informed that the report for 1887 (which contains amongst other matters, a full list of peals, with the compositions, rung by the Association since its formation in 1878) is now ready, and may be obtained of the local secretaries of the different Deaneries as under. Free to those whose subscriptions are paid, and to others at a price at 3d.

Deaneries.	Local Secs.
GLOUCESTER	H. Hatherley, Esq., National Provincial Bank, Gloucester.
DURSLEY, HAWKESBURY, & BITTON	Mr. F. K. Howell, Morton, Thornbury.
N'TH AND S'TH FOREST ..	Mr. J. Hern, Newnham.
BISLEY & STONEHOUSE ..	W. C. Long, Esq., Stonehouse.
WINCOMBE, CIRENCESTER & TEWKESBURY ..	F. E. Ward, Esq., 438, High Street, Cheltenham.
FAIRFORD, NORTHLEACH, & STOW	T. W. Taylor, Esq., Northleach.
BRISTOL AND STAPLETON ..	C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., 30, Broad Street, Bristol.
Magor, Newport, Mon.	REV. PITT EYKYN, Hon. Sec.

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THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—BRIDGNORTH BRANCH.

ON Saturday afternoon, May 12th, eight members of the above Guild visited the secluded and pretty little church of St. Gregory, Morville, a scattered village three miles and a half from Bridgnorth. The church stands in a few fields and meadow lands, spreading out almost level from the base of some neighbouring hills, and in close proximity to Morville Hall, the residence of the Warren family. It consists of nave, north and south aisles, chancel, south porch, and a square battlemented western tower, the lower compartment of which is used both as a vestry and ringing room, and is well fitted. The bells are a peal of six, tenor about 11 cwt., and not in the best of going conditions: the ropes new. However, a series of six-scores of Grandsire Doubles was rung by permission of the Vicar, the Rev. H. J. Ward, with the attendance of the sexton, Mr. J. Wall. Influence was brought to bear with the hope that Morville belfry would come into union with the Guild, but owing to the distance apart the local men reside, it seems improbable at present. Many items of interest are connected with this building—a set of four oak panels with carved figures are fixed over the nave arches—there is an oaken studded chest, and a circular Norman font grotesquely carved. Amongst various records of charities and bequests fixed over the tower door, is one carved on stone, reading thus:—

"Thomas Burt: Citizen and Pewter of London: gave in his life time, five pounds, and at his decease six pounds a yeare: for ever the one half towards the maintenance of a preacher: and the other half to the poore of this parish of Morville, 1627."

Since the writer was there in 1883, the high-back pewing has been removed, and the church seated throughout in English oak, with carved tracery ends, the floor re-constructed, and a new organ chamber built, and the whole was opened formally at an impressive service on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, October 7th, 1886. The seating was executed by Messrs. Smith Brothers, of Broseley, the chamber by Messrs. Bate and Co., of Bridgnorth.

Over a south door in the chancel appears this date and initial: "W A. I 1683."

In the churchyard is erected a headstone to the grave of John Charlton, 1843, as the verse appended is rather unusual—it is here given.

"Of this world's pleasures I have had my share,
And few are the sorrows I was doomed to bear.
How oft have I enjoyed the noble chase of hounds and foxes
Striving for the race;
But hark! the knell of death calls me away,
So sportsmen all farewell, I must obey."

After an hour's rest at the Acton Arms, the visitors returned to Bridgnorth, the walk being enlivened by several military evolutions and formations, the party being mostly volunteers, namely, J. E. Hall, V. Coates, W. Criddeford, T. H. Overton, J. Overton (conductor), W. Rickhuss, W. H. Fussell, and J. Jones.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of this Association will be held at Brighton, on Whit-Monday, May 21st. The programme, will include a special service at the parish church, cold luncheon and business meeting. The three towers, St. Peter's, St. Nicholas and St. Paul's, each eight bells, will be open for ringing during the day.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

ENTERTAINMENT.—At Lammas Hall, Bridge Road West, Old Battersea, Surrey, on Monday, May 28, 1888, a miscellaneous Entertainment will take place. The following will appear: Miss Susetta Fenn, Mr. James Budd, Mr. Sinclair Dunn, Mr. H. White (Ventriloquist), Mr. James Root (Flute), and the West Ham Handbell Ringers. Reserved seats, 2s.; body of hall, 1s.; gallery, 6d. Doors open at 7.30., commence at 8. The proceeds will be devoted towards the expenses of St. Mary's belfry, Henry S. Thomas, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

The 13,440 of Bob Major at Kelsale on Whit-Tuesday will be postponed on account of services.

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."

USING THE PROPERTY OF OTHERS.

SIR,—I see in "THE BELL NEWS" of May 12th, a peal of Bob Major, said to be the composition of Mr. C. W. Clarke, of Bedford. Now I should like to refer him to a back number of "THE BELL NEWS" of October 22nd, 1887, where he will find a peal of Albion Treble Bob by me, where he uses the same calling in his first half peal, and the same in the last half with the exception of which he omits the wrong in the 4th course and calls a wrong at the 5th and then adds an extra bob at home, so making the peal 5040. I have this week forwarded a peal of Bob Major, to the paper, where I use the same calling as I do in the Albion Treble Bob. Hoping Mr. C. W. Clarke will excuse me pointing this out to him.

Cemetery Lodge, Bishops Stortford.

HENRY J. TUCKER,

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—Having discovered an interesting kind of four-part peal, with eighty-eight bobs and two ten-part singles, I was comparing it with Mr. Penning's—the last given in Grandsire with ninety bobs and two ten-part singles, when I discovered that the singles are not a pair. This peal, and the fact of the foundation appearing to contain ninety-two bobs is contrary to the laws for the whole peal of Grandsire Triples. Now as the peal must contain 7 5 2 6 3 4 and 2 5 7 3 6 4, it can be seen that the hand-stroke of the singles are false. I am rather surprised that this should have escaped the keenness of our late friend Mr. Snowdon, also Mr. Davies; it is unfortunate too, especially as the peal has been rung, but perhaps I am mistaken. I sincerely hope so.

Farnham Royal, Slough.

J. J. PARKER.

SEASONABLE ADVICE.

SIR,—In the course of my business I have to visit many churches, and it has struck me that latterly the very dangerous practice becoming common of leaving bells "on set" from one ringing time to another, presumably to save the trouble of raising. Many accidents have occurred from this cause, and another serious one is recorded by you last week. It is to be hoped that warning will be taken, and bells always dropped after ringing, especially when the ropes are in unlocked rooms.

F.S.

THE DOOM OF THE CANAANITES.—If any 'race were ever shut out from hope, reprobate in the sternest sense of that dread world, it was the race of Canaan. In the very act of promising that God should be the God of Shem, and admitting Japheth to share his blessedness, and while passing over with solemn, yet not desperate, silence the remaining progeny of Ham, God's inspired servant hurled at Canaan this tremendous doom. And it came home. No idolatries were so immoral as theirs, nor so cruel. Their land was smitten by Joshua with the sword of God, and the taint of sin had penetrated so far into their system that not even their little children should be preserved alive. All must perish. The Canaanites are branded in Scripture as the very types of the abandoned and God-forsaken. If any human family was ever beyond hope, certainly it was this family.—From "The Quiver" for May.

THE JEWS' WAILING-PLACE.—Before quitting the walls of the temple we must refer to one spot familiar to every one. This spot is the Jews' Wailing-place, under the western wall of the Haram, their only heritage in their own city. It is a little narrow court, close by the miserable hovels of the Moghrebins, or Moslems, from the north-west of Africa. But in this court rises the celebrated wall, fifty-two yards long and fifty-six in height of massive stones—one being sixteen feet and one thirteen in length—all that is left to the Jews of their marvellous Temple. It is one of the most affecting sights in that city of strange memories to see the "ancient people" standing there, psalter in hand, wailing out words which have a singular significance in that place. The place is sacred with the tears of many generations, for even so far back as the time of Jerome we find him making an affecting allusion to the mourners who, in his day, paid the Roman soldiers for allowing them to go and weep over the ruins of their Temple. And many a time since then have those old walls echoed back this passionate cry: "Zion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation. Our holy and our beautiful house where our fathers praised Thee is burned up with fire, and all our pleasant things are laid waste! O God, the heathen are come into Thine inheritance, Thy Holy Temple have they defiled; they have laid Jerusalem on heaps, How long, Lord? Wilt Thou be angry for ever?"—From "Cities of the World" for May.

BEWDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

"Whene'er the sweet church bell,
Peals over hill and dale,
May Jesus Christ be praised."

One of the prettiest hollows along the hilly banks of the river Severn is Bewdley; while asking you to reproduce in "THE BELL NEWS" many interesting paragraphs from an able history of the town by Burton—I must inform you that our best thanks are due to the Rev. Philip A. Pughe, for the loan thereof. The work is of considerable value, and was produced for charitable purpose by the author—who was a resident of Bewdley—after considerable trouble and research, and dedicated to the Lord of the Manor, W. N. Marcy, Esq., in the year 1883.

"The earliest mention of the modern Bewdley occurs under its old Saxon name of Wribbenhall—a name still retained by the adjacent village on the eastern side of the Severn. In the time of William the Conqueror both formed part of the great manor of Kidderminster. We read in Domesday Book (1085):—'King William holds in demesne Chideminstre, with sixteen berewicks, or hamlets; Wenvertun, Trinpelei, Worcote, Frenesse (Franche), and another Frenesse, Bristitune, Harburgelei (Haberley), Fastochesfelde, Gurbahale, Ribeford, and another Ribeford, Sudtone, Aldmtone, Metune (Mitton), Tuelesberge, Sudwale. In these lands together with the manor are twenty hides (about 240 acres), the manor waste.' The name Gurbahale here mentioned is no doubt the Norman way of spelling Wribbenhall, for having no letter w, the Normans expressed the sound by 'Gu' e.g., Gulielmus for Willelmus, Gualterus for Walterus, Guarrena for Warrena. By substituting W for 'Gu' we get Wrbehale; and we find it thus written in the annals of the Church of Worcester:—'In the year 1215 Hugh de Mortimer did fealty for Wrbehale in the Chapter-house at Worcester of twenty shillings a year, which his predecessors had granted to the said church to be received by the hands of certain persons; who, because they would not render their rent, being ejected, both for a valuable consideration and by force, he himself took the said land, and was to render the rent.' The Registry of the Priory of St. Mary of Worcester (1240), informs us how Wribbenhall first came into the possession of the Church, and reads thus:—'Concerning Wrubenhale. A certain man, Thurstin by name, gave us Wrubenhale, Ralph de Mortimer senior conceding and confirming, as his charter beareth witness. In after times Roger de Mortimer took it for a fief. Whence he swore fealty to the Prior and Convent, and gave a relief [payment to the lord by a feudal tenant on entering his fief], and bound his heirs, as his charter witnesseth, to do fealty to the Prior and Convent, and to give a relief according to circumstances, and to pay every year at the feast of St. Martin twenty hillings.'

"The charter of Thurstin or Turstin here mentioned would seem to be still in existence, and is thus described in *Archæologia*, vol. xxxi., app., page 475:—'18 April, 1844, Evelyn Philip Shirley, Esq., M.P. for Monaghan Co., exhibited a charter of the 12th cent. [? 11th] from the muniments of the Lechmere family. It is a grant of land in Wribbenhall made by Turstinus to the monks of a monastery not specified. The peculiarities of this charter consist, first in its being signed with a cross by each of the persons who made and confirmed the grant; and secondly in the seal being suspended by a thin label, not as usual from the foot of it. It is believed that this is the only instance hitherto known of such a singular mode of attaching the seal being practised in England; although something similar exists in the collection of charters in the Hotel de Soubise at Paris.'

"This same Turstin, who figures here as a benefactor to the monks of Worcester, was also Lord of Ribbesford; but, as will be seen later on, his character is there drawn by the monks in very different colours.

"In the year 1148, Simon, Bishop of Worcester, in a very solemn manner confirmed to the Prior and monks of Worcester all their lands and possessions, among which is named Wribenhale. The manor belonged to the office of Cellarer in the Monastery, and was allotted with other places for the particular purpose of buying wood.

"Here the owners of the manor, the persons who held it of them, and the amount of rent paid, are precisely the same as those given in 1215; but the name of the place has been changed from Wrbehale to Beaulieu, or 'beautiful place.' It was seldom that Norman place-names ousted those of Saxon

origin; but the loveliness of the scenery well justified the change in this instance.

"The earliest mention of the town under its present name appears to be in the Close Roll of Edward I (1304), when Margaret, wife of Edmund de Mortimer, is said to have had assigned to her for her better support certain lands in *Beaulieu*. Bewdley was probably a residence—at least an occasional residence—of the Mortimers about this time; for on a mutilated stone coffin lid discovered during the recent restoration of Ribbesford church, is a shield bearing their arms:—Barry of six or and az., an inescutcheon arg.; on a chief gold, gyroned of the same, two pallets of the same. On the sides are the words, 'Je vous pri' and 'Bon Henri.' Norman-French monumental inscriptions were in general use only for a short time—1290 to 1320; and it is to this period that we should assign the origin of the name Beaulieu or Bewdley. As examples of the similar etymology, we find that Beaulieu in Monmouthshire became Bewley, and Roilieu near Oxford became Rewley. In all the *Inquisitiones post Mortem* of the 14th century it is styled Beaulieu or Bealeu. In the charter of Edward IV., 1472, the name is spelt Beadeley, showing that the change into its modern form was nearly completed. Leland (1506-1552), who visited the town about 1539, says, 'I gather that Beaudley is but a very new town, and that of old tyme there was but some poore hamlett, and that upon the building of a bridge there upon Severne, and resort of people unto it, and commodity of the pleasant site, men began to inhabit there; and because that the plott of it semed fayre to the lookers on, it took a French name Beaudley *quasi bellus locus*. I asked a merchant there of the antientnesse of the towne, and he answered mee that it was but a new towne, adding that they had liberties granted by King Edward.'

"Camden (1551-1623) gives the same derivation. 'Bewdley,' says he, 'takes its name from its most pleasant situation—'

'Delicium rerum Bellus Locus undique floret
Fronde coronatus Virianæ tempora sylvæ.'

Which Bishop Gibson translates thus—

'Fair seated Bewdley, a delightful town,
Which Wyre's tall oaks with shady branches crown.'

"Dr. Stukely in a letter dated from Bewdley, September 17th, 1712, says, 'Were I to choose a country residence for health and pleasure, it would be undoubtedly on the west side of the island, not far from this river (Severn), and where it is most distant from the sea.' (*Itin.* i., page 71).

"We have seen that in the time of the Conqueror, Bewdley (or Wribbenhall), was given by Turstin, a vassal of Ralph de Mortimer, to the Priory of Worcester. In 1215 the tenant of the monastery was ejected, but allowed compensation; and then the Mortimers themselves resumed possession, subject to a yearly rental of twenty shillings. After 1388, no mention of Bewdley is made in connection with the monastery, and the manor descended through the Mortimers to our own Queen Victoria.

"Roger Mortimer (III.), created Earl of March married Joan, daughter and heiress of Sir Peter de Geneville, and by this marriage the whole inheritance of Geneville and half the lands of Lacy came to the Mortimers. This was the notorious Roger Mortimer, the murderer of Edward II.; he was executed in 1330, and his estates were forfeited. Roger Mortimer (IV.), his grandson, regained the patrimony and the Earldom of March. In 6 Edward III., this Roger gave to John Chamberlain, grandfather of John de la More, custody of all his cattle in his manors of Clebury and Beaulieu, and also in the Chace of Wyre. Dying in Burgundy in 1360, he was succeeded by Edmund Mortimer (III.), Earl of March and Ulster, through whose marriage with Philippa, daughter of Lionel, Duke of Clarence, their descendants ultimately succeeded to the Crown." W. H. F.

(To be continued.)

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Association will be held at St. Andrew's, Leyland, on Whit-Saturday, May 26th. The bells will be open for ringing from one o'clock. At 5 o'clock there will be a tea provided at the "Eagle and Child" inn, close to the church, the general meeting to take place shortly after in the Grammar School.

JAMES HIGSON, Sec.

57, Charley Road, Blackrod.

TWO PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

5504.

By HENRY J. TUCKER, *Bishops Stortford.*

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 W IN H

5 2 3 7 6 4	-	-	-
3 7 5 2 6 4	-	-	-
5 3 7 2 6 4	-	-	-
7 2 5 3 6 4	-	-	-
5 7 2 3 6 4	-	-	-
2 5 7 3 6 4	-	-	-
7 3 2 5 6 4	-	-	-
2 7 3 5 6 4	-	-	-
3 2 7 5 6 4	-	-	-
5 3 2 4 6 7	-	-	-
2 5 3 4 6 7	-	-	-
3 2 5 4 6 7	-	-	-

Three times repeated. Single instead of bob at the 24th and 48th course-ends. The 6th at home throughout. By calling the singles at the 23rd and 46th course-ends a peal of 5280 is obtained. By calling the singles at the 22nd and 44th course-ends a peal of 5056 is obtained.

5376.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

Five times repeated. Single at the end of 4th and 48th courses. 4th, 5th, and 6th each ten times wrong and sixteen times right, with the 2nd or 3rd in 6th's place at a course-end.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE ROYAL.

5040.

By CHARLES PRICE, *Eccleston.*

2 3 4 5 6 W H

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

This peal is in the tittums, with the 6th at home throughout, and it is the first peal ever produced with these qualities in this method.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

5088.

By DANIEL PRENTICE, *Ipswich.*

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

Repeated.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

5280.

By GEORGE HAYWARD, *Bromsgrove.*

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

Repeated.

5280.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

Repeated.

These two peals have the 5th and 6th in 6th's place throughout, with all the 6-5s and 5-6s.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5040.

By W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM, *St. Albans.*

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

Eight times repeated, with an extra bob at home every other part-end. Also single the wrong in the fifth course of the sixth part, and a single home in the fifth course of the ninth part brings them round.

A QUARTER-PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

1264.

By C. W. CLARKE, *Bedford.*

2 3 4 5 6 W B M H

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

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5040.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield.*

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

Repeated.

TWO PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

7392.

By E. FRANCIS, *Norwich.*

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

Five times repeated.

Single at the third and last part-end. In this peal the 2nd and 3rd are never in 6th's place at the course-ends.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 W M

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

Twice repeated.

This peal has the 5th and 6th the extent at home.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6

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

Five times repeated, with single at 4 in eighth course of third and sixth parts.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

5376.

By GEORGE HAYWARD, *Bromsgrove.*

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

Repeated.

This peal has the 5th and 6th in 6th's place throughout.

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

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" 6 " 3s. 3d.

" 3 " 1s. 8d.

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

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 arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

W. MARTIN.—You can get what you require from the publisher, E. W. Allen, Ave Maria Lane. Ask your local bookseller to order the numbers.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1888.

MONDAY in next week will be an important day for ringers. Not only are there several extraordinary things to be attempted in the way of peal-ringing, but there will be held, by various influential bodies, meetings for the despatch of business, which in many cases it is most desirable to transact without delay. These business meetings would seem to be growing in importance year by year, therefore the punctual attendance of all ringers, at any rate those who interest themselves in the work of their Guild or Association, cannot be too strongly urged. It would be well in fact if more would think it their duty to attend; if less of that indifference or callousness were exhibited in the business concerns of the bodies above mentioned by many of their members. This want of interest has too often led to the complete wreck of formations which would have proved to the Exercise valuable aids to its progress and extension. The efforts of the various honorary secretaries to interest their members in the management of affairs are most commendable, and they involve no small amount of trouble, and take up a quantity of valuable time. There are the circulars to prepare for announcing the meetings; the delivery of them over a wide area, care being exercised that such announcements shall be made public through our columns; the selection of a proper place for the meeting; and negotiations with the railway authorities for cheap fares. All these matters are faithfully carried out as well as they can be, and a recognition of such labours ought to be shown by a good attendance.

KEIGHLEY, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, May 12th, eight members of the Yorkshire Association attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (5088) at the Keighley parish church, but unfortunately after ringing 1 hr. and 45 mins. one of the company (Mr. Hardcastle) found himself unable to go on longer, owing to the bad running of the bell. The ringers were: J. Angus, 1; H. Raistrick, 2; J. Broadley, 3; T. Pollitt, 4; Wm. Smith, 5; J. H. Hardcastle

(conductor), 6; Midgley Moore, 7; W. Gill, 8. Afterwards the ringers were kindly entertained to tea by Mr. John Normington churchwarden, at his house, where courses were rung on handbells, and a pleasant evening spent by all. The visitors wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to thank Mr. Normington for his generous hospitality, which was much appreciated.

The Metropolis.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 12, 1888, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5048 CHANGES

Tenor 21 cwt.

HENRY HOPKINS Treble.	GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN 6.
CHARLES E. MALIM 2.	*GEORGE WOODISS 7.
JOHN C. MITCHELL† 3.	*JOHN SMITH 8.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM 4.	JOHN M. HAYES 9.
GEORGE W. CARTMEL† 5.	WALTER BEDWELL Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by JOHN M. HAYES.

*First peal of Caters. †First peal of Stedman Caters. This is the first peal of Stedman Caters by the Surrey Association.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, May 12, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

WILLIAM COOTER Treble.	HENRY NUNN 5.
HARVEY REEVES 2.	YORK GREEN 6.
JOHN CARMICHAEL 3.	SAMUEL HAYES 7.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, SEN. 4.	*WILLIAM R. PINSENT Tenor.

Conducted by HARVEY REEVES.

*First peal.

The Provinces.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, May 8, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION.

ROBT. HART Treble.	*WALTER GORTON 5.
JOHN NEWBON* 2.	JAMES MAY 6.
L. HOLDEN 3.	†JOHN WHITEHEAD 7.
WM. GORTON 4.	J. THORPE Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN WHITEHEAD.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor in this method. The above was rung in honour of Mr. John Newbon, who sails for America on Saturday, May 19th. His brother-ringers wish him every success in his new home.

MANCHESTER, LANCASHIRE.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, May 12, 1888, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

THOMAS TAYLOR Treble.	JOSEPH MELLOR 6.
JOHN HOPWOOD 2.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT 7.
WILLIAM JAKEMAN* 3.	JOHN THORP 8.
*JAMES ADAMS 4.	SAMUEL WOOD 9.
THOMAS MOSS 5.	GEORGE LONGDEN Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

*First peal of Grandsire Caters. The above peal is taken from a composition containing upwards of 14,000 changes, which the above society wished to attempt on Whit-Friday, but through unforeseen circumstances it had to be abandoned.

MAIDENHEAD, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCHES.)

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, May 12, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, BOYNE HILL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 17½ cwt.

JOHN C. TRUSS Treble.	WILLIAM WILDER 5.
JAMES W. WILKINS 2.	REUBEN FLAXMAN 6.
HARRY BUCKINGHAM 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
FRANK BISSLEY 4.	EDWARD KEELEY Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WILKINS.

The above peal was rung to celebrate the birthdays of the conductor who is 25 years, Frank Bissley 35 years, and John C. Truss 55 years. This is the quickest peal ever rung on the bells, and the first time it has been rung in this tower, and also the first peal the conductor has called. J. C. Truss and H. Buckingham hail from Marlow; W. Wilder and R. Flaxman from Slough; E. Keeley from Cookham; J. W. Washbrook from Oxford; J. W. Wilkins and F. Bissley are local men.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 12, 1888, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HUBBARD'S TEN-PART. Tenor 17½ cwt.

FRANK HART* Treble.	*HENRY G. GARDENER .. 5.
JOSEPH YEATES 2.	SYDNEY E. ROMANS 6.
HENRY MITCHELL 3.	ARTHUR A. WAITE 7.
RAYMOND J. WILKINS .. 4.	THOMAS WHITE Tenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR A. WAITE.

*First peal.

RINGMER, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(RINGMER AND BRIGHTON BRANCHES.)

On Saturday, May 12, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. DAVIES' TEN-PART (No. 2). Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

ALFRED SLARKS* Treble.	ALBERT A. FULLER 5.
GEORGE C. HAMMOND 2.	GEORGE WASHER 6.
REV. C. D. P. DAVIES 3.	*GEORGE KING 7.
HENRY JONES 4.	*THOMAS MILLER Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE C. HAMMOND.

*First peal. Messrs. Fuller and King hail from Brighton, the rest belong to the local company.

TAMWORTH, STAFFORDSHIRE.
SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, May 12, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 22 cwt.

JOSEPH WINDRIDGE Treble.	FREDERICK CHAPMAN .. 5.
CHARLES CHAPMAN 2.	*GEORGE WOODS 6.
JOSEPH WAINWRIGHT 3.	HENRY SLANEY 7.
JOSEPH TIMMS 4.	ROBERT P. BRINDLEY .. Tenor.

Conducted by G. WOODS.

*First peal as conductor.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Wednesday, May 2nd, at St. Mary's church, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). H. Toll (first 720 of Treble Bob), 1; I. Hills, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; H. Chapman, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. Hall, 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). F. Smith (first 720), 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; C. R. Howard, 3; H. Chapman, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. A 120 Stedman Doubles. S. J. Cullip, 1; I.

Hills, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; C. R. Howard (first 120 in the method), 4; H. Chapman, 5; H. Toll, 6. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles. F. Hull, 1; F. Smith, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; H. Toll, 4; C. R. Howard (conductor), 5; W. Bettles, 6. *Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday, May 5th, at Mr. A. Wheatley's, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1-2; W. G. Biggs (first 720 in the method doublehanded), 3-4; H. Chapman, 5; C. R. Howard, 6. At St. Paul's church, on Sunday, May 6th, for evening service, 503 Grandsire Triples. F. Smith, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; C. R. Howard, 3; C. Pass, 4; H. Chapman, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; F. Keech, 8. Also a 339, with queens and tittums. J. H. Clifton (first touch of Triples), 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; C. R. Howard, 4; I. Hills, 5; F. Keech, 6; H. Chapman, 7; Frank Hull, 8. Also a 279. F. Chastey, 1; I. Hills, 2; C. R. Howard, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; H. Chapman, 5; C. Pass, 6; W. J. Biggs (conductor), 7; F. Smith, 8. On Thursday, May 3rd, an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Major, but it came to grief after ringing about 1800 changes, through the treble wheel breaking. C. R. Howard, 1; F. Keech, 2; W. Hall, 3; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 4; I. Hills, 5; H. Chapman, 6; W. G. Biggs, 7; C. W. Clarke (composer and conductor), 8.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Friday, May 4th, in the evening, 720 Bob Minor (four bobs and fourteen singles). C. West, 1; H. King, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; H. Clifton, 4; I. Hills, 5; C. R. Howard (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. *H. Clifton, 1; C. West, 2; †C. R. Howard, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; I. Hills, 5; W. G. Biggs (conductor), 6. *This is the first 720 of Treble Bob by H. Clifton, who is only 15 years old, and was rung at the first attempt. †First 720 of Treble Bob inside. The above date was the fifth anniversary of the first 720 ever rung by C. W. Clarke, W. G. Biggs, and C. West, and the first 720 on the bells. Since that time Mr. Clarke has rung 442 720s, being in nineteen different methods, and Mr. Biggs scores over 300.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CROOME D'ABITOT (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, May 6th, at the parish church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor, in 26 mins. H. B. Kingsford, 1; S. Cotton, 2; R. G. Knowles, 3; W. Page, 4; L. Longney (conductor), 5; T. Gwynn, 6. First in the method by all, and on the bells. Also 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Pudge, 1; H. B. Kingsford, 2; L. Longney (conductor), 3; C. W. Dyson (Tewkesbury Abbey Society), 4; W. Page, 5; T. Gwynn, 6. And 120 of Stedman Doubles. L. Longney, 1; H. B. Kingsford, 2; C. W. Dyson, 3; T. Gwynn, 4; S. Cotton, 5; R. G. Knowles, 6.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, May 13th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (taken from Holt's Original), was rung for Divine Service, in 43 mins. Jeremiah Bennett, 1; Harry Adams, 2; T. Bennett, 3; John Bennett, 4; T. Salters, 5; Richard E. Grove (conductor), 6; John Crane, 7; T. Walters, 8.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Thursday evening, May 5th, a silent 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). J. Prestidge, 1; W. Micklewright, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Pardoe, 5; J. Smith, 6. On Friday evening May 4th, a silent 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Prestidge, 1; W. Pardoe, 2; J. Townsend, 3; W. Micklewright, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. W. Micklewright hails from Dudley; W. Pardoe from Tipton.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BIRCHINGTON (Kent).—On Friday, May 4th, for practice, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins. Leon Willshire (conductor), 1; T. B. Reed, 2; G. Willshire, 3; T. B. Reed, jun., 4; S. Jarman, 5; F. Carroway, 6; J. J. Bristow, 7; H. Wilson (first quarter-peal), 8. At the parish church, on Monday, May 7th, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. A. Pointer, 1; G. Willshire, 2; T. B. Reed, 3; T. B. Reed, jun., 4; Leon Willshire (conductor), 5; J. J. Bristow, 6. Rung to welcome the new vicar, who was instituted on Monday to the living of All Saints, Birchington, and arrived by the 7.19 train, and was met at the station by Mr. Moore, churchwarden, and other parishioners.

BOUGHTON (near Faversham).—On Tuesday, April 24th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. E. Foreman, 1; J. Burch, 2; R. Castle, 3; F. T. Harris, 4; G. A. Ransom, 5; W. W. Boulden (conductor), 6. On Monday, May 7th, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), in 27 mins. J. Burch, 1; W. Hope, 2; F. T. Harris, 3; G. A. Ransom, 4; R. Castle, 5; W. W. Boulden (conductor), 6. And 120 Grandsire Doubles. F. T. Harris, 1; J. Burch, 2; W. W. Boulden (conductor), 3; R. Castle, 4; G. A. Ransom, 5; W. Clackett, 6. And 120 Grandsire Doubles. H. Foreman, 1; W. Hope, 2; G. A. Ransom (conductor), 3; F. T. Harris, 4; R. Castle, 5; W. Clackett, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

MEREWORTH (Kent).—On Tuesday, May 2nd, at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Boorman, 1; W. Bell, 2; W.

Eldridge, 3; G. Hook, 4; G. Bell, 5; G. Newman (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all. Also 360 Bob Minor. G. Bell, 1; E. Newman, 2; G. Boorman, 3; G. Hook, 4; W. Eldridge, 5; W. Bell, 6. Conducted by G. Bell.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday, May 13th, for Divine Service at the parish church, in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Broom, 1; W. Harper, 2; F. Hayes, 3; B. Spinner, 4; G. Hayes, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday, May 6th, at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Worsley, 1; D. Hall, 2; E. Baldock, 3; G. Newman, 4; J. W. Leonard, 5; G. Bell (conductor), 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GLOUCESTER.—*Handbell Ringing*.—At the vestry of St. Michael's, by eight members of St. Michael's junior company, for practice, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. *G. Watts, 1; *A. Roberts, 2; *A. C. Sayer, 3; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 4; *C. Jones, 5; G. Brunson, 6; S. Romans, 7; F. Hart, 8. Also a 504 in the same method. G. Watts, 1; S. Romans (conductor), 2; A. Roberts, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; C. Jones, 5; F. Hart, 6; A. C. Sayer, 7; R. A. Barratt, 8. Also two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. G. Brunson, 1; F. Hart, 2; R. A. Barratt, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; S. Romans (conductor), 5-6. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. S. Romans, 1-2; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 3-4; A. C. Sayer, 5-6. Also two 6-scores in the same method. S. Romans, 1-2; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 3-4; A. Roberts, 5-6. During the evening several courses of Grandsire Triples, Major, and Caters were rang. *First 500 in any method. The above was the first 500 on the bells, which were presented to the above company by their esteemed rector.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday evening, April 26th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Oxford Single Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and four singles), in 26½ mins. H. Barnes, 1; J. Yeates, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; G. Miles, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; A. A. Waite, 6. Also on Sunday morning, April 29th, prior to Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. J. Yeates, 1; S. E. Romans, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; G. Miles, 5; H. Mitchell (conductor), 6. And a six-score Stedman Doubles. A. A. Waite, 1; J. Yeates, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; G. Miles, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; H. Barnes, 6.

TWESKESBURY.—On Tuesday, May 8th, for practice, at the Abbey, the first part of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' ten-part peal of Union Triples. H. Brown, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hale, 4; L. Longney, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; C. W. Dyson, 8. Also 252 Stedman Triples. C. W. Dyson, 1; H. Brown, 8; the others as before. And a 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Wathen, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; C. W. Dyson, 3; S. Cleal, 4; T. Devereux, 5; L. Longney (conductor), 6; J. Hale, 7; H. Brown, 8. L. Longney hails from Croome; the rest are local men.

QUEDGLE (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday afternoon, May 6th, prior to Divine Service, five members of the Barnwood society visited the above place, and assisted by Mr. T. Brown, rung at the parish church 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 24 mins. T. Brown (Quedgley), 1; S. E. Romans, 2; H. G. Gardener, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt. This is the first 720 in the above method ever known to have been rung on these bells. Afterwards an adjournment was made to the residence of Mr. T. Brown, where several courses of Grandsire Caters, Major, and Triples, was rung upon the handbells.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Tuesday evening, May 8th, four members of the above society rung upon handbells retained in hand, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 38 mins., (Brook's Variation). H. Bastable (conductor), 1-2; T. Russam, 3-4; W. Kent, 5-6; H. Johnson, jun., 7-8. Tenor 15 size in C. The above was rung at St. Martin's society's meeting-house, and is the longest touch of Stedman Triples on handbells in Birmingham, and was witnessed by several members of the society.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

PELSALL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, May 12th, at the parish church, 120 Grandsire Doubles. W. Lycett, 1; F. Harrison, 2; A. Birch, 3; G. Harrison, 4; J. Griffiths (conductor), 5. Tenor 8½ cwt. in Bb. First 120 by all the band.

PERRY BARR (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, May 13th, for afternoon service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. *G. Mitchison, 1; H. Brown, 2; W. Carte, 3; *C. Williams, 4; W. Cooper, 5; W. Long (conductor), 6. *First 720.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

SHINFIELD (Berks).—On Saturday, May 12th, six members of the

Reading branch visited this tower, and rang 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. B. White (first 720 of Minor), 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. H. Evans, 3; W. Goselline, 4; R. T. Hibbert, 5; A. E. Reeves, 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. B. White, 1; A. E. Reeves, 2; C. Chapman (first 720), 3; W. Goselline, 4; W. J. Williams, 5; R. T. Hibbert, 6. The Bob Minor was conducted by A. E. Reeves, and the Grandsire by R. T. Hibbert. Tenor 15 cwt.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, May 8th, for practice, a 120 of Grandsire Doubles. F. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; J. Tarrant, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; T. Newman (conductor), 5; H. Smith, 6. Also a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. F. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; G. Essex, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also a 120 of Stedman Doubles. T. Newman, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; F. Simmonds, 3; H. Smith, 4; G. Essex, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. Also a plain course of Plain Bob, standing as before. And on Thursday, May 10th, being Ascension day, for evening service, at 8 p.m., a 720 of College Single. F. Simmonds, 1; H. Simmonds, 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; J. Hands, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday morning, May 13th, for Divine Service, a 120 of Grandsire Doubles. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; J. Tarrant, 3; E. Menday, 4; T. Newman (conductor), 5; G. Essex, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; G. Essex, 3; E. Menday, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also for evening service, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. J. Butler, 1; H. Simmonds, 2; J. Hands, 3; E. Menday, 4; T. Newman, 5; G. Essex (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, May 6th, for Divine Service, at St. Michael's church, in the morning, 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; W. Hammond, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; F. L. Bumstead, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Cambridge Surprise and 120 College Exercise. W. Hammond, 1; F. L. Bumstead, 2; S. Hammond, 3; C. H. Howard, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 6.

COGGESHALL (Essex).—On Monday, May 14th, at St. Peter's church, for practice on the back six, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. Sadler, 1; W. Dyer, 2; D. Elliott (conductor), 3; D. Claydon, 4; W. Nichol, 5; H. Elliott, 6. And a 560 of Plain Bob Major. D. Claydon, 1; W. Dyer, 2; J. Sadler, 3; J. Nichol, 4; D. Elliott, 5; H. Elliott, 6; W. Nichol, 7; James Sadler (conductor), 8. D. Claydon hails from Earls Colne; H. Elliott from Kelvedon; the rest are local men.

ROMFORD.—On Saturday evening, May 5th, at St. Edward's church, 503 Grandsire Triples. W. Pegrum, 1; R. Mighill, 2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3; G. E. Scowen, 4; B. Keeble, 5; A. Porter, 6; W. Nash, 7; S. James, 8. And on Sunday afternoon, May 6th, 630 Grandsire Triples. W. Nash, 1; B. Keeble, 2; J. Nunn, 3; A. Whight, 4; J. King, 5; A. Porter, 6; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 7; S. James, 8. Also in the evening, 1216 Bob Major. W. Nash, 1; B. Keeble, 2; J. Nunn, 3; A. J. Perkins, 4; T. Wood, 5; A. Porter, 6; S. Barrell, 7; H. Scarlett (conductor), 8. And after service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing Queen's, Whittingtons, and Tittums, with twelve 6-7's, bobs only. W. Nash, 1; B. Keeble, 2; J. Nunn, 3; A. J. Perkins (composer and conductor), 4; H. Scarlett, 5; A. Porter, 6; S. Barrell, 7; S. James, 8.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

KENNINGHALL (Norfolk).—On Sunday, April 29th, after Divine Service in the afternoon, 1008 Bob Major. J. Woods, jun., 1; W. Nudds, jun., 2; G. Edwards, 3; J. Woods, sen., 4; R. Hutton, 5; W. Ringer, 6; F. Eagling, 7; J. Mordey (conductor), 8. First 1008 by the treble, 6th, and 7th men, and the first by Nudds with a bob bell. On Tuesday, May 8th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Woods, 1; G. Edwards, 2; H. Eagling, 3; W. Ringer, 4; J. Woods, 5; J. Mordey (conductor), 6.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

TIVERTON.—On Saturday, May 12th, several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. Thos. Harvey, one of the members of this Society. The most interesting touch was one of 500, rung by two brothers and their sons, viz.: Richard Grater and four sons, Richard, James, Sam. and Ben., John Grater and two sons, John and William. Sam. Grater (first 500), 1; James Grater, 2; William Grater, 3; Ben. Grater, 4; Richard Grater, 5; John Grater, jun. (conductor), 6; Richard Grater, jun. 7; John Grater, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DURHAM.—On Sunday morning, May 6th, for Divine Service, at St. Oswald's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. W. G. Newton, 1; W. G. Craggs, 2; Chas. Bradford, 3; J. E. Avery, 4; W. Noble (conductor), 5; W. Prince, 6. Also on Monday, May 14th, for practice, a

720 of Grandsire Minor. W. Prince, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; J. E. Avery, 3; W. Noble, 4; L. Newton, 5; C. J. Butterworth (conductor), 6. Also a touch of Plain Bob, with T. Wheatley, 1; W. G. Newton, 4. This is the first 720 of Grandsire rung by the local company.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—On Friday, May 4th, at St. Hildas parish church, a 1008 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells deeply-muffled, in 37 mins. And on Sunday, May 6th, 1260 changes of Grandsire Triples, with the bells still muffled, in 48 mins. J. Nicholson, 1; R. Borrow, 2; J. McAdams, 3; J. H. Blakiston, 4; S. Waller, 5; C. Wilkinson, 6; H. McAdams (conductor), 7; E. Edwardson, 8. Tenor 12 cwt.

WYLAM (Northumberland).—On Monday, May 7th, at St. Oswen's church, a 720 of Bob Minor. R. J. Robson, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; Wm. Egglestone, 3; W. Story, 4; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 5; F. Lees, 6. Also 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Ferguson, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; W. Egglestone, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; F. Lees, 5; W. Story (conductor), 6. Tenor 22 cwt. All the above hail from Newcastle.

WINLATON (Durham).—On Monday, May 14th, at St. Paul's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). *J. Laidler, 1; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 2; *W. C. Bennett, 3; *G. A. Atkinson, 4; *Z. Scott, 5; W. Story, 6. And another 720 of Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). R. J. Robson, 1; H. Ferguson, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees, 6. Tenor 10 cwt. Those marked * are local men, the rest hail from Newcastle.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BRIDGNORTH.—On Sunday, May 6th, at St. Leonard's church, for Divine Service, nine courses of Grandsire Triples. E. J. Baker, 1; J. H. Overton, 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; J. E. Hall, 4; W. Criddeford, 5; V. Coates, 6; J. Gverton, 7; J. Jones, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. At this tower, the ringers meet at 10 a.m. on the first Sunday in each month. Also on Monday evening, May 7th, for practice, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by J. Overton, when the following members were qualified to receive the guild certificate under the supervision of the instructor, W. H. Fussell. V. Coates; E. James Baker; T. H. Overton; W. Criddeford; *W. G. Rickhuss; J. Jones. *First 6-scores.

BEWDLEY (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, April 26th, meeting one short for Triples, a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung with the tenor covering. J. Bennett, 1; T. Salter, 2; J. Bennett, 3; H. Adams, 4; R. E. Grove, 5; H. Williams (conductor), 6; T. Walters, 7. A 6-score of Stedman Doubles, conducted by R. E. Grove, and a 360 of Grandsire on the back six, conducted by T. Salter.

BRADFORD.—On Friday, May 11th, at the parish church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. Joe Hardcastle, jun. (Parish Church), 1; J. Cotterill (St. John's, first 720), 2; B. T. Copley (Bolton, conductor), 3; J. W. Cundall (St. John's), 4; G. Titterton (Bolton), 5; Fred London (Shipley), 6.

CHADDESLEY (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, April 28th, after an unsuccessful attempt at Holt's Original, 1050 Grandsire Triples, the second part of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' five-part peal. J. Bennett, 1; H. Williams (conductor), 2; R. E. Grove, 3; H. Adams, 4; J. Bennett, 5; T. Salter, 6; W. H. Fussell, 7; J. Walters, 8.

HATFIELD (Herts).—On Sunday, May 13th, for evening service, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, on the back six, trebles leading. W. Powers, 1; W. Valentine, 2; J. Kentish, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. Rowe, 4; J. W. Richardson, 6; A. Shepherd (conductor), 7; F. Stocks, 8. Also eight plain courses of Grandsire Triples. J. Kentish, 1; W. Powers, 2; J. Channer, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. Rowe, 5; J. W. Richardson, 6; A. Shepherd, 7; F. Stocks, 8. On Monday, May 14th, on handbells, a six-score of Grandsire Doubles. A. Shepherd, 1-2; H. Rowe (conductor), 3-4; J. W. Richardson, 5-6. On Monday evening, for practice, a plain course of Grandsire Doubles. J. Rumney, 1; W. Power, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; H. Rowe, 4; J. Richardson, 5; J. Hollingsworth, 6.

HEMPSTED (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday, May 3rd, at the parish church, with the bells half-muffled, 1260 changes, being 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ six-scores of Grandsire Doubles in 45 mins., as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Gardner. A. E. Pegler, 1; *W. Dudge, 2; *W. F. Thomas, 3; W. T. Pegler (conductor), 4; G. Taylor, 5; E. E. Bewick, 6. Also on Sunday evening, May 6th, for Divine Service, ten six-scores in the same method, standing as before. The above is the first by a local band. Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

HULL (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, May 8th, at Holy Trinity church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. C. Bennett, 1; C. Jackson (conductor), 2; H. Jenkins, 3; J. Pollard, 4; J. Dixey, 5; F. Drabble, 6; T. Stockdale, 7. It was intended to go for a peal, but owing to the indisposition of one of the company it had to be abandoned.

HUNTLEY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday evening, May 6th, at the parish church, after Divine Service, five members of the local band, assisted by H. Gough, of Tibberton, rung a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), called differently, in 40 mins. H. Hatch, 1; C. Turner, 2; H. A. Ancill, 3; H. Gough, 4; J. H. Brawn (conductor), 5; J. Lloyd, 6.

ILKLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, May 13th, at the parish church, 2800 of Bob Triples, in 1 hr. 44 mins. A. Dacar, 1; C. Barker, 2; W. Cook, 3; C. Stephenson, 4; F. Pell, 5; A. Chritchley, 6; J. Beanlands (composer and conductor), 7; W. E. Waland, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

LONDON.—On Sunday, May 6th, at St. Stephen's church Westminster, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins. S. J. Reed, 1; H. R. Newton (conductor), 2; E. Duff, 3; *A. F. Englefield, 4; W. Carter, 5; G. T. McLaughlin, 6; H. S. Ellis, 7; J. Pryor, 8. *First quarter-peal inside. And on Thursday, May 10th, at St. Sepulchre's church, Snow Hill, with the bells half muffled, as a token of respect to the late F. A. P. Knipe, Esq., the usual whole pull and stand, followed by a touch of Grandsire Caters. D. Lovett, 1; H. Davies, 2; G. Gains, 3; W. Moore, 4; F. Bates, 5; J. Nelms, 6; J. Wheeler, 7; W. D. Matthews, 8; J. Rumsey, 9; A. E. Church, 10. Conducted by J. Nelms. Also on Monday, May 14th, with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late F. A. P. Knipe, Esq., also to the late W. Farley, a parishioner, and at one time a ringing member. J. Barry, 1; C. Clarkson, 2; D. Lovett, 3; G. Watkin, 4; F. Rumsey, 5; C. Holmes, 6; G. Gains, 7; W. D. Matthews, 8; A. Vincent, 9; T. H. Chapman, 10; J. Wheeler, 11; A. E. Matthews, 12. Conducted by Joseph Barry.

MILTON (next Gravesend).—On Tuesday evening, May 8th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. B. Spunner, 1; *F. Osmotherly (Cliffe), 2; F. Hayes, 3; C. Waterman (Shorne), 4; H. D. Davies, 5; M. Warwick (R.E., Chatham, conductor), 6. *First 720.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Monday, May 7th, being the confirmation Service at the parish church, the local company rang several touches of Grandsire Triples, including a 168, 224, 336 before service, and 336 and 224 after service. W. Adler, 1; G. Winter, 2; T. Lingard, 3; J. Clarke, 4; T. W. Chapman, 5; T. Bates, 6; H. Horwood (conductor), 7; E. Swain, 8. Also for practice, on Wednesday evening, May 9th, four 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles, each called differently. W. Adler, 1; G. Winter, 2; J. Clarke, 3; H. Horwood, 4; T. W. Chapman (conductor), 5; T. Bates, 6. Also on Friday, May 11th, at the house of G. Winters, Bond-street, four 6-scores, of Plain Bob Doubles, on handbells, retained in hand. J. Clarke, 1-2; T. W. Chapman (conductor), 3-4; G. Winter, 5-6. First four 6-scores on handbells in this method by the local company. Also a 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. Clarke, 1-2; T. W. Chapman, 3-4; H. Horwood (conductor), 5-6; G. Winter, 7-8. Longest touch in the method on handbells.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Wednesday evening, April 18th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs), in 25 mins. A. Symonds, 1; A. Hollocks, 2; H. Smith, 3; Jno. Moore, 4; W. Snell, 5; W. Hollocks (first 720 as conductor), 6. On Wednesday evening, May 2nd, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (twelve bobs), in 23 mins. H. Symonds, 1; Jno. Moore, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Wm. Hollocks, 4; Wm. Snell, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6.

PRESTWICH (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, May 6th, after Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Hardman, 1; R. Fitton, 2; J. Gratrix, 3; J. Brooks, 4; W. Warburton, 5; W. Hilton, 6. Gratrix hails from Manchester, Hilton and Warburton from Whitefield, Hardman from Pendleton, Brooks and Fitton from Prestwich. Tenor 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Sunday, May 13th, at St. Peter's church, on the occasion of the Annual Sunday School Sermons, 720 Plain Bob (fourteen bobs and two singles). A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; E. Mayes, 4; F. Gilbert (conductor), 5; W. A. Hall, 6. And for evening service at 6 p.m., 720 Court Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also 120 Oxford Bob. A. Coles, 1; R. Pendered, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; G. Kirk, 5; W. J. Gilbert, 6.

ROCHDALE (Lancashire).—On Sunday afternoon, May 13th, for Sunday School Anniversary, at Christ Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (taken from the *Clavis*) 9 bobs and 6 singles, in about 32 mins. W. Lord, 1; J. W. Howarth, 2; J. T. Bartle, 3; J. Lord, 4; A. A. Stott, 5; J. Stott (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qrs. in Eb. And in the evening, a start was made for a 720 in the same method (eighteen bobs and two singles), fifth the observation, but owing to the conductor missing the first single, the bells came round at 360. The preacher in the afternoon was the Rev. K. Anketell, M.A., Vicar of Wootton Bassett, Wilts, and in the evening, the Rev. B. Winfield, M.A., Vicar of St. James', Burnley.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—On Monday, May 7th, at the parish church, for practice, 696 London Single. J. Bailey, 1; W. A. Hall, 2; G. Burton, 3; G. Heath, 4; F. Clayton, 5; A. H. Martin (conductor), 6. Also 720 College Little. J. Bailey, 1; A. H. Martin, 2; G. Heath, 3; G. Burton, 4; F. Clayton, 5; W. A. Hall (conductor), 6.

SALISBURY.—On Ascension Day, at the church of St. Thomas, before morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples in 25 mins. J. Short, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; T. Blackburn (conductor), 3; S. Lawrence, 4; W. E. Tydeman, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; H. D. Adams, 8. Tenor 32 cwt. And in the evening at St. Martin's church, 504 Stedman Triples. W. S. Wise, 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; H. D. Adams, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; S. Lawrence, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—On Friday evening, May 4th, after evening service at the parish church, the local ringers, Messrs. Leader, Fussell, Wilder, Wilder, jun., Simkins, Flaxman, Andrews, and Perryman, rang several 6-scores of Grandsire, with 4-6-8 behind, to celebrate the 81st birthday of J. R. Fussell, Esq., an old inhabitant of this town. They were afterwards entertained at supper by Mr. A. C. Fussell, when the above gentleman's health was heartily toasted.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Wednesday, May 2nd, for practice at St. Peter's church, 518 Grandsire Triples. H. Brewer, 1; J. Brewer, 2; H. Rowe (first 518), 3; T. Waller, 4; E. P. Debenham, 5; H. Lewis, 6; G. W. Cartmel, 7; T. Conley, 8. H. Rowe hails from Hatfield, the rest belong to the local company. And on Sunday morning, May 6th, for Divine Service, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Little (first 518), 1; J. Brewer, 2; E. Hull, 3; H. Brewer, 4; E. P. Debenham, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; T. Waller, 7; D. Gibbons, 8. Also for afternoon service, two plain courses of Grandsire Caters. W. Little, 1; E. P. Debenham, 2; E. Hull, 3; J. Brewer (first attempt at Caters), 4; J. C. Mitchell, 5; H. Brewer, 6; C. W. Cartmel, 7; W. H. L. Buckingham, 8; T. Waller, 9; A. Hull, 10.

TREWESBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, April 22nd, at the Abbey, on the occasion of the Tewkesbury troop of Hussars and the Rifle Volunteers attending Divine Service, touches of Grandsire and Union Triples were rung in the morning, and in the evening 1050 Union Triples, taken from the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' five-part peal. W. Hampton, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; J. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. Also on Thursday evening, May 3rd, for practice, 980 Union Triples. W. Hampton, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hale, 4; C. W. Dyson, 5; J. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. And 504 Stedman Triples. C. W. Dyson, 1; J. Wathen, 5.

TITCHMARSH (Northants).—On Saturday, May 5th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, an attempt was made for Hubbard's five-part peal of Bob Triples, but after ringing 3276 changes in 2 hrs. 10 mins., a change-course occurred which brought it to grief. N. Martin, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; ———, 3; F. Gilbert (conductor), 4; J. Jeffs, 5; G. Jeffs, 6; R. Dunkley, 7; ———, 8. Afterwards several touches were rung in the same method, with C. Swan, of Lowick, and the local company.

TWERTON, NEAR BATH (Somersetshire).—On Sunday, May 13th, before Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 43½ mins. J. Henton, 1; G. Temple, 2; J. Smith, 3; G. Hill, 4; J. Holman, 5; J. Wolton (conductor), 6; J. Blackmore, 7; C. Bendell, 8.

WOLLASTON (Northants).—On Saturday, May 5th, at St. Mary's church, by the Rushden and Higham Ferrers local companies, 720 Oxford Bob (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). J. Bailey, 1; G. Heath, 2; G. Burton, 3; W. Hall (conductor), 4; A. E. Chapman, 5; A. H. Martin, 6. And 360 Plain Bob. J. B. Martin, 1; W. Lewis, 2; G. Burton, 3; W. Pettit, 4; A. E. Chapman, 5; A. H. Martin (conductor), 6. Also 360 London Single. W. Pettit, 1; W. Lewis, 2; G. Burton, 3; A. H. Martin, 4; A. E. Chapman, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. And 360 College Little. J. Bailey, 1; A. H. Martin, 2; G. Burton, 3; G. Heath, 4; W. Hall, 5; A. E. Chapman (conductor), 6. Also 216 Plain Bob, 144 London Single, and 120 Bob Doubles, conducted by A. H. Martin. Tenor 19 cwt. This 720 is supposed to be the first for a great many years on the bells. The visitors kindly thank the Rev. Harcourt Powell for the use of the bells on this occasion.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Friday evening, May 11th, at St. Mary's Parish Church, 768 of the following was rung for practice, viz.: Violet Treble Bob, College Single, Woodbine, Grandsire, Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob and Oxford Treble Bob. E. Yates, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; W. J. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw, 6. All the above with the exception of the conductor hail from Bootle. Tenor 9 cwt.

Church News.

The Bishop of St. Davids has left Abergwili Palace for London, where his address until the beginning of August will be 33 Onslow Square, S.W.

The announcement that the Hon. and Rev. E. V. R. Powys had been appointed rector of Warrington, is premature, as the offer made to him by Lord Lilford has been declined.

The Bishop of Adelaide will not preach at St. Paul's on the afternoon of Trinity Sunday, but will be preaching in Bradford and the neighbourhood on that day.

The Rev. F. J. Jayne, vicar of Leeds, will preach the sermon at the consecration in York Minster of Canon Pulleine as Bishop of Penrith on Tuesday. This will be the first consecration of a Bishop-Suffragan in the Northern Province.

In answer to the appeal made by Canon Carter, the Rev. F. T. Wethered has been rendered quite secure from all pecuniary loss in defending the action brought against him last December, in the Queen's Bench, in connection with the law of marriage.

The congregation of All Saints', Margaret-street, have recently taken over the St. Stephen's Mission Hall, White Lion-street, Clerkenwell, and have opened a subscription for the purpose of placing a large church upon the site. Captain Penton M.P., has promised £500 towards the work.

Selwyn College, Cambridge, will be used part of August and September for a course of residence and instruction for licensed readers. The Principal will be Canon Whitaker, Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, and Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of Wakefield. Mr. E. A. Ford, 2, Eldon-road, Hampstead, is Hon. Secretary and Treasurer to the London Diocesan Readers' Training Committee.

The anonymous donor of £15,000 towards the new parish at Portsea, has written to the vicar, Canon Jacob, offering £5000 more on condition that a similar sum be raised by ordinary subscriptions or special gifts. In all probability the new edifice will be completed and ready for consecration by June in next year, the total cost being £42,000.

The Bishop of London has appointed the following to the chaplaincy of the church at Grindelwald:—For the month of June, the Rev. Roland Bayne, M.A., senior curate of St. Alphege, Greenwich; July, the Rev. Arthur T. W. Shadwell, M.A., rector of Little Ilford, Essex; August, the Rev. Charles Evans, M.A. rector of Solihull, Birmingham, Hon. Canon of Worcester; September, the Rev. G. W. Lowe, M.A., Lecturer of Boston, Lincoln.

A successful twelve days' Mission has been held at Polesworth, Warwickshire, a populous but scattered mining district. The Missioners were for St. Edith's, the Rev. F. S. Thornton, vicar of St. Sepulchre's, Northampton, and for St. Leonard's, Dordon, the Rev. A. J. Nutter, rector of Wootton. The features of the Mission was the daily evening Mission service conducted by Mr. Thornton, where increasingly large congregations gathered to listen to his exhortations. At the concluding celebration, the idea of the unity of the parish was preserved, and the people from Dordon came down to the mother church for the last service. The communicants from Dordon, headed by the Missioner and Church Army Captain, arrived singing hymns.

On Wednesday, May 9th, the Archbishop of Canterbury re-opened the church of St. Michael and All Angels, Marden. His Grace celebrated at eight and eleven, and an overflowing congregation assisted at the re-dedication service. The village choir, surpliced, led the procession from the new vestry erected at the south side of the tower by Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, of Linton Park. Between forty and fifty clergymen followed, and at last came the Bishop of Dover, and the Archbishop preceded by his chaplain bearing the crosier, the vicar's youngest son, Master W. Carr, acting as train-bearer. The processional hymn, "When the Architect Almighty," was sung with great steadiness. Tallis's Matins and Litany were also excellently rendered, the Rev. E. D. Cree saying the priest's part, and the Archbishop the special prayers. His Grace preached from Eph. iv. 8-12, and in the course of his sermon gave some very interesting particulars of the history of the Church and parish. After service a luncheon was served in an adjacent tent, at which Mr. Cornwallis presided, and after the usual toasts, the Archbishop congratulated the parishioners on the picturesque interior of their church. The unsightly galleries and pews have been replaced by open seats; and among the special gifts were an oak pulpit carved by the donor, Miss Deedes, the daughter of a former vicar, and a brass lectern designed and executed by Miss Evelyn Carr, daughter of the present incumbent. Both pulpit and lectern are excellent specimens of ladies' handiwork in an unusual department.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Devizes on Wednesday, May 30th. Divine Service, with sermon by the Rev. Dr. Burges, at St. John's, at 11 a.m. (collection for the Guild). Meeting for election of officers and other business immediately after service. Dinner at 1 p.m. at "The Bear" Hotel, price two shillings each to ringing members holding tickets, 2s. 3d. to others. The towers of St. John and St. Mary, Devizes, Bishops Cannings, and Potterne, will be open for ringing during the afternoon. Names of those intending to be present must be sent to the Secretary not later than Whit-Monday, May 21st, otherwise the allowance of three shillings per head for travelling expenses will not be granted.

J. R. JERRAM, *Hon. Sec.*

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

By kind permission of the Vicar and Wardens, arrangements are being made for holding the next General Meeting at Pontefract on Saturday, June 2nd.

THE BRISTOL BISHOPRIC.

In soliciting funds towards the Bristol See, the Ven. Archdeacon Norris says in the *Guardian* :—

"Our Bristol Bishopric Committee solicit help towards raising the £4000 still required, before Midsummer, to meet the condition on which the anonymous offer of £10,000 depends; £4000 may seem a small sum for a city of a quarter of a million to find. But our difficulty in obtaining it well illustrates what you said last Wednesday in your article upon the Church year-book, that the fact of its having taken ten years to raise by voluntary subscription alone the half million of capital for six new bishoprics proves 'that some more expeditious method must in the near future be resorted to, unless, indeed, the Church deliberately declines to reap the fields that are already whitening unto harvest.' Anyone standing on Brandon hill, and looking over the ever-increasing suburbs of Bristol lying map-like below him, must rejoice that in 1884 the Legislature restored to Bristol the independent Bishopric of which she had been deprived so unrighteously in 1836. But the restoration cannot take effect until an endowment of some £70,000 is forthcoming. And in the last four years we have been learning how slow is the process of raising a large fund for such a purpose by unaided voluntary effort.

"The first £10,000 was promised in a few days by ten donors of £1000 each. The second £10,000 was volunteered with hardly less alacrity in sums varying from £50 to £500 in a few months. Ere much way had been made in raising the third £10,000, bad times fell upon our trade, and there was much discouragement. Thanks to the anonymous offer of £10,000 above alluded to, to be given on completion of £30,000, we have got as far as £26,000. But for the remaining £4000 we find it necessary to go further afield, and we hope we shall not plead in vain. As Bristol is the only one left incomplete of the seven additional Bishoprics sanctioned by the Legislature, we hope and trust that help may be forthcoming from some of those large-hearted Churchmen and Churchwomen who have perceived—what the popular mind is slow to perceive—how essential is the extension of the Episcopate for the vastly increased administration of our Lord's kingdom in this densely peopled land. Some gifts have already reached us from various parts of England; more will come (we are assured) when it is known that every contribution before June 24 will help us to secure this additional £10,000."

NOTICE OF PEAL.—On Whit-Monday, May 21st, a band from Birmingham will attempt a peal of Stedman Cinques at Painswick, Gloucestershire, under the conductorship of Mr. H. Bastable.

NOTICE.—Eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association will attempt to ring T. Day's 16,608 of Oxford Treble Bob Major at Leiston on Whit-Tuesday.

FOR SALE.—A beautiful-toned set of Handbells, 24, in G.; nearly new; warranted perfect. Price £10. Company broken up cause of sale.—Apply to J. STRUTT, Richmond Road, Kingston-on-Thames.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held on Whit-Monday, May 21st, at Chelmsford. Divine Service at 12.30 in St. Mary's church, with an address by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Vicar of Drayton, Berks, and Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Dinner at 1.30 p.m. in the Charity School (tickets, price 1s. each to members of the Association), and business meeting immediately after dinner. The following towers will be open during the day: Chelmsford, 10 bells (except from 10 to 11 a.m. during a parochial service); Great Baddow, Galleywood and Writtle, 8 bells; Springfield and Widford, 6 bells. Arrangements are being made to start for peals at Chelmsford at 6 a.m., and at Writtle after 6 o'clock p.m. A special meeting of the Committee will be held at 10.30 a.m. in the Charity School to consider what resolution shall be submitted to the Annual Meeting respecting a suggestion that the Association should be enlarged to include the present diocese of St. Albans—i.e., Essex and Hertfordshire. If any members of the Association who care to do so will attend this meeting, and express their opinion upon the matter, it will materially assist the committee, and perhaps lessen the necessity for long discussion at the subsequent meeting.

The Great Eastern Railway announce an additional train to London, on Whit-Monday evening, leaving Chelmsford at 10.8 p.m., and calling at Brentwood and Stratford. This train may make the difference to some members of being able to stay for a peal.

T. L. PAPILLON, *Hon. Sec.*

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

At a General Meeting of the above society held in the church room at Stoke, the Rev. W. T. Smith, vicar of St. John's, Longton, was elected Clerical Secretary and Treasurer. It was decided to hold another General Meeting at the same place on June 9th, at 4.30 p.m. The Secretary was asked to endeavour meanwhile to get in the subscriptions now due, the future of the Society to be determined by the result of his appeal.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A GENERAL MEETING will be held on Whit-Monday, May 21st, at Stockton and Middlesbrough, when the bells of Stockton (six, tenor 11 cwt.), and St. Hilda's, Middlesbrough (eight, tenor 12 cwt.), will be at the disposal of the ringers. A dinner will be provided at two o'clock, at the "Half Moon," Stockton, at 1s. per head to members, 2s. 6d. to non-members.

G. J. CLARKSON, *Hon. Sec.*

THE HORNSEY GUILD.

Notice is hereby given that the ringing at the parish church will be as follows: May 24th and every alternate Thursday, commencing at eight o'clock in the evening, and the second Sunday in each month, commencing at 10 o'clock in the morning, and 6 o'clock and 7.30 in the evening. Visitors are invited to attend.

GEO. GRIFFIN, *Master of the Guild.*

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The next District Meeting will be held at Epsom, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Whit-Monday, May 21st. The tower will be open for ringing from 3 till 9 p.m. The Secretary will be happy to furnish copies of the certificate of membership to all those members whose subscriptions for the current year are paid, and who have not yet had their certificates.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

NOTICE.—It is intended by eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Norwich Diocesan Association to attempt to ring W. Harrison's 13,440 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, at Harwich, on Whit-Monday, to start about nine o'clock.

NOTICE OF LONG PEAL.—A band of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association hope to attempt a long peal of Stedman Caters at St. Mary's, Cheltenham, on Whit-Monday next, at 11.30.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

If there's a hole in ane o' yer coats,
I reed ye tent it;
A Chiel's amang ye takkin' notes—
I' faith, he'll prent it!

Anno Domini, 1888, is progressing favourably towards becoming regarded as "the year of long peals." In addition to the already "unbeaten records" which I have previously commented upon, we have last week a 10,176 of Treble Bob Major, and besides are informed that the coming Whitsuntide is to be marked by two more attempts in this direction; a "long peal" of Stedman Caters by members of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, and a 13,340 of Double Norwich Court by the Norwich Diocesan Association, on Whit-Monday. This looks lively, and if all these attempts are successful (as we shall hope they will be) these three "long lengths" will be no inconsiderable feature in Mr. Attree's returns for this month.

Your record of sixteen peals (in addition to several attempts came to grief) last week, denote that the peal-ringing season shows no sign of being on the wane as yet. The advent of hot summer weather (should we, indeed, be blessed with such), will no doubt cause the usual temporary cessation of these performances. Then when we have consequently more time at our disposal, would it not be well for us to turn our attention to the more business-like aspect of our work, and see how we can improve our status, our organisation, and the well-being of the Exercise generally? There is yet much work for us to do in this direction. Our county Associations do not comprise as fully as they ought to do our brethren in the Exercise; let us embrace the opportunity and endeavour to get them enlisted in the ranks of progress. Too many of our members, also, do not fully realise and act up to their true position as ringers and officials of the Church. While we have time through the lull in peal-ringing work, let us strive to convince them of their duties and responsibilities. Thus we shall find work enough during the summer months, and when cold weather comes again, and we commence once more our efforts to improve ourselves in the science, we shall have the proud satisfaction of knowing that we have at least not wasted our time.

There are many other points in connection with the Exercise which are ripe for discussion and bringing to maturity. Let us then set to work, and if we are unable to communicate our ideas to each other *viva voce*, we can at any rate ventilate them through the columns of "THE BELL NEWS," and by that means come to a more perfect understanding with each other. There is everything to be gained and nothing to be lost through a friendly and candid interchange of ideas; I therefore shall be glad to see a good hearty discussion on the many points in connection with our work, on which there is such a divergence of opinion.

One of these points to which I allude is very fittingly brought to the front in your leading article last Saturday—that of Church Councils. There is no doubt whatever that the establishment of these councils as local governing bodies in the church is becoming more numerous, and will in time be almost universal. They are in accordance with the spirit of the age, and as such, will be found to have time working in their favour. It therefore becomes our duty as ringers to see that we maintain our legitimate position on these councils; we shall be lacking in our duty if we do not see that we are properly represented, our voice clearly heard, and our influence felt, on these bodies. It is quite within our power to do this; if we fail, the fault, I do not hesitate to say, will be in a very great measure to be laid at our own doors.

I know of many churches where ringers have been elected as churchwardens and sidesmen, but while I know of several instances in which our brethren have filled those offices with great credit to themselves and exceeding good to the Church, I do not remember one single case where discredit has been brought upon the Church or the Exercise through the failure or

inability of a ringer to faithfully and worthily perform the duties of these offices.

At a church with which I am very intimately connected, they have in operation a plan which will I feel sure commend itself, and which has hitherto worked with the best results. The Church Council of the parish is composed of the Vicar, two churchwardens, and eight sidesmen. Everyone of these has his own specific duties to perform. While the Vicar attends to his strictly ministerial work, and the wardens to their administrative duties, each of the eight sidesmen has a branch of church work placed under his particular and personal supervision. One has the choir, another the ringers, another the Sunday schools, and so on. So that by this means every branch has its own distinct representative on the Council; every person and portion in connection with Church work is kept constantly in touch with each other; and thus it will not be wondered at when I say that the Church affairs of the parish are managed year by year in a manner not only amicable but satisfactory to all concerned. This is as it should be.

Our Burton friends have supplied us with a very interesting history of their first peal of Grandsire Triples on handbells. Their perseverance fully deserved the reward of success, and no doubt the peal of handbells which they have obtained through their unselfish exertions will serve in the future not merely to be a source of pleasure to those who thus gained them by their persistent endeavours, but will also be a means of spurring others on to follow their worthy example.

It is not often that we see one local Society dividing itself into two companies and ringing two peals on the same day, as was the case with our Saddleworth friends on Saturday, the 5th instant. The pages of "THE BELL NEWS" frequently afford abundant evidence of the energy of our brethren in that old town on the edge of Yorkshire and Lancashire, so that this last exploit is quite in accordance with their previous good reputation.

I could not help being amused on reading Mr. Clarkson's letter. That estimable gentleman (who appears by the way to be possessed of a remarkably vivid imagination) has evidently been trying to write something "smart," but, unfortunately for him, his manifest hot temper has totally spoiled the attempt. I was fully prepared to have argued the question fair and straight with our friends in the north, but as their representative treats the case in such a hot-headed and unreasonable fashion, I shall for the present leave it. On some future date, when the calls upon my time are less numerous than at present, it is my intention to refer to the subject of Minor methods generally (which subject has occupied my attention for many years), when I trust the question will be fairly and reasonably discussed by any who may disagree with me, or otherwise, in any opinions which I may enunciate.

FREE LANCE.

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the Victorian society of ringers took place on Monday evening, April 2nd, at the Law Courts Hotel, William-street. About twenty-five members of the society were present, amongst them being several representatives of provincial branches. One of the chief objects of this society, which was established about four years ago, is to teach the art of bell-ringing. Most of its members learned the art in the old country, but there are not a few Australian natives in its ranks. It was intended to ring a peal with the bells of St. James's the day previous, but the arrangement was frustrated by the breaking of one of the main ropes. At the dinner the chair was taken by Mr. J. Freeman, and the vice-chair by Captain Bracken, of Ballarat. It was a harmonious, cheerful gathering. Several of the speakers expressed sanguine hopes that a peal of twelve bells would be obtained for the new Anglican cathedral in Melbourne, and intimated that the society proposed to assist in accomplishing that object.

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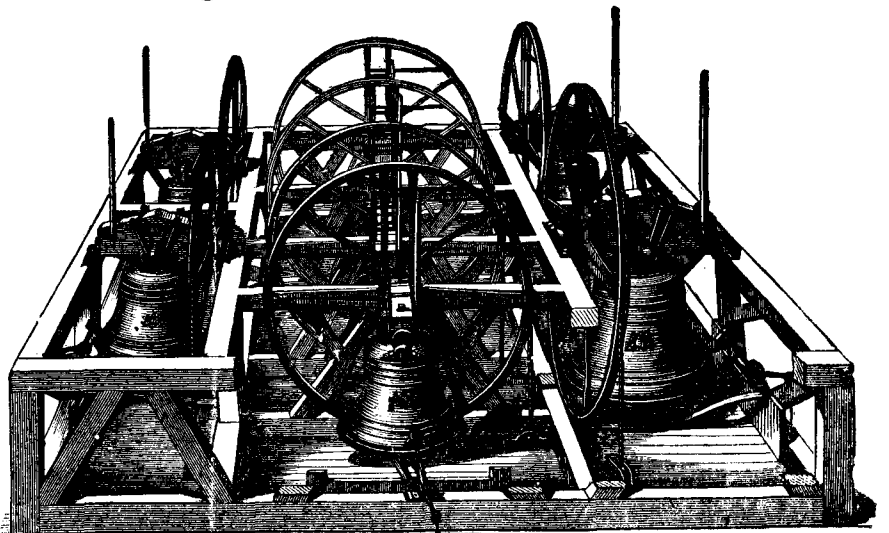
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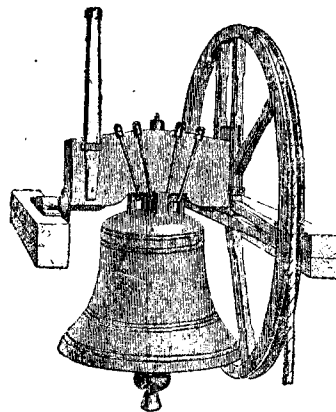
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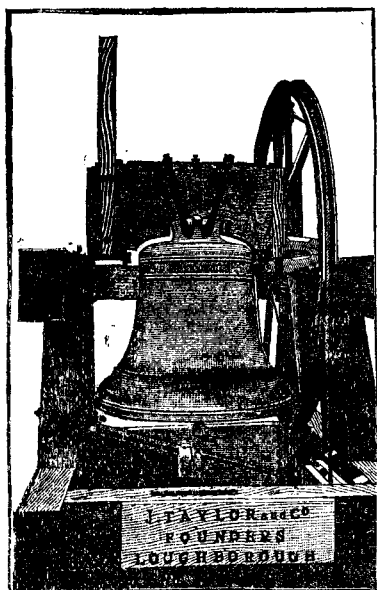
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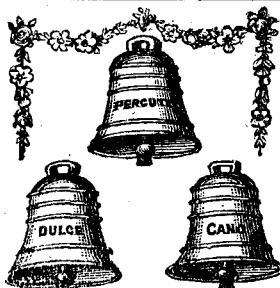
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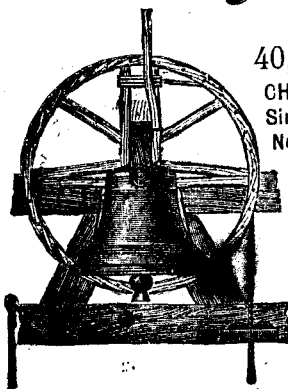
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ST. GEORGE, SOUTHWARK.

This church possesses a peal of eight bells, tenor 16 cwt., all cast by Abraham Rudhall, of Gloucester, in 1718, and inscribed "A.R., 1718." In addition the second has "Peace and good neighbourhood," the third, "Prosperity to all our benefactors," the fourth, "God preserve the Church," the fifth, "Prosperity to this place," the sixth, "Mr. William Bridger, Churchwarden," the seventh, "Abr: Rudhall, of Glovcester, Bellfounder," and the tenor, "The living I to church do call, and to the grave do summon all." There is also a call-bell, inscribed "The Revd. J. Cooksey, Rector, Wm. Hill, Ch: Warden, April 1738. Richard Phelps, T. Lester, fecit. My Voice at Proper Times I'll Raise, and Sound to my Subscriber's Praise." There are tablets in the belfry recording the following peals:—

"Westminster Youths, 5040 Grandsire Triples, in 3 hours, September 8th, 1805." "College Youths, 5040 Stedman Triples, in 2 hours 52 mins., February 5th, 1859." "On Saturday, June 29th, 1861, the Southwark Youths rang a muffled peal in memory of the late Mr. James Braidwood, Superintendent of the London Fire Brigade. Though it is now more than five-and-twenty years ago, most of us will remember the great fire in Tooley Street, on June 22nd, 1861, where Mr. Braidwood lost his life through the unexpected falling of a wall. Although it has no connection with the bells, it may be of interest to notice that in the 16th century two individuals left by will, the one £5 per annum, and the other £10 8s. per annum to the poor of this parish. The magnitude (?) of their beneficence is thus recorded on three tablets in the church:—

(1).—"Here under lyeth buried James Savadge, that late was the yeoman of the mule saddles unto our good Queen's grace. Two wyves he hath marryed while God did lend him lyfe. The first was called Elizabeth, Ann was his latter wyfe. Of whom fyve children he begat, two Sonnes and Daughters three. Who with hym and hys former wyfe, from hence decessed bee. He did depart this mortal lyfe, the eight and twentie daye of March last past wee hope to God with him to rest for aye." He died in 1588.

On tablet 2 is "Behold James Savadge graciously hath done a godly dede.

Five pounds a year for evermore, by Will he hath bequeathed, Which must out of the Angel Rents quarterly be received, By the Churchwardens of this church whom he hath put in trust, As fathers in the poors behalfe, to be upright and Just.

Which men I doubt not but our God, who sees all things shall find,

True in dispensing of the same, according to his mind, Ye poor thank Christ for Savadge still, extol God's name with praise,

That he to follow his good art in time may others raise."

On tablet No. 3 is—

"Lo! Master William Evance, he whose body lyeth here, Bequeathed hath by his Will for ever by the year, Ten pounds eight shillings to the Poore, which is a blessed paye, And must be given them in bread on every Sabbath daye, On halfe to Okedern's poore, his native soile so dear, The other moyety to the poore of this our parish here.

See now all ye that love the Poore how God did guide his wayes, Ten score and eight are served with bread, in two and fifty days, More than many would have done to have yielded any share, Praise God, ye poore, who gave to him so provident a care."

Wm. Evance died July 29th, 1590. Whether the "poore" still receive their "blessed paye" or not, I cannot say. Perhaps the Charity Commissioners have stepped in and diverted the course of this charity.

J. R. JERRAM.

CHILDE OKEFORD, DORSET.

A new peal of six bells has been cast and hung in the tower by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, in place of the old peal of three. They were dedicated on Friday, the 11th inst., by the Bishop of Salisbury, and were rung for the first time on that day by the Rev. R. S. K. Blucke and his company of Fontmell Magna. The new bells are inscribed with the names of Rev. J. G. Brymer, Rector, and Messrs. Bower and Rossiter, Churchwardens, 1888, also "To the glory of God." The cost was £530 with cost of the old bells added. This included new frame and fittings, and main bearing beams.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
OPENING OF A NEW PEAL AT NEWBURN-ON-TYNE, NORTHUMBERLAND.

On Wednesday, May 16th, by the invitation of the Vicar (the Rev. J. Bucknell), and churchwardens of St. Michael and All Angels, the above new peal of six were successfully opened by the above Association. In the afternoon a 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung by the following: S. Nott, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; W. Reed, 3; F. Barron, 4; R. Wignell, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. At 5 o'clock the members were entertained to dinner at the Newburn Steel Works by the kind invitation of Mr. Spencer, the donor of the bells, and at 7.30 a special service was held, which was well attended, an eloquent sermon being preached by the Ven. Hans Hamilton, Archdeacon of Northumberland. Previous to the service a 720 of Bob Minor was rung by the following: J. Laidler, 1; W. C. Bennett, 2; F. Lees, 3; G. Atkinson, 4; Z. Scott, 5; W. Story (conductor), 6. And after the service a 360 of Oxford Bob. S. Nott, 1; W. C. Bennett, 2; G. Atkinson, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; F. Lees, 5; W. Story (conductor), 6. The bells are a fine peal, by Messrs. Taylor, tenor 16 cwt., and we hope soon a branch of the above Association may be formed. The members of the Association received a most hearty welcome from all connected with the church, for which they beg to return sincere thanks.

THE RECORD PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS AT
CHELTENHAM.

It may not be without interest to the Exercise to know that the first attempt to beat the record in Stedman was made at Cheltenham, on Whit-Monday in last year, with a peal of 12,345 changes. This unfortunately came to grief after some five-and-a-quarter hours' ringing, 8500 changes having been done. The next essay was on Boxing Day, and on that occasion some 5000 or 6000 only was rung. Since that date the Oxford Guild succeeded in ringing a peal of 12,041, on March 5th in this year, generously keeping the number below the Cheltenham peal to allow of the latter being rung to supersede theirs. It was, however decided to extend this peal into another thousand, and Mr. Henry Johnson kindly composed one of 13,054, which, as will be seen in the proper place, was rung on Monday last, at Cheltenham, at the first attempt, it being also the first peal of Caters the conductor has called. The striking throughout was good, and was listened to (besides those mentioned) by many brother ringers from the Midlands.

CRADLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Whit-Monday, May 21st, eight members of the Cradley company had their annual excursion, Malvern Link being the place selected this year. Before starting they assembled at their own church, and rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), in 45 mins. After several delays, owing to the pressure on the railway traffic, they arrived at their destination rather late. After refreshing themselves, they proceeded up the hills, and were agreeably surprised to hear the bells of the Priory Church being raised in peal. Proceeding to the church they easily gained admission to the tower, and found the local band assembled, by whom they were heartily received. Several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, including a 504, by the following: G. Dukes, 1; F. Jelf, 2; H. Woodhall, 3; C. Daniel, 4; E. Sprague, 5; R. G. Knowles, 6; C. Beasley, 7; J. A. Meredith, 8. Afterwards they adjourned to the "Beauchamp Arms," and partook of a friendly glass together, where all thoroughly enjoyed themselves. After a ramble about the town they gained the station, arriving home at 11 p.m.

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

On Wednesday, May 16th, in honour of the christening of the infant daughter of the Rev. T. U. Cross, an attempt was made for Holt's ten-part peal, but the sixth part-end coming up false, brought it to grief, in 1 hr. 51 mins. John Grater, jun., 1; R. Grater, jun. (conductor), 2; W. Grater, 3; E. Munday, 4; Jas. Grater, 5; John Grater, 6. James Babbage, 7; S. Hoare, 8. Several shorter touches were also rung.

BEWDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

(Continued from page 112).

"In 1425 Richard Duke of York inherited the manor, and under his beneficent rule Bewdley made great progress. In 1441 he granted the office of Chief Ranger of his forest of *Were* (Wyre) in the county of Salop to Leonard Hastings. In 1446 he obtained a licence for a market every week upon the Wednesday at his manor of *Beaudley*, and for a fair yearly upon the festival of St. Agatha the Virgin (Feb. 5th). Thus in 1446 Bewdley rose from the condition of a village to the dignity of a market town, and in past times the holding of fairs and markets was regarded as a most valuable privilege. The want of a bridge over the Severn seems to have been then immediately felt, and next year (March 20th, 1447), we find the Bishop of Worcester (John Carpenter), in his castle of Hartilbury granting forty days' indulgence to all contributing to the building of the bridge lately founded (*noviter fundati*), between the ville of Wrebenall in his diocese, and stretching across the Severn to the ville of Bewdley in the diocese of Hereford.

"Tradition relates that the original town of Bewdley was situated on the Wyre Hill at some little distance from the Severn; and an ancient inn—formerly the "Shoulder of Mutton," now the "Old Town Hall,"—had, until recent times, a projecting story with pillars, under which was a covered market. Edward I. granted to Henry de Ribbesford a market on every Wednesday, and a fair on St. Margaret's Day, and this may have been the site on which it was held. It is now quite disused for this purpose, but the houses near it are very old, and the high road went past it till 1753. Such a splendid position on a fine river, and near a forest abounding in oaks, was not overlooked by the inhabitants of Bewdley, and they make use of their opportunities by applying themselves to boat building and navigation.

"In 1412 (13 Henry IV.), in a Parliament held at Westminster, the citizens of Bristowe (Bristol) and Gloucester prayed that they might pass Bewdley without hindrance. 'Certain persons of Bewdley having great boats called *troves*, had confederated themselves together for their singular profit, and would let no one pass through the said parts with their goods and chattels, except they would hire the said boats for the carriage of the said goods; and that on the eve of St. Michael last past, lying in wait near Bewdley with great force and arms, they had seized upon a great drag or flote going to Glos'ter (such as complainants had used to make in their parts to carry timber and fuel), and made the masters of it cut in pieces the said flote in the said river, or otherwise they would cut off their heads. They therefore pray free passage, &c.' The men of Bewdley do not appear here in a very favourable light; but they seem to have been anxious to protect their own interests, and the place must have been already of some importance.

"Under the Tudors the prosperity of Bewdley was in full tide. Henry VII. enlarged Ticknell House and made it into a Palace for Arthur, Prince of Wales, who there resided and held his Court. There, too, he was married to Catherine of Arragon. Henry VIII. granted three charters to the town, and sent his daughters the Princesses Mary and Elizabeth to reside in it. The many distinguished persons who were constantly coming to the town, attended by large retinues, would give increased employment to the inhabitants.

"Manufactures of various kinds were started in the time of the Tudors, and flourished. The chief of these were cap-making, which at one time afforded employment to probably 1000 people in Bewdley. In the Ribbesford Registers the term 'capper' appears as the trade in a large proportion of the entries. Fuller (*Worthies*, p. 49), says that this occupation set

no less than fifteen callings to work. Machinery was forbidden, and the trade was protected by law. In 22 Edward IV., a penalty of forty shillings was inflicted upon any one setting up a fulling-mill. A mill would thicken and full more caps in a day than fourscore men, and it was considered inconvenient to turn so many labouring men to idleness. In 3 Henry VIII, it was enacted that no caps or hats ready wrought should be brought from beyond the seas. In 13 Elizabeth, caps were to be worn by all persons (some of Worship and Quality excepted), on Sabbath and Holy Days, under penalty of ten groats. This was repealed in 39 Elizabeth. By an Act of Common Council of London in 1665 all caps were to be brought to Blackwell Hall except *Monmouth* and *Bewdley* caps. The French Protestant Refugees brought into England the use of hats, and the new fashion caused the decline of the Bewdley manufactures. In the time of Charles II., Mr. Yarrington says, 'Cap-making in Bewdley is grown so low, that great part of the ancient cap-makers in that town are wholly decayed, and the rest at this present day are in a very low condition.' One of the most eminent cappers of Bewdley was Walter Palmer, who lived in High Street, in the house now belonging to Mr. Marcy. His daughter Sarah was married at Ribbesford, August 23rd, 1688, to Israel Wilkes, grandfather of the notorious John Wilkes, member for Middlesex, and editor of the *North Briton*. Another daughter married Dr. Jas. Douglas, Physician to Queen Caroline; and his son George married Anne Johnson in 1687, and was grandfather of Mrs. Skey, wife of Jonathan Skey. 'Walter Palmer, Bewdley, capper, 1656,' and 'Thomas Farloe, capper in Bewdley, 1670,' issued tokens which passed current in the town for halfpence. The trade appears to have afterwards revived, and to have lingered on till the beginning of the present century. The Worcestershire Guide for 1797 enumerates amongst the callings exercised here 'Dutch and sailors caps, which are much prized for their excellent napping.' Cap-making is now a thing of the past.

"In the time of Elizabeth there were twelve tan-yards in Bewdley, and tanners have been among its greatest benefactors. The neighbouring forests supply abundance of oak bark, and there is no apparent reason why this industry should have fallen off.

"In 1697 Mr. Christopher Bancks, of Wigan, started a pewter and brass foundry. This proved very successful, and was carried on by successive members of the family until about . . . years ago, when Messrs. William Stokes and John Smith became the proprietors. It still maintains a high reputation for the excellence of its brass work. It is said to be one of the oldest manufactories in England.

"Among the callings exercised in the time of Elizabeth and James I., as we learn from the Registers, were sherman, carver, glover, trowman, parchment-maker, bargemaker, wire-maker, bowyer, fletcher (maker of arrows), cutler, cooper, walker (fuller), farrier, haberdasher, tailor, collier, joiner, dyer, vintner, carpenter, cardmaker, butcher, baker, mason, fishmonger, glass carrier, staymaker, bedder, clothmaker, saddler, lathmaker, capper, tanner, shoemaker, brickmaker, weaver, fisher, aqua vitæ man, and a salt peter man.

"Weavers of sacking and bombazine used to reside on the Wyre Hill. The making of combs, drinking cups, and other articles of horn, has been carried on for more than a century, and now remains as the chief special manufacture of the town.

"The market has dwindled by degrees, and instead of thirty-two butchers holding stalls in the shambles, there are now only two. Formerly the barley market, shambles, and butter cross formed a long range of timber buildings, filling up the middle of Load Street. They were taken down in 1783.

"We have seen that as early as 1412 the men of Bewdley had become bold watermen, and owned large barges or trows. Latterly a great part of the carrying trade both by land and river came into their hands, and they had the best boats and best crews on the river. Merchants from Bristol, then the first seaport in the kingdom, established *depots* for their goods in Bewdley and Wribbenall. Large storehouses were built, and the wares were conveyed by long trains of pack-horses to the inland towns, and returned bringing Manchester, Sheffield, and other goods to be shipped down the Severn to the seaports and West of England. Many old houses here have extensive buildings in the rear almost disused. 'The number of malt houses,' says Nicholls, 'in several parts of the town points out another very extensive object of trade, the chief markets for which were some parts of Shropshire, towards Tenbury and Ludlow; but in later times a turnpike road having been made through those towns to Worcester, the demands from Bewdley were much lessened.' Had the Worcestershire and Staffordshire Canal joined the Severn here, as it was once intended it should, Bewdley would no doubt have become a place of great trade. But unfortunately the inhabitants petitioned against the canal, and thus inflicted a blow on their town from which it has never recovered. In 1797 seventeen regular 'trows' went weekly to and from Bristol and Bewdley, and twenty-eight to and from Bristol and Stourport. Thus the larger portion of the carrying trade and commerce was intercepted by the rising little town at the mouth of the Stour.

"Before 1801 the population can only be calculated roughly. The number of baptisms from January 1864, to January 1871, was 534, and the population 3021. The number corresponding to this for the seven years ending January 1602, was 434, and the proportional population would be 2450. At Kidderminster the baptisms for the seven years ending 1602 amounted to 392, which would betoken a population of 2200. Below is a table of population of Bewdley as given by the census returns:—

1801	...	...	...	3671
1811	...	...	...	3454
1821	...	...	...	3725
1831	...	...	...	3908
1851	...	...	...	3327
1861	...	...	...	2905
1871	...	...	...	3021
1881	...	...	...	3342

The rateable value of the borough is £8155 12s. 6d. Number of municipal electors, 501; parliamentary ditto, 1276. Death rate 15 per thousand."

THE CHAPEL.

"Leland relates that a privilege of sanctuary was formerly given to Bewdley; and this statement is confirmed by the preamble to a bill of forfeiture against Thomas Crofte passed in the Parliament of 7 Henry VII (1491). It sets forth that the said Thomas Crofte had 'commited a detestable murder within the Marches of Wales, and thereupon is fledde, and hath taken the sanctuary of Beadeley.

"The town of Bewdley was extra-parochial, until by a private Act of Parliament made in the reign of Henry VI., it was put within the parish of Ribbesford. Later still by statute 34 and 35 Henry VIII., c. 26—'An Act for certain ordinances in the King's Majesty's dominion and principalltie of Wales'—it was enacted that Bewdley should form part of Worcestershire, and be within the Hundred of Dodingtre.

"As a sanctuary town it would afford a refuge to those escaping from justice, and tradition relates that it was these fugitives who first built the chapel in the town, that they might receive the consolations of religion without going beyond their bounds.

There is also a tradition that the oldest chapel in the town was situated at the foot of the bridge nearly opposite the 'Saracen's Head.' Dr. Prattinton says that a small building in Ross's S.E. view of the bridge was reported to have been the chapel, though in his time it was used as a hearse-house. Mr. Hayley had heard when a boy, that this building was the oldest in the town; and in the Court Rolls of 1748 this locality was called St. Anne's corner. Small chapels were often built near bridges, but Leland's account shows plainly that in his time the chief chapel was situated on its present site at the top of Load Street. 'In the towne,' he says, 'is but a chapel of Ease, and that is of timber, in the heart of the towne.' The chapel of old was dedicated to St. Andrew, and it contained three chantries, each provided with its own chaplain. The chantry of St. Mary was on the south side of the chancel, and of the same length with it. Its gross annual value in 1545 was £8 3s. 4d. On the north side of the chancel were the two other chantries; one of St. Anne, valued at £9 5s. 4d., founded by John Washbourn, and the other of Holy Trinity, valued at £9 3s. 6d. In a conveyance of the manor of Dowles in 1544 one part is called 'Trinity Ground, now or late in the occupation of William Weston, Warden of the Gylde of Holly Trinity in the churche of Bewdeley.' In 1553 the incumbents of two of the chantries, viz., William Weston and Humphrey Mallet, were living, and received pensions of £6 each from Queen Mary.

Between the two chantries on the north side of the chancel, went up a flight of steps from the street into the chancel. A Mrs. Holl told Dr. Prattinton in 1808 that there were houses under the chancel. This explains the curious entry in the accounts for 1596 for expenses incurred in mending the 'hole out of the chancell in Mersour Tavn.'"

The chapel was probably built about the time of Henry VI. It was a plain timber structure, and houses were built close up to it nearly all round. Perhaps this accounts for the fact that though it was standing till 1745, no known illustration of it has come down to us.

In the tower, which requires renovation internally, is a peal of bells, hung on the same level. The treble, seventh, and tenor have no cannons, and are bolted through the crown to the stock. The frame and fittings are generally in fairly good condition, and a little expense would enable the bells to be rung much easier, the frame being heavy, and constructed of solid oak."

W. H. F.

(To be continued.)

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MEMBERS are informed that the report for 1887 (which contains amongst other matters, a full list of peals, with the compositions, rung by the Association since its formation in 1878) is now ready, and may be obtained of the local secretaries of the different Deaneries as under. Free to those whose subscriptions are paid, and to others at a price at 3d.

Deaneries.	Local Secs.
GLOUCESTER	H. Hatherley, Esq., National Provincial Bank, Gloucester.
DURSLEY, HAWKESBURY, & BITTON	Mr. F. K. Howell, Morton, Thornbury.
N'TH AND S'TH FOREST ..	Mr. J. Hern, Newnham.
BISLEY & STONEHOUSE ..	W. C. Long, Esq., Stonehouse.
WINCHCOMBE, CIRENCESTER AND TEWKESBURY ..	F. E. Ward, Esq., 438, High Street, Cheltenham.
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BRISTOL AND STAPLETON ..	C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., 30, Broad Street, Bristol.
Magor, Newport, Mon.	REV. PITT EYKYN, Hon. Sec.

THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND SOCIETY.

THE LATE F. A. KNIPE.

On Tuesday evening, the 19th instant, at the usual fortnightly practice of the above society at the church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, the bells were rung half-muffled, the usual whole pull and stand being performed with due solemnity, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late F. A. Knipe, Esq., M.D., whose death took place in Australia on the 21st ultimo.

The deceased gentleman was for several years a highly-respected member of the above-named society, and took an active and lively interest in its doings during a stay in London while qualifying for his profession. He took part in several performances with the company, the most noticeable being an 8000 of Grandsire Caters in 1877, two peals of Treble Bob Major in 1878, and one of Treble Bob Royal the following year. He also rang several peals with the Waterloo Society, and if we mistake not, his last performance in the metropolis was a peal of Stedman Cinques with the St. James's society. In all he rang about twenty peals.

Mr. Knipe belonged to an old Worcester family, who fifty years ago were well known in the "faithful city." His uncle, the late Dr. Knipe, was for some time Churchwarden of St. Helen's, in that city, and dwelt at the rectory-house beneath the shadow of the tower. It is related that he played a conspicuous part in preventing the removal of the bells therein (a notable ring of eight) when their peremptory sale had been decided upon by a majority of hostile parishioners! Arrangements for their removal had, it is said, been made while Dr. Knipe was from home, and but for his unexpected return they would have gone, several, if not all of them, having been taken down and placed in the churchyard ready for that purpose. By his prompt and generous action, exemplified in a manner essentially English, the bells were saved to the church, where they now remain.

The memory of the deceased gentleman will for a long time be held in respect by the above-named society.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Devizes on Wednesday, May 30th. Divine Service, with sermon by the Rev. Dr. Burges, at St. John's, at 11 a.m. (collection for the Guild). Meeting for election of officers and other business immediately after service. Dinner at 1 p.m. at "The Bear" Hotel, price two shillings each to ringing members holding tickets, 2s. 3d. to others. The towers of St. John and St. Mary, Devizes, Bishops Cannings, and Potterne, will be open for ringing during the afternoon. Names of those intending to be present must be sent to the Secretary not later than Whit-Monday, May 21st, otherwise the allowance of three shillings per head for travelling expenses will not be granted.

The next District Meeting for Dorsetshire will be held at Bridport on Thursday, June 7th. Dinner will be served at the "Greyhound" Hotel at 1 p.m., at 2s. 6d. per head, which amount will be considerably reduced by local subscriptions. Several newly restored belfries will be open to the ringers. For all particulars apply to the Rev. Montagu Hankey, Maiden Newton, Dorset.
J. R. JERRAM, *Hon. Sec.*

PRESTBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

A friendly meeting of ringers took place here on Whit Tuesday, where there is a pretty little ring of eight, tenor 14 cwt. A peal was arranged for, but as one well-known individual was unavoidably late, time could not be spared for a peal, so they had to content themselves with 504 Stedman Triples, which was most satisfactorily accomplished mainly through the exertions of Mr. Hattersley, who in his well-known and able manner called the bobs from beginning to end. The following gentlemen composed the band. G. H. Phillott (Cheltenham), 1; H. Karn (Cheltenham), 2; C. H. Hattersley (Sheffield), 3; J. Buffery (Birmingham), 4; J. E. Hern (Newnham), 5; W. T. Pates (Cheltenham), 6; A. Brearley (Sheffield), 7; C. Fluck (Birmingham), 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE DISTRICT MEETING at Leatherhead was fairly well attended, ringers being present from Croydon, Epsom, Capel, Weybridge, Guildford, Farnham, Dorking, Basingstoke, Bournemouth, and Fareham. At the Committee Meeting at 2 p.m., between fifty and sixty new members were elected, including three new bands—Brading, Hambledon, and Shalford. It was decided to hold the Annual Festival this year at Leatherhead on Thursday, July 19th. During the day the following touches were brought round. A 395 Grandsire Caters. G. H. Barnett, 1; H. White, 2; G. Russell, 3; F. W. J. Rees, Esq., 4; J. Hawkins, 5; T. Miles, 6; F. Wickens, 7; E. Hull, 8; S. Brooker (conductor), 9; J. Lisney, 10. And 305 Grandsire Caters. H. Brown, 1; H. Wood, 2; J. Hawkins, 3; G. Russell, 4; H. Newnham, 5; H. White, 6; W. Marks (conductor), 7; E. Hull, 8; T. Miles, 9; J. Lisney, 10. Also 518 Grandsire Triples. A. Grist, 1; S. Brooker (conductor), 2; G. Russell, 3; F. W. Rees, Esq., 4; D. Jordan, 5; F. Wickens, 6; H. White, 7; J. Lisney, 8. And 349 Grandsire Triples. E. Dodd, 1; W. Marks (conductor), 2; H. Garforth, 3; J. Hawkins, 4; D. Jordan, 5; F. Wickens, 6; G. H. Barnett, 7; J. Lisney, 8. Also 350 Grandsire Triples. H. White, 1; G. Russell, 2; H. Garforth, 3; F. W. J. Rees, Esq., 4; Rev. H. A. Spyers (conductor), 5; D. Jordan, 6; G. H. Barnett, 7; J. Lisney, 8.

RINGMER, SUSSEX.

An interesting presentation took place on Thursday, May 17th, at the residence of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, where all the ringers met together and partook of tea. After tea the Rev. C. D. P. Davies presented Mr. G. C. Hammond, the late captain and secretary to the band of ringers, and who is now leaving the village, with a copy of the handsome book "Shipway's Art of Ringing," on behalf of the ringers, who had subscribed together towards purchasing it. The Rev. C. D. P. Davies also presented him with the late Mr. Snowdon's latest book, "Grandsire." Mr. Hammond has taken great interest in the belfry, and by the pains he has taken the ringers have improved wonderfully during the last few months. The testimonial was presented to him to show how great his labours had been appreciated, and the regret existing at his departure. Mr. G. C. Hammond very suitably responded. After the presentation, two or three courses of Grandsire and Union Triples were rung on the handbells, double-handed. A. E. Paris, 1-2; G. C. Hammond, 3-4; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 5-6; H. Jones, 7-8. Also a few touches of Stedman Triples.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held in St. John-the-Baptist Schoolroom, Bromsgrove, at 5 o'clock, on Saturday, June 2nd, 1888. The Rev. A. E. Seymour, Vicar, will preside. The annual report, balance-sheet, etc. will be ready for distribution, when the Hon. Sec. hopes to see a representative from each company to receive copies of same.

N.B.—Those members who have not yet paid their contributions should do so without delay. JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*
37, Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Association will be held at St. Andrew's, Leyland, on Whit-Saturday, May 26th. The bells will be open for ringing from one o'clock. At 5 o'clock there will be a tea provided at the "Eagle and Child" inn, close to the church, the general meeting to take place shortly after in the Grammar School. JAMES HIGSON, *Sec.*

57, Chorley Road, Blackrod.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

By kind permission of the Vicar and Wardens, arrangements are being made for holding the next General Meeting at Pontefract on Saturday, June 2nd.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5199.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

2 3 4 5 6					
*4 1 2 5 6 3	{	3, 6, 18, 19,			
		21, 22			
4 1 3 2 6 5		16			
4 1 5 3 6 2		16			
5 1 4 2 6 3	5	16			
5 1 3 4 6 2		16			
3 1 5 2 6 4	5	16			
3 1 4 5 6 2		16			
3 1 2 4 6 5		16			
2 1 3 5 6 4	5	16			
2 1 4 3 6 5		16			
2 1 5 4 6 3		16			
5 1 2 3 6 4	5	16			
<hr/>					
5 1 2 4 6 3	s5	16			
5 1 3 2 6 4		16			
5 1 4 3 6 2		16			
4 1 5 2 6 3	5	16			
4 1 3 5 6 2		16			
3 1 4 2 6 5	5	16			
3 1 5 4 6 2		16			
3 1 2 5 6 4		16			
2 1 3 4 6 5	5	16			
2 1 5 3 6 4		16			
2 1 4 5 6 3		16			
†4 1 2 3 6 5	5	16			

Repeated—except 1st course * instead call 1, 9, 13, 14, 16, and instead of last course † call 1, 7, 8, 15, 18 produces 2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7 9, round in one change.

6th behind the 9th throughout.

This peal is in the 9-8-7's in first half, and 9-7-8's in last half.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5040.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield*.

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

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5472.

By BEN SHAW, *Lindley*.

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5021.

By THOS. POLLITT, *Bradford*.

2 3 4 5 6					
2 3 4 5 6*					
6 5 3 2 4	8th	in 2.			
4 2 5 6 3	8th	in 2.			
3 6 2 4 5	8th	in 2.			
5 4 6 3 2	8th	in 2.			
<hr/>					
6 5 4 3 2	9th	in 3.			
4 6 5 3 2	9th	in 3.			
<hr/>					
2 3 6 4 5	8th	in 2.			
5 4 3 2 6	8th	in 2.			
6 2 4 5 3	8th	in 2.			
3 5 2 6 4	8th	in 2.			
<hr/>					
2 3 5 6 4	9th	in 3.			
5 2 3 6 4	9th	in 3.			
<hr/>					
4 6 2 5 3	8th	in 2.			
3 5 6 4 2	8th	in 2.			
2 4 5 3 6	8th	in 2.			
6 3 4 2 5	8th	in 2.			
<hr/>					
4 6 3 2 5	9th	in 3.			
3 4 6 2 5	9th	in 3.			
<hr/>					
5 2 4 3 6	8th	in 2.			
6 3 2 5 4	8th	in 2.			
4 5 3 6 2	8th	in 2.			
2 6 5 4 3	8th	in 2.			
<hr/>					
5 2 6 4 3	9th	in 3.			
6 5 2 4 3	9th	in 3.			
<hr/>					
3 4 5 6 2	8th	in 2.			
2 6 4 3 5	8th	in 2.			
5 3 6 2 4	8th	in 2.			
6 2 3 5 4	8th	in 2.	s at 8-9.		
<hr/>					
3 6 2 5 4	9th	in 3.			
2 3 6 5 4	9th	in 3.			
<hr/>					
4 5 3 2 6	8th	in 2.			
6 2 5 4 3	8th	in 2.			
3 4 2 6 5	8th	in 2.			
5 6 4 3 2	8th	in 2.			
<hr/>					
4 5 6 3 2	9th	in 3.			
6 4 5 3 2	9th	in 3.			
<hr/>					
2 3 4 6 5	8th	in 2.			
5 6 3 2 4	8th	in 2.			
4 2 6 5 3	8th	in 2.			
3 5 2 4 6	8th	in 2.			
<hr/>					
2 3 5 4 6	9th	in 3.			
5 2 3 4 6	9th	in 3.			
<hr/>					
6 4 2 5 3	8th	in 2.			
3 5 4 6 2	8th	in 2.			
6 5 2 3 4	8th	in 2.	7-8		
4 3 5 6 2	8th	in 2.			
<hr/>					
2 4 3 6 5	9th	in 3.	s		
4 2 3 6 5	8	7 9†			
3 5 7 2 9	4	8 6	8th	in 3.	

Round at hand.

*7th in and out at 3. 7-8

†9th in and out at 2. 9-8.

First rung at Bradford, April 21st, 1888, by the Yorkshire Association.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5000.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool*.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H					
5 2 3 6 4	2	2	2		
5 3 6 2 4		I	2		
5 6 2 3 4		I	2		
<hr/>					
2 4 3 6 5	I	I	2		
2 3 6 4 5		I	2		
6 3 4 2 5		2	I		
<hr/>					
3 5 4 2 6	I		2		
2 4 5 3 6		2	2		
2 5 3 4 6		I	2		
2 3 4 5 6		I	2		

5000.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H					
5 2 3 6 4	2	2	2		
3 2 6 5 4		2	I		
3 6 5 2 4		I	2		
<hr/>					
2 3 6 4 5	2	2	2		
6 3 4 2 5		2	I		
6 4 2 3 5		I	2		
<hr/>					
4 5 2 3 6	I		2		
3 2 5 4 6		2	2		
3 5 4 2 6		I	2		
2 3 4 5 6		I			

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5261.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

2 3 4 5 6					
*2 1 4 3 6 5	4, 9, 11, 13, 14				
2 1 5 4 6 3		16			
2 1 3 5 6 4		16			
3 1 2 4 6 5	5	16			
3 1 5 2 6 4		16			
5 1 3 4 6 2	5	16			
5 1 2 3 6 4		16			
5 1 4 2 6 3		16			
4 1 5 3 6 2	5	16			
4 1 2 5 6 3		16			
4 1 3 2 6 5		16			
3 1 4 5 6 2	5	16			
<hr/>					
3 1 4 2 6 5	s5	16			
3 1 5 4 6 2		16			
3 1 2 5 6 4		16			
2 1 3 4 6 5	5	16			
2 1 5 3 6 4		16			
5 1 2 4 6 3	5	16			
5 1 3 2 6 4		16			
5 1 4 3 6 2		16			
4 1 5 2 6 3	5	16			
4 1 3 5 6 2		16			
4 1 2 3 6 5		16			
2 1 4 5 6 3	5	16			

Repeated—except * (1st course) instead call 1, 9, 13, 14, 16 produces 5 1 4 3 6 2, when the following bobs produce rounds: 1, 6, 7, 8, 18.

6th behind the 9th throughout.

By calling from the 46th course-end as follows: 2, 5, 9, 10, 16, 17, the peal is reduced to 5040. 1st half in 9-8-7 position; last half in 9-7-8 position.

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

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1888.

THE events of last Monday, though not so great as the preparations would indicate, were nevertheless very far from being unimportant. As the readers of this journal are aware, several attempts were to have been made for extraordinary lengths, but only one of them proved successful—that of the Gloucester and Bristol Association at Cheltenham, where was performed a peal of Stedman Caters, comprising 13,054 changes, with a tenor of 23 cwt. This performance eclipses the peal recently obtained by the Oxford Guild—surpasses it in fact, in the number of changes rung, the time occupied, and the weight of metal. It must certainly be looked upon as a most extraordinary achievement, and we heartily congratulate the members of the band, more especially the conductor, upon its successful accomplishment.

Cheltenham has never until recent years shone particularly as a change-ringing town. The talent of the county was long seated at Painswick and Stroud, especially the former place, in the days when the ESTCOURT family flourished. Everybody has, or ought to have heard of the beauty of the town of Cheltenham, with its walks, spas, and hotels, its noble High Street, and its once celebrated Vicar, Dr. CLOSE. Now it has gained an additional celebrity, one that will commend itself to a portion of the community which is, we are glad to say, increasing daily. The old parish church of St. Mary, Cheltenham, will henceforward be looked upon with feelings akin to reverence by ringers, many of whom will not fail to undertake a journey to see the edifice in the steeple of which such a grand performance as 13,000 of Stedman Caters has been rung. And a visit to such a place as Cheltenham is always enjoyable.

FOR SALE.—A beautiful-toned set of Handbells, 24, in G.; nearly new; warranted perfect. Price £10. Company broken up cause of sale.—Apply to J. STRUTT, Richmond Road, Kingston-on-Thames.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co., Printers, Exeter.

The Provinces.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION. (DUFFIELD BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 12, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt.

GEORGE DAWSON Treble.	HARRY C. WOODWARD .. 6.
JOHN C. DICKEN 2.	GEORGE HINGLEY 7.
SAMUEL JOHNSON 3.	JOHN WARD 8.
JOHN HOWE 4.	BENJAMIN SUGDEN 9.
JOHN W. TAYLOR 5.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES, and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

This peal is to replace a similar one rung by the same band on December 3rd, 1887, of which the composition was lately discovered to be false. The present performance must, therefore, not be included in any analysis of the achievements for 1888. Ringers who have the M. C. A. report for 1887 are requested to write the word "false" across the calling of the peal on page 56.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD, AND THE WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 22, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES
Tenor 12 cwt. 25 lbs.

HARRY MILLS Treble.	WM. MICKLEWRIGHT, JUN. 5.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. 2.	SAMUEL JESSON 6.
ADAM H. HILL 3.	GEORGE HUGHES 7.
EDWARD GOODREDS 4.	BENJAMIN STARKEY .. Tenor.

Composed by the late CHARLES RAVENSCROFT of Bromsgrove, and Conducted by GEORGE HUGHES.

This is the first peal in the above method rung by members of the Stafford Association; also the first on the bells, and rung at the first attempt. Mr. W. Micklewright, jun. hails from Dudley; the rest belong to the local company.

GALLEYWOOD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, May 19, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

W. BRAZIER† Treble.	†W. J. PIPER 5.
W. LINCOLN 2.	G. W. CARTMEL 6.
J. C. MITCHELL 3.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 7.
A. EDWARDS† 4.	E. SCOTCHER Tenor.

Conducted by G. W. CARTMEL.

†First peal.

Messrs. Brazier and Scotcher hail from Galleywood; Lincoln and Edwards from Writtle; Piper from Widford; and Mitchell, Cartmel and Buckingham from St. Albans.

ROCHDALE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, May 19, 1888, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 17 cwt.

JOHN HARRISON Treble.	ERNEST BISHOP 5.
WILLIAM BRIERLEY 2.	A. EDWARD WREAKS .. 6.
GEORGE HOYLE 3.	JAMES SCHOLEY 7.
REV. C. S. ROWLAND .. 4.	FRANK BIRTWISTLE .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRANK BIRTWISTLE.

Messrs. Harrison and Scholey hail from Heywood; Wreaks from Manchester; Bishop from Bury; the rest belong to Rochdale. Mr. Birtwistle has now called this peal off every bell. Previous to starting Mr. Brierley was unanimously elected a member of the above Association. This peal was rung in honour of the birthday of Mr. Hoyle, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DUFFIELD SOCIETY WITH THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, May 19, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

HENRY BASTABLE Treble.	EVAN MORETON 6.
THOMAS RUSSAM 2.	JOHN HOWE 7.
SAMUEL JOHNSON 3.	ALFRED THOMAS 8.
WILLIAM KENT 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY 9.
WILLIAM HICKLING 5.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

This peal, the third of Royal in the method, has the 6th and the bells above it at home throughout, and is now rung for the first time.

CRAWLEY.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 16, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HUBBARD'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

EDWARD DEWEY Treble.	MARCUS HEFFER 5.
JOSEPH NEWNHAM 2.	ALFRED F. HILLIER 6.
GEORGE WICKENS 3.	FREDERICK WICKENS 7.
WILLIAM COLLISON 4.	EDWARD PIERCE Tenor.

Conducted by F. WICKENS.

Rung on the occasion of Mr. G. Wickens' 23rd birthday, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns.

TREVENGETH, PONTYPOOL, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Whit-Monday, May 21, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 10½ cwt. in F.

HENRY GARDNER Treble.	HENRY MITCHELL 5.
JOSEPH YEATES 2.	SYDNEY E. ROMANS 6.
RICHARD BRUNSDON 3.	ALFRED A. WAITE 7.
RAYMOND J. WILKINS 4.	WILLIAM SEVIER Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY GARDNER.

This peal was rung on the occasion of the opening of the bells. All the above belong to the Upton St. Leonard's Society except R. Brunson, who belongs to St. Mary-de-Crypt, Gloucester, and is organist of that church.

TWERTON, BATH.

THE BATH AND KEYNSHAM DEANERIES ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 20, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

G. TEMPLE Treble.	J. HINTON 5.
J. SMITH 2.	J. WOTTON 6.
W. DAVIS 3.	J. B. BLACKMORE 7.
H. WOTTON 4.	C. BENDALL Tenor.

Conducted by J. HINTON.

Rung for early celebration at 8 a.m. First peal by all except the conductor. First peal on the bells, and first by the Association. It is 37 years since a peal was rung in Bath.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, May 21, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

THOMAS DANKS Treble.	EDWIN CASHMORE 5.
WILLIAM ALFRED COOPER* 2.	SIDNEY SMITH 6.
JOHN SIDDONS 3.	SIMEON SLATER 7.
EDWARD WOODHALL 4.	CHARLES COTTERIL Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM ALFRED COOPER.

*First peal as conductor. This is the first peal rung by a band of All Saints ringers for more than twenty-three years.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Whit-Monday, May 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lbs. in Eb.

WILLIAM LEADER Treble.	ALFD. W. GARRAWAY .. 5.
ALFD. C. FUSSELL 2.	REUBEN FLAXMAN 6.
THOMAS W. UDELL 3.	JAMES W. WILKINS 7.
WILLIAM WILDER 4.	FRANK SINKINS Tenor.
	JAMES PERRYMAN Tenor.

Conducted by ALFD. C. FUSSELL.

MANCHESTER, LANCASHIRE.

On Whit-Monday, May 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

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

J. TURNER Treble.	J. BARRETT 6.
G. E. TURNER 2.	J. ROGERS 7.
A. BISHOP 3.	A. E. WREAKS 8.
T. DOWNES 4.	G. LONGDEN 9.
F. BIRTWISTLE 5.	J. MOULTON Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, of Sheffield, and Conducted by J. MOULTON.

HARWICH, ESSEX.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.

On Monday, May 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 6160 CHANGES. Tenor 14½ cwt.

CHARLES MEE Treble.	WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE 5.
FREDERICK MEE 2.	HARRY BOWELL 6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER 3.	EDWARD REEVES 7.
ARTHUR R. ALDHAM 4.	THOMAS STEWARD Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON and Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

This peal is the first fifty-five courses of Mr. Harrison's 13,440, and was the attempt for the 13,440, but the bells were brought round at the above number, owing to the bad go of the tenor. This is the first peal in the method by T. Steward and F. Mee.

ABINGDON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, May 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM ADKINS* Treble.	THOMAS SHORT 5.
WILLIAM C. BASTON† .. 2.	HARRY FRUIN 6.
FRANK WILLIAMSON 3.	JOHN BROWN 7.
WILLIAM JEFFERY 4.	WILLIAM SPIERS Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM C. BASTON.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor.

LONGNEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 22, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

5040 CHANGES OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES,

BEING THIRTY-TWO 6-SCORES WITH EXTREMES AND TEN WITH PLAIN LEADS. EACH CALLED DIFFERENTLY.

TIMOTHY HARMER Treble.	*WILLIAM WARD 4.
ROBERT ELLIS* 2.	HENRY MERRITT 5.
LIONEL LONGNEY 3.	EDWIN TAYLOR Tenor.

Conducted by LIONEL LONGNEY.

*First 5040. Messrs Harmer and Merritt hail from Elmore; L. Longney from Croome.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Whit-Monday, May 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

ARTHUR J. FLOWMAN† .. Treble.	ARTHUR B. CARPENTER .. 6.
JOHN BRANCH 2.	CHARLES BANCE 7.
CHARLES GORDON 3.	GEORGE WELLING 8.
WILLIAM BURKIN 4.	JOSEPH FAYERS.. .. 9.
JAMES TRAPPITT 5.	*JOHN HARDING Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by Dr. A. B. CARPENTER.

*First peal. †First peal of Caters.

CHELTHENHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Whit-Monday, May 21, 1888, in Eight Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 13,054 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 17 lbs.

FREDK. MUSTY Treble.	CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY 6.
GEORGE H. PHILLOTT 2.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 7.
HENRY KARN 3.	WILLIAM T. PATES 8.
HENRY ROBERTS 4.	REV. GEORGE F. COLERIDGE 9.
FRANCIS E. WARD 5.	ALBERT W. HUMPHRIS .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by WILLIAM T. PATES.

This peal is the longest yet rung in the method, and was accomplished at the first attempt. It is the first peal of Caters conducted by Mr. Pates. Messrs. J. Belcher (Cheltenham), and Chas. Hounslow (Oxford), were referees, and ticked off the courses as they were rung. Mr. Hattersley was nominated for membership before starting. The composition will appear next week.

SALISBURY, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Whit-Monday, May 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 30 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM E. TYDEMAN .. Treble.	THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 5.
ALFRED P. GODDARD 2.	JAMES R. JERRAM 6.
HENRY D. ADAMS 3.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 7.
CHARLES A. CLEMENTS .. 4.	CHARLES GAISFORD Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS BLACKBOURN.

This is the first peal on the bells, which were hung in 1771, by R. Wells, of Aldbourne.

CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Whit-Monday, May 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt.

A. J. PERKINS† Treble.	*W. BATTLE 6.
R. T. WOODLEY 2.	*W. LINCOLN 7.
N. J. PITSTOW 3.	*REV. T. L. PAPILLON .. 8.
F. PITSTOW 4.	G. NEWSON 9.
W. ROWLAND* 5.	A. JACOB Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

*First peal of Caters. †First peal of Grandsire Caters. Messrs. Woodley, Newson, and Jacob are from London; Mr. Battle from St. Albans; the remainder are residents in Essex, viz.: Rev. T. L. Papillon and W. Lincoln from Writtle; A. J. Perkins from Romford; W. Rowland from Chelmsford; the Messrs. Pitstow from Saffron Walden.

This is the first peal of Grandsire Caters on tower bells by the Essex Association.

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

CHELMSFORD.—On Whit-Sunday, for evening service, at St. Mary's Church, a 683 of Grandsire Caters. A. J. Perkins, 1; G. W. Cartmel,

2; J. C. Mitchell, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; R. T. Woodley, 5; W. Battle, 6; W. Lincoln, 7; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 8; G. Newson (conductor), 9; A. Jacob, 10. And after service, a 593 in the same method. N. Pitstow, 1; A. Jacobs, 2; A. J. Perkins, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; W. Rowland, 5; W. Battle, 6; W. Lincoln, 7; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 8; G. Newson (conductor), 9; R. T. Woodley, 10.

WRITTE.—On Whit-Monday evening, a half-peal of Stedman Triples, in 1 hr. 21 mins. It was intended to ring the peal, but the ringer of the tenor found that he could not keep her going at the quick pace, so the conductor let the bells run round at the half-peal. The striking was excellent.

ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY, NORWICH.

NORWICH.—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday, May 15th, three members of the above society, met at the house of Mr. F. Knights, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor (forty-two singles), and another 720 (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. G. Warnes, 1-2; F. Knights (conductor), 3-4; F. H. Knights, jun., 5-6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WOOLWICH.—On Sunday, May 20th, after evening service at St. Mary's church for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 42 mins. H. Hill (first quarter-peal), 1; G. Hogg, 2; B. J. Sheldon, 3; J. C. Harvey, 4; H. Bright, 5; H. Harman, 6; E. E. Richards, 7; R. G. Carter, 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

RINGMER (Sussex).—On Saturday, April 28th, at the parish church, the following members of the above Association, Messrs. Attree, Searle, and King, from Brighton; Smith, Howes, and Harding, from Eastbourne; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, and G. C. Hammond, from Ringmer, rang a plain course of each of the following methods: Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, and Duffield Major. These were rung after an attempt for a peal of Treble Bob Major. And on Sunday, April 29th, 504 Grandsire Triples. A. Slarks, 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 2; C. Painter, 3; H. Jones, 4; A. E. Paris, 5; G. Washer, 6; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 7; T. Miller, 8. Also on Wednesday, May 2nd, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but came to grief after ringing 1078 changes. A. Slarks, 1; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 2; C. Painter, 3; H. Jones, 4; A. E. Paris, 5; G. Washer, 6; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 7; T. Miller, 8. And the same evening on handbells, several courses of Grandsire and Union Triples. A. E. Paris, 1-2; G. C. Hammond, 3-4; Rev. C. D. Davies, 5-6; H. Jones, 7-8. Also on Wednesday, May 9th, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples, the last two 504's of one of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies's peals, 1106 changes. A. Slarks, 1; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 2; C. Painter, 3; H. Jones, 4; A. E. Paris, 5; G. Washer, 6; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 7; T. Miller, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT (Staffordshire).—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday, May 15th, at the house of Mr. Austin, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, 504 Stedman Triples, and a plain course of Duffield Major. W. J. Smith, 1-2; J. Jagger (conductor), 3-4; L. Bullock, 5-6; J. Austin, 7-8. Also a plain course of Stedman Triples. W. J. Smith, 1-2; J. Jagger, 3-4; L. Bullock, 5-6; Miss G. Lawrence, 7-8. And a plain course of Grandsire Caters, Miss Lawrence ringing 1-2.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Monday evening, May 14th, eight members of the above Association attempted a peal of 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major, but it unfortunately came to grief by the breaking of the 2nd rope, after ringing 3168 changes, in 1 hr. 48 mins. T. Cope, 1; R. Hickton, 2; G. Bradley, 3; S. Clarke, 4; J. Ward, 5; W. Gilson, 6; J. C. Dicken, 7; J. Barrow (conductor), 8. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

LICHFIELD.—On Whit-Monday, at St. Mary's church, the local company assisted by A. Taberer, of Derby, rang 504 Grandsire Triples. And on the same day at St. Michael's church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. F. Sedgwick, 1; A. Taberer, 2; F. J. Cope (conductor), 3; H. Meacham, 4; W. Fearneyhough, 5; A. E. Greenwood, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in A.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

On Thursday, May 10th, at St. James' church, after evening service, a touch of 464 Bob Major. F. Gooding, 1; F. Porch, 2; G. Pearce, 3; G. Pymm, 4; W. W. Porch, 5; W. Paddock, 6; A. Howell, 7; H. Porch (conductor), 8. Also on Whit-Sunday, after evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans), in 50 mins. G. Pearce, 1; H. Porch (conductor), 2; H. Langdon, 3; A. Howell, 4; G. Pymm, 5; J. Hinton, 6; W. W. Porch, 7; W. Short, 8. H. Langdon hails from London.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, May 15th, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; H. Smith, 2; G. Essex, 3; E. Menday, 4; J. Hands, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Also on Whit-Sunday, May 20th, at 6.10 a.m., a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. F. Simmonds, 1; H. Smith, 2; G. Essex, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; J. Hands, 5; E. Menday (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. F. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; H. Smith, 3; J. Hands, 4; T. Newman, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. Also at 10.15 a.m., a 360 of Canterbury Pleasure. H. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; H. Smith, 3; G. Essex, 4; J. Hands, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. J. Hands, 1; E. Menday, 2; H. Smith, 3; G. Essex, 4; T. Newman, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

EAST ILSLEY (Berks).—On Monday, May 21st, a 6-score of Bob Doubles was rung on the five bells in this tower, being the first 120 ever attempted on them. W. Hibbert, 1; J. F. Tarrant (Reading), 2; A. E. Reeves (Reading), 3; T. Hibbert, sen., 4; R. T. Hibbert (conductor), 5. Also a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, and five 6-scores of Bob Doubles, called differently. W. Hibbert, 1; T. Hibbert, sen., 2; J. F. Tarrant, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; R. T. Hibbert (conductor), 5. Tenor 10 cwt. In the afternoon (the Reading men wishing to have a pull at Compton, Berks), permission was obtained, and two 6-scores of Bob Doubles and one of Grandsire was rung. W. Hibbert, 1; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 2; J. F. Tarrant, 3; T. Hibbert, sen., 4; R. T. Hibbert, 5; H. Fisher, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. The Hibberts, father and sons, belong to East Ilsley.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Sunday, May 13th, for morning service, 720 Grandsire Minor. O. Gregory, 1; J. Gardner, 2; F. Money, 3; G. Gregory, 4; C. Page, 5; F. May, 6. And for evening service, 240 Grandsire Minor, standing as before. And on Sunday, May 20th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Gregory, 1; A. Gregory, 2; J. Gardner, 3; C. Page, 4; A. Bunce, 5; F. May, 6. On Monday, May 21st, on the occasion of the marriage of Miss Jackson, of this town, to Mr. Clark, of Winchester, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 360 of Grandsire Minor. G. Gregory, 1; A. Gregory, 2; F. Money, 3; C. Page, 4; A. Bunce, 5; F. May (conductor), 6.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOMBOURN.—On Wednesday, May 16th, 720 Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. G. Deans, 1; H. Deans, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; J. E. Claridge, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. First 720 in the method by all, and the first on the bells. On Sunday, May 20th, at 6.30 a.m., a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. G. Little, 1; G. Deans, 2; H. Deans, 3; R. Cartwright (conductor), 4; W. Devey, 5; A. Little, 6. And at the 11 o'clock service, 720 Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. G. Little, 1; A. Little, 2; G. Deans, 3; H. Deans, 4; W. Devey, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CRADLEY (Worcestershire).—On Monday, May 21st, at the parish church, ten and a half six-scores Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), in 49 mins. G. Dukes, 1; H. Woodhall, 2; J. A. Meredith, 3; C. Beasley, 4; C. Worton, 5; W. Woodhall, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Saturday, May 19th, being the annual field-day for the Sunday Scholars, 720 Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), was rung at the parish church in the evening in 24 mins. W. Denner, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; J. Williamson, 3; J. Worthington (conductor), 4; J. Potter, 5; A. Potter, 6. Also 360 Bob Minor. A. Potter, 1; J. Potter, 2; J. Williamson, 3; J. Worthington, 4; W. Denner, 5; J. Ridyard (Worsley), 6. And on Whit Sunday, the bells were rung at 6 a.m. Also in the evening, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. W. Denner, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; J. Williamson, 3; J. Worthington, 4; J. Potter (conductor), 5; J. Brookes, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Monday, May 14th, before Confirmation Service at St. Martin's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans'), in 49 mins. W. Haywood, 1; H. Bastable, 2; T. Reynolds, 3; S. Reeves, 4; J. James, 5; J. Buffery, 6; A. Thomas (conductor), 7; R. Jones, 8. Tenor 36 cwt.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—On Thursday evening, May 17th, for practice at the parish church, 1064, 134, and 671 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Snowdon's "Grandsire." W. Rickett, 1; C. Martin, 2; A. Tucker, 3; G. Martin, 4; F. W. Chapman, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6; H. Champneys, 7; J. Samford, 8. Also on Sunday, May

20th, for early service, 1050 Grandsire Triples. W. Rickett, 1; W. W. Tucker, 2; G. Martin, 3; H. J. Tucker, 4; A. Tucker (conductor), 5; F. W. Chapman, 6; H. Champneys, 7; J. Samford, 8. And for morning service 546 Grandsire Triples. T. Newman, 1; W. W. Tucker, 2; A. Tucker (conductor), 3; G. Martin, 4; H. J. Tucker, 5; F. W. Chapman, 6; H. Champneys, 7; F. Roast, 8. Also on Monday, May 21st, 826 Grandsire Triples. T. Newman, 1; A. Tucker, 2; C. Martin, 3; G. Martin, 4; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 5; F. W. Chapman, 6; H. Champneys, 7; J. Samford, 8.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Whit Sunday, May 20th, at St. Mary's church, at 7 a.m., 720 Bob Minor in 28 mins. A. Spurge, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; J. Hayes, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. And for morning service, 360 Court Single, standing as before.

BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Friday, May 18th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. S. Hodgson (first 720), 1; J. Cotterill, 2; S. Clark, 3; J. W. Cundall, 4; B. T. Copley, 5; F. London (conductor), 6.

CRADLEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday morning, May 20th, at the parish church at 7 a.m., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 49 mins. G. Dukes, 1; H. Woodhall, 2; A. E. Parsons, 3; C. Beasley, 4; C. Daniel, 5; R. Beasley, 6; H. Mason (conductor), 7; J. A. Meredith, 8. All are members of the Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association with the exception A. E. Parsons. The above was taken from Snowdon's "Grandsire," by H. Reeves. Messrs. Parsons and Mason hail from Old Hill.

DARESBUURY (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, April 11th, on the occasion of a Confirmation by the Bishop of the Diocese, held at the parish church, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, before, and 720 College Single after service, each in about 26 mins. On Whit-Sunday, May 20th, for morning service, 720 College Single, in 25 mins. A. de Prez, 1; P. Johnson, 2; C. Hartley, 3; P. Hamblett, 4; E. de Prez, 5; T. Houghton, jun. (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

HARTLEBURY (Worcestershire).—On Whit Sunday morning, before early service at the parish church, three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with extremes, each called differently. J. Thomason, 1; T. Griffiths, 2; H. Ouldnalls, 3; C. Beaman (conductor), 4; W. Pardoe, 5; R. Cook, 6. And three six-scores of Bob Doubles. J. Thomason, 1; T. Griffiths, 2; J. Reyaalls, 3; W. Pardoe, 4; C. Beaman (conductor), 5; R. Cook, 6. Also for evening service, ten and a half six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with extremes, each called differently, in 41 mins. J. Thomason, 1; W. Pardoe, 2; H. Ouldnalls, 3; C. Beaman, 4; J. Tyler (conductor), 5; R. Cook, 6. Tenor about 21 cwt. in E. The local company wish to kindly thank Messrs. W. and J. Pardoe for their assistance on this occasion. W. Pardoe hails from Tipton, and J. Pardoe from Wolverhampton.

HORNSEY.—On Thursday, May 10th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Dixon, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; A. Fox, 3; A. Howell (first 720), 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; G. Griffin, 6. On Sunday, May 13th, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. E. King, 1; J. Ward, 2; J. Hannington, 3; A. Howell, 4; G. Griffin, 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Dixon, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; A. Fox, 3; A. Howell, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; G. Griffin, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

HORSHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday, May 20th, at the parish church, 840 Plain Bob Triples. G. Woodman, 1; C. Blackman, 2; H. Burston, 3; T. Brown, 4; W. Short (conductor), 5; F. Knight, 6; H. Chandler, 7; G. Hogsflesh, 8.

PANGBOURNE (Berks).—On Friday, May 18th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire. *W. Parsons, 1; *Geo. Ashley, 2; W. Lawrence (conductor), 3; E. Bushnell, 4; A. C. West, 5; J. Nicolls, 6. *First 720. The tenor of this peal is in Ab, and bears date 1720.

READING.—On Friday, May 18th, at St. Giles' church, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 25 mins. H. Blissit, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. Evans, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; J. Hands, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, May 20th, on the occasion of the wedding of one of the local company, several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles by the following. H. Smart, H. Bonney, F. Sweetzer, A. Evans, J. Tarrant, and H. Egby. J. Hands hails from Caversham.

RHYL (North Wales).—On Tuesday, May 22nd, at St. Thomas's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. F. Hordley, 1; J. Wallis, 2; W. D. Asher, 3; J. P. Powell, 4; F. Wallis, 5; F. J. Gamlin (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday evening, May 20th, for Divine Service at St. Margaret's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 25 m ns.

E. Raynor, 1; J. Tulett, 2; G. Chantler, 3; W. Baker, 4; A. Osborne, 5; M. Warwick (R.E., conductor), 6.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Whit-Sunday, May 20th, at St. Martin's church, for Divine Service in the morning, 1260 Stedman Triples, in 45 mins. W. S. Wise, 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn, 7; S. Lawrence, 8. And for evening service, another 1260 of Stedman Triples, in 41 mins. W. S. Wise, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; W. E. Tydeman, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; C. A. Clements, 8. On Whit-Monday, May 21st, in the morning, a 2520 of Stedman Triples was attempted, but was unfortunately lost through a shift-course near the end. W. N. Wise, 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; H. C. Flower, 8.

SUCKLEY (Worcestershire).—On Whit Sunday morning, for Divine Service at the parish church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. T. Tyler, 1; W. Ranford, 2; J. Howells (conductor), 3; T. Huband, 4; E. Watkins, 5; W. Watkins, 6.

WARNHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday, May 20th, seven members of the Warnham branch of the Sussex County Association, with Mr. Charles Blackman, of Arundel, attempted a peal of Canterbury Pleasure Triples, but unfortunately it was lost after ringing 2580 changes in 1 hr. and 24 mins. through the treble rope breaking. This was commenced at 4.30 in the morning, for early service. Also a quarter-peal in the same method. G. Woodman, 1; Charles Blackman, 2; G. Charman, 3; T. Andrews, 4; W. Short, 5; H. Chandler, 6; W. Charman (conductor), 7; T. Hogsflesh, 8.

WEST HAM.—On Sunday evening, May 13th, at Holy Trinity church, Barking road, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Doubles, being six 6-scores, each called differently, in 24½ mins. W. Brown, 1; A. Wright, 2; Alf White (conductor), 3; W. H. Dallimore, 4; J. R. Lowe, 5; W. Baldwin, 6. Tenor 7½ cwt.

WHITCHURCH (Oxon).—On Whit-Sunday, May 20th, 540 Grandsire Minor. *Tom Bushnell, 1; W. Pocock, 2; Tom Pocock, 3; W. Lawrence, 4; A. C. West (conductor), 5; H. Bushnell, 6. *First attempt in the method. †Longest touch. On Whit-Monday morning, on handbells, various touches of Minor. Mrs. W. Lawrence, 1; W. Pocock, 2; Tom Pocock, 3; W. Lawrence (conductor), 4; A. C. West, 5; E. Bushnell, 6. And several 120s of Doubles, conducted by T. Pocock.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, May 20th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. C. Mitchell, 1; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 2; W. Battle, 3; W. Howard, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; A. Tarbun, 6. Also on Monday, May 21st, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. H. L. Buckingham, 1; J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 2; W. J. Piper, 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; E. Scotcher, 5; A. Tarbun, 6.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, May 6th, at St. Mary's church 720 Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. F. A. Nunn, 1; T. Wood, 2; H. Nunn, sen., 3; J. Nunn, 4; G. Cornell, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6. On Sunday, May 20th, 720 Bob Minor, in 26 mins. F. A. Nunn, 1; T. Wood, 2; H. Nunn, 3; J. Nunn, 4; H. Scarlett, 5; J. Priest, 6.

WRITTLE.—On Monday, May 21st, an attempt was made to ring Holt's Original, but after ringing 4700 changes, in 2 hrs. 30 mins., it unfortunately came to an end through the 3rd slipping wheel. A. Edwards, 1; G. W. Cartmel, 2; J. C. Mitchell, 3; H. F. DeLisle, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; E. Scotcher, 7; W. J. Piper, 8. *Handbell Ringing.*—Also on handbells, a 504 of Stedman Triples. J. C. Mitchell, 1-2; J. W. Washbrook, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; G. W. Cartmel, 7-8.

A GIGANTIC CUTTLE-FISH.—On April 26th, 1875, a very large calamary was met with on the north-west of Boffin Island, Connemara. The crew of a "curragh" (a boat made like a "coracle," with wooden ribs covered with tarred canvas) observed to seaward a large floating mass surrounded by gulls. They pulled out to it, believing it to be a wreck, but to their astonishment found that it was an enormous cuttlefish, lying perfectly still, as if basking on the surface of the water. Paddling up with caution, they lopped off one of its arms. The animal immediately set out to sea, rushing through the water at a tremendous pace. The men gave chase, and, after a hard pull in their frail canvas craft, came up with it, five miles out in the open Atlantic, and severed another of its arms and the head. These portions, labelled *Architeuthis dux*, can now be seen in the Dublin Museum. The shorter arms measured each eight feet in length and fifteen inches round the base. The tentacular arms are said to have been thirty feet long.—From "Casell's Natural History" for May.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

The fourth annual meeting of the above named guild was held at Walpole St. Peter on Whit Monday, and the day being exceedingly fine, attracted ringers from Lynn, Spalding, Terrington, Pinchbeck, Tyd St. Giles and Lutton, Redenhall and Ely. The day's proceedings commenced with a half peal of Treble Bob Minor, and a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 30 mins. J. W. Sedgely, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; J. Green, 4; W. G. Cross, 5; F. Easton, 6. Divine Service was held at 12.15 in St. Peter's church, the prayers being read by the Rev. H. Whalley, curate; and the sermon preached by the Rev. P. S. Bagge, rector, from Exodus xxvii., part of 33 v.: "And thou shalt make bells of gold." The sermon, a very impressive one, was listened to with marked attention throughout by the ringers, who sat in the chancel.

The rev. gentleman in the course of his remarks gave the "origin" of the bell in this ringing isle. He took them back to the 7th century, and told them that bells were applied to church purposes to call the faithful to prayer. Ingulphus, he said, mentioned that Turketulus, abbot of Croyland, now called Crowland, gave a great bell to the church of that abbey, which he named Guthlac, and afterwards six others. This was about the 9th century, and there was not such a ring of bells in all England. Passing on from the "origin" to the "use" of the bell, he said there were first the marriage bells or joy bells, rejoicing over marriages and other festivals, rejoicing for the recovery of illustrious persons from sickness to health; and secondly, the passing bell, or death bell as it was called, telling us that some soul had gone to rest in paradise, and also bidding us to prepare for the Great High Priest with His golden bells. The "Old Hundredth" having been sung, the ringers adjourned to the "Plough" inn, Walpole St. Andrew, where an excellent dinner awaited them.

The Rev. P. S. BAGGE occupied the chair, and there were also present the Rev. G. Woodgate, rector of Tyd St. Giles, Rev. R. F. Corey, vicar of St. John's, Rev. J. H. Spokes, vicar of Lutton, Revs. W. Merrin and H. Whalley, curates of Walpole St. Peter's, and the guild secretary the Rev. J. H. Coates, of Spalding, Capt. Moore (Redenhall), R. Mackman (Spalding), G. Holland (Lynn), J. Pilgrim (Ely) and others, in all about 50.

After dinner the usual loyal toasts were drunk and speeches made. Then followed the business meeting, at which Dr. Secombe proposed an alteration in the last clause of rule 10, but finding no seconder, it fell through. The following officers were elected for the year 1888-9. Patron, the Lord Bishop of Lincoln; President, Rev. Canon Moore, vicar of Spalding; Vice-presidents, Mr. Ex-Sheriff Clarke, Dr. Secombe, Rev. J. H. Spokes, and Mr. H. Watkinson; Treasurer, Mr. T. H. Nicholls, Spalding; Secretary, Rev. J. M. Coates; Committee, Rev. P. S. Bagge; Messrs. J. W. Swain, R. Mackman, W. Cunningham, and the captain of each company in the guild. The report and balance sheet were read by the secretary, from which it appeared that there was a balance in hand, after paying the necessary expenses, of £18 1s. 5d., and also that the number of members were increasing. Several new members were enrolled.

DR. SECCOMBE, then proposed the health of Capt. Moore, a veteran ringer, which was well received.

CAPT. MOORE, in responding, gave some usual hints on perseverance to the young members, more especially as to the attempts at peal ringing. He also stated that he had taken part in ringing over fifty peals of 5040 changes in various methods since he first learned the art at Walpole.

A hearty vote of thanks to the rectors of Walpole St. Peter and Walpole St. Andrew for the use of the bells, and to the indefatigable secretary for the very able manner in which he arranges these gatherings, terminated the business. Visits were again made to the towers, and Grandsire, Bob Doubles, Oxford Treble Bob and College Singles were rung. The Lynn and Terrington men rang on the handbells some well-struck touches of Bob Major and Oxford Treble Bob Major during the afternoon, whilst others were shewn over the gardens of the rectory and greenhouses, &c.

MR. H. THEW, organist of St. Nicholas', Lynn, played a selection of music on the organ, which was much appreciated. After inspecting the towers of both churches and other interesting features in them, the ringers returned to their homes, having spent a thoroughly enjoyable day.

Church News.

The Bishop of North Queensland has arrived in England. His address is Bank House, Monmouth-road, Bayswater.

The Bishop of Japan (Dr. E. Bickersteth) has arrived. His address during this summer will be the Palace, Exeter.

The report that Bishop Bromby had accepted the rectory of Edmond, is incorrect.

Mr. James Brooks has been appointed hon. architect to the Canterbury Diocesan Board of Education.

The Bishop of Grahamstown is taking work for the Bishop of Truro from May 21st to June 5th. His Lordship's address during that period will be Lis Escop, Truro.

On Holy Thursday, the Bishop of Newcastle reconsecrated the parish church of St. Oswald-in-Lee, which had been almost rebuilt upon its ancient historic site. The Sermon was preached by Archdeacon Hamilton.

Archdeacon Iles having been prevented by illness from holding his usual visitation his place has been taken by the Bishop of the diocese, the Dean of Lichfield, and the Bishop of Shewsbury, who have delivered addresses.

The Bishop of Southwell is suffering from an attack of pleurisy the result of a severe cold caught during his Visitations in Derbyshire. The Bishop of Nottingham has kindly undertaken to hold his Trinity ordination for him at St. Mary's, Nottingham, and Canon Were will act as his commissary for ordinary business for the present.

The great Feast of Pentecost was devoutly observed in most of the London churches, though it is perhaps the festival which suffers most from absentees. At Manchester Monday was kept as usual by a procession of Church Sunday-schools from Albert-square to the cathedral, the number of children taking part in it being nearly 22,000.

On Whitsunday the Bishop of Japan held a confirmation at All Saints', Belvedere, Kent, for the Archbishop of Canterbury. The Bishop, who had only reached England two days before, was the guest of his brother, the Rev. Samuel Bickersteth, vicar of the parish. On Saturday evening at a large "At Home," held in the Public Hall, he gave an interesting account of the latest phases of the Mission in Japan, and on Sunday preached morning and evening to crowded congregations, besides confirming in the afternoon seventy-two candidates. In the course of his addresses he showed that the Japanese were everywhere prepared to receive and welcome missionaries.

As a memorial of the late Dean Edwards, Mrs. Symes is erecting at Bangor a church and parsonage and endowing the living, to which the Rev. Lewis Jones, at one time vice-principal of Carnarvon Training College, has been preferred. The total cost will be not much short of £20,000. Mrs. Symes has also placed a stained window in Bangor Cathedral as a memorial of the late Dean, and has presented a reredos in memory of her only brother, Colonel Holt, of Gorphwysfa.

On Wednesday, May 15th, the Bishop of Rochester opened a Mission church, dedicated to St. Anselm, in the parish of St. Mary, Princes-road, Lambeth. The building consists of two stories, and the upper is to be used exclusively as a church. It will accommodate about 300 worshippers. The lower story makes an excellent Sunday-school room, and is well adapted for Mission purposes generally. The Bishop gave an earnest address, and basing his remarks on the Epistle for the week encouraged all to make the most of the gift intrusted to them. A church raised by the hard work of so poor a parish gave evidence of the progress of religion in south London.

On Saturday, May 19th, the Corporation of the Sons of Clergy held a court at its house in Bloomsbury Place, the Earl of Powis, vice president, in the chair, and made a further distribution of the fund raised at the instance of the Archbishop of Canterbury for the relief of the present distress among the glebe and tithe owning clergy. Among the eighty applications as

many as twenty-six dioceses represented, Peterborough and St. David's heading the list with eight each. Seventeen out of the eighty came from the principality. Twenty-one of the applications were for a renewal of the help given last year, at least a twelvemonth having passed since the former grant, in accordance with the rules laid down by the governors for the administration of the fund. The grants amounted to £2833, making a total since March of £5613. The vacancies upon the list of clergyman's widows and daughters receiving annual pensions from the ordinary funds of the corporation were filled up by the election of eighteen widows and twenty daughters, and grants were made to the unsuccessful candidates and for the education of clergyman's children, amounting to £1660. Owing to the want of funds, the governors were unable to grant more than £10 a year to the newly elected pensioners, instead of £20 as in former years.

At the Consistory Court of Canterbury on Wednesday, May 16th, a petition was heard for a faculty with respect to a gallery in Sandgate church. The Earl of Chichester and Mr. Reginald Cust, as trustees for the Countess of Chichester, claimed to be entitled to the exclusive right of entry and use of a gallery with a private entrance. In 1854 the chapel at Sandgate was, by an order in Council, formed into a consolidated chapelry, with a district assigned to it, the freehold of the western gallery belonging to Sir John Bligh, the Countess's father. The church was rebuilt, and it seemed that an exchange was made of the northern gallery for the western gallery. The petition was opposed by the Rev. Matthew Woodward, vicar of Folkestone, who had been one of the trustees in respect of the church, and who pointed out that the portion of the church which was sought to be set apart comprised seventy-two seats. There was no endowment, and the incumbent had to depend on the pew rents. He contended that there was no power to reserve the right of entry to the gallery, and submitted that it would be an encroachment on the rights of the incumbent, who was entitled to have the key. He trusted the Court would refuse to grant the faculty reserving a portion of the Church for one particular family. Counsel for the applicants, in reply, contended that the trustees had a perfect right to exchange the galleries, it being the duties of trustees to do their best for the trust estate. At the conclusion of the argument, Dr. Tristram reserved judgment.

On Tuesday, May 15th, at a Society for the Propagation of the Gospel meeting held at Southsea, the chairman (Archdeacon Sumner), drew attention to the fact, that the archdeaconry (which comprised Hampshire, less the isle of Wight), last year contributed more to the general funds of the society than any diocese in England except London and Oxford. An argument frequently urged in too frequent neglect of Missions was that all the money was wanted for local objects. They knew that a great deal of this was so, but his experience was that parishes supporting missionary societies with liberality, gave freely to other objects connected with the church. Missionary contributions might indeed be taken as the thermometer of a Church's work, and he trusted that this would be practically recognised in the diocese. Among the speakers was Colonel Twyman, Assistant Adjutant-General, who made some remarks upon the questions raised by Canon Isaac Taylor. He said that so far as India and Ceylon were concerned, many military officers said that Christianity was a failure because they were under the impression that missionaries and missionary societies only existed that those who went to India might be supplied with good servants, and so many servants were a failure. The reason that Mahomedan made better servants was that both among Hindoos and Mahomedans total abstinence was an article of faith. They came to the conclusion that the Englishman's religion was a very easy one, for they saw that he did not bother about how much time he set apart for worship, but ate and drank what he liked, and they decided that that religion would suit them. Then they threw up all the requirements of their own faith, and took all the bad points of the English. Then perhaps a missionary was seen at a health resort, and the conclusion was arrived at that he was having an easy time, but the fact of his having worked hard among the natives at some out station for the previous ten months, was not taken into consideration. The *Madras Mail* had recently published some statistics which showed that among the Hindoos, average of crime was one in 47.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Let us take heart, and go forward."

The last great festival of the Church's year is now over, and by the time these lines reach your readers, the Exercise will know the result of the several attempts to accomplish long peals, of which notice was given last Saturday. "'Tis not in mortals to command success" is a well-known saying, and therefore should failure have fallen to the lot of some of our friends who were thus desirous of distinguishing themselves, let them remember that "such is life," and be all the more eager to try again.

* * * * *

The 13,440 of Bob Major that was announced to be attempted at Kelsale on Whit Monday, has, we are told, been postponed on account of services. This is not the first time by far that postponements have been made for this reason. Why don't our friends take more care in making their ringing arrangements? The services of the Church are, as a rule, regular the year through; and this leaving them out of the reckoning looks suspiciously in favour of the idea that those who err in this direction are seldom seen in any other part of the Church but the belfry.

* * * * *

I must confess, Mr. Editor, that I was surprised to see last Saturday that you had given a great portion of a page of your valuable space to the reproduction of such arrant nonsense as that perpetuated by the individual who calls himself "Musicus." The farrago is too absurd even to be amusing, and the only relieving feature about it is the evidence it affords of the depths of absurdity to which some people will sink in attempting to write about or criticise something of which they are woefully ignorant. But when, like "Musicus," they also attempt to be funny, they make their case pitiable in the extreme. They become, in fact, objects "more of pity than anger."

* * * * *

"F.S." writes in condemnation of the plan adopted in some places of leaving bells "set" from one ringing time to another. That habit is one for which I have never been able to assign a good reason. Is it done (as he suggests), through motives of laziness? If so, then to my mind any accident arising therefrom should be laid to the door of those who have thus been the actual cause. On the other hand, if there be valid reasons in favour of this plan, I for one should be very glad to know them.

* * * * *

News "from beyond the seas" is ever welcome; the more so, of course, when it is good news. The report of the annual dinner in Australia, is very pleasant reading, if only from the intelligence it gives us that change-ringing is in a fair way of getting well established in that far distant colony. Those of us who have never left our native shore, will, I doubt not, be unable to fully conceive the feelings which will be aroused in an Englishman's breast on hearing the sound of a peal of bells in his far-away home. There is without question, nothing more thoroughly English, or more calculated to remind our countrymen of home than the sound of bells. Let us therefore wish our brethren of Melbourne every possible success in their endeavours to promote change-ringing, and by that means, if even in a small way, of helping to cement the tie which binds the Colonies to the old country.

By this time I suppose Mr. John Newbon, of Bolton, will be well on his way to the "Great Republic." Thus another of our good men is for a time lost to us; and he will have I fear, few opportunities of exercising his talent as a change-ringer. It has often appeared strange to me that bells and ringing should never yet have obtained good hold in America. I do not think it is from lack of funds; neither can it be want of ringers, seeing the large number of our brethren who have "crossed the duck pond." What, then, can be the reason? FREE LANCE.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING was held at Chelmsford on Monday, May 21st, when about 130 members were present. In addition to the peals rang as shown in the peal column, various touches in the usual standard methods were rung in the different towers. An appropriate address was given by the Rev. F. E. Robinson at the service. The usual dinner was held, and at the meeting the Hon. Secretary read a very satisfactory report. The Committee recommended that it was undesirable to extend into a Diocesan Association, and the meeting adopted the same. Out of five peals attempted by members of the Association on Monday and Tuesday, only one was successful. At Writtle, a peal of Grandsire Triples was lost on Monday morning after 2 hrs. by the 3rd rope slipping wheel (an old fault which it had been hoped was cured); and in the evening a peal of Stedman Triples was allowed to come to an end half-way because the tenor-man could not keep the bell going at the quick pace (1 hr. 22 mins. for the half-peal). The band was a good one, and the striking excellent. On Tuesday morning a peal of Stedman Caters was started for at Chelmsford by the Revs. F. E. Robinson and H. A. Cockey, Messrs. Washbrook, Newson, N. J. and F. Pitstow, Jacob, Buckingham, and Cartmel, with W. Lincoln at the tenor. All went admirably for two hours, when there appeared in the belfry a person announcing himself as Churchwarden, and remarking that his permission ought to have been asked. After some parley, during which the ringing went on as well as ever, Mr. Robinson at last gave the order to "stand," and what promised to be a beautifully-rung peal came to an untimely end. The sexton had duly locked the door, but was obliged to give up the key to a church official: a warning to ringers in future that, when they have obtained the clergyman's permission to ring, they should lock themselves in to keep out those whose consent is not necessary. A move was then made to Galleywood, where misfortune No. 4 occurred in the breaking of the tenor rope. It is a somewhat novel experience to the Rev. F. E. Robinson and Mr. Washbrook to lose three peals in two days, and all members of the Association will deeply regret that such ill-luck should befall them on their first visit to Essex.

A fuller report of the annual meeting of this Association will be given next week.

THE FIRST PEAL AT ST. THOMAS', SALISBURY.

ON Whit-Monday a local company achieved the first peal ever rang on this heavy peal of eight. For many years the bells had been well nigh unringable until they were rehung about a year ago by Mr. T. Blackburn. After rehanging, the bells went well, but a great difficulty had to be overcome in getting a peal on them, as the tower is situated in the very centre of the town, and great complaints are made if the bells are rung for any length of time together, or on any other than the usual ringing days. The company however took advantage of the Bank Holiday, when most of the places of business are closed, and having obtained permission of the Vicar and Churchwardens, they started for the peal about half-past twelve, which was successfully brought round shortly before four. (See peal column).

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

The next ringing meeting of the above branch will take place on Saturday, June 2nd, at Christ Church, Bacup. Bells ready at two o'clock; meeting in the schoolroom at 6.30.

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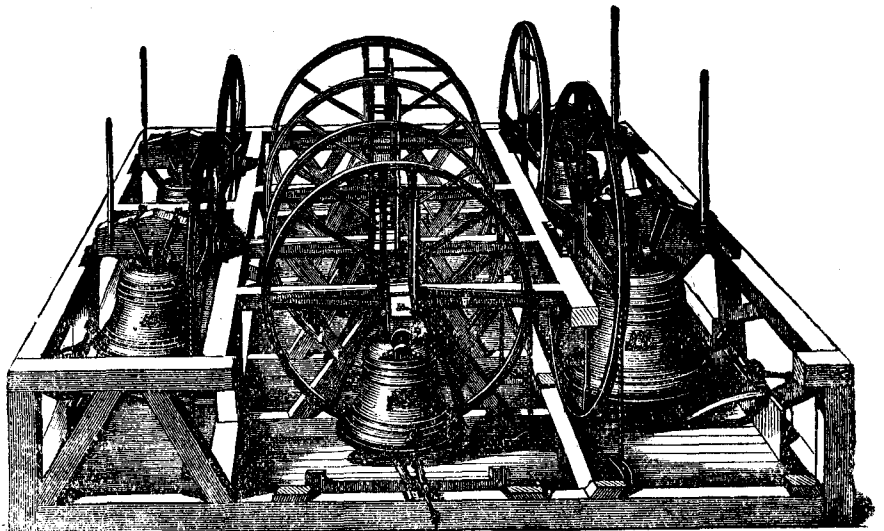
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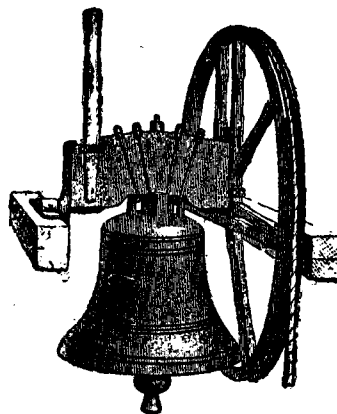
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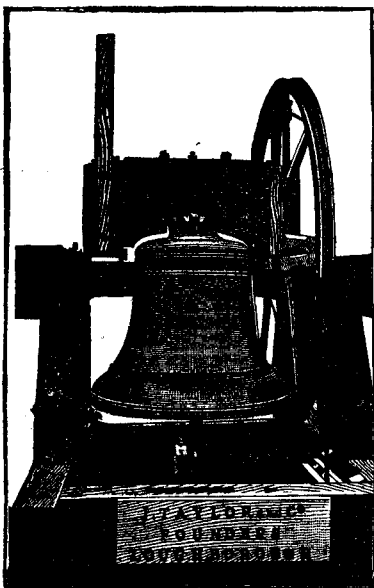
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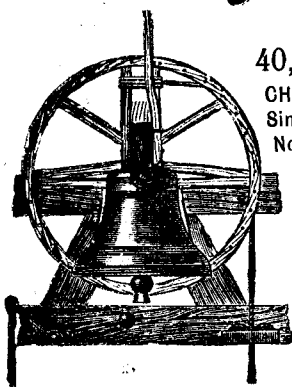
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ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

The Ninth Annual Meeting of the above Association, which took place on Whit-Monday, at Chelmsford, has added another to the list of successful gatherings of ringers in the county. In addition to the two peals recorded last week, and the other performances also referred to, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Treble Bob Royal and Treble Bob Major were rung in the morning and afternoon at Chelmsford by what might be termed the cream of the company present, but as early as 5 o'clock the Chelmsford tower, so far as regards the leading members of the Association, was all but deserted, and it was with some difficulty that bands could be got together to do any creditable performances. It is however worthy of note that a 672 of Bob Major, by a band chiefly consisting of six-bell ringers, only failed coming home by three leads, otherwise it would have proved one of the most creditable performances in the tower for the day. It may also not be out of place to state that a course of Grandsire Caters was rung by a band not one of whom had ever had the opportunity of previously attempting such. Each of the surrounding towers, Galleywood (8), Great Baddow (8), Writtle (8), Widford (6), and Springfield (6), all situate within about a three-mile circle, were visited during the day by various bands, and numerous touches rung. An attempt at a peal upon handbells had been arranged but fell through. In the afternoon a 504 of Stedman Triples (non-conducted) was rung by Messrs. Mitchell, Washbrook, Buckingham and Cartmel.

A committee meeting was announced to be held in the morning for the purpose of a preliminary consideration of the Diocesan question again brought before the Association through a letter to the Hon. Sec. received just previously to the recent district meeting held at Romford. The Rev. T. L. Papillon, Hon. Sec., was supported by the Rev. J. B. Seaman and Rev. H. A. Cockey, and there were also present Messrs. A. J. Perkins and B. Keeble, Romford; F. Pitstow, Saffron Walden; Mansfield, Maldon; Hubbard, Tottenham; and two or three other members. The Hon. Sec. read the following letter from Canon Wigram, dated April 5th:—

"I see that the Essex Association meets on Saturday. Allow me to request that you will take into consideration the desirability of extending its area and make it a St. Albans Diocesan Association. The causes which have lead to the break-down of the Herts. County Association are easily stated. From every point of view a Diocesan Association is better than a county one. The Oxford Guild may serve as a model, and one which embraces more counties than one. I can assure you that every facility will be given by us for the amalgamation, while already two of the Herts branches, viz.: St. Albans and Bishop Stortford, belong to you."

The Hon. Sec. also read a letter from the Secretary to the St. Albans cathedral Society, in which an opinion was expressed that in view of the probable change in the Diocese, the proposed extension of the Association was undesirable.

The Rev. J. B. SEAMAN considered a Diocesan Association better than a county Association, provided there were no difficulties in the way.

Mr. F. PITSTOW considered more good might be effected in the county by the Association remaining as it was than by extending it into a Diocesan Association, especially as there were still so many more towers open to a visit, and in which some good might be the result.

The Rev. H. A. COCKEY did not see how Herts and Essex could be satisfactorily worked as one Association, they were so separated. If the Association was merged into a Diocesan Association no doubt there would be a desire to hold the annual meeting every alternate year at St. Albans, and he did not consider it desirable in the interest of the Association that the Annual Meeting at Chelmsford should be given up.

Mr. HUBBARD asked if the letter from Canon Wigram came as a desire from the Herts Association, or if it was only the Canon's own view of the matter. If the application from the Association he, Mr. Hubbard, considered it should be taken in a liberal spirit, but if it was only the Canon's application he did not see how the Association could well deal with it. The Association undoubtedly now had sufficient towers open to it, and if it merged itself into a Diocesan Association it would make one

of the strongest Associations in the kingdom. This, however, he did not think should be done, unless the application came officially.

The Hon. Sec. having remarked that no doubt Canon Wigram wrote as the mouthpiece of the Association,

Mr. B. KEEBLE said he was in possession of an 1885 report of the Herts Association, at which time there were ninety-five ringing members and two hon. members. So far as he had been able to ascertain no report had been issued since, and there were now twenty-five ringing members and five hon. members. Canon Wigram's resignation was announced in "THE BELL NEWS," but he had not heard of a meeting of the Herts Association for the last twelve months; under those circumstances he did not consider the application was official.

Mr. PERKINS pointed out that by the rules of the Association ringers in Herts could become members of the Association.

The Rev. H. A. COCKEY having pointed out that if the amalgamation was carried out and a change afterwards made in the Diocese, the expense that the Association would be put to would to some extent be useless, moved that the amalgamation, owing to the evident difficulty of working Hertfordshire, is undesirable, but calling the attention of ringers in that county, that under rule v. they can join the Essex Association as non-resident members, which was unanimously agreed to.

The usual service in St. Mary's church was held at 12.30. The usual shortened form of plain evensong was again adopted, and the address was given by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Vicar of Drayton, Berks., and Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. The rev. gentleman selected his text from 1 St. Peter, 4 c., 10th and 11th verses. "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth; that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen." He said:—

He intended to urge two points; first that as bellringers they had received a distinct gift from God; secondly, that having received the gift how they were to make use of it. Every bellringer has received a gift—a good gift—which comes from God. Some had a gift which enabled them to watch the coursing order of the bells and observe how the bells came up at the course-ends. There could be no doubt but that this was one of those good gifts that came from above. It was a gift which as bellringers they should give back to God by learning to thank Him for His good gifts, and live to the glory of God. It was a gift which if exercised would develop their mental capacities. When we considered that our bodies are wonderfully made, the extension and development of such mental capacities showed that there was a direct gift from God, by which they were enabled to do that which others find it difficult to do. The Apostle told them that in everything God should be glorified. The gift should be given back to God, from whom it was received, by the solemn consecration and dedication to Him from Whom all good things do come. Speaking as one who had had thirty years' experience in the belfry, he did not find that this had generally been the case. Ringers had not thought fit to give back to God that good gift which it had pleased Him to bestow upon them. He would emphatically urge them to carry on their ringing in a devoted spirit, in a blessed spirit, and to the glory of God. If they did this they would agree with him that the happiest moments that were spent in the belfry were those when the sound of the bells go forth, and they roll up in harmony. Is it not right that God should be thanked for such a gift? He would urge them to seek to devote their ringing to the dedication of God, and above all to remember that even if it was possible—it was not so easy now as when he first commenced—to pass off a false peal as a true one, to remember that such would not be true in the face of God. This had been done, for on looking over his own record he knew there were several—not those conducted by himself, that were not true—this was a practice, and should be condemned. If they carried on their ringing in a right spirit they would strive to help their clergyman; if they wished to lead a consistent life they would be communicants. They should not regard their assistance to the clergyman of a parish as of no or little importance to him, for there was no greater sympathy than to know that those who worked with him are worthy of the position they hold. The belfry, he believed, was a place in which a man might find a means of showing and learning a great deal of brotherly love. They should be courteous and kind one to another. They should have patience with the young ones, and endeavour to advance them in the art, remembering that the day will come when their places will have to be taken up by those who are following them. Unless they taught the young they would never keep bands together. They should therefore make it a point of teaching

the young, and in doing so show them the way with patience, otherwise sooner or later they would find themselves left in the lurch. This gift which they had received, they should remember that they were stewards of it, and that they had received it from One who one day would call them to account of how they had made use of it. It might be that some would be inclined to ask him how it was that he gave up so much of his time. If his conscience asked him with whom he had left those few sheep in the wilderness, he trusted he should be able to give a good account. He believed that God had given him a special gift, and it was his duty to strive to develop it by ringing the best methods and the longest peals that are to be rung. In developing such mental powers, which it was his honour and privilege, he trusted he was doing a work which God had sent him into this world to do. Urging them to strive to help one another, the rev. gentleman concluded a practical and appropriate address by showing that the ringer who did this would advance himself in the art, and the result of a life led in such a spirit in patient continuance, in well doing, would be that God will give His reward and find suitable employment in the life to come in which such mental powers can still be developed.

The dinner, to which 130 sat down, was well served up, and the business meeting followed immediately afterwards. Archdeacon Johnson was supported by L. Proctor, Esq., Revs. J. B. Seaman, H. A. Cockey, D. N. Yonge, F. E. Robinson, and T. L. Papillon, Hon. Sec.

Having congratulated the meeting upon the large number present, and the presence of Squire Proctor, and the Rev. F. E. Robinson, the Hon. Secretary read the following report:—

The year just ended has been a prosperous one for the Association. Our members have again increased by from sixty to seventy ringing members. The total number on the books being 398, of whom ninety are non-resident members. Four new Essex companies—Great Baddow, Farnham, Foxearth, and Sandon, have been added to our list, while one, that of Newport, has withdrawn. Among the addition to our non-resident members are the company of All Hallows, Tottenham, near neighbours of Essex, on the Middlesex side, and strong contingents from Glemsford and Long Melford, just over the Suffolk border—an accession of experienced ringers whose names have quickly found their way into the peal-book. This book is of itself satisfactory evidence of progress. Last year eleven peals were rung, four of them upon handbells, and only three of the remaining seven in the county. This year the number of peals entered is thirty-one, nine of which are handbell peals by non-resident members; of the remaining twenty-two peals upon tower bells, thirteen have been rung in Essex towers, and to a considerable extent by Essex men. In noticing this, I do not undervalue the performances of our non-resident members, but I hold that we ought not to depend on them to fill our peal-book. I am glad therefore to see in the book the name of young Essex bands, such as Loughton and Harwich, and one of older standing, though new to us—the band of Foxearth. There has been a considerable variety in the peals rang, Grandsire Triples of course is most common, but we may notice the peal of Treble Bob Royal rung at Chelmsford on August 2nd, the long peal of 10,000 Treble Bob Major recently rung at Foxearth, the first peal of the Association of Oxford Treble Bob Major at Galleywood, the first of Union Triples at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, the first of Oxford Bob Triples at Southgate, Middlesex, and the first of Grandsire Major at Enfield. In my report of last year, I expressed a hope that before the next Annual Meeting the peal-book would contain the names of some who at the Annual Meeting of 1886 had not advanced beyond Grandsire Doubles. That hope was unexpectedly fulfilled on the very same evening, and has been further realised during the year. We may I think, congratulate ourselves not only upon the continued excellence of our leading members, but upon what is certainly as important—the progress of our beginners in the Art. In belfry improvements, we have to record the rehanging of the eight bells at Romford, by Messrs. Warner and Son, and of the ring of five at Great Leghs, by Mr. Bowell, of Ipswich; the opening of a new ring of six at Holy Trinity, Barking Road, and the dedication of the new ring of eight at Brentwood. These latter, however, will not be rung until after the end of this year. The bells at Writtle have been overhauled, and the tenor rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and the Chelmsford belfry has since the last Annual Meeting been fitted with new ropes. The scheme for adding five bells to the one which at present hangs in Moulsham church tower, seems to be in abeyance for the time. Our meetings have been pretty well attended during the year; 116 being present at the Annual Meeting on Whit Monday, 1887, while the District Meetings at Walthamstow, Colchester, and Romford, were attended by 47, 38, and 45 members respectively. Such meetings are valuable both as a means of keeping alive and spreading the cause of change-ringing, and as pleasant gatherings of men who have a common interest, and I hope those members who take the trouble to attend them, feel that it is worth while to do so, and will do their best to persuade others to come. We are, I think, fortunate in having as our centre and place of Annual Meeting

a town so convenient of access, and so good a ringing centre as Chelmsford with a peal of ten bells in the town itself, and three peals of eight, and two of six, within easy distance. Our finances are sadly complicated by the difficulty of the getting in of subscriptions. The total receipts for the year inclusive of a balance in hand of 9s. 6d., and £3 1s. 6d. for arrears due from the previous year, and £1 9s. paid for certificates, has been £31 1s., while the expenses amount to £33 7s. 4d. But the unpaid subscriptions amount to £7 17s. 6d. (twenty-one honorary and forty-seven ringing members), and if a fair proportion of these are recovered, the year's income is sufficient for its expenses. The increase of these upon last year is due to two causes, viz., the large increase in the number of peals rung, and the larger attendance at the Annual Meeting and District Meetings. This year for instance we pay £6 16s. for booking peals, as compared with £2 in 1886-7, and £11 19s. toward dinner and tea expenses, as compared with £8 6s. Increasing numbers also involve more expenditure on postage and stationery, and with regard to this I would remind all members of the Association, that by punctual and regular payment of their subscriptions, they may materially reduce not only the trouble but the amount which the Secretary is obliged to spend on postage. I do not wish to reduce the amount spent on entering peals, nor do I think it desirable to lessen the inducement offered to members to attend the regular meetings of the Association, by part payment of their dinner or tea expenses. Nor again should I like to see payments towards instructions discontinued, for there is no expenditure which falls more legitimately within the objects of the Association. The annual income of the Association, if carefully managed, is sufficient for these purposes, all of which fall within the scope of its proper work, viz., the encouragement of change-ringing. While on the subject of our finances, I may indicate as points worthy of consideration: first, whether those who not being residents in the county of Essex desire the privilege of membership, might not be required to pay some entrance fee in addition to the ordinary subscription; secondly, whether in the future if so many peals have to be entered in our book, a part of the cost of entry might not be borne by the bands who ring them.

The first of these questions, that our non-resident members' subscriptions is before us to day. The second may perhaps wait till we see it the present year's record of peals is maintained. I propose this year to entrust the printing of the Annual Report to the office of "THE BELL NEWS." The publishers of that paper deserve all the support that individual ringers and ringing societies can give them, and it would be a distinct calamity if for want of such support it were found difficult to carry on the paper. Both as an Association and as individuals, I think that it has a claim upon us for its services to the cause of change-ringing. I have only in conclusion to thank the members of the Association for the confidence they have hitherto reposed in me, and for the courtesy which they have always shown me. The pressure of many engagements makes it difficult for me to give all the time that I could wish to the service of the Association, and I should be glad to find someone to take my place in a year or two. Our increasing numbers bring a considerable increase of correspondence and general business, and though the present Assistant Secretary can relieve me of much trouble in posting notices and circulars, I cannot well transfer to him the work of getting in subscriptions, arranging meetings, and conducting correspondence in different parts of the county. This could only be managed by District Secretaries, and if our Association goes on increasing, some organization of the kind will become necessary. The county might be divided into two or three branch districts, each with its district secretary, who should be responsible for collecting subscriptions, arranging meetings, and other details within his own district. I commend this idea to your consideration between this and the next Annual Meeting.

The Rev. J. B. SEAMAN moved the adoption of the report. In the course of his observations the rev. gentleman said "he was sorry to find that all interest was given to 'the new paper' as he styled 'THE BELL NEWS,' which he did not take himself and seldom saw it. It was only a ringers' paper." His remarks were received with some interruption and laughter.

The Rev. H. A. COCKEY seconded the adoption of the report, and said he had some recollection of the trouble it was to get in subscriptions, having sometimes to send four or five times for a shilling. He could not help thinking that if they had the interest of the Association at heart, but what after the appeal that had been made they would take care to forward their subscriptions without any cause for trouble. The report was adopted.

The Rev. H. T. W. EYRE and W. B. BLOOD, Esq. having ceased to be members of the Association, the Rev. H. E. HULTON and Rev. D. N. YONGE were added to the Committee, Leonard PROCTOR was elected a vice-president, and the following members were elected: Honorary, Rev. A. N. COLLEY; Ringing, Rev. F. E. ROBINSON, J. W. WASHBROOK; J. MILES, STEPNEY; E.

Gibbs, London; H. Sabar, T. W. Tarling, W. J. Pleasance, Sawbridgeworth; A. H. Gardom, J. King, J. Marks, Wanstead; G. Rushden, Witham; H. Richell, H. Allen, G. Green, Great Baddow; R. T. Kent, St. Albans; A. Fuller, A. Knowles, J. Balls, W. Millbank, W. Hazell, Little Bentley; A. Viall, Boreham; Probationers, A. Gamgee, H. Brand, C. Waters, F. Waters, Elmdon.

Mr. ROLFE (Springfield) moved a resolution to rescind the payment of fees to instructors. Not finding a seconder the resolution fell to the ground.

The Hon. Sec. moved an alteration in rule 13, and explained that he did so in order to cover the question of a peal being rung upon seven bells. The proposal was agreed to.

The Hon. Sec. next read the resolution adopted at the meeting in the morning respecting the Diocesan question, and the same was unanimously immediately adopted.

The Hon. Sec. having proposed a vote of thanks to the preacher for the day, Mr. Goodry, in seconding, read some amusing lines written by himself upon the recent long peals by the Oxford Guild.

The Rev. F. E. ROBINSON in responding, said it gave him pleasure to respond to the vote which had been accorded him. He was pleased to have met so many members of the Association and to have had the opportunity of addressing them in church. He was also pleased to have been elected a member of the Association, which made about eighteen that he belonged to, but although coming so low in the list he regarded the honour as if it stood higher. Mr. Seaman had referred to him with respect to *Church Bells*, and he could speak of the work it had done. He could remember the time when it was a matter of surprise to all respectable people for anyone to have anything to do with so low a set of men as the ringers of a parish church. But the time had changed, and he thanked God that those now taking an interest in ringing were not now looked upon as a low set of fellows. He agreed with Mr. Seaman that *Church Bells* had done much for ringers, and he would go so far as to mention the name of the late Mr. Ellacombe, whose name would always be held with great respect, and who first undertook the management of that portion of *Church Bells* devoted to ringing matters. He did a great deal for ringers, and so lifted them up. For his own part he could not help thinking but that *Church Bells* had been very much improved by the publication of "THE BELL NEWS." He did not say that they even now had the space which they ought to have in *Church Bells*. He should be sorry to see either journal fail through want of support, and considered much good might be derived by ringers from the other pages of *Church Bells*. He trusted to see the day when both would be improved, for they were both open to improvement, and he trusted that has individuals and as members of the Association they would do their best to support both papers.

The usual vote of thanks to the Hon. Sec., the chairman, and the authorities of the surrounding towers, closed the meeting.

Reference to the extraordinary proceedings at Chelmsford upon the following day has already appeared, proceedings which undoubtedly prevented the record of another peal in connection with the meeting. It will however be seen that success attended an attempt at Romford on Thursday evening, which may be recognised as the close of the annual meeting for the present year.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held in St. John-the-Baptist Schoolroom, Bromsgrove, at 5 o'clock to-day, Saturday, June 2nd, 1888. The Rev. A. E. Seymour, Vicar, will preside. The annual report, balance-sheet, etc. will be ready for distribution, when the Hon. Sec. hopes to see a representative from each company to receive copies of same.

N.B.—Those members who have not yet paid their contributions should do so without delay. JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

37, Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

By kind permission of the Vicar and Wardens, arrangements are being made for holding the next General Meeting at Pontefract to-day, Saturday, June 2nd.

BEWDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.—Concluded.

The clock, with four dials, is built in a separate room, and bears the date, etc., of its manufacture.

"H. Weight, Fecit, Malmesbury, 1851."

At one o'clock, at noon, and eight in the evening, the curfew bell is still regularly rung. Previous to 1780 there existed a peal of bells, but all were recast, and chimes added after re-erection in the tower, which is sixteen by seventeen feet square inside. The ringing-room is a very convenient apartment, and the ringers, a highly respectable body of men, several being members of the choir, all belong to the Hereford Diocesan Guild, and are now receiving instruction in the Art, the tower being in unity with the Guild, chiefly through the interest and influence of the Vicar, who is an honorary member. At a future date he hopes to make the ringing-room a little more comfortable, and replace the present unsuitable windows.

No record of any peal rang here is to be found, excepting one of Grandsire Triples, reported in these columns last year, which was achieved by a band from Kidderminster, conducted by H. J. Tucker. Some of the old ringers in the town remember, a party coming and ringing for over three hours in the Grandsire method, about the year 1820. Who they were, and if the performance was a true one, cannot be ascertained.

In 1837 the edifice was repaired at an expense of £1000, and 600 free sittings were added. It was renovated in 1871, and again improved in 1879, when a stained glass window was put in the chancel in memory of the Rev. John Fortescue, the late Vicar. In 1852 a district was assigned to this chapel, which thus became a parish church, but the endowment still consisted only of the £8 granted by Queen Mary, and of about £17 left by Richard Vickriss in 1661. The Incumbent was dependent almost entirely upon the precarious income from pew rents. In 1880, however, Mrs. Fortescue purchased Lower Park House for £2000, and presented it to the Church for a Vicarage. This generosity was met by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners with a grant of £50 per annum. In August, 1882, Mr. Fortescue left by will a further sum of about £1500 to be invested for the benefit of this Church.

Richard Clare, who had a tanyard by Doglane Brook, by will dated May 10th, left 10s. yearly for a sermon to be preached annually in the chapel on the first Sunday in the year 'to remember people of their mortality.'

INCUMBENTS OF BEWDLEY CHAPEL.

William Weston, Chantry Priest, 1547.
Humphrey Mallett, Chantry Priest, 1547.
Sir Thomas Warter (1569), *sep.* August 1st, 1593.
George Sowthall, 1593—1596.
Walter Sweeper, 1596.
— Yardley.
Lewis Morris (1605), *sep.* May 7th, 1611.
— Underhill.
— Heath, 1615.
— Wright.
William Madstard.
Manoah Sharrard, 1625—1634.
Robert Morton, 1635—1646.
John Tombes, 1646—1649.
Edward Bury, 1649—1650.
Henry Oasland, 1650—1662.
Thomas Soley, 1663—1669.
Sares Boylston, 1669—1672.
Thomas Boraston, *sep.* July 27th, 1706.
John Hassall (1720), *sep.* 1739.
Thomas Howard, 1731—1778.
William Burrell Hayley, 1778—1780.
Edward Baugh, 1780—1814.
John Cawood, 1814—1852.
John Fortescue, 1852—1879.
William Owen Parker Ford, 1879."

W. H. F.

FOR SALE.—A beautiful-toned set of Handbells, 24, in G.; nearly new; warranted perfect. Price £10. Company broken up cause of sale.—Apply to J. STRUTT, Richmond Road, Kingston-on-Thames.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co. Printers, Exeter.

NEW PEAL OF BELLS AT CORBRIDGE PARISH CHURCH.

A new peal of six bells, recently placed in the tower of Corbridge parish church, was inaugurated on Tuesday, May 22nd. The project of obtaining the new peal arose from the local memorial of her Majesty's Jubilee. Amongst other objects, it was decided to recast the three old bells, but Mr. F. M. Laing, of Farnley Grange, offered to provide a new bell, and this example was followed by Mr. T. Sheldon, of Summerville, and his sister, Miss Sheldon, and at a meeting of inhabitants of Corbridge, held in January last, it was determined to complete the peal of six bells. The weight of the peal is 31 cwt., the tenor weighing about 7 cwt. The bell presented by Mr. Laing bears the inscription: "This bell was presented to the parish of Corbridge by F. M. Laing, Esq., of Farnley Grange, in commemoration of the Jubilee of the reign of Queen Victoria, June, 1887." On the bell presented by Mr. and Miss Sheldon is a similar notification, and on the third bell is inscribed: "Three old bells in this tower were replaced by this peal, the cost of which was defrayed by present and former parishioners to commemorate the Jubilee of the reign of Queen Victoria, June, 1887." The cost of the whole peal is estimated at £281.

At the service held in the afternoon there were present the Bishop of Newcastle, Canon Barker, Hexham; Canon Dwaris, Bywell; Canon Cruddas, Warden; the Rev. T. Faulkner, St. John Lee; the Rev. H. Slater, Riding Mill; the Rev. C. E. Blackett-Ord, Ovingham; the Rev. W. Sisson, Slaley; the Rev. T. Talbot, Newcastle; the Rev. A. Hemsted, Stagshaw; the Vicar of Corbridge (the Rev. F. Richardson), and the Rev. Mr. Richardson, curate of Corbridge.

The Bishop, who preached, took for his text the words "None shall appear before me empty." (Exodus, chapter 34, and part of the 20th verse.)

After referring to the great law of self-sacrifice as exemplified in the life and death of Christ, he said they had come together that day to thank and praise their God and to dedicate to His services and to His use, and to His people's use that new peal of bells. They were asking Almighty God to accept something at their hands, and He who had through all the long pages of history contained in the Bible ever graciously accepted the gifts which men had humbly and earnestly offered Him, would accept it at their hands. What did those bells mean? In the first place they were the outcome of gratitude and thanksgiving to Almighty God for the long years of prosperity during the reign of their present gracious Sovereign. They were the outcome then, of hearts that had looked beyond themselves and their own time and their own parish, and who had striven to glorify Almighty God by doing something for His house, and something which should do good to others in times to come, when they themselves should be gathered to their rest. Once more the text seemed to sound in their ears, "None shall appear before me empty;" and as the year of thanksgiving was closing their thanks took a concrete form, and now the peal of bells was added to the church. What would the bells do? Remember how for long years the grey old walls and tower of that church had preached their silent lesson; how those old stones, many of them of very great antiquity, had seen generation after generation come up and be gathered to its rest; how the voices of happy children had been heard around that old tower and around part at least of the church, and how those children had grown up and seen their own children, and perhaps their children's children, playing where once they played, and their bright and happy voices echoing where once their own voices echoed. Now, thank God for it, there should in that peal of bells be an articulate voice uttered from that church tower. Those bells would utter their message from Almighty God far and wide. There had been times when there were seen through all the country side the sudden red signs telling of the approach of a hostile foe, and times when the bell had rung out in startling, wild, sharp tones of the coming of a foe or the outbreak of a fire; but now these new bells would tell, in quieter tones it might be, but still with steady and sweet persistency, once more something at least of the notes of the Gospel story. They would tell, as they rang out day by day and week by week, of the presence of that all-pervading foe, and would bid them to gather once more in the house of God. They would remind all of the steady, persistent onslaught of one who for all those long past generations had been hunting men's souls, and who, ever since the time when he was cast out of heaven, had been striving to drag others down to his own dark level. At least let those church bells witness for them that there was one who, if they turned from the service of the house of God, would walk with them wherever they went, and who would laugh, and smile, and be pleased if they turned their

backs upon the public duty of the worship of Almighty God. But it would do far more than that, for consider the message and blessing which was offered from God. It was when they were in some far country where no church bell struck their ears on Sundays, that they understood better the sweet meaning of that summons. He had stood beside men in the backwoods of America, and had heard them say they would give almost anything to hear once more the sound of the old church bells which they had thought so little of when day by day and week by week they had sounded in their ears. Remember how those bells would speak to the careless. Perhaps at first striking deaf ears, and then finding an echo through the ears into the heart. Such blessed sounds coming upon some hard heart at a time of unaccustomed softness had been known ere now to awake old memories in the heart. Days of bygone innocence had come up before the mind. Times when with father or mother he or she went to public worship on Sunday, and had thus by the sound of the church bells been directed to the house where they had long been strangers. But not there did the message cease, for every weekday there might be those blessed sounds for the occasional services, as they were called; and though they might be owing to their business or occupation unable then to enter the church, still the bells would tell their tale, and with the swift motion of thought they would enter into the spirit of the service, though in bodily presence they were far distant. Surely those bells would further God's work in the parish and in the countryside, for wherever their tongues should sound they would serve to "ring out the false, ring in the true." Let the bells say to them whenever they heard them the words of the old text from Exodus, "None shall appear before me empty." The providing of the bells was another step towards a perfect service, but much lay help was still required in the parish. In conclusion, he said might God so bless the work of the clergy and laity in the parish, and might He so fill the hearts of those to whom he spoke that they may be enabled now to put into practice more perfectly that great law of self-sacrifice which was written in the life of their Master. Might they be so helped by God the Holy Ghost that they might live and work for God, that when the time came when they should be called up to Him they might not appear before God empty.

A tea meeting was afterwards held in the Town Hall, where a very large company assembled. The tables were presided over by Mrs. Reed, Aydon House; Miss Richardson, the Vicarage; Mrs. Richley, Dilston Villa; Mrs. Laing, Farnley Grange; Mrs. Miller, Laurel House; Mrs. Ridley, Mrs. Deuchar, Mrs. Cousins the Misses Irving, Piper Close; and Misses Wilson, Greenwell, Reed, Sheldon, and Lowes. At the after meeting the Vicar presided, and a number of addresses were given. After the church service, and at intervals during the afternoon, the St. Stephen's (Newcastle) Guild rang merry peals on the new bells.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

ON Whit-Monday, a mixed company of ringers belonging to the above Association, with some of their wives from Dudley, Tipton, and Netherton, including Mr. W. Micklewright, from Stafford, journeyed by brake to Stourport. Starting from Dudley soon after 8 a.m., on a lovely May morning, a splendid drive was enjoyed by all. Arriving at a wayside inn midway between Stourbridge and Kidderminster, a halt was made, and forming ourselves into a gipsy party, partook of a good breakfast. After an hour's stay, another start was made, the lovely scenery along the route being greatly admired, Stourport being reached about 11.30 a.m., after a most beautiful and pleasant ride. Seeing to our good steed, we again refreshed the inner man, and proceeded on foot over Stourport bridge (for which we had to pay toll), along the main road, where nature appeared to us to have put on her most beautiful foliage, to the picturesque village of Areley Kings. The tower of this Church contains a peal of six bells, the first five by Mears of London, the tenor being added by Blews and Sons, Birmingham, but it is not in harmony with the rest. The local band had made two attempts for a 720 in the morning, but failed. Some of our party having arrived, a 360 of Plain Bob was rung. The company now being complete, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob was brought round, this being the first in any method ever rang upon the bells. Several other attempts were made with some of the local ringers in, but came to grief. Courses of Grandsire Doubles, Triples, and Caters, were rang upon the handbells in the churchyard, which commands a good view of the surrounding country. The Rector, who takes an interest in his ringers, supplied us at our own wish with some good coffee, which was very much enjoyed.

The rev. gentleman having joined the company, a vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. J. Smith (Netherton), thanking him most heartily for the use of the tower and bells, and also for his genial kindness. This was seconded by Mr. W. R. Small (Tipton), who in a few appropriate remarks spoke of the good work being done by the various Guilds and Associations, and impressed upon those present who were not members, to become such, and so help to carry out the objects we had in view. The rev. gentleman in responding, said he was most happy to meet us, and we were quite welcome to what we had received from him. He was pleased to find his own ringers were progressing, and thanked us for our visit amongst them, hoping to see us again. A request being made by him to hear the handbells, a course of Grandsire Caters was rung in front of the rectory by W. Pardoe, 1-2; J. Smith, 3-4; W. Micklewright, sen., 5-6; W. Micklewright, jun., 7-8; W. R. Small, 9-10; for which the rector and his good lady thanked us very kindly. After showing the party over his grounds, which were very nicely decorated with various kinds of beautiful flowers, and poultry of different breeds, including a splendid peacock, who to our interest, was almost as knowing as a human being when spoken to, and quite took us by surprise. Having thanked the local ringers (some of them members of the Association), for having the bells in readiness, we retraced our footsteps towards Stourport. A short stay here while our conveyance was being put in readiness, a move was made for the village of Hartlebury, the residence of the Rev Dr. Phillpott, Lord Bishop of Worcester. Here again we refreshed ourselves with what was left of our little store, much to our enjoyment. Having been granted permission to ring, we were informed by the local ringers that the bells were in bad ringing condition, that they had been at work at them for several hours that morning, to make them if possible go a little better, and for which we were greatly indebted to them, and thanked them for their trouble. Ascending the tower we proceeded to raise the bells, when we very soon found that the local company were perfectly right in the go of the bells. Not to be daunted, a start was made for a 720 of Plain Bob, which was accomplished not before each ringer had had quite as much or even more than he bargained for. This is the first 720 of Bob Minor rung on the bells for a number of years, a 720 of Grandsire Minor being rang upon them by Worcester men three or four years ago. It is to be greatly deplored that a peal of six bells in such a place as this should be allowed to remain in such a state as not to be ringable, without making slaves of those who wish to ring them. Would that we could prevail upon the proper authorities here (and at other places), to join us in our ringing enterprise, and so make our Church towers fit to be a part of the sacred edifice, and our bells in easy going order. Everything being in readiness, another start was made, this time on our homeward journey. Arriving at Kidderminster, the Coffee House was visited for a little more refreshment. Moving on again till we reached the wayside inn (where we had breakfast), a stay for another hour was made, where we were entertained by a mimic, who in various somersaults and gambols, quite rivetted our attention for the time being. Although this was very pleasing to us all as a little pastime, we had to leave it behind, as time was getting on, and we should soon be due at our various destinations, which we all reached safely, without a hitch of any kind at an early hour, each one expressing themselves highly pleased, and feeling better after such a pleasant day's outing. An account of the ringing will be found on another page. J. SMITH.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

The tenth annual meeting of the above Association was held at St. Andrew's, Leyland, on Whit-Saturday, and the day being exceedingly fine, attracted ringers from Preston, St. Andrews, Leyland, St. James, Leyland, Chorley, Standish, Blackrod, and Eccleston. During the afternoon and evening several 720's of Bob Minor were rung. At five o'clock over forty sat down to a knife and fork tea provided at "The Eagle and Child" Inn. After tea the members adjourned to the Grammar School, where the usual meeting was held, the president (Mr. William Bowling) in the chair, to receive the accounts of the Treasurer and Secretary, and to elect officers for the ensuing year. A vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding, and to the rector for the use of the bells, brought the meeting to a close.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1888.

	Jan. to Mar.	Apr.	Total.
Ancient Society of College Youths ...	20	16	36
Sussex County Association ...	23	7	30
Midland Counties' Association ...	11	15	26
Oxford Diocesan Guild ...	13	7	20
Lancashire Association ...	12	6	18
Essex Association ...	7	9	16
Norwich Diocesan Association ...	9	6	15
Yorkshire Association ...	8	3	11
St. James's Society, London ...	9	1	10
Surrey Association ...	7	2	9
Salisbury Diocesan Guild ...	5	3	8
United Counties' Association... ..	5	3	8
Gloucester and Bristol Association... ..	7	0	7
Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford ...	5	2	7
The Holt Society ...	3	4	7
Hertford College Youths ...	4	2	6
Worcester and adjoining districts ...	4	2	6
Royal Cumberland Youths ...	3	3	6
Kent County Association ...	2	4	6
Winchester Diocesan Guild ...	4	1	5
Liverpool Youths ...	3	1	4
All Hallows' Society, Tottenham ...	1	2	3
Hertford Association ...	2	0	2
Birmingham Amalgamated ...	1	1	2
St. Martin's Society, Birmingham ...	1	0	1
Waterloo Society, London ...	1	0	1
Eastern Counties' Association ...	1	0	1
Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal ...	1	0	1
Independent Societies... ..	23	14	37
	195	114	309
Less Peals entered under two Associations...	11	16	27
Total	184	98	282

The above peals were rung in the following methods: New Cumberland Surprise Major, 1; Cambridge Surprise Major, 2; Superlative Surprise Major, 6; Double Oxford Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 9; Stedman Cinques, 1; Stedman Caters, 10; Stedman Triples, 22; Duffield Royal, 2; Treble Bob Royal, 6; Treble Bob Major, 38; Prince Albert Major, 1; Grandsire Caters, 15; Grandsire Major, 1; Grandsire Triples, 108; Grandsire Doubles (5040), 9; Court Bob Triples, 2; Oxford Bob Triples, 5; Union Triples, 4; Bob Maximus, 1; Bob Royal, 1; Bob Major, 11; Bob Triples, 9; Bob Doubles (5040), 1; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1; in seven Minor methods on six bells, 11; in one method, 1; in fourteen methods on five bells, 2; in six methods, 1; Total 282. Greatest number of changes in any one of the above peals, 13,265; quickest 5000 upon church bells, 2 hrs. 27 mins., rung at Drayton, Berks, April 13th, 1888. The above mentioned 37 peals by Independent societies were rung in the following counties:—Lancashire, 15; Staffordshire, 3; Gloucestershire, 2; Suffolk, 2; Cheshire, 2; Yorkshire, 12; Warwickshire, 2; Kent, 2; also Devonshire, Northamptonshire, Middlesex, Huntingdonshire, Bedfordshire, Berkshire and Surrey one each.

	1887.	1888.
Number of peals rung January ...	50	52
" " " February ...	76	72
" " " March ...	65	60
" " " April ...	62	98

Increase on the 4 months, 29.

Brighton.

GEO. F. ATTREE.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The Annual General Meeting is fixed to be held at Ashford, on Monday, June 18th. Committee meeting at 11; Service at 12, when the sermon will be preached by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Dinner at 1. All who mean to attend, and wish for dinner tickets, should communicate with the Secretary, not later than June 12th. And if reduced fares are desired, full particulars as to trains, stations, and numbers must be given, or no application can be made. The allowance to members is 1s. besides the dinner.

Winsted Court, Leuham.

R. K. HUGESSEN, Hon. Sec.

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

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 1888.

At the annual meeting of the Essex Association, held at Chelmsford on Whit-Monday, the Vicar of Writtle, who it will be remembered is the Hon. Secretary of the Association, spoke in very kindly terms of the claims of this paper to the support of all ringers. The reverend gentleman said of course what he really thought, and his remarks, we are told, were received with no small amount of favour by the meeting. We greatly regret, however, that the Rev. J. B. SEAMAN thought fit to traverse, in a manner, the kindly advocacy of Mr. PAPILLON, and to contrast "THE BELL NEWS" with *Church Bells*. We shall not repeat in this place the observations of Mr. SEAMAN. It will effect neither harm or good to our contemporary or ourselves. But we should like to point out the bad taste, to say the least, of any one attacking this journal when upon their own confession they never read it, and therefore must be ignorant of the nature of its contents. All that Mr. SEAMAN said of our contemporary we heartily subscribe to, and more. We have more knowledge of that journal than Mr. SEAMAN, and a greater and longer acquaintance with its past and present ringing Editor than he has. But we claim that our journal has done good also in the promotion and extension of good ringing; effects which would not only astonish Mr. SEAMAN but many of our kind supporters. Whether he may believe this to be the case or otherwise we know not; we are willing to abide by the verdict of the ringing community.

Mr. SEAMAN can hardly know of the wear and anxiety which has to be borne in establishing a newspaper, no matter of how small proportions. And when through no small amount of toil and sacrifice these initial troubles have been surmounted, and the reward is looked for, it is annoying to hear of such observations being made as he has thought fit to make. Had he previously seen what effect his words would have upon his audience, he would no doubt have left out that part of his speech which is a direct attack upon us. The rev. gentleman is of course no ringer; that goes without saying. But we can name other clergymen, non-ringers, who give us their warm support

and encouragement, clergymen who from time to time take the trouble to compliment us upon the moral tone of "THE BELL NEWS." A letter of this description from a Kentish Vicar lies before us as we write. "THE BELL NEWS" will not suffer from this attack. It is the first the paper has experienced; and we are thankful to those friends who at the meeting taught our antagonist that he was quite alone in his strictures.

The Provinces.

STAPLEHURST, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTAN'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 21½ cwt.

W. COLLISON Treble.	R. EDWARDS 5.
W. POPE 2.	A. E. NUNN 6.
J. TILLMON 3.	E. POPE 7.
W. E. POPE 4.	T. G. COLVIN Tenor.

Conducted by A. E. NUNN.

COLE-ORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S SOCIETY, MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

On Tuesday, May 22, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

GEORGE A. FISH Treble.	GEORGE C. TUNNICLIFF .. 5.
JOSEPH W. WARREN 2.	HARRY C. WOODWARD .. 6.
HY. HOLLINGWORTH 3.	JNO. VICKERS 7.
FRED. W. COOK 4.	JOHN R. WOOD Tenor.

Conducted by H. C. WOODWARD.

First peal in the method with a bob bell by F. W. Cook.

LYMINGE, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 26, 1888, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES UPON SIX BELLS;

BEING SEVEN 720'S OF BOB MINOR, EACH CALLED DIFFERENTLY.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

JAMES PREBBLE* Treble.	EDMUND POTTER 4.
JAMES ANDREWS* 2.	*CHARLES LAKER 5.
ALFRED BEER* 3.	*ALBERT TANTON Tenor.

Conducted by A. TANTON.

*First 5040. E. Potter hails from Dover, the rest belong to Lyminge, and is the first 5040 ever rung on the bells. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells.

HORLEY, SURREY.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 29, 1888, in Three Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

A. ELLIS Treble.	J. TAYLOR 5.
G. WICKENS 2.	F. WICKENS 6.
T. SPARKS* 3.	M. HEFFER 7.
E. DEWEY 4.	*G. APPS Tenor.

Conducted by F. WICKENS.

*First peal. This peal was rung to commemorate the 18th birthday of G. App's, his brother-ringers wish him many happy returns of the day.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, May 24, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 17 cwt.

ACKLAND J. PERKINS Treble.	WILLIAM LINCOLN 5.
BENJAMIN KEEBLE 2.	EDWIN BARNETT 6.
RICHARD T. WOODLEY 3.	ALFRED PORTER 7.
JOHN GOBBETT 4.	GEORGE NEWSON Tenor.

Composed by J. LATES, and Conducted by A. J. PERKINS.

This peal, which is in one part, is the first in the method by Messrs. Keeble, Woodley, Lincoln and Barnett, and was rung in honour of the opening of a Cottage Hospital, erected in honour of the Queen's Jubilee, by the inhabitants at a cost of £1000.

Date Touches.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, May 24th, at St. Paul's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 24 mins., and contains the Queens, Tittums, Whittingtons and the twenty-four 6-7's, composed by John Carter, of Birmingham. F. Hull, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; F. Smith (aged 17 years), 3; I. Hills, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; H. Chapman, 6; W. G. Biggs (conductor), 7; F. Sharp, 8. This is Messrs. Hull, Smith and Sharp's longest length. Great credit is due to them, as nine months previous they could not handle a bell. The above was rung in honour of Her Majesty's birthday, and also Mr. W. G. Biggs's 23rd birthday, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Thursday, May 24th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 6 mins. J. Prescott, 1; J. Pilkington, 2; J. Sholicar (composer and conductor), 3; H. Winrow, 4; J. Aspinwall, 5; W. B. Lloyd, 6; W. Bentham, 7; P. H. Harvey, 8. Rung in honour of the sixty-ninth birthday of Her Majesty the Queen.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, May 8th, at St. Marys' church, a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and four singles). F. Hull, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; F. Smith (first 720 with a bob bell), 3; H. Chapman, 4; W. Hall, 5; C. R. Howard, 6. Also a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Keech, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; I. Hills, 3; H. Chapman, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. G. Biggs, 6. These 720's were rung in honour of the 24th birthday of Mr. Clarke, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns of the day. Also on Thursday, May 17th, for practice, a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Toll, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; I. Hills, 3; H. Chapman, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. Hall, 6. Also a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob (nine bobs). S. J. Cullip, 1; I. Hills, 2; W. Hall, 3; H. Chapman, 4; W. G. Biggs, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also a 216 of Bob Minor. W. Bettles, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; F. Smith, 3; I. Hills, 4; W. G. Biggs, 5; H. Chapman (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, May 20th, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Hull, 1; I. Hills, 2; F. Keech, 3; H. Chapman (conductor), 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. Hall, 6. Also on Monday, May 21st, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Smith, 1; H. Hills, 2; W. G. Biggs, 3; H. Chapman, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. Line (first 720 and first attempt), 6. C. Line hails from Sherington, Bucks. Also on Sunday, May 13th, at St. Paul's church, for evening service, a 360 of Bob Major. F. Hull, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; H. Chapman, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; J. N. Frossell, 5; F. Keech, 6; W. Hall, 7; I. Hills, 8. Also a 336 of Bob Major. F. Smith, 1; W. Hall, 2; F. Keech, 3; H. Chapman, 4; I. Hills, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; J. N. Frossell, 7; W. G. Biggs, 8. This was F. Hull and F. Smith's first attempt at Major. Also on Tuesday evening, for practice, a 350 of Grandsire Triples. W. Bettles, 1; W. G. Biggs, 2; F. Smith (first touch with a bob bell), 3; I. Hills, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; H. Chapman, 6; W. Hall (conductor), 7; F. Keech, 8. Also on Sunday, May 27th, for morning service, a 350 of Grandsire Triples, with Whittingtons, Queens, Tittums. F. Hull, 1; C. Pass, 2; F. Smith, 3; I. Hills, 4; F. Keech, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; H. Chapman, 7; F. Sharp, 8. Also for evening service, a 350 of Grandsire Triples. W. Bettles, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; F. Smith, 3; F. Keech, 4; H. Chapman, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. W.

Clarke (conductor), 7; F. Hull, 8. Also a 592 of Bob Major. F. Smith, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. G. Biggs, 3; F. Keech, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6; W. Hall, 7; H. Chapman, 8. And a course of Stedman Triples.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

LONDON.—On Monday, May 14th, at St. Clement Danes, with the bells muffled, the usual whole pull and stand was rung as a last mark of respect to the late F. A. P. Knipe, M.D., many years a member of this society. After the whole pull and stand, several touches were rung.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING.—On Whit-Sunday, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, at 7 a.m., 720 London Single. R. Jarvis, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; C. Neaverson, 3; G. L. Richardson, 4; R. Mackman, 5; G. Skeef, 6; J. W. Jarvis, 8 (as cover). Also after evening service 720 Plain Bob. J. R. Mackman, 1; G. Skeef, 2; C. Neaverson, 3; G. L. Richardson, 4; R. Mackman, 5; J. S. Wright (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, May 24th, in honour of the Queen's birthday, at 7 a.m., 720 of London Single. Also at noon, 480 Plain Bob. And in the evening, a half-peal of Union Triples (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 36 mins. R. Jarvis, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; J. W. Jarvis, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6; G. Skeef, 7; E. Jarvis, 8. Also on Sunday, May 27th, at 7 a.m., 1036 of Grandsire Triples. G. Skeef, 1; J. W. Jarvis, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman, 6; R. Jarvis, 7; E. Jarvis, 8. And after evening service, three 120's of Grandsire Doubles. Rev. J. M. Coates, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. W. Jarvis (conductor), 5; E. Jarvis, 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday evening, May 20th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Plain Bob. W. Jackson, 1; L. Digweed, 2; W. Martin, 3; J. Broom, 4; G. Hayes, 5; G. Martin (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, May 27th, 720 of Bob Minor. G. Elcombe, 1; L. Digweed, 2; *W. Jackson, 3; A. Cornford, 4; J. Broom, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. *First 720 with a bob bell.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LEISTON (Suffolk).—On Whit-Sunday morning at 6 a.m., at the parish church, 518 of Grandsire Triples. W. Button, 1; H. Button, 2; F. Wilson, 3; A. Lincoln, 4; G. Morling, 5; J. Button, 6; R. Stannard (conductor), 7; J. Flegg, 8. And at 10 a.m., 672 of Bob Major. J. Flegg, 1; H. Button, 2; F. Wilson, 3; J. Button, 4; G. Morling, 5; A. Lincoln (conductor), 6; W. Button, 7; T. Staulkey, 8. Also in the evening, 420 of Grandsire. A. Lincoln, 1; F. Lambert, 2; F. Wilson, 3; H. Button, 4; G. Morling, 5; R. Stannard (conductor), 6; J. Button, 7; J. Flegg, 8. F. Lambert hails from Halesworth.

KELSALE (Suffolk).—On Sunday afternoon, May 27th, at the parish church, an attempt was made for a date touch of Oxford Treble Bob Major, but came to grief after ringing 900 changes. F. Lambert, 1; W. Fisher, 2; F. Wilson, 3; R. Wells, 4; F. Watling, 5; F. Thompson, 6; A. Lincoln, 7; W. Stannard (conductor), 8. Also 704 by the same company. And on Tuesday, May 22nd, a peal was attempted in the same method, but after ringing an hour it came to grief. W. Fisher, 1; F. Watling, 2; F. Wilson, 3; R. Wells (conductor), 4; H. Button, 5; F. Thompson, 6; A. Lincoln, 7; R. Stannard, 8.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, May 12th, at St. Thomas's church, three six-score of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. C. Barrett, 1; J. Barber, 2; H. Harris, 3; G. H. Pagett, 4; H. Martin (conductor), 5; J. Crump, 6. Also 350 of Grandsire Triples. C. Barrett, 1; J. Guest, 2; H. Harris, 3; G. H. Pagett, 4; H. Martin, 5; W. F. Hartshorn (conductor), 6; J. Barber, 7; J. Crump, 8. And a plain course of Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Harris, 1; G. H. Pagett, 2; J. Guest, 3; W. E. Hartshorn, 4; J. Barber, 5; H. Martin, 6. Also a course of Bob Major. J. Guest, 1; J. Barber, 2; W. F. Hartshorn, 3; C. Barrett, 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; H. Harris, 6; H. Martin, 7; H. Deakin, 8. And a course of Kent Treble Bob. J. Guest, 1; W. F. Hartshorn, 2; H. Harris, 3; J. Barber, 4; H. Martin, 5; H. Deakin, 6. Also on Sunday, May 13th, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), with 6-8 behind, in 30 mins. J. Pagett, 1; J. Guest (conductor), 2; H. Harris, 3; C. Barrett, 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; J. Bird, 6; W. A. Pugh, 7; J. Crump, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. in Eb. H. Martin hails from Belbroughton, Barber from Clent, Guest and Hartshorn from Brierley Hill, and Deakin from Woolaston, the rest are of the local company.

CLINT (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, May 22nd, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. C. Barrett, 1; J. Barber, 2; G. H. Pagett, 3; W. Short, 4; T. Barber, 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Plain Bob Minor. T. Barber, 1; C. Barrett, 2; G. H. Pagett, 3; W. Beaseley, 4; J. Barber, 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6. Messrs. Pagett and Barrett hail from Stourbridge, and Beaseley from Cradley; the rest belong to the local company.

ARELEY KINGS (Worcestershire).—On Whit-Monday, May 21st, a mixed company rang a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, in 12½ mins. W. Prestidge, 1; C. Beaman, 2; W. R. Small, 3; W. Pardoe, 4; W. Micklewright, jun., 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. F. Hotchkiss, 1; W. Micklewright, sen., 2; W. R. Small, 3; W. Pardoe, 4; W. Micklewright, jun. (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

HARTLEBURY (Worcestershire).—On Monday, May 21st, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 29 mins. W. Micklewright, sen., 1; W. R. Small, 2; F. Hotchkiss, 3; W. Micklewright, jun., 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Messrs. Hotchkiss and Smith hail from Netherton; W. Small from Tipton; W. Micklewright, sen., from Stafford; W. Micklewright, jun., from Dudley. Tenor 21 cwt.

LINCOLN.—On Sunday, May 27th, before the 7 a.m. celebration at the Cathedral, about 600 of Bob Triples. C. Hurst, 1; J. Holman, 2; S. Brown, 3; G. Doughty, 4; J. Woodthorpe, 5; J. Vickers (conductor), 6; F. Rose, 7; W. Stewart, 8. And at St. Peter-at-Gowts, for the 8 a.m. celebration, 720 of Bob Minor. T. Lloyd (first 720), 1; T. Walker, 2; H. Hoyes, 3; H. Palmer, 4; P. Herrick, 5; W. Knowles (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. T. Walker, 1; J. Holman, 2; H. Hoyes, 3; H. Palmer, 4; P. Herrick, 5; W. Knowles (conductor), 6. And for Divine Service at 11 a.m., 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and three courses of Grandsire Minor. T. Walker, 1; J. Holman, 2; H. Hoyes, 3; H. Palmer, 4; P. Herrick, 5; W. Knowles (conductor), 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, 360 of Bob Minor. T. Lloyd, 1; J. Holman, 2; T. Walker, 3; H. Palmer, 4; P. Herrick, 5; W. Knowles (conductor), 6. Mr. Holman was on a visit from Bath.

MIDDLETON (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, May 22nd, at the parish church, several 120's of Grandsire Doubles. C. Bedwell, 1; W. Newson, 2; H. Catchpole, 3; J. Newson, 4; W. Bedwell (conductor), 5. Tenor 9 cwt. Messrs. C. and W. Bedwell hail from Stowmarket, the rest belong to the local company.

STOWMARKET (Suffolk).—On Thursday, May 24th, at the parish church, 360 Bob Minor, with 6-8 behind. C. Bedwell, 1; J. Wright, 2; G. Ponder, 3; E. Buckle, 4; F. Plumber, 5; W. Bedwell (conductor), 6; J. Wade, 7; J. Banham, 8. Also 180 in the same method, with F. Brett, 8. *Handbell Ringing*.—Also 720 Bob Minor. C. Bedwell, 1; J. Wright, 2; *G. Ponder, 3; F. Plumber, 4; E. Buckle, 5; W. Bedwell (conductor), 6. *First 720.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MEMBERS are informed that the report for 1887 (which contains amongst other matters, a full list of peals, with the compositions, rung by the Association since its formation in 1878) is now ready, and may be obtained of the local secretaries of the different Deaneries as under. Free to those whose subscriptions are paid, and to others at a price at 3d.

Deaneries.	Local Secs.
GLOUCESTER	H. Hatherley, Esq., National Provincial Bank, Gloucester.
DURSLEY, HAWKESBURY, & BITTON	Mr. F. K. Howell, Morton, Thornbury.
N'TH AND S'TH FOREST ..	Mr. J. Hern, Newnham.
BISLEY & STONEHOUSE ..	W. C. Long, Esq., Stonehouse.
WINCHCOMBE, CIRENCESTER AND TEWKESBURY ..	F. E. Ward, Esq., 438, High Street, Cheltenham.
FAIRFORD, NORTHLEACH, & STOW	T. W. TAYLOR, Esq., Northleach.
BRISTOL AND STAPLETON ..	C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., 30, Broad Street, Bristol.

Magor, Newport, Mon.

REV. PITT EYKYN, Hon. Sec.

* * Owing to an extraordinary pressure on the space at our disposal, several touches, reports, and other matters are unavoidably postponed till next week. We here again call attention to the rule that everything intended for insertion must be accompanied by the name and address of the sender.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.—13,054 CHANGES.

By HENRY JOHNSON, SEN. Birmingham.

2 3 1 4 5 6

3 1 2 6 5 4 1 5 6 16
2 1 4 6 3 5 4 8
2 1 5 4 3 6 16
2 1 6 5 3 4 16
6 1 4 3 2 5 4 16
6 1 5 4 2 3 16
6 1 3 5 2 4 16
3 1 4 2 6 5 4 16
3 1 5 4 6 2 16
5 1 3 2 6 4 5 16
5 1 4 3 6 2 16
4 1 5 2 6 3 5 16
4 1 3 5 6 2 16
3 1 2 6 4 5 4 16
3 1 5 2 4 6 16
3 1 6 5 4 2 16
6 1 2 4 3 5 4 16
6 1 5 2 3 4 16
6 1 4 5 3 2 16
4 1 2 3 6 5 4 16

2 1 4 5 6 3 5 16
4 1 3 6 2 5 4 16
4 1 5 3 2 6 16
4 1 6 5 2 3 16
6 1 3 2 4 5 4 16
6 1 5 3 4 2 16
6 1 2 5 4 3 16
2 1 3 4 6 5 4 16
2 1 5 3 6 4 16
5 1 2 4 6 3 5 16
5 1 2 3 6 4 5 16
2 1 5 4 6 3 5 16
2 1 3 5 6 4 16
3 1 4 6 2 5 4 16
3 1 5 4 2 6 16
3 1 6 5 2 4 16
6 1 4 2 3 5 4 16
6 1 5 4 3 2 16
6 1 2 5 3 4 16
2 1 4 3 6 5 4 16

4 1 2 5 6 3 5 16
2 1 3 6 4 5 4 16
2 1 5 3 4 6 16
2 1 6 5 4 3 16
6 1 3 4 2 5 4 16
6 1 5 3 2 4 16
6 1 4 5 2 3 16
4 1 3 2 6 5 4 16
4 1 5 3 6 2 16
5 1 4 2 6 3 5 16
5 1 3 4 6 2 16
3 1 5 2 6 4 5 16
3 1 4 5 6 2 16
4 1 2 6 3 5 4 16
4 1 5 2 3 6 16
4 1 6 5 3 2 16
6 1 2 3 4 5 4 16
6 1 5 2 4 3 16
6 1 3 5 4 2 16
3 1 2 4 6 5 4 16

The whole repeated, except bobs at 1 and 6 in the first course, produces 312456; then bobs at 2, 4, 13, 15, 16 completes the peal. Rung at Cheltenham, May 21st, 1888, conducted by W. T. Pates.

OLDWINKLE (Northants).—On Saturday, May 26th, at the parish church, a six-score each of Canterbury, Grandsire, and Bob Doubles. R. Rowell, 1; C. Swan, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; W. Fox, 4; G. March (conductor), 5. Also 120 of St. Simon's Doubles. R. Rowell, 1; C. Swan (conductor), 2; W. Fox, 3; G. March, 4; R. Dunkley, 5. And a six-score each of Canterbury and Stedman Doubles. R. Swan (conductor), 1; R. Dunkley, 2; W. Fox, 3; E. Curtis, 4; G. March, 5. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles by the local company. J. French, 1; W. Green, 2; W. Bland, 3; J. Beasley, 4; W. French (conductor), 5. Tenor about 8 cwt. Messrs. Swan, March, Curtis, and Fox, hail from Lowick; Rowell from Wadnoe; and R. Dunkley from Bythorn, Hunts.

Correspondence.

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

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

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—Your correspondent, Mr. Parker, of Slough, is quite right as regards the peal of Grandsire Triples by Mr. Penning, given on page 106 of Snowdon's Work. At the first lead is the single, whose handstroke and backstroke are thus:—

1 5 7 6 2 4 3

1 7 5 6 2 4 3

but at the 141st lead, being a plain lead, come the changes:

1 5 7 6 2 4 3

1 7 5 2 6 3 4

similarly the 26th lead is the single:

1 5 2 3 7 4 6

1 2 5 3 7 4 6

the handstroke of which is repeated at the 235th lead. And while these two occur each twice, the changes 1572634 and 1527364 are not to be found in the peal. The calling given is adapted to the use of Holt's plain lead singles, but bob singles are inadmissible, the reason being, as Mr. Parker points out, that they are not a pair.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER.

SIR,—My thanks are due to Mr. Parker for drawing attention to the peal given in Mr. Snowdon's "Grandsire," with ninety bobs and two singles. I also apologise to the Editors of that excellent work, and especially to Mr. Charles Jackson and his company who have rung it. The peal as composed is true; but in making a variation of it, I inadvertently substituted a Holt's bob-single for a plain lead single, with the unfortunate result of producing two false changes. In enclose the peal in another form, which I trust you will favour me by inserting; I would take this opportunity of strongly recommending "Grandsire" to all who are interested in the method, as it is certain that in no other work can so complete information be obtained; and I very much regret, through carelessness, to have marred a page of it by a false peal.

5040.

P.L.S.	257364*	1	625347	5	723465	2	653472	5
	352476	5	736425	1	657342	2	456237	5
	453627	5	437562	5	356274	5	254763	5
	654732	5	534276	5	423756	1	372654	1
	756243	5	235647	5	724635	5	673425	5
B.S.	253746†	5	632754	5	247635	4	326754	3
	462375	2	470532	1	642573	5	653247	3
	624375	4	574263	5	546327	5	256734	5
	326547	5	275346	5	345762	5	752463	5
	643275	3	542763	3	743256	5	347652	1
	376452	3	745326	5	627543	1	523764	2
	243576	1	457326	4	526374	5	725436	5
	542637	5	634257	1	325467	5	427653	5
	645723	5	236745	5	253467	4	364527	1
	456723	4	362745	4	452736	5	563742	5
	754362	5	763524	5	754623	5	765234	5
	357246	5	567432	5	427536	3	657234	4
	253674	5	465273	5	274536	4	256473	5
	652437	5	264357	5	572643	5	452367	5
	746352	1	732564	1	675324	5	354726	5
	347265	5	537426	5	246537	2	753642	5
	473265	4	435672	5	752346	1	267453	1
	524673	1	354672	4	357624	5		

*Plain lead single. †Holt's bob single.

Saffron Walden.

JNO. F. PENNING.

SIR,—Mr. Parker's letter makes me dizzy. The late Mr. Snowdon had inserted in his ms. the peal on page 106. It would therefore have appeared in print even supposing that its falseness had been demonstrated. Knowing that the ancients were not always to be trusted for accuracy, I examined some of the old touches, with the result that one (see page 56), turned out to be false. But in such names as those of Penning, Pitstow, etc., Mr. William Snowdon and I put implicit confidence—not to mention the fact that this peal had been rung at Hull in 1884.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

SIR,—Referring to the above letter, Mr. Davies | courteously forwarded it to me for perusal, and I ought to have sent it to your columns last week, but it failed to reach me until too late, owing to my being busy interviewing a few of the hill tops of our beautiful Yorkshire. I fear nothing more can be said. Mr. Penning has evidently

tripped in the higher lands of composition; and it has taken us four years to find it out. The peal was first published in "THE BELL NEWS," on April 12th, 1884. The thanks of the Exercise are certainly due to Mr. Parker for the attention he is giving to Grandsire composition. In conversation with Mr. Tom Lockwood in the Leeds parish church tower on Sunday—the bells being only chimed for a few minutes on account of illness in the vicinity—he pointed out to me that the awkwardness of the Grandsire calls had driven his father (Mr. James Lockwood), to introduce special singles of his own into his peals (given on pages 87 and 97 of *Grandsire*), and he also expressed his opinion that these latter singles would make the peal in question run true. I mention this, not as favouring the manufacture of singles, but as a point which may interest composers who are sure to turn their eyes to Mr. Penning's peal. Mr. Penning has also a *patent* single, of which perhaps he will have something to say. W. SNOWDON.

Old Bank Chambers, Leeds, May 29th.

P.S.—Since writing the above, Mr. Herbert W. Needham, a member of the Yorkshire Association, and of the Leeds parish church company, points out that Mr. Penning's peal on page 104 of *Grandsire*, is also false at the singles, which will be seen on examination of the hand and back strokes of the twelfth lead after the second single, where the 7th enters the hunt.

USING THE PROPERTY OF OTHERS.

SIR,—In your issue of the 19th of May, there appears a 5504 of Bob Major, by Mr. H. J. Tucker, which is so good a copy of a 5056 with the same qualities (by myself) and which was published in your columns the 31st of March last, that I may be excused for drawing attention to the resemblance. On comparing the 5504 with the 5056, it will be seen there is very little difference indeed, the difference occurring in the second course where our friend introduces a bob w (which certainly does not improve the musical qualities) and by running on H course, thus lengthens the 5056 by a course in each of the four parts, and in the fifth course he picks up the fourth course-end of the 5056, and then the two peals run exactly similar to the end of the part. As he uses exactly the same calling to part the tenors, and to bring them together again, and moreover does not improve in any way on the original peal, I think he will agree with me that the resemblance hides the difference, and that he has been forestalled in peals having the qualities claimed. JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

SIR,—I am requested to give notice that the peal of Grandsire Major, rung at Christ Church, Southgate, on March 1st, 1888, was not a St. James's peal, as one of the performers is not a member of this Society. J. BARRY, Hon. Sec.

THE PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR AT HARWICH

SIR,—I observe that the above peal, rung on Whit-Monday, by the St. Mary-le-Tower society, is credited to the Essex Association. I am sorry to be obliged to repudiate such a peal, the ringers in which have all at one time been non-resident members of this Association. But the names of three of them were removed from our list last January, notice having been duly given both privately and in "THE BELL NEWS" last autumn, that members from whom two years' subscription was then due would, unless they communicated with me before December 31st, be considered to have withdrawn from membership. One of the three has since been proposed for re-election, but unless this is also the case with the others, we cannot claim the peal in question for the Essex Association. If any members of the Association have any corrections or alterations to suggest for the forthcoming Report, may I ask them to communicate with me at once.

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford.

T. L. PAPILLON, Hon. Sec.

A TENOR'S OBJECTION.

SIR,—You can't think how sorry I was to hear our young ringers talking last Sunday about the report in your last issue that I was a bad-going bell, and I felt sure I should have gone quite off into hysterics, if I had not discovered that they did not agree with the report, and most of them had a kindly pull, and said they could manage three hours and a half with me without any bother. Perhaps Whit-Monday sports at Harwich made our good friends from St. Mary-le-Tower less energetic than usual, and I fancy I heard tears of distress falling from a near neighbour in the tower, whose ringer was hardly up to his usual good work. However I hope they may be more successful next time, and then I think they will agree with the remarks made in the tower last Sunday, viz., that I was a decent going bell, and fit to subscribe myself.

THE TENOR BELL OF ST. NICHOLAS, HARWICH.

P.S.—I heard many remarks made on Sunday, that visitors would be welcome to come and disprove the report, and I hope they will.

Obituary.

WILLIAM HINTON.

On Monday afternoon last, May 28th, the Cirencester company met at the tower of the parish church at 2.30 to pay the last tribute of respect to their departed chief, Mr. W. Hinton, builder, who expired on Wednesday morning, May 23rd, at his residence, Chester Street, Cirencester, after a very brief illness. Although for some months past his breath was very bad, he would sit at the bottom of the tower and listen to the bells, being too stout to climb the stairs. He retained his faculties up till within the last three days of his death. Punctually at 2.30 the company rang 840 changes, with the bells deeply muffled, the tenor being open on one side to represent the tolling bell. While he was being conveyed to the cemetery, a distance of a mile and half from the church, and after an interval of fifteen minutes half the buffs were taken off. During the return journey another 840 of Grandsire Triples was rung by the following: J. Ponlin, 1; J. Earl, 2; W. Moorman, 3; G. Mason, 4; H. Treeth, 5; H. Hughes, 6; G. Davis, 7; H. Cluttbuck (conductor), 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT OF THE RINGING FOR THE PERIOD ENDING MAY 26th.

By the Arundel branch at Arundel.—On Sunday, May 6th, a 720 of Bob Minor. G. Treagus, 1; C. Clear, 2; C. Hills, 3; G. Balchin, 4; C. Blackman, 5; T. Luxford (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, May 13th, a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. G. Treagus, 1; *E. Ede, 2; W. Short, 3; H. Chandler, 4; W. Charman, 5; F. Luxford (conductor), 6; W. Chamberlain, 7; R. Goacher, 8. *First quarter-peal. Also a 504 of Bob Triples. G. Treagus, 1; C. Blackman, 2; W. Short, 3; H. Chandler, 4; G. Balchin, 5; W. Chamberlain, 6; W. Charman (conductor), 7; R. Goacher, 8. Also an 840 of Bob Triples. C. Hills, 1; C. Blackman, 2; W. Chamberlain, 3; G. Balchin, 4; W. Short (conductor), 5; F. Luxford, 6; H. Chandler, 7; H. Evans, 8. Messrs Clear, Hills and Evans hail from Angmering; Messrs Chandler, Short and Charman from Warnham.

By the Balcombe branch at Balcombe.—On Whit-Sunday, May 20th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Bourn, 1; A. Stoner, 2; J. Gasson, 3; G. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Bourn, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; G. Streeter, 4; A. Stoner, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Oxford Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Bourn, 2; A. Stoner, 3; H. Meads, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Gasson, 1; R. Streeter, 2; A. Stoner, 3; G. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also a 108 of Plain Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Streeter, 2; J. Gasson, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; T. Streeter, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Streeter, 2; A. Stoner, 3; G. Streeter, 4; J. Gasson, 5; J. Cheeseman (conductor), 6.

By the Brighton branch at St. Paul's.—On Sunday, April 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. P. Allfrey, 1; G. Biggerstaff, 2; W. Allfrey, 3; G. Hill, 4; A. Marshall, 5; J. Reilly (conductor), 6; A. Bennett, 7; J. Salmon, 8. And on Sunday, May 6th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. L. Gibbs, 1; G. Biggerstaff, 2; P. Allfrey, 3; G. Hill, 4; A. Marshall, 5; W. Allfrey, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; J. Reilly, 8. L. Gibbs hail from Cuckfield; and this is P. Allfrey first 504 with a bob bell. Also on Sunday, May 13th, at St. Peter's church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18½ mins. D. Ross, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; J. E. Worrell, 3; G. A. King, 4; G. Thwaites (conductor), 5; H. Cornwall, 6; A. A. Fuller, 7; J. Reilly, 8. And a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire Triples, in 41 mins. G. F. Attree (conductor), 1; G. Thwaites, 2; A. A. Fuller, 3; J. E. Worsell, 4; G. A. King, 5; H. Cornwall, 6; J. Jay, 7; J. Mockett, 8. And on Sunday, May 20th, a 503 of Grandsire Triples, in 17½ mins. J. Jay, 1; J. E. Worsell, 2; C. E. Golds, 3; G. Thwaites, 4; H. Cornwall, 5; H. Weston (conductor), 6; A. A. Fuller, 7; D. Ross, 8.

By the Chailey branch at Chailey.—On Thursday, May 3rd, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Reynolds, 1; J. Langridge, 2; A. Gorringer, 3; H. Cornwell, 4; W. Pelling, 5; O. Gatland (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, May 19th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Reynolds, 1; J. Sandridge, 2; A. Gorringer, 3; H. Cornwell, 4; W. Pelling, 5; O. Gatland (conductor), 6.

By the Hurst branch at Hurst.—On Sunday, May 20th, a 720 of Grandsire Doubles, in 28 mins. H. Sayers, 1; J. Mansbridge, 2; J. Leeney, 3; A. Pierce, 4; W. Landen, 5; W. Steyning, 6; A. Davey, 7; D. Davey, 8. Also for evening service, five 6-scores, of Grandsire Doubles. H. Sayers, 1; J. Mansbridge, 2; J. Leeney, 3; A. Pierce, 4; W. Lander, 5; A. Davey, 6.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

RINGERS' OUTING.

ON Whit-Tuesday, May 22nd, the St. Michael's society, Melbourne, Derbyshire, decided to pay a visit to Coleorton and Ashby, for the purpose of ringing a peal at each place. Permission having been obtained from the respective Vicars, a start was made about 9.30., Coleorton church being reached about 11 o'clock. Owing to a pin being broken, however, a slight delay occurred until about 11.30., when the bells were raised, and a start made for Holt's ten-part peal, which was successfully brought round in 3 hrs. 6 mins. (see peal page). The "go" of the bells was everything that could be desired, and they are a remarkably sweet sounding peal, though very little change-ringing is done on them, only when visited by strange bands, which is a great pity. Arriving at Ashby about four, arrangements were at once made for refreshments, after which a move was made to the parish church, with the intention of ringing the first peal of Major on the bells, which by the kindness of some of the Ashby ringers had been raised previously. It was very soon found however, that a peal of Major on them was impossible, owing to the heavy "go" of the sixth, seventh, and eighth bells, which was a great disappointment. The days' ringing was consequently finished up with a few short touches of Bob Major, Oxford Bob Triples, and Grandsire Triples, in which some of the Ashby men took part. The Melbourne ringers wish to thank the Vicars of Coleorton and Ashby through the medium of this paper for their kindness in granting the use of the bells, and also the Ashby ringers and the steeple-keeper at Coleorton, for getting everything in readiness.

DEDICATION OF TREVETHIN CHURCH BELLS, SOUTH WALES.

A special sermon in connection with the new peal of bells, was preached at the above church on Whit Sunday morning, by the Rev. J. Jones, vicar of Bassaleg. There was a large congregation present. The preacher, whose text was selected from Acts ii, verse 2, "A sound from heaven," referred to the festival of the day, being the birthday of the Church. The mode of the spirits manifestation was such as to arouse the attention and strike home into the souls of those present. After alluding to the power of sound over the emotions of the human heart, and to the use of bells in religious ceremonies from remote antiquity, he concluded with an earnest exhortation that his hearers would seek the Lord in all appointed ways. Considerable interest was manifested in the opening of the new peal of bells on Whit Monday, when the Upton St. Leonards (Gloucestershire) company rung Holt's Original, an account of which appeared last week. It was Mr. R. Brunston's (who is organist of St. Mary-de-Crypt, Gloucester), first peal of Triples, and he was heartily congratulated by all. The "go" of the bells is splendid, and they are in excellent tune.

HANDBELL CONTEST AT LIVERSEDEGE.

The Liversedge Royal Albert Prize Handbell Ringers promoted a series of contests on Whit-Monday, at their Meeting House, the "New Inn," Littleton, and they were a source of considerable attraction to ringers in the neighbourhood and others residing some distance away. There were three events of eight, ten, and five bells respectively, and in all twenty-three companies competed, which was considered a very satisfactory entry. The aggregate prize money amounted to £8. The premier ringing was in the eight-bell contest, the competition being keen, and the judges having some difficulty in deciding how to make their awards. In the ten-bell event, companies Nos. 1 and 2 rang fairly well. No. 3 was not so fortunate, and No. 4 went out altogether. Of the nine entries in the six-bell contest only 3 sets rang with any merit, the rest of the work being very indifferent. The judges were Mr. Jas. Lodge, of Hull, and Mr. Wm. Goodall, of Liversedge, and their decision gave entire satisfaction to all the competitors. They awarded the prizes as follows: eight bells: first, £2 10s., Dewsbury; second, £2, Almondbury, senr.; third, £1, Almondbury, jun.; fourth, 10s., Birstall Old; ten bells: first, 15s., Birstall Old; second, 10s., Dewsbury; six bells: first, 15s., Birstall Old; second, 10s., Dewsbury. There was a large attendance.

RAUNDS, WELLINGBOROUGH, AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

By kind permission of the Rev. Canon Lindsay, the eighth annual meeting of the above society took place at the parish church of Kettering, on Whit Monday. This is the first time it has been fixed for a Bank Holiday, but the large attendance of ringers and general success of the proceedings, proved the wisdom of such an arrangement. The church of SS. Peter and Paul, Kettering, is a large building in several styles of architecture, from Early Decorated to late Perpendicular. Its principal feature is the extremely handsome and lofty tower and spire, dating from about the year 1450. The bells (a peal of eight, tenor 26 cwt.), were fully described in "THE BELL NEWS" a few weeks since. It is intended before long to restore the Church at a cost of over £7000, with an additional expenditure of £700 for re-hanging the bells and making various improvements to the belfry. In the ringing-room, just above the west entrance, are several tablets recording peals of Grand-sire Triples rung in the years 1729, 1731, and 1840. Judging by the quick time in which the earlier peals were rung, it is most probable that the old tenor (recast in 1832), was considerably less in weight than the present fine bell. Bands from Kettering, Wellingborough, Raunds, Rushden, Ringstead, and Higham Ferrers, handled the ropes by turns during the morning and evening.

At one o'clock a public service was held in the parish church, and was well attended by ringers and others. The lessons were read by the Rev. Hugh Bryan, of Raunds, and the Rev. W. M. Croome, vicar of Islip, preached an appropriate sermon on the duties and responsibilities of church bell ringers, pointing out the motives which ought to influence them, and the sacredness of their office.

A dinner was provided by Messrs. Reesby and Palmer, in the Iron Room, Workhouse Lane, to which about fifty sat down, the clergy present being the Rev. Canon Lindsay, Rev. J. P. Goodman (Keystone), Rev. W. M. Croome, Rev. G. M. Edmunds (Stoke Doyle), Rev. W. O. Leadbitter (Denford), Rev. A. S. Lindsay, Rev. H. Bryan. Immediately after dinner, the business meeting was held, the Rev. Hugh Bryan, Hon. Secretary of the society, presiding. After reading the minutes of the last annual meeting, the chairman referred to the loss the society had sustained in the death of Mr. W. H. Henson, who for many years rung both in Kettering and Finedon belfries, and also of Mr. J. Thompson, of Higham Ferrers, and Mr. A. Groom, of Ringstead, whose death occurred a short time since through an accident at Islip Furnaces. He was glad to announce the Rev. A. S. Lindsay had become an honorary member of the society, and Mr. Bryan went on to state he had been informed that some of their ringers were not churchmen, nor had they ever been baptised. Although he did not care where a man was baptised, so long as he was baptised, yet he thought every ringer should be an admitted churchman, before being allowed to regularly ring a bell. The society now numbered twelve honorary members, and forty-eight ringing members.

The Rev. J. P. Goodman, treasurer of the society, stated that their financial position was very good, as he had about £18 in hand. A new code of rules, which had been put off from several annual meetings, was next considered.

It was unanimously carried that, seeing the Higham Ferrers' bells were in an unserviceable condition, the next annual meeting be held at Wellingborough, on Whit-Monday, 1889.

An excellent tea was provided for all the ringers in the rectory grounds by Mrs. Lindsay, and the rest of the evening was spent in performances on the handbells, and other amusements.

OAK APPLE DAY AT WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE 29th of May has almost lost its meaning at the present day. A few sprigs of oak, and here and there a weazened oak apple, was all. How different in our boyhood's days half a century ago. Then the first cry heard in the morning was "Show your oak," and woe to the schoolboy whose loyalty or memory was at fault; he was pinched in tender parts, his head punched, his hat knocked over his eyes, he was kicked from pillar to post, subjected to the greatest indignities, and sent

home roaring. The carter had a bit in his hat, the miller stuck a sprig in the head gear of each of his bravely-stepping team, the ploughman a shred in his smock frock, the tradesman sported it in his button-hole, school boys, as a matter of course, bedizened themselves with it, and all who did not in some way "show their oak" were not reckoned up to much. One pretty custom in connection with the day was that of sporting gilded oak apples, which, taking gold leaf easily, were displayed on all hands. You saw them in vases, in house windows, worn as button-holes, or carried as bouquets, and when newly done, they presented a lively appearance. There was a general hacking and hewing of the brave old oak on the evening of the 28th, to furnish boughs for the several hostelrys, and there was also a large handsome branch fastened over the west doorway of the parish church. Much beer flowed in the pursuit of this occupation, and sometimes bad blood was engendered in consequence of owners of trees objecting to have them cut and maimed: but they were always got by hook or by crook, and most of the inn-keepers used to have one over their doorways. Then there was such bell ringing! Lookers on would gather in the poky little chamber that then did duty as a belfry; watching six brave ringers, stalwart and strong, as they stood on the belfry floor, each with his foot in a leather thong, pulling, hauling, perspiring, and calling for "bob" and "sally," "firing" the bells, and turning them upside down and inside out in honour of the day, and quaffing deep draughts at "Dicky Beetle's" long before the days of Belfry Reform. Oh! the salvos that made the old steeple reel, the changes that were rung, the dodges, the touches, the knowing nods, the brace buttons that were shed, the seams that were rent asunder, the sweat that was poured out as a libation, are they not engraved on my memory indelibly. Not only on Restoration Day our countrymen showed their oak; it has been displayed ere now in many a tough battle on the sea; the wooden walls of old England have many a time and oft won the victory against fearful odds. By showing our oak we are masters of the sea; whether our huge top-heavy iron pots of the present day will continue, it is another question; the furniture of our grand old mansions was of native oak, our ancestors dined at oak tables; our grandsires laid by their linen in oak chests big enough for coffins, indeed, they occasionally did duty for that ominous adjunct of mortality, the story of the mistletoe bough to wit; they worshipped in oak, dispersed lustice "with brow severe" in oaken chairs, and went to bed and snored on oak four-posters. There seems to be an affinity twixt oak and the British character. "The Brave Old Oak," sung in stentorian unison in an atmosphere of tobacco smoke, in an ancient hostelry with a sanded oak floor, rafters black with age, and beams bulky enough for the Royal George, is a triumph that can only be achieved in this highly-favoured land. I am afraid we had rather hazy ideas as to the 29th: there was something said about Charlie coming to his own again, Charlie over the water, Charlie this and Charlie t'other; about an arrow being shot into an oak tree, and an owl flying blinking out in the sunshine. England, they said, had got a King again, it was no longer a sin to laugh, broad grins were in fashion. Sermons were limited to two hours' duration, the play houses were legally opened, wigs were at a premium, low bodices and curls were to the fore, jewellery flashed and sparkled on the brow of beauty; the gift of good looks was no longer deemed a device of Satan; pamphlets, pasquinades, and lampoons were sown broadcast; duels were fought in the streets of the Metropolis, and citizens spitted at the shortest notice; fiery zealots went about seeking whom they might devour, paying opponents all those delicate attentions peculiar to unreason and rampart rascality; Westminster Abbey is ransacked, the graves are opened, the dead disturbed, their bones are scattered, the pillory is erected, the gallows built, the gibbet raised, the restoration complete. "God save the King."

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A Meeting of the members will be held at Hatfield, Herts, on Saturday, June 16th. The tower will be open for ringing from 3 p.m. At 5 o'clock a business meeting will be held at the Coffee Tavern, to elect an Honorary Secretary and transact general business.

E. P. DEBENHAM, Hon. Sec. pro. tem.
St. Albans, Herts.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Let us be happy together."

Whitsuntide has come and gone, and we once more settle down to our every-day life and work. It is to be hoped that (as in my own case) the remembrance of our last brief holiday will be of a pleasant nature, and that—in whatever way we have enjoyed the welcome break in our labour—we may all of us have cause to reflect that we have made the most of the short space of time at our disposal for rest and recreation.

* * * * *

As you well remark, Mr. Editor, the ringing events of the season, "though not so great as the preparations would indicate, were nevertheless very far from being unimportant." The fifteen peals recorded from Saturday to Tuesday, if possessing few special characteristics, shew at least that our friends have been busily engaged in their favourite art during the holidays. The number of "first peals" reported, also, denotes that our younger brethren have been equally to the front with their elders in their great ringing performances.

* * * * *

Of the peals recorded, without doubt, the 13,054 of Stedman Caters at Cheltenham is the principal item; not merely on account of its being the longest length rung, but also by reason of its being the only successful peal out of the several previously announced attempts. I was pleased to see the name of our genial friend, Mr. C. H. Hattersley, among the list of performers; and if the respected Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild can yet claim the front place among our change-ringing clergymen for the longest lengths, the Revs. C. D. P. Davies and G. F. Coleridge can at least shake hands with him and say that they have beaten his record in one of them at any rate; and no one, I imagine, will be more happy to congratulate them than Mr. Robinson himself.

* * * * *

It is to be hoped that this friendly rivalry in ringing will never be allowed to flag, as there can be no doubt that such a spirit will prove of an inestimable benefit to the Exercise, not merely in the practical part of it, but also in the good feeling which it cannot fail to engender and maintain in all matters—social or otherwise—in connection with our art. Nothing succeeds so effectively in breaking up societies and Associations as jealousy and envy; while on the other hand there is scarcely anything conceivable which so well tends to the advancement of any science, art, object, or body of men engaged in any particular pursuit as a real honest friendly rivalry; each one striving to emulate the good qualities of others, and endeavouring to excel in them—not from motives of vanity and self aggrandisement, but for the simple purpose of benefitting the cause in which they are engaged. When that spirit is abroad success follows as a natural sequence.

* * * * *

The first visit of the Rev. F. E. Robinson and Mr. J. W. Washbrook to Essex was certainly an unfortunate one from a ringing point of view. Three attempts at peals in two days, and all of them failures, must have been (to say the least of it) discouraging, and particularly so when none of them was through any fault of the ringers themselves. In spite of the most diligent care and supervision, ropes will persist in slipping wheel and breaking—these are events with which most of us are only too familiar; but when a peal is brought to an untimely end through the interruption of an official, whose chief characteristics seem to be vanity and a mistaken notion of his authority, it is more than ordinary disappointing. When that individual made his

complaint that his most gracious permission had not been obtained, I only wonder that Mr. Robinson, knowing, as he must do, the law on the matter, did not peremptorily order the intruder to either stop his unwarrantable interference or leave the belfry. It is certainly to Mr. Robinson's credit, not only as a clergyman but as a gentleman, that he did not act in such a summary manner. Had that over officious warden conducted himself in like manner in many belfries which I am acquainted with, I very much fear he would not have been treated so courteously as he appears to have been in this instance.

* * * * *

That circumstance brings to my mind a point in which I think our brethren ought to be well posted, namely, the relative positions and authority of Vicars and Wardens, so far as they concern the working of ringing. There is a little book published entitled "The Law of Churchwardens and Sidesmen," a perusal of which will shew most conclusively that the Vicar of the parish is the legal authority in the matter of how and when the bells shall be rung. If he requires the bells ringing, or gives his consent to the same, the wardens and sidesmen have virtually no power to interfere. He is *de facto* "master of the situation." Even should the wardens give their consent to the ringing, he can if he chooses veto their action. The law seems clear enough on that point. If, therefore, a band of ringers had obtained the permission of the Vicar to use the bells, and a warden was presumptuous enough to attempt to prevent it, because his consent had not been asked and given, were I one of the band, I should most certainly also "stand upon my dignity," tell him that he had no authority in the matter whatever, and "go on the even tenour of my way" as if the interruption had not occurred.

* * * * *

Of course, I hardly need say, it will be preferable always if possible to avoid such a cause of friction, but at the same time if ringers go about their business in a proper constitutional manner, they cannot be blamed if they resent any interference on the part of persons who have no legal status in the matter.

* * * * *

I was pleased to see the name of the Rev. C. S. Rowland among the ringers of a peal of Grandsire Triples at Rochdale. Our friends in the northern counties somehow do not seem to have gathered so many clergymen into their ranks as is the case in the south. Why this should be so, I confess I am at a loss to understand. During my visits to Yorkshire and Lancashire I have almost invariably found our brethren in those great counties thoroughly in earnest about their work; less demonstrative, perhaps, than some, but nevertheless, "their heart is in the right place" (as the saying goes), and I can never forget the many hearty greetings and welcomings which I have received there simply because I was a brother-string. The only reason I can conceive for this lack of active change-ringing clergymen amongst them is that owing to the very populous centres in which most of the clergy labour in these counties, they are unable to spare the time necessary for making themselves proficient in the art.

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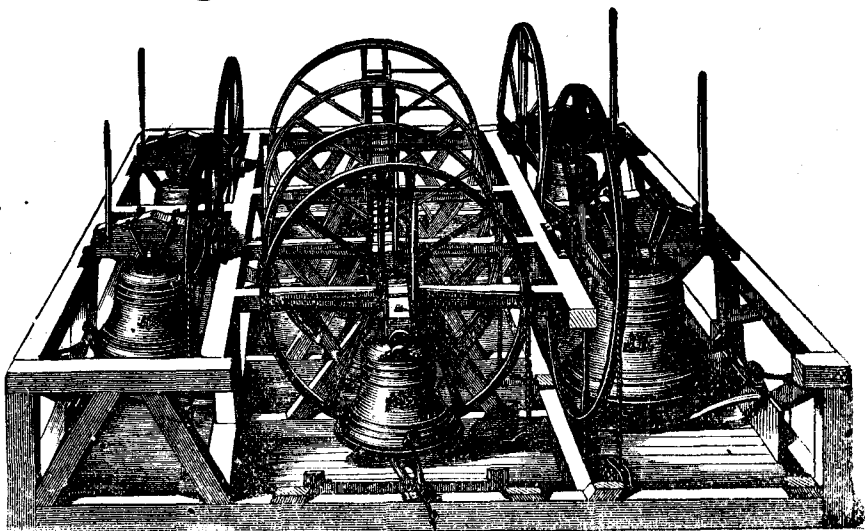
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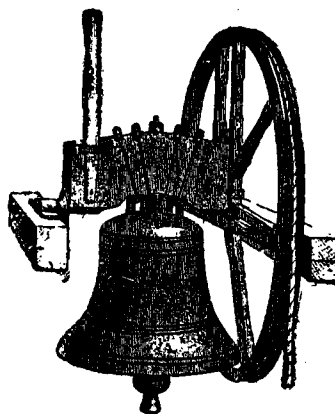
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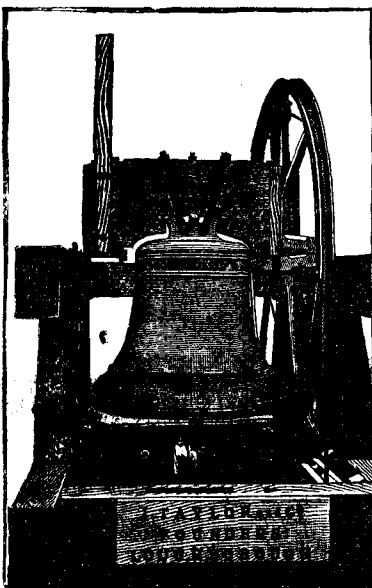
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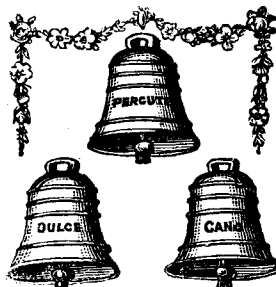
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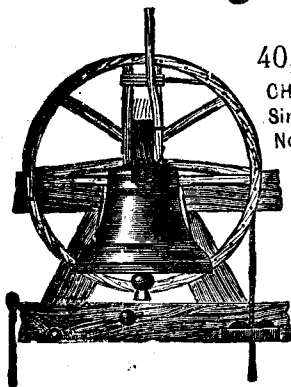
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No. 324.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1888.

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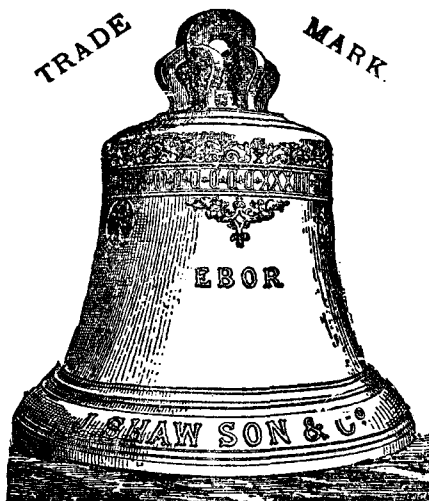
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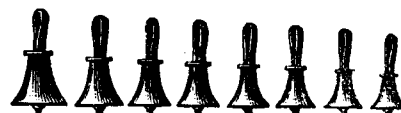
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THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

On Saturday last, June 2nd, the quaint old town of Pontefract was more than usually animated. The causes of this were: first, the fact of its being market day, and second, the visit of the Yorkshire Association to that place, with its accompanying unusual sound of merry peals on the bells of the two churches throughout the afternoon. Over 100 members attended from Armley, Birstall, Bolton, Bradford, Doncaster, Huddersfield, Keighley, Ripon, Rothwell, Sheffield, Shipley, Tong, Wakefield, York, and other places. Considerable interest had also been evinced by the churchpeople of Pontefract with regard to this first meeting of the Association in their town, and the Vicar took occasion in his monthly pastoral letter to address them as follows:—

"My dear parishioners: On Saturday next, June 2nd, the bells in our church tower will give forth an unwonted succession of sounds which you can scarcely fail to hear. Many of you will ask, what does it all mean? You will probably be told, and the announcement will be perfectly correct, that Her Majesty's birthday is being kept *officially* on that day. But that is not the explanation of the ringing which will then greet your ears and the ears of the market folk. No: but the explanation is, that the Yorkshire Association of change-ringers have selected our good old town for their next place of meeting. It is more than possible that the coincidence of Her Majesty's birthday with the day of meeting may keep some of the ringers at work in their own belfries, and thus take away from the number who would otherwise visit us. As it is, a company of from 120 to 150 are expected to handle the ropes—not all at once, of course—preparatory to enjoying a meat tea in the Infants' Schoolroom, Northgate. When ample justice has been done to the viands—that, I believe, is the correct way of describing what is done at the table on such occasions—one of the Association meetings will be held. Do you know much—I confess to knowing very little—about such things as Grandsire Triples, Grandsire Major, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, Yorkshire Court, and such like technical phrases? When I read that the late Edward Webster's longest length was 6720 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, at Pudsey, my breath is fairly taken away. I have a dim sort of notion—but I daresay I am all wrong—that the aforementioned worthy once pulled that number of times at a particular bell-rope, in a particular peal, without either pulling the bell down, or his own arm out of its socket. In the days of my youth I did once try to be enrolled among some clergy bell-ringers, but I draw a veil over my performances. There is every reason to suppose that Europe is the birthplace of modern bells, they seem not to have existed as musical instruments until the middle ages. The bells mentioned in the Bible were noisy accoutrements not capable of being arranged so as to produce the consecutive sounds of a musical scale. We read in the book of Exodus, xxviii., 33-35, that bells of gold were attached to the bottom of the High Priest's robe, in order that he might be heard when he came into, or went out of the Holy Place. The bells were set alternately with pomegranates; their tinkle served to notify to the people some solemn point or process in the ceremonial. We also gather from Zechariah xiv., 20, that bells were hung upon the bridles, or around the necks, of war-horses. The Greeks used to say of a horse not trained to war, that it had never heard the sound of bells. There is no doubt that horses do like a jingling sound; and when Zechariah says that 'in that day there shall be upon the bells (margin bridles) of the horses, Holiness unto the Lord,' he wants us to understand that, in the days he describes, the spirit of religion shall mingle itself with *all* pursuits and occupations. That is a very instructive little sermon which you and I may profitably preach to ourselves. An Italian Bishop, called Paulinus, is said to have been the first who used bells in the Christian churches to call the people to prayer, for which purpose it had been customary until then to use wooden mallets. The care bestowed upon their form and construction, particularly in Holland and Belgium, led to the casting of those rich and mellow-toned instruments whose sounds ever stir deep emotions in us, whether of joy or sorrow.

There is in souls a sympathy with sounds,
And, as the mind is pitched, the ear is pleased,
With melting airs or martial, grave or gay.

There are but few persons who do not agree with Thomas Moore, when he says:—

Those evening bells, those evening bells,
How many a tale their music tells
Of youth, and home, and that sweet time,
When last I heard their soothing chime.

"Such poems, for example, as the 'Bells of Shandon,' Longfellow's 'Belfry of Bruges,' Edgar Allan Poe's 'Bells,' are, I may say in passing, well worth reading and thinking over, in case you may wish to pursue the subject. We should be badly off without bells, as we have once or twice found out, when they were not in use. No doubt some people who live near to them sometimes wish them further away; but they must kindly make a sacrifice of their own feelings for the sake of the gratification which the sound of those bells does unquestionably give to those whose home is not close to the church tower. Bells were very generally adopted in this country as soon as parish churches were erected, and they give rise to that remarkable part of ecclesiastical architecture, the bell-tower, it being thought necessary to elevate them in order that their sound might reach to a greater distance. Early in the tenth century, the Abbot of Croyland gave the church of that Abbey a great bell, to which six more bells were added by his successor. We, in this country, have learnt to make use of bells in a way even now imperfectly understood on the Continent, namely, that of hanging them on the axis of a wheel, and ringing them by a swing. That swinging, so as to turn the mouth of the bell heavenwards, is very suggestive. It warns us against being 'of the earth, earthy;' and cries, '*Sursum corda*,' 'Lift up your hearts.' But my clapper is getting talkative, so I must let my bell run down. Believe me, yours very sincerely,

The Vicarage, June 1st., 1888.

JAS. J. CHRISTIE."

It should be mentioned that a large contingent of members of Leeds and Hull were prevented from attending, the former by reason of the funeral of the late Mr. T. West, and the latter owing to their having arranged to fittingly celebrate Her Majesty's birthday.

At 3.30 a Committee Meeting was held in the Schoolroom, at which nearly all the officers were present, when twenty-nine new ringing members were elected, and other business transacted. At 4.30, between eighty and ninety sat down in the National School and partook of a very substantial meat tea, to which ample justice was done by the visitors. The room was very prettily decorated with banners, etc., and the tables presented a most charming appearance, being loaded with (in addition to the generous supply of substantial viands) a profuse display of plants, laburnums and other sweet-smelling flowers being also in abundance. The tables were presided over by Mrs. Christie, Mrs. Tomlinson, Miss Christie, Mrs. Ryder, and Mrs. Broadhead, assisted by many other ladies.

Towards the close of the tea, the Rev. J. S. Barry B.A., favoured the company present with a most efficient rendering of Edgar Allan Poe's celebrated poem, "The Bells," which was much appreciated, and was greeted with the enthusiastic applause which it so well merited. The reciter shewed that he was possessed of a fine voice, and evidently had trained himself well in the use of it.

Tea being disposed of, the general business meeting followed, the number present being augmented by the arrival of several other members and friends. Mr. W. Snowdon presided, being supported by the Rev. J. J. Christie, M.A., Vicar of Pontefract; the Rev. W. M. Tomlinson, M.A., Vicar of All Saints; the Rev. J. S. Barry, B.A., Curate of the parish church; Mr. Broadhead, Warden of the parish church; Mr. Keighley, Warden of All Saints; and other gentlemen.

The PRESIDENT commenced by reading the minutes of the previous meeting, which were unanimously passed and signed.

A course of Grandsire Caters on handbells was then rung by W. H. Howard, 1-2; C. H. Hattersley, 3-4; Mr. Thompson, 5-6; Thos. Hattersley, 7-8; W. Pearson, 9-10.

Mr. W. H. Howard proposed that the October meeting be held at York, adding that the Very Rev. the Dean had promised to make all arrangements for the annual service to be held in the Minster, and to preach the sermon. This motion was seconded by Mr. Thompson, and carried amid loud applause.

The Rev. W. H. Sandford and Mr. Albert Fearnley were then elected auditors.

The President moved, and Mr. W. Stainthorpe seconded, a resolution to the effect that any clergyman who was a honorary member, and had a ring of five or more bells at his church, should have a copy of the annual report sent to him each year free of cost. This was carried unanimously.

The President then briefly referred to the death of the late Mr. T. West, of Leeds, who had been for many years a talented and enthusiastic ringer, and also a member of the Association since its commencement. Mr. West had, through illness and other causes, left a widow and a large family totally unprovided for; it was therefore, he said, much to the credit of his brother ringers of Leeds parish church, that they had undertaken the whole cost of his interment, including the purchase of a grave. He hoped also that the fund which they intended to raise for the benefit of the widow and orphans (of which Mr. H. W. Needham, 49, Green Mount Street, Beeston Hill, Leeds, has been appointed treasurer) would be largely supported.

Mr. Thos. Hattersley moved a cordial vote of thanks to the Vicar and Wardens of the parish church for the use of the bells and the schools. This was seconded by his brother, Mr. C. H. Hattersley, who in doing so said he had noticed with much pleasure how that of late years the clergy were coming more and more amongst the ringers. It was, he thought, a good sign, and shewed not only that their art was becoming more understood and appreciated, but also that the clergy, wardens, and ringers were getting more in accord and concord one with another. That was one of the most pleasing signs of the times, and he hoped that this satisfactory state of things would long continue and improve. This motion having been carried enthusiastically.

The Rev. J. J. Christie, in responding, said he was very glad to have that opportunity of speaking a few words not only to his own ringers but also to the ringers of the great county of Yorkshire, and of assuring them of his hearty goodwill. He was also indebted to them for having given him the text for his monthly letter to his parishioners, which he remarked was singularly his 111th—three ones. After referring to the great bells on the Continent, and the sweet-toned chimes of Belgium, he went on to say that taking bells generally, and change-ringing particularly, he considered there could be no doubt that we in England more than held our own. Making some humorous remarks respecting bells and belles, which were productive of much merriment, he alluded to the address which he had issued to his parishioners with reference to that meeting, and said that all of them to whom he had spoken personally on the matter had entered into the affair most heartily. His experiences in ringing had been of a very minor character; although he did once join a society dignified by the high-sounding name of the Clergy Society of Campanologists, he confessed he never made much progress, and his last efforts in bellringing were on the 27th June, 1878, when he rung his induction bell at the parish church of Pontefract. He promised humorously that should he ever have to perform the same operation again, he would invite all the members of the Yorkshire Association to see him do it. He hoped, however, that all the visitors would return to their homes well pleased, and that the following morning would see them in their places in church, shewing that they did not call others to do that which they themselves neglected; that Vicars, Wardens, and ringers would always act in harmony with each other, and so lead a good life here that they might be prepared to lead a blessed life hereafter.

Mr. W. Whitaker proposed, and Mr. W. Stainthorpe seconded, a cordial vote of thanks to the Vicar and Wardens of All Saints for the use of the bells, which was carried very heartily.

The Rev. W. M. Tomlinson, M.A., replying to the vote, said he was exceedingly glad to see that the ringers of the

present day were of so much better stamp than those of years back. They used to be, as he thought, a very "shady lot," but now they were more of a "sunshiny" character. While he could speak well of his own ringers, he was very glad to be able to say the same of the present class of ringers throughout the land, and he concluded his remarks with a very cordial expression of good feeling towards the ringers and their work both in its scientific aspect and in its object of calling the people to the House of God.

Mr. B. T. Copley proposed, and Mr. J. Broadley seconded, a cordial vote of thanks to the ringers of Pontefract for their excellent arrangements, to the ladies who had so well looked after the tea, and to the Rev. J. S. Barry, for his talented recital. This was carried with loud cheers.

The Rev. J. J. Christie and Mr. Churchwarden Ryder were then elected honorary members, and a vote of thanks to Mr. Snowdon for presiding brought the proceedings to a close.

During the afternoon the bells of the parish church (8), and All Saints (6) were kept going by the visitors, and in spite of the wet weather, the meeting was a most successful and pleasant one throughout.

The annual meeting of the Association will be held at York, on Saturday, October 6th. There will be special service in the Minster in the afternoon, at which the Very Rev. the Dean of York will preach: particulars of which will be announced in due course.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—ANNUAL MEETING AT BRIGHTON.

The fourth annual meeting of the above Association was held at Brighton on Whit-Monday. The various delegates and members arrived at an early hour, and the proceedings opened with ringing at the churches of St. Peter and St. Nicholas.

A special short service was held at St. Peter's church at noon when the vicar of Brighton (the Rev. Prebendary J. J. Hannah) gave an address to the members, basing his remarks upon the 1st verse of Psalm cxx., "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the House of the Lord." In the course of an able address, the preacher observed that bell-ringing was in itself a means to an end. They did not ring simply for the purpose of perfecting themselves in a beautiful art, but with the object of inviting people to go into the House of God. Bell-ringing was doubtless a healthy form of exercise, but they must not forget their work was active service for God. A collection was made on behalf of the funds of the Association, and the service then concluded.

It was proposed that the Vicar should unveil five marble peal tablets in the belfry of St. Peter's Church at the conclusion of this service, but the ceremony was postponed, and some further ringing filled up the interval before luncheon. The luncheon was served in the Central Schools, Church-street, at 1.30 p.m., and the Rev. Canon Sutton (Rype) presided. About 100 members sat down to an excellent repast served by Mr. Mutton, of King's-road.

At the conclusion of the meal the annual meeting was held, when the Vicar of Brighton presided, and was supported by the Hon. Secretary (Mr. George F. Attree), Canon Sutton, the Rev. J. Puttick, M.A. (Vicar of Alfriston), the Rev. R. Hay-Hill (Rector of Parham), the Rev. R. F. Tompkins (Arundel), the Rev. T. A. Turner (Wartling Vicarage, Pevensey, late President of the Lancashire Association), and other gentlemen.

The Hon. SECRETARY having read the minutes of the last meeting, the President of the Association (the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Chichester) was unanimously re-elected to that office, after which the Vice-Presidents were also re-elected.

The following gentlemen were also re-elected to serve as a Committee: The Very Rev. the Dean of Battle, the Rev. C. H. Borrer, M.A., the Rev. Prebendary J. J. Hannah, the Rev. J. B. Orme, M.A., the Rev. Divie Robertson, M.A., to act with one delegate for each band of ringers connected with the Association.

The Hon. SECRETARY said that during the year there was

nothing that had been necessary to refer to the Committee. He explained that the Committee had their work lessened by the holding of frequent district meeting.

The Rev. R. F. TOMPKINS, of Arundel, was re-elected Hon. Treasurer, and suitably acknowledged the honour conferred upon him.

In proposing the re-election of Mr. G. F. Attree as Hon. Secretary, the CHAIRMAN said he did not think the Society would have become what it had had it not been for the services of that gentleman. The resolution was agreed to.

The HON. SECRETARY, in returning thanks for his re-election, referred to the increase in the work of the Secretary, and the calls made upon his time by his own business. With the assistance, however, of Mr. J. E. Worsell, of Brighton, whom he had pleasure in proposing as Assistant Hon. Secretary, he trusted to satisfactorily discharge his duties.

The resolution having been seconded, Mr. WORSSELL briefly returned thanks.

The Rev. C. Bond (Vicar of St. Nicholas, Brighton) and Mr. Masters (churchwarden at Lindfield) were unanimously elected honorary members of the Association. Twenty-five active members were also proposed and elected.

The annual report was then taken as read. This stated the instructors of the Association had during the year been doing useful work in several parishes by imparting the knowledge of scientific ringing, and encouraging young hands to persevere and overcome the many obstacles they are sure to encounter. The Committee were sorry to report that at the present time some of the finest peals of bells in the county were seldom heard to advantage, as change-ringing was not practised by the local bands. They trusted that as the Association became better known the six eight-bell towers, and the 21 six-bell towers at present unaffiliated might be induced to join the Association. A glance at the pages set apart for the record of peals and touches shewed that much practice and time had been spent, with a result of which any Association might be proud. Seventy peals containing 5040 or more changes had been rung, a total which had never before been recorded by any single Association. Peals in several methods, including Kent Treble Bob Major, Plain Bob Major, Canterbury Pleasure Triples, and Stedman Triples had during the year been scored for the first time by members of the Association, in addition to the 70 peals, seven half-peals, three date touches, 43 quarter-peals, 12 other touches, containing upwards of 1000 changes, and no less than 308 peals of Minor (exclusive of those forming 5040's) had been rung. During the year much had again been done to improve the condition of bells and belfries throughout the county, but there were still too many parish churches where decay and neglect prevented the bells, provided in years gone by, being put to their proper use.

The statement of accounts was then submitted, shewing a deficiency of £14 14s. 8d.

The HON. SECRETARY explained that during the year heavy expenses had been incurred, and mentioned that that was the first year they had had a deficiency. He thought, however, that with careful management they could get the balance on the right side.

The Rev. R. F. TOMPKINS (Hon. Treasurer) said they need not be under any great dismay over such a small debt. He congratulated the Association upon having established itself in the remotest corners of West Sussex, but there were many vacant places in East Sussex, which they should try to get affiliated with them.

The Rev. R. HAY-HILL pointed out the items charged for conveying teams from one church to another, and suggested that members walk to places instead of riding at the expense of Association.

The balance-sheet having been adopted, the Rev. R. HAY-HILL proposed a resolution to the effect that members should not ride to other churches except at their own expense.

The Rev. R. F. TOMPKINS hoped the meeting would not hastily decide upon that motion.

After a brief discussion the proposition was agreed to.

It was then decided that the next eight-bell tower district meeting for West Sussex should be held at Heene, Worthing, and the next six-bell tower district meeting for East Sussex at Alfriston.

The Vicar of Brighton next presented to the Secretary of the Steyning band of ringers (Mr. F. Morris, jun.) the challenge bell given by the Association, and which, having won, they are to retain for one year.

The HON. SECRETARY said some time ago the Association decided to obtain a challenge bell. He was instructed to obtain one, and having seen Messrs. Warner and Son whilst in London, they not only made the bell before them, but also nicely fitted it into a case. After receiving it he had a letter followed from Messrs. Warner asking the Association to accept the bell as a present from that firm. He therefore, thought they should pass a resolution to Messrs. Warner, and he should like to propose the following resolution: "That the members of the Sussex County Association of Ringers, assembled at their fourth annual meeting, hereby express their appreciation of the handsome present of Messrs. Warner and Son in the form of a challenge bell, and the Hon. Secretary be requested to forward the best thanks of the members to Messrs. Warner."

The resolution was cordially agreed to.

Mr. F. MORRIS acknowledged the receipt of the present in suitable terms.

The HON. SECRETARY then explained that it was desirable that a committee should be appointed to draw up rules relating to the future mode of scoring for the challenge bell.

A Sub-Committee was then appointed to consider this matter, and after a vote of thanks had been accorded to the Vicar of Brighton for presiding and taking such an interest in the Association, the meeting concluded.

About six o'clock a number of the members sat down to tea at the Central Schools, Mr. G. F. Attree presiding over the gathering. Following this some further ringing was indulged in by the visitors, and the day's proceedings were brought to a conclusion.

At the luncheon delegates were present representing nearly all the branches of the Association.

The following ringing took place during the day at the parish church, a 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major. A. A. Fuller, 1; J. Newnham, 2; F. Harding, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; W. Wadey, 5; E. Moses, 6; S. Brooker, 7; F. Wickens, 8. Also a 504 of Stedman Triples. E. Moses, 1; J. Whiting, 2; F. Smith, 3; J. Jay, sen., 4; H. Swain, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; S. Brooker (conductor), 7; L. Killick, 8. Also a 504 of Grandsire Triples. C. Hills, 1; J. Reilly, 2; J. Jay, sen., 3; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 4; G. Thwaites, 5; H. Cornwall, 6; C. Blackman (conductor), 7; F. Finch, 8. Also a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. E. Parsons, 1; C. Clear, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; J. Barnett, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. Also at St. Nicholas church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. C. Holman, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; E. Willoughby, 3; C. Tyler (conductor), 4; E. Brackley, 5; T. Lewis, 6; C. Blackman, 7; W. Palmer, 8. And a 504 of Grandsire Triples, which was duly reported. Also some short touches of Stedman Triples and Treble Bob Major in which Messrs. Hewett, Whiting, Dawes, Jordan, Moses, Brooker, Lewis, Brackley, Stedman, Searle and Tyler took part.

ANNUAL TRIP OF THE WITTON RINGERS.

The annual trip of the above took place on Whit-Monday, Macclesfield being fixed upon as the place to be visited this year. I may mention here that last year's trip should have taken us to this ancient town, but owing to some hitch in the arrangements, the idea had to be abandoned for the time, though not forgotten, as will be seen from this year's programme, although it caused a little disappointment to both the Macclesfield ringers and Witton, especially the latter, and this year we determined to break down every obstacle, and to carry out our former arrangement.

The time fixed for the start being 8.30 a.m., shortly after this time Mr. Chambers' splendid waggonette was at the starting place with a fine pair of horses in the traces, who seemed to be eager to begin the journey, which was to furnish as fine a day's outing as could be desired by the most fastidious man living. At 8.40 we dashed away from the starting place in fine style, and bowled along the Manchester road, reaching Knutsford in about thirty minutes from the start. A short halt was made at the "Brown Cow," where refreshments were partaken of by most of the party. After a stay of five minutes, the journey

was recommenced, when Knutsford was soon left far in the rear, and we found ourselves in one of the most beautiful parts of Cheshire, bounding along a delightful country road shaded with some of the finest beech to be found in the county, and beyond there could sometimes be seen beautiful stretches of meadow land, verdant with fine crops of every description, which must I am sure gladden the heart of the country rustic to witness the beauties of his own handiwork. After passing these, another halt was made at Chelford. After leaving this place the country become more undulating, and was intersected with small streams and beautiful woodlands gaily bedecked with every variety of colour, and the air was rich with the perfume of many flowers, the woods were actually of flowers, and merry with the songs of the birds. But I must quit all descriptions now, for suddenly our destination is viewed in the distance, and shortly after we run into Macclesfield in fine style after a journey lasting two hours and a half. We drew up in the square in front of the Church, where we were met by some of the Macclesfield ringers. After refreshments, which were quickly provided by these gentlemen, we were kindly conducted through the Church, and had, through the kindness of Mr. Matthews and the vergers, all the points connected with this ancient pile, which dates back from the twelfth century, pointed out to us. It will be inferred from this that such a place must have an history of its own, one of the most important parts being the Savage Chapel, containing some well preserved monuments of this great historic family, dating from 1500. Much more might be said about this ancient edifice if space would allow it, but many of its grand points have been destroyed by so called modern improvements. It is now time to say a word about the object of our visit, and I cannot do better than begin by thanking on behalf of myself and fellow ringers, all those who so kindly received us, and for the gentlemanly manner in which we were entertained by them, and by expressing a hope that this will not be the last day we shall have the pleasure of spending together.

There was no great things expected in the shape of ringing by any of us, but after refreshments we adjourned to the tower, which contains a ring of ten bells in good running order. After raising the bells, a break was made, when orders were sent from the Mayor that we should stop the bells for fifteen minutes, which was accordingly done. After this another break was made, but after ringing for about fifteen minutes the third bell rope broke. After undergoing repairs another attempt followed, and this time some of the home men mixed with us, but unfortunately after about 300 changes had been rung the rope gave way again, when a new end had to be spliced to it, after which 720 of Plain Bob Minor was rung, and several other short touches followed, but there was no attempts to accomplish anything great. Thus ended the day from a ringing point of view, and after again partaking of the good things provided for us in such a bountiful way, each one followed the bent of his own fancy, and many and various were the results as will be seen from the following description.

After leaving the church, the town came in for its share of attention, and we were shown the most interesting parts, and Mr. Matthews kindly took us over to his house and kindly explained the mysteries of silk weaving, so extensively carried on in this part of Cheshire. This gentleman is well-known to most ringers as the manufacturer of the bellringers' handkerchief, which we saw in course of manufacture. When we again adjourned to the "Black Horse," some courses of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, and Caters, were indulged in by the Macclesfield ringers, and at eight o'clock a move was made for our waggnette, and after a jolly ride in the cool of the evening of two hours and a half, we reached home, everyone having thoroughly enjoyed himself, some of them so much so that they admitted they were as happy as kings.

And I may say, in conclusion, the only disappointment I experienced was because I did not hear a few courses of Stedman on the bells, but not being holiday time here, it was found impossible to get a full band together, so the thing was unavoidable, I but hope to have the pleasure when the visit is returned.

JOHN HOUGHTON.

A CORRECTION.—The weight of the tenor at St. Mary's, Cheltenham, is 22 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Tuesday, May 15th, 1888, at the parish church of St. Martin, a meeting was held in the belfry to unveil a peal tablet of two peals rung on the bells by members of the Tipton band. This tablet is the first ever erected in the tower. The first peal of bells were hung in the tower in 1798, being a peal of six, cast by the Whitechapel firm. One of them being broken by careless ringing, the back four were taken out and replaced by six new ones in 1848 by the same firm, leaving in the tower at the present time a beautiful peal of eight, tenor 12 cwt. 25 lbs. The first peal of Major rung on them was 5056 changes of Kent Treble Bob, in 2 hrs. and 45 mins., on February 22nd, 1852, composed and conducted by Mr. S. Marsh, of West Bromwich. There was also two peals of Grandsire Triples rung on them about the year 1856. Their was no ringing of any importance afterwards till November, 1884, when a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung, conducted by J. Fullwood, and another peal of Grandsire Major, in April, 1885. The bells, etc. being in very bad going order they were thoroughly overhauled and fitted with new brasses and gudgeons. Mr. W. R. Small was appointed steeple-keeper, and change-ringing was begun in earnest by a band who take great delight in it. 43,000 changes have been rung and brought round by the company this year in the four standard methods, viz.: Grandsire, Plain Bob, Treble Bob, and Stedman, including three peals of Grandsire Triples. At the opening of the meeting a touch of Plain Bob Major was rung by the following: H. Miles, 1; S. Spittle, 2; A. Hill, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; W. Micklewright, 5; J. Smith, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; J. Goodman, 8. Afterwards the band stood in the same order as they did in the first peal, and rang a short touch of Grandsire Triples, when the Rev. A. A. Cory, Vicar, uncovered the tablet and read out the inscription painted thereon, also giving some practical advice to the ringers present on their duties as church workers, and spoke of the difference in ringing of the present day and the ringing of days gone by, which, he said, was in a great measure due to the Associations formed for the improvement of ringers and ringing. Another touch of Grandsire Triples was rung in the same order as the second peal in the tablet, with one exception, the vacancy being filled by Mr. E. Cashmore.

Mr. W. R. Small proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for his presence among them that evening to uncover the peal tablet, and for his advice and good wishes to them, and Mr. Samuel Spittle, Master of the Worcester and adjoining Districts Association, seconded.

Mr. John Warring, on behalf of the congregation, thanked the ringers for the beautiful music which they sent forth from the church tower. There were also present the Rev. H. N. Eales, Curate, Mr. Samuel Reeves, Secretary of the Archdeaconry of Stafford Association, Mr. John Smith, Secretary of the Worcester and adjoining Districts Association, and others. To close the evening's ringing a touch of Stedman Triples was attempted, but was brought to a close by the breaking of the 7th rope. W. R. Small, 1; Adam, H. Hill, 2; S. Jesson, 3; S. Reeves (conductor), 4; W. Micklewright, 5; S. Spittle, 6; G. Hughes, 7; J. Goodman, 8.

ALL SAINTS', WEST BROMWICH.

On Tuesday evening, May 29th, the members of the All Saints' society were entertained at supper by the Rev. M. M. Connor (Vicar), to commemorate the ringing of the peal which was published in "THE BELL NEWS" of May 26th. "Go" was called by the Vicar, and the fifteen members soon settled down to a steady attack on the good things provided, and got through the "courses" in a very creditable and satisfactory manner.

The cloth having been removed, the Vicar, in a few words, congratulated the ringers on the success of their getting the peal they had been striving after for some months past, and hoped it would be the means of encouraging them to still further achievements.

Mr. E. CASHMORE proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kindness, which was seconded by Mr. W. COOPER, and carried unanimously.

A pleasant evening was spent with cards, bagatelle, drafts, and other games.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—ANNUAL OUTING OF THE LEISTON COMPANY.

ON Whiti-Monday the above company had their annual outing under most enjoyable circumstances. It was intended to make the rendezvous at Debenham, but on account of the illness of one of the inhabitants, they could not obtain the bells, so they decided to go to Redenhall, in Norfolk. Arrangements having been made with Mr. F. Garrod, of Leiston, for their conveyance by his brake and pair, they made a start at five o'clock and made their first halt at Heveningham, a distance of twelve miles, about seven o'clock, where they rang some Grandsire and Bob Doubles upon the tower bells. About 8 a.m. they made a start for Fressingfield, a distance of five miles further, and getting the keys, they rang a capital touch of 518 Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Holt's peal. W. Button, 1; F. Lambert, 2; F. Wilson, 3; H. Button, 4; G. Morling, 5; A. Lincoln, 6; R. Stannard (conductor), 7; J. Flegg, 8. Also 288 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, with J. Motts, of Ipswich. They then went to the Club Room, and rang upon the splendid peal of handbells a course of Grandsire Caters. F. Lambert, 1-2; A. Lincoln, 3-4; J. Motts, 5-6; R. Stannard, 7-8; F. Wilson, 9-10. About 11 a.m. they made a start once more, and crossing the river that divides Suffolk from Norfolk, they reached their destination five miles further—Redenhall—about twelve o'clock, where they were met by Mr. E. Smith, of the Redenhall society, and some touches of Grandsire Triples, Oxford Treble Bob, and Bob Major were rung, and then going to the "Yew Treee," they rang another course of Caters with Mr. E. Smith in the place of J. Motts. About three o'clock they started for Halesworth on their homeward journey, and there again a 336 of Grandsire with Queens and Tittums, and then harnessing once more, they reached home about 11 p.m., with the knowledge that they had spent one of the most enjoyable days which could fall to their lot, and they also wish to thank all those who helped to make their outing so pleasant and enjoyable a one to all.

ST. TUDY, CORNWALL.

A service was held in the parish church of St. Tudy, recently, on the occasion of the re-dedication of the fine peal of five bells. The service included appropriate hymns and special prayers, and an excellent address to the ringers by the Rev. Mr. Boles, Vicar of St. Breward. Great interest was manifested by the parishioners in the event, as they have been deprived of the pleasure of hearing the familiar tones of the bells for a considerable time, it having been considered unsafe to ring them owing to the shaky condition of the old framework and fittings, which were left untouched when the church itself was restored some fourteen years since. When, however, it became apparent that the safety of the tower was endangered by continuing to ring the bells, the Rector, the Rev. G. Bridgewater, set energetically to work to procure the necessary funds to put the belfry in order, himself leading off with liberality, with the result that the landholders of the parish responded to his appeal generally, and the amount required was soon raised. The work has been carried out in a most substantial manner by Mr. Harry Stokes, of Woodbury, near Exeter. Every detail has been attended to and a chiming apparatus has been supplied. The inscription on the bell which was badly cracked and has been recast, is "Recast, Easter, 1888, in memory of Edward Auriol Magor, of Lamellen, by May Caroline, his wife." The tower has also been repaired and strengthened, and the frame has been made to take a 6th bell.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The Annual General Meeting is fixed to be held at Ashford, on Monday, June 18th. Committee meeting at 11; Service at 12, when the sermon will be preached by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Dinner at 1. All who mean to attend, and wish for dinner tickets, should communicate with the Secretary, not later than June 12th. And if reduced fares are desired, full particulars as to trains, stations, and numbers must be given, or no application can be made. The allowance to members is 1s. besides the dinner.

Winsted Court, Leuham.

R. K. HUGESSEN, Hon. Sec.

HALF-A-DAY'S BELL-PULLING.

On Saturday, June 2nd, a mixed band of ringers drafted from Rochdale, Heywood, Bury and Manchester, had previously determined to attempt two peals during the afternoon at Holy Trinity and the parish church, Bolton. On the day in question the 1.35 p.m. train from Rochdale to Bolton contained among its passengers Messrs. Hoyle, Birtwistle and Wreaks, who is at present working in Rochdale, and at Heywood picked up Messrs. Harrison, Millett and Scholey, and at Bury Mr. E. Bishop. On arrival at Bolton Station at 2.20 p.m., all got out and were met by Mr. Hamer, one of the local ringers, who greeted the visitors most cordially. Steps were turned for Holy Trinity church, where the first peal was to be attempted, and here was found Mr. G. Turner, from Manchester, who had arrived only a few minutes before the others. The bells being up, a start was soon made for a peal of Treble Bob Major at 2.45 p.m., and all went on well till 5.36, when the joyful sound of "this is all," proclaimed that peal number one had been accomplished. Steps were then turned towards a Coffee Tavern in Bradshawgate, where a comfortable tea was enjoyed. This "half-way single" duly got over, the visitors then moved towards the parish church, where a peal of Bob Major was to be attempted. At 7.7 p.m. "go" was called a second time, and success again favoured the visitors, for at 10.5 the bells were in rounds again. No time was to be lost, however, to catch the last train to Rochdale, viz.: 10.25 p.m., the visitors thus occupying eight hours and five minutes to enter Bolton and ring two different peals at two separate churches, and leaving again. The above ringers wish to thank the local companies most heartily for their kindness in meeting them and having the bells and ropes in such good order.

A. E. W.

ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, MONMOUTH.

On Thursday, May 24th, was the day fixed for the opening of the grand new Jubilee Hall which is the gift of J. A. Rolls, Esq., of "The Hendre," near Monmouth, which he has built at a cost of about £8000. The carnival commenced on Wednesday night at 9.30 p.m., with a grand torchlight procession, with nearly 400 torches, no one being allowed to have a torch that was not in fancy costume, which having paraded the town, finished up at the new hall between eleven and twelve. On Thursday the bells were rang at intervals, but being short of a conductor nothing worthy of booking was done, but after ringing touches of 168, 336, and 504, a start was made for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing about 21 mins., it came to grief through a single being called too late. T. Jones, 1; W. Honeyfield, Esq., 2; J. Ward, 3; J. Brown, 4; A. Bird, 5; T. M. Preece, 6; T. H. Jones (conductor), 7; H. Brown, 8. After which, there being some visitors in the belfry, some ringing commonly called "stone, or churchyard bob," was done, so as to oblige all, being the first of the sort that Mr. A. Bird (who hails from Ross), had ever rung. After which some more touches of Triples, which some of the visitors seemed to think was something grand to what they did at home.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 2nd, a Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held in St. John-the-Baptist Schoolroom, Bromsgrove. The Vicar, the Rev. A. E. Seymour, M.A., presided. The usual business of the Association was transacted, in which several new members were added, including the Rev. Albany Wrey, who has just taken a curacy at Bromsgrove, and who is a ringer and a master of Stedman. The local company at this place are pretty well versed in various methods, and now with the assistance of the above-named rev. gentleman, we hope soon to see them figure in this intricate method. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the chairman for presiding, and the meeting terminated.

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

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1888.

WHEN the account of the Annual Meeting of the Yorkshire Association—to be found in this issue—is perused by our readers, some satisfaction will be felt at the pastoral letter which has been sent out to his parishioners by the Vicar of Pontefract. At this ancient town, the Association had determined to hold its meeting, and the Vicar not only acceded to the request for permission to ring at his church, but wisely took steps to give the inhabitants prior information of what was going to be done. His letter will therefore be read with interest, and its somewhat quaint tone will enhance the pleasure of a perusal. The rev. gentleman confesses to know very little about the technical phrases of the Exercise, and naively asks his parishioners if they know much about them! This is not the first time we have heard of a Vicar of a parish, whose church possessed a ring of bells, admitting that he knew nothing whatever of ringing. Such confessions however, generally appear to be made in a desponding kind of way, as if the want of such knowledge was felt and deplored, and that its acquisition would be a relief. We invariably reply to such admissions in the following manner: that the apparent difficulties are easily surmounted; the desired knowledge may be readily attained; the requisite dexterity can soon be acquired; and the technicalities of the science become unfolded to all who will join our ranks. Let this be our answer to the worthy Vicar, and not only to him, but to his coadjutors in the ministry in the good town of Pontefract.

This meeting of the Yorkshire Association was evidently arranged not only for the benefit of the Association in particular, but for the benefit of the art of ringing in general. We are not acquainted with the *modus operandi* of the committee, or whether they actually strive for the purpose, but their presence in any neighbourhood seems to stir up the inhabitants, who appear to become all at once interested in our branch of the Church's work. We do not say that this is an exclusive attribute of the Yorkshire Association, but they seem to have the happy knack of arousing the public to co-operate with them. This has

been the case with the meeting in question. First of all the Vicar sends round to his parishioners a printed notice of the meeting; then we find the other clergy of the town taking part in the proceedings; and a number of ladies, relatives of the clergy, graciously presiding at the tea-table, and attending to the requirements of their ringing guests. Such a commingling is indeed very encouraging, and ringers need not lose heart when they receive such kindly attentions, though they may be met with a rebuff at other times.

Ringers are apt to speak—and they speak correctly—of the total absence of *hauteur*, or "stand-offishness" among those clergymen who are well-known ringers. We should imagine that the Vicar of Pontefract is a gentleman of the same stamp, and therefore we should rejoice to hear that he had gone in training for the accomplishment of a peal in one of those methods of which he yet knows so little about. At any rate we hope to hear of him again. We want his clapper to be again talkative and his bell not to run down.

A continued pressure on our space again prevents in the current number the appearance of several reports, touches, correspondence, and other matters. Our readers will no doubt exercise a little patience under any disappointment they may experience in consequence. All will appear in due course, and in the order which the exigencies of each case demand. We have this week, with other correspondence, an explanatory letter from our friend Mr. PENNING; this will appear next week. Some correspondents still neglect to enclose their names and addresses with their communications. This is desired so that the writers may be appealed to in case any of their statements may be impugned. An omission in this particular consigns what is forwarded to our waste-paper basket. As inefficient postage is also getting much more frequent than pleasant, we hope our friends will try to avoid this inconvenience. We shall be glad to hear of any efforts being made to extend the circulation of this journal.

The Provinces.

GREAT YARMOUTH, NORFOLK.

On Tuesday, May 29, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty-six and a ½ Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

Tenor 30 cwt. in D.

ROBERT CHRISTIAN Treble.	ARTHUR WEBBER 6.
WILLIAM BLYTH 2.	WILLIAM SECRETT 7.
JAMES BRAY 3.	THOMAS TOOLEY 8.
MATTHEW LONG 4.	WILLIAM FLETCHER 9.
DENISON HAYWARD 5.	GEORGE CROWE Tenor.

Conducted by MATTHEW LONG.

The above is the longest length ever yet rung on the bells in this method. The Rev. James F. Hastings, late of Wells and now of Yarmouth, who was outside and heard the peal, congratulated the company upon bringing round such a good peal, and invited them to partake of suitable refreshments. The above peal of bells was put in the tower by Mears and Stainbank, at a cost of £1161 3s. 4d., and were first rung on May 2nd, 1808.

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

On Thursday, May 31, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5056 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

GEORGE ROBINSON Treble.	HARRY WAKLEY 5.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, has the 6th the extent in 5-6, and nine consecutive courses home, the 2nd being never in 6th's place. This is Mr. Taylor's first peal in the method.

FOXEARH, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, May 31, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 8½ cwt.

SAMUEL SLATER Treble.	WALTER P. GRIDLEY .. 5.
CHAS. SILLITOE 2.	GEORGE MAXIM 6.
JOHN LEE 3.	PERCY C. S. SCOTT .. 7.
FRED. WELLS 4.	GEORGE C. HAMMOND .. Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON and Conducted by G. C. HAMMOND.

This is the quickest peal ever rang on the bells. Messrs. Hammond and Scott hail from Long Melford; Slater and Wells from Glemsford; Sillitoe from Sudbury: the rest are local ringers.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE,
WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION,
AND THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF
STAFFORD.

On Thursday, May 31, 1888, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 12 cwt. 25 lbs.

BENJAMIN STARKEY* .. Treble.	WILLIAM PARDOE 5.
ADAM H. HILL 2.	SAMUEL JESSON 6.
HARRY MILLS† 3.	GEORGE HUGHES 7.
EDWARD GOODREDS 4.	WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD and Conducted by GEORGE HUGHES.

It is the first peal in the method by all the band except W. R. Small, and is the first peal of Bob Major on the bells. It is also the first peal of Bob Major rang by members of each of the above Associations, and was rung at the first attempt. *First peal in any method with treble. †First peal with a bob bell.

PRESTBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, June 1, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THOMPSON'S THREE-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

WM. T. PATES Treble.	FREDK. MUSTY 5.
G. H. PHILLOTT 2.	FRANCIS E. WARD 6.
T. R. HOOPER 3.	HENRY ROBERTS 7.
HENRY KARN 4.	THOS. COMPTON Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS E. WARD.

LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, June 2, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF VIOLET MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

J. W. LANG Treble.	H. BROOKE 5.
J. KNOTT 2.	M. RAMSDEN 6.
A. BRIGGS 3.	L. ILLINGWORTH 7.
S. GOODALL 4.	W. COLLINS Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, of Sowerby, and Conducted by LUKE ILLINGWORTH.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 2, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD ROYAL, 5004 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt.

JOHN CARTER Treble.	HARRY C. WOODWARD .. 6.
SAMUEL JOHNSON 2.	GEORGE HINGLEY 7.
JOHN JAGGAR 3.	JOHN W. TAYLOR 8.
JOHN HOWE 4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 9.
WILLIAM HICKLING 5.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

In this peal, which is now rung for the first time, the 6th is at home at every course-end.

FOXEARH, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, June 2, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 8½ cwt.

SAMUEL SLATER Treble.	WILLIAM J. NEVARD .. 5.
CHARLES SILLITOE 2.	ROBERT MINGAY 6.
WALTER GRIDLEY 3.	GEORGE MAXIM 7.
FRED. WELLS 4.	JOHN LEE Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON and Conducted by CHAS. SILLITOE.

*This peal, which is in three parts, has the sixth the last two course-ends at home in each part, and also either 5th or 6th one way in 5-6 at each course end. It will be found in Snowdon's *Treatise*, part II, page 20. This peal was arranged to oblige Mr. Nevard, and it is his first peal of Treble Bob Major. Also rung as a birthday peal for G. Maxim, who attained his 21st year on that day. Mr. Nevard hails from Great Bentley; Sillitoe from Sudbury; Wells and Slater from Glemsford, the rest belong to Foxearth.

HULL.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 2, 1888, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

CHARLIE BENNETT .. Treble.	TOM STOCKDALE 5.
W. SOUTHWICK 2.	JAMES DIXEY 6.
J. POLLARD 3.	FRANK DRABBLE 7.
H. JENKINS 4.	CHARLES JACKSON .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by CHARLES JACKSON.

This peal, which contains all the 8-6's and 8-6-7's with the 6th its extent home at five course ends and the 2nd never in 6th's place at a course end, was rung on the occasion of the celebration of the Queen's birthday.

BOLTON-LE-MOORS, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 2, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN MILLETT Treble.	JOHN HARRISON 5.
ERNEST BISHOP 2.	FRANK BIRTWISTLE .. 6.
GEORGE E. TURNER .. 3.	A. EDWARD WREAKS .. 7.
GEORGE HOYLE 4.	JAMES SCHOLEY Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD, and Conducted by A. E. WREAKS.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells. Messrs. Millett, Harrison, and Scholey, hail from Heywood; Bishop from Bury; Turner and Wreaks from Manchester; Hoyle and Birtwistle from Rochdale.

PULFORD, CHESHIRE.

On Monday, June 4, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES UPON SIX BELLS;

BEING A 720 OF COLLEGE SINGLE, TWO 720S OF PLAIN BOB, TWO 720S OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB, AND TWO 720S OF KENT TREBLE BOB.

ALFRED MATTHEWS* .. Treble.	*JAMES MERCER 4.
DAVID WEST 2.	GEORGE JONES 5.
GEORGE JONES 3.	JAMES MORRISON Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES MORRISON.

*First peal.

BOLTON-LE-MOORS, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 2, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

GEORGE HOYLE Treble.	FRANK BIRTWISTLE 5.
ERNEST BISHOP 2.	A. EDWARD WREAKS 6.
JOHN MILLETT 3.	JOHN HARRISON 7.
GEORGE E. TURNER 4.	JAMES SCHOLEY Tenor.

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD and Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS.

First peal in the method by Messrs. Hoyle and Birtwistle.

LONGNEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, June 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HUBBARD'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

THOMAS BROWN* Treble.	WILLIAM JAMES SEVIER.. 5.
JOSEPH YEATES 2.	SYDNEY E. ROMANS .. 6.
HENRY MITCHELL 3.	ALFRED ARTHUR WAITE.. 7.
RAYMOND JOHN WILKINS.. 4.	*GEORGE BRUNSDEN Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED ARTHUR WAITE.

* First peal in the method. † First peal. This is also the first peal in the method on the bells. Thomas Brown hails from Quedgley; George Brunnsden from Gloucester, the rest belong to the Upton St. Leonards and Barnwood societies.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, June 4, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES. Tenor 9½ cwt.

WILLIAM COBB* Treble.	H. D. BETTERIDGE, ESQ. 5.
HARRY FRUIN* 2.	*FREDERICK FIELD 6.
CHARLES TRINDER* 3.	*THOMAS SHORT.. .. 7.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

* First peal in the method, which was rung after four practices.

CODDENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, June 4, 1888, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES: Tenor 16½ cwt.

JAMES MOTTS Treble.	ROBERT HAWES 5.
CHAS. MEE 2.	*ROBT. S. STORY 6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER .. 3.	WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE 7.
WILLIAM MOTTS 4.	FREDK. TILLET Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

Mr. Story hails from Newcastle; the rest belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich. * First peal in the method, and also the first attempt of the same.

ERITH, KENT.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, June 5, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

FREDERICK CULLUM .. Treble.	GEORGE CONYARD 5.
WILLIAM BEDWELL 2.	FREDERICK J. FRENCH .. 6.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 3.	REV. H. A. COCKEY 7.
EDWARD E. RICHARDS .. 4.	JOHN GARARD Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. H. A. COCKEY.

Messrs. Conyard and French hail from Crayford; Weatherstone from Rotherhithe; Richards from Woolwich; Bedwell and Rev. H. A. Cockey from Greenwich; Cullum and Garard belong to Erith.

MITCHAM, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, June 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Treble.	JAMES W. TRAPPITT .. 5.
GEORGE WELLING 2.	JOSEPH FAYERS.. .. 6.
JAMES STRUTT 3.	CHARLES BANCE 7.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 4.	JAMES HARRIS Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

Date Touch.

WINTERBOURNE EARLS (Wilts).—On Monday, May 14th, at the parish church, a date touch (1888 changes) of Grandsire and Bob Doubles, in 1 hr. A. P. Goddard, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5.

Miscellaneous.
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Monday, June 4th, at the parish church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. J. Jeffery, 1; C. Privett, 2; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 3; F. Hill (conductor), 4; G. Hackett, 5; G. Grafham, 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; G. Passingham, 8. Also 559 of Grandsire Triples. J. Jeffery, 1; F. Hill, 2; G. Grafham, 3; C. Privett, 4; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 5; G. Passingham, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; G. Hackett, 8.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

SOUTH HACKNEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, May 27th, at the church of St. John of Jerusalem, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins. R. Turner, 1; W. Cecil, 2; A. Cutmore, 3; S. Hayes, 4; C. Lee, 5; H. Springhall (conductor), 6; S. Joyce, 7; E. Turner, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—On Wednesday, May 23rd, at St. Hilda's church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. And on Sunday, May 27th, 720 of Bob Minor, with the bells muffled on both sides, as a mark of respect to Charles Wilkinson, one of the company, who died on Monday, April 21st, at the age of twenty-nine. His death took place somewhat sudden, he having taken part in a quarter-peal, with the bells muffled, as late as April 13th.

DARLINGTON.—On Thursday, May 24th, at St. John's church, on the occasion of Her Majesty's birthday, two 720's of Minor, one of College Singles and one of Double Oxford Bob Minor, in 26 mins. each. J. Bolton, 2; J. Little, 2; H. S. Taylor, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; W. D. Lister, 5; J. H. Whitfield (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS.—Chiming.—On Sunday, May 27th, for Divine Service, 616 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Thompson's three-part peal, in 22 mins. A. Barnes, 1-2; G. W. Cartmel, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. Also 216 of Grandsire Minor. A. Barnes, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3-4; T. Waller, 5-6. And on Wednesday, May 24th, for practice, 504 of Stedman Triples. W. H. L. Buckingham, 1; J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 2; H. Lewis, 3; A. Barnes, 4; E. P. Debenham, 5; G. W. Cartmel, 6; T. Waller, 7; D. Gibbons, 8. Also a touch of Bob Major, H. Baker (conductor), 8. H. Baker hails from Hertford.

IPSWICH (Suffolk).—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday evening, May 19th, at the Halbert inn, a touch of 503 Grandsire Caters. A. R. Aldham, 1-2; C. Mee (conductor), 3-4; A. E. Durrant, 5-6; F. Mee, 7-8; W. L. Catchpole, 9-10. Also on Tuesday morning, at Sproughton, an attempt was made to ring Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but came to grief after ringing 1500 changes. A. R. Aldham, 1-2; C. Mee (conductor), 3-4; A. E. Durrant, 5-6; F. Mee, 7-8. Afterwards a course of Kent Treble Bob Royal, and a course of Stedman Caters, assisted by Mr. Steward, 1-2; the rest as before. Mr. Aldham hails from Loughborough, the rest belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower society, Ipswich.

BRISTOL.—On Whit-Tuesday, at the church of St. Mary-le-Port, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 35 mins. J. Falser, 1; C. Burden, 2; S. Phillips, 3; C. Trevett, 4; G. Daltry, 5; F. Price (conductor), 6; F. Ellis, 7; W. Colston, 8.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Sunday, May 20th, at St. Michael's church, for morning service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob; for afternoon service, a 720 of Bob Minor; and after Divine Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley, 6. Also a 720 of Double Court. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; W. Nudds (Banharn), 2; J. Hilling, 3; J. Jackson, 4; J. Hinchley, 5; G. Websdell, 6. Also on Sunday, May 27th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley, 6. And after service, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Hinchley (conductor), 1; G. Websdell, 6, the others standing as before.

LIVERPOOL.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Sunday, May 27th, at the house of Mr. J. R. Pritchard, 518 of Grandsire Triples. J. Aspinwall, 1-2; J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 3-4; T. Hammond, 5-6; *J. Martin, 7-8. *First 500.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, May 27th, after Divine Service in the afternoon at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. H. Symonds, 1; *A. Keeble, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Jno. Moore, 4; W. Snell, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. *First attempt. Also 504 of Oxford Treble Bob (twelve bobs). H. Symonds, 1; C. Parker, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; J. Moore, 4; A. Keeble, 5; R. Keeble (conductor), 6. Messrs. Parker and Keeble hail from Monks Eleigh, Symonds from Lavenham, the rest are local men.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire).—On Whit-Sunday, May 20th, the local company rang a 350 of Grandsire Triples, for Divine Service at 8 a.m.; also for Divine Service, at 11 a.m., the last half of Holt's Original. A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; G. Smith, 7; T. Wright, 8. Also for Divine at 6.30 p.m., 700 of Grandsire Triples, standing as before, and a 504 and 350, with Mr. E. King, from Stroud, at the 7th. Also on Sunday, May 27th, for Divine Service, at 6.30 p.m., the last 742 of Holt's Original. A. Trigg, 1; H. G. Gardener (Gloucester), 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wager, 5; H. Mitchell (Gloucester), 6; G. Smith, 7; T. Wright, 8.

POSTINGFORD (Suffolk).—On Thursday, May 24th, being the Queen's birthday, the local company rang 120 of Grandsire Doubles, and five six-scores of Bob Doubles, called four different ways. W. Atkinson, 1; G. Basham, 2; C. Rawlinson, 3; F. W. Hicks, 4; D. Gridley (conductor), 5.

READING (Berks).—On Thursday, May 24th, at St. Laurence's church, in honour of the Queen's birthday, 504 of Grandsire Triples. B. White, 1; W. H. Holloway, 2; W. Johnson, 3; G. Talbot, 4; W. Goseltine, 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6; W. Newell, 7; A. E. Reeves, 8. Also in the evening another 504 of Grandsire Triples. B. White, 1; W. H. Holloway, 2; J. Tarrant, 3; G. Talbot, 4; W. Johnson, 5; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 6; W. Newell, 7; H. Simmonds, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Monday evening, June 4th, for practice at the parish church, 504 of Stedman Triples. G. Croucher, 1; *J. Bashford, sen., 2; *G. F. Attree, 3; *F. Linter, 4; W. Argent, 5; *E. Moses (conductor), 6; *E. Kenward, 7; *J. Howard, 8. *Members of the Surrey Association.

SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Herts).—On Sunday evening, May 27th for service at the Parish Church, a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 19 mins. G. Rochester (conductor), 1; N. W. Tarling, 2; T. Sebram, 3; W. J. Pleasance, 4; J. Tarling, 5; H. Saban, 6; W. Morris, 7; P. Springham, 8. And for practice on Tuesday evening, May 29th, 308 of Grandsire Triples. G. Rochester, 1; A. Brown, 2; T. Saban, 3; F. W. Tarling, 4; N. W. Tarling, 5; P. Springham, 6; W. Morris (conductor), 7; H. Saban, 8. Also a 364 of Stedman Triples. G. Rochester (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; N. W. Tarling, 3; W. J. Pleasance, 4; W. Morris, 5; P. Springham, 6; H. Saban, 7; F. W. Tarling, 8. Also a course of Kent Treble Bob Major. H. Saban, 1; A. Brown, 2; J. Saban, 3; W. J. Pleasance, 4; G. Rochester, 5; W. Morris, 6; P. Springham, 7; N. W. Tarling, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

WOLLASTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, June 3rd, the local company rang for Divine Service a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24½ mins. W. Stinton, 1; J. H. Parsons, 2; J. H. Parkes, 3; W. Fryer, 4; J. Lewis, 5; H. Dakin, 6.

SALTAIRE (Yorks).—On Tuesday, May 29th, at the Congregational Church, 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. J. Stubbs, 1; R. Eccles (first 720), 2; B. Emmett, 3; B. T. Copley, 4; A. Bulmer, 5; A. Ridley (conductor).

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MEMBERS are informed that the report for 1887 (which contains amongst other matters, a full list of peals, with the compositions, rung by the Association since its formation in 1878) is now ready, and may be obtained of the local secretaries of the different Deaneries as under. Free to those whose subscriptions are paid, and to others at a price at 3d.

Deaneries.	Local Secs.
GLOUCESTER	H. Hatherley, Esq., National Provincial Bank, Gloucester.
DURSLEY, HAWKESBURY, & BITTON	Mr. F. K. Howell, Morton, Thornbury.
N'TH AND S'TH FOREST ..	Mr. J. Hern, Newnham.
BISLEY & STONEHOUSE ..	W. C. Long, Esq., Stonehouse.
WINCHCOMBE, CIRENCESTER AND TEWKESBURY ..	F. E. Ward, Esq., 438, High Street, Cheltenham.
FAIRFORD, NORTHLEACH, & STOW	T. W. Taylor, Esq., Northleach.
BRISTOL AND STAPLETON..	C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., 30, Broad Street, Bristol.
Magor, Newport, Mon.	REV. PITT EYKYN, Hon. Sec.

BEACONSFIELD AND WOOBURN, BUCKS.

On Whit-Monday a band of the Oxford Diocesan Guild journeyed to Beaconsfield for the purpose of attempting a peal of Grandsire Triples on the excellent ring of bells in the parish church (permission having been readily granted by the worthy Vicar), which was duly accomplished. On leaving the tower, the band was heartily congratulated by Mr. Thomas Perryman, brother to the ringer of the tenor, who not only invited them to partake of refreshment at his residence, but drove the band to Wooburn to complete the second part of the programme, that being to inspect a peal tablet presented and written by Mr. Williams (churchwarden), recording a peal of Grandsire Triples rung at this church on Saturday, February 6th, 1886, this being the second peal on the bells, the first which was rung over forty-six years ago, and conducted by the late Thomas Tolladay.

Here they received a hearty welcome from the Rev. A. Woodin, and placing the bells at our disposal, several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, after which an adjournment to the inn opposite, where an excellent tea was provided by the Vicar, to which ample justice was done. A touch on the handbells, and twenty minutes walk to the station, concluded a most enjoyable Bank Holiday.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

A Ringing Meeting of the above branch took place at Christ Church Bacup, on Saturday, June 2nd, when about twenty-five members from Bacup, Waterfoot, Newchurch and Bolton took part in the ringing during the afternoon and evening. Touches in Plain Bob and College Single, and a 720 of Plain Bob, and 720 of Oxford Single were rung. A meeting was held in the Schoolroom at 6.30, presided over by the Rev. J. Mc Cubbin, Vicar, who kindly consented to become an honorary member of the Association.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A Meeting of the members will be held at Hatfield, Herts, on Saturday, June 16th. The tower will be open for ringing from 3 p.m. At 5 o'clock a business meeting will be held at the Coffee Tavern, to elect an Honorary Secretary and transact general business. E. P. DEBENHAM, Hon. Sec. pro tem.
St. Albans, Herts.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—ANNUAL MEETING AT DEVIZES.

The members of this Guild held their Annual Meeting in the town of Devizes on Wednesday last. A company formed of the Salisbury (St. Martin's) and Trowbridge bands, went to ring at Bishops Cannings, and the Longbridge Deverell company rang at St. Mary's several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, as also did the Salisbury St. Edmund's company. Other bands were in attendance from the following parishes; Marlborough St. Mary, Marlborough St. Peter, North Bradley, Warminster, Great Bedwyn, Evershot, Seend, Ogbourne St. Andrew, Maiden Bradley, Mildenhall, Wishford, and Ebbesborne Wake. All the former officers were re-elected, viz.: the Rev. A. D. Hill, Master; Mr. W. Pickney, Treasurer; Mr. J. R. Jerram, General Secretary; the Revs. C. W. Hony and M. Hankey, District Secretaries; Mr. A. H. Handcock, Auditor; and the Revs. C. N. Wyld and E. G. Wyld, and Messrs. W. W. Gifford, C. A. Clements, and H. A. Garrett, Committee. The Rev. Dr. Bourne (sub-dean) was elected a vice-president. A discussion arose as to the advisability of attempting long peals on general meeting days, and it was decided not to do so in future, but it was proposed that funds permitting, the committee might occasionally pay the expenses of a band to any place in the diocese in order to attempt a peal. Some discussion also took place as to the introduction of life ringing members into the Guild, but the question was deferred until another meeting.

The annual dinner was held at the "Bear" hotel, the host catering in a very satisfactory style for about 100 guests. The chair was taken by the President of the Guild, the Earl Nelson, and among those present were the Master of the Guild (Rev. A. D. Hill, Downton), Revs. Dr. Burges and J. G. Locke (Devizes), Rev. C. W. Hony (Bishops Cannings), Rev. A. B. Thynne (Seend), and Mr. J. R. Jerram (Salisbury).

After dinner the President gave the toast of "Church and Queen," which was loyally received.

"The Health of Dr. Burges," with thanks for the use of his churches and his sermon was heartily drunk, and

Dr. BURGES, in reply, expressed the pleasure which it had given him to see them at church. Their position of ringers was a very important one in the House of God and in connection with the service of the sanctuary. In the more primitive ages the art of bell-ringing held a much more exalted status than it did in succeeding years; and it appeared that now again the old feeling was resuming its proper position in reference to the service of the sanctuary. This was as it should be. In conclusion he bade them all a hearty welcome to the town and churches.

The PRESIDENT proposed the toast of the day, "Success to the Salisbury Diocesan Bell Ringers' Guild." In doing so he enlarged upon the advantages conferred by the Guild, in promoting good fellowship, increasing the standard of efficiency of ringing, and assisting in the renovation of belfries and peals of bells. Although they had lost a few honorary subscribers, that was more than counterbalanced by the fact that more regular ringers had joined. He noticed in the report that there was a good list of belfry improvements carried out in 1887.

The MASTER of the Guild responded, and remarked upon the large proportion of young members who were joining. There was evidence that the Guild had begun to tell in the parishes, and to stir up a desire and a love for better things, and a better use of church bells. He hoped the Guild would long live and flourish.

The PRESIDENT submitted "The Hon. Secretaries—Rev. C. W. Hony and Mr. J. R. Jerram."

Mr. JERRAM, in reply, alluded to the achievements in change-ringing which last year had witnessed. He also appealed to the members to strive in their several districts to secure the support of honorary members to the Guild.

The Rev. C. W. HONY proposed "The President," and dwelt upon the practical interest his lordship took in the work of the Guild. The toast was drunk with great cordiality.

The PRESIDENT having replied, the *post-prandial* proceedings closed. The company then dispersed to the various belfries.

Obituary.

THOMAS WEST.

We regret to have to announce the death on May 31st, at the age of 41, after a very brief illness, of Mr. Thomas West, of the Leeds parish church company. Mr. West, who was a native of York, belonged to a ringing family. His first peal, which was one of Kent Treble Bob Major, was conducted by his father at St. Martin's-le-Grand, Coney Street, York, in which peal two of his brothers also took part, so that his family composed one half the band. He joined the Yorkshire Association at its commencement, with members of which he has rung fifty-one peals, comprising Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major, Royal and Maximus, Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, and Stedman Caters. Before the formation of the Association he is reported to have rung other peals to the number of some ten or fifteen, of which unfortunately there is no record. He gave some little attention to the composition of Bob Major, a peal of his being published in the late Mr. Snowdon's "Rope-Sight," third edition. Mr. West, who rang for the children's service at the Leeds parish church on Whit-Monday, and was then apparently in good health, leaves a widow and nine children, who are consequently now in very straightened circumstances. As a practical expression of sympathy the parish church company and their friends undertook the entire expense of the funeral, and also bore him to his last resting place. The interment took place on Saturday, June 2nd, at New Wortley Cemetery, Leeds, and the Vicar of Leeds, the Rev. Canon Jayne, in order to show his sympathy with his ringers, took the service, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Houghton, the curate in charge of the district parish. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung on the handbells at the grave side, by the parish church company, and the bells of the parish church were rung muffled for service on the following day. On Monday evening, eight members of the parish church company met at Holbeck to ring a date touch of 1888 changes of Bob Major, composed by the deceased, but owing to the falling of a ladder, placed on the frame for the purpose of ascending the spire, amongst the bells, it was abruptly brought to a close before the first course had been rung. H. Lockwood, 1; H. Hubbard, 2; H. W. Needham, 3; W. Walker, 4; J. Hutchinson, 5; T. Lockwood (conductor), 6; R. Binns, 7; G. Fothergill, 8.

JAMES RUMSEY.

We regret to have record the death of the above gentleman, who died after a brief illness on Wednesday, May 30th, in the 28th year of his age, at his residence, Copleston Road, Denmark Park. His loss is keenly felt by the ringers of St. Sepulchre's, where he had been associated from an early age, and was ringing on the 24th (Queen's Birthday). He was a member of the Royal Cumberland Youths, and also the St. James' Society, and had rung five peals of Grandsire Triples, and two of Caters, and took part in the last unsuccessful attempt. He was greatly respected by all who knew him. The funeral took place on Saturday, June 2nd, at Ilford Cemetery, he being interred in the family grave. There were several friends, among whom were Mr. Hart, sexton of St. Sepulchre's, Messrs. W. D. Matthews, Clarkson, Wheeler, Church, Davies, Holmes, Moore, Milner, and Lovett. A great many were absent on account of the Queen's birthday celebrations in London, in consequence of which the funeral peal was postponed till Monday, June 4th, when the usual whole pull and stand was rung by the following: D. Lovett, 1; W. Milner, 2; A. Vincent, 3; C. Holmes, 4; G. Watkins, 5; T. H. Chapman, 6; C. Clarkson, 7; W. D. Matthews, 8; J. Wheeler, 9; A. Matthews, 10. After which, the first 500 of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Bate (conductor), 1; H. Davies, 2; W. Chew, 3; J. Nelms, 4; W. D. Matthews, 5; J. Barry, 6; A. E. Church, 7; J. Wheeler, 8. And a touch of Caters, in which Messrs. French and Alford, sen., and others who came to pay their last respects to the deceased, took part.

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DEDICATION AND OPENING OF TREVETHIN BELLS, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

In addition to what has already appeared in connection with this opening, we are asked to insert the following:—

A special service in connection with the dedication of these bells was held on Whit-Sunday morning, at which a sermon was preached by the Rev. J. Jones, Vicar of Bassaleg. There was a large congregation present. The text was taken from Acts ii. 2, "A sound from heaven." The preacher referred to the festival of that day, being the birthday of the Church, as it was the anniversary of Pentecost, when the apostles received the great gift of the Holy Ghost, whose presence had been manifested in the Church for nearly nineteen centuries. The mode of the Spirit's manifestation was such as to arouse the attention and strike awe into the souls present. Alluding to the power of sound over the emotions of the human heart, and to the use of bells in religious ceremonies from remote antiquity, the preacher said they were introduced into this country by Benedict, Abbot of Wearmouth. He pointed out the many associations connected with the sound of church bells, associations which he hoped might be the means of leading the thoughts of men to higher and nobler aims, concluding his discourse with an earnest exhortation to his hearers to seek the Lord in all appointed ways.

On Whit-Monday, the day fixed for the final opening, the members of the Upton St. Leonard's branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association left Gloucester by the 5.15 a.m. express, arriving at Pontypool Road station at 7.35 a.m. They then proceeded to the "Crown" hotel, and partook of an excellent breakfast. Courses of Grandsire Major and Triples having been rung upon handbells, a start was made for Trevethin church, about a mile distant, the road thereto being through some picturesque woodland scenery, which was much enjoyed. The destination was reached about ten o'clock, the visitors being met by the Vicar and several of the parishioners. A survey of the church having been effected, the tower was entered, and the bells and their appurtenances were found everything to be desired. Descending to the ringing-chamber—the appointments of which are most complete, the company raised the bells in peal, and immediately afterwards, as a trial touch, rang 504 of Grandsire Triples. This being over, the Vicar and others came into the ringing-chamber, anxious to hear the opinion of the ringers how the bells "went." A very satisfactory account having been given of their condition, and the visitors having retired, a start was made for Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, which was accomplished in 2 hrs. 52 mins., a record of which performance can be found in the number of this journal for the week ending May 26th last. Crowds of people from Pontypool, Pontnewynydd, Abersychan, and other places were present to listen to the peal, who congratulated the ringers upon their success. A course of Caters was rung upon handbells in the churchyard much to the gratification of those assembled therein.

Returning to the "Crown" hotel, the company sat down to an excellent dinner, Mr. Plumley taking the chair, and Mr. Phillips the vice-chair. The cloth being removed, and the usual loyal toasts having been duly honoured,

The CHAIRMAN said he should be glad of some information concerning the art of change-ringing. He should like to know the best means of training a young band of ringers, for he was particularly fond of any kind of music. He would like to learn the art himself, but as he had so many irons in the fire he must refrain from attempting it. He was very glad they had succeeded in ringing the peal, and he wished them every success.

Mr. H. GARDENER thanked the chairman for his good wishes. Now that they had a good peal of bells he hoped they would soon be possessed of a good band of ringers able to ring a peal.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said he was particularly fond of bells. At one time he used to ring a little himself, at Monmouth, and he should now take up the practice of the art, and use every effort in getting young men to join, for it would be a great pity now they had a peal of bells to allow them to remain silent.

A course of Grandsire Caters was then rung on the handbells, after which a move was again made to the belfry, a very large concourse of people awaiting the arrival of the ringers. Several touches in various methods were then rung, and the bells

were afterwards lowered. A visit was then made to the vicarage, where a few courses on the handbells were rung, a performance which the vicar and his friends very much admired. He then thanked the ringers for the share they had taken in the day's proceedings, and wished them success in all their future efforts, hoping they would be spared to pay him another visit.

The company, after a short but enjoyable conversation with the local celebrities, repaired to the railway station to embark for home. Having a short time to wait for the arrival of the train, the handbells were again brought out and a course or two rung on the platform, much to the admiration of the officials and passengers. The ride home brought to a close a most enjoyable day; and the ringers desire, through the medium of this journal, to thank all their Pontypool and Trevethin friends for the kind way in which they were treated.

GLOUCESTER.

On Whit-Sunday, May 20th, for morning service, at St. Michael's church, by the local ringers, assisted by Mr. John Holden, of Saddleworth, 588 Grandsire Triples. John Holden, 1; George Brunson, 2; Richard Brunson, 3; Geo. Wanklin, 4; Frank Hart, 5; Joseph Clarke, 6; B. Etheridge (conductor), 7; H. Eakets, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. Also a short touch of Grandsire Triples, at the Cathedral. And on Thursday evening, May 24th, permission having been obtained, Mr. Holden, who was in Gloucester during the week representing his district at the Oddfellows A.M.C., met the local ringers with the intention of ringing a peal, and previous to commencing was proposed and elected a member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. The company commenced to raise the bells in peal; when about half-way up the ringers were startled by something very heavy falling upon the floor, immediately over them. The bells were dropped as soon as possible, and on one of the company going up to see what was amiss, he found that the second bell clapper had fallen out. Everyone regretted the accident, however, they did the best they could under the circumstances, viz.: rung a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. George Wanklin, 1; John Holden, 2; George Brunson, 3; Richard Brunson, 4; William Brunson, 5; Ben. Etheridge (conductor), 6. Afterwards the ringers adjourned to their meeting house, where a very pleasant evening was spent in ringing tunes and courses of Grandsire Caters, Grandsire Major and Triples, in which Mr. Holden rung a pair. The ringers beg to thank the authorities at the various churches in Gloucester for kindly granting them permission to ring, and Mr. Holden tenders his sincere thanks to the local company for the courtesy and kindness they extended to him during his visit to the ancient city of Gloucester.

DEDICATION OF BELLS AT STOKEINTEIGNHEAD, DEVON.

The bells of this parish church have lately been augmented from four to five by having an odd bell that was in the tower and forming one of the four, recast into two new trebles, and the three old bells tuned to harmonise one with another. A dedication service was held on Thursday, May 17th, at which the Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote (Hon. Sec. of the Devonshire Guild), preached the sermon, and a band from the St. Sidwell's branch of the county Guild was entrusted with the opening. The bells were found to go well to Grandsire Doubles and does Mr. Stokes, of Woodbury, great credit for the manner in which he has carried out the work of rehanging. Twelve months ago the belfry was in a very dilapidated state, with old half wheels for ringing, but now, through the efforts of the Rector, the Rev. E. Stephenson, and the parishioners, the parish has a very fair, well going peal of bells. The following took part in the ringing: Rev. J. S. Northcote, Ferris Shepherd, E. Shepherd, J. Moss, F. Davey, C. Curtis, and W. Stocker. Dinner was laid in the parish room, at which the local ringers sat down with the visitors.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO. Printers, Exeter.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"There is room for all."

Your report of the Essex Meeting was very interesting; and, as usual, the words of the Rev. F. Robinson from the pulpit deserving of careful attention. It is to be regretted that the difficulties in the way seemed too many for the members to accept Canon Wigram's proposal. As this matter of the Herts County Association seems to be a weak spot in our constitution, is it not possible for the Canon to get together a few friends, interested in the matter, talk this matter over, and if a Diocesan Association is geographically or in any other way impracticable, may they not devise some mode of carrying on the work of organisation into Hertfordshire, better than by the motion of the Rev. H. A. Cockey, which virtually leaves matters *in statu quo*?

* * * *

"Only a ringers' paper!" Such is the description given of "THE BELL NEWS," by one who confesses that he does not take the paper, and indeed very seldom sees it. What could have been that reverend gentleman's object in thus attacking the recognised scientific organ of the Exercise? Did he think that by so doing he was rendering some service to your contemporary? "Only a ringers' paper!" Did the speaker use those words sarcastically, disparagingly, or how? In any way, they are offensive not only to the proprietors of "THE BELL NEWS," but to our ringing fraternity also. We ourselves are *only* ringers, but nevertheless are proud of the fact; we are consequently quite satisfied to know that the journal which we look for with interest at the end of every week is "only a ringers' paper." But I need not tarry on this unwelcome subject; the words of the respected vicars of Writtle and Drayton leave nothing necessary to be added; so we may well commend them to the meditation of the Rev. Mr. Seaman, then we need not envy his subsequent reflections.

* * * *

Mr. Parker has properly dropped a thunderbolt amongst us, regarding our much rung Grandsire Triples. There mere fact of a peal having been produced by such a well-known composer as Mr. Penning, to have been rung and conducted by one so well versed in the method as Mr. Charles Jackson, and finally to have been accepted by such an authority as the late Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon, and inserted in his last work, would have been taken by all of us as ample proof of its truth. But when after the lapse of four years we are confronted with the stubborn but incontestible fact of its being false, it is truly, as the Rev. C. D. P. Davies remarks, enough to make one dizzy. "Out of evil cometh good" is a well-known maxim, and doubtless it will prove correct in this case by causing composers and conductors to look more carefully into the compositions which they may produce or be about to conduct.

* * * *

The explanation and ample apology of Mr. Penning relative to this matter is very creditable to that gentleman; and though like all mortals, he has made a mistake, I feel sure that, after his acknowledgment and correction of the blunder, his reputation as an authority in the method will not suffer through this unfortunate slip.

* * * *

I feel tempted to ask, although I might appear to be "piling it on," Does not this correspondence shew in a most emphatic manner the usefulness—nay, the great necessity—to us, of "THE BELL NEWS," even if it is "only a ringer's paper?"

We are favoured once more with Mr. Attree's periodical and ever-welcome analysis of peals. His last return comprises four of the principal peal-ringing months of the year, thus it will be interesting to note the results so far as they go. The College Youths are as yet to the front with the unusually large number of thirty-six to their credit, while the Sussex men are but half-a-dozen behind, and the Midland Counties' Association through its fifteen peals in April, follows with a total of only four less than their southern brethren. But what is the great Yorkshire Association about that it has gone down to the eighth on the list, with its small total of eleven? The last but one with double-figures! Come, Yorkshiremen, pull yourselves together; we are not accustomed to see you cut such a sorry figure as this. If you don't, where will you be when Mr. Attree gives us his final reckoning up for the year?

* * * *

I am pleased to see that our analyst has decided to act upon my suggestion as to peals by Independent Societies. My motive in making it was not for mere curiosity or to get more complete statistics; it was more with the aim of shewing the relative positions of our various county organisations and the general body of ringers in their respective districts. There can be no doubt that the returns of peal-ringing do give us a fair indication in this direction. Lancashire is, as usual considerably to the front in the matter of these peals by Independent Societies, having no less than fifteen out of a total of thirty-seven, a good long way towards one half of the whole. I frankly admit that my knowledge of ringing affairs in that county is very slight—unfortunately much more so than I would like it to be—but I look on the broad fact that while the Lancashire Association has scored eighteen peals, the Independent Societies have rung fifteen, and the Liverpool Youths another four: so that it seems to me that this County Association has not yet succeeded by far in getting the great body of efficient change-ringers amongst them into their ranks. Perhaps time, patience, and perseverance will remedy this state of things. Let us hope so.

FREE LANCE.

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHWARK.

The original church was consecrated on December 17th, 1651, the tower being added in 1694. The present church was erected in 1738, and is of brick with stone dressings. It has a square tower surmounted by an open octagonal turret. There is some stained glass in several of the windows; one representing the arms of the see of Winchester impaling those of Morley, and another the arms of the Marshalls. The organ was presented by William Boyse, a navy surgeon, in 1789, who also gave the interest of £500 as an organist's salary. The pulpit and prayer desk are of stained oak, the former being surmounted by a sounding board, supported by two Corinthian columns. The tower contains a peal of eight bells, tenor 18 cwt. The first four bells are inscribed "I. B. Fecit 1700;" the fifth and sixth "James Bartlet me fecit 1700," the word "fecit" being turned upside down. The seventh has "Robert Catlin fecit 1741," and the tenor "John Warner and Son, founders, London, 1796. Gilbert Handasyde and James Webber, Churchwardens." There is also a call-bell, inscribed "Robert Catlin fecit 1742."

J. R. J.

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The ringers of Old Swindon parish church paid a visit to the above villages on Whit-Monday and rang several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, including six 6-scores at Longcote, each called differently. G. State, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; T. Ricketts, 3; J. Trueman, 4; O. W. Layng (conductor), 5; F. Trueman, 6. Also six six-scores at Shrivenham, Mr. Hill, the parish clerk, ringing the sixth in the first three and the first in the second

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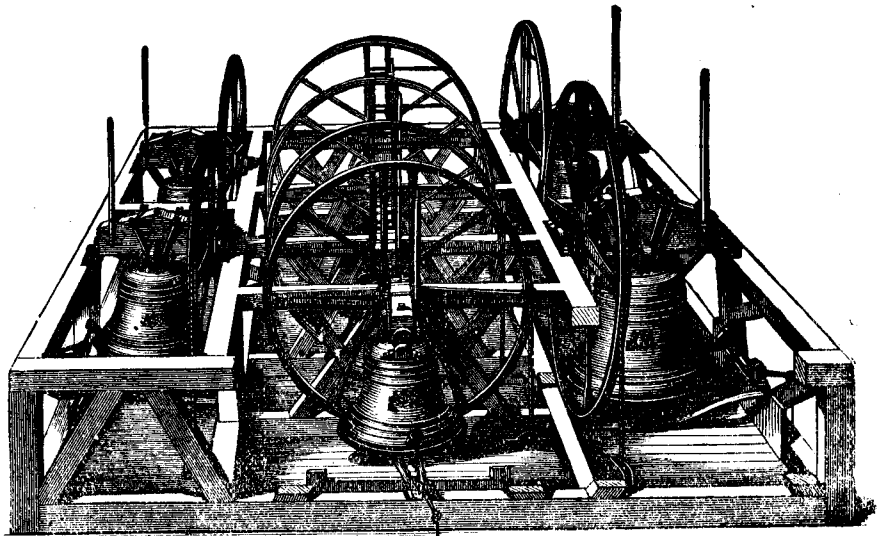
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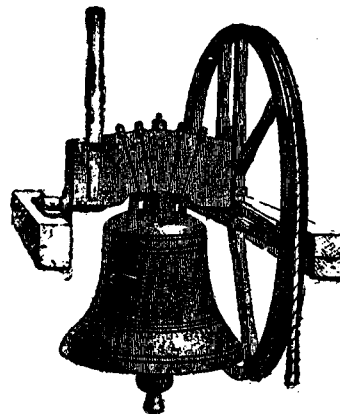
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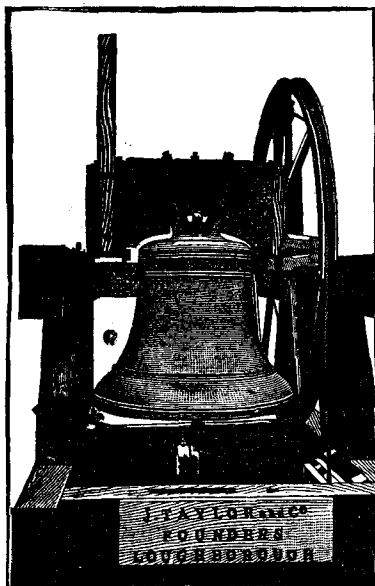
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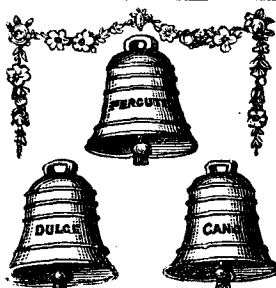
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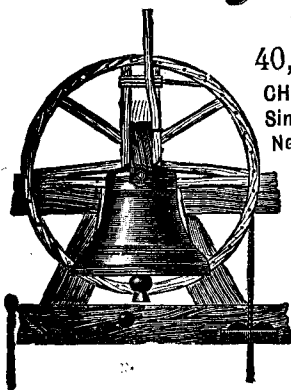
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THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, the members of this Association assembled in Stockton for the purpose of holding their festival. Representatives were present from Bishop Auckland, Bishop Wearmouth, Durham, Newcastle, Ripon, Jarrow, North Shields, Consett, Darlington, Middlesbrough, and Stockton. One party invaded the parish church, where they found a peal of six bells, on which they in the course of the morning rang a 726 of Merchants' Return and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. Another party went down to Middlesbrough, where at the parish church of St. Hilda (eight bells, tenor 22 cwt.) touches of Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob were rung. At 1 o'clock, the committee met together, when the principal business transacted was to decide to hold meetings in various places in the dioceses during the ensuing summer. Afterwards the members, to the number of sixty, sat down to dinner at the "Half-Moon" inn, Church-row. The chair was occupied by Rev. H. Martin, Vicar of Stockton, who was supported by the Rev. E. Boddington and Mr. Hudson and Mr. Scott (from Bishopwearmouth), Mr. G. J. Clarkson (hon. sec.), Mr. G. B. Leng, Mr. R. H. Leighton, etc. The vice-chair was filled by Mr. R. S. Story, of Newcastle, the president of the Association. After the repast,

The CHAIRMAN proposed "Church and Queen," which was heartily honoured.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN proposed "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese." He stated that the Association had great pleasure in visiting Stockton, and congratulated the Vicar on having such an efficient band of ringers attached to his church.

THE CHAIRMAN, in responding, said it was a great pleasure to him to take part in that gathering. He had from his boyhood been much interested in bells, having had the good fortune to live in a place where was a good peal, and whilst he remembered the sound of those bells, and the pleasant associations they brought up, he thought he might congratulate them all on the day in which they lived, for the cords of sympathy which bound Church people together were now drawn more closely than they used to be. In former times there was practically no sympathy between bellringers and the clergy, although bellringers played a very important part in Church organisation. Now happily this was changed. Bellringing had a very nice influence. When people left the place in which they had resided for some time they missed the sound of their own bells, which had so sweetly called them to church; and in our own distant colonies the ringing of the bells recalled to the colonist the church in which he had worshipped in the old country, and the many beautiful and holy thoughts in connection with the services. In the old days it was not unusual for ringers, after summoning the people to church, to be absent themselves. He could well remember when matches for money were rung on the bells. But the bellringers of to-day were regular attendants at the services. This was the result, as he had said, of the close bond of sympathy which now existed between the clergy and bellringers. The clergy looked upon the bellringers as they looked upon their choirs, district visitors, and Sunday-school teachers—as men who gave some of their time to the services of the church. He was glad to see so many present, and to give them an hearty welcome. It would have been a pleasure to him if Stockton could have given them the use of a better peal. Mr. Clarkson, he knew, was never tired of dwelling on the good quality and sweetness of the Stockton peal, but he appeared determined to let churchpeople have no rest till he got the number increased to twelve. It was in contemplation to extensively alter the parish church, and he trusted that when this scheme had been accomplished they would be able to get an enlarged peal. He hoped that when the Association favoured Stockton with another visit, he would not only have a beautiful church to show them, but a peal of twelve bells on which to illustrate their art. The Vicar then left to fulfil another engagement, and Mr. G. B. Leng (churchwarden) was asked to take his place.

The Rev. E. BODDINGTON proposed the health of the president of the Association (Mr. R. S. Story). He said he had had the pleasure of attending one of their meetings at Sunderland. There were two qualifications which were necessary in the president of an association like this—an enthusiasm for its objects, and a practical knowledge of the art. In these respects Mr. Story was an ideal president. No man could take a keener

interest in the Association than he did, and no one knew better how to appreciate the beauty of a good peal.

MR. STORY briefly responded.

Mr. LEE (Newcastle) proposed the health of the honorary secretary (Mr. Clarkson), who had not only done all he could to advance the interests of the Association, but who had rescued the Stockton peal from obscurity. He could remember how twenty-five years ago he ventured into the church tower at Stockton, and found it full of cobwebs and dirt. The bell-ropes were as thick as eables, and the places where the tufts ought to be were marked with chalk. All this had been changed, mainly by the influence of Mr. Clarkson, to whom the town of Stockton owed a debt of gratitude.

Mr. CLARKSON, in acknowledging the compliment, said the bells had been made tunable and the belfry improved without the slightest expense to the churchwardens. The next improvement which they desired was an augmentation of the peal. He advocated ten bells, but the Vicar said that the peal should number twelve, well, he would not quarrel with him on that score. He hoped the scheme for improving the parish church would be carried out, and he was sure, that having regard to the excellent feeling which existed between the Vicar and the ringers, the scheme for an improved peal would not be forgotten.

The health of Mr. Churchwarden having been honoured, the meeting broke up.

A painful shadow was cast over this otherwise successful meeting by the news which reached the Middlesbrough belfry at the conclusion of the ringing, of the death of Charles Wilkinson, a promising member of that young and progressive company. His memory was duly honoured by a muffled peal rung on the following Wednesday, a report of which has already appeared in this paper.

WEST TARRING, SUSSEX.

ON Saturday evening, June 9th, a numerous gathering of ringers assembled at this ancient village, a meeting being convened by the local band, as a parting compliment to Mr. H. Miles, a member, who is about to leave the village for America. The church tower, a spacious building of the Norman period, contains a musical peal of six bells, tenor 9 cwt. They were put in motion at five o'clock, and continued in swing till six, when the visitors, (who hailed from the neighbouring towers of Angmering, Goring, and Heene, numbering about twenty with the local company), then sat down to supper at the "George Inn," host Richardson being soon convinced that bell ropes were not the only things his guests could handle. This part of the business being over, a move was again made to the church tower, when the visitors indulged themselves in the art of campanology for an hour, the rest of the evening being spent in harmony.

Mr. BUSHBY, in a neat speech, proposed "The Health of Mr. Miles," alluding to the loss the band had sustained. The toast was heartily drunk amid cheers and good wishes for his future career.

Mr. MILES, in responding, said the doings of this evening would long rest in his memory, and if he were spared to reach his destination at Buffalo, he hoped he might find such jolly fellows as he had met at the gathering that night. He thanked the company for their attendance, especially the visitors, who had come from a distance. Some excellent songs were sung, and the Goring brass band played some lively airs which greatly contributed to the harmony of the evening. After singing the National Anthem, the company separated.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A Meeting of the members will be held at Hatfield, to-day, Saturday, June 16th. The tower will be open for ringing from 3 p.m. At 5 o'clock a business meeting will be held at the Coffee Tavern, to elect an Honorary Secretary and transact general business. E. P. DEBENHAM, Hon. Sec. pro. tem.

St. Albans, Herts.

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ST. PETER MANCROFT, NORWICH.

To those who study the early history of change-ringing, I should say that there is hardly any place in England of greater historical interest than Norwich, and among the thirty-seven churches of which that city boasts, St. Peter Mancroft certainly stands first from a ringers point of view, both from the fact of its possessing a grand ring of twelve, and also because some of the earliest performances in change-ringing of any note were achieved there on the old peal which hung in that tower previous to 1775. It was here, as I shall presently notice more fully, that the first true peal of Triples, composed by John Garthorn, was said to have been rung, and it was also in this tower that the first true peal of Stedman Triples was achieved. The ringers of Norwich in the last century certainly ranked among the chief campanologists in England, and from the expressions we find on some of the old tablets in the belfry, they were evidently well aware of that fact. We continually read that on such a date such a company rang that "intricate and ingenious peal" of so and so, and that although "it had been the study of many acute ringers for many years, it had never been rung to the truth till that time." We are also frequently reminded that "there were no two changes alike, or a bell out of course," and that "the bold and regular striking would cause the peal to be considered superior to anything ever rung in England before," and so forth. Though these expressions sound somewhat self-laudatory to our ears, no doubt they were common enough at the time, and certainly St. Peter Mancroft with the sister churches of St. Giles, St. Andrew's, and St. Michael Coslany, are entitled to a high position in the annals of campanologist fame.

The original peal at St. Peter Mancroft, existing as early as the fourteenth century, consisted of five bells which were thus inscribed in black letters.

- (1.) "Nos Thome meritis mereamur gaudia lucis."
- (2.) "Petrus ad eterne ducat nos pascua vite."
- (3.) "AVE MARIA GRATIA PLENA DOMINUS TECUM" (in lombardic).
- (4.) "Sum Rosa Pulsata Mundi Maria Vocata."
- (5.) (Re-cast) "Ego sum campana Gulielmi Ellys baronis de exchequer que fracta refecta est 1618" (William Ellis was baron of the exchequer to Henry VIII. in 1535).

The tenor was 53 inches in diameter. In 1602 a treble was added, making a peal of six. This bell was simply inscribed "Anno Domini 1602." She was cast by William Brend, of Norwich, and in the accounts for 1602-3 we find "Item paid unto Willm. Brand, Bellfounder, the xxj of Aprill, 1603, for the making of a new bell now hanging in a frame in the steeple as appeareth by his bill - xvij li."

In 1675-6 two more trebles were added to make eight. They were thus inscribed:—(1.) "Edmund Tooke Ao Dni 1675; (2.) "E. T. made me Ao Dni 1676." Mr. L'Estrange, in his "*Church Bells of Norfolk*" gives copies of the following entries with regard to these bells. "1672-3. Received upon the Reparation Rate and for the two new bells, £93 8s. 6d.—Recd. of Sr. John Hobart as a gift towards the 2 new bells, £3 os. 3d.—Recd. of Mr. John Melchior as a gift towards the bells, 10s. od." Among the payments he gives the following items:—

"Payd Edward Tooke for the Mettall of two new bells weighing 9c. 2qr. 25lb., at 12d. p.li is £54 9s. od.

Payd Edward Tooke for 4 brasses for the bells and mending the brasses for the ould second, £1 13s. 4d.

Thomas Doo was also paid £39 for chimes and quarters.

The treble of the eight measured 32 inches in diameter. The next few entries are as follows:—

"10 April, 1671. 'Tis then ordered that out of the fine that shall arise by a new lease to be made of the houses in St. Lawrence, Mr. Edward Tooke shall have some pt. of the moneys due to him from the parish, pd to Mr. Tooke by Mr. Warren and Mr. Oliver in p't £10 os. od. xxjo Die April, 1679. Then ordered and agreed that out of the fine to the parish upon

a new Lease of St. Laurence houses The churchwardens shall pay to Mr. Tooke the residue of his money xxli.ij. 4d. 1679. Paide Mr. Richard Johnson, Merchant, Executor to Mr. Tooke, beinge by order of the parish, and was money for Repayer of the bells, £20 os. od."

Notwithstanding that St. Margaret, Westminster claims to have had the first true peal of Grandsire Triples rung there on Sunday, July 7th, 1751, it is said that the first true peal of Triples was rung on these bells in 1715, which is thus commemorated on a tablet:—

"May 2nd, 1715. Here was rung by the ringers call'd Norwich Scholars, that most Icomparable Peal called Gransir Bob Triples, it being the 3d whole peal that they have rung, but the first whole peal that ever was rung to the truth by any ringers whatever. It has been Studied by the most acute Ringers in England (but to no effect), ever since Triple changes were first rung, but now at last it's found out to the truth by John Garthorn, one of the said Society, and rung by him and the rest of the Society in 3 hours 18 minutes, which is about 1550 changes in an hour, the whole peal being 5040 changes, and not one bell misplac'd or out of course. The names of which ringers are underwritten against their Respective Bells as they rung; John Garthorn, 1; Isaac Pearce, 2; John Briggs, 3; James Brooke, 4; David Sannervill, 5; Tho. Gardiner, 6; William Dixon, 7; Robert Woodcock, 8."

This peal was probably Bob Triples or something of the kind. Next is recorded the following performance:—

"On the 26th of August, 1718, was rung that Harmonious Peal called Grandsire Triples which have been ye Study of ye most Ingenious men of this age who delight in ye art of Variat-ion; but all their Projections have proved errors, until it was undertook by John Garthorn, who with long Study and Practice, have perfectly discovered those Intricate methods which were hidden from the eyes of all the Ringers in England; the extent of this peal being 5040 changes, have often been rung with changes alike, but the first time that ever was rung true, was in three hours and a half, without any changes alike or a Bell out of Course, by these men whose names are underwritten against their Bells as they were rung.

James Brooke	Treble.	Henry Hyward ...	Fifth.
John Briggs	Second.	Wm. Callow ...	Sixth.
William Palmer... ..	Third.	Tho. Melchoir ...	Seventh.
Robert Crane	Fourth.	Tho. Barret ...	Tenor.

I shall next give a copy of a tablet, published by the late Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon, some years ago. This tablet records the ringing of the first peal of Stedman Triples in 1731. It runs as follows:—

"On the 25th October, 1731, here was rung that Misterious Peal called Stedman Tripples: the discovery therrof has been the Study of several Ingenious Ringers in England, though to no effect, until this intricate Peal, which differs from all other Methods of tripples, as being every bell a like course, was perfectly discovered by (Name erased) who first compleated the Peal of Perfect Stedman Tripples with only two Doubles, and no alteration; the extent being 5040 changes, was compleately rung by us in 3 hours and 40 minutes, on which occasion Willm. Scott, in his remarks upon the ringing this Peal, did Elegantly sing, viz:—

As for the sweet and Pleasant Treble she.

By Melchior well was rung that Bell, [and called the bobs so free;

Blofield the 2nd; Palmer third did ring;

Ather rung 4; and was not Loath, but made her for to Sing;

Gardener the 5th did sway; Footer the 6th did play;

The 7th round Cris; Booty bound, and made her to obey;

The tenor fine and neat, brave Porter so compleat

Did ring her out and turned about that Cymbal loud and great."

This concludes the history of these bells as a peal of eight; I shall next notice them as a peal of ten.

A board in the belfry informs us that "In 1736 this ring was made a peal of ten by an addition of two bells subscrib'd for by Gentlemen in ye Parish." These two new bells weighed respectively 5 cwt. 3 qrs. 35 lbs., and 6 cwt. 0 qrs. 23 lbs. Who cast them I have not been able to discover, but probably it was Thomas Newman, a Norwich bellfounder, who flourished about

that date. As soon as the peal was augmented to ten, the ringers set to work to get a peal of Caters, and in the following year they accomplished it as is recorded on a tablet thus:—

"On March the 8th, 1737, was rung a peal of Grandsire Caters, which for excellency of its ringing, Harmonious changes, and ye number of them, was certainly superior to anything of its kind ever done in the World: and to Remove all doubt of the truth of the performance several ingenious Ringers were abroad the whole time with proper rules to prove ye certainty of ye same. Thus was this great peal perfectly compleated, to the entire satisfaction, surprise, and amazement of thousands of hearers, in the space of 8 hours 15 minutes. The number of changes were 12,600, rung by 9 men belonging to the steeple. The tenor singly by a young ringer 8000, then a second rang her to the end of the peal. The persons names and the bells they rung are as follows:—

Tho. Melchior	... Treble.	Wm. Porter	... .. 6.
Wm. Pettingall	... .. 2.	Tho. Blofield	... .. 7.
John Gardiner	... .. 3.	Edwd. Crane	... .. 8.
Tho. Barrett	... .. 4.	Chrisr. Booty	... .. 9.
Robert Crane	... .. 5.	James Jerom	
		Robt. Liddamon	Tenor.

The last name in my copy is given as "Liddamon," but I have reason to believe that this is a misprint for "Fiddamon."

We now come to the history of the present peal of twelve bells. Mr. L'Estrange gives the following copy of a minute in the vestry book relating thereto:—

"January 31st, 1775. At a vestry held this day, pursuant to notice given on Sunday last for the meeting of the Parishioners, it appeared from the subscription book kept by the Churchwardens that the sum of Five hundred and thirty Pounds and upwards, has been already subscribed towards the expence of purchasing a compleat peal of twelve bells for this parish, the whole amount of which, the Tenor to be Thirty eight Hundred weight (and in the key of C Natural) will be according to Messrs. Chapman and Pack's Calculation, including Mr. Samuel Turner, the Bellhanger's Charges, and all other expenses Seven Hundred Pounds, exclusive of the old materials.

"It is therefore agreed, and directed by the Parishioners now present, that the Church Wardens do immediately give an order to Messrs. Pack and Chapman accordingly; they the said Pack and Chapman, together with Samuel Turner the Bellhanger, first entering into a Bond with the Church Wardens, to fulfil their engagements in a workmanlike manner."

In the same year we find in the accounts 'Paid freight of 7 old bells to London, 3 ton 16 cwt. at 10s. per ton—£1 18s. od.' Of the remaining three bells, two were sold to the church of St. Mary, Bungay, and what became of the other I don't know.

In the spring of 1775, the new bells arrived, and the following is a copy of the bill of expenses:—

	£.	s.	d.
"Weight of ye peal, 183 2. 24. at £6 per cwt.	1102	5	8½
12 Clappers, 3 3 6 at 9d. per lb.	15	19	6.
To Wharfage, Landing, etc. of the old bells	3	0	6.
To do do of the new	4	13	6.
To Samuel Turner for new oak frame, gungeons, hanging the bells, etc. etc. as by agreement	113	0	0.

£1238 19 2½

The above sum was raised without any rate upon the Parishioners. The present peal is thus inscribed:—

Treble.—"To the Common Council, who gave 50 guineas, this bell is inscrib'd. Pack & Chapman, of London, fecit 1775." (Diamr. 30 in., Weight 6c. 3q. 5lb.)

Second.—"St. Peter Mancroft, Richd. Forster, Thos. Cole, Churchwardens, 1775." (Diar. 30 in., Weight 6c. 2q. 15lb.)

Third.—"The Revd. Jno. Peele, The Revd. Thos. Nichols, Ministers." (Diar. 31 in., Weight 6c. 3q. 20lb.)

Fourth.—"Roger Kerrison, Esq., Sheriff and an Alderman of this Ward." (Diar. 33 in., Weight 7c. 3q. 8lb.)

Fifth.—"Charles Weston, Esq., Alderman of this Ward." (Diar. 35 in., Weight 9c. 0q. 5lb.)

Sixth.—"Thos. Starling, Esq., Alderman of this Ward." (Diar. 37 in., Weight 9c. 3c. 19lb.)

Seventh.—"Sr. Thomas Churchman, Kt., Alderman of this Ward." (Diar. 40 in., Weight 11c. 2q. 7lb.)

Eighth.—"John, Lord Hobart, son and heir-apparent of John, Earl of Buck'm." (Diar. 43 in., Weight 14c. 0q. 18lb.)

Ninth.—"Wenham Coke, Esq., Representative for Norfolk, gave 30 guineas." (Diar. 48 in., Weight 19cwt. 1q. 27lb.)

Tenth.—"Sir Edward Astley, Bart., Representative for Norfolk, gave 30 guineas." (Diar. 50 in., Weight 21c. 3q. 6lb.)

Eleventh.—"Sr. Harbord Harbord, Bart., Representative for Norwich and Alderman, gave fifty pounds." (Diar. 55 in., Weight 28c. 2q. 2lb.)

Tenor.—"To King, Queen, and Royal Family this Harmonious Peal of twelve Bells is dedicated. T. Mears, of London, fecit 1814." (Diar. 62 in., Weight 41c. 0q. 4lb.)

Each of the first eleven bells is also inscribed—"Pack and Chapman, of London, fecit 1775." The letters are all the large and small capitals, then in use at the Whitechapel foundry. The original tenor was inscribed "To King, Queen, and ten children, etc."

I shall now proceed to give an account of the opening of this peal, taken from an account written at the time.

"Wednesday, June 21st, 1775, was performed in the Church a grand Te Deum and Jubilate, with the Chorus from the *Messiah*, and the Coronation Anthem, by a band consisting of about thirty gentlemen, accompanied with the voices of the cathedral choir, to a genteel and numerous audience. After this music the peal of twelve bells was opened by the ringers of the steeple which for sweetness of tone and melody in concert has answered the expectation of the warmest promoters of the subscription and given the highest delight and entertainment to all judges and admirers of ringing and other musical execution. It was at first apprehended that the note of the tenor was not deep enough to cover the peal with dignity, but her majestic and complacence-giving sound soon proclaimed her supremacy, and the execution of the whole has reflected honour on the founders and on the gentlemen who tuned these harmonious and silver-tongued bells."

The ringing room was at this time shifted from the floor below, where the performances already recorded were accomplished, to the next story.

(To be continued).

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?—The *Spalding Free Press* says that the Walpole ringers visited Wisbech, on Monday, and rang a half-peal of Oxford Treble Bobs of 200 touches, and a 200-bob minor, on the bells of St. Peter's Church.

A Provincial paper contains the following:—We commend to the clergy at large, and especially those who rate ecclesiastical order above Christian kindness, the example of the Reverend WILLIAM ROGERS, of Bishopsgate, as recorded in his Reminiscences, which we hope to refer to again. There was a bell rung in his church at a quarter to six in the morning. A parishioner asked that it might be stopped, as his wife was dangerously ill. Mr. ROGERS received a note late at night, when there was no time to communicate with the sexton. So he got up very early and went half-dressed to the belfry. Just as the man had grasped the rope and was beginning to ring, I seized him by the arm. He was horrified, and just managed to ejaculate, "Well, you've got me at last." Turning round, and seeing that it was not the person he had been expecting, he said, "Oh, thank God, Mr. Rector, it's only you."

THE LAST OF THE INVINCIBLE ARMADA.—A loud cannonade in the direction of Gravelines announced that the hostile fleets were engaged there, and it became the signal for the fugitives to draw together, but all along the coast the active English commanders were ready to receive them, and Drake, Hawkins, Raleigh, Frobisher, Seymour, and Cumberland, vied in their endeavours to win the highest distinction. Terrible scenes were presented at the different stranded gale-asses. One was boarded off Calais after a desperate engagement, its crew and troops were cut to pieces or pushed overboard, and 50,000 ducats were taken out of her. Another galleon sank under the English fire; a third, the *San Matteo*, was compelled to surrender; and another, dismantled and in miserable plight, drifted on shore at Flushing, and was seized by the sailors. From "*Cassell's Illustrated History of England*" for June.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Unity is strength."

Reports of Whitsuntide festivities and ringing performances still continue to roll in. Surely this festal season was never more observed and taken advantage of by our friends than it has this year. If things were to go on in this manner, I should seriously think of advising you, Mr. Editor, to follow the plan adopted by many "weeklies" of publishing an "extra special" summer number.

* * * * *

The report of the three Association meetings which are given last Saturday, afford—as is happily usual in these cases—very pleasant and instructive reading: one notable feature of them being evidence of the fact, remarked upon by Mr. Hattersley at Pontefract, of the increasing interest taken in our work by the clergy. In these three meetings, I find that fourteen clergymen, as well as one highly esteemed member of the House of Peers, took part. That circumstance alone will surely be sufficient to show that our art and work is becoming more and more recognised, appreciated, and supported as time rolls on. Who would have dared to anticipate twenty—nay, even—ten years ago, that we should find this satisfactory and honourable state of things in our midst?

* * * * *

Each of these three meetings also had peculiar and none the less pleasing characteristics of its own, which I cannot refrain from noting. First, the Yorkshire Association which, as you well observe in your leading article, "seems to have the happy knack of arousing the public to co-operate with them," does not seem to have failed in this respect at Pontefract. It certainly does appear from the report that, as you remark "their presence in any neighbourhood seems to stir up the inhabitants who appear to become all at once interested in our branch of the Church's work." I remember well being present at a meeting of this Association some years ago in one of those quaint old English villages which are so numerous in that county, and you may judge of my surprise when on arriving I saw flags and banners waving in abundance from the old Church tower, nearly all the large houses in the vicinity, and hung on cords across the street, while the brass band from a neighbouring village was discoursing lively music. Then the "feed" in the schoolroom was something to be remembered also; from the squire who had ordered his steward to provide a sufficiency of rabbits and beef, and the village butcher who insisted on being allowed to contribute a share of the beef and mutton; the young (and elderly) ladies of the church and school who would make the bread, pastry, and other "incidentals," and preside happily as queens at and about the tables, to the little urchins who proudly assisted in their own small way; everyone seemed to vie with each other in giving a right hearty welcome to the ringers. That was an event which I would not have missed for a very great consideration, and my heart warms towards those good Yorkshire folk when I think of it, as evidencing the fact that there, at any rate, the ringers, although in the belfry "out of sight," are by no means "out of mind."

* * * * *

But I am digressing. The chief characteristics of the Pontefract meeting, to my mind, are the proverbially hearty welcome which our brethren seem to have received, and principally the address—quaint as you may style it—issued by the worthy vicar to his parishioners previous to the day. I do not look at that

address—excellent though it be—in a critical sense, as a literary production, or simply because it is an address; I think it most commendable from the fact of its having been distributed to the people before the day of meeting; thus not only informing them of the visit, but also bespeaking their sympathy and support in such a hearty manner beforehand. That is the feature of it which seems to me highly deserving of imitation. I believe that were our clergy generally to follow this good example set by the Vicar of Pontefract, we should find our County meetings becoming more popular, and certainly we should be less liable to hear the apologetic remark—"Had we known you were coming, we would have made preparations for you."

* * * * *

Our friends of the Sussex Association seem to have had a busy day of it in connection with their Annual meeting at Brighton. What with ringing, service, luncheon, annual meeting, tea, and ringing again, I fancy the officers at any rate will not have had much in the way of leisure. The peculiar feature of this meeting was the presentation of the new challenge bell to the Steyning company for their largest total of peals rung during the past year. Whatever may be advanced for or against this mode of competition, one thing at least is incontrovertible, namely, that this prize (which was a "bone of contention" in the recent prize-ringing controversy), has been fairly and worthily won by the present holders of it. They evidently went in with a will to gain it; thus success crowned their efforts, and while giving them—as I feel sure all will give them—praise for their victory, I do earnestly hope that this challenge bell, now that it is a *fait accompli*, will be of good service in future years in advancing the science of change-ringing among their members. Other County Associations might I think copy their example in this respect with advantage.

* * * * *

One other matter in connection with this meeting I was glad to see—the re-election of their energetic Hon. Secretary, and the accompanying words of praise to that gentleman with which it was passed. I have no wish to flatter Mr. Attree, but there can be no doubt of it that such men as him are of incalculable benefit to the Associations which are the fortunate possessors of such enthusiastic, hard-working, and talented chief officers. There need be no fear of the work of change-ringing, or of its equally important adjunct—that of organisation—flagging, when such as he are at the helm. May we ever be blessed with such, I say; and when they are, in the "natural course of things" removed from us to a better life, may it ever be the case that others equally zealous will be found to take their places and carry on the good work.

* * * * *

If our friends of the Salisbury Association cannot lay claim to having accomplished great things at their annual gathering, they can at least indulge in the proud boast of having had a "real live lord" presiding over them. The name of Lord Nelson is a proud and historic one among Englishmen; it is therefore exceedingly gratifying to find the descendant of the great naval warrior joining with us, helping and encouraging us in our work. The present Earl is too well known among Churchmen for his earnest philanthropic and generous labours for the good of the Church and our people generally, for me to have to say one word in his praise; there is however one sentiment to which I would give utterance, and in which, I believe, I shall be joined by the whole of the Exercise, that of congratulating most heartily

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our Salisbury friends in having such a "noble scion" amongst them, one who will no doubt be "a pillar of strength" to them in their labours for our common good.

* * * * *

There is one point in connection with these oft-recurring reports of Annual Meetings which I have been many times tempted to bring forward, namely the need of some closer bond of unity between the various associations. Each one carries on its work in its own way, according to its own peculiar notions and circumstances; that is, of course, unavoidable. While I should personally be strongly opposed to any attempt to interfere with this arrangement, or to draw any hard and fast line with the object of attaining uniformity, I certainly do think that we might with much advantage seek to know the various *modus operandi* in vogue in other places than our own. Without doubt, there will be points in nearly all of them which might be adopted by others with good results. It was evidently this consideration which influenced in a great degree our friends who some time ago endeavoured—though unsuccessfully—to form a National Association. But if that attempt did not meet with the success which it deserved, and if it should be deemed premature to hope for the establishment of such an Association, there are at any rate many modes by which we might attain a more perfect unity, and at least gain a better insight into our various plans for carrying on the work in which we are engaged. But time with me just now is pressing, and I am reluctantly compelled to defer the consideration of this important matter to some other time. I trust however that by then mentioning it, I shall succeed in drawing the attention of our friends to it, so that the subject may be well thought over, and eventually good results ensue.

FREE LANCE.

BERRINGTON, HEREFORDSHIRE.

The Jubilee clock, which has been subscribed for in memory of the Queen's Jubilee, was solemnly dedicated on Wednesday, May 23rd. The service, which was fully choral, commenced at 11.45. The service was intoned by the Rector, the Rev. Dr. Lindsay. The processional hymn was No. 395, "O word of God above." The lessons were read by the Rev. A. Thursby Pelham. During the singing of the hymn No. 165, after the Third Collect, the clergy and choir, followed by the committee, proceeded to the tower, where the dedication service was said by the Rector. After a special collect and the Invocation the clock was started. The bells rang for a few moments, during which the clergy and choir returned to the chancel. A most earnest and impressive sermon was preached by the Rev. Frederick Burd, M.A., Vicar of Neen Savage. The recessional hymn was 218. The singing was hearty and bright. The church was very prettily decorated by some ladies for the occasion.

THE JUBILEE CLOCK TOWER, GRAVESEND.

The large clock was formally started on June 4th, by the Mayor, in the presence of a large concourse of people, at 12 o'clock. The clock is from the works of John Smith and Sons, Derby, who have carried out the designs of Lord Grimthorpe. There are four dials each five feet six across, the hours are struck upon an eleven cwt. bell; and arrangements are made that quarter chimes may be added. It has a gravity escapement, with a compensated pendulum of 3 cwt., and is expected to go with very great accuracy. As the tower is in a central position the clock will be a great boon to the inhabitants.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO. Printers, Exeter.

RINGERS' OUTING.

On Monday, June 11th, the ringers and parishioners of Sefton, near Liverpool, to the number of about sixty, by the kind invitation of the churchwardens, held their annual excursion, and the quaint and historic city of Chester was the place selected. Starting from Sefton at 8.30 a.m. in two well-appointed conveyances, they were soon speeding their way towards Liverpool arriving in Chester after a four hours' ride, at 12.30, just in time for dinner, to which ample justice was done. The company were met by Messrs. Bethell and Caldwell, two local ringers, who conducted them to the church of St. Mary-without-the-Walls, and there rang a few touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob on the new peal of eight, which was much enjoyed by all. The following took part in the ringing: H. Rothwell, 1; J. Roughley, 2; J. Smith, 3; R. Rothwell, 4; T. Meadows, 5; W. Meadows, 6; G. Caldwell, 7; T. J. Bethell, 8. While the ringing was going on the remainder of the party were conducted around the church by the Rector, the Rev. H. Grantham, who very courteously showed the party all the points of interest. From there the party adjourned to the cathedral, where they were shown around by the verger. Time being up the party had to take their seats for home. The homeward journey commenced at 5 o'clock, after having spent an enjoyable day. The greatest thanks of the party should be accorded to Mr. Martin and his brother warden for the interest they had taken in making the excursion so enjoyable.

GOLDEN WEDDING OF THE MAYOR AND MAYORESS OF SHREWSBURY.

On Tuesday, June 5th, the inhabitants of Shrewsbury were somewhat at a loss to account for the hearty manner in which the ringers at St. Julian's church were pursuing their vocation. In fact it is stated on good authority, that the Mayor (Alderman Crump), who lives hard by the church, sent to inquire the occasion of so much joyful music, and was somewhat astonished to find that it was in honour of the golden anniversary of his own wedding. The vicar of the parish (the Rev. T. Auden), had instructed the ringers to usher in the day in this appropriate manner, and gradually the news spread through the town.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The Annual General Meeting is fixed to be held at Ashford, on Monday, June 18th. Committee meeting at 11; Service at 12, when the sermon will be preached by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Dinner at 1. All who mean to attend, and wish for dinner tickets, should communicate with the Secretary, not later than June 12th. And if reduced fares are desired, full particulars as to trains, stations, and numbers must be given, or no application can be made. The allowance to members is 1s. besides the dinner.

Winsted Court, Leuham.

R. K. HUGESSEN, Hon. Sec.

NOTICE OF A VISIT TO THE ISLE OF MAN.

It is the intention of a few friends from Liverpool, Birmingham, and Sheffield, to pay a visit to the above place, with the object of attempting two 5000's at the new church at Peel, where there is a new ring of eight. The party will leave Liverpool on Saturday, June 30th, and return on July 9th. Any ringing friends who happen to be on the island during the time will be cordially received. C. H. HATTERSLEY.

Snider Works, Sheffield, June 11th, 1888.

CHARLTON KINGS, CHELTENHAM.

Cambridge quarter chimes have just been erected here and connected to the church bells. John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, who made the clock some time since, have now carried out this work.

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

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1888.

THE correspondence page of this journal in the current number possesses a somewhat extraordinary feature in containing a letter from one of the gentler sex, the wife of a ringer. In sending this letter for publication our lady correspondent fulfils the very necessary conditions imposed upon all who wish to appear in print, viz., that of forwarding her correct name and address. And not only does she do this but also very courteously imparts to us whose better half she is, probably being of opinion that her claim to speak would not be recognised unless it was satisfactorily established that she is what she states herself to be—"a ringer's wife." There will be various conjectures by our readers as to who this ringer is, whose partner in connubial bliss has had the temerity to write to a newspaper in condemnation of the absorption of time by her liege lord in ringing pursuits, and we shall no doubt be privately asked, in the usual way of many of our correspondents who desire to be behind the scenes equally with ourselves, "if there is any objection" to disclose the name of the ringer who has such a spirited lady for a wife. We need hardly say that all appeals to this end will be resisted, as usual, to the utmost. We could hardly be so ungallant as to betray a lady who has reposed so much confidence in us, and who particularly wishes her individuality to be for the present unknown.

There possibly may be some reason for the complaint of our correspondent, prone as the opposite sex may be to the slightest forms of exaggeration. "What is worth doing at all is worth doing well," we are told; and therefore, when the pursuit of our art is followed with unceasing interest we cannot help commending the industry and perseverance of those who do so. But there is a kind of zeal which is misplaced somewhat; an energy which is so ill-directed as in many instances to become positively offensive. We could point to several instances of the latter. A man following ringing or any other pursuit who has the subject day and night without ceasing on his tongue to the exclusion of everything else, who is haunted

by terrible dreams regarding it, and who will, to the terror of the household, start up in the dead of night to see whether he has sufficiently mastered the calling of his next peal, may be voted as something worse than a bore to society, and as no gain to the art. There is a medium in all things no less than there is a time for all things. To become a good ringer and an eminent member of a ringing company it is not necessary to forego the least of one's family duties, or to lose one iota of the rights of citizenship. Ringing must be attended to, of course, and some amount of trouble must be bestowed upon its practice if any amount of excellence is desired, but the grand end may be attained without neglecting any of the duties appertaining to whatever station in life to which it has pleased God to call us.

The Metropolis.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, June 9, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt.

GEORGE WILD Treble.	WILLIAM W. THORNE .. 5.
WILLIAM BARON, JUN.* .. 2.	WILLIAM JONES 6.
WALLTER PARTINGTON .. 3.	WILLIAM BARON, SEN. .. 7.
STEPHEN G. DAVIES 4.	HARRY PINNEGAR Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILD.

This is G. Wild's first peal as conductor. *First peal. Also W. W. Thorne's first in the Society.

The Provinces.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, June 1, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty-one Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5002 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Treble.	WILLIAM A. TYLER.. .. 6.
AMOS CRESSER 2.	JOSEPH HARDY 7.
W. T. BILLINGHURST .. 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 8.
J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. ESQ. 4.	ARTHUR R. ALDHAM .. 9.
SAMUEL SMITH 5.	RICHARD LANE Tenor.

Composed by J. NELMS, of London, and Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

Mr Holmes hails from Burton-on-Trent, and this is his rooth peal.

GARGRAVE, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 2, 1888, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

W. CLARKE Treble.	H. BIRTWISTLE 5.
J. BOOTHMAN 2.	W. WHITAKER 6.
J. W. STIRK 3.	C. LANGSTROTH 7.
W. WILLOCK 4.	J. MCKELL.. Tenor.

Composed by S. MARSH, of West Bromwich, and Conducted CHRISTOPHER LANGSTROTH.

This peal contains the 5th the extent home, and the 6th each way with all the 8-6's. The figures of this peal appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of April 21st. Messrs Boothman, Stirk, and Willock, hail from Skipton, and this is their first peal.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.—THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, June 5, 1888, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES;

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

THOMAS TAYLOR Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 5.
JOHN LEIGH 2.	*GEORGE WOODHALL .. 6.
JAMES WOOD 3.	SAMUEL WOOD 7.
JOSEPH ETCHHELLS 4.	GEORGE LONGDEN Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

*First peal in the method. G. Woodhall hails from Whitchurch.

BOLTON, BRADFORD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, June 7, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

B. T. COPLEY Treble.	W. STAINTHORPE 5.
H. RAISTRICK 2.	T. POLLITT 6.
J. FISHER 3.	G. BOLLAND 7.
J. BROADLEY 4.	F. LONDON Tenor.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and Conducted by F. LONDON.

The peal, which contains the 4th, 5th and 6th the extent in 6th's place, has the 2nd never in 6th's place at a course-end. This is the first peal of Oxford on the bells, also the first in the method by all the company.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, June 7, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

GEORGE WELLING† Treble.	†JOSEPH FAYERS 6.
JAMES TRAPPITT† 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
CHARLES E. MALIM 3.	†CHARLES BANCE 8.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 4.	†JOHN FLOWMAN 9.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER* .. 5.	†JOHN HARTLEY Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON and Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

*First peal of Stedman. †First peal. *First peal of Stedman Caters.

SKIPTON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 9, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18½ cwt.

F. ANDERSON* Treble.	*W. MASON 5.
J. BOOTHMAN 2.	*H. HORNER 6.
J. W. STIRK 3.	†W. BILLOWS 7.
W. WELLOCK 4.	W. D. HILLARY Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL MARSH and Conducted by W. BILLOWS.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor.

COLERNE, WILTSHIRE.

On Sunday, June 10, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

J. SMITH FLOWER Treble.	*ALBERT BAWN! 5.
GEORGE HILL* 2.	JOHN WOTTON 6.
JAMES BAWN* 3.	JAMES HINTON 7.
JOHN HOLMAN* 4.	HENRY WOTTON Tenor.
	ALFRED MELHUISE

Conducted by JAMES HINTON.

*First peal. This is the first peal on the bells.

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Thursday, June 7, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

T. DAY'S SIX-PART. Tenor 13½ cwt. in F.

WILLIAM HY. GODDEN .. Treble.	THOMAS MILLER 5.
THOMAS REYNOLDS 2.	*JAMES WILSON 6.
HENRY BASTABLE 3.	JOHN BUFFERY 7.
WILLIAM LONG 4.	CHARLES FLUCK Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BUFFERY.

*First peal. This is the first peal on the bells since the rehanging of five, and tuning of the treble and 2nd by Mr. James Barwell, of Birmingham, four of the ringers being employed at his foundry.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 9, 1888, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

AMOS CRESSER Treble.	*W. A. TYLER 6.
W. T. BILLINGHURST* .. 2.	*JOS. HARDY 7.
C. SMITH* 3.	A. R. ALDHAM 8.
J. W. TAYLOR, SEN.* .. 4.	W. BIRKINSHAW 9.
S. SMITH* 5.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN., ESQ.

This is the first peal of Royal rung in the county of Leicester. *First peal of Royal.

LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 9, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

WILLIAM SHARDLOW .. Treble.	JOHN VICCARS 5.
THOMAS COPE 2.	HARRY C. WOODWARD .. 6.
JOSEPH W. WARREN .. 3.	JOHN CHAS. DICKEN .. 7.
HARRY HOLLINGWORTH .. 4.	HENRY TRUMAN Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY C. WOODWARD.

First peal by H. Truman. First peal inside by T. Cope. Messrs. Shardlow and Woodward hail from Derby; Warren, Hollingworth, and Viccars from Melbourne; the remainder belong to Long Eaton.

HALESOWEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Monday, June 11, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

G. B. RAYBOULD* .. Treble.	*GEORGE COCKIN 5.
HARRY LEE† 2.	EDWARD HACKETT 6.
HY. RAYBOULD 3.	†RICHARD A. EATON .. 7.
ELIJAH WHITE 4.	MATT HACKETT Tenor.

Composed by J. J. PARKER, Slough, and Conducted by R. A. EATON.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. †First peal as conductor. This is the quickest peal on the bells. The above which is a six-part peal and is the first of the three peals published in "THE BELL NEWS," of January 28th, 1888, and believed to be now rung for the first time.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

On Tuesday, June 12, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF W. A. ALPS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION.

UPON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND.

G. A. TAYLOR 1-2.	G. THURGOOD 5-6.
W. A. ALPS 3-4.	D. TARLING 7-8.

Conducted by W. A. ALPS.

Mr. G. E. Pearce, Referee.

BRIGHTON.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE BRIGHTON BRANCH).

On Wednesday, June 6, 1888, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

C. E. GOLDS...	.. .. Treble.	A. A. FULLER ..	.. 5.
G. F. ATTREE ..	.. .. 2.	G. THWAITES ..	.. 6.
J. E. WORSSELL ..	.. .. 3.	J. JAY, SEN. ..	.. 7.
J. REILLY ..	.. .. 4.	E. BUTLER ..	.. Tenor.

Conducted by J. JAY, SEN.

First peal by J. E. Worsell. The above was rung with the bells half muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Ven Archdeacon Hannah, who for 18 years was Vicar of Brighton, and who resigned the living last Christmas.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, June 8, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

JAMES STRUTT* ..	.. .. Treble.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK ..	6
CHARLES E. MALIM ..	.. .. 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON ..	7.
SAMUEL GREENWOOD ..	.. .. 3.	EDWARD MOSES ..	8.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER ..	.. .. 4.	STEPHEN BROOKER ..	9.
GEORGE WILLIAMS* ..	.. .. 5.	JOHN HARDING ..	.. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal of Stedman Caters.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE WARNHAM BRANCH.)

Birthday Peal.

On Monday, June 11, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

GEORGE WOODMAN ..	.. .. Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT* ..	5.
WALTER CHARMAN ..	.. .. 2.	FELIX KNIGHT ..	6.
GEORGE CHARMAN ..	.. .. 3.	HENRY H. CHANDLER ..	7.
THOMAS ANDREWS ..	.. .. 4.	THOMAS HOGSFLESH ..	.. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY BURSTOW and Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

This is the first peal in the method by the 3rd and 6th men. *First peal as conductor. This peal was rung to commemorate the 21st birthday of Mr. George Woodman, and was brought round at 11 o'clock at night.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, June 10, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. SAMUEL WOOD, BURLINGTON STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.

WILLIAM JAKEMAN ..	.. .. 1-2.	CHARLES WILLOCKS ..	5-6.
HARRY HEAP ..	.. .. 3-4.	SAMUEL TAYLOR ..	7-8.

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by WILLIAM JAKEMAN.

This is the first peal on handbells by all the above, and it is the first peal the conductor has called. Umpires, Messrs. Samuel Wood and George Longden, who took down the course ends as they were rung.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, June 10th, for Divine Service at the church of St. John-of-Jerusalem, South Hackney, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins. W. B. Manning (conductor), 1; *F. Rumens, 2; *G. J. Smith, 3; J. Page, 4; *J. Carmichael, 5; *A. S. Barrell, 6; W. D. Smith, 7; E. Turner, 8. *First quarter-peal in the method.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BENNINGTON (Herts).—On Saturday, June 2nd, at the parish church, an attempt was made for a peal of Cambridge Surprise, but after ringing eleven courses, in 1 hr. 30 mins., it came to grief. M. Ellsmore, 1; S. Page, 2; E. Chapman, 3; —. Hobbs, 4; H. Baker, 5; J. Warner, 6; —. Sharnbrook, 7; J. Hannington (conductor), 8. On Sunday morning, June 3rd, four courses of Cambridge Surprise. N. Warner, 1; S. Page, 2; E. Chapman, 3; L. Chapman, 4; —. Hobbs, 5; J. Warner, 6; —. Sharnbrook, 7; J. Hannington (conductor), 8. On Sunday afternoon another attempt was made for a peal of Cambridge, but unfortunately it again came to grief, after ringing sixteen courses, in two hours and ten minutes. S. Page, 1; J. Kitchener, 2; E. Chapman, 3; L. Chapman, 4; —. Hobbs, 5; J. Warner, 6; —. Sharnbrook, 7; J. Hannington (conductor), 8. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, SALISBURY.

On Saturday, June 2nd, at St. Martin's church, a half-peal of Stedman Triples (2520 changes), in 1 hr. and 24 mins. W. S. Wise, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; H. D. Adams, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; W. J. Prince, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BOURNEMOUTH.—On Thursday evening, May 3rd, 518 Grandsire Triples, at St. Peter's church, in 21 mins. A. Grist, 1; E. Merritt, 2; H. Vivash, 3; J. Bennett, 4; T. Green, 5; S. Merritt, 6; H. Garrett, 7; T. Belbin, 8. Conducted by E. Merritt, and it was his first touch as conductor. On Whit-Sunday morning, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of 1260 Grandsire Triples, in 49 mins. A. Grist, 1; E. Merritt, 2; H. Vivash, 3; J. G. Bennett, 4; H. A. Garrett, 5; G. Merritt, 6; T. Green, 7; G. Colborn, 8. Conducted by T. Green, and it is the first quarter-peal by the St. Peter's Society. Messrs. Garrett and Bennett are College Youths.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Friday, May 18th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 25 mins. A. Edwards, 2; J. Dains (conductor), 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Harvey, 4; W. Lincoln, 5; A. Tarbun, 6.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Sunday, May 27th, for afternoon service, 702 Grandsire Minor (with a call every lead) with the tenor covering. W. Emery, 1; W. Lincoln (conductor), 2; J. Everard, 3; F. Radcliff, 4; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 5; A. Edwards (first 720 in the method, 6; W. G. Dickens, Esq., 7.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Whit Tuesday, May 22nd, at Christ Church, 720 of Double Court Bob Minor, on the back six. S. Nott, 1; J. Gibson, 2; W. Reed (conductor), 3; W. Story, 4; R. Story, 5; J. Hern, 6. Also 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, conducted by R. S. Story Tenor 19 cwt.

THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH, THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

IPSWICH.—Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, May 28th, six members of the above societies met at their meeting-house, the "Halbert Inn," Northgate Street, for practice, and rang 1440 of Kent Treble Bob Maximus. W. Motts, 1-2; A. E. Durrant, 3-4; J. Motts (conductor), 5-6; F. Tillet, 7-8; W. P. Garrett, 9-10; A. R. Aldham, 11-12.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, May 22nd, for practice, a 720 of Yorkshire Court Minor. F. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; H. Simmonds, 3; E. Menday, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; A. Evans, 3; T. Newman, 4; E. Menday, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. On Saturday evening, May 26th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; E. E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; J. Hands, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, May 27th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. T. Newman, 1; G. Essex, 2; H. Smith, 3; J. Hands, 4; E. Menday, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. For evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; H. Smith, 2; G. Essex, E. Menday, 4; J. Hands, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. After evening service, 720 Double Oxford Bob Minor. H. Smith, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; J. Hands, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Menday, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Thursday, May 31st, at St. Mary's church, for practice, 742 Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; J. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Phillips, 4; A. Squires, 5; R. Jackson (conductor), 6; Robert Jackson, 7; W. Bidnell, 8. And a plain course of Stedman Triples, with Robert Jackson, 4; J. Phillips, 5; A. Squires, 6; Richard Jackson, 7; the rest standing the same as before. This is the first course of Stedman Triples on the tower bells by all. On Sunday morning, June 3rd, for Divine Service, 350 and 168 of Stedman Triples. T. Webb, 1; J. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; J. Phillips, 5; A. Squires, 6; Robert Jackson, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

BISHOPS CANNINGS (Wilts).—On Wednesday, May 30th, a peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted, but after ringing nearly 3000 changes the 2nd rope broke. W. S. Wise, 1; W. J. Prince, 2; J. Hayward, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; W. E. Tydeman, 5; A. W. Barkus, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; J. Judd, 8.

COSELEY (Worcestershire).—On Monday, May 25th, for practice, 630 Grandsire Triples. Wm. Horton, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; B. Gough, 3; A. H. Hill, 4; W. Cheshire, 5; W. R. Small, 6; John Goodman (conductor), 7; F. Fisher, 8. Goodreds, Hill and Small hail from Tipton; Goodman from Dudley; the rest belong to the local company.

EXETER.—On Sunday, May 27th, before service in the morning, at St. Edmund's church, 518 Grandsire Triples. E. Pitt (conductor), 1; W. Goss, 2; S. Herbert, 3; A. Searle, 4; —Pyle, 5; W. Marsh, 6; W. Richardson, 7; T. Townsend, 8. Mr. Pyle hails from Pennell, Manchester.

FINEDON (Northants).—In accordance with old custom the parish church bells at Finedon were rung half-muffled on the 29th of May, Oak Apple Day, when 720 Grandsire Doubles were rung (twenty-four bobs and twelve singles), in 27 mins. C. Baker, 1; J. Wallis, 2; J. Elson, 3; W. Manning, 4; J. T. Tompkins, 5; W. Moon (conductor), 6. Tenor 24 cwt. in E.

GREAT TOTHAM (Essex).—On Saturday, May 26th, nine of the Maldon company visited the above town, where they were visited by some of the local band and spent the evening very happily together. A 720 of Plain Bob was rung. C. Tabor, 1; R. Hudson, 2; *Rev. H. Eyre, 3; G. Mansfield, 4; T. Mansfield, 5; W. Mansfield, 6. *First 720 on an inside bell. After this another 720 of Plain Bob was rung. W. Last, 1; T. Mansfield, 2; C. Tabor, 3; *J. Newman, 4; J. Chalk, 5; W. Mansfield, 6. *First 720. Also some touches of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Cambridge Surprise, and Double Court, winding up with some Grandsire Doubles, with the tenor behind. Tenor 7½ cwt. in Bb.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, June 4th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 27½ mins. J. Randall, 1; W. Allen, 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Hare (conductor), 5; S. Hare, 6; T. Dobbs, 7; J. Froy, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

HORNEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, June 10th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 26 mins. T. Titchener, 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; A. Howell, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; T. Scarlett, 6. A 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. T. Card (first 720), 1; T. Scarlett, 2; T. Titchener, 3; A. Howell, 4; G. Griffin, 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6. Also 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. Griffin, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; W. Dixon, 3; A. Howell, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; T. Titchener, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt. On Thursday, May 24th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs), in 27 mins. N. Alderman, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; B. Foskett, 3; A. Howell (first 720 in the method), 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Griffin, 6. A 120 Stedman Doubles. N. Alderman, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; T. Titchener, 3; A. Howell (first attempt at Stedman), 4; G. Griffin, 5; G. Hannington, 6. And three courses of Plain Bob. — Swift, 1; W. Dixon, 2; G. Griffin, 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; T. Titchener, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

LONDON.—On Sunday, June 3rd, for evening service at the church of St. Dunstan, a quarter-peal of 1260 Grandsire Caters, in 54 mins. †G. Hartnup, 1; W. Tanner, 2; W. Cecil, 3; †S. E. Joyce, 4; †A. Cutmore, 5; †H. Springall (conductor), 6; †R. Turner, 7; †E. Hall, 8; S. Hayes, 9; †J. H. Barret, 10. Composed by J. H. Barret, of Stepney. †First quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Tuesday, May 15th, at St. Edmund's church, 2520 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 46 mins. S. Lawrence, 1; A. W. Barkus, 2; W. J. Prince, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; F. Rigden, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in Db. On Saturday, June 2nd, at St. Martin's church, 350 Grandsire Triples. H. S. Smith, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; H. D. Adams, 8. Mr. Smith hails from Devizes, and this was his first attempt at Triples. Several 120s of Doubles were also rung, with Mr. C. Hopkins, of Devizes ringing the treble.

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 LIVERSEDGE HANDBELL CONTEST.

SIR,—I'm looking over the result of the above contest, which appeared in your issue of June 2nd, I noticed something which appears to me to want explaining somewhat. In the ten-bell contest it says No. 1 and 2 rang fairly well, but No. 3 was not so fortunate, while No. 4 went out. That is all right. But how is it that No. 3 (which was Birstall Old) managed to get first prize, while No. 2 (Dewsbury), only get the second prize, and No. 1 got nothing.

ONE OF THE COMPETITORS.

USING THE PROPERTY OF OTHERS.

SIR,—In your issue of June 2nd Mr. J. R. Pritchard accuses me of taking a copy of a variation from a peal of Bob Major, 5056 of his. As he says I use the same calling except by adding a bob at the wrong in the second course, and that in the fifth course I pick up the fourth course-end, so making the 5056 to run to 5504. Now if Mr. J. R. P. will be kind enough to look at a back number of "BELL NEWS," August 27th, 1887, he will find a peal of Bob Major, 5376 changes, by me, where the same calling is used, with the exception of which the tenor is called in in the one, and middle in the other, and that the 5504 was composed by me on March 27th, 1888, and handed to my friend, Mr. York Green, on April 2nd.

HENRY J. TUCKER.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—In your report of the Annual Meeting of the Essex Association in last week's issue, the Hon. Sec. read a letter from Canon Wigram, in which he states that "The causes which have lead to the breakdown of the Herts. County Association are easily stated." Will the Rev. Canon be good enough to state those reasons for the information of

A HERTFORDSHIRE RINGER?

ST. CROSS, HOLYWELL, OXFORD.

SIR,—About two years ago it was proposed to augment this peal to eight. At that time I contributed a small sum to that object at the request of a relation of mine (a university man, but not a change-ringer). Since then I have heard nothing more about the matter, beyond that, more than a year ago, I was informed by a well-known ringer in Oxford, that nearly, if not quite enough, had been collected to defray the cost of all that was required. Will some of our Oxford friends tell us whether the work is still in projection, or whether any difficulties have cropped up in carrying it out?

J. R. JERRAM.

THE LATE MR. T. WEST.

SIR,—Referring to the death of Mr. T. West, of our parish church company, many ringers will be sorry to learn that he leaves a widow and nine children, the youngest of whom is some two years old. This sad fact has opened up a desire to give some little assistance to the widow, and several subscriptions have already been received and promised—the bulk of them entirely unsolicited. Amongst these names are the following: the Vicar of Leeds, the Rev. Canon Jayne, the churchwardens, Mr. W. Snowdon, President of the Yorkshire Association, Mr. W. Whitaker, Hon. Sec. of the Yorkshire Association, Mr. E. Snowden, Bradford, the parish church company, etc., etc. Feeling sure that many friends of the deceased may wish to stretch out a helping hand, acting on behalf of the Parish Church Company I shall be glad to receive any sums, however small, and acknowledge them, with you permission, Mr. Editor, in your columns. It is hoped to have a full list published later on.

HERBERT W. NEEDHAM.

49, Green Mount Street, Beeston Hill, Leeds.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—I am indebted to Mr. Needham for pointing out repeats changes in peal No. 4 in "Grandsire." So far as I am aware this has not been rung, which is fortunate for me, as I escape well-merited wrath of performers. This occurs through the singles being inserted in the wrong place. I have arranged it differently as below, and if I am not trespassing too much on your time and space (through my own fault) I will thank you to give it. My endeavour has always been

to obtain a peal without singles, and having got as far as I could I suppose I was careless about the odd leads that could not be introduced with bobs. Still, these peals Nos. 4 and 6 are true in my M.S., but, as stated last week, in varying about I misplaced the singles and the falseness occurs only at those places and does not in the least detract from the composition. In the same way, I consider that the five-part touches by the Rev. Mr. Davies are as valuable as compositions without the singles that produce peals as with them. The way in which this gentleman puts "but in such names, etc.," is a severe lesson to me. After spending years in getting 357 leads I hurriedly insert the remaining three. I hope shortly, with your permission, to have something to say about the patent single, mentioned by Mr. Snowden, and other matters.

5040, No. 4.

572634	1	765423	5	345762	5	452673	3	264573	2
465372	1	347265	1	623574	2	524673	4	642573	4
234765	1	763452	3	450723	1	365724	1	356742	1
752634	1	247563	1	624537	3	243576	2	423675	2
467352	1	542376	5	756324	1	652743	1	564723	1
754623	3	425376	4	247635	2	526743	4	425637	3
367254	1	764532	2	562347	1	725364	5	254637	4
543726	2	257346	1	245673	3	567243	3	372465	2
675243	1	762543	3	362745	1	325467	1	653247	2
546732	3	357462	1	453276	2	253467	4	346572	3
745263	5	623745	2	624753	1	742653	1	253746	1
327645	1	456372	2	726345	5	257436	3	342567	3
743256	3	724635	2	647253	3	642357	1	753642	1
627453	1	567324	1	326547	1	256473	3	657234	5
746235	3	245736	2	263547	4	452367	5	346725	2
467235	4	532467	3	752463	1	734652	1	253674	2
643725	1	745632	1	637245	2	527463	2	652437	5
465273	3	327564	2	526437	1	345627	1	746352	1
574632	3	453627	1	425763	5	523476	3	657423	3
265374	1	654732	5	724356	5	645723	1	346257	1
742536	2	276354	1	567432	2	236574	2	463257	4
657342	1	542637	2	325746	2	452736	1	354672	3
356274	5	765342	1	543267	3	364275	2	723465	2
423756	1	427536	2	365472	3	523764	1	547623	3
354267	3	654327	1	243765	1	645372	2	725436	3
723654	1	426573	3	362457	3	726534	2	647325	1
357246	3	354726	1	743562	1	457326	1	256734	2
463725	2	263475	2	547236	5	264735	2	342675	2
324657	3	462537	5	625347	1	253476	2	753264	2
763524	1	754362	1	326754	5	643752	1	427653	1
247356	2	627435	2	473526	1	526374	2	624375	5
562734	2	546327	1	264357	2	435726	1	246375	4

Saffron Walden.

JNO. F. PENNING.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—The peal of Grandsire Triples on page 104 of "Grandsire" appears to have the singles in the wrong place, as the three leads therein are to be found in the body of the peal, while there are three other leads missing altogether. Of course Mr. Penning knows were to put the singles so as to make the peal correct, so it is needless to say anything about that.

J. W. WASHBROOK.

A LADY'S PROTEST.

SIR,—I think you are seldom troubled with letters from ringers' wives, but I hope that nevertheless you will insert this in "THE BELL NEWS." I am not going to speak against ringing itself, but against the extreme selfishness to which most ringers are a slave. Everything, everybody, wife, home and children are in every way neglected for this pastime. As a rule ringers cannot find one evening in the week on which to go for a walk with their wives, or stay at home for a little chat, but if cause be, every evening may be devoted to bells. I am sure you will agree with me that if they studied home ties a little more there would be less wrangling than there is in most ringer's homes, and many wives would feel less neglected and much happier. In most cases bells are first in ringer's minds, and to this I am sure many wives will sadly agree. I can call to mind an instance in which a man has reduced his wife to a state of destitution, because he would rather lose his work than miss a day's ringing, and I daresay this is not a solitary case. If this letter pricks the conscience of any ringer, I hope it may not prick in vain, and that for the future they will remember that their wives and families would like a little of their company sometimes; and I feel certain that if they would only bestow it on them they would be amply rewarded by seeing their wives wear less wearied countenances and their children growing up to love them more. Also a wife will feel encouraged to keep her home bright and cheerful, if she knows that her husband will spend a little spare time in it. I hope you will bear in mind that I am not speaking against

ringing, but on the contrary I rather admire this scientific pastime, but I speak against it holding the first place in nearly every ringer's heart.

A. RINGERS' WIFE.

ONLY A RINGERS' PAPER.

SIR,—As regards the attack on your valuable paper, I was glad to see our friend, "Free Lance" call a short touch on the subject. I expected to see a touch from some of our other friends, but as I did not I thought I should like to say a word or two. I should like to have said a few words at the time, but had no opportunity then. I don't say a word against *Church Bells*, but I feel confident that "THE BELL NEWS" has done more than anything else to raise the standard of ringers and change-ringing to the pitch it now is. I am sure no one can have better advice than is to be found in your leading articles, when you have space for them. I know that you take interest in the young beginner, who has rung his first 6-score, as well as those at the top of the tree. I should like to see every clergyman where there is a peal of bells take it in and read it, then I feel sure much more good would be done. I hope that you may live many years to carry on the work, and I wish every success to "THE BELL NEWS."

Widford, Essex.

J. DAINS

THE LONG PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

I hope Mr. JOHNSON will not think it an impertinence on my part when I say that I cannot sufficiently admire the ingenuity which he has brought to bear upon the production of the peal of 13,054 Stedman Caters, published in *Bell News* of June 2nd. [I presume that the first call at 5 should be a single.] Not only does he give the 120 course ends, but the whole of the interior changes are rung, with the exception of *four sixes*. Anyone who has tried his hand at composition with bobs at 4 and 5 intermingled will know what a puzzle it is to avoid repetition, not to mention the difficulty of gathering in (so to speak) all the sixes and leaving none out in the cold. The difficulties have been practically overcome by Mr. Johnson, for five sixes are lost at the commencement of the peal, owing to the treble not being yet in her proper position.

In order to add to the peal these missing sixes I would beg (with much diffidence) to offer to Mr. Johnson the following suggestions:—

Instead of starting in the ordinary way, begin with these four changes:—

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

1 3 4 2 6 5 7 9 8 &c.

There is no rule against starting straight off from rounds in Stedman; surely, then, it may be permissible to begin with 4 changes instead of the usual two. The extra two changes have the same effect upon 1 2 3 as the bob at 6 in the first course, and therefore the latter may be omitted and bobs at 1 and 16 with S. 5 brings up the first course end 3 1 2 6 5 4.

Of course, this necessitates a different coming round, as we must begin with a bob at 1. The following is, I am afraid, rather clumsy, as it contains two singles; but I have no doubt that if he thinks this suggestion worth consideration, Mr. Johnson will soon produce a more respectable one than this, viz.:—bobs 1, 2, 3, S. 8, 10, S. 11, 16. This arrangement would make the peal run to 13,056 changes.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER.

Wykeham House, Bedford Park, Croydon, June 13th, 1888.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

The next Quarterly Meeting of this society will be held on Thursday evening, June 28th, at the "Ring of Bells," when the presence of all the members is earnestly requested for the consideration of important business,

W. H. GODDEN, Sec.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, KIDDERMINSTER.

ON Whit Tuesday, eight members of the above society paid a visit to Bridgnorth, that celebrated old place on the banks of the river Severn, so ably described by W. H. F. in "THE BELL NEWS" a short time since. While journeying along, handbell ringing was indulged in, and 360 of Grandsire was rung. J. Bennett, sen., 1; G. Salter, 2; T. Salter (conductor), 3; J. Bennett, 4; H. Williams, 5-6. Arriving at Alveley, a little village midway between Kidderminster and Bridgnorth, a halt was made for refreshments, and with the kind permission of the Vicar, a 720 of Bob Minor was brought round in 24 mins., supposed to be the first 720 in any method upon the bells. J. Bennett, 1; G. Salter, 2; T. Salter, 3; J. Bennett, 4; H. Adams, 5; H. Williams (conductor), 6. And 360 of Grandsire. W. Smith, 1; G. Salter, 2; T. Salter (conductor), 3; J. Bennett, 4; T. Bennett, 5; H. Williams, 6. After a few tunes and changes on the handbells to amuse the company (it being a club walk that day), we resumed our journey, listening to a well-struck touch of gravedigger's delight by the local company. The bells are a musical peal of six, with a tenor of about 12½ cwt., and go like tops; they have a long draught, the ringing chamber being on the ground floor, the vestry serving that purpose. On our way we passed the little church of Quath, where there is a peal of six, but we could not stay to have a pull. On our arrival at Bridgnorth we were met by Mr. W. H. Fussell, Mr. J. Overton, and Mr. J. Rowley, the latter belonging to Sheffield. An attempt was to have been made for a peal, but owing to a misunderstanding it did not come off, so some short touches of Stedman, Plain Bob, and 672 of Grandsire Triples were rung. J. Bennett, 1; J. Rowley, 2; G. Salter, 3; J. Overton, 4; J. Bennett, 5; H. Adams, 6; H. Williams (conductor), 7; W. Smith, 8. And a 504. J. Bennett, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; J. Bennett, 3; T. Salter, 4; J. Rowley, 5; H. Adams, 6; H. Williams (conductor), 7; W. Smith, 8. After lowering the bells, an adjournment was made for tea, which, with a stroll round the town, brought the day's enjoyment to a close, it being time to start for home, which was safely reached about eleven o'clock. The visitors take this opportunity of thanking the respective vicars for the use of the bells. H. W.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MEMBERS are informed that the report for 1887 (which contains amongst other matters, a full list of peals, with the compositions, rung by the Association since its formation in 1878) is now ready, and may be obtained of the local secretaries of the different Deaneries as under. Free to those whose subscriptions are paid, and to others at a price at 3d.

Deaneries.	Local Secs.
GLOUCESTER	H. Hatherley, Esq., National Provincial Bank, Gloucester.
DURSLEY, HAWKESBURY, & BITTON	Mr. F. K. Howell, Morton, Thornbury.
N'TH AND S'TH FOREST ..	Mr. J. Hern, Newnham.
BISLEY & STONEHOUSE ..	W. C. Long, Esq., Stonehouse.
WINCHCOMBE, CIRENCESTER AND TEWKESBURY ..	F. E. Ward, Esq., 438, High Street, Cheltenham.
FAIRFORD, NORTHLEACH, & STOW	T. W. TAYLOR, Esq., Northleach.
BRISTOL AND STAPLETON..	C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., 30, Broad Street, Bristol.
Magor, Newport, Mon.	REV. PITT EYKYN, Hon. Sec.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The First Quarterly Meeting of the year will be held at Loughborough, on Saturday, June 23rd. The towers of All Saints', Loughborough, and St. Bartholomew's, Quorndon, will be open for ringing from 2 p.m. JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.
5, St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

The 77th anniversary of the above bells will be held on Thursday next, June 21st. A dinner will be provided by Host H. Wells at one o'clock punctually. Tickets two shillings each.

MR. WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL.

A friend of Mr. Sottanstell's sends us the following:—

Mr. SOTTANSTALL wishes me to present to you the second part (and the only one bound) of the "Elements of Campanalogia" with his photo, taken on the 87th anniversary of his birthday, also a outline of his life. You will see that COLONEL AKROYD of Halifax gave half the cost of publishing Sottanstell's works, but I think the printer failed, so that all the parts never got printed. The first part is in manuscript, and consists of a variety of Peals on from 2 to 6 bells in various methods; on 5 bells there are 16 different methods; on 6 bells there are a variety of different methods; single and double and a great variety of peals on various methods, in 25 classes of 9 bobs, 12 bobs and 15 bobs each.

The above part contains 432 pages of manuscript, the second part I enclose as aforesaid for you, Mr. Editor, the third part is in manuscript, and contains over 200 pages of a variety of methods on 9, 11, and 12 bells, also a supplement to the third part which contains many long peals of Treble Bob Major.

I, ROBERT HANLEY, now give you an outline of his life from his own lips:—

"Mr. Editor, I send you an outline of my life which I hope may be a stimulus to future generations of Change Ringers. I was born at Sowerby near Halifax, Yorkshire (where now I live), on the 9th July, 1800, and have lived in the same village all my life, my father was a Hand Loom Weaver and also a Bell Ringer, he lived to be eighty-seven years old. There were not many schools when I was a boy, so I had no education—only what I got in Sunday School and what I have taught myself—I had to start work as Bobbing Winder at the age of seven years, at the age of fourteen I was put to learn Damask Weaving, which I followed till steam power and machinery took all the trade from the hand looms, then I started to sell cloth, &c., but for the last eighteen or twenty years I have given up all trade, only I still continue as Parish Clerk to St. Peter's, Sowerby, and from the age of 25 I have composed Bell Music. I have worked 16 hours for a day's work and then spent 4 hours composing Bell Music; many a score of times, in fact for forty years, I travelled hundreds of miles to gather information on Bell Music.

"Sir, I have given you an outline of my life, but there are many details that I cannot trouble you with, only one, to show what difficulties I had to contend with: my first wife died and left me with ten children, one only a month old, and now I have only two daughters living out of the ten, but at present I have a good wife and kind granddaughter who looks after our house, I have many kind friends so that I do not want, especially my landlord, JOHN RAWSON, Esq., to whom I gave the manuscript of the second part. I hope sir I have not encroached too much upon your time, only I thought if you liked to make use of the outline of my life in the Bell News and Record, it might encourage some to go forward in the exercise, for a good peal well-rung is sweet to the ear of yours humbly,
Sowerby, Yorkshire.

WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL."

ST. MARY'S, GRASSENDALE, CHESHIRE.

The members of this society with the assistance of Messrs. A. Jones and J. Allen, met on Monday evening, June 11th, and rang a touch of 1086 changes, being 326 of Kent Treble Bob, and 720 of Bob Minor, as a tribute of respect to the late Walter Turner, of Chapel Place, Garston, who died after a long illness on Tuesday, May 22nd, leaving a young widow and one child to mourn his loss. He was interred on Saturday, May 26th, at St. Michael's church, and was followed by a large circle of sympathising friends, and a small detachment of volunteers belonging to the 6th L.A.V. The ringers stood as follows: J. Turner, 1; J. Alexander, 2; C. Newton, 3; J. Allen, 4; T. Morris, 5; A. Jones (conductor), 6. The number of changes rung indicate the number of weeks deceased had lived.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Woburn, Beds., on Saturday, June 30th. The bells (eight), will be at the service of the ringers attending, at any time during the afternoon and evening of that day. CHARLES HERBERT, Hon. Sec.

Woburn, June 12th, 1888.

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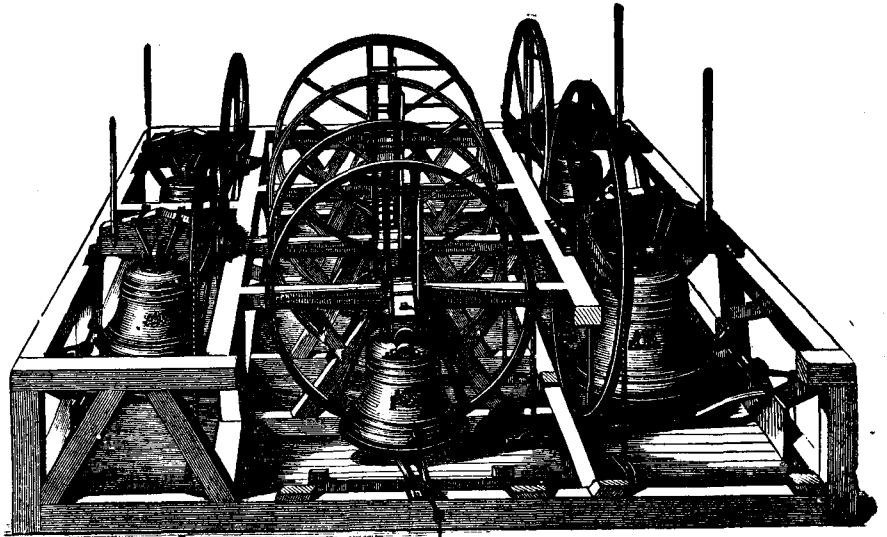
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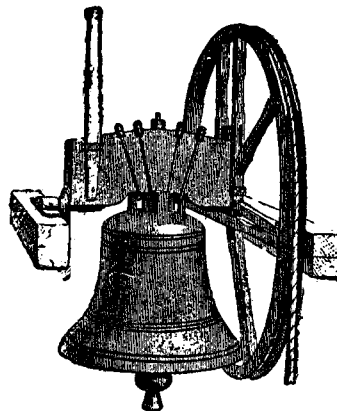
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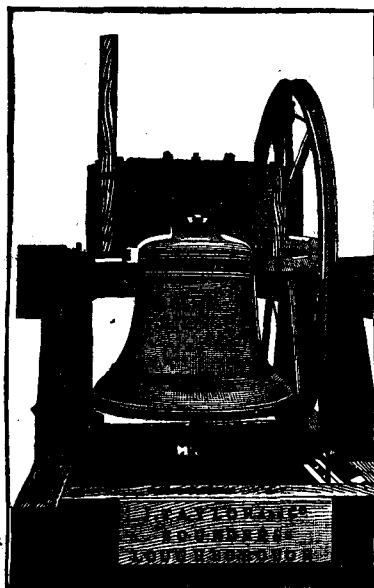
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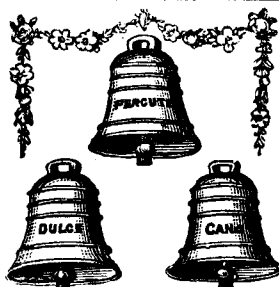
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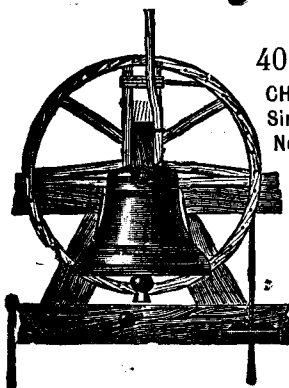
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SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1888.

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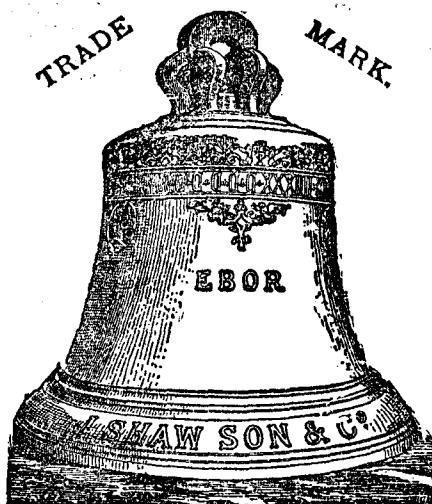
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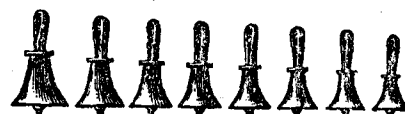
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THE ST. LAWRENCE'S SOCIETY, READING.—ANNUAL EXCURSION.

On Saturday, June 16th, this society had their Annual Outing, the district chosen this year being in the counties of Bucks and Middlesex. Leaving Reading at 7 o'clock in the morning by train, they arrived at Slough by 7.45, where a brake was in waiting to take them on to Uxbridge which was reached by 9 o'clock. After a short touch at St. Margaret's on a peal of six (which were not in very grand condition), they walked on to St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, where they were met by the Vicar, the Rev. C. T. Mayo, who conducted them to the belfry; here was quite a different state of things, everything being in perfect order. A 504 of Grandsire Triples was brought round in twenty mins., conducted by W. J. Williams. Strolling back to "The Chequers," Uxbridge, the company refreshed the inner man, and then continued their journey on to Ruislip by brake, where they arrived by 12 o'clock. Here Mr. Manning of Pinner joined the party, Mr. A. C. Fussell, an honorary member of the Society, having previously swelled the ranks at Slough. Having raised the bells, a 518 of Grandsire Triples was accomplished in 19 mins., conducted by A. E. Reeves. The ringers now pushed on to Pinner, and rung a touch on the fine peal of eight, conducted by the captain, Mr. W. Newell. The company after lowering the bells adjourned for dinner. At 3 o'clock, everything being in readiness, a start was made for Harrow-on-Hill, but ringing was not the order of the day here, as permission had not been previously granted, yet the travellers were amply repaid for their visit by the magnificent view of the surrounding country which can be obtained from the Churchyard on the top of the hill. The remaining spare time was spent in witnessing a grand Cricket Match between Harrow and the M.C.C. Leaving this delightful spot at 4.30, the homeward journey was commenced, passing again through Pinner, and on through Batchworth and Harefield to Denham, which was reached by 6.10. Here the Vicar, the Rev. R. H. Lathbury, was waiting to receive his visitors, and having welcomed them, gave a short history on the noble peal of eight (tenor 24 cwt.) A short touch was then indulged in, the vicar ringing the tenor. At 6.50 the campanologists were again on the road, and arrived quite safely at Slough by 7.45, where a touch was rung on the light peal of eight, after which they walked to the "Royal Hotel" and sat down to a sumptuous repast, to which justice was done, as might be expected, considering the long drive with a bracing air. As the clock pointed to 8.50, the train came into the station, and soon St. Lawrence's Ringers were steaming towards Reading, which was reached by 9.35. Thus ended the Sixth Annual Ringing tour of St. Lawrence's Society of Change Ringers, each member thoroughly enjoying his day's outing. Thanks are due to Mr. A. C. Fussell of Slough, and Mr. W. H. Manning of Pinner, for the assistance they rendered the Secretary in arranging the tour.

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

After practice on Monday evening, June 11th, the parish church ringers adjourned to that ancient Inn, "Ye Golden Lion," and partook of an excellent supper, in celebration of the 21st birthday of one of the young ringers (Mr. F. Underwood). The table was very neatly spread, and was ornamented by a little model bell, an exact representation of a church bell with all its fittings. Fourteen ringers sat down to the capital spread provided by host Savage. After the removal of the cloth, the toasts of "The Queen," "Vicar and Churchwarden," "Steeple-keeper" (Mr. Turnell), "Deputy-conductor" (Mr. Ette), "Belfry-sidesman and Chairman" (Mr. Dennes), "the two old ringers," and "Host and Hostess," were duly honoured. Songs from Messrs. Craddock, Ette, Turnell, Randall, and Underwood, and tunes and changes on a musical peal of handbells (kindly lent by Mr. W. Wood) passed the time away most pleasantly.

The parish church bells were rung deeply-muffled on Monday evening from 7 to 8.30, in Triples, Doubles, and Queen's changes, as a token of respect to the memory of the late Emperor of Germany, husband of our Princess Royal. The tenor was rung by itself previous to the raising of the other bells.

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MEETING OF THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION AT HATFIELD, HERTS.

In response to the intimation of the above Meeting given in "THE BELL NEWS" for the last few weeks, some 22 ringers assembled at Hatfield on Saturday last, comprising representatives from Hertford, St. Alban's, Hatfield, Hitchin, and other places. The tower was opened for ringing shortly after 3 o'clock, when the bells were soon put in motion. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung until 5 o'clock, at which hour an adjournment was made to the Coffee Tavern for tea, and justice having been done to an excellent repast, attention was turned to business. The Rev. Canon Wigram presided, and was supported by the following ringers:—Messrs. Herbert Baker, M. Ellsmore, and J. Gray, Hertford; Messrs. Henry Lewis, E. P. Debenham, R. A. Fowler, G. W. Cartmel, W. H. L. Buckingham, J. C. Mitchell, D. Gibbons, H. Brewer, and J. W. Brewer, St. Alban's; Messrs. W. J. Richardson, J. Kentish, H. Rowe, and A. Shepherd, Hatfield; Mr. W. Allen, Hitchin; Mr. P. Springham, Sawbridgeworth; Messrs. H. A. Barnett, and G. B. Lucas, Tottenham; and Mr. E. J. Comb, London. The rev. chairman after referring to the object of the meeting, and announcing that there was then a balance in hand of £4 2s., called upon Mr. Debenham, who asked those present to signify whether they would support the Association, and his request met with a response from all present in favour of belonging to it. The Rev. Canon Wigram then proposed and Mr. Baker seconded, that Leonard Proctor, Esq. be requested to act as president of the Association, which was carried unanimously. On the proposition of Mr. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Baker, Mr. E. P. Debenham was elected Hon. Secretary, and Mr. R. A. Fowler was subsequently selected to fill the duties of Auditor. It was decided that in future three District Meetings be held during the year on Saturdays, Baldock being selected as the place of the next meeting, in the month of October, and the Annual Meeting was fixed for Easter Monday, and after the present year, the subscriptions will be payable on the day of the Annual Meeting instead of 1st January; and the President, Secretary, and Auditor were authorised to draw up and submit to the next meeting a revised set of rules. After the business meeting, most of the members returned to the tower and rang touches of Bob Major and Grandsire and Stedman Triples until 8.30 p.m. Some of the St. Alban's contingent afterwards met at the house of Mr. Kentish, where the handbells were brought into requisition, and rang some courses of Bob and Grandsire Royal and Grandsire Caters. It must not be forgotten to mention the excellent "go" of the Church bells, and that thanks are due to Mr. Gray for examining them previously to see that everything was satisfactory.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, June 16th, eight members of the above Society met at the residence of W. A. Baldwin, Gravelly Hill, for the purpose of opening a new peal of twelve handbells. The proceedings commenced with a touch of 367 Stedman Caters. H. Bastable (conductor), 1-2; T. Russam, 3-4; W. Kent, 5-6; B. Witchell, 7-8; J. Buffery, 9-10. After a short interval followed the performance *par excellence* of the evening, viz.: 517 Stedman Cinques. T. Russam, 1-2; W. Kent, 3-4; T. Miller, 5-6; H. Bastable (conductor), 7-8; B. Witchell, 9-10; H. Johnson, jun., 11-12. This is the same band which rang a short time ago the only peal of Stedman Cinques on handbells out of London, and the third ever accomplished in that intricate method. The bells were then set going to the merry tunes of "Harvest Home," and the "Blue Bells of Scotland," by T. Miller, H. Bastable, and T. Russam. After supper, for the purpose of better illustrating to the ladies present the changing order of the bells, a course of Grandsire Caters was "lapped," which evoked much praise, and quite converted the "dear souls" from the idea that there is nothing whatever in scientific change-ringing. A touch of 380 Grandsire Triples then followed. T. Russam, 1-2; B. Witchell, 3-4; W. Kent (conductor), 5-6; W. A. Baldwin, 7-8. Succeeded by a plain course of Bob Royal. T. Russam, 1-2; W. Kent, 3-4; T. Miller, 5-6; B. Witchell, 7-8; H. Bastable, 9-10. It was intended to have rung all four standard methods and also a touch of Duffield, but time not permitting the evening's enjoyment was brought to a close with the pretty tune of "Call'er Herrin," by the same performers previously mentioned.

A VISIT TO ST. PETER'S, BOURNEMOUTH.

(BY A PARISHIONER).

Generally speaking, belfries are not remarkable as being comfortable and convenient places. I have a very lively recollection of experiencing what I considered at the time some hair-breadth escapes in groping my way up the steep and dark stone staircases of some country belfries. But what an outsider might find a difficult task in gaining access to a belfry, a practised ringer would regard as a mere trifle, the explanation of course being found in the old adage that "use is second nature." There are, however, belfries and belfries. I remember some which I would not visit a second time unless I desired to find an easy method of terminating my existence. One instance especially occurs to my mind at the present time. A sequestered village on the coast in East Anglia was *en fete* on the occasion of the peal of bells at the parish church having been re-cast and re-hung, and nothing would satisfy the worthy ringers but that I should accompany them up the steep flight of steps to the belfry, and "there see the bells for yourself," as the leader put it. The tower of the church was one of the finest in the surrounding country, and was a prominent object for the mariner for many a mile. The marine and landscape views obtained from this vantage ground had been loudly praised by those who had taken the pains to ascend the tower, and these facts being again put before me by my cicerone, I yielded to his invitation, and expressed my willingness to follow him. Once begin the ascent in a strange church tower, where daylight or any other illumination is a thing out of the question, and there is practically no possibility of relinquishing the task. Your knees ache violently before you have completed half the number of steps, and to add to the difficulty in this case the steps were much worn by the "indignities of time," and the footfalls of bell ringers of many generations. In vain did I grope for a hand-rail, but my guide merely gave a good-natured chuckle when I asked him why the builders did not supply such a convenience and means of safety for amateurs like myself. His only remark was that it was not necessary! It was a warm July day, and I need hardly add that by the time we reached the last stair I was fairly fatigued. The views, &c., of the sea and the surrounding country were certainly interesting, and some might have thought them worth the task of climbing the tower. The belfry, itself, however, was an apartment remarkable for its ventilation. Herein belfries in many churches differ from the churches themselves. There is an unusually large supply of fresh air, and in this particular instance the glazier and plasterer must have agreed to give the ringers as much benefit of the fresh air as possible. Although it was a warm day I soon discovered the apartment to be too draughty for one who was unduly heated, not with wine, but with the exertion in scampering up those stairs. The general appearance of the belfry was worse than the most dilapidated garret, and it has often occurred to me why the ringers themselves do not make some attempt at ornamenting an apartment in which they pass, on the whole, a good many hours in a week. However, I felt in no humour to interrogate my guide on this point, as the ringers had just commenced their work and, of course, all conversation ceased. But this is not the only belfry to my knowledge which is so cheerless in its interior, and I suppose the explanation is chiefly to be found in the fact that, as a rule, the bell ringers have not the time or money to embellish or improve their belfries, although one would think that a proper representation to the churchwardens would have a good effect.

Turning from the belfries to the ringers, I do not think it would be claiming too much for the bell-ringer to-day to say that he is an important functionary, and one whose services, perhaps, are scarcely sufficiently appreciated by the general public. It matters not hardly wherever one may go, whether on business or holiday bent, he is almost sure to hear some indication of the bell-ringers in the neighbourhood. The numerous pleasure seekers paddling in all sorts of craft along Old Father Thames on a summer's evening, ply their oars to the cadence of the bells from the old parish churches which are situate, in many instances, along the banks of the river. The inhabitant of the busy city is also treated to the "music of the bells," and scarcely a day passes, but that the resident of more fashionable parts of the metropolis "hear the mellow wedding bells." Judging from the spirit and heartiness with which the bell-ringers I have known

perform what appears to a casual observer a tedious and monotonous task, they are evidently very much interested in their work. To stand in a belfry for an hour and half or more, as the ringers do on special occasions, must require considerable patience. Moreover, bell-ringing is not a mere mechanical performance. It is an art, and efficient campanologists must of necessity have some knowledge of time, or their efforts on the brazen bells at their control would not be tolerated for ever so short a time. With reference to belfries and bell-ringers it may be interesting to give some particulars of a recent visit to St. Peter's belfry, Bournemouth.

The handsome church of St. Peter, as most inhabitants of the town are aware, possesses a fine peal of eight bells. These were cast by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, and first rung on Ascension Day, 1871. The cost of six of the bells was subscribed for by the inhabitants as a testimony to Mr. Bennett's (the late vicar's) zeal and energy.

Being a comparatively modern church, the ascent to the belfry does not involve such a hazardous task for an unpractised climber as some of the staircases in the old edifices I have referred to. There is plenty of light, and, providing you have an elastic step and do not mind a little exertion, a visit to St. Peter's belfry is, compared with similar feats elsewhere, an easy matter. But what I wish to refer to in connection with this belfry is the creditable work of ornamentation which has recently been carried out by the members of the St. Peter's Society. About two years ago Mr. S. Merritt, a practised ringer, who has assisted his brother-ringers at St. Peter's for a number of years, suggested that the bare walls and ceiling of the belfry should be decorated. Hitherto there was nothing to hide the rough bare bricks, and the ceiling consisted of the roughly-sawn timbers, which supported the lead floor beneath the bell-chamber. To their credit be it said, several of the ringers not only devote their services to the belfry on Sunday, but are useful members of the choir, and these agreed with their brother-ringers that something out to be done to improve the appearance of the belfry, especially considering the amount of decoration that had been expended upon every other portion of the interior of the church. Thereupon Mr. Merritt prepared a design for decorating the belfry, and this having been submitted to and approved by Vicar and churchwardens, the work was at once commenced by Mr. Merritt, who has been assisted by the other ringers, who have succeeded in performing a highly creditable piece of work during their spare hours. As an indication that their efforts have met with the approval of the Vicar and churchwardens, these gentlemen have further added to the comfort and general appearance of the belfry by providing the ringers with a new set of bell ropes with scarlet ends to correspond with the decorations of the walls, and eight small mats for the ends of the ropes to fall on to. The decoration and improvements of the belfry are deserving of more than a passing notice, and some particulars with reference to the character of the embellishment may not be out of place. The ceiling is divided into one centre and eight other diagonal panels supported by cross girders, eight inches by six inches, which are supported by twelve stone corbels. The decoration of the walls below consists of a twelve inch frieze running round the four sides. It is of early English design, foliage springing from a dog tooth ornament. Beneath this is a space of two feet six inches, left to record events in connection with the belfry, such as peal boards, etc. Then comes a six-inch string course of Saxon ornament, much in use before the Conquest, and re-introduced by Henry I., and another course of Norman ornament, supported by a rope pattern. Between these two, Psalm cxxiv., and part of Psalm cl. have been written, the verses running round the walls and over the eight arches of the windows. Beneath this is a blank space of four feet six inches, left, it has been suggested, for portraits of those who have officiated in St. Peter's church. Beneath this, and about breast high from the floor, is a two feet six inch arcading of Norman character, supported by seventy-five columns with moulded caps, connected by fret-work in imitation of a brass screen. Between this and the floor is a three-feet stained and varnished match-boarded dado, with moulded capping. The floor itself has been covered with a very neat linoleum, provided by the vicar and churchwardens. Mr. Alfred Grist, the deputy captain of the ringers, executed the text round the walls, but

the credit for the remainder of the work is due to Mr. Merritt, who, in addition to his services in the execution of the work, provided the various colours. Although not quite completed the belfry presents a very attractive appearance, and so far as interior ornamentation is concerned it is probably second to none in the county.

The St. Peter's ringers have not allowed this work of decoration to occupy their time and attention at the expense of their practice on the bells, for on last Whit-Sunday morning they rang their first quarter-peal of 1260 changes for Divine Service.

IRCHESTER (NORTHANTS).

During the recent restoration of the Church of St. Katherine, Irchester, a great step toward belfry reform was taken by the opening out of the west arch. There are now signs of a ringing loft here. The bells have, doubtless, always been rung from the pavement, as now. The "long pull" and the fact that they are hung the wrong way round, and have the old-fashioned large wheels, &c., is somewhat puzzling to strangers. They are a musical peal of five, the tenor weighing about 22 cwt. For its weight, the tenor is of remarkably fine tone, and well worthy to act as "cover" to a peal of six or even eight, which it is to be hoped it may do at some future time. Below are the inscriptions on the Bells, and the diameter at the mouth of each:—

Treble. "Nathaniel T. Goosey and James Mather, Churchwardens, W. Taylor, Oxford Fecit Ano Dni MDCCCXLVJ." Diameter 36 in.

Second. "Ihs Nazarene Rex Judæorum Fili Dei Miserere Mei Gloria Deo Soli Anno Dom. 1729." Diameter 38½ in.

Third. "A B C D E F G H I K L M N O" Diameter 41 in.

Fourth. "A B C D E F G H I K L M N O P Q R S T U X" Diameter 43 in.

Tenor. "Thomas Angrave & Timothy Jackson, Churchwardens, Edwd. Arnold Leicester Fecit 1792." Diameter 50 in. There is the impression of a "Coventry Halfpenny" on this bell.

The little Sanctus Bell (weighing about 1 cwt.) which was cracked some 40 years ago, was recast in the year 1882, and replaced in its old position in the South Spire Light. It is inscribed—"E. W. Sandys-Reed, Vicar. G. T. Bayes, R. W. Arkwright, Churchwardens. J. Taylor, Loughborough." It will be noticed that the third and fourth bells are not dated, but the sign of the bell-founder (Watts of Leicester) on the shoulder of each signifies that they were cast in the early part of the 17th Century. They are what is termed "Alphabet Bells." For want of a regular inscription, a certain portion of the Alphabet is run round the shoulder. The fourth bell has evidently seen much service, it is chipped (tuned) both at its lip and inside the sound bow, and has scarcely any vibration. Bell-frame and fittings are all exceedingly old, but owing to the care and attention bestowed on them by Mr. Percival, the Steeple-keeper, the bells go very well indeed. The little oaken door leading to the clock-room is the work of the Vicar, the Rev. H. H. Slater, and is made from some old oak timber from the Church. The clock-room is now in good order, the windows having been glazed, and the floor repaired. Owing to the opening of the west arch, it was found necessary to remove the clock to the north side of the tower. This under the management of Mr. J. Austin, of Knuston, and Mr. Percival, the clock-man, was satisfactorily carried out. New weights, new brass wheels to the dial, locking plate for the quarters, and an improved escapement being at same time added. The clock is dated 1840, and was made by John and Edward Corby, of Grendon. Close to the clock is the machine for working the "Quarter Chimes," which strike on all five bells in "rounds" or "set changes," according to taste. They were made and fixed by the present steeple-keeper, Mr. W. Percival, in the year 1869, the cost (£25) being raised by subscription. The quarters sound clear and regular. They are a source of pleasure to the villagers, and a credit to the ingenious farm labourer who erected them.

In the clock-room hangs the Royal Arms, dated C. R., 1667, lately removed from the west end of the church; also an ancient clock face, discovered beneath the plaster of the west arch. It is arranged for a clock with one hand only, and no doubt, judging from the position where it was found, it was

formerly fixed in the church, facing East. A bill, dated 1700, for repairs to the ancient clock was recently found in the Church chest. Just above the clock is a peal tablet (removed from the belfry below), recording the ringing of 5160 changes. It reads as follows: "Change-ringing in this steeple. Forty-three peals, amounting to 5160 changes, were rung on five bells, March 1st, 1852, in three hours and twenty-eight minutes. Joseph Bayes, treble; Ephraim Hallabourne, second; Charles Sparks, third; Thomas Sparks, fourth; Thomas Craddock, tenor, peal conductor, Thomas George, umpire." Joseph Bayes still chimes the treble bell. Craddock, the present tenor man, is a son of the conductor of the above peal.

Irchester ringers keep up their reputation for clear, well-struck ringing and chiming. It is to be hoped that the improved condition of the belfry may encourage them to persevere in their efforts to master the science of change-ringing, and also help to bring about the addition of at least one more bell to the peal. A nice musical set of handbells would be very serviceable to the ringers here.

NOTICE OF A VISIT TO THE ISLE OF MAN.

It is the intention of a few friends from Liverpool, Birmingham, and Sheffield, to pay a visit to the above place, with the object of attempting two 5000's at the new church at Peel, where there is a new ring of eight. The party will leave Liverpool on Saturday, June 30th, and return on July 9th. Any ringing friends who happen to be on the island during the time will be cordially received. C. H. HATTERSLEY.

Snider Works, Sheffield, June 11th, 1888.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL of the above Guild will be held on Monday, July 16th, at Witney. Dinner tickets may be had on application by members to the Secretary, ensuring railway tickets at reduced fares on G.W.R. These dinner tickets are free for change-ringing, one shilling per head for probationary, and two shillings per head for hon. members.

Bearwood Rectory, Wokingham. DOLBEN PAUL, Hon. Sec.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Woburn, Beds., on Saturday, June 30th. The bells (eight), will be at the service of the ringers attending, at any time during the afternoon and evening of that day. CHARLES HERBERT, Hon. Sec.

Woburn, June 12th, 1888.

THE SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY.

[ESTABLISHED 1623.]

The Anniversary of this society will be held on Wednesday next, June 27th. JNO. F. PENNING, Hon. Sec.

A NEW PEAL BOARD.—A tablet has been executed by Mr. Jerram, in black and gold, to commemorate the peal of Grandsire Triples rung at St. Thomas', Salisbury, on Whit-Monday last, being the first peal on the bells. The peal is recorded as in "THE BELL NEWS" of May 26th, and below are names of "Rev. H. G. Rogers, M.A., Vicar; G. Bartlett, W. J. Snook, Churchwardens; H. J. Silverthorn, Sexton; J. Short, Captain." The tablet is being exhibited in a shop window in the town during this week, and is to be erected on Saturday. The expense of execution has been kindly defrayed by the Churchwardens.

ST. JOHN'S, BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Monday evening, June 11th, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles, from Shipway), in 26 mins. Joe Hardcastle, jun., 1; James Cotterell, 2; G. Titterton, 3; B. T. Copley (conductor), 4; S. Palfaman, 5; J. W. Cundall, 6. This was rung to celebrate the admission of Messrs. Cotterell and Cundall into the Yorkshire Association, and the formation at St. John's of a branch of that Association, being the first 720 rung there by all members for several years back.

RINGERS' OUTING.

The Whitstone band of the Devonshire Guild had their annual outing on Saturday, the 16th of June. In Devon there are 165 peals of six bells, and the country at this time of year is as beautiful as any in the world, so it is their own fault if a party of six-bell ringers cannot make a pleasant excursion. Certainly there was nothing to complain of in the programme for this occasion. The route lay over hills and dales, beloved by artists, and the weather, which had been unpropitious to cricketers and haymakers, cleared up in the nick of time. The party consisted of seven regular ringers, two honorary members and an old friend. About 9 o'clock the start was made from the Exe Bridge in a pair-horse brake, and the first halt was made at Dunsford. The next was at Bridford, and then Christow and Ashton. The Christow bells are famous, and it was agreed that they were the best peal of the lot. They were cast in 1785 by the Penningtons of Cornwall, and there is a tradition that they came here, through mistake or knavery, instead of the similar peal which went at the same time to Dunsford. However this may be, there is not much to choose between the two, except that the Christow bells have been rehung lately, and go rather better than the Dunsford peal. The tenors weigh about 14 cwt. At Ashton there is a lighter peal from the same foundry and at Bridford a new peal of six by Warner, with the exception of one old bell. All four peals are in good ringing order, and at each place an hour or so was devoted to the Exercise with much satisfaction to the performers, and we may hope to the critics also. At Dunsford a slight accident occurred, fortunately without serious consequences. By an oversight the ringer of the tenor had not been informed of the rickety condition of the stay of his bell, and accordingly, when "stop" was called, he was surprised to see the sally taking an unusual course, and on the spur of the moment stuck to it with more valour than discretion. After leaving Ashton our road was over Haldon Hill, and through Ide, where we were bound to stop and ring if we had time, but it was now past seven o'clock, and hunger suggested that another day would be more suitable. Soon afterwards we had arrived at the point from which we started in the morning, and were glad to find an excellent cold collation spread for us in the club room of the "Seven Stars," to which, one need hardly say, ample justice was done. There was a piano in the room, and when the cloth had been removed, Mr. Ferris Shepherd struck the keys as deftly as he handles the ropes, and sung to us into the bargain. After God Save the Queen the Chairman proposed the four Rs, viz.: Reading—the next two are easier to say than to write—and Ringing, without which last no education is complete. Mr. Cheesework, who has taught many generations of the youth of Dunsford and Whitstone, replied for the school-room, and Mr. Shepherd for instruction in the belfry. In the course of some judicious remarks he urged his former pupils to ring not only their best, but their very best, whenever they went out into a round-ringing district, as they might be sure that every blow they struck would be keenly criticised.

There is no use in disguising the fact that west-country round-ringers know their work, and do it as well as it can be done, and it is only human nature if they attribute our errors of youth or inexperience to the system which we commend to their notice. The Christian Missionary sometimes finds that the virtues of the heathen give him more trouble than their vices, and the young change-ringer who preaches a new gospel to these hoary sinners of an old dispensation has a similar experience. Never mind! If we cannot teach them much at present, we can learn something from them, and when we have been at it as many years as they have we shall ring as well in our style as they do in theirs.

After the sermon the party adjourned to a rifle gallery, which mine host, sensible of England's danger, has established for the benefit of volunteers, and let us hope, for his own profit. The shooting was not of a high average, but it would have been a shame if a band of ringers had been unable to ring the bell, and this was done by the last shot. So ended a very successful holiday.

C. PEARSON.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co. Printers, Exeter.

RINGERS' PICNIC.

On Saturday, June 16th, the ringers of Eccles parish church had their annual outing, Westhaughton being the place chosen for the occasion. At two o'clock a waggonette and three horses drove up to the meeting-house, the Oddfellows Arms, where the party were in readiness, and a few minutes saw them on their way through Worsley, Walkden, and on through Checherbent, a beautiful drive, and though the morning was rather threatening, the afternoon was beautiful and fine, which made the drive a very pleasant one, and the handbells were used pretty freely on the road, tunes and changes being gone through which also added to the enjoyment of the party. A stop was made at Walkden, where both men and horses had a refresher, another start, and Westhaughton was reached by 4.30, when the ringers of that village met them with a hearty "How do you do," and put up at the Red Lion Hotel, and after a little ringers' chat, the tower was ascended where a nice ring of eight (tenor 13-cwt. 3.qrs.) was in readiness, and with the assistance of Mr. Joseph Prescott, conductor of St. Peter's, Hindley, touches of Grandsire Triples were rang by Messrs. Walton, Eaton, Barratt Yates (conductor), Grimshaw, Rogers, Prescott, and Ashcroft. Afterwards ringing was kept up by different bands until 6.30, when they retired to the Red Lion Hotel, where dinner was provided by Westhaughton Ringers, when upwards of twenty sat down to the good things provided. After this course was gone through the cloth was removed, and Mr. Rogers of Eccles occupied the chair, and proposed the health of the local ringers and the Queen and Royal family; Mr. G. Grundy sang in fine style "The Anchor's Weighed"; Messrs. Rogers and others rendered songs, courses of Grandsire Triples and Major, also tunes were rung on hand bells. The shades of evening coming on and a twelve mile drive having to be accomplished, the usual shake of hands was given, all expressing themselves pleased with their outing. The Eccles Company wishes to thank (through the "BELL NEWS") the Westhaughton ringers for their kindness and for the use of the bells.

CHANGE-RINGING AT BATH.

On Tuesday, May 22nd, Messrs. W. W. Thorne (London), J. Hinton (Bristol), F. Howell (Thornbury), — Bonds (Stapleton), Wotton and Smith (Tiverton), paid a visit to Bath, and after an inspection of the Abbey, with the assistance of the Messrs. Seers, rang a touch of Grandsire Caters, after which a move was made for St. Andrew's church, where Holt's ten-part peal was attempted under the conductorship of Mr. W. W. Thorne, but owing to the breaking of the sixth rope, it came to grief. The rope being spliced, a quarter-peal was rang in 49 mins. J. Smith, 1; J. Bond, 2; A. Bond, 3; H. Wotton, 4; F. Howell, 5; J. Wotton, 6; W. W. Thorne (conductor), 7; J. Hinton, 8. The ropes were in a very bad condition, three having been spliced before starting. The ringers wish to thank the Canon and Vicar for giving them permission to ring.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MEMBERS are informed that the report for 1887 (which contains amongst other matters, a full list of peals, with the compositions, rung by the Association since its formation in 1878) is now ready, and may be obtained of the local secretaries of the different Deaneries as under. Free to those whose subscriptions are paid, and to others at a price of 3d.

Deaneries.	Local Secs.
GLOUCESTER	H. Hatherley, Esq., National Provincial Bank, Gloucester.
DURSLEY, HAWKESBURY, & BITTON	Mr. F. K. Howell, Morton, Thornbury.
N'TH AND S'TH FOREST ..	Mr. J. Hern, Newnham.
BISLEY & STONEHOUSE ..	W. C. Long, Esq., Stonehouse.
WINCHCOMBE, CIRENCESTER AND TEWKESBURY ..	F. E. Ward, Esq., 438, High Street, Cheltenham.
FAIRFORD, NORTHLEACH, & STOW	T. W. Taylor, Esq., Northleach.
BRISTOL AND STAPLETON ..	C. E. D. Boulflower, Esq., 30, Broad Street, Bristol.
	REV. PITT EYKYN, Hon. Sec.

Magor, Newport, Mon.

ST. PETER MANCROFT, NORWICH.

(Concluded).

The first performance of any note on the new bells is recorded in the peal book of the Cumberland Society, and a copy was published by the late Mr. Snowdon some years ago which runs thus :—

"St. Peter's Mancroft, Norwich.—Mon. March 16th, 1778. The Society rang a peal of 6240 changes of Treble Bob Maximus in 5 hrs. and 22 mins., being the greatest performance ever done by any society. Thos. Barton, 1; Jno. Peak, 2; Jno. Havers, 3; Wm. Warner, 4; Jno. Read, 5; Chris. Lindsay, 5; Jno. Dixon, 7; Jas. Watling, 8; Simon Watling, 9; Jno. Dye, 10; Jas. Vines, 11; Jno. Frowse and Jas. Frowse, 12. Composed and conducted by Mr. Thos. Barton."

Scarce forty years after the rejoicings at the opening of the new peal of twelve, we find the following paragraph in the *Norwich Mercury* of July 16th, 1814, which speaks for itself.

"On Wednesday evening, when the bells were ceasing, the noble tenor of St. Peter's was broken. Of course it is difficult to assign a reason for the sudden injury of the bell after so many years. We know not how far the misfortune, and a real one it is to the lovers of campanology, can be repaired, so nice an operation is the casting of bells. We take this opportunity to mention a curious fact connected with this subject. Everybody almost has perceived that the ringing at St. Peter's produces a sensation of melancholy, which is accounted for by the tuning of the peal. Mr. Garland, the late organist, under whose direction they were finished, gave them the temperament of E flat as it stands on a fixed instrument, which is known to impart a peculiar degree of melancholy to whatever is set in that key."

Whatever the worthy editor of the *Norwich Mercury* meant I can't say; since the bells are in the key of C, I don't see how there could be an E flat among them. This noble bell was recast the same year by Thomas Mears, and I am happy to say that she lost none of her original grandeur.

Shortly after this event, the following performance, recorded on a tablet, was achieved.

"Monday, January 20th, 1817, were rung in this steeple 5016 of that most ingenious and intricate peal, Norwich Court Bob Maximus, in 4 hrs. and 2 mins., without the miss of a bell, or the repetition of a single change. This peal very much resembles Norwich Court Royal on ten; there being short dodging on the bells before and behind, and tenth's place at a bob. The ingenuity of its composition, and the bold and regular striking, reflect great credit on the company, and are allowed by judges to be a performance which, if ever equalled, can never be surpassed. It is the first peal ever accomplished in England in that intricate method on twelve bells; was conducted by Mr. Robert Chesnutt, and rung by the following persons :—

Robert Chesnutt Treble.	George Hames 7.
Peckover Hill 2.	John Trowse 8.
John Giddens 3.	Joseph Lubbock 9.
Charles Gittings 4.	Thomas Hurry 10.
Samuel Havers 5.	Nathaniel Beales 11.
Charles Kelf 6.	Samuel Thurston Tenor.
	Matthew Smith }

The above tablet is given by the late Mr. Snowdon in his book on Double Norwich Court Bob.

Another tablet records a peal of Stedman Cinques, thus :—

"On Thursday, January 18th, 1844, was rung in this steeple, that most intricate and ingenious peal called Stedman Cinques, in 5 hrs. and 17 mins., consisting of 7126 changes, without the misplacing of a bell or the repetition of a single change. The bold and regular striking attracted the notice of the public, and is allowed to exceed any other performance ever attempted in England upon twelve bells. The peal was conducted by James Truman, and rung by the undermentioned persons. The minister and churchwardens, with a portion of the inhabitants, have contributed to the erection of this tablet, the remainder being subscribed for by the company of ringers.

Thomas Hurry Treble.	William Freeman 7.
Robert Burrell 2.	George Watering 8.
Elijah Mason 3.	James Truman 9.
Charles Middleton 4.	Joshua Hurry 10.
William Gaul 5.	Henry Hubbard 11.
John Greenwood 6.	George Smith Tenor.
	Robert Palgrave }

Having now traced the history of these bells from the fourteenth century up to the present time, I shall conclude by giving one or two copies of entries relating to ancient usages. In the sixteenth century Peter Reade gave his houses in St. Laurence's parish (before mentioned), "for the ringing of the Bow Bell called the 4 clock and 8 clock bell."

Among the duties of the sexton we find :—

"Item he shall ringe courffye bell every night for the space of halfe an oure at the least from crouchemes and Lames at IX of the clock and all the yeare after at eayght of the clock"

J. R. JERRAM.

PRESENTATION AT NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

ON Monday evening, May 28th, a few of St. John's ringers met together in their belfry and rang a farewell 720 of Bob Minor with Mr. R. J. Robson, who has been one of their number for many years, and is now leaving for London. R. J. Robson, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; H. Fergusson, 3; W. Story, 4; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 5. After this an adjournment was made to the "Theatre Buffet," where he was presented by Mr. W. G. Routledge on behalf of those present, with a beautiful meerschaum pipe, on the case of which was inscribed on silver : "Presented to Mr. R. J. Robson by a few change-ringing friends on his leaving Newcastle, May 28th, 1888."

Also with this was given a handsome Wedgewood tobacco jar.

Mr. Robson having suitably responded, the rest of the evening was most pleasantly spent in speech making, and "cracking the merry jokelet."

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting for the election of officers and other business will be held at Bletchingley by the kind permission of the Rector, on Monday, July 2nd. The towers at Bletchingley (eight bells), and Nutfield (six bells) will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening.

Tea will be served at the "Red Lion" at 6 p.m. All those who intend to be present, must please send word to Mr. Bashford at the "Red Lion," Bletchingley, Red Hill, not later than Thursday, June 28th in order that provision may be made for them.

All members who forward their names as above will have tea free others 1s. 6d. a head. The business meeting will follow the tea.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

The next Quarterly Meeting of this society will be held on Thursday evening, June 28th, at the "Ring of Bells," when the presence of all the members is earnestly requested for the consideration of important business, W. H. GODDEN, *Sec.*

WALPOLE (Norfolk).—Recently, at St. Peter's church, by the voluntary band, 720 London Single, in 27 mins. J. Hendry, 1; W. Day (conductor), 2; Hy. Allen, 3; R. Grimes, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; J. Brett, 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. J. Hendry, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; H. Allen, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; Captain A. P. Moore, 6. And another 720 in the same method, with J. Brett, 1; W. Day, 2; Hy. Hill (conductor), 3; Hy. Allen, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; Captain A. P. Moore, 6. Also a 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins., as a farewell peal to Captain Moore, J. Hendry, 1; W. Day (conductor), 2; Hy. Hill, 3; Dr. Seccombe, 4; Captain Moore, 5; W. Wright, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. Captain Moore hails from Redenhall, and is a member of the Norwich Diocesan Association.

WORCESTER.—At the church of St. Swithin, a 720 of Grandsire Minor was recently rung (with thirty-four bobs and two singles). W. Hales, 1; F. Owen, 2; W. Pudge, 3; *H. B. Kingsford (conductor), 4; W. Page, 5; S. Cotton, 6. *First attempt at conducting Minor.

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

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1888.

THE greatest event that has occurred since the last issue of this paper is the untimely decease of the Emperor FREDERICK WILLIAM of Germany. We say untimely because, though we should not demur to the will of the CREATOR in this or in any other matter, the promise of a beneficent and peaceful reign by the now deceased prince inspired the great hopes that by his action and instrumentality the general peace would be preserved. And untimely too, to the people not only of his own nation and empire, but to the whole of the Teutonic race. The people of Great Britain, even those who are so apt to prophesy the speedy collapse of monarchical institutions, deplore the death of FRITZ of Prussia as untimely. To Englishmen the late Emperor was a prince among

princes. In their estimation he towered considerably above other royal or semi-royal dignitaries of the German Empire, and this not merely because of his high rank among them, but from a knowledge of his frank, noble, and manly character. And on the other hand, his sentiments towards this country were known to be of the same kind; our constitution and laws—deficient in many respects as they may be—received his warm admiration, and it is hardly saying too much that could he have been spared he would have endeavoured to lighten the burdens of his people by relieving them as far as practicable of that detestable military yoke which is unfortunately the bane of continental nations, and have given his country a liberal form of government to which it is yet a stranger.

When such a prominent man as the monarch of a large empire departs away under such tragic circumstances as did the late Kaiser, it is not out of place to refer to it in this paper. His patience and long suffering under a terrible disease, his placid resignation to his fate, and other well-known characteristics too well-known to recapitulate, mark him as a nineteenth century hero. Such is the opinion of a leading British statesman; such appears to be the opinion of many of our readers who are in their own peculiar way paying a respect to his memory.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The First Quarterly Meeting of the year will be held at Loughborough, on Saturday, July 7th. The towers of All Saints', Loughborough, and St. Bartholomew's, Quorndon, will be open for ringing from 2 p.m. JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec. 5, St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent.

The Provinces.

FOXEARH, ESSEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, June 14, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

[AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

SAMUEL SLATER .. .. .	.. Treble.	GEORGE MAXIM	5.
JOHN LEE	2.	ROBERT MINGAY	6.
WALTER GRIDLEY	3.	PERCY C. S. SCOTT	7.
FREDERICK WELLS	4.	JAMES BIRD .. .. .	.. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN REEVES and Conducted by
PERCY C. STEARN SCOTT.

This peal was rung as the first part of a 15,120, the excellent "go" of the bells being extremely favorable to long peal ringing.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE WARNHAM BRANCH).

On Thursday, June 14, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JESSE GARMAN* .. .. .	.. Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT	5.
WALTER CHARMAN	2.	FELIX KNIGHT	6.
GEORGE CHARMAN	3.	THOMAS ANDREWS	7.
HENRY H. CHANDLER	4.	GEORGE WOODMAN .. .. .	.. Tenor.

Composed by WM. SOTTANSTALL and Conducted by T. ANDREWS.

*First peal, and rung at first attempt. Also the first peal conducted by Mr. Andrews.

ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, June 12, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 25½ cwt.

JOHN PRESCOTT Treble.	HENRY WINROW 5.
JAMES PILKINGTON* 2.	†ALFRED L. PORTER* 6.
JAMES SHOLICAR 3.	†JOHN ASPINWALL 7.
GEORGE PRESCOTT 4.	PETER H. HARVEY Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES SHOLICAR.

* First peal. † College Youths. Mr. Alfred L. Potter hails from Southport.

ROCHDALE, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, June 14, 1888, in Three Hours and Five-and-a-half Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

-REEVES' TEN-PART. Tenor 17 cwt.

FRANK BIRTWISTLE Treble.	WILLIAM H. WALMSLEY 5.
JAMES TEMPEST 2.	A. E. WREAKS 6.
GEORGE HOYLE 3.	JOHN HARRISON 7.
ALBERT EDWARD WALKER* 4.	WILLIAM PHILLIPS Tenor.

Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS.

* First attempt. Mr. J. Tempest was elected a member previous to starting for the peal.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(LOUGHBOROUGH BRANCH.)

On Friday, June 15, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

A. CRESSER Treble.	J. HARDY 6.
J. C. DICKEN* 2.	*J. WARD 7.
W. A. TYLER 3.	†W. T. BILLINGHURST 8.
J. W. TAYLOR 4.	A. R. ALDHAM 9.
S. SMITH 5.	E. WIGHTMAN Tenor.

Conducted by W. T. BILLINGHURST.

* First peal of Caters. † First peal as conductor. Rung with the bells muffled on the receipt of the death of the Emperor Frederick of Germany, husband of the Princess Royal of England.

SALISBURY, WILTS.—THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 16, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

WALTER S. WISE* Treble.	*FRANCIS RIGDEN, ESQ. 5.
WILLIAM PRINCE* 2.	ARTHUR W. BARKUS 6.
ALFRED P. GODDARD 3.	THOMAS BLACKBOURN 7.
HENRY D. ADAMS 4.	CHARLES A. CLEMENTS Tenor.

Conducted by T. BLACKBOURN.

* First peal. The above ringers are all bachelors. And was rung as a mark of respect to the late Emperor Frederick of Germany.

RADCLIFFE, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 16, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

FRANK BIRTWISTLE Treble.	ABRAHAM HARDMAN 5.
JOHN MORRIS 2.	JOHN HARDMAN 6.
ERNEST BISHOP 3.	A. EDWARD WREAKS 7.
ARTHUR BARRETT 4.	JAMES SCHOLEY Tenor.

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD, and Conducted by A. E. WREAKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—ABINGDON, BERKS.

On Saturday, June 16, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 20½ cwt.

WILLIAM COBB Treble.	FREDERICK FIELD 5.
HARRY FRUIN 2.	H. D. BETTERIDGE, ESQ. 6.
CHARLES TRINDER 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
THOMAS SHORT 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

The above peal was rung with the bells half-muffled out of respect for the Emperor of Germany, and is the first peal in the method on the bells.

DORCHESTER, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, June 18, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM COBB Treble.	FREDERICK FIELD 5.
HARRY COBB 2.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK 6.
ARTHUR HAWES 3.	H. D. BETTERIDGE, ESQ. 7.
CHARLES TRINDER 4.	FELIX GILES Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY COBB.

First peal as conductor.

Date Touch.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

RUMBURGH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 10th, after Divine Service in the afternoon, at the parish church, a date touch of 1888 changes, consisting of Old, Bob, and Grandsire Doubles, and eight of Singles, in 1 hr. 10 mins. S. Kerrison, 1; S. Bird, 2; C. Linsdale, 3; C. Kerrison, 4; F. Lambert (conductor), 5.

SOMERLEYTON (Suffolk).—On Monday, June 11th, at the weekly practice at the parish church, six members of the local company rang a date touch in the following methods: 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty bobs and twenty singles), 720 Duke of York (nine bobs), and 448 of Plain Bob, in 1 hr. 6 mins. G. Wright, 1; G. Rudd, 2; J. Orford, 3; James Orford, 4; H. Orford, 5; R. Wilson, 6. Conducted by G. Wright. Tenor 11 cwt. The above was rung as a concluding touch of the weekly practice during the summer months.

SEDGLEY (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, June 7th, at the parish church, in 1 hr. 11 mins., a date touch of 1888 Grandsire Triples was rung as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. James Whitehouse Caddick, of Bloomfield House, Sedgley, son of Joseph Caddick, and nephew of James Whitehouse, of High Arcall, Sedgley. J. Goodman, 1; W. Mills, 2; D. Bruce, 3; W. Pardoe, 4; S. Bunn, 5; R. Schofield (conductor), 6; J. Devonport, 7; E. Screen, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday, June 10th, for evening service at All Saints church, in 1 hr., a date touch of 1888 changes, in the following methods: 40 Bob Doubles, two 144s, 120, and two 720s of Bob Minor, the first containing nine bobs and six singles, and the second eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Saunders, 1; W. Moore (composer and conductor), 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargeant, 4; A. Chaplin, 5; W. Radley, 6. Tenor 10 cwt. Messrs. Moore, Sargeant, and Bearman hail from Bocking, the rest are local men.

Miscellaneous.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

LAMBETH (Surrey).—On Monday, June 18th, at St. Mary's church, the following members of this Society rang with the bells half-muffled a funeral peal, the usual whole pull and stand, as a mark of respect to Mr. James Rumsey and Mr. George Banks. G. T. McLaughlin (conductor), 1; S. Davis, 2; W. Tyack, 3; R. Newton, 4; D. Stackwood, 5; T. Coxhead, 6; W. T. Cockerill, 7; W. W. Thorne, 8. Afterwards some Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rang, in which Mr. F. Davis and H. Ellis took part. This was also rung on the day of the funeral of the Emperor of Germany.

LONDON.—On Monday, June 18th, at the church of St. Clement Danes, a funeral peal, consisting of the usual whole pull and stand, followed by 468 of Grandsire Caters, as a last mark of respect to the late Emperor Frederick. W. Moore, 1; J. R. Haworth (conductor), 2; W. Tyack, 3; W. Weatherstone, 4; H. Langdon, 5; J. Barry, 6; C. F. Winny, 7; R. Hopkins, 8; R. French, 9; E. Albone, 10.

DURHAM NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Monday, May 21st, at the Association meeting, 720 of Merchant's Return. H. Wilkinson, 1; W. Holmes, 2; R. Oliver, 3; R. Heron, 4; F. Pattison, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by the company, who are all from Jarrow. And 720 of Kent Treble Bob. A. English (Jarrow), 1; W. Reed (North Shields), 2; H. S. Taylor (Darlington), 3; E. Titt (Bishop Auckland), 4; W. Newton (Stockton), 5; J. H. Whitfield (conductor, Darlington), 6. And 720 Grandsire Minor. A. English, 1; C. J. Butterworth (Durham), 2; L. Newton (Durham), 3; J. Rossiter (North Shields), 4; J. E. Avery (Durham), 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6.

MIDDLESBOROUGH.—On Monday, May 21st, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Nicholson (Middlesbrough), 1; R. Borrows, 2; J. McAdams (Middlesbrough), 3; R. Moncaster (Darlington), 4; F. Lees (Newcastle), 5; C. J. Butterworth (conductor), 6; W. Story (Newcastle), 7; J. Bolton (Darlington), 8. And 704 Kent Treble Bob. R. Oliver, 1; F. Lees, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; F. Harrison, 4; J. W. Cleminson (Bishop Auckland), 5; T. Clark (Ripon), 6; H. McAdams (Middlesbrough), 7; W. Story (conductor), 8.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday evening, June 6th, an attempt was made to ring the late Charles Ravenscroft's peal of Grandsire Triples, which is a variation of Holt's ten-part, but after ringing 2½ hrs. it came to grief. The bells were rung half-muffled, as a last token of respect to the memory of Mrs. Hayward, wife of Mr. George Hayward, conductor of the Bromsgrove company. John Mason (first attempt at a peal), 1; George Bourne, 2; Thomas Allbutt, 3; William James, 4; Walter Rea (conductor), 5; Alfred Moore, 6; Oliver James, 7; James Parry, 8. Mason hails from Stoke Prior; Moore from Hanbury.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—On Monday, June 4th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. M. Shilcock, 1; W. Boughton, 2; J. Smith, 3; *W. Short, 4; H. Martin, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method on a bob bell. Also a 720 Oxford Treble Bob. †W. Short, 1; †W. Boughton, 2; †J. Smith, 3; H. Martin, 4; W. Huxley, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. †First 720 in the method. H. Mason hails from Old Hill; H. Martin from Bellbroughton.

CRADLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, June 5th, at the parish church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26½ mins. T. Edmunds, 1; C. Daniel, 2; H. Woodhall, 3; R. Beaseley, 4; J. A. Meredith, 4; *C. Beaseley (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 on the bells by a local band. *First 720 as conductor.

HAGLEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, June 3rd, 720 Plain Bob Minor. W. Short, 1; W. Boughton, 2; C. Boughton, 3; H. Morris, 4; H. Martin (conductor), 6. On Sunday, June 3rd, 720 Plain Bob Minor. W. Short, 1; W. Boughton, 2; C. Boughton, 3; H. Morris, 4; J. Barber, 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Short, 1; W. Boughton, 2; J. Smith, 3; H. Mason, 4; C. Boughton, 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, June 3rd, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor, with 6-8 behind, in 30 mins. J. Pagett, 1; C. Barrett, 2; H. Harris, 3; J. Smith, 4; J. Barber, 5; J. Bird, 6; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 7; J. Crump, 8. Messrs. Smith and Barber hail from Clent, the rest are local men. On Monday, June 4th, on the occasion of a confirmation service by the Lord Bishop of Worcester, several touches of Plain Bob and Grandsire Minor, and some Bob Triples, finishing with a course of Bob Major. During the afternoon the belfry was visited by ringers from Brierley Hill, Clent, and Hagley, and 360 of Plain Bob was rung on handbells, conducted by G. H. Pagett.

WORCESTER.—On Monday, June 18th, at the Cathedral, with the bells half-muffled, several touches of Grandsire Caters, including a 504, as a mark of respect to the late Emperor of Germany. F. Owen, 1; H. Kingsford, 2; N. Wale, 3; H. Pheasant, 4; J. Perks, 5; W. Blandford, 6; H. Wilks (conductor), 7; J. Reynolds, 8; G. Hobbs, 9; T. Malim, 10.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STEBBING (Essex).—On Monday evening, May 28th, at the parish church, a date touch of 1888 changes in the following methods, in 1 hr. 1 min.: Hampstead Delight, Hudibras, Dream, two 6-scores

each of New Doubles, St. Simon's, St. Clement's, St. Dunstan's, Sunshine, Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob, Antelope, and Grandsire. A. Barker, 1; H. Gowers, 2; E. Claydon, 3; E. Hynds, 4; J. T. Barker (conductor), 5. Also for morning service, on Sunday, June 3rd, two 6-scores of St. Simon's Doubles, one each of New Doubles, Stedman's Slow Course, Hampstead Delight, and Canterbury Pleasure. A. Barker, 1; H. Gowers, 2; J. T. Barker, 3; E. Hynds, 4; E. Claydon (conductor), 5.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday evening, June 3rd, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. C. Duncomb, 1; E. Chaplin, 2; W. Bearman (Bocking), 3; A. Chaplin, 4; F. Saunders (conductor), 5; E. Radley, 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, June 3rd, for afternoon service at the parish church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob (twelve bobs). A. Edwards, 1; W. J. Piper (composer and conductor), 2; W. Lincoln, 3; C. Waskett, 4; A. Shuttleworth, 5; A. Tarbun, 6.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Sunday morning, June 3rd, for Divine Service, 720 of Plain Bob (four bobs and fourteen singles), on the back six. W. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; R. Wood, 3; A. Edwards, 4; F. Radley, 5; W. Lincoln (conductor), 6. And for evening service, 1008 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's ten-part. W. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; A. Edwards, 3; F. Radley, 4; C. Waskett, 5; W. Lincoln (conductor), 6; A. Tarbun, 7; W. J. Piper, 8.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Whit Monday, May 21st, at St. Mary-the-Virgin, 720 of Plain Bob Minor. G. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; H. Prior, 3; C. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. And 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs). J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Watts, 3; I. Cavill, 4; G. Prior, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Plain Bob Minor (thirty bobs and ten singles). W. T. Prior, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Prior, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. Composed by W. Gordon, of Stockport. And on Thursday, May 24th, 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; W. Prior, 2; G. Prior, 3; I. Cavill, 4; I. Hammond, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Plain Bob Minor (three bobs and eighteen singles). W. T. Prior, 1; I. Hammond, 2; W. Watts, 3; C. Gray, 4; I. Cavill, 5; H. Prior (composer and conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

GREAT BADDOW (Essex).—On Whit Sunday, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 of Grandsire Doubles, with the two trebles leading, and the tenor covering. F. Ockendon, 1; R. Newman, 2; H. Richell, 3; J. Newman, 4; W. Newman, 5; F. Newman, 6; C. H. Howard (conductor), 7; H. Dawson, 8.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, May 27th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Michael's church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob, and 228 of Oxford Treble Bob in 30 mins. T. Watson, 1; W. Hammond, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; F. L. Bumsstead, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; H. E. Hammond, 6.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Monday, May 28th, at St. Mary's church, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal, 504 of Stedman Triples. J. Bright, 1; W. Bedwell, 2; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 3; J. C. Harvey, 4; E. E. Richards, 5; H. Harvey, 6; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 7; J. Laws, 8. Also 240 of Grandsire Major. H. Bright, 1; W. Bedwell, 2; H. Harvey, 3; J. C. Harvey, 4; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 5; J. Laws, 6; E. E. Richards, 7; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 8.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

FOXEARH (Essex).—On Monday evening, May 28th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. S. Slater, 1; W. Lee, 2; F. Wells, 3; W. P. Gridley, 4; G. Maxim, 5; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 6.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—Handbell Ringing.—On Sunday, May 20th, at the house of Mr. Slater, 336 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. Z. Slater, 1-2; O. Garwood, 3; F. Wells, 4; J. Slater, 5; G. C. Hammond, 6; S. Slater (conductor), 7-8. Also 560 of Plain Bob Major. Z. Slater, 1-2; O. Garwood, 3; F. Wells, 4; S. Slater, 5-6; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 7-8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Saturday, June 2nd, an interesting event took place at St. Martin's, being the first attempt at a 720 of Bob Minor by four brothers, which was rung in 28½ mins. It was also Hodgkin's 300th 720, he having conducted twenty-six out of that number. These were rung in four different methods, viz.: thirty-two 720s of Oxford Treble Bob, twelve 720s of Kent Treble Bob, two 720s of Aldington Pleasure, and 254 Plain Bob. Rung in eleven different towers. The ringers stood in the following order: Frederick Hodgkin (age 20), 1; David Hodgkin (age 23), 2; Philip Hodgkin (age 25), 3; Thomas Hodgkin (age 27), 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; William Post, sen., 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G. On Monday, May 14th, at St.

Martin's church, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen singles and six bobs). C. Slingsby, 1; George Hooker, 2; E. Hyder, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. On Saturday, May 19th, 720 Bob Minor, with the bells muffled at handstroke, as a last mark of respect to Mary Hyder, the wife of Edward Hyder, this being the 54th anniversary of their wedding day. She died January 21st, 1888, aged 72 years. C. Slingsby, 1; Thomas Hodgkin, 2; Edward Hyder, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; William Post, sen., 6. On Whit-Sunday, May 20th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs). W. Post, jun., 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6.

MERSHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, May 5th, 1888, at St. John-the-Baptist church, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. Edward Ruck, jun., 1; George Finn, sen., 2; Edward Ruck, sen. (conductor), 3; Daniel Paine, 4; George Finn, jun., 5; Philip Hodgkin (Aldington), 6; Frederick Finn, sen., 7; Edward Finn, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday, June 3rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor. W. Harper, 1; A. Cornford, 2; W. Jackson, 3; J. Brown, 4; W. Martin, 5; G. Martin (conductor), 6.

DEAL (Kent).—On Tuesday, May 22nd, at St. Leonard's church, by the local band, 120 of Bob Doubles. S. Mockett (conductor), 1; H. Denne, 2; W. Moat, 3; G. Denne, 4; F. Capp, 5; H. Castle, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. First 120 by all except the fourth ringer.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

TERRINGTON (Norfolk).—At St. Clement's church, on Sunday, June 3rd, for Divine Service, on the occasion of church parade of Friendly Societies, 720 Bob Minor. R. Brett, 1; Dr. Seccombe, 2; H. Hill, 3; W. Mallett, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; J. Green (conductor), 6. The 1st, 3rd, and 5th men hail from Walpole; the rest belong to Terrington.

TYDD ST. GILES (Cambs).—On Monday, June 4th, on the occasion of the opening of the bells, in addition to other 720s, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. R. Brett, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Hill, 3; Dr. Seccombe, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; W. Wright, 6. Conducted by H. Hill. Tenor 9 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Thursday, May 24th, 720 Bob Minor, at St. Paul's church, in honour of the Queen's birthday. Jas. Potter, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; J. Brookes, 3; J. Worthington, 4; A. Potter, 5; W. Denner (conductor), 6. Time 24½ mins. On Friday, May 25th, the above ringers paid a visit to the parish church of Sretford, and were very courteously entertained by Mr. Birchall, the leading ringer. A 720 Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 23½ mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; Jas. Potter, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. Also 360 Grandsire Minor. W. Denner, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; Jas. Potte, 3; A. Potter, 4; J. Worthington, 5; J. Brookes, 6. On Sunday evening, May 27th, at St. Paul's, Walkden, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. A. Potter, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; J. Worthington, 3; Jas. Potter (composer and conductor), 4; J. Brookes, 5; W. Denner, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

HALSALL, NEAR ORMSKIRK.—On Saturday, May 12th, at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. J. Rimmer, 1; R. Hill, 2; J. Rimmer, 3; W. Hewit, 4; W. Baldwin, 5; D. E. Rimmer (conductor), 6. All the above belong to the Southport society.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

WATERFOOT (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, June 5th, at St. James' church, 720 Plain Bob, in 27½ mins. J. Bolton (conductor), 1; J. Riley (first 720), 2; J. Ashworth, 3; J. E. Whittaker, 4; J. Whittaker, 5; W. Whittaker, 6. The above was rung in honour of the 21st birthday of Mr. J. Riley, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day. Also a 720 of College Single, in 26½ mins. J. Bolton (conductor), 1; W. Maden, 2; J. Smith (Rawtenstall), 3; J. E. Whittaker (Waterfoot), 4; J. T. Stott (Newchurch), 5; G. Lord, 6. Also on Sunday, June 3rd, on the occasion of the annual sermons on behalf of the Day and Sunday Schools, for afternoon service, a 720 of Plain Bob. J. Bolton (conductor; Waterfoot), 1; W. Maden (Waterfoot), 2; J. Ashworth (Waterfoot), 3; J. Curtis (Bolton), 4; J. Whittaker (Waterfoot), 5; W. Whittaker (Waterfoot), 6. And for evening service, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 25 mins. J. Curtis (conductor), 1; W. Maden, 2; J. Ashworth, 3; J. Stott, 4; J. Whittaker, 5; W. Whittaker, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Saturday, June 2nd, at Christ Church, 720 of Oxford Single (nine bobs and six singles), in 26 mins. J. Curtis (Bolton), 1; J. Hardman (Bacup), 2; A. A. Downing (Bacup), 3;

A. Chew (Bacup), 4; J. Smith (Rawtenstall), 5; W. Smith (conductor, Bacup), 6. Also 720 Plain Bob. J. Shepherd (St. Saviour's, Bacup*), 1; L. Lord (Bacup), 2; J. Curtis (Bolton), 3; A. Chew (Bacup), 4; J. Smith (Rawtenstall), 5; W. Smith (conductor, Bacup), 6. *First 720.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

PERRY BARR.—On Tuesday, June 5th, at St. John's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins. W. Carte (first quarter-peal), 1; W. Cooper, 2; H. Brown, 3; W. Long, 4; E. Unett, 5; C. Williams (first quarter-peal), 6; J. Buffery (conductor), 7; C. Fluck, 8.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION, AND THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, May 27th, for morning service, 252 Stedman Triples. H. Mills, 1; A. Hill, 2; W. R. Small, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; W. Pardoe, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; B. Starkey, 8. After evening service 1248 Bob Major. E. Goodreds, 1; A. Hill, 2; H. Mills, 3; S. Reeves, 4; W. Pardoe, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. R. Small, 8. This is the longest touch of Bob Major by all the band with the exception of W. R. Small. S. Reeves hails from West Bromwich. On Monday evening, May 28th, for practice, 720 Bob Major. B. Starkey, 1; A. Hill, 2; H. Mills, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; W. Pardoe, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. R. Small, 8. Also 350 Grandsire Triples. W. R. Small, 1; W. Chesshire, 2; H. Mills, 3; B. Starkey, 4; B. Gough, 5; A. Hill (conductor), 6; G. Hughes, 7; E. Goodreds, 8. W. Chesshire and B. Gough hail from Coseley.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HALESWORTH (Suffolk).—On Thursday, May 24th, 1008 Bob Major. C. Linsdale, 1; W. Chilvers, 2; F. Lambert, 3; E. Easter, jun., 4; R. Howard, 5; J. Howard, 6; C. Kerrison, 7; R. Jarmy (conductor), 8. Also a short touch, with E. Easter, sen., aged 83, ringing the 3rd.

WENHASTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, May 27th, after Divine Service in the afternoon, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. C. Linsdale, 1; J. Howard, 2; F. Lambert, 3; G. Easthaugh, 4; E. Easter, 5; G. Miles (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

COLEORTON (Derbyshire).—On Whit Monday, at St. Mary's church, an attempt was made for Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to a mis-call, the bells were brought round after ringing 2002 changes in 1 hr. 16 mins. J. Jaggar (conductor), 1; H. Canner, 2; T. Jacques, 3; W. J. Smith, 4; J. Austin, 5; L. Bullock, 6; W. Canner, 7; J. Curtis, 8. Also at the parish church, Ashby, several plain courses of Stedman Triples, standing as above.

WINSHILL (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, May 27th, for early service at St. Mark's church, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. W. Orme, 1; W. Wylde, 2; J. Austin, 3; R. Logie, 4; J. Jaggar, 5; C. Golder (conductor), 6. And on Monday, May 28th, for practice on handbells, 1190 of Grandsire Triples, in 36 mins. W. J. Smith, 1-2; J. Jaggar (conductor), 3-4; L. Bullock, 5-6; J. Austin, 7-8. The above touch was taken from Holt's Original.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On Thursday, May 24th, at St. Giles church, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob in 25½ mins. W. Goseltine, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. E. Reeves, 3; A. H. Evans, 4; H. Blissett, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday, June 5th, for practice at the parish church, 720 of Double Court Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also a plain course of Single Court Minor, standing as before. And on Sunday morning, June 10th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also two 120's of Stedman Doubles. G. Essex, 1; E. Menday, 2; H. Smith, 3; T. Newman, 4; J. Hands, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

LONDON.—On Wednesday, June 20th, at St. John's church, a muffled peal, consisting of the usual whole-pull and stand, followed by touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, was rung as a last mark of respect to the late George Banks, bell-hanger. W. Coppage, 1; C. E. Malim, 2; W. Tyack, 3; W. Partington, 4; F. L. Davies, 5; H. L. Partington, 6; W. W. Thorne, 7; G. Wild, 8.

ALCENBURY (Hunts).—On Tuesday, May 22nd, at the parish church, by the Raunds and Wellingborough Association, a 720 Oxford Bob (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). W. Pettet, 1; W. Hall (conductor), 2; G. Heath, 3; A. H. Martin, 4; W. Lewis, 5; A. E. Chapman, 6. And 720 London Single. J. Bailey, 1; A. H. Martin, 2; A. E. Chapman, 3; W. Lewis, 4; G. Heath, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. W. Hall, 1; A. E. Chapman, 2; W. Lewis, 3; G. Heath, 4; A. H. Martin (conductor), 5; W. Pettet, 6. Also 108 Bob Minor, conducted by A. H. Martin; Tenor 11 cwt. The company kindly thank the Rev. R. Conway for the use of the bells, and also to Mrs. Conway, for so kindly entertaining them.

BELGRAVE (Leicester).—On Sunday evening, June 10th, after Divine Service at St. Peter's church, 672 of Grandsire Triples in 25 mins. J. Pole, 1; T. Wilson, 2; H. Clayton, 3; G. Burrows (conductor), 4; W. A. Clayton, 5; S. Cooper, 6; J. N. Walton, 7; W. Walker, 8. Mr. James Pole belongs to the local company, the rest are members of the Midland Counties' Association. First touch of Triples on the bells, which have recently been augmented to eight by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, of Loughborough.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Friday evening, June 8th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor, and 120 Oxford Treble Bob. S. Sargent, 1; F. Saunders, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; W. Bearman, 4; W. Radley, 5; E. Radley (conductor), 6. Tenor 19 cwt. Messrs. Radley, Chaplin, and Saunders hail from Stisted; the rest are local men.

BRADNINCH (Devon).—For practice, on Saturday evening, June 2nd six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (each called differently). G. Parsons, 1; J. Webb, 2; E. Devey, 3; F. Shepherd (conductor), 4; J. Heal, 5; J. Denny, 6. Tenor 22 cwt.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, May 26th, at St. Stephen's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. F. Ellis, 1; G. Colston, 2; J. Hinton (conductor), 3; C. Trevett, 4; S. Phillips, 5; W. Emery, 6. First 720 in the method by C. Trevett and G. Colston.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, May 31st, at the parish church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor. M. Shilcock, 1; W. Boughton, 2; J. Smith, 3; *H. Morris, 4; *W. Short, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. *First 720 with a bob bell. Also on Saturday, June 2nd, 720 of Plain Bob Minor. W. Shilcock, 1; W. Boughton, 2; J. Smith, 3; W. Short, 4; J. Barber, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. First 720 by W. Shilcock, and first 720 with a bob bell by J. Barber. And on Sunday, June 3rd, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. M. Shilcock, 1; W. Boughton, 2; J. Smith, 3; H. Mason, 4; T. Barber, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6.

GRASSENDALE (Cheshire).—On Sunday evening, June 3rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Treble Bob. J. Turner, 1; T. Morris, 2; A. Jones (conductor), 3; F. Turner, 5; W. Weaver, 6.

HANLEY CASTLE (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, June 9th, at the parish church, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Doubles, but after ringing thirty-two six-scores with extremes and three and a half with plain leads (1260 changes), in 2 hrs. 35 mins., it unfortunately came to grief. H. Willis, 1; A. Pitt, 2; A. Aspey, 3; W. Tarling, 4; R. G. Knowles, 5; W. Turner, 6. The above is the longest touch by all the band.

HATFIELD (Herts).—On Monday, June 3rd, at the parish church, on handbells, four six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. J. Hollingsworth, 1; W. Powers, 2; H. Rowe (conductor), 3-4; J. Shepherd, 5-6. Also two 216's of Grandsire Minor, each called differently. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. Rowe (conductor), 5-6.

HUDDERSFIELD (Yorks).—On Thursday, June 7th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. M. Jessop (first 720), 1; J. Barrowclough, 2; J. W. Cudworth, 3; T. Haigh (conductor), 4; H. Kaye (first 720), 5; W. Brogden, 6. Tenor about 9 cwt.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, April 20th, for Divine Service in the morning, at St. Mary's church, 1050 Grandsire Triples, in 34 mins. J. Bennett, 1; T. Bennett, 2; H. Williams (conductor), 3; J. Bennett, 4; H. Adams, 5; T. Salter, 6; J. Crane, 7; T. Walters, 8. And on Wednesday, May 30th, for practice, another 1050, in 38 minutes. J. Bennett, 1; H. Adams, 2; G. Salter, 3; J. Bennett, 4; T. Salter, 5; J. Crane, 6; H. Williams (conductor), 7; T. Walters, 8.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, June 17th, after Divine Service at the church of St. Barnabas, Pimlico, the usual whole pull and stand, with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. George Banks. Afterwards a touch of Stedman Triples, in which the following took part: Messrs. Baron, Malim, Hovard, Jones, Thorne, McLaughlin, Swain, and Wilson. This is the last peal that Mr. G. R. Banks rehung.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, May 31st, for practice at St. Andrew's church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. F. Hotchkiss, 1; W. F. Hartshorne, 2; H. Harris (first 720 in the method), 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday evening, June 3rd, for Divine Service, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 25½ mins. W. Prestidge, 1; W. Micklewright (conductor), 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. R. Small (first 720 in the method), 5; J. Smith, 6. Messrs. Harris hails from Stourbridge, Hartshorne from Brierley Hill, Micklewright from Dudley, and W. R. Small from Tipton.

OLD HILL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, June 2nd, in 28½ mins., 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Palmer, 1; A. E. Parsons (conductor), 2; W. Bird, 3; H. Cartwright, 4; R. Bird, 5; W. Green, 6. On Sunday, June 10th, in 23½ mins., 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Bird, 1; J. Palmer, 2; R. Bird, 3; C. W. Bassano, Esq., 4; H. Cartwright, 5; W. Green, 6; H. Mason, 7; A. E. Parsons (conductor), 8. Also 434 Grandsire Triples, in 14½ mins. A. E. Parsons, 1; H. Mason, 2; H. Cartwright, 3; J. Palmer, 4; W. Bird, 5; C. W. Bassano, Esq., 6; W. Green (conductor), 7; R. Bird, 8.

PONTEFRAC (Yorks).—On Sunday, June 3rd, for Divine Service in the morning, 672 Grandsire Triples. S. Brook, 1; G. Spurr, 2; H. Spurr, 3; C. Watts (conductor), 4; G. Booth, 5; J. Gelder, 6; F. Hargreaves, 7; W. Pearson, 8. For evening service 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. S. Brook, 1; A. B. Pearson, 2; F. Moody, 3; C. Watts, 4; G. Booth, 5; J. Gelder, 6; F. Hargreaves, 7; W. Pearson (conductor), 8. On Monday evening, June 4th, a plain course each of Grandsire Triples and Major, upon handbells. A. B. Pearson, 1-2; W. Pearson, 3-4; J. Gelder, 5-6; F. Hargreaves, 7-8.

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Saturday, May 9th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, 360 Court Single. F. Kirk, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; J. Willmott, 3; J. Martin, 4; W. Pettit, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also 360 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Coles, 1; W. A. Hall, 2; J. Willmott, 3; A. Martin, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Also 360 Oxford Bob. G. Kirk, 1; A. Martin, 2; F. Gilbert (conductor), 3; J. Martin, 4; W. Pettit, 5; F. Slade, 6. And 360 Double Court. A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 3; J. Martin, 4; A. Martin, 5; F. Slade, 6. The brothers Martin and W. Pettit hail from Higham Ferrers. On Saturday, May 26th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, 720 London Single. F. Kerr, 1; W. Parker, 2; W. Pendered, 3; *J. B. Martin, 4; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 5; T. Stubbs, 6. And a 72 Double Court. A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. Pendered, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. *First 720 on tower bells.

SALISBURY.—On Saturday, June 9th, for practice, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 27 mins. A. P. Goddard, 1; W. Prince, 2; W. S. Wise, 4; S. Lawrence, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; C. A. Clements, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; H. D. Adams, 8. And on Sunday morning, June 10th, for Divine Service, 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. D. Adams, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; W. E. Tydemann, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5; A. W. Barkus, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

WOODFORD (Northants).—On Saturday, May 19th, at St. Mary's church, a touch of 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 20 mins., in the following seven different methods: three six-scores of Stedman Doubles, three six-scores of St. Simon's Doubles, three six-scores of Stedman Slow Course, three six-scores of Shipway's Place, three six-scores of Canterbury Pleasure, three six-scores of Bob Doubles, three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Tiney, 1; H. Bunning, 2; T. Wilson, 3; W. Wilson, 4; J. Bunning (conductor), 5. Tenor 20 cwt. And on Tuesday evening, June 12th, in the Infant schoolroom, on handbells, 216 of Stedman Triples. W. Wilson, 1; H. Bunning, 2; T. Wilson, 3; W. Tiney, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; J. Bunning, 6; B. Meadows (conductor), 7-8. Longest touch of Stedman Triples by all. Also a plain course of Plain Bob Triples. B. Green, 1; W. Wilson, 2; W. Tiney, 3; W. J. Gilbert, 4; B. Meadows, 5-6; T. Wilson, 7-8. And 168 of Grandsire Triples. B. Green, 1; H. Bunning, 2; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 3; W. Tiney, 4; W. Wilson, 5; T. Wilson, 6; B. Meadows, 7; J. Bunning, 8. Also 168 of Stedman Triples. W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 1; H. Bunning, 2; T. Wilson, 3; W. Tiney, 4; W. Wilson, 5; B. Meadows, 6; J. Bunning, 7; B. Green, 8. And 360 of Plain Bob Minor. W. Tiney, 1; W. Wilson, 2; H. Bunning, 3; J. Bunning, 4; B. Meadows, 5; T. Wilson (conductor), 6.

WELLS (Somersetshire).—On Saturday, June 2nd, various touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the grand peal of eight at the parish church, and a quarter-peal was attempted, but lost after ringing a 1000 owing to a shift course. J. Hinton, 1; G. Temple, 2; H. Wolton, 3; G. Hill, 4; J. Holman, 5; J. Wotton (conductor), 6; H. Brown, 7; H. Wyburn and A. Crocker, 8. Tenor 34 cwt. in Db. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells and for having everything ready.

Correspondence.

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

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

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR.—I should like to make one or two remarks concerning the accompanying peal of Grandsire Triples. In my investigation, something suggested the possibility of peals being made to contain only ninety calls. After condensing the subject by means of composing suitable tables, from which I was enabled to extract a variety of peals with ninety calls, the following are specimens of what the plan will produce. I have given the bob leads in the same order as they were extracted from the table. Hitherto, 140 has been the least number of calls we have had in a peal containing only two Grandsire singles, but here we have the calls reduced down to ninety, the least possible number. With the exception of the first two leads in the one part in each peal the 6th and 7th are never called before.

234567		5040.	
S 572634	1	457326	3
465372	1	354072	5
234765	1	653247	5
S 752634	1	256734	5
237546	3	342675	2
532674	5	423675	4
745263	2	624537	5
457263	4	526743	5
254376	5	725364	5
352647	5	647532	2
653724	5	546273	5
326547	3	245367	5
523764	5	342756	5
725436	5	743625	5
427653	5	257364	2
624375	5	642735	2
756432	2	236457	3
247356	1	432765	5
752463	3	734526	5
637245	2	537642	5
236574	5	635274	5
532467	5		
435726	5		
734652	5		

Round in four leads.

2 3 4 5 6 7		5040.		3rd part continued.	
7 5 2 6 3 4	1	4 3 2 6 5 7	5	5 2 6 4 3 7	1
3 4 7 2 6 5	2	6 3 4 7 2 5	5	4 2 5 7 6 3	5
5 2 3 6 4 7	1	7 3 6 5 4 2	5	7 2 4 3 5 6	5
6 2 5 7 3 4	5	2 5 7 4 3 6	1	3 2 7 6 4 5	5
7 2 6 4 5 3	5	4 5 2 6 7 3	5	6 2 3 5 7 4	5
3 4 7 5 2 6	1	6 5 4 3 2 7	5	7 4 6 3 5 3	2
5 4 3 6 7 2	5	3 5 6 7 4 2	5	6 5 7 4 2 3	3
6 4 5 2 3 7	5	7 5 3 2 6 4	5	3 4 6 2 5 7	1
2 4 6 7 5 3	5	5 3 7 2 6 4	4	2 4 3 7 6 5	5
7 4 2 3 6 5	5	6 4 5 7 2 3	2	7 4 2 5 3 6	5
4 2 7 3 6 5	4	2 3 6 5 7 4	2	5 4 7 6 2 3	5
3 2 4 5 7 6	5	5 3 2 4 6 7	5	6 4 5 3 7 2	5
2 4 3 5 7 6	4	4 3 5 7 2 6	5	4 5 6 3 7 2	4
		7 3 4 6 5 2	5	3 5 4 2 6 7	5
		6 3 7 2 4 5	5	2 5 3 7 4 6	5
				5 3 2 7 4 6	4
				2 4 5 3 6 7	3

Repeated.

Repeated.

With a Ten-part single at the end of the 2nd and 4th parts.
Farnham Royal.

J. J. PARKER.

USING THE PROPERTY OF OTHERS.

SIR,—I am obliged to Mr. Tucker for his letter which appeared last week and trust he will pardon my saying that it does not prove his case. He refers me to "THE BELL NEWS" for August 27th, 1887, where I find a peal of Bob Major 5376 on the old plan, with 7th and tenor together all through, and explains that the 5504 is the same peal with the calls made in different places. Such may be the case, but the indisputable fact remains that my 5056, with 7th away from tenor, appeared in print before his peal, and the almost exact repetition of course-ends with the same calling was the only cause I had for writing

as I did. As he has given dates, I may be excused for doing likewise. I composed the 5056 on the 2nd of February this year, and sent it to you Sir, for publication on the 27th of the same month, and it appeared in your paper on the 31st of March, or four days after he says he composed the peal. If the above dates do not establish the fact that the 5056 is the first published on the plan I do not know what will. Mr. Tucker may if he likes keep the peal, I do not want it, but I will certainly not give way to him to call it original.

JOHN R. PTITCHARD.

MORE LADY CORRESPONDENTS.

SIR,—Your lady correspondent's letter in "THE BELL NEWS" for June 16th, seems to me to be an extreme exaggeration. As to her statement "that everything, everybody, wife, home and children are in every way neglected for this pastime," is certainly a long way from the truth in the case of the many ringers that I am acquainted with, every evening not being devoted to bells. One practice night, or in some cases two per week is usual with most ringers and when it is arranged to try for a peal it is usually attempted on one of those nights. I do not find "or hear of ringers" in the houses that I visit, the wrangling your correspondent speaks of, and where there are children growing up, I find not a wife with a "wearied countenance," but a smiling one, watching her husband teaching the young ones how to use handbells, thereby combining instruction for them, and amusement for himself at home. I also find that where the ringers' home is always bright and cheerful, whether he is out ringing or not, he will not "if cause be" devote every evening to bells.

MRS. SPRIGG.

SIR,—I was pleased to see that a lady had taken upon herself to wake the ringers up from their selfishness. If they would take heed of the advice given them in the last issue, and think a little more of those around them they would be amply rewarded, and could take much more pleasure in their ringing if they were to study the good old proverb of King Solomon, "a time for everything." It is not only the married ladies feel it, but the single too, for if they wish to take a walk they must either wait till they come down from the tower, or go by themselves, which is not very pleasant if you do not like going out alone. I would not discourage a ringer or run the ringing down, for I am a lover of it, and perhaps if they were not in the tower they might be in a publichouse or some other bad place, which of course would be much worse. I wish them all as great a success as they can have, but they will never find an end if they keep on till doomsday. I hope they will take the hints thus given and try to improve, as I am sure there are scores who suffer, for in this case there is mother and daughter.

A RINGER'S DAUGHTER.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—Can you or any of your readers give me any idea when "ringing lofts" or floors above the belfry pavement were first introduced. Is it supposed that they were in use before the Reformation? Personally I think they were not, but I should like to have a few opinions on the subject.

GRANDSIRE BOB.

THE LONG PEAL AT CHELTENHAM.

SIR,—In looking over the figures of the 13,054 of Stedman Caters, I find the printer has omitted the s at 5 in the first course; it should be thus—I 55 6 16.

W. T. PATES.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—In the report of the handbell peal, in your issue of Saturday last, you omitted to state that it was by the Ashton-under-Lyne society, and also that it was the first handbell peal rung entirely by members of the society.

JOHN HOPWOOD, Hon. Sec.

(No name of the Society was sent with the original report.)

THE LIVERSEDGE HANDBELL CONTEST.

SIR,—In looking over the correspondence, in your last issue, I find there is one who signs his name as a competitor, and wants it explained about No. 1 and 2 ringing fairly well; No. 3 not so fortunate, and obtaining the first prize. If the competitor heard the decision given out, and I think if he did he would notice there was no observation made; No. 3 company ought to have been put "was more fortunate, instead of not so fortunate," and James Lodge, from Heckmondwike, not Hull. And the second prize in the eight bell contest, should be £1 10/- instead of £2; these errors were made by the reporter of our local paper.

THE SOCIETY OF CHANGE AND TUNE RINGERS, LIVERSEDGE.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Like bells at evening pealing."

I was pleased to read the report of the festival of the Durham and Newcastle Association at Stockton last Monday week, including as it did, the very encouraging and none the less interesting remarks of the worthy vicar, and the well-earned tribute of praise rendered to their energetic Hon. Secretary, Mr. Clarkson. That gentleman evidently deserves the thanks of his Association were it only for the good services he has rendered in accomplishing such a reformation at Stockton. Let us hope that the ring of six there will soon be augmented; whether the alteration be ten or twelve, their voices will be a lasting and sweet-sounding tribute to him who was the means of their augmentation.

* * * * *

One cannot read this report without experiencing a feeling of gratification at the very cordial feeling which is manifested between the clergy, wardens, and ringers. This "sign of the times," although constantly showing itself, yet loses none of its effect through its frequent repetition. "May its shadow never grow less."

* * * * *

I say, Mrs. "Ringer's Wife," you are coming it too strong—hot and strong—in fact. If you go on at this racket, we shall be compelled to commence locking up our "BELL NEWS" out of sheer self-preservation. I have already had a very eloquent discourse from my better half on the subject. She thinks Mrs. "Ringer's Wife" has just bit the right nail on the head, and expresses a strong desire to shake hands with her. Well, after all, there is no doubt a considerable amount of truth and force in her remarks. If a man has a "hobby" or a favourite pastime of any sort, he surely can find sufficient time to indulge in it without letting it interfere with his duties as a citizen and the head of a household. A man who lets his "hobby" run away with him to such an extent as to cause him to grievously err in this respect, most certainly does deserve pulling up now and then, to bring him to a sense of his duties. I must plead guilty myself to having left my good wife all alone till late of an evening, many—very many—times, while I have been enjoying myself in the belfry, but a man who will so far forget himself as to neglect his daily avocation and so injuriously affect his home affairs, is to be most emphatically censured. Should any of our friends have been guilty of this, I hope her letter will take effect, so that they will err in like manner no more. Let us at any rate act with reason in all things.

* * * * *

The appeal on behalf of the widow and family of the late Mr. Thomas West, of Leeds, will I feel sure commend itself to the sympathies of our brethren. Although not being personally acquainted with the case, I do think the mere fact of our brother having left a widow and nine children practically destitute, will of itself be sufficient to cause those of our friends, who are able, to do some little towards the fund which is being raised to alleviate their poverty and mitigate their loss. I cannot help adding a word of praise to the members of the company to which Mr. West belonged, for having so generously defrayed the costs incidental on their late brother being laid reverently and religiously in his last earthly resting-place.

* * * * *

The particulars respecting the career of our veteran friend, Mr. William Sottanstell, which are given us through Mr. Robert

Hanley, will, I do not doubt, be very interesting to all who have read them. But, although he has thus complied with my request expressed some weeks ago for further information in this direction, there is one point to which I referred that he has not, I am sorry to say, cleared up, namely, the matter of the missing manuscripts of volumes 1 and 3. He certainly does tell us that he *thinks* the printer failed, so that all the parts never got printed; but that is scarcely sufficient to account for the disappearance of the mss. Cannot Mr. Hanley procure us more information on this point, so that some effort may be made in order that this valuable portion of Mr. Sottanstell's labours may be published for the benefit of the Exercise. It is surely worth trying for; and I will promise Mr. Hanley all my humble assistance in this behalf, if that will be any inducement to him or any of Mr. Sottanstell's many friends to persevere in this matter. I am convinced that it would be a very great mistake to let this thing drop just where it is.

* * * * *

From the announcement given by Mr. Hattersley, I rather imagine ringing matters will be pretty lively at the Isle of Man during the first week of next month. I wish our friends of those three great ringing centres every enjoyment of their holiday, and success with their peal. Could I make it convenient, they would have me amongst them.

FREE LANCE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD AT BRIDPORT.

On June 7, there was the district meeting and luncheon of the Salisbury Guild of the county of Dorset. So far, the St. Mary's Honorary Guild, the President of which is the Rector and whose Secretary and Treasurer is Mr. W. B. Northover, has not formed part of the Diocesan Guild, but on this occasion affiliation with the Diocesan Guild took place for the guilds of Bridport and Beaminster. There was service at St. Mary's Church in the Morning, when the prayers were read by the Rev. J. S. P. Fagan, and the sermon was preached by the Rector, the Rev. E. J. L. B. Henslowe. Later on there was a cold luncheon served in a satisfactory manner by Miss Hussey, at the Greyhound Hotel. The Mayor (Mr. A. W. H. Dammers) presided; and among the company were also: The Rev. M. Hankey (rector of Maiden Newton, and district secretary), the Rev. E. J. L. B. Henslowe (rector of Bridport), the Rev. S. S. Keddie (Allington), the Rev. J. S. P. Fagan (Bridport), the Rev. Mr. Carter (Cattistock), Mr. W. B. Northover (secretary of the Bridport Guild), M. J. B. Dunn (secretary of Beaminster), Mr. W. Williams (secretary of Cattistock), Mr. W. Bishop (secretary of Maiden Newton), Mr. W. Hayes (Canford Magna), Mr. T. Compton (Broadwinton), Mr. C. G. Nantes, Mr. J. A. Collins, Mr. T. B. Baker, Mr. E. Smith, Mr. Albert Stone, Mr. T. Matthews, and others.

The Mayor asked the company to drink "Long life to the Queen."

The Rev. M. Hankey, responding to the toast of "The Diocesan Guild," expressing his satisfaction at being able to affiliate two such important towns as Beaminster and Bridport, which meant sixteen members from Bridport and eight from Beaminster.

During the afternoon visits were paid. Broadwinton Guild went to Symondsburry and Chideock; Cattistock and Maiden Newton to Beaminster; Canford Magna to Maiden Newton and East Fordington; and Bridport to Maiden Newton and Cattistock. At the Bridport Parish Church touches were rung during the day by the guilds of Maiden Newton, Cattistock, and Beaminster.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Lichfield on Saturday, June 30th. Members are particularly requested to attend, and to bring or send subscriptions, together with any arrears. 2.30 p.m.—Assemble at the Cathedral for ringing. 5 p.m.—Special Service. 6 p.m.—Tea at Coffee House. 6.30 p.m.—General Meeting. Captains of bands should send the numbers liking to be present, together with the names of new members, to

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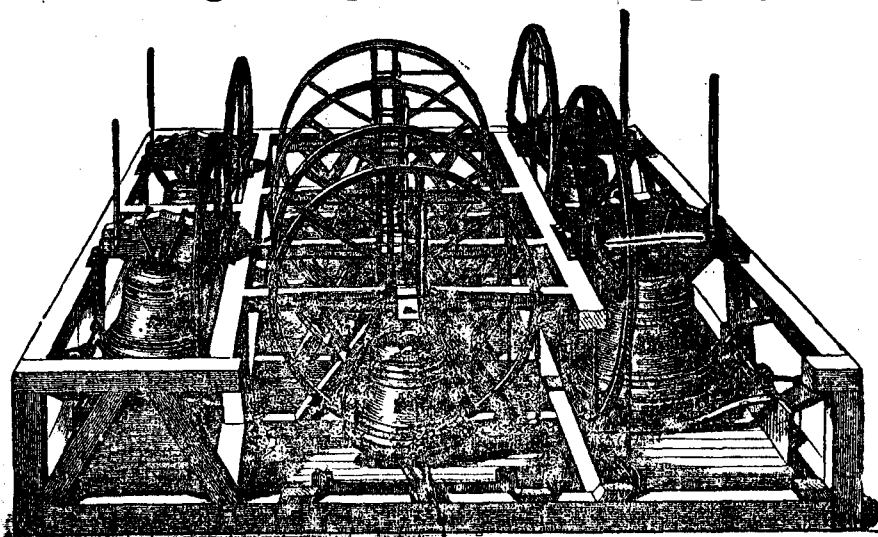
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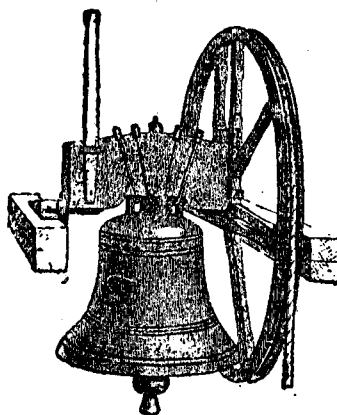
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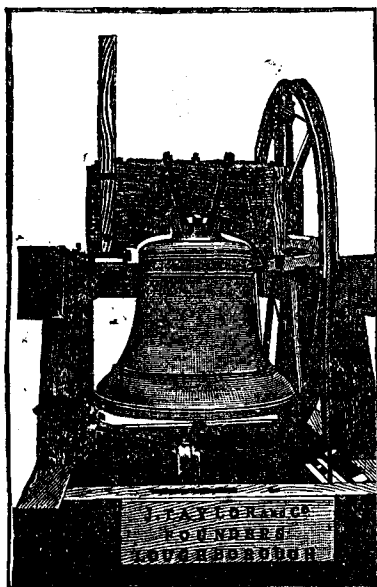
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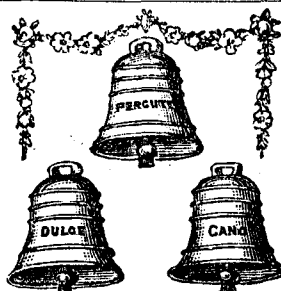
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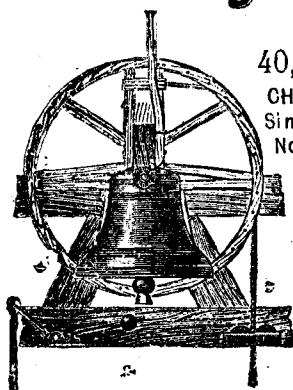
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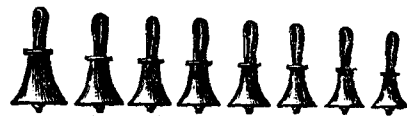
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RINGERS' OUTING, AND DEDICATION OF BELLS, AT MARYBOROUGH, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA.

Five o'clock on Friday evening, March 23rd, 1888, found two of our trans-Pacific brethren, Messrs. Dennis and Morton, on board the steamer "Fitzroy," a small but comfortable boat, bound for Maryborough, a distance of 690 miles.

"This journey was made," says our antipodean correspondent, "at the invitation of E. T. Aldridge, Esq., of 'Baddow House,' who invited eight members of the St. Philip's company of Sydney to visit Maryborough and open the new bells, he bearing all the cost, which consisted of saloon returns and first-class hotel accommodation for each member. Only six, however, could avail themselves of the opportunity, as Mr. Whetton, our sub-conductor, was through pressure of business prevented from accompanying us, and another member, Mr. John Dennis, had on Easter left the colony for a trip to the old country. This was a matter for regret, as they were two of our best men. It may be mentioned that we advised respecting both the tower and bells throughout, which doubtless led to us receiving the invitation.

"After being bid 'bon voyage' by the ringers and friends who assembled on the wharf, the steamer was soon on her way down our picturesque harbour, and within three-quarters-of-an-hour we were outside the heads, in rough water. Our trip down was all that could be wished, the weather being delightfully fine, and the sea calm till after we left Brisbane. There was not much of interest to view after we left Sydney, save a beach said to be forty miles long, which we plainly saw, being within sight of the coast during the whole of the journey. The porpoises, of which we saw several one day, were very interesting. They seemed to travel in couples, and would keep up with the steamer for two or three miles, only being about ten yards of the boat, when suddenly they would put on as it were a spurt, and dart across our bow and disappear. Brisbane was reached at five o'clock on Sunday afternoon, and as soon as the boat was made fast, the runners from the hotels, smart lads dressed in very neat and becoming liveries, soon sought patronage for their respective establishments. Being through passengers we remained on board, and soon learned that we would have to wait two days in Brisbane. This we did not like, but there could not be anything done to remedy it. After tea we went to All Saints' church, having been recommended to do so by a fellow-passenger who belonged to Brisbane, he informing us that we would hear better singing there than in Sydney. We took him at his word and went. We found the church, which is not a very pretentious looking place, 'crowded to excess.' The service would be considered 'High Church.' The intonations were all unaccompanied, as was also the anthem, 'Daughters of Jerusalem.' The tenor solo from the Messiah, 'Behold and see if there be any sorrow,' was exceptionally well rendered by a member of the choir during the offertory. We had to confess that the service deserved all that had been said in its favour. The seats in this church are all 'free and unappropriated,' and we could not help noticing the large proportion of young men that were present. We also had the pleasure of hearing the only ring of bells in Queensland; they are at the Church of England pro-Cathedral, dedicated to St. John, a musical ring of eight by Warner and Son, and are chimed by one man who does it very nicely. The bells have not been rung for several years, as they are only in a wooden structure, very strong-looking, and about eighty feet high, the sides are all open, save the top, or original bell-chamber, which is covered in with louvres on each side. The bells have been long since removed from the top and brought down to the next floor, they are quite exposed to the weather, the remnants of what were at one time bell-ropes being still attached to some of the wheels. We also noticed a 'chiming cylinder,' not now in use. Let us hope this state of things will soon be remedied.

"On Monday morning we visited the Botanical Gardens, which are rather nice, and situated on the banks of the river. There we saw some of our dark countrymen, who for their own amusement were throwing the 'boomerang.' This is a somewhat peculiar weapon about eighteen inches long and two inches wide, very thin and slightly concave, and is made out of very hard wood. It may be thrown for about 200 yards, skimming about two feet above the surface of the ground, when it gradually rises in the air and drops close to the feet of the thrower. This depends much on his skill, and also the make of

the weapon. The public buildings are very good, as are also many of the business places. There is only two business streets, of which Queen Street is the principal, and these are very narrow. We visited the Museum, Acclimatization Gardens, and other places of interest, including pine-apple farms, where we saw acres of this most delicious fruit under cultivation.

"Tuesday afternoon at 4.30, we left Brisbane for Maryborough, and after a long journey down the Brisbane river, we reached Moreton Bay. This is an immense expanse of water, and you have a difficulty to believe that you are not on the ocean. After a few hours of rough water, daylight finds us in the Mary river, and 11 a.m. at our destination. Mr. Aldridge, who was waiting on the wharf, came on board, and we were soon exchanging friendly greetings, and on our way to the Melbourne Hotel. It may be mentioned that our object in preceding the remainder of our band, was to supervise the hanging of the bells, which the local men did not feel competent to undertake, not having had any previous experience, so there was not any time to be lost, as the bells were to be opened on Easter Sunday. We went to the tower directly, and found Mr. Braddock, foreman of the firm of Messrs. John Walker and Co., with a good staff of workmen in readiness to proceed according to our instructions. They in the meantime had constructed and erected a massive hardwood bell-cage, as per plans, etc., from Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. The bells were also placed in their respective compartments, and there remained until we arrived on the scene. Therefore we had to advise as to the position for the bearings, wheels, etc., and all that was necessary from that stage up to the completion. It seemed impossible to be ready in three days and a half, but with five or six willing men, and a little overtime, everything was ready by Saturday night. Messrs. Cartwright, Rostron, Burchell, and Payton, the remainder of our band who left Sydney on the Tuesday, and were due at Maryborough on Saturday morning, did not arrive until Sunday at one o'clock, being detained at Brisbane owing to Good Friday, which is closely observed by the Seamen's Union when vessels are in port. This altered our arrangements, as we hoped to have had a dumb practice together, for the purpose of getting the spring out of the ropes, and also getting their proper adjustment. The Dedication was also to have taken place on Easter Eve, as the opening peal was (by request), to be 'In Memoriam,' which would have been quite in keeping with Holy Saturday, but the boat being detained, caused a very significant alteration in our programme, and prevented us from having an Easter dawn ring as was intended, besides leaving us in much doubt as to when she might arrive. One o'clock came, and the 'Burmah' with our men on board, touched the wharf. We were in readiness to meet them, and after much shaking of hands and a hearty greeting, together with expressions of disappointment at the delay, we were soon on our way to the Hotel, one of the company in the meantime drawing our attention to the fact that it was the first of April. After dinner, 2.30 found us in the belfry ready for the opening, of which a summary of the following appeared in one of our local newspapers.

"St. Paul's Church, Maryborough.—The dedication of a ring of nine bells, the munificent gift of Mr. Edgar Thomas Aldridge, of Baddow House, one of the earliest settlers in Maryborough, took place on Easter Sunday, April 1st, 1888, at 2.30 in the afternoon, in the presence of the churchwardens and many prominent members of the Church, Mr. Aldridge's family being represented by Mr. Henry Aldridge and Mr. F. Bryant, Mayor of Maryborough.

"The service took place in the tower (which is detached from the church) and was of a somewhat private character, owing to the space being limited. The beautiful office for the dedication of church bells was said by the Rev. R. R. Eva, A.K.C.L., Rural Dean and Rector of Maryborough, who, having ascended the tower, and standing on the east side over the bells, began with the Lord's prayer and responses: after which the 150th psalm was said, followed by responses, prayers and benediction.

"The bells being thus set apart for the sanctuary of the Lord, six members of St. Philip's Belfry Society, Sydney, who were invited by Mr. Aldridge to open the bells, rang half-muffled, on the heavy six, a solemn memorial funeral peal, as a token of respect to the late Mrs. Maria Aldridge, in whose memory the tower and

bells are erected, the ringers standing in as follows: William Saul Morton (conductor), 3; Walter A. Rostron, 4; Robert Dennis, 5; William Burchell, 6; Henry B. Cartwright, 7; and William Payton, 8.

"The ringing consisted of the twenty-four singles with the seventh behind, and the tenor as minute bell, the changes were called, and the striking was not good, owing no doubt to the new ropes, which were very springy; after children's service, Bob Doubles were rung for about an hour on the light six, and chiming from 6.30 to 7.30 for evening service, which consisted of rounds, queens, tittums, and whittingtons on the eight, interspersed with about fifty hymn tunes, arranged for six, eight and nine bells, taken from the various standard hymnals.

"The chiming of tunes (which is the ringers specialty) seems to be very much appreciated by the large concourse of people who assembled in the immediate vicinity of the tower, and thronged the church, as they listened to tune after tune which was chimed with very much precision notwithstanding the disadvantage of the new ropes and bell-gear, the chimers standing in as follows. R. Dennis, 1-2; W. A. Rostron, 3-4; H. Cartwright, 5-6; W. S. Morton (conductor), 7-8.

"Easter Monday was observed for the first time in Maryborough, with an early morning peal on the light six. Chiming for eleven o'clock service, and ringing at intervals throughout the day on six and eight, when Messrs. Surcombe, Barke, Binstead and Howe, local members, some of whom had not handled a bell-rope for twenty years, stood in the rounds, and after a little practice, soon proved that they had not quite forgotten what they had learned in England, the ringing Isle.

"The bells are amusical ring of eight, with an additional half-tone bell, and were cast by Messrs. Mears & Stainbank, of London, they are the only ring of bells in Queensland which may be rung, and the only ring of nine bells in any of the Australian Colonies. They were recommended by the conductor of St. Philip's Belfry Society, Sydney, as offering much more scope for tune-playing purposes than any other ring of eight, and for ringing they afford the ringers the advantage of a light ring of five and six bells, in addition to the heavy ring of five, six and eight. A consideration which should not be underrated in a warm climate. The bells are perfectly in tune and are of a clear and mellow tone.

"The following inscription is cast on each bell; 'Mears and Stainbank, Founders, London.' 'To the glory of God, and in memory of Mrs. Maria Aldridge, 1886.' And on a large marble slab which is inserted in the wall on the outside of the tower, is engraved the following:

"This tower with peal of nine bells, was erected by the bereaved husband and children, to the honour and glory of God, and in memory of Mrs. Maria Aldridge, late of Baddow House, Maryborough, a communicant of St. Paul's church. She was one of the earliest wives and mothers resident in this town; a conscientious Christian woman who through life was a peace-maker, ever forgiving and doing good, and helping all who were in trouble, distress, or affliction. Died March 17th, 1886, aged sixty-five years, nearly thirty-seven of which were spent in Maryborough."

"The tower which is a very massive brick building, with cement facings, and surmounted with a battlemented top, is, as a belfry, all that can be wished, being both commodious, well ventilated, well lighted, and well appointed. The bells, which are hung in a massive hard wood frame, go with such ease, that it is quite a pleasure to ring them. The bell-chamber is eighteen feet square, and the frame is clear of the walls all round. The ringing-chamber is sixteen feet square, and about fifteen feet high: the ropes fall in an exceptionally good circle, the treble being the only rope which required to be led away, and that very slightly. Water is laid on to the ringing-chamber, and gas to each floor. The tower, which is eighty feet high, consists of the ground floor, ringing-chamber, and bell-chamber, and notwithstanding the adverse criticisms indulged in by some of the townsfolk respecting its stability, etc., there is not the slightest cause for alarm, as the tower has been well tested by the ringers, who during their stay manipulated on the bells in every way in which they will be likely to be used. Credit is due to Mr. Buchanan, the architect of the tower, and to Messrs. John Walker and Co., for the very satisfactory way in which the bells have been hung. It may also be mentioned that Mr. Aldridge

has in addition to the above given a site, on which he has built a memorial church, dedicated to St. Thomas. This church was built in a place where it was much needed. During the ringers' stay, which lasted four days, they chimed about 100 hymn tunes, in addition to a lengthy programme of ringing, and as a finale chimed 'Home, Sweet Home,' which kindled in the minds of not a few, fond remembrances of loved ones, and the many happy Associations which entwine about the 'Old Home.' We understand that Mr. Payton, one of the ringers from Sydney, will remain behind for a few weeks to instruct intending members in both ringing and chiming. We regret, Mr. Editor, that we cannot state that a peal of Duffield, the latest new method, or even of Plain Bob, was rung on this occasion, which would have been the first peal rung in the colonies, but as ringing proper may be considered a thing of the dim future as concerning New South Wales, we had to content ourselves by ringing from figures. Our opening pull not being a very successful one, we repeated it the night before we left. This we did on the heavy six, with the tenor behind, and on the light in the same manner as on the Sunday. I am of the opinion that when the seventh is rung behind and the tenor left out, the music thus produced has the peculiarity of being in a minor strain, and is consequently in keeping with the occasion. The handbells supplied by Mears and Co. we found to be particularly sweet; on these we rang tunes and the plain course of Plain Bob Major, the bells being 'passed.' During our stay we visited Baddow House, which is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river Mary. This is the finest house and grounds in Maryborough. We were also to have had a four-in-hand drive, but the weather which was rather wet, prevented it. Maryborough is said to be the largest municipality in the world, there being no less than ninety-eight miles of streets, of which one is five miles long. The houses are very much scattered, and the place very flat. Ringing should flourish in this place, as there seems to be no other attraction. We broke the dullness by occasional concerts, when Messrs. Payton, Burchell, Cartwright, and Morton, gave songs, the last named also acting as accompanist. The trip was to us very pleasant indeed, and not the least did the treatment we received at the hotel contribute in this direction, the proprietor, Mr. Blue, being most attentive. Our thanks are especially due to Mr. Aldridge, sen. and jun., for the very generous treatment we received from them, and also to the Rev. Mr. Eva, for his hospitality, and the many townsfolk who we became acquainted with during our stay. We left for Sydney on Thursday at noon, with the good wishes of those just mentioned, who saw us off. On our journey home we had a rough time of it, and in crossing the 'bar,' everything movable had to be lashed down. We all experienced the unpleasant stomachic sensation which landmen feel when they go to the sea in ships and transact business in the great waters. There was not much to relate respecting our return journey, save occasional concerts which took place when not feeling too unwell. Sydney was reached at 7 on [Sunday] morning, after travelling a distance of 1380 miles. We were well laden with pine-apples and bananas received from Mr. Aldridge, and will no doubt long have fond remembrances of place and people.

Sydney, May 3rd, 1888.

W. S. MORTON, Conductor.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting for the election of officers and other business will be held at Bletchingley by the kind permission of the Rector, on Monday, July 2nd. The towers at Bletchingley (eight bells), and Nutfield (six bells) will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening.

Tea will be served at the "Red Lion" at 6 p.m. All those who intend to be present, must please send word to Mr. Bashford at the "Red Lion," Bletchingley, Red Hill, not later than Thursday, June 28th in order that provision may be made for them.

All members who forward their names as above will have tea free others 1s. 6d. a head. The business meeting will follow the tea.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

FOR SALE.—A beautiful-toned set of Handbells, 24, in G.; nearly new; warranted perfect. Price £10. Company broken up cause of sale.—Apply to J. STAVRTT, Richmond Road, Kingston-on-Thames.

SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX.

A very pleasant anniversary was held here on Wednesday, June 27th, the home company being favoured with the presence of many friends, representing London, Cambridge, Waltham Abbey, Stanstead, and Littlebury. Touches were rung in the Grandsire, Stedman, Treble Bob, and Double Norwich Court methods. Among the visitors were several veteran ringers, viz., Mr. Thomas Powell, the only survivor of the band who rung the first double-handed peal of Stedman Triples; Messrs. George Rochester, John Holliday, and A. H. Gardom.

Service was held in the parish church at 11.30., and an instructive and interesting sermon, appropriate to the occasion was preached by the Vicar, the Rev. Mr. Stevens. Dinner by Host Rose at the "King's Arms," was very satisfactorily arranged. The health of the visitors was rapturously received, the proposer remarking that amongst those who had honoured the company with their presence were gentlemen who were not ringers, showing that ringing was admired by others than those versed in the art, and coupled with the toast the name of the Rev. Mr. Morgan, of Sawbridgeworth, who acknowledged the pleasure he experienced in being present on such an occasion.

The Sawbridgeworth handbell company also rendered excellent selections on their musical bells, and taken altogether this anniversary must be regarded as one of the most pleasant for some years past.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this society was held at Ashford, on Monday, June 18th, and attended by members from about thirty different parishes. Twenty-two new members were admitted at the Committee Meeting, and a resolution was passed that peals not sent in for entry within a month of their performance should not be entitled to be entered in the Association peal-book. The next district meetings were fixed to be held at Tenterden in August, and at Addington in October. Service at the parish church was held at twelve o'clock, the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, precentor of Canterbury Cathedral, intoning the prayers; the sermon, addressed chiefly to the ringers, was preached with his usual force and directness, by the Rev. F. G. Robinson, master of the Oxon Diocesan Guild. 161 members and other guests sat down to dinner at the "Saracen's Head," under the presidency of W. P. Pomfret, Esq., M.P.—the usual business of re-appointing officers and committee were afterwards proceeded with, and the toasts of the Ashford band, coupled with the name of the vicar, of the churchwardens and the choir, and of the preacher were duly honoured. The Rev. F. E. Robinson in returning thanks for his health, observed that he hoped to be able to congratulate the Kent Association in the future, on a greater number of performances. The Ashford bells were kept merrily going during the day, and some of the neighbouring churches, such as Wye and Charing, &c., were visited. Altogether, a very enjoyable day was spent.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Lichfield on Saturday, June 30th. Members are particularly requested to attend, and to bring or send subscriptions, together with any arrears. 2.30 p.m.—Assemble at the Cathedral for ringing. 5 p.m.—Special Service. 6 p.m.—Tea at Coffee House. 6.30 p.m.—General Meeting. Captains of bands should send the numbers liking to be present, together with the names of new members, to

Perry Barr Vicarage.

J. R. KEBLE, *Hon. Sec.*

WOOD GREEN (Middlesex).—On Monday, June 18th, at the church of St. Michael, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Davidson, 1; J. Carmichael, 2; G. J. Smith, 3; W. B. Manning, 4; W. D. Smith, 5; H. T. Scarlett, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. F. Rumens, 1; H. T. Scarlett (conductor), 2; W. D. Smith, 3; W. B. Manning, 4; A. S. Barrell, 5; G. Griffin, 6.

RINGERS' PICNIC.

On Monday, June 18th, the ringers of Harley parish church met at the church and rung 336 Grandsire Triples before starting for their outing, conducted by T. Sparks, and then the brake was waiting at the "Six Bells" for the band. Leaving at 8.15, for Charlwood, to take up the remainder of the company, and after taking a little refreshment at Mr. Wickens, our worthy conductor, a start was again made for Leatherhead, which was reached at noon, and after a little chat, the tower was ascended and 534 Grandsire Triples, conducted by F. Wickens, and 588 conducted by S. Brooker. The ringers then returned to the "Bull Inn," and twenty-two sat down to the good things provided, W. Edwards in the chair. After this course was gone through the hand bells was brought into use, and a course of Treble Bob Major. A start was again made for Ashstead Church, a fine peal of eight, but time would not permit to start for a peal, so several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, conducted by F. Wickens. Mr. Page, the steeple keeper taking part in them. After lowering the bells an adjournment was made for tea, and this brought the day's outing to a close, it being to start for home, which was safely reached about 11.30. The visitors take this opportunity of thanking the respective vicars for the use of the bells, and the gentlemen of Harley for giving the ringers this day's outing, they having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

E. D.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held at Grimsby, on Saturday, July 7th, when members of kindred Associations and friends interested in change-ringing are invited to be present. A meat tea will be provided at 1s. 3d. each commencing immediately after the meeting. The churchwardens have kindly granted the use of the bells at St. James' and St. Andrew's (both beautiful peals of eight). All communications to be addressed to J. HACKNEY, 4, Mill Street, Market Rasen. *Hon. Sec. pro tem.*

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL of the above Guild will be held on Monday, July 16th, at Witney. Dinner tickets may be had on application by members to the Secretary, ensuring railway tickets at reduced fares on G.W.R. These dinner tickets are free for change-ringing, one shilling per head for probationary, and two shillings per head for hon. members.

Bearwood Rectory, Wokingham.

DOLBEN PAUL, *Hon. Sec.*

THE WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A ringing meeting of this Association will take place at Chaddesley Corbett, near Kidderminster, on Saturday, July 14th, to which all members and friends are invited. The tower will be open at any time during the day for ringing. A meat tea will be provided at one shilling per head at the Swan Hotel, for those only who forward their names on or before Tuesday, July 10th, to

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

37 Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The First Quarterly Meeting of the year will be held at Loughborough, on Saturday, July 7th. The towers of All Saints', Loughborough, and St. Bartholomew's, Quorndon, will be open for ringing from 2 p.m. JOSEPH GRIFFIN, *Hon. Sec.*

5, St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent.

Marriage.

June 26th, at St. Nicholas, Warwick, by the Rev. H. Phillott, Chancellor, and Canon Residentiary of Hereford Cathedral, assisted by the Vicar, the Rev. T. Rivington, GEORGE HENRY PHILLOTT, to ETHEL MAUD TREON-ROPER, daughter of William Treon-Roper, Esq.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Be temperate in all things."

Bright, sunshiny, hot summer weather still seems reluctant to take up its annual stay with us, but if anything were needed to shew that the "wayz-goose" is once more upon us, we have evidence of that fact in the decreasing number of peals which now appear, and the increasing number of reports of ringers' outings, which we have the pleasure of reading. Whatever is worth doing is equally deserving of being done well; and whether we are in the belfry assisting to ring a touch or peal, or are off to the sea side, the pretty rural districts, or the fashionable spa, in search of new scenery, fresh air and enjoyment, there is nothing like entering into the affair heartily and making the best of it. Rest and relaxation are as necessary to us as food, and when availed of properly cannot fail to render us all more vigorous, and better able to resume our various duties.

* * * * *

The Saffron Walden Society, I notice, intend their anniversary on Wednesday next. If the date given of that Society's foundation (1623), be correct, I should imagine Mr. Penning will be able to lay claim to the secretaryship of about the oldest society in the country. A ringers' society which can boast of an existence of 265 years, must surely be unique; it is even more "ancient" than our College Youths.

* * * * *

I welcome most heartily the appearance of our esteemed friend Mr. Heywood's book on "Duffield." I have been tempted to think sometimes that the real reason why this very musical method has not been more rung is that our friends have not been able to thoroughly understand it. Now, however, that we have it in book form, written in Mr. Heywood's well-known lucid manner, that detriment to its adoption no longer exists. The more our friends examine this method, the more anxious they will be to master and ring it; of that I am convinced. What Stedman has been in the past, Duffield will be in the future: of that also I am convinced. While hailing the appearance of this work, and warmly recommending it to the Exercise, I confess I shall be greatly surprised if I do not see reported many attempts at touches, if not peals, in this method, before many weeks are over.

* * * * *

Respecting my remarks anent the lost manuscripts of Mr. W. Sottanstill, I have been asked the following questions, which (as I do not think myself competent to answer them), I append, in the hope that some of the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" may be able to satisfy the curiosity of my questioner.

1st.—Is the firm of Blews and Co., Bellfounders, still in existence?

2nd.—Was it that firm which several years ago, took charge of these mss., undertaking to see them through the press and properly published?

3rd.—Is it true that repeated applications have been made to that firm for the restoration of these mss., or some information as to their whereabouts, but without avail, the letters sent having been unanswered?

I give these queries *verb. et lit.* as I received them, and shall be equally glad with my correspondent to get that information which he seeks.

* * * * *

Next to earnest endeavours to gain proficiency in our art, and

the faithful performance of all duties as ringers of the Church, it surely must be a most praiseworthy desire on the part of a society to adorn and beautify their own especial portion of the House of God, making it not only comfortable, but in keeping with the other parts of that sacred edifice. That object seems to have been very creditably accomplished by the ringers of St. Peter's, Bournemouth. What a contrast does the description given of that belfry afford with many—far too many—belfries which we all of us are in the habit of visiting more or less frequently? We have, it is true, got rid in a great measure of the dirt and cobwebs which had accumulated for generations; we have made our belfries decent, generally speaking; but how seldom have we done more than simply clear the filth from the stones, the bricks, and the timber, leaving them gaunt, bare, and comfortless? All praise is therefore due to the Bournemouth men for setting us so good an example in this respect; and where (as is evidently the case in this instance), zeal to beautifying the belfry is accompanied by zeal in performing all the duties devolving upon them, and attaining proficiency in the art, we may be sure that such a society will be a credit and ornament to the Exercise.

* * * * *

The correspondence columns of last week are, as usual, of a very interesting character. Now that our "big guns" of Grand-sire have got fairly on the war path, it is to be hoped that they will not cease firing until their ammunition is exhausted. The correspondence on this subject is very instructive, and—partly through the pleasing fact of its being conducted in such a thoroughly friendly spirit—interesting also. Good cannot fail to come out of it.

* * * * *

Mrs. "Ringer's Wife" has not been long unanswered by one of her own sex; although I did not expect seeing a rejoinder from some one of the "other persuasion." Mrs. Sprigg might be a sprig from a stout ash plant, she hits so hard; and I do consider that she is the "top scorer," so far. But whatever may be laid to the charge of married ringers on the ground of neglecting their wives and homes, my experience of the young unmarried members of our craft, I must say, does not coincide with the complaint of "A Ringer's Daughter." I have generally found it the case that when a young ringer has been "smitten," and started on that ancient and universal practice known among us by the old English name of "courting," the rule is that ringing becomes a secondary affair for the time being,—that should "courting night" and ringing night happen simultaneously, belfry duties are neglected for the purpose of "walking the girl out," and the band in the steeple experiences the disappointment of once more meeting with a man short. On the other hand, I have generally found that when a young man is really anxious to perfect himself in the art, he somehow contrives to have his evenings so arranged that one pleasure does not interfere with the other; he simply doubles his enjoyment so to speak; so that in these cases at any rate, the complaints of "A Ringer's Daughter" on this score are more fanciful than real. If her "young man" is so enthusiastic in the art as to keep her patiently waiting outside until he has finished his work in the belfry (as she complains), let me as an old and well-married man give her a piece of advice; do not selfishly attempt to dissuade him from his favourite pastime, but like a good little woman rather encourage him in it and endeavour to arrange your pleasant ante-marital strolls so that they do not clash one with the other. Thus he will doubtless love you all the more, seeing that you are unwilling to put any stumbling

block in the way of him enjoying himself in a manner which may at least prevent him, as you yourself sensibly puts it, from drifting into something worse.

* * * * *

It is an old saying, one "as true as the hills," that there is a time and place for everything. So it is with our work of bell-ringing. Thus, if the principle of this adage be properly acted upon, there need be no such complaints as that of "A Ringer's Wife." But there is also another ancient law which should not be lost sight of, not only in ringing affairs, but in our daily life: "Bear and forbear;" the due observance of which will prevent many hours of unpleasantness and make our lives much sweeter. There can be no doubt of one thing, that our most successful men in ringing are as a rule those who have been blessed with helpmates who have encouraged them in the work and endeavoured to make things pleasant, both in home affairs and ringing arrangements. Just one more word, and I have done for the present on this point. I would tell "A Ringer's Daughter" that one of the most pleasant features of my ringing work is the interest which my good wife takes in it. About the first question which greets me on arriving home from ringing is—"Have you had a good ring?" or "Have you got through your peal?" If I have had success, I am heartily congratulated; if the reverse has been the case, I am comforted with some encouraging remark as—"Well, never mind; you will do better next time." Now, Mrs. "Ringer's Wife," or Miss "Ringer's Daughter," will you dare to assert that I do not love my wife and home all the more because of my ringing? Take this little matter home to yourselves; if your husbands and sweethearts are in good earnest with their ringing, they will never fail in their duties if you deal with them in a right sensible fashion.

FREE LANCE.

THE LONG PEAL AT CHELTENHAM.

On Tuesday the 21st inst., the board recording the 13,054 of Stedman Caters was duly opened in the belfry of St. Mary's Parish Church. The proceedings were opened by a touch of 1,151 of Grandsire Caters, by the following: J. Belcher, (conductor), treble; *G. H. Phillott, Esq., 2; G. Wanklin, (Gloucester), 3; *H. Karn, 4; *F. E. Ward, Esq., 5; J. R. Hooper, 6; *F. Musty, 7; *W. T. Pates, 8; G. Acocks, 9; *A. W. Humphries, 10. (*Took part in the long peal.) At its conclusion, Mr. Belcher the leader of the local band, in a few appropriate words, set forth the object for which they had met, and finished by removing the covering which had till then hid the board from sight—amidst a jubilant outburst of enthusiasm. The master of the association (Mr. F. E. Ward), briefly acknowledged the great honor it was to the society to be able to record so memorable a performance in such a suitable way, and concluded by calling for three hearty cheers for the conductor (Mr. W. T. Pates), who had so ably led them through the peal. This was responded to in a truly English manner, and Mr. Pates having replied, the proceeding terminated.

The board, which is some 4-ft. in length, by 2½-ft. in breadth, is surmounted by the arms of the diocese in colors, and the title of the association, and contains the simple record of the performance, with the names of those who acted as referees, in gilt on a black ground; it has a handsome raised frame of gilt, relieved by red lines and black edges, and altogether presents an imposing appearance. A photograph of the board has been taken, and cabinet copies (if required) may be obtained of the master, (Mr. F. E. Ward, 438, High Street, Cheltenham), at a charge of 1s. each.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Woburn, Beds., on Saturday, June 30th. The bells (eight), will be at the service of the ringers attending, at any time during the afternoon and evening of that day. CHARLES HERBERT, Hon. Sec.
Woburn, June 12th, 1888.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AT SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, June 16th, the local ringers met and entertained their oldest ringer to a knife and fork tea at the "Church Inn." Previous to the tea six of the company met and rung a 720 each New London Pleasure, Oxford and Violet, in 1 hr. 15 mins. J. J. Brierley, 1; Jos. Radcliffe (conductor), 2; F. Brierley, 3; Edgar Buckley, 4; Joseph Wood, 5; James Radcliffe, 6. Mr. Ralph Broadbent, who had attained his 80th birthday, was listening to the ringing, and expressed himself highly-pleased with it. He has been a ringer at Saddleworth church about sixty years. He has not been able to ring lately on account of the grip going out of one of his hands. Still he is an hand-loom weaver, and follows his employment every day, and has never yet required the aid of glasses. This is very remarkable, as his employment requires good eyesight, he being a weaver of very fine woollen flannels. He has worked for one family for the last forty years. At six o'clock about thirty ringers sat down to tea, Mr. Broadbent and his wife being the guests of the evening. After tea the following company rang a date touch of 1888 changes, in 1 hr. 9 mins.: J. J. Brierley, 1; John Holden (conductor), 2; J. Turner, 3; James H. Shaw, 4; Joseph L. Buckley, 5; Moses Bradbury, 6; Thos. B. Dicken, 7; Edward Wood, 8. The rest of the evening was spent in a social manner, under the presidency of Mr. B. B. Bradshaw, who proposed the health of Mr. and Mrs. Broadbent, which was heartily drunk and responded to by Mr. Broadbent on behalf of himself and his good lady in a very efficient manner, and many were the congratulations they received, and frequent and fervent wishes for their future welfare, and happy returns of his birthday. Songs, courses, and tunes upon the handbells followed one another in rapid succession, until the host warned the company that time was up, the last performances being votes of thanks to the host and hostess and chairman. Mr. Broadbent has brought up a large family, who have now all left him, most of them married, and he and his wife reside alone and carry on their home as usual, and they are the oldest couple in the district who are known to be living together, following their employment and maintaining themselves by their daily labour without any assistance. In his younger days he was a good athlete, and was known to be the swiftest runner in the parish. When a service ringer he was always punctual and at his place in the tower every Sunday. He has resided in the house which he still occupies nearly the whole of his life, which is quite close to the grave-yard and near the church and bells he loves so well, and though he is not now able to handle the rope, he is always a very attentive and critical listener. "He never had changed or wished to change his place."

NOTICE TO CHANGE-RINGERS.

Arrangements are being made to commence a tour for ringing purposes, on Tuesday, July 10th finishing on Saturday, 14th, by a company, who hope to visit the following places with a view of attempting peals: Evesham, Tewkesbury, Cheltenham, Gloucester and Ross. The Rev. F. E. Robinson, with several Oxford ringers, including Mr. J. W. Washbrook, will join the company, should any other efficient change-ringer wish to be one of the party for one day or more please communicate to the undersigned at once. Applicant should be well up in "Standard Methods," and members of some recognised society. Further particulars will be found in the next issue of "THE BELL NEWS." Should the proposed tour be abandoned, notice will then be given, in any case silence must be accepted as "No."

Wye Villa, Dock Street,
Ross, Herefordshire.

W. H. FUSSELL.

ST. NICHOLAS SOCIETY, BRIGHTON.

The members of the above will have their Annual Outing on Saturday, July 7th, at Bletchingley, Surrey, three miles from Redhill Station. Any ringing friends will be heartily welcomed. Those desirous of dining with the members can do so by sending to the undersigned not later than the Tuesday previous. Dinner tickets three shillings ea ch. H. BONIFACE, Sec.
1 Hampton Street, Brighton.

NOW READY,

Crown 8 vo., Cloth, 120 pages.

"DUFFIELD,"*A Musical Method for 8, 10, and twelve bells;*

Containing full directions for ringing, pricking, and proving the method; together with a collection of peals and an explanatory appendix. By

Arthur Percival Heywood, M.A.

Post free, on receipt of 1s., from Messrs. Bemrose and Sons, 23, Old Bailey, London, and Irongate, Derby. Also

A BROADSHEET,

Containing diagrams and directions for ringing the "Duffield" method.

Gratis on application to

A. P. HEYWOOD, DUFFIELD BANK, NEAR DERBY.

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

One copy, 12 months 6s. 6d.

" 6 " 3s. 3d.

" 3 " 1s. 8d.

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1888.

The Metropolis.

PUTNEY, SURREY.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Thursday, June 21, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTAN'S COMPOSITION. Tenor 16 cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNY Treble.	JOHN M. HAYES 5.
HENRY LANGDON 2.	*WILLIAM J. COCKERELL.. 6.
JOHN N. OXBOSROW 3.	*WILLIAM H. JUDD 7.
HENRY R. NEWTON 4.	SAMUEL HOW Tenor.

Conducted by C. F. WINNY.

*First peal in the method, also on the bells. This peal was rung on the occasion of the fixing of a tablet to record a peal of Grandsire Triples, rang on Monday, September 28th, 1885.

HIGHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, June 26, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANNES, BROOKFIELD,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056

CHANGES

Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES PAGE.. .. . Treble,	THOMAS TITCHENER.. .. . 5.
BENJAMIN FOSDIKE 2.	ARTHUR JABOB 6.
GEORGE NEWSON 3.	EDWARD CHAPMAN 7.
JAMES HANNINGTON 4.	JAMES BARRETT Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

This is the first true peal rung in Loudon. And the first in the method by all the band.

The Provinces.

DOVER, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 16, 1888, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

5040 CHANGES UPON SIX BELLS;*Being seven 720's of Bob Minor, each called differently,*

Tenor 12 cwt.

JAMES PREBBLE Treble.	EDMUND POTTER.. .. . 4
JAMES ANDREWS 2	FREDERIC SLINGSBY 5
CHARLES LAKER 3	ALBERT TANTON Tenor.

Conducted by A. TANTON.

E. Potter belongs to Dover; F. Slingsby, Folkestone, the rest belong to Lyminge. This is the first 5040 on the bells, and the first in Dover for upwards of 50 years. The fine peal of eight bells, at St. Mary's, tenor 18 cwt., have not been rung since 1844, the tower being unsafe. The ringers wish to thank the Rector and Churchwardens for the use of the bells.

MILNROW, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, June 20, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICAR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

STANLEY FIELDING Treble.	WILLIAM PHILLIPS 5.
ALFRED CLEGG 2.	JOHN J. BUCKLEY 6.
A. E. WREAKS 3.	FRANK BIRTWISTLE 7.
WILLIAM SUTCLIFFE 4.	SAMUEL BRIERLEY Tenor.

Conducted by F. BIRTWISTLE.

The above peal was rung in honour of the Queen's Accession, and also the birthday of the conductor, the Vicar and ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

PUTNEY, SURREY.—ERECTION OF A PEAL BOARD.

On Thursday, June 21st, eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of Stedman Triples, on the occasion of fixing a tablet to record a peal of Grandsire Triples, of which the following is a copy:—"Ancient Society of College Youths. Established A.D. 1637." (Inscribed round the crown of a bell—"Ave Incognita Contemnita.")

"St. Mary-the-Virgin, Putney. On Monday, September 28th, 1885, Holt's Original peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung on these bells in 2 hrs. and 57 mins., tenor 16 cwt. Performers—Benjamin E. Battrum, Treble; William W. Gifford, 2; Thomas Blackburn, 3; Henry Langdon, 4; Edwin Horrex, 5; Challis F. Winny, 6; Martin Murphy, 7; Daniel Newton, Tenor. Conducted by C. F. Winny. Hon. and Rev. R. Henley, M.A., Vicar; W. H. Cutler, W. J. Lancaster, Churchwardens. E. Miller, Steeplekeeper, J. R. Jerram, Scripsit.

"This tablet was very kindly given by Messrs. Blackburn and Gifford, two well-known ringers of Salisbury, it being also the first peal in which they ever took part in."

MILDENHALL, SUFFOLK.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Thursday, June 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 17½ cwt.

CHARLES MEE Treble,	GEORGE DEBENHAM 5.
EDGAR PEMBERTON 2.	ARTHUR H. OSBORNE 6.
ISAAC S. PEMBERTON 3.	ROBT. MOORE 7.
ELI NUNN* 4.	WALTER SALISBURY* .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

Messrs. Mee, Pemberton, and Alexander are members of the St. Mary-le-Tower society, Ipswich; and the rest belong to the St. James' society, Bury St. Edmunds. Before starting for the peal Messrs. Nunn, Debenham, Moore and Salisbury were proposed to become members of the College Youths society. *First peal. The ringers wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells, also to Mr. F. H. Harris (one of them) for his kindness in providing a sumptuous repast for them, on his beautiful lawn to which ample justice was done. The above is the first peal upon the bells, and was rung to celebrate the anniversary of the augmenting them from six to eight.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS, AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, June 22, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paulinus,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

GEORGE CONYARD .. Treble,	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5
WILLIAM BEDWELL .. 2	FREDERICK J. FRENCH .. 6
EDWARD E. RICHARDS .. 3	REV. H. COCKEY .. 7
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 4	JOHN GARARD .. Tenor.

Conducted by W. WEATHERSTONE.

The above is the first peal by the Trinity Youths since the revival of the society.

TUE BROOK, NEAR LIVERPOOL.

On Saturday, June 23, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. John the Baptist,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD* .. Treble,	WILLIAM BOOTH 5.
WILLIAM G. MANN* 2.	*HENRY COLEY 6.
JOHN ASPINWALL* 3.	GEORGE FISHER 7.
WILLIAM JAMES 4.	THOMAS HAMMOND .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN R. PRITCHARD, and Conducted by WILLIAM BOOTH.

* College Youths. Rang in commemoration of the dedication of the church. The ringer of the tenor after ringing 2 hours, was obliged to set his bell owing to it going so badly, after a rest of half an hour, however he again took her and rang to the end of the peal.

BACUP, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 23, 1888, in Two Hours Fifty-two and a ½ Minutes,

At the Church of St. Saviour,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 10 cwt.

JOHN SHEPHERD .. Treble,	J. B. TAYLOR 5.
THOMAS HARRISON 2.	GEORGE LORD 6.
HENRY H. NUTTER 3.	FRANK BIRTWISTLE 7.
A. EDWARD WREAKS 4.	JOHN CROPPER Tenor.

Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS.

First attempt at a peal by Messrs. Shepherd and Cropper, who belong to the local company; Harrison, Lord, and Taylor to Newchurch; Nutter to Ramsbottom; Wreaks to Manchester, and Birtwistle to Rochdale.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co. Printers, Exeter.

SALISBURY.—THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 24, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Martin,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

ARTHUR W. BARKUS .. Treble,	† HENRY A. GARRETT .. 5.
EDWARD C. MERRITT* .. 2.	THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 6.
JAMES G. BENNETT* .. 3.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 7.
SYDNEY LAWRENCE 4.	HENRY D. ADAMS .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS BLACKBOURN.

*First peal. †First with a bob bell. Messrs. Bennett, Garrett and Merritt hail from St. Peter's, Bournemouth, and are also members of the Winchester Guild, the remainder are from Salisbury.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY, AND THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, June 24, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

At 168, BURLINGTON STREET, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

WILLIAM JAKEMAN* .. 1-2.	GEORGE LONGDEN .. 5-6.
SAMUEL WOOD 3-4.	JOHN THROP 7-8.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

* First peal in the method on handbells. First peal in the method rung entirely by members of the above society. Umpires. Messrs. Harry Heap and John Leigh, the peal was listened to by other ringers.

COGGESHALL, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, June 25, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt.

SAMUEL SLATER .. Treble,	CHARLES SILLITOE 5.
ZACHARIAH SLATER 2.	OLIVER GARWOOD 6.
CHARLES HONEYBELL .. 3.	NELSON HAWKINS 7.
FRED. WELLS 4.	WILLIAM J. NEVARD .. Tenor.

Composed by TOM LOCKWOOD and Conducted by CHARLES SILLITOE.

The peal is in three parts, and contains the sixth the extent home, and is now supposed to be rung for the first time. The calling will be found on page 23, part ii., of Snowdon's Treatise on Treble Bob. This is the first peal ever rung on these bells, and at the conclusion the band was congratulated by the local company and inhabitants on its successful accomplishment, and were invited to dinner by the local ringers at the "Woolpack inn" for which they beg to return their sincere thanks for their kindness, also to the vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells. Messrs. Slater, Honeybell, Wells and Garwood hail from Glemsford; Hawkins from Belcham; Nevard from Great Bentley; and Sillitoe from Sudbury.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD, AND THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, June 26, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN SIDEBOTHAM .. Treble,	WILLIAM MIDDLETON .. 5.
JOHN HARROP 2.	JAMES NUTTALL 6.
ROBERT SHAW 3.	GEORGE BRADDOCK 7.
MORRIS WILLIAMSON .. 4.	THOMAS BRADDOCK .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN SIDEBOTHAM.

The above is the first peal rung by the Chester Diocesan Guild.

NOTICE OF A VISIT TO THE ISLE OF MAN.

It is the intention of a few friends from Liverpool, Birmingham, and Sheffield, to pay a visit to the above place, with the object of attempting two 5000's at the new church at Peel, where there is a new ring of eight. The party will leave Liverpool on Saturday, June 30th, and return on July 9th. Any ringing friends who happen to be on the island during the time will be cordially received. C. H. HATTERSLEY.

Snider Works, Sheffield, June 11th, 1888.

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHPORT.—On Saturday, June 16th, at Christ Church, the local company rang a date touch of Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 15 mins. L. Tyldesley, 1; J. Rimmer, 2; James Rimmer, 3; W. Hewitt, 4; J. W. Rimmer, 5; R. Hill, 6; W. Baldwin, 7; D. E. Rimmer (conductor), 8. Composed by H. J. Tucker, of Bishop Stortford. Tenor 10 cwt. 8 lbs. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Emperor of Germany.

DARLASTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday afternoon, June 24th, after service at the parish church, a date touch of 1888 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 8 mins. E. Unett, 1; H. Mallaby, 2; J. Farmer, 3; J. Fullwood, 4; J. Gough, 5; S. Atkins (composer and conductor, Willenhall), 6; W. Smith, 7; T. Corn, 8.

SEDGLEY (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, June 16th a date touch of Grandsire Triples was rung by a mixed band at the parish church. J. Goodman, 1; D. Bruce, 2; J. Devonport, 3; S. Bruce, 4; W. Johnstone, 5; R. Scofield, 6; J. Fowler, 7; J. Richards, 8. Time 1 hr. 8 mins. Tenor 20 cwt. in G. Messrs. Fowler and Richards belong to the St. Peter's Society, Wolverhampton; Johnstone from Darlaston; the rest belong to the local company. The above was rung to celebrate the birthday of Mr. J. Fowler, and his brother-strings wish him many happy returns of the day. Composed by E. Nicholls, and conducted by R. Scofield.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—On Monday evening, June 18th, the following members rung at the parish church 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins., with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late George Banks, an highly-esteemed member of this Society. W. Leader, 1; A. Andrews, 2; A. C. Fussell (conductor), 3; T. W. Udell, 4; W. Wilder, 5; R. Flaxman, 6.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION, AND THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, June 9th, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. *S. Jesson, 1; S. Reeves, 2; W. Micklewright, 3; W. R. Small, 4; †G. Hughes, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. 25 lbs. S. Reeves hails from West Bromwich, Micklewright from Dudley, J. Smith from Derby, the rest are members of the local company. *First 720 in the method; †first 720 in the method with a bob bell.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, June 14th, for practice, 720 College Single, in 27 mins. W. Prestidge, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. This is the first 720 by all in this method, and the first on the bells. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. E. Hampton, 1; J. Meredith, 2; W. Micklewright, 3; J. Smith (conductor), 4; J. Prestidge, 5; R. Round, 6. J. Meredith hails from Cradley, and it is his first 720 in the method. On Monday, June 18th, for practice at St. Andrew's church, 720 Court Bob Minor, in 27 mins. B. Townsend, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. This is the first 720 in the method by all, and the first on the bells.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, June 17th, 720 Plain Bob Minor (no time taken). W. Prestidge, 1; C. Boughton, 2; W. Micklewright, 3; R. Round, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Also 360 Kent Treble Bob. J. Prestidge, 2; C. Boughton, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor 16½ Messrs. Prestidge, Round and Smith hail from Netherton; Micklewright from Dudley; Boughton from Clent.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GLOUCESTER.—At the parish church of St. Michael, for practice, on Thursday, June 14th, 504 Grandsire Triples. S. E. Romans, 1; *A. C. Sayer, 2; *A. Roberts, 3; *R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 4; G. Brunsdon, 5; W. J. Sevier, 6; R. A. Barratt, 7; E. E. Bewick, 8. Also 350 in the same method. *G. Watts, 1; G. Brunsdon, 2; F. E. Hart, 3; *C. Jones, 4; W. J. Sevier, 5; R. A. Barratt (conductor), 6; R. Brunsdon, 7; R. J. Wilkins, 8; *Longest touch. Also 252 Stedman Triples. S. E. Romans (conductor), 1; F. E. Hart, 2; G. Brunsdon, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; W. J. Sevier, 5; R. A. Barratt, 6; R. Brunsdon,

7; E. E. Bewick, 8. On Monday, June 17th, with bells half-muffled, for the Emperor of Germany, 504 Grandsire Triples. S. E. Romans, 1; G. Brunsdon, 2; F. Hart, 3; W. Sevier, 4; R. Brunsdon, 5; R. Barratt (conductor) 6; F. E. Ward (Cheltenham), 7; E. E. Bewick, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. 48 lbs. in E. The bells were then fired down with tenor open on both sides. On Friday, June 22nd, at the church of St. Nicholas, the St. Michael's Junior Society rang three 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. G. Brunsdon, 1; H. L. James, 2; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 3; F. Hart, 4; R. Barratt, 5; E. E. Bewick, 6. And 360 Bob Minor. F. Hart, 1; H. L. James, 2; R. J. Wilkins, 3; G. Brunsdon, 4; R. Brunsdon, 5; R. Barratt (conductor), 6. Tenor about 18 cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

WINSHILL (Burton-on-Trent).—On Monday, June 18th, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins., in honour of the anniversary of the battle of Waterloo. *J. Morley, 1; W. Wyld, 2; L. Bullock, 3; R. W. Logie, 4; J. Woodward, 5; C. Golder, 6. Conducted by C. Golder. *First 720 of Grandsire Minor.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

On Thursday, June 17th, after evening service, a quarter-peal of 1260 Grandsire Triples was rung as a tribute of respect to the late Emperor Frederick of Germany. J. S. Wright, 1; G. Skeef, 2; G. Ladd, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman, 6; J. Brown, 7; E. Jarvis, 8. Conducted by R. Mackman.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—On Sunday, June 10th, for evening service, at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. *W. Charlton, 1; A. J. B. Waldron, 2; H. C. Mayne, 3; J. Pallister, 4; F. Charlton, 5; J. Cleminson (conductor), 6. *First 720 of Kent. On Monday, June 11th, 720 Bob Minor. *J. T. Bozzard, 1; A. J. B. Waldron, 2; J. Pallister, 3; F. Charlton, 4; J. Cleminson, 5; E. Titt (conductor), 6. *First 720. On Sunday, June 17th, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob, with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Emperor of Germany. A. J. B. Waldron, 1; J. Pallister, 2; H. C. Mayne, 3; F. Castree, 4; F. Charlton, 5; J. Cleminson (conductor), 6. On Monday, June 18th, 720 Bob Minor. J. T. Bozzard, 1; *W. Charlton, 2; A. J. B. Waldron, 3; F. Charlton, 4; J. Pallister, 5; E. Titt (conductor), 6. *First 720 with a bob bell.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE (Durham).—On Sunday evening, June 17th, for Divine Service, 720 College Single, in 27 mins. J. W. Foster (conductor), 1; J. H. Surtees, 2; W. Oliver, 3; J. Bell, 4; F. Barron, 5; J. Spraggon, 6. First 720 in the method by any of the above company. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Tuesday evening, June 12th, at St. Margaret's church, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. Raynor, 1; J. Tullett, 2; G. Chantler, 3; J. Raynor, 4; J. P. Kidd, 5; W. Baker (conductor), 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25½ mins. A. Osborne (first 720), 1; J. P. Kidd, 2; G. Chandler (first 720), 3; J. Tullett, 4; W. Baker (conductor), 5; A. Haigh, 6. This 720 was rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. C. L. Baker, of Cobham, near Rochester, to Miss Sophia Holbis, of St. Margaret's.

EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NORTH WINGFIELD.—On Sunday, June 24th, for morning service at St. Laurence's church, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles, on the back five. F. Knowles (aged 15, and first 120), 1; T. Allibone (conductor), 2; W. Hopkinson, 3; T. Day, 4; J. P. Tarlton, 5. And for evening service, three more 6-scores, standing as before. Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

CHAPLE-EN-LE-FRITH.—On Monday, May 28th, at the parish church, 720 and 360 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Hibbert, 1; J. Hardman, 2; G. Hibbert, 3; G. Hibbert, 4; G. Ford, 5; T. Brocklehurst, sen., 6. Hardman hails from Pendleton; Brocklehurst from Hayfield; the rest belong to the local company.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

STAVELEY (Derbyshire).—On Monday evening, May 28th, eight members of the Staveley branch of the Yorkshire Association rang at the parish church for practice half a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's ten-part), containing 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 34 mins. Henry Mottershall, 1; Arthur Worthington, 2; Samuel Smedley, 3; Walter Worthington, 4; Samuel Price, 5; Herbert Madin, 6; John Harris (conductor), 7; Godfrey Swift, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, June 3, at St. Michael's church,

720 Cambridge Surprise. T. Watson, 1; F. L. Bumpstead, 2; S. Hammond, 3; C. H. Howard, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, June 10th, 552 Plain Bob Minor. W. Hammond, 1; J. Savill, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; C. H. Howard, 6. On Sunday, June 17th, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Emperor of Germany. W. Hammond, 1; S. Hammond, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; F. L. Bumpstead, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. *Hails from Rayne.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Tuesday, June 12th, at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, 720 Plain Bob Minor (thirty bobs and ten singles). J. Cavill, 1; W. Prior, 2; G. Prior, 3; Isaac Cavill, 4; C. Prior, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. And 720 College Single. C. Prior, 1; W. Watts, 2; W. Prior, 3; Isaac Cavill, 4; G. Prior, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. And 720 Double Oxford Bob (forty-two singles). W. T. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Prior, 4; H. Prior, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. This was rung on the occasion of the re-opening of the above church. H. J. Tucker hails from Bishops Stortford. On Sunday, June 17th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Gray, 1; W. Prior, 2; Isaac Cavill, 3; W. Watts, 4; G. Prior, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. And 720 Plain Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; W. T. Prior, 2; G. Gray, 3; H. Prior, 4; G. Prior, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. A 720 Double Court Bob. Isaac Hammond, 1; G. Prior, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; H. Prior, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Wednesday, June 20th, in honour of the 51st anniversary of the accession of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans). H. Lewis, 1; J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 2; A. Barnes, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; E. P. Debenham, 5; G. W. Cartmel, 6; T. Waller, 7; A. Hull, 8.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, June 3rd, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob (twelve bobs). A. Edwards, 1; W. Piper (composer and conductor), 2; J. Dains, 3; C. Waskett, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. Lincoln, 6. And on Sunday morning, for Divine Service, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; A. Tarbun, 4; E. Scotcher, 5; W. J. Piper (conductor), 6. Also for afternoon service 720 of Kent Treble Bob. W. J. Piper, 1; J. Dains, 2; F. G. Scowen, 3; A. Shuttleworth, 4; E. Scotcher, 5; A. Tarbun (conductor), 6.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Sunday morning, June 3rd, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (four bobs and fourteen singles). W. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; R. Wood, 3; A. Edwards, 4; F. Radley, 5; W. Lincoln (conductor), 6. And for evening service, 1008 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's ten-part. W. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; A. Edwards, 3; F. Radley, 4; C. Waskett, 5; W. Lincoln (conductor), 6; A. Tarbun, 7; W. J. Piper, 8. Also on Tuesday, June 12th, 1264 of Bob Major. J. Everard, 1; J. Dains, 2; R. Wood, 3; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 4; W. Harvey, 5; A. Edwards, 6; W. J. Piper, 7; W. Lincoln (conductor), 8.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Sunday, June 3rd, at St. Paul's church, for evening service, 700 Grandsire Triples. H. Clifton, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; F. Smith, 3; C. R. Howard, 4; H. Chapman, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; W. Bettles, 8. On Thursday, for practice, a 672 Grandsire Triples, with all the 5-7-6's and 5-6-7's. F. Hull, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; F. Smith, 3; H. Chapman, 4; W. G. Biggs, 5; W. Hall, 6; F. Keech, 7; I. Hills, 8. Also 224 Bob Major. F. Hull, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; F. Smith (first touch in the method inside), 3; H. Chapman, 4; I. Hills, 5; W. Hall, 6; F. Keech, 7; W. G. Biggs, 8. On Sunday, June 10th, for morning service, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Bettles, 1; F. Keech, 2; F. Smith, 3; I. Hills, 4; H. Chapman, 5; C. Pass, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; F. Hull, 8. Also for evening service, 615 Grandsire Triples. S. J. Cullip, 1; C. Pass, 2; F. Smith, 3; I. Hills, 4; H. Chapman, 5; C. W. Clarke (composer and conductor), 6; F. Keech, 7; F. Hull, 8. Also 244 Bob Major. F. Hull, 1; C. R. Howard, 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; F. Keech, 4; I. Hills, 5; H. Chapman, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; J. N. Frossell, 8. On Sunday, June 17th, for morning service, 336 Grandsire Triples. F. Hull, 1; F. Smith, 2; H. L. James, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; C. Pass, 6; F. Keech, 7; W. Bettles, 8. For evening service two courses Stedman Triples, followed by 503 Grandsire Triples. W. Hall, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; C. R. Howard, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; H. Chapman, 6; W. G. Biggs, 7; W. Bettles, 8. This was Mr. Howard's first attempt at Stedman Triples. Also 168 Grandsire Triples. H. L. James (conductor), 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; F. Smith, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. R. Howard, 5; H. Chapman, 6; W. G. Biggs, 7; F. Sharpe, 8. And another 168. W. Bettles, 1; F. Hull, 2; H. Clifton, 3; F. Smith, 4; C. R. Howard, 5; H. Chapman, 6; W. G. Biggs (conductor), 7; —. Sharnbrook, 8. At St. Mary's church, on Thursday, June 14th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Sharpe,

1; F. Smith, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; H. Chapman, 4; W. Hall, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. First 720 by F. Sharpe. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. W. Hall, 1; I. Hills, 2; H. L. James, 3; H. Chapman, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; F. Smith, 6. H. L. James hails from Gloucester.

CLAPHAM (Bedfordshire).—On Saturday evening, June 2nd, for practice at the parish church, two 120s Bob Doubles. H. Sharpe, 1; H. Chapman, 2; G. Cockings, 3; F. Smith, 4; F. Sharpe (conductor), 5. Also two 120s. H. Sharpe, 1; H. Chapman, 2; G. Cockings, 3; T. Lane, 4; F. Smith (conductor), 5. Also two 120s. H. Sharpe, 1; H. Chapman, 2; F. Smith, 3; T. Lane, 4; F. Sharpe (conductor), 5. Also 120, on handbells. H. Sharpe, 1; F. Smith, 2; G. Cockings, 3; T. Lane, 4; F. Sharpe (conductor), 5. This was Messrs H. Sharpe, G. Cockings, and T. Lane's first 120s on tower bells, and great credit is due to them, for six months previous they could not manage a bell. On Saturday, June 9th, five 120s of Bob Doubles in which F. Smith, H. Chapman, F. Sharpe, G. Cockings, T. Lane, and A. Matthews took part. On Saturday, June 16th, for practice, six 120s were rung, in which the following took part: A. Matthews, G. Cockings, F. Sharpe, F. Smith, and C. W. Clarke. Tenor about 7 cwt. in A.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday morning, June 17th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Hands, 1; E. Menday, 2; T. Newman, 3; H. Smith, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; G. Essex (conductor), 6. And after evening service, the bells were rung half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Emperor of Germany, a 720 of College Single was attempted, but after ringing about three parts of it, it came to grief. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday evening, June 19th, for practice, a 360 of Canterbury Pleasure. F. Simmonds, 1; H. Simmonds, 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. F. Simmonds, 1; T. Newman, 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; H. Smith, 4; G. Essex, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. Also on Sunday morning, June 24th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Double Court Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; G. Essex, 2; H. Smith, 3; J. Hands, 4; E. Menday, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also for evening service, a 360 of Oxford Bob Minor. E. Menday, 1; J. Hands, 2; G. Essex, 3; H. Smith, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. After evening service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; J. Hands, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Saturday, June 9th, at the parish church, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Gregory, 1; A. Gregory, 2; A. Bunce, 3; C. Page, 4; H. Smith, 5; F. May, 6. And on Sunday, June 10th, for Matins, one 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. G. Money, 1; G. Gregory, 2; A. Gregory, 3; A. Bunce, 4; F. May, 5; T. Gregory, 6. And for evening service, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. E. Gregory, 1; O. Gregory, 2; A. Bunce, 3; G. Gregory, 4; F. May, 5; G. Money, 6. Also on Monday, June 18th, with the bells muffled, 360 of Kent Treble Bob, as a mark of respect to the late Emperor of Germany. G. Gregory, 1; J. Gardener, 2; F. Money, 3; A. Bunce, 4; H. Smith, 5; F. May (conductor), 6.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRANDESTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, June 17th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor (with twenty-one bobs). S. Wightman, 1; W. G. Brickmer, 2; A. S. Wightman, 3; G. Wightman, 4; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 5; S. Wightman, sen., 6.

HELMINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday afternoon, June 24th, eight members of the above Association, rang for practice, 700 of Stedman Triples. William Dye (conductor), 1; W. G. Brickmer, 2; G. Perry, 3; G. Thurlow, 4; D. G. Wightman, 5; G. Wightman, 6; A. S. Wightman, 7; Walter Whiting, 8. Also a 504 in the same method, with H. Peper at the tenor, the others as before.

ARELEY KINGS.—On Monday, June 18th, for practice at the parish church, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. T. Elcox, 1; W. Martin, 2; T. Fowles, 3; T. Griffiths, 4; J. Reynolds, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6. First 720 by all.

BAKEWELL (Derbyshire).—On Monday, June 18th, at All Saints' church, on the front six, 723 of Plain Bob Minor (four bobs and fourteen singles), in 26 mins. Also 72 of Kent Treble Bob, 120 of College Single, 144 of Oxford Treble Bob, and 120 of Grandsire. E. Yates, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; W. J. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw, 6. The ringers hail from Bootle and Walton, Lancashire, and they desire through "THE BELL NEWS" to tender their sincere thanks to Mr. Smith for having everything in readiness.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Sunday, June 17th, for Divine Service at the parish church, two 120's of Grandsire Doubles. G. Gasson, 1; W. West, 2; F. Hewlett (conductor), 3; J. R. Higgins, 4; H. White, 5; F. Dolton, 6. Messrs. Hewlett and West hail from Twyford, Hants.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, May 27th, for Divine Service at St. Stephen's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. E. Ellis, 1; G. Colston, 2; J. Hinton (conductor), 3; C. Trevett, 4; S. Phillips, 5; W. Emery, 6. And on Tuesday, June 12th, for practice, a well-struck 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. E. Duckham, 1; C. Burden, 2; S. Phillips, 3; G. Colston, 4; F. Elles, 5; C. Trevett, 6; W. Emery, 7; J. Hinton (conductor), 8. This is the first 720 in the method by G. Colston on an inside bell, and it is also the longest touch of Major on an inside bell by C. Burden and G. Colston.

BOUGHTON NR. FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Friday, June 22nd, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. E. E. Foreman, 1; *H. Foreman, 2; W. Hope, 3; *B. Ralph, 4; F. T. Harris, 5; G. A. Ransom (conductor), 6. Messrs. Foreman hail from Hern Hill; the rest belong to the local company. *First 720. This is A. Ransom's first 720 as conductor. Also on Sunday, June 24th, after afternoon service, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25½ mins. E. E. Foreman, 1; J. Burch, 2; W. Hope, 3; R. Castle, 4; *F. T. Harris (conductor), 5; G. A. Ransom, 6. *First 720 as conductor.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Monday evening, June 18th, at the parish church of St. Mary's, the local company rang six plain courses of Plain Bob Doubles, with the bells half-muffled, on the front five, with 6-7-8 covering, out of respect to the late Emperor of Germany. Thomas Collinson, 1; John Prickett, 2; George Watkins, 3; James Powell, 4; James Morley, 5; Frederick Sherman, 6; George Ellis, 7; Ambrose Hurcum, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E. This is the first half-pull ringing by the treble, 2nd, and 4th men. The bells bears the date of 1735 on the back six; on treble and 2nd, 1749. They were cast by William Evans, of Chepstow, and steps are about to be taken to have them thoroughly restored, as they are a splendid peal of bells.

DURHAM.—On Monday evening, June 18th, for practice at St. Oswald's church, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. W. G. Newton, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; J. E. Avery, 3; W. Prince, 4; J. Butterworth, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of Canterbury by all the above.

EDENSOR (Derbyshire).—On Monday, June 18th, at the parish church, 180 Plain Bob Minor, and 72 Kent Treble Bob Minor. E. Yates, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; W. J. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw, 6. The above ringers hail from Bootle and Walton, Lancashire, and they desire, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to tender their thanks to the Rector for kindly allowing them the use of the bells. Tenor 15 cwt.

ELMLEY CASTLE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, June 17th, at the parish church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 30 mins. A. Attwood, 1; H. Payne, 2; F. Potter, 3; A. Devereux, 4; E. Devereux (conductor), 5; E. Wallis, 6. The first five belong to Kemerton, and E. Wallis to Ashchurch. Tenor 20 cwt. This is supposed to be the first 720 of Minor ever rung on these bells. The ringers wish to thank the rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells.

FARNHAM (Surrey).—On Tuesday, June 19th, for practice at the parish church, a plain course of Grandsire Triples. H. White, 1; G. Gasson, 2; F. Bennett, 3; J. Jones, 4; H. Garforth, 5; F. W. J. Rees, Esq., 6; G. H. Barnett, 7; W. Grove, 8. Also 168 and 336 in the same method. A. LeClerq, 1; W. Grove, 2; F. Bennett, 3; H. White (conductor), 4; H. Garforth, 5; F. W. J. Rees, Esq., 6; G. H. Barnett, 7; T. Spredborough, 8. And a 504. H. White (conductor), 1; F. Bennett (first 500), 2; H. Garforth, 3; F. W. J. Rees, Esq., 4; G. H. Barnett, 5; C. Fry, 6; A. White, 7; H. Curtis, 8. Also a 168 (six singles). G. Gasson, 1; H. White, 2; H. Garforth, 3; A. White, 4; G. H. Barnett, 5; C. Fry, 6; G. Lindoff (conductor), 7; H. Curtis, 8. F. W. J. Rees, Esq., J. Jones, W. Grove, and F. Bennett, hail from Guildford; G. Gasson and H. White, from Basingstoke; G. Lindoff (Royal Engineers), from Aldershot; the rest are local men.

GRAVESEND (Kent).—On Saturday, June 16th, 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. D. Davis, 1; W. Lambert, 2; C. Waterman, 3; J. Broom, 4; J. W. Aitkin (conductor), 5; B. Spunner.

MILDENHALL (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, June 20th, at the parish church on the back six, 720 of Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 30 mins. G. Sharp, 1; H. B. Woolley, Esq., 2; I. Carpenter, 3; G. Flatt (conductor), 4; H. Turner, 5; G. Turner, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. in Eb.

LLANGOLLEN (North Wales).—On Saturday, June 16th, at the Parish church, several touches were rung with the bells muffled in memory of the death of the Emperor of Germany. And on Tuesday, June 19th, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. J. Evans, 1; R.

Horspool, 2; D. E. Evans, 3; Jas. Davies, 4; J. W. Davies (conductor), 5; J. W. Pany, 6; Thos. Davies, 7; W. Scott, 8. This is the first quarter-peal by all. And on Wednesday, June 20th, being the first anniversary of the bells, an attempt was made to ring a half peal of Grandsire Triples, but unfortunately came to grief after ringing 1.036 changes, through the omission of a bob at the second part end Tenor 17½ cwt. in F#.

LOWICK (Northants).—On Sunday, June 17th, for practice at St. Peter's church, a 6-score each of Grandsire, Canterbury, St. Simon's, and Old Doubles. R. Dunkley, 1; J. Guess, 2; G. March, 3; E. Curtis, 4; G. March (conductor), 5. And a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. C. Swan (conductor), 1; W. Fox, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; E. Curtis, 4; G. March, 5. *Handbell Ringing.*—At the house of Mr. G. Styles, on handbells, retained in hand, six 6-scores each of Grandsire, Bob, and St. Simon's Doubles. W. Fox, 1; C. Swan, 2; R. Dunkley (conductor), 3-4; C. Dunkley, 5-6. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles. C. Dunkley, 1; C. Swan, 2; W. Fox, 3; R. Dunkley (conductor), 4-5; H. Chapman, 6.

OLDBURY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday evening, June 23rd, after service, 504 Stedman Triples. S. Reeves (conductor), 1; T. Horton, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; W. R. Small, 4; G. Hughes, 5; R. Hall, 6; C. Price, 7; B. Starkey, 8.

OLD HILL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, June 24th, 672 Grandsire Triples. A. E. Parsons, 1; W. Bird, 2; H. Cartwright, 3; J. Palmer, 4; W. Foxall, 5; C. W. Bassano, Esq. (conductor), 6; R. Bird, 7; W. Green, 8. Also 464 Grandsire Major. W. Foxall, 1; J. Palmer, 2; H. Cartwright, 3; W. Bird, 4; H. Mason, 5; C. W. Bassano, Esq. (conductor), 6; R. Bird, 7; A. E. Parsons, 8.

READING (Berks).—On Thursday, May 31st, at St. Giles church, 720 Bob Minor. H. Bonney, 1; J. Terrent, 2; A. Evans, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; J. Potter (conductor), 5; H. Egby, 6. On Sunday, June 3rd, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, for evening service, in 25½ mins. H. Blissit, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. Evans, 3; T. Hibbert, 4; A. E. Reeves, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. On Thursday, June 7th, 360 College Single. W. Goseltine, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. Evans, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; *A. Blissit, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. *First touch in the method with an inside bell. On Saturday, June 9th, six members of this society paid a visit to Shipplake, Oxon, and rung a 720 Oxford Treble Bob and a 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Blissit, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. Evans, 3; T. Hibbert, 4; A. E. Reeves, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. Afterwards they journeyed to Wargrave, Berks., and rang a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. H. Blissit, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; H. Egby, 3; A. Evans, 4; A. E. Reeves, 5; T. Hibbert (conductor), 6.

SALISBURY.—Muffled Peal.—On Monday, June 18th, the bells of St. Thomas's church were rung half-muffled by the city ringers commencing about 12.30. The age of his late Majesty the Emperor of Germany was rung whole pull and stand, and tenor a whole pull; also 350 of Grandsire Triples. J. Short, 1; T. Blackburn (conductor), 2; Rev. A. D. Hill, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; C. A. Clements, 6; A. W. Barkus, 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. Touches of Grandsire Triples were also rung at St. Martin's in the evening. And on Sunday, June 17th, for Divine Service, the last 700 of Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples. A. P. Goddard, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; W. E. Tydeman, 6; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 7; C. A. Clements, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

SHARNBROOK (Beds).—On Friday evening, June 15th, at the parish church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. *J. Dickens, 1; L. Bell, 2; E. Coleman (aged 15 years), 3; *W. Page, 4; *A. Farrar, 5; *A. J. Burcock (conductor), 6. Also the same evening on hearing of the death of the late Emperor of Germany, several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with the bells muffled, conducted by L. Bell. E. Coleman has only learned to ring since Christmas. *Members of the Bedfordshire Association. This is the first 720 by all except the conductor.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Sunday, June 3rd, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, 560 Grandsire Triples. A. Hull, 1; J. W. Brewer, 2; E. Hull, 3; H. Brewer, 4; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; T. Waller, 7; D. Gibbons, 8. *Handbell Ringing.* On Monday, June 11th, in St. Peter's belfry, 503 Grandsire Caters. H. Lewis, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3-4; G. W. Cartmel (conductor), 5-6; E. P. Debenham, 7-8; A. Barnes, 9-10. Also 720 Bob Minor. H. Lewis, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 3-4; E. P. Debenham, 5-6. And another 720. A. Barnes, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6. *Muffled Peal.*—On Monday, June 18th, on the occasion of the funeral of the Emperor of Germany, 1064 of Grandsire Triples with the bells half-muffled, in 50 mins. W. Little, 1; J. W. Brewer, 2; E. Hull, 3; A. Barnes, 4; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; T. Waller, 7; D. Gibbons, 8. Longest touch by Messrs. Little and Brewer, and longest on a bob bell by E. Hull.

TIBENHAM (Norfolk).—On Saturday, June 22nd, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Hinchley (conductor), 1; J. Coleman, 2; J. Jackson, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; G. Websdell, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Manser (conductor), 1; J. Coleman, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; J. Hinchley, 5; G. Websdell, 6. And on Sunday, June 3rd, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor. R. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, June 17th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 180 of Stedman Triples. H. Mills, 1; W. Pardoe, 2; G. Hughes (conductor), 3; E. Goodreds, 4; A. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; W. R. Small, 7; B. Starkey, 8. Also 400 of Stedman Triples. H. Mills, 1; W. Pardoe, 2; W. R. Small, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; A. H. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; B. Starkey, 8. And 240 of Plain Bob Major. B. Starkey, 1; W. Pardoe, 2; H. Mills, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; A. H. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. R. Small, 8. Also for evening service, 408 of Stedman Triples. H. Mills, 1; W. Pardoe, 2; W. R. Small, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; A. H. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; B. Starkey, 8. And for practice on Monday night, June 18th, 408 of Stedman Triples. H. Mills, 1; W. R. Small, 2; E. Goodreds, 3; C. Price, 4; A. H. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; B. Starkey, 8. Also 180 of Stedman Triples. H. Mills, 1; W. R. Small, 2; G. Hughes (conductor), 3; A. H. Hill, 4; E. Goodreds, 5; S. Jesson, 6; C. Price, 7; B. Starkey, 8.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Friday evening, June 1st, 720 Violet Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. Yates, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; W. J. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. The above 720 contains nine bobs, and it is the first 720 in the method on the bells, which were cast in the year 1736. On Friday evening, June 1st, at St. Mary's parish church, 720 Violet Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. Yates, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; W. J. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw, 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all, also the first in the method on the bells. And on Friday evening, June 18th, 448 Plain Bob Minor. E. Yates, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; W. J. Short, 3; J. R. Pritchard, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw, 6. Also 216 Oxford Treble Bob, 120 Grandshire, 72 Kent Treble Bob, 108 Plain Bob and 180 College Single. E. Yates, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; J. R. Pritchard, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw, 6. Messrs. Yates, Short, Rushton, Barton and Bradshaw hail from Bootle; J. R. Pritchard from Liverpool; C. E. Wilson belongs to the local company. Tenor 9 cwt.

WARMLEY (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, June 16th, 720 Grandshire Minor, in 25 mins. G. Guy, 1; A. Pike, 2; W. Tiley, 3; J. H. Shepherd, 4; J. Bawn (conductor), 5; A. Bawn, 6. First 720 on the bells, and the first by J. H. Shepherd.

WHICKHAM (Durham).—On Monday evening, June 4th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. H. Ferguson, 1; E. Wallis, 2; F. Lees, 3; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. G. Routledge, 5; W. Story, 6. Tenor 10 cwt. This 720 contains 15 bobs.

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 REJOINDER.

SIR,—In reply to "A Ringer's Wife" and "A Ringer's Daughter" allow me to state that women are a great hindrance to change-ringing, and worse even than that. I frequently see men leave the tower, after ringing on Sundays, and go home, instead of into church, simply because through bad management, their wives want them at home. And as for the young ladies, I think the selfishness is all on their side, as ringers seldom devote more than one or two evenings a week to ringing, and those should not be evenings on which to arrange a walk, as there is a time for everything, and I think it quite unnecessary for a young lady to be waiting for her beau outside the tower on practice-nights. Many a time have I known, when starting for a peal and failing after an hour or so, we might have commenced again but for the fact that one of the band had to meet his sweetheart at a certain hour. And I have known a steeple-keeper close a tower half-an-hour before the usual time because his wife wanted him at home earlier. It is needless to trespass further upon your space, but pages could be filled with proofs that most women are against ringing, and jealous of the Exercise wherein they cannot appear conspicuous. My experience of ringers is that they attend as much or more to domestic affairs as they do to ringing.

JAMES'S CHURCH.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

On Thursday, June 21st, the 77th anniversary of the augmentation of the two new trebles of the beautiful church of SS. Peter and Paul was held. Ringing commenced early in the morning, and was kept up at intervals during the day by visitors from Sudbury, Long Melford, Preston, Monks Eleigh, Bury and Framlingham. At half-past one o'clock the ringers and choristers sat down to an excellent hot dinner, supplied by Host Wells, of the "Cock Inn." The expenses of the dinner were defrayed by the Rev. E. Symonds, the esteemed curate, who left the parish on Monday, June 18th, after 5½ years faithful service. The longest day was his wedding day.

Mr. R. W. Roper, who is chosen in the place of Mr. Symonds as Treasurer and Secretary of the Lavenham Society, took the chair, the vice-chair being occupied by Mr. Corbetta, organist. The Chairman was supported by Mr. Varley, M.D., Mr. Bocock and others. After ample justice had been done to the dinner, and the cloth removed, Mr. Roper proposed the Health of the Queen and Royal Family, which was duly honoured. He also proposed the toast of the day, viz.: the Health of the Rev. E. Symonds. He said it did not need any words from him to say in what esteem Mr. Symonds was held by all the parishioners, but he truly hoped the loss Lavenham had sustained by his removal, would be the gain to the parish he would soon work in. He, the chairman, wished success to the local company, and to every lover of the art.

Mr. CORBETTA rose to propose the Health of the Chairman, which was drunk with loud applause. He also spoke in high terms of Mr. Symonds. They all knew he was a most agreeable gentleman, a great favourite, and most kind-hearted. He also considered he was a real Christian and a servant of God, and as he was a servant of God he was bound to treat all his fellow creatures with the greatest consideration, and he was very careful he did not, to use a common phrase, tread on anybody's toes, and was one who never said an unkind word to anyone, or did anything likely to produce illfeelings in others. He, Mr. Corbetta, also remarked that Mr. Symonds was quite an enthusiast in campanology, and characterised the Lavenham belfry as one of the best conducted in the kingdom. It was his great delight to be amongst the ringers, and was never tired of practising with them.

The toast was musically honoured, one more cheer being given for Mrs. Symonds.

Mr. F. TURNER then rose to propose the health of the vice-chairman, and the local company and visitors, which was duly honoured. He said it afforded him great pleasure to be present and to propose the health of the visitors. He also spoke in high terms of the well-struck peal of Grandshire Triples, which thrilled him with pleasure and happiness as he listened to the peal rung at Lavenham, on March 3rd, 1888.

At the same time five of the St. Peter's Society arrived with a grand peal tablet, recording the same in black and gold, and was erected in the tower the same evening, a well-struck touch of 504 Grandshire Triples being rung on the occasion.

The company wish to thank the Rev. E. Symonds for his kindness towards them, and they wish him long life and prosperity. Mr. A. Symonds wishes to tender him his sincere thanks for presenting him with the Shipway Reprint, Hubbard's Elements of Campanology, Osborne's ms., and Snowdon's Standard Methods.

ST. PETER'S, WOKING, SURREY.

Some of the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" may care to read an account of the rehanging of a ring of bells in this old parish church, and of the revival of change-ringing in a belfry where the art had, probably for many years, been unknown.

Till the end of last year, in fact, change-ringing was an impossibility in the belfry, as the bells had been so long neglected that it required two men to ring both the tenor and the fifth, and the metal bearings of the tenor were completely worn away so that the bell actually rested, on one side at least, on the bare wood. The beams were also in places so rotten that the bells could not be safely rung, and nothing more than chiming was done for two or three years. However, last year, at the expense of two of the oldest inhabitants, the bells were rehung, and the tenor, which was badly cracked, was re-cast by Messrs. Warner and Sons. The history of the bells can be learned partly from

the inscriptions, partly from the churchwardens' accounts for the year 1684, which are still preserved in the parish chest. The paper on which they are written is brown with age, and the writing is rendered difficult to decipher, not merely by the difference in spelling, but by the great difference in the form of the letters from those now usually made. It appears that five of the bells, as they hung till last year, were cast or re-cast in 1684; but number 4 was cast, or more probably re-cast, in 1766. The founder, whose name or initials appears on five of the old bells, was William Eldridge, of Chertsey. The tenor was very badly cracked; in fact it is almost to be wondered that it did not break in pieces, as a crack more than two feet long extended across the crown of the bell from shoulder to shoulder.

The following is a copy of the old inscription on the bells:—

- Nos. 1.)
 2.) William Eldridge made mee 1864, R.B., I.F.
 3.)
 4.) I.F., 1766.
 5.) William Eldridge made mee 1684, R.B., I.F., Churchwardens.
 6.) W. E., 1864: John Merest, Vicar; Richard Bird, John Freeland, Churchwardens.

The new inscription on the Tenor, re-cast in 1887, consists of a repetition of the old inscription, set out above, with the following addition:—

"John Warner & Sons, recast me, 1887.
 Frederick J. Oliphant, Vicar.
 Francis Wilson } Churchwardens.
 Walter C. Ryde }

"O my God, let thine ears be attent unto the prayer that is made in this place."

The following is an exact copy of the accounts for 1864:—

"An account of the Disbursements of the Year, 1684, By Richard Bird, one of the Churchwardens.			
John Mathew going for Udal	...	...	0 1 0
Paid unto John Davy for Drink when the Bells wear carried away	...	...	0 0 6
Laid out at Chersey when we waied the Bells	...	...	0 5 0
Gin, Eldridge Men...	...	...	0 0 6
Gin, Udal's Men	...	...	0 0 6
Laid out when we fetcht the Bells from Chertsey	...	...	0 4 8
Gin, Udal's Men	...	...	0 0 6
Paid to Tho. Sunans for bear that Thomas Howard had	...	...	0 0 6
Paid unto Henery Bedford for Drink when the Bells weare hanged	...	...	0 2 6
Laid out upon Chobham Ringers	...	...	0 7 0
Paid unto Udal for hanging the Bells and newmaking the Staires	...	...	12 2 6
When I paid laid out	...	...	0 0 6
Laid out with Eldridge	...	...	0 1 0
Paid unto Proctor Lee	...	...	0 2 6
Paid unto Eldridge towards casting the Bells...	...	...	20 0 0
When I paid him Laid out	...	...	0 3 6
Paid unto Henery Burt for beating the hoal in the Steepel	...	...	0 2 6
Paid unto William Chouney for helping of him	...	...	0 1 0
Paid unto William Harvest for going to Udal	...	...	0 1 0
Paid for a set of Bell ropes and one odd one...	...	...	1 4 6
Paid Goody Davy for Udal's Diet	...	...	0 11 6
Paid Eldridge moore towards casting the Bells	...	...	12 15 6
Laid out when we paid him	...	...	0 1 6
Paid Mr. Young for oyle	...	...	0 3 6
Paid unto Henery Bedford for Drink on the King's Crownasion day	...	...	0 5 0
Paid Goodman Harvest for one day's journey for carrying part of the Bells	...	...	0 5 0
Paid more unto Goodman Harvest for three and thirty foot of board	...	...	0 4 0
Paid unto him for Lether for the Batricke	...	...	0 2 3
For my owne part carrying the Bells	...	...	0 5 0
Paid unto James Read for tiles an Lime for the Church	...	...	0 3 0
Paid Will Bird one the 29th of May for beare for the Ringers	...	...	0 5 0
Paid unto James Lee for mending the Bells wheals	...	...	0 3 0
Paid Joseph Love for five Bell Ropes	...	...	0 14 10
The work done in 1684, the charges for which are set out in			

these accounts, deserves both praise and blame. If, as is most probable, the old timbers used in 1684, were still in the tower in 1887, we are bound to say that the builder chose the wood well; for except where the rain had driven in the beams were as sound and strong as ever. But in many places, corners had been rounded off, and great pieces cut away, apparently to leave room for a way out on to the roof of the tower, or perhaps to allow the fourth bell to be taken down in order to be recast in 1766. Moreover, the bells were hung one above another in such a manner that, in order to allow of their being swung, great holes in the walls of the tower had to be scooped out, to the depth of nearly two feet. These holes are now filled up, and we can only say that the Churchwardens of 1684 who "paid unto Henery Burt for beating the hoal in the Steepel 2s. 6d." and "paid unto William Chouney for helping of him, 1s.," laid out their money badly.

The men of 1684 seem to have been very thirsty people, for beside the numerous entries "for drink," "gin," and "beare," we find a mysterious entry of money "laid out," which probably means "refreshments" accompanying nearly every transaction. We find 5s. paid "on the 29th of May for beare for the ringers," and "the King's Crownasion day" was celebrated in like manner. The King in question was of course Charles II., and May 29th was his birthday, and also the anniversary of his entry into London in 1660, after the death of Oliver Cromwell. The entry of 7s. "laid out upon Chobham ringers" is explained by the fact that the treble bell in Chobham church, not many miles away was also cast in 1684, and bears the initials W.E., so that William Eldridge seems to have cast bells in the same year for both Woking and Chobham. If so, nothing is more likely than that the ringers of each village should visit the other's belfry.

So much for the past; for the present, we may say that Messrs. Warner and Sons' work has been very successful. The bells are now all hung on one level; the tenor of 21 cwt. can be rung by one man more easily than formerly by two, and, for occasions when a sufficient number of ringers cannot be present, a chiming apparatus has been erected. Lastly, a few words as to the ringers. In 1887, when the bells were being rehung, from circumstances which it is unnecessary to enlarge upon, nearly all the old ringers declined to continue in their office. The bells were rung for the first time after being rehung on Christmas Eve, 1887, and when in the first week of 1888, the nine newly-appointed ringers met for the first time in the belfry to practise with the clappers tied, the prospect was not so hopeful. Four at least had not handled a bell; one man understood call changes, only one the mysteries of half-pull; the rest had not skill enough to ring rounds. Practice however went on steadily, and by Sunday, June 24th, with the assistance of two ringers from Betchworth, several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung in the afternoon by F. Arnold, 1; Frank Arnold, 2; C. B. Ryde, 3; F. C. Ryde, 4; R. Arnold, 5; A. Saunders, 6. And for evening service 120 of Grandsire Doubles. Fred. Arnold, 1; W. C. Ryde, 2; C. B. Ryde, 3; F. Arnold, 4; R. Arnold, 5; A. Saunders, 6. Also by F. Arnold, 1; W. C. Ryde, 2; C. B. Ryde, 2; F. C. Ryde, 4; R. Arnold, 5; A. Saunders, 6. Of the last band all except the fifth were Woking ringers, and of those all except the treble had not rung 120 changes before that day, and three had learnt to ring since the New Year. The Woking ringers are indebted to the Betchworth ringers, Messrs. F. and R. Arnold, for their assistance, which could not have been given at a more opportune moment. As far as can be learned, even this small feat of ringing 120 changes has not been attempted in the Woking belfry within the memory of man.

Among the long peals recorded in "THE BELL NEWS," short touches like these appear insignificant. This record however is not meant to show how much has been done, but how much has been aimed at. It is at any rate something to make a beginning, and the Woking ringers have the satisfaction of knowing that they will leave matters in the belfry better than they found them. Good bells, in good order, want good ringers and good ringing. The ringers must go on as they have begun, but must remember that they are only beginning. If they do not want the bells to get into the old bad state again, they must remember that good order in the ringing chamber is the best means to ensure good order overhead.

WALTER C. RYDE,
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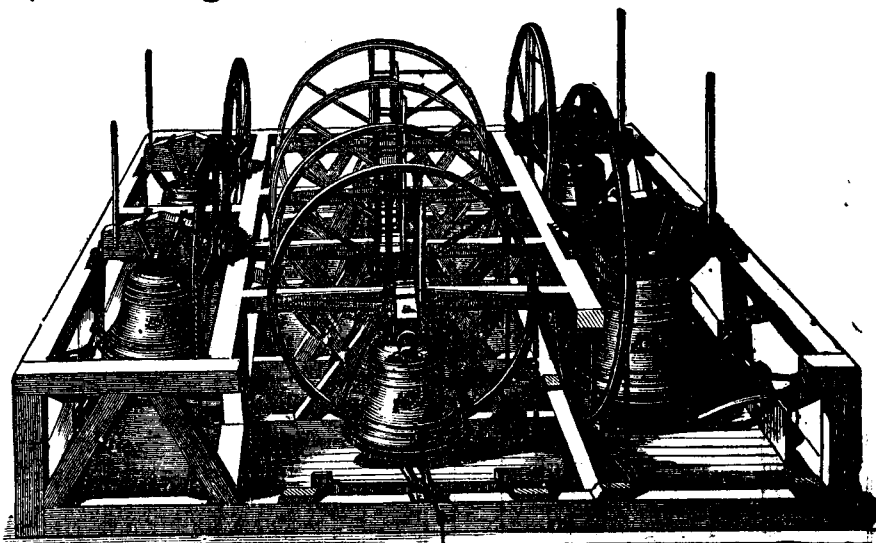
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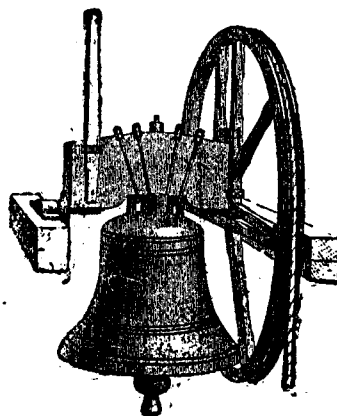
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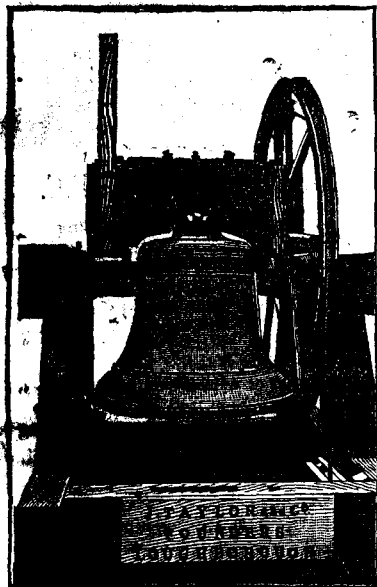
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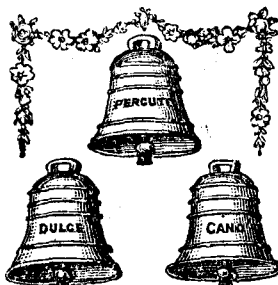
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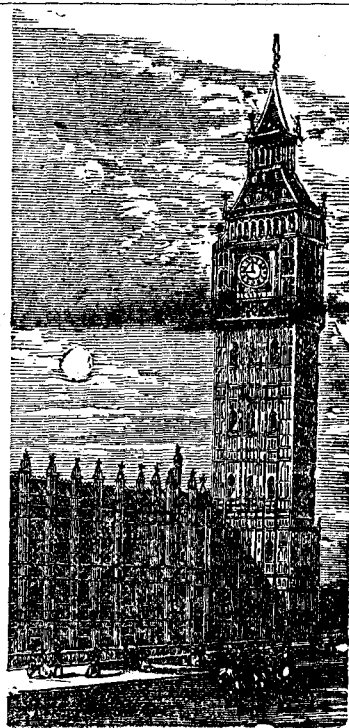
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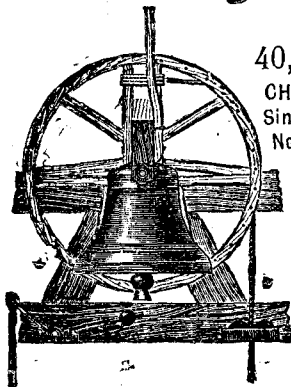
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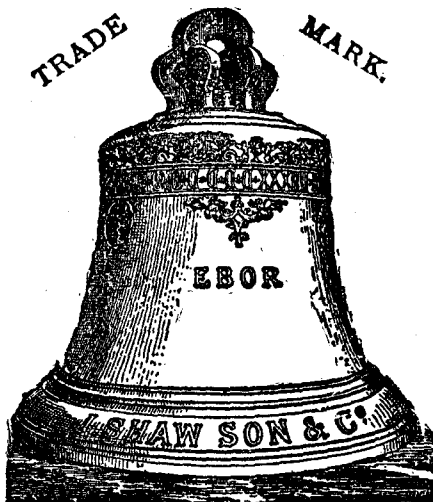
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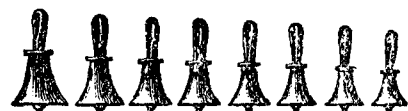
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RESTORATION OF BELLS AT SWEFFLING CHURCH, SUFFOLK.

The restoration of Sweffling Church is being steadily proceeded with, and as long as the present energetic Rector, the Rev. Richard Peek, is spared to preside over the parish, the good work will be carried on until the last remaining eyesore, the old gallery which disfigures the west end, is demolished, and the whole interior brought into accordance with modern taste. It is not yet six years since Mr. Peek became incumbent, but during that time he has effected an immense improvement in the little house of God placed under his care. He found it in a dilapidated state, and at once set to work, with a result that a new roof was made, the old "horse-box" pews were replaced with more comfortable and convenient modern benches, a new American organ (presented by the widow of the late Rector) was substituted for the old harmonium, and several other improvements were effected, the church being reopened on September 13th, 1883, when the sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Bulstrode, of St. Mary Stoke, Ipswich. Since that time several additions have been made to the fittings. The Rector has in his wife an invaluable helpmate, who takes up many departments of parish work which he of necessity cannot deal with. She presides over the parish working party, and in consequence of the labours of ladies forming it, a new lectern has been fixed, gifts of various kinds have been made, and they are gradually going on towards a complete renovation and restoration.

Nearly three years ago Mr. Peek's attention was drawn to the deplorable state of the bells, and with indefatigable zeal he promptly took up his new project, and £60 was raised by means of a bazaar held about two years ago. At that time the peal consisted of five bells. The tenor bore the following inscription: "Thomas Gardener, of Benhall, fecit, 1716." The fourth was made by the same man and bore a similar inscription, the third was cast by T. Mears and Son, London, 1831, and this firm also made the second, which bears no date, and the first was made by Thomas Gardener. Messrs. Day and Son were instructed to do the necessary work, and were at the same time entrusted with a further and more interesting commission. This was the founding of a new treble bell, to be hung with the peal as a permanent memorial of the Jubilee year of the Queen's reign. This, though only recently hung, was cast within the Jubilee year. It bears the following inscription:—"Cast by John Warner and Sons, London, 1887. Jubilee Bell. Rev. R. Peek, M.A., Rector. Hung by G. Day and Son, Eye." The bells have been hung upon a new English oak frame on the best and most modern principles with new stocks, wheels, &c. They have been turned upon the new stocks, so that the clappers strike in an opposite direction to that in which they previously worked, and the worn side of the bells are thus relieved. New clappers have also been supplied with reversible crown staples passing direct to the crown of the bells and screwing on the top of the stocks. They have been supplied to new cast iron bell carriages with gudgeons of Lowmoor iron, and turned in the stock. The frame is differently made from the old ones formerly in use, being strengthened by diagonal braces, and the bells counteracting one another in their swing, thus lessening the strain on the frame and the oscillation of the whole structure.

The re-opening ceremony took place on June 21st, that being the anniversary of Jubilee Day. After the chill weather experienced within the last few days it was hardly expected that the day would be so bright and warm as was that memorable week last year, but the morning was a pleasant surprise, the sky being clear and the sun shining down with unexpected power, causing many to think of the time twelve months ago when they were enjoying a right royal feed in honour of the Jubilee. There is a decided freemasonry among ringers, any event of this kind being seized as an opportunity for a general gathering of all interested in the pastime within a reasonable distance of the church. This was the case on Thursday, when not only was there present the genial hon. secretary and treasurer of the Norwich Diocesan Association (the Rev. N. Bolingbroke), but also contingents of ringers from Framlingham, Eye, Saxmundham, Aldeburgh, Rendham, Kelsale, Benhall, Weybread, and Earl Soham. The Weybread representative was Capt. A. P. Moore, a veteran of 46 years' experience in bell ringing, and amongst the others were some of equal, if not longer standing. Ringing, to outsiders, appears to be a species of craze, and

voluntaries of the craft lose no opportunity of exercising their skill. The newly re-hung peal—which is a very musical one with the tenor in the key of A—was in active use during the morning, but ringers are but mortal, and at 1.30 p.m. most of them were to be found round the tempting-looking luncheon-table at the White Horse Inn. There the churchwarden of the parish (Mr. Richbell) occupied the chair, Mr. George Day being the vice. Just as the meal was concluded, the rector, accompanied by the Rev. N. Bolingbroke and Captain Moore, arrived, and was at once placed in the chair, Mr. Richbell moving down to the vice, where he was supported by the Rev. N. Bolingbroke.

Having furnished the guests with cigars, The Rector apologised for his ignorance regarding bell-ringing, saying it was not until he had begun to take an interest in parochial work at Sweffling that he discovered that there was any difference between ringing and chiming, but when he received a report three years ago from some of the ringers that the church bells were in a most dilapidated and miserable state, he at once set to work to get contributions for what they had now brought to a successful issue. They first obtained about £40 from a bazaar: that sum had been raised by small subscriptions to £60, which had been safely deposited at Messrs. Gurney's Bank at Saxmundham, and he hoped more would be added to it by their services that day. He hoped he should not be considered as having very bad taste, but he must confess that up to the present his sympathies were with chiming rather than with ringing, because he found that in the majority of cases ringing was done on week days, whereas chiming was done on Sunday. They must not forget that the object of having bells in bells in God's House was to call God's people to His worship, and as he had found that chiming was one on Sundays they would forgive him for his sympathy with chiming.

Mr. FRANK COOPER (Aldeburgh) said the art of ringing was far higher than that of chiming, and he was sure the Rector had men about him who would ring the people to church.

The CHAIRMAN proposed "The Health of the Queen," briefly touching upon the lamented death of the Emperor of Germany. The toast was then drunk and the National Anthem sung.

The company then adjourned to the church, and the bells were rung again. Hard by the churchyard is the rectory, which is one of the most charming country residence to be found anywhere in Suffolk. The interior of the church had been decorated with great taste with bouquets of flowers. The surpliced clergy present were the Rector, the Rev. N. Bolingbroke (vicar of St. Etheldreda with St. Peter's, Southgate, Norwich), the Rev. J. H. Pilkington (Framlingham), the Rev. A. Washington (Saxmundham), the Rev. — Hooper (Little Glemham), the Rev. B. G. Moffatt (Snape), the Rev. C. A. Sinclair (Monewden), the Rev. G. I. Davies (Kelsale). The first part of the service was intoned by the Rev. G. H. Pilkington, the first lesson was read by the Rector, and the second by the Rev. A. Washington, and the Rev. G. I. Davies concluded the prayers. The choir very creditably intoned the responses, chanted the special Psalms 29 and 150, and the "Magnificat" and "Nunc Dimittis," and sung the four special hymns provided, Miss Wright presiding at the organ. The Rev. N. Bolingbroke took for his text Joshua iv., 6, "What mean ye by these stones?" He said:—

The event to which the text referred shewed that God had sanctioned the setting up of material things and dedicating them as memorials of His great might and goodness. As the church in which they stood was a memorial of the piety of their forefathers and of their belief in the religion which they professed, so the bells should be to them what the stones set up by Jordan were to the chosen people—solemn memorials of great truths and great events, and bringing a distinct message, should have their distinct uses. If not, they would be mere senseless pieces of furniture, mere expensive toys, and the ringers would justly deserve the rebuke often given them—that they only care for the bells so long as they amused them and gratified their vanity by long performances of change-ringing. Their old bells had been solemnly and reverently replaced, and they asked God that day to accept them as His, and cause them to fulfil their mission. What a happy and blessed thing it would be if all men regarded the signal given by the bells, and went to God's house, acknowledged Him, sang His high praises, heard His Holy Word, prayed to Him, and returned to the world refreshed, strengthened, and more prepared for the battle of life. Many other missions bells had to perform, and in all they said "Let all the people of the earth know the hand of the Lord that it is mighty. Therefore fear the Lord your God for ever." The bell they especially dedicated that day was a memorial of a great historical event—the Jubilee of Her

Majesty Queen Victoria—and as long as it lasted it would tell generation after generation that God has been gracious to this nation in that He has preserved to us a good Queen for fifty years, during which benefits had been showered on all classes. How different was the state of affairs now from what it was that day twelve months. Then all was brightness and joy, and among that sovereigns and princes and grandees who came to pay honour to our Queen, the most prominent figure was that of her noble son-in-law, then Crown Prince of Germany. Now he was no more. Three short days ago he was laid in his last resting-place—an Emperor who never reigned—and our Royal family was in sorrow and mourning. Let that Jubilee bell remind them to be as good and manly and true as the Emperor was, and to use his own words, "to learn to suffer and not complain." If that was the case, these bells would not have been hung in vain. The reverend gentleman concluded with an appeal for assistance to the bell fund.

The Rector pronounced the Benediction.

After the service the bells were rung in various methods, and those enthusiasts who could not get a place in the belfry adjourned to the "White Horse" and performed upon hand-bells.

RINGERS' OUTING.

On Saturday, 30th June, the ringers of St. John's Church, Deptford, held their Annual Excursion, Brighton being the place selected. Starting from New Cross at 8.35, Brighton was reached at 10.20.

After partaking of some refreshments, a start was made for St. Nicholas' Church, where they were met by Mr. Boniface, Hon. Sec. of the St. Nicholas Society, and conducted to the tower, and there rang a few touches, arranging for a quarter-peal in the afternoon. A move was then made for St. Peter's Church, where arrangements had been made for an hour's ringing, a Flower Show being held in the church grounds, close by. Here they were met by Mr. G. F. Attree, Hon. Sec. of the Sussex Association, and Mr. J. Jay, steeple keeper, and conducted to the tower. After enjoying an hour's ringing on the peal of eight, tenor 10½ cwt, the ringers sat down to dinner at the "White Eagle" after which various amusements were indulged in, some visiting the aquarium, others having a trip on the water. Four o'clock being the time arranged for another pull at St. Nicholas Church, here they were met by Messrs. Boniface, W. Palmer, and J. Searle, and a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was brought round in forty-five minutes, the ringers standing as follows:—J. Rose, 1; W. Palmer, 2; H. Boniface, 3; J. Searle, 4; W. Weatherstone, (conductor) 5; J. Laws, 6; W. Bedwell, 7; W. Jeffries, 8.

The homeward journey commenced at 7.20 p.m., New Cross being reached at 8.50, all having spent a most enjoyable day.

The ringers wish through "THE BELL NEWS" to thank their Brighton friends for having arranged the ringing at St. Nicholas' and St. Peter's, which added greatly to the enjoyment of all.

ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.

On Saturday evening, June 23rd, the following members accepted the kind invitation of the Rev. J. B. Seaman, to visit him at Parkside, the residence of the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Turnock, (whose place the rev. gentleman is filling during the Vicar's absence from Ipswich), for the purpose of ringing upon the splendid peal of handbells presented to him upon his resigning the Hon. Secretaryship of the Essex Association. After partaking of the excellent repast provided in the dining-room, they adjourned to the hall, and rang courses of Grandsire Cinques and Plain Bob Maximus, three leads of Kent Treble Maximus, and one course of Grandsire Triples; Cinques—W. Motts, 1-2; P. Hawes, 3-4; J. Motts, 5-6; A. Durrant, 7-8; W. L. Catchpole, 9-10; W. P. Garrett, 11-12. Plain Bob. first four as before: W. P. Garrett, 9-10; S. Tillett, 11-12. Grandsire Triples—S. Tillett, 1-2; J. Motts, 3-4; W. P. Garrett, 5-6; W. L. Catchpole, 7-8. Upon parting, the Rev. J. B. Seaman hoped that the repairs to the tower would be finished soon enough for him to hear the twelve before he left Ipswich, as they have not been rung for the last six weeks.

A REQUEST.—"Dodger" writes: "Can any of your readers give a list of the various 'record' peals which have been rung from time to time, with dates, and as far as possible, other particulars?"

RINGING IN LIVERSEDGE.—IN THE PARISH CHURCH BELFRY.

In connection with the bells which ring out so sweetly from the belfry of the Liversedge parish church, there is much that is interesting, and the idea struck me the other day, whilst in company with a Liversedge gentleman, that a short article on local campanology would not be out of place. There are many people in Liversedge who are either ardent followers of the art, or are interested in it; and it was with a desire to write something for their special benefit, and place on record facts which are not generally known, that actuated me to pay a visit to the belfry the other day when a peal was being rung. After ascending with some little difficulty the spiral and shadowy staircase which leads to the belfry, I found myself in the company of the ringers, and was afterwards shown the way up to the bells. The sensation which one experiences on being ushered into a belfry for the first time is somewhat peculiar. A semi-dark room, in which a number of bells, mouth upwards, are fixed in various positions, occupying so much of the area of the floor that there is scarcely room for one to stand, is a sight to be remembered; but the effect is considerably heightened when those bells begin tumbling about in apparent confusion, and discoursing music which though extremely loud is peculiarly sweet. It was to me a unique experience, and I was astonished to see a sparrow fly into the place whilst the noise was at its height, and after fluttering over the bells take refuge in the roof. I have heard of a deaf and dumb man being taken into the belfry and being so startled with the effect that he could not be persuaded to remain in the place.

The bells are eight in number, and their total weight is 63cwts. and 3 lbs. the tenor weighing 15 cwts. They are celebrated for their rich musical tone, and the Vicar, to whom I am indebted for some of these particulars, tells me that not a few bell founders have examined them and endeavoured to make a peal of the same weight which should be equal in tone, but their attempts have not been altogether successful. The bells were made of brass ordnance taken at Genoa by British heroes—Lord Exmouth and Lord W. Bentinck—and probably owe their tone to a peculiar alloy which is eminently suitable for the purpose, but the constitution of which is unknown. It was at a meeting of the principal inhabitants of the township held December 30th, 1813, that the proposal to put a clock and a peal of bells in the church steeple was first mooted; and according to a circular issued by the late Reverend Hammond Robertson, in February of the following year, the proposal was very favourably received, "it being the unanimous and strongly expressed opinion of the meeting that the very favourable turn which it had pleased Almighty God to give to national affairs called for gratitude from every heart, and for some united public expression of feeling by acts of public munificence." A subscription list for a clock and a peal of bells was opened, and £685 os. 6d. was raised for bells, out of which the peal was purchased and hung. The bells were ordered on the 29th September, 1814, the contract being entrusted to Mr. Dobson, of Downham Market, Norfolk. The first peal was rung on the 12th July, 1815, if I am rightly informed, the church being opened the year following. The bells bear the following inscriptions;—(1) Fear God and honour the King; (2) Let us sing praises unto the Lord most high; (3) This peal of bells was erected by subscription; (4) William Dobson, founder, Norfolk, 1815; (5) Regnat Deus 1815, William Dobson, Downham, Norfolk. fecit; (6) My song shall be always of the loving kindness of the Lord; (7) These eight bells were cast in 1814 and 1815 with brass ordnance taken at Genoa; (8) Dejectus Tyrannus, Europa liberata, Pax jam annos xx optata, conventa, Laus Deo, 1814—The tyrant cast down, Europe delivered, peace desired for now twenty years agreed upon. Praise to God.

And now for a word about the ringers. They are necessarily men possessed of physical endurance, strong in the arm, and steady in the head. The art of bell-ringing is one which is only acquired by patience and perseverance. It is no easy matter to stand for five or six hours—as the company have done more than once—and ring a peal of several thousand changes. The strain upon the men, both physically and mentally, must be trying in the extreme; and the man must have given his whole mind to the work who will perseveringly practice for nine or twelve months in order to master one peal, and then endure the hardships which its performance necessitates. On one occasion

when the men were ringing for nearly six hours at a stretch, without being able to leave their ropes, they were sustained by means of figs soaked in rum, which were administered to them at intervals by a man appointed for the purpose. Some of the feats which been performed upon the bells are recorded in the belfry, and with these and others which have been supplied to me I will conclude this portion of my article. The records of extraordinary change-ringing which are tabulated in the belfry date back to 1837. From that date to 1843, the company of ringers comprised James Firth (conductor), treble; George Greaves, second; Obadiah Lang, third; Frederick Goodall, fourth; Richard Firth, fifth; William Firth, sixth; John Firth, seventh; John Barker, tenor; and within the period of six years they rung the following peals:—

"May 24th, 1837, 6048 changes of Albion Surprise Major, in 3 hours and 26 minutes; April 16th, 1838, 5600 changes of Cumberland Exercise, in 3 hours and 13 minutes; January 1st, 1841, 10,208 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 5 hours and 46 minutes; May 25th, 1841, 6720 changes of six different peals, in 3 hours and 53 minutes, viz.: London Treble Bob, Cumberland Exercise, Albion Surprise Major, Oxford Treble Bob, New Treble Bob, and Bob Major; November 5th 1842, 5040 changes of Treble Bob Trebles, in 2 hours and 48 minutes; May 29th, 1843, 5056 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 2 hours and 55 minutes, composed by James Firth."

Another tablet which is placed in the belfry records the fact that

"On Saturday, October 3rd, 1863, the following company rung on the peal of bells at this church a complete peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5184 changes, in 3 hours and 8 minutes, without the bobs being called—the greatest feat in the art of conducting ever performed by any party of ringers upon eight bells—and was witnessed by Mr. William Sottanstill, of Sowerby, who composed the peal, and Mr. William Preston, of Earlsheaton:—J. G. Holroyd, Halifax, treble; G. Clay, Huddersfield, second; O. Lang, Liversedge, third; W. Goodall, Liversedge, fourth; J. Illingworth, Liversedge, fifth; J. Lodge, Heckmondwike, sixth; J. Collins, Huddersfield, seventh; T. Haigh, Huddersfield, tenor."

A third tablet records the following:—

"On Saturday, October 26th, 1867, the following company (all of Liversedge) rung on these bells a true peal of Cumberland Exercise, consisting of 6240 changes in 3 hours and 42 minutes:—O. Lang, treble; W. Firth, second; T. Lang, third; S. Goodall, fourth; J. W. Lang, fifth; J. Goodall, sixth; J. Illingworth, seventh; W. Goodall, tenor; conducted by W. Goodall. On Monday, April 10th, 1871, the following company rang on these bells a true peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 10,272 changes in 5 hours and 58 minutes (the longest peal ever rung on the bells):—J. Whitworth, treble; J. Knott, second; J. W. Lang, third; T. North, fourth; C. W. Clegg (Huddersfield), fifth; M. Ramsden, sixth; J. Illingworth, seventh; W. Collins, tenor; conducted by J. Illingworth. On Saturday, November 15th, 1873, the following company rang on these bells a true peal of Kent Treble Major, consisting of 8,544 changes, in 5 hours:—J. Stead (Huddersfield), treble; J. Knott (Liversedge), second; J. W. Lang (Liversedge), third; G. Clay (Huddersfield), fourth; C. W. Clegg (Huddersfield), fifth; M. Ramsden (Liversedge), sixth; J. Illingworth (Liversedge), seventh; W. Collins (Liversedge), tenor; conducted by J. Illingworth. The above three peals were composed by W. Sottanstill, of Sowerby."

In addition to the above, the following peals are worthy of record:—

"On Saturday, December 31st, 1887, a peal of Cumberland Exercise Major (jubilee peal), consisting of 6,720 changes, was rung in 4 hours and 3 minutes by the following:—J. W. Lang, treble; J. Knott, second; A. Briggs, third; S. Goodall, fourth; H. Brooke, fifth; M. Ramsden, sixth; L. Illingworth, seventh; W. Collins, tenor. This was composed by Mr. Sottanstill, and was the third peal of Cumberland that had been rung by Liversedge men. On Sunday, November 5th, 1847, a peal of 5040 changes of Grandsire trebles (Holt's original) was rung in 2 hours and 57 minutes by James Firth, treble; George Greaves, senior, 2nd; Obadiah Lang, 3rd; Frederick Goodall, 4th; John Illingworth, 5th; Martin Barber, 6th; John Barker, 7th; John Firth, tenor; James Firth, conductor.—On December 21st, 1852, a peal of 5024 changes of London Treble Bob was rung by J. Firth, treble; J. Hartley, 2nd; O. Lang, 3rd; W. Goodall, 4th; S. Blackburn, 5th; M. Barber, 6th; J. Illingworth, 7th; J. Barker, tenor; James Firth, conductor. The Rose of England peal, consisting of 5024 changes, was rung on January 12th, 1857 (the first attempt) in 2 hours and 58 minutes, and "Prince Albert," 5120 changes, was rung on April 15th, 1859, in 2 hours and 56 minutes, by a company who had rung twelve different methods previously. Last Saturday, "Violet

Major," consisting of 5,056 changes, was rung in 3 hours and 6 minutes, by the following:—John W. Lang, treble; James Knott, second; Arthur Briggs, third; Sydney Goodall, fourth; Henry Brooke, fifth; M. Ramsden, sixth; Luke Illingworth, seventh; William Collins, tenor. The peal was composed by Mr. William Sottanstill, and conducted by Mr. Luke Illingworth, and had not been rung at Liversedge previously."

The Liversedge Albert Prize Handbell Ringers, who organised themselves in 1876, have so far had a prosperous career. Commencing with 25 bells they have now 147, which are all the property of the society, and have cost close upon £100. In change-ringing contests the men have taken twenty first prizes, three seconds, and seven thirds; and in tune ringing contests six firsts, three seconds, and one third.—*From the Cleckheaton Guardian.*

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

A very pleasant evening was arranged by the ringers of Bridgnorth, on Saturday, June 16th, as a farewell to the instructor of the Guild, who left for Ross on the 18th. The two peals of bells in the town, St. Mary's and St. Leonard's were ringing at intervals from 6.30 to 7.30, and an adjournment at 8 o'clock was made to the Old Castle, where the remainder of the evening was spent in harmony. Some tunes and changes on handbells was rung, and a few suitable songs well sung. The following is a list of the members present, including some of the older hands since resigned: H. Fowles, J. Crockford, H. Jones, E. Higgs, J. Overton, T. Overton, W. Deague, J. Trevor, R. Roberts, A. Farr, H. Drake, T. Evans, E. Hall, V. Coates, W. Criddeford, J. Jones, and W. Rickhuss.

THE WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A ringing meeting of this Association will take place at Chaddesley Corbett, near Kidderminster, on Saturday, July 14th, to which all members and friends are invited. The tower will be open at any time during the day for ringing. A meat tea will be provided at one shilling per head at the Swan Hotel, for those only who forward their names on or before Tuesday, July 10th, to
JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.
37 Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held at Grimsby, on Saturday, July 7th, when members of kindred Associations and friends interested in change-ringing are invited to be present. A meat tea will be provided at 1s. 3d. each commencing immediately after the meeting. The churchwardens have kindly granted the use of the bells at St. James' and St. Andrew's (both beautiful peals of eight). All communications to be addressed to J. HACKNEY, 4, Mill Street, Market Rasen. Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*

ST. NICHOLAS SOCIETY, BRIGHTON.

The members of the above will have their Annual Outing on Saturday, July 7th, at Bletchingley, Surrey, three miles from Redhill Station. Any ringing friends will be heartily welcomed. Those desirous of dining with the members can do so by sending to the undersigned not later than the Tuesday previous. Dinner tickets three shillings each.
H. BONIFACE, Sec.
1 Hampton Street, Brighton.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

A Committee Meeting of the above Association at the Church Room, Stoke, this day (Saturday), July 7th, at 4.30 p.m.
W. J. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. J. M. Hayes has removed from No. 66, to No. 27, Hanover Street, Pimlico. Correspondents please note this change.

RINGERS' PICNIC.

On Thursday, June 28th, being Coronation Day, the ringers of St. Mary's Church, Twyford, Hants, had their annual outing at the expense and kind invitation of the Rev. C. Buston, of Deane, who, though not in the place, still takes a lively interest in the welfare of his late respected father's parishioners. The weather was beautifully fine to start with, but very showery the rest of the day. The start was made by the 8.32 from Shawford to Christchurch, when all ascended the tower to the spacious belfry of the fine old Priory Church. The bells are a fine-toned peal of eight, in the key of D, tenor 32 cwt. Some of the heavy bells were cast by the monks, and are five or six hundred years old. They were re-hung by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, of Loughborough in 1886, and they go splendidly. After raising the bells, several 120's of Grandsire Doubles (each called differently) were rung in fairly good style, with the back bells covering. C. Hawkins, 1; Rev. C. Buston, 2; G. Brown, jun. 3; W. West, 4; F. Hewlett, 5; W. Neville, 6; G. Brown, sen. 7; C. Burfit, 8. After ringing for some time and then being photographed, it was proposed to thoroughly overlook the church, which amply repaid the time taken.

The church is a noble structure, and contains a magnificent ancient sculptured altar-piece, representing the root and branch of Jesse. There are many curious and interesting tombs and monumental effigies in different part of the building, one especially to Viscountess Fitzharris, representing that lady instructing her infant sons in the Scriptures. In the choir are the stalls and seats of the priory establishment, these are ornamented with carvings of a most grotesque description, which are very interesting. To overlook the grand old church itself is quite worth a visit to Christchurch, with the splendid view which can be had of the neighbouring district from the top of the tower.

The rest of the band, T. Carter, W. Carter, H. W. Hewlett, and G. Smith, preferred making a further investigation of the church and its attractions while the other ringers again indulged in Doubles and a short touch of Minor, till, finding there was barely time to catch the train, all being so loth to leave such splendid bells, a rush was made for the station, and fortunately caught the 1.43 for Brockenhurst. Arriving there, the ringers then started in a brake for Knightwood, where the hampers were unpacked and every one did full justice to the good things provided, under one of the largest oak trees in the New Forest, which on being measured, was found to be 23 feet in circumference. A quiet stroll was then taken before starting again, through some of the prettiest parts of the forest, by Mark Ash, Boldrewood, Stoney Cross, Rufus's Stone, and Minstead, where another halt was made, this time to boil the kettle and have tea, then starting for Lyndhurst Road, to catch the last train up. In spite of the weather all arrived home safely and very well pleased with the days outing, being one proof of many of the R. C. Buston's kind liberality.

The visitors respectfully wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also for allowing them to view the church free of charge.

THE ROTHERHAM RINGERS AT DUFFIELD.

On Tuesday, June 26th, the Rotherham ringers, with Mr. Charles Henry Hattersley, of Sheffield, had their annual outing, the place selected being Duffield, Derbyshire. The party *en route* met with the Chesterfield company. On arriving at their destination the visitors were very kindly shown over the grounds of A. Percival Heywood, Esq., and after viewing the various points of interest connected with that gentleman's estate, they betook themselves to the "Bridge Inn," and there met by appointment Mr. Harry C. Woodward, of Derby. A substantial dinner having been satisfactorily disposed of, a move was made for the belfry of All Saints' church, when 1047 of Stedman Caters was rung, conducted by C. H. Hattersley; and 1000 of Kent Treble Bob Royal, conducted by W. Coates. While the ringing was going on other friends of the company were enjoying themselves by boating on the river, where the sound of the bells was very effective and pleasing. Handbell ringing, sociable conversation, and a vote of thanks to Mr. Heywood brought a very enjoyable day to a close.

FOR SALE.—A beautiful-toned set of Handbells, 24, in G.; nearly new; warranted perfect. Price £10. Company broken up cause of sale.—Apply to J. STRUTT, Richmond Road, Kingston-on-Thames.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

The Sixth Annual Meeting of this Society was held at Lichfield on Saturday, June 30th. About seventy members attended, and the following bands were represented: Harborne, Lichfield Cathedral, Lichfield St. Mary, Lichfield St. Michael, Pelsall, Perry Barr, Tamworth, Tipton, Walsall, West Bromwich All Saints, West Bromwich Christ Church. The Cathedral, St. Mary's, and St. Michael's steeples were open during the afternoon, and various touches of Grandsire Caters, and Stedman and Grandsire Triples were rung. A special service was held at 5.0 p.m. in the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral, at which the prayers were read by the Rev. J. R. Keble, and a stirring address was given to the members by the Rev. E. E. Harding, Vice-Principal of the Theological College, who took for his text the motto of the Society (Colossians iii. 23.). Tea was served in the coffee house at 6.0 p.m., and in the absence of the President (Archdeacon Iles) the Rev. J. R. Keble took the chair. After tea the usual business meeting was held; the Rev. C. H. Jobbens, Vicar of Christ Church, West Bromwich, was re-elected Hon. Treasurer. The Rev. J. R. Keble, Vicar of Perry Barr, and Mr. S. Reeves of West Bromwich were re-elected Hon. Secretaries. Thirteen new members were elected, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Burton-on-Trent on Saturday, October 6th. A resolution of sympathy with the President of the society, Archdeacon Iles, who is seriously ill, was passed and signed by the committee on behalf of the above society.

The Rev. J. R. Keble is preparing the Annual Report, and would be glad to receive corrections, etc., during the next fortnight. All arrears of subscriptions should be sent without delay, as those members who are more than one year in arrear will be struck off the list.

OUTING OF PLYMOUTH RINGERS.

On Thursday, the 28th of June, being Coronation-day, the ringers of St. Andrew's and Charles churches had a most successful outing to Crediton and Exeter.

It was originally intended to visit Exeter to have a touch at the Cathedral, but receiving a telegram on the Wednesday that owing to the funeral of Archdeacon Saunders no ringing could take place, it was decided to visit Crediton instead. The following gentlemen formed the party: Messrs. W. Peard, J. Peard, R. Searle, Taylor, Widdicombe, Ellis, Minhinnick, Farthing, Screech, and Batchelor. Crediton was reached at 11 o'clock. The bells, a heavy ring of eight (tenor 32 cwt.), go badly, so some 6-scores of Doubles, with 6, 7, 8 covering, and some call-changes were rung. An adjournment was then made to the "Ring of Bells" inn, where a very good dinner was done justice to. During dinner a telegram from Mr. Shepherd of Exeter was handed in to say that St. Sidwell's bells could be rung in the afternoon; accordingly a start was made forthwith for Exeter, where the visitors were, as usual, most kindly received, and where some touches of Grandsire Triples and call-changes were rung. A very pleasant time was spent at Exeter, and the only drawback was that a visit to the Cathedral belfry was impracticable, and that there was no time to communicate with the St. Edmund's society.

The Plymouth band of the Devonshire Guild has lately lost some of its members, three having joined the band which was formed some years since by Mr. W. Banister at the Devonport dockyard chapel, and which has lately been reorganised; and a very promising young ringer having gone to London. There are now only five members of the Guild left, but when the cooler weather begins, a fresh start will be made.

At present nothing is done at Plymouth beyond an occasional touch of Doubles in the tower and Triples on handbells. Mr. Ellis has procured a splendid set of handbells from Mr. Welch, of Southwark, which he kindly places at the disposal of the ringers.

CORRECTIONS.—In the peal of Treble Bob Major rung at Foxearth on May 31st, by eight members of the Essex Association, Messrs. Maxim and Mingay rung the 5th and 6th respectively, and not the ringers as stated. In the peal of Cambridge Surprise Major rung at St. Ann's, Brookfield, on Tuesday last, Benjamin "Foskett" rang the second, not "Fosdike."

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAJOR.By Y. GREEN, *College Youths.*

5056.

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

Repeated.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By SAMUEL WOOD, *Ashton-under-Lyne.*

5248.

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

This peal contains the 4th its extent in 6th's place, the 5th its extent at home, and the 6th its extent right and wrong, at five course-ends each way. Rung at St. Peter's church, Ashton-under-Lyne, June 5th, 1888. Conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES.

By W. F. HARTSHORNE, *Brierley Hill.*

5040.

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

Five times repeated. Single for bob at the end of the 3rd and 6th parts.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield.*

5040.

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

Repeated.

TWO PEALS OF BOB TRIPLES.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

5040.

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

Five times repeated. Single end of the 3rd and 6th parts.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB
MAXIMUS.By GEORGE HAYWARD, *Bromsgrove.*

5184.

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

Repeated.

5568.

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

Repeated.

These two peals have the 5th and 6th in 6th's place throughout, with all the 6-5s and 5-6s. The second peal contains the 5th and 6th their extent.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By GEORGE H. HARDY, *Earlsheaton.*

5184.

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

Twice repeated.

6080.

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

Repeated.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN SIDEBOTHAM, *Mottram-in-Longendale.*

5024.

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

This peal has the 6th the extent in all positions.

First rung at the parish church, Mottram, on June 26th, 1888. Conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAXIMUS.By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

5016.

2 3 4 5 6	I	4	7
4 5 2 3	-	-	
5 2 4 3	-		
2 4 5 3	-		
5 3 2 4	-	-	
3 2 5 4	-		
2 5 3 4	-		
3 4 2 5	-	-	
4 2 3 5	-		
4 3 2 5	S		
2 5 4 3	-	-	
5 4 2 3	-		
4 2 5 3	-		
5 3 4 2	-	-	
3 4 5 2	-		
5 2 3 4	-	-	
2 3 5 4	-		
3 5 2 4	-		
2 4 3 5	-	-	
2 3 4 5	S		

NOW READY,

Crown 8 vo., Cloth, 120 pages.

"DUFFIELD,"*A Musical Method for 8, 10, and twelve bells;*

Containing full directions for ringing, pricking, and proving the method; together with a collection of peals and an explanatory appendix. By

Arthur Percival Heywood, M.A.

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

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1888.

THE letter sent for publication in this number by Mr. WILLIAM COOTER teaches a very powerful and salutary lesson. After the lapse of more than thirty years, the Exercise is informed by a most reliable authority that what has been understood to be the first peal of Stedman Triples ever rung in hand is practically no peal at all by reason of a change-course. To readers of this journal, especially those who remember the "keen rivalry" which existed between one or two metropolitan bands, and their eagerness to secure the coveted honour for themselves,

this intelligence will be amazing. Others who like ourselves knew long ago the facts will, while agreeing with Mr. COOTER in challenging a statement made regarding it deplore the necessity at this juncture for letting the cat out of the bag. It may reasonably have been thought that the exposure could have been postponed, now that such an interval has elapsed, till all the parties concerned had "shuffled off this mortal coil." True, there is one only left of the band, and that is our valued friend Mr. THOMAS POWELL, of Waltham Abbey, who will in all probability be somewhat slow in believing the assertions of his old comrade in the science. That this disclosure will be a painful one to him we cannot doubt.

This is another of those awkward cases where a performance has been pronounced as true and accepted as such when more than one of those immediately concerned knew to the contrary. The case is plainly put by Mr. COOTER in his letter: how he at the time objected to the peal being accepted as true, but was ruled out of court. It seems surprising that the bubble did not burst before this, and it would have done but for the reticence of our correspondent, who shuns publicity in almost any shape.

What is the lesson to be learnt by this episode? This is not the only circumstance of the kind by far, and not only do we allude to the past, but to the present. Is it possible to open the pages of "THE BELL NEWS" and say that records therein are positively all that they purport to be. There is unfortunately truth and falsehood in peal ringing as in other matters. It is greatly to be feared that bob-callers are yet to be found who will not stick at trifles to score a peal under circumstances not always worthy of imitation. But when the facts of "cooked" performances come to light, the characters of these persons suffer, as they should do. Better by far shelve any performance for ever than parade it as worthy of record when it is unworthy. The ultimate denouement ensuing upon performance of a false peal is a thing to be avoided, and can be prevented by the practice of a little courage and self-denial. Courage in having to forego the honour of scoring a peal, and denying such an honour when it is spurious and illegitimate.

THE PROPOSED PROSECUTION OF THE BISHOP OF LINCOLN.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has, through his secretary, forwarded the following letter to the solicitors acting for the Church Association:—

"The Sanctuary, Westminster, June 26th, 1888.

"Sir,—I am directed by his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury to inform you that he has given his best attention to the petition which you presented to him on June 2nd—viz., that he would cite the Lord Bishop of Lincoln to answer before him on certain specified charges. You informed his Grace that the law under which you desired him to act was 'the old law,' of the operation of which you quoted as an instance the case 'Lucy v. Bishop Watson.' He has, therefore, given his best attention in his power to this case. It appears to be the one and only precedent of this procedure, the case of the Bishop of Clogher not having been contested, and another named by Burnet being obscure. Considering the fact that in the course of about 300 years since the Reformation there is no other precedent, and considering the political and other exceptional circumstances under which this particular case was decided, his Grace has

failed to satisfy himself that the coercive jurisdiction which you desire him to exercise admits of substantial application to the case presented in your petition. The Archbishop, therefore, finds himself unable to exercise such jurisdiction in this matter without some instruction being produced from a competent court to the effect that the jurisdiction referred to is thus applicable."

On Sunday the Bishop of Lincoln was preaching a dedication festival sermon at St. Peter-at-Gowts, Lincoln, which is, it may be remembered, the scene of some of the allegations in the lately threatened proceedings against the Bishop. On arriving at the church his lordship was by the vicar (the Rev. J. Weston Townoe), churchwardens, and sidesmen, who expressed their deep regret and great annoyance that the name of the church and parish should have been used by the Church Association to trouble the Bishop. Dr. King replied, thanking them for their sympathy and affection, and bidding those connected with the church persevere in the same peaceful and thankful spirit which had enabled them to overcome so many difficulties and to build their beautiful church. The Bishop was attended by Canon Scott Holland and the Rev. C. Gore, the former of whom preached at the evening service. The ritual at St. Peter-at-Gowts is of the simplest description, the congregation is a most united one, and the greatest indignation is felt at the un-called for interference of the Church Association.

Last week we gave the names of thirty-two members of the Chapter and Rural Deans of the Diocese of Lincoln who subscribed the protest against the prosecution of their Bishop. The document has also received the following additional signatures:—The Rev. E. T. Leeke, Chancellor of Lincoln; Canon Albert S. Wilde, rector of Louth; Canon Frederic Pretymann, rector of Great Carlton; the Rev. T. Field, rector of Bigby, and the Rev. G. Hogarth, vicar of Barton-on-the-Humber, making a total of thirty-three out of the thirty-eight Rural Deans in the Diocese; besides the Dean, the Archdeacon, the Chancellor, and three residentiary Canons.—*Guardian*.

The Metropolis.

LAMBETH, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, June 30, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN M. HAYES Treble.	*HENRY G. GARDENER .. 5.
HENRY R. NEWTON 2.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. 6.
G. T. McLAUGHLIN 3.	WILLIAM H. JUDD 7.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 4.	RICHARD T. WOODLEY .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNY.

*First peal in the method. Mr. Gardener hails from Gloucester. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the rector for the use of the bells.

The Provinces.

UPTON ST. LEONARD'S, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIOR ASSOCIATION, GLOUCESTER.

On Saturday, June 30, 1888, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 17½ cwt. in E.

H. L. JAMES* Treble,	W. J. SEVIER 5.
F. E. HART 2.	S. ROMANS 6.
R. BRUNSDON 3.	R. BARRATT 7.
R. J. WILKINS 4.	†E. E. BEWICK Tenor.

Conducted by W. J. SEVIER.

*First peal. †First peal of Triples. This is the first peal by St. Michael's Juniors which was founded September, 6th, 1887; it was rung in honour of the wedding of G. H. Phillott, Esq., of Cheltenham. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar for the use of the bells, as they could not use their own because they are quite unpealable. Also they thank the steeple-keeper, Mr. J. Middlecote, for his kindness in getting everything ready.

MINSTERWORTH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, June 26, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

FORTY-TWO SIX-SCORES OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES,

BEING THIRTY-TWO SIX-SCORES WITH EXTREMES, AND TEN WITH PLAIN LEADS, EACH CALLED DIFFERENTLY.

SAMUEL MEADOWS Treble.	JAMES ASHMEAD 4.
CHARLES PUGH 2.	JOSEPH H. BRAWN 5.
HENRY A. ANCILL 3.	*FREDERICK MARSHALL .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH HENRY BRAWN.

Messrs. Brawn, Ancill, and Marshall hail from Huntley, the rest are of the local company. *First 5040.

NEWTON ABBOT, DEVON.—THE ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, AND THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, June 30, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

WILLIAM STOCKER Treble.	JAMES MOSS 5.
EDWIN SHEPHERD 2.	STEPHEN BINFIELD 6.
RICHARD FRENCH 3.	FERRIS SHEPHERD 7.
FRANK DAVEY 4.	THOMAS J. LAKE Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

This is the first peal on the bells, which have been augmented from six to eight in commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 30, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 17 cwt.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	*ACKLAND J. PERKINS .. 5.
JOHN GOBBETT 2.	†GEORGE C. HAMMOND .. 6.
CHARLES E. MALIM* .. 3.	†ARTHUR PORTER 7.
ARTHUR JACOB 4.	SAMUEL JAMES Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

*First peal of Stedman Triples. †First peal in the method, also on toe bells. S. James was elected a Royal Cumberland previous to starting for the peal.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 30, 1888, in Two Hours Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

HARRY MIDGLEY Treble.	BENJAMIN SUGDEN 6.
JOHN HOWE 2.	GEORGE HINGLEY 7.
SAMSON BURTON 3.	HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD .. 8.
JOHN HICKMAN 4.	WILLIAM D. SMITH 9.
WILLIAM HICKLING 5.	SAMUEL JOHNSON Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY CHAS. WOODWARD.

Messrs. Burton and Hickman hail from Nottingham, Smith from London, Howe and Woodward from Derby: the remainder belong to Duffield.

ROTHERHITHE, SURREY.—THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS AND THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Tuesday, July 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THE ORIGINAL BOB-AND-SINGLE.

Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN CROWDER Treble.	WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 5.
WILLIAM PEAD 2.	JOSEPH LAWS 6.
THOMAS TAYLOR 3.	FREDERICK W. THORNTON .. 7.
WILLIAM BEDWELL 4.	REV. H. A. COCKEY .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE.

The quickest peal on the bells.

Date Touches.

ADDINGHAM (Yorkshire).—On Sunday afternoon, July 1st, at the parish church, the local company, assisted by Messrs. J. P. Birch, and C. Inman, of Burnsall, rang a date touch (1888 changes), in the following method; 360 each of Violet, New London Pleasure, Oxford Delight, Woodbine, and 448 of Oxford Treble Bob. E. Town, 1; W. Phillip, 2; W. Laird (conductor), 3; *J. P. Birch, 4; *C. Inman (composer), 5; J. Cottam, 6. *Members of the Yorkshire Association.

HALLIWELL (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 24th, at St. Peter's church, a date touch of 1888 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins. Joseph Gregory (composer and conductor), 1; Arthur Walkden, 2; Robert Seddon, 3; William Thornley, 4; Richard Thornley, 5; John Seddon, 6; Hiram Sidey, 7; James Seddon, 8.

Miscellaneous.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BRIDGNORTH.—On Whit-Sunday, May 20th, for Divine Service at St. Leonard's church, and on Saturday evening, June 2nd, for practice, several touches of Grandsire Triples. T. Overton, 1; W. Rickhuss, 2; E. Baker, 3; E. Hall, 4; J. Overton, 5; V. Coates, 6; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 7; J. Jones, 8. And at St. Mary's church, on Sunday evening, June 3rd, the bells were rung half-muffled in memory of the late Emperor of Germany. T. Bills, 1; E. Williams, 2; R. Higgins, 3; J. Clayton, 4; F. Broadfield, 5; T. Higgins, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. Also on Monday morning, June 18th, on handbells retained in hand, at the residence of Mr. J. Overton, two six-scores each of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles, and one of Plain Bob. W. H. Fussell (conductor), 1-2-3-4; J. Overton, 5-6.

ROSS.—On Monday, June 18th, at St. Mary's church, with the bells half-muffled in memory of the late Emperor of Germany, a 400 and 168 of Grandsire Triples. W. H. Fussell, 1; J. G. Hall (conductor), 2; E. Turner, 3; J. Atkins, 4; H. Bussell, 5; J. Clark, 6; A. Bird, 7; H. Bird, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. And on Thursday, June 21st, the usual evening for practice, 546 of Grandsire Triples, containing Queens and Tittums, composed by J. W. Washbrook. H. Bird, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; E. Taylor, 3; J. Wall (conductor), 4; H. Bussell, 5; J. Clark, 6; A. Bird, 7; R. Clark, 8. Also on Sunday morning, June 24th, for Divine Service, 504 in the same method, taken from Holt's ten-part peal. H. Bird, 1; J. G. Wall (conductor), 2; E. Taylor, 3; J. Atkins, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; J. Clarke, 6; A. Bird, 7; R. Clark, 8.

Foy (Herefordshire).—On Sunday evening, June 24th, previous to Divine Service, several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles by the local company. Also six courses of Stedman Doubles. W. H. Fussell, 1; E. Taylor, 2; J. G. Wall, 3; J. Clark, 4; A. Bird, 5; W. Phillips, 6. And a 360 of Bob Minor, with Mr. Phillips, of Foy, at the treble. And a 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. *J. Clarkson, 1; *E. Taylor, 2; J. G. Wall, 3; *J. Clark, 4; A. Bird, 5; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt. *First 720 of Minor.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GLOUCESTER.—On Sunday, June 24th, at the parish church of St. Mary-de-Crypt, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). H. Gardiner, 1; H. Mitchell, 2; R. Brunsdon, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; S. Romans (conductor), 5; W. Brunsdon, 6; E. E. Bewick, 7. Tenor 14 cwt. in E. On Thursday, June 28th, the St. Michael's junior Society rang for practice 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Watts, 1; S. Romans (conductor), 2; A. E. Sayer, 3; A. Roberts, 4; G. Brunsdon, 5; R. Barratt, 6; R. J. Wilkins, 7; E. E. Bewick, 8. Also 168 in the same method. *E. E. Bewick, 1; R. Brunsdon, 2; G. Brunsdon, 3; E. Jones, 4; W. Sevier (conductor), 5; R. Barratt, 6; R. J. Wilkins, 7; F. Hart, 8. *First touch of Triples with a bob bell. Also two courses of Stedman Triples. F. Hart, 1; H. L. James, 2; G. Brunsdon, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; G. Wanklin, 5; R. Barratt, 6; R. Brunsdon, 7; A. E. Sayer, 8. On Sunday, July 1st, for morning service, 168 Stedman Triples. F. E. Hart, 1; H. L. James, 2; G. Brunsdon, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; S. Romans, 5; W. Sevier, 6; R. Barratt (conductor), 7; A. E. Sayer, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. 48 lbs. in E. On Friday, June 29th, on handbells, a course of Stedman Triples. G. Brunsdon, 1-2; R. J. Wilkins, 3-4; H. L. James, 5-6; W. J. Sevier, 7-8. Tenor size 11, in G. On Monday, July 2nd, at St. Nicholas church, 720 Bob Minor. F. E. Hart, 1; H. L. James, 2; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 3; R. Brunsdon, 4; R. Barratt, 5; W. J. Sevier, 6. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles. F. E. Hart, 1; W. J. Sevier, 2; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 3; A. R. Roberts, 4; R. Barratt, 5; E. E. Bewick, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SHORNE.—On Saturday, June 23rd, at the parish church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. G. Hayes, 1; C. Waterman, 2; F. Hayes, 3; W. Martin, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. This was rung on the occasion of a visit by the Swanscombe band to Shorne.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Sunday, June 24th, for afternoon service at the parish church, 360 of Oxford Bob. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; F. Sanders, 3; E. Jordan, 4; W. Sadler, 5; D. Jordan, 6. And after service 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; F. Sanders, 4; M. Jenkins, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also on Wednesday, June 27th, a 10,080 was attempted by six of the above Guild in fourteen different Surprise and Treble Bob methods, but unfortunately came to grief through a shift-course, after ringing eleven courses (7920 changes), in 4 hrs. 10 mins. The peals rung were Kent, Oxford, College Pleasure, College Exercise, Violet, Cambridge, Superlative, Wells, London, Worcester, and Chichester, leaving York, Durham, and Rochester unring. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; T. Stedman, 3; A. Mills, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. The above was attempted for a birthday peal for Mr. R. Jordan, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Sunday, June 17th, after evening service at All Saints, Boyne Hill, with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Emperor of Germany, 335 Grandsire Triples. H. Gilding, 1; O. Fasey, 2; J. W. Wilkins (conductor), 3; F. Bissley, 4; R. Smith, 5; S. Quintin, 6; E. Rogers, 7; J. Woolford, 8. And 209 in the same method, the band standing as before. Afterwards the usual whole pull and stand.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, June 26th, for practice at the parish church, 720 of Double Court Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; H. Smith, 3; J. Hands, 4; G. Essex, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, June 29th, for the Dedication Festival of St. Peter's church, for evening service at 8 o'clock, 360 of Plain Bob Minor. H. Smith, 1; J. Hands, 2; J. Butler, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; E. Menday, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. After service another 360 of Plain Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; G. Essex, 2; E. Menday, 3; H. Smith, 4; J. Hands, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday morning, July 1st, for Divine Service, two 120s of Stedman Doubles. T. Newman, 1; E. Menday, 2; F. Simmonds, 3; H. Smith, 4; G. Essex, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. And for Divine Service in the evening 120 and 360 of College Single. H. Smith, 1; E. Menday, 2; J. Hands, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, June 24th, being St. John-the-Baptist's Day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 49 mins. H. Dudley, 1; H. C. Haley, 2; W. J. Chambers, 3; S. Fisk, 4; W. States, 5; A. Bruce (conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; W. Hill and W. Todd, 8. And on Wednesday, June 20th, a 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Dudley, 1; G. Russell, 2; A. Arnold, 3; S. Fisk, 4; W. States, 5; A. Bruce (conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; G. Rosier and W. J. Chambers, 8.

THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HERTFORD.—On Monday, June 18th, for practice in the evening, 392 of Grandsire Triples. H. Bottrill, 1; W. L. Randle, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; A. Wilshire, 4; W. Goodchild, 5; J. Cull, 6; H. Baker, 7; F. George, 8. Also on Monday, June 25th, 770 in the same method. H. Bottrill, 1; H. Baker, 2; F. G. Crawley, 3; J. Jauncey, 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; W. Goodchild, 6; J. Cull, 7; F. George, 8. Conducted by H. Baker. This is the longest length by Messrs. Wilshire and Bottrill. Also on handbells two plain courses of Grandsire Triples. M. Ellsmore, 1-2; F. G. Crawley, 3-4; H. Baker, 5-6; W. Goodchild, 7-8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—On Sunday afternoon, July 1st, for Divine Service at St. Edward's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins. *W. Pegrum, 1; *M. Myhill, 2; *G. Roughton, 3; G. Newson, 4; A. J. Perkins (composer), 5; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 6; W. Nash, 7; S. James, 8. *First quarter-peal; the first two having only started change-ringing about six months on the tower bells. Also in the morning several touches of Grandsire Triples and two courses of Bob Major, with A. Porter. *Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday evening, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. E. Hammond, 1-2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4; G. Newson (conductor), 5-6; A. Porter, 7-8. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. G. Newson, 1-2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4; M. Myhill, 5-6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH.—(Leicestershire).—On Sunday, June 24th, at St. Helen's church, for morning service, 630 Grandsire Triples, in 26 mins. For afternoon service, 518 Grandsire Triples, in 20 mins., and for evening service 868 Grandsire Triples, in 34½ mins. W. Liggins, 1; H. Canner, 2; T. Jacques, 3; J. Hopkin, 4; W. Owen, 5; J. H. Dunmore, 6; W. Canner (conductor), 7; J. Curtis, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—BRADFELD DEANERY BRANCH.

BEENHAM.—On Sunday evening, June 10th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Court Bob Minor. And on Sunday morning, June 17th, for Divine Service, 360 of Canterbury Pleasure; and for evening service, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure; and after service 360 of Oxford Bob. Also on Wednesday, June 20th, being the Queen's Accession, 720 of Court Bob, and 360 of Oxford Bob. And on Sunday evening, June 24th, after Divine Service, 360 of College Single. The following took part in the above: T. Greetham, G. Webb, A. Richardson, H. Hatto, T. Bidmead, J. Hatto, and J. Richardson (conductor). Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday evening, June 19th, at the club room, 120 of Plain Bob Doubles. A. Richardson, 1; *Miss Margaret Bushnell, 2; H. Hatto, 3; J. Hatto, 4; J. Richardson (conductor), 5-6. *First 120 with a bob bell, and her third practice.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CHESTER.—On Saturday, June 31st, at St. Mary-without-the-Walls, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with the treble and tenor covering. W. Joinson, 1; E. Mealing, 2; R. Mills, 3; H. Gipson, 4; J. Heald, 5; F. Fletcher, 6; T. J. Bethell (conductor), 7; R. Ledsham, 8.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CRADLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, June 19th, for practice, 518 of Grandsire Triples. G. Dukes, 1; Harry Mason (conductor), 2; Robert Beasley, 3; Charles Daniel, 4; Harry Woodall, 5; Joseph A. Meredith, 6; Caleb Beasley, 7; Charles Worton, 8. Also a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor. Robt. Beasley, 1; Charles Daniel, 2; Harry Woodall, 3; *Joseph A. Meredith, 4; Caleb Beasley, 5; Harry Mason (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method and first attempt. Also on Sunday, July 1st, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Geo. Dukes, 1; Caleb Beasley, 2; Harry Woodall, 3; Robert Beasley, 4; Joseph A. Meredith, 5; *Charles Daniel (conductor), 6. First 720 as conductor, and first attempt. Mr. Harry Mason hails from Old Hill, the remainder are local men.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, July 1st, before afternoon service, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. M. Shilcock, 1; W. Boughton, 2; J. Smith, 3; W. Huxley, 4; *J. Barber, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. Tenor 16½ cwt.

HAGLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, June 19th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24½ mins. F. Wright, 1; H. Morris, 2; T. Lees, 3; C. Boughton, 4; *W. Bradley, 5; W. Short (conductor), 6. *First 720. Also on Tuesday, June 26th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Bearing, 1; H. Morris, 2; J. Smith, 3; T. Lees, 4; H. Martin (conductor), 5; C. Boughton, 6; W. Short, 7; J. Davis, 8. Tenor 9½ cwt. Messrs. Boughton and Short hail from Clent; H. Martin from Belbroughton.

THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WRANGLE (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, June 23rd, three 720s of Bob Minor (one with eighteen bobs and two singles. J. Rogers, 1; Rev. H. J. Cheales, 2; G. Clark, 3; A. O. Barber, 4; G. F. Smith, 5; E. Mason, 6. The next with fourteen bobs and two singles. T. Rogers, 1; J. A. Hand, 2; G. Clark, 3; J. Mawer, 4; G. F. Smith, 5; E. Mason, 6. The last with nine bobs and six singles. C. Clark, 1; J. A. Hand, 2; A. O. Barber, 3; J. Mawer, 4; G. F. Smith, 5; E. Mason, 6.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Sunday, June 24th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. West, 1; A. Ingram, 2; H. King, 3; H. Clifton, 4; C. West, 5; C. R. Howard (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 ever rung on these bells by a company each member of which is a resident in the parish, and the first 720 by the young company lately started. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

BROMLEY (Kent).—On Friday, June 22nd, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). W. Bedwell, 1; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 2; E. E. Richards, 3; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 4; F. J. French, 5; J. Laws, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; W. H. Judd, 8. It was intended to have started for a peal, but owing to the bad go of the tenor the above was rung.

ASHCHURCH (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, June 3rd, for morning service, at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. J. Greenalbay, 1; C. Slater, 2; W. Wellan, 3; W. Davis, 4; J. Bayliss, 5; E. Wallis (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

BARWELL (Leicestershire).—On Sunday morning, July 1st, at the parish church, a date touch of Bob Minor (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 15 mins. W. Powers, 1; E. Garner, 2; G. White, 3; W. A. Needham, 4; John Swinfield, 5; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. The above is the longest touch upon the bells and the longest by all the above with the exception of Messrs. Garner and Aldham.

BRISTOL.—On Tuesday, June 26th, at St. Mary-le-Port church, 720 Grandsire Minor. F. Elles, 1; C. Gordon, 2; G. Colston, 3; C. Trevett, 4; S. Phillips, 4; F. Price (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by G. Colston.

GREAT BENTLEY (Essex).—On Sunday, July 1st, at St. Mary's church, for Divine Service, in the morning, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. *A. Humm, 1; J. King, 2; A. Taylor, 3; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 4; G. Humm, 6. *First attempt at Grandsire.

BUCKNALL (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, June 19th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. Wood, 1; G. W. Walker, 2; J. Wood, 3; *W. Twigg, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; E. Glover (conductor), 6. *First 720 and hails from Bucknall; the rest from Norton.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, June 20th, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. — Townson, 1; T. Watson (conductor), 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. Composed by J. Parker, and contains 40 bobs and 8 singles. First 720 on a bob bell by J. Spencer. And 636 in the same method. T. Jackson (age 15), 1; T. Townson, 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. Watson (conductor), 5; J. Burrows, 6. Longest touch by T. Jackson. Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lbs.

DRONFIELD (Derbyshire).—For Divine Service, on Sunday, June 24th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Butcher, 1; G. Leisley, 2; W. Price, 3; J. Atkin, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; J. Allen, 6. Also 240 Violet and 240 of Oxford. W. Jervis, 1; G. Leisley, 2; W. Price, 3; J. Atkin, 4; S. Allen, 5; G. Marsden (conductor), 6. Messrs. Marsden and Price hail from Eckington; Atkin, Butcher, and Allen from Morton.

DEDHAM (Essex).—On Thursday, June 21st, at the parish church, four 720s of Bob Minor. C. Ablitt, 1; J. Taylor, 2; W. Ransom, 3; W. Smith, 4; W. J. Nevard, 5; J. W. Smith (conductor), 6. These were rung to celebrate the marriage of Miss Edwards and the Rev. E. Symonds, the company all wishing them long life and prosperity.

EXETER.—On Monday evening, July 2nd, at St. Sidwell's church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled as a token of respect to Mr. Frederick French, brother to Mr. Richard French. G. Carter, 1; A. Shepherd, 2; E. Shepherd, 3; W. Stocker, 4; S. Binfield, 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd (conductor), 7; B. Munday, 8.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, July 1st, the local company and five members of the Yorkshire Association from Staveley rang at the parish church for early morning service, 600 of Violet and Oxford Treble Bob. F. Hancock, 1; H. Mottershall (Staveley), 2; S. James, 3; G. Norman, 4; W. Price, 5; G. Marsden (conductor), 6. J. Shaw rang in the Oxford in place of H. Mottershall. Also 720 Violet and 240 Oxford. A. Worthington, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; W. Worthington, 4; J. Harris, 5; H. Madin (conductor), 6. All the above are members of the Yorkshire Association. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Worthington, 1; W. Price, 2; H. Madin, 3; W. Worthington, 4; J. Harris, 5; G. Marsden (conductor), 6.

GALLEYWOOD (Essex).—On Sunday, July 1st, after the afternoon service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 43 mins. *W. E. Emery, 1; A. Edwards, 2; W. J. Piper, 3; A. Tarbun, 4; H. F. de Lisle, Esq., 5; †H. Brazier, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; *C. Hawkes, 8. *First quarter-peal. †First quarter-peal with a bob-bell. Messrs. Emery, Edwards and Lincoln are of Whittle; Tarbun and Piper of Widford, the rest are of the local company.

LIVERPOOL.—On Wednesday, June 20th, a touch of Grandsire Caters. Richard Williams, 1; George Harrison, 2; Edwin Booth, 3; Charles Williams, 4; J. Pritchard, 5; William Booth (conductor), 6; Thomas Hammond, 7; John Brown, 8; Robert Williams, 9; Richard Diggle, 10. Also three courses of Grandsire Triples. Richard Diggle, 1; George Harrison, 2; Chas. Williams, 3; Charles F. Williams, 4; John R. Pritchard, 5; John Brown, 6; Thos. Hammond, 7; William Booth, 8. This is the first in any method by Chas. F. Williams. And a course of Treble Bob Royal. Richard Williams, 1; Henry Meadows, 2; George Harrison, 3; Charles Williams, 4; J. R. Pritchard, 5; John Brown, 6; Wm. Booth, 7; Edwin Booth, 8; Robert Williams, 9; Thomas Hammond, 10. Also on Sunday, June 17th, at St. Luke's church, instead of the usual chiming,

the bells were rang muffled, as a tribute of respect to his Imperial Majesty the late Emperor Frederick of Germany. For morning service 504 of Grandsire Triples. R. S. Mann (conductor), 1; W. G. Mann, 2; P. Barton, 3; F. W. Moore, 4; R. Brannigan, 5; W. James, 6; J. R. Pritchard, 7; R. Gowans, 8. And for evening service 360 of Grandsire Minor, with the ringers standing as above, with the exception of the second, which was left out.

Lowick (Northants).—On Sunday, July 1st, on account of it being Sunday at St. Peter's church, 120 of Canterbury Doubles. E. Curtis, 1; G. March (conductor), 2; R. Dunkley, 3; C. Swan, 4; W. Fox, 5. Also two 6-scores each of Stedman Slow Course and New Doubles. E. Curtis, 1; C. Swan, 2; G. March, 3; R. Dunkley, 4; W. Fox (conductor), 5. Also three 6-scores of Bob Doubles. — Guess, 1; G. March, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; E. Curtis, 4; W. Fox (conductor), 5. And for morning service, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. R. Dunkley, 1; G. Guess, 2; W. Fox, 3; C. Swan, 4; G. March (conductor), 5. Also a 120 of Canterbury Doubles. W. Fox, 1; G. Guess, 2; G. March, 3; C. Swan, 4; R. Dunkley (conductor), 5. Also for evening service, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. E. Curtis, 1; B. Meadows, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; G. March (conductor), 4; C. Swan, 5. Also 120 of Bob Doubles. R. Dunkley, 1; B. Meadows, 2; C. Swan, 3; E. Curtis, 4; W. Fox (conductor), 5. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, June 23rd, at the church of St. Andrew's, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 26 mins. B. Townsend, 1; F. Hotchkiss, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Also 720 Court Bob, in 27 mins. B. Townsend, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6.

OCKLEY (Surrey).—On Sunday, June 24th, for morning service, 360 College Exercise. F. Sanders, 1; T. Stedman, 2; R. Jordan, 3; A. Mills, 4; W. Sadler, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 360 Kent, in the same order. Sadler and Sanders hail from Buckland, Surrey; the rest from Capel.

ROWLEY REGIS (Staffordshire).—On Monday, July 2nd, at the parish church, a 350 of Grandsire Triples. B. Bate, 1; S. Mills, 2; J. Oakley, 3; H. Bate, 4; J. Bate, 5; K. Baker, 6; H. Mason (conductor), 7; R. Oakley, 8. H. Mason hails from Old Hill. The rest belong to the local company. First 350 of Triples by a Rowley band.

READING (Berks).—On Tuesday, June 26th, for practice at St. Laurence's church, a touch of 586 Grandsire Triples was rung on the back eight, in 24 mins. B. White, 1; W. Laurence, 2; C. Bennett, 3; H. White, 4; W. Holloway, 5; W. J. Williams, 6; W. Newell (conductor), 7; E. Hopwood, 8.

SUNBURY (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 17th, after evening Service, at St. Peter's church, the following members of the local company rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 53 mins. *W. Cross, 1; J. Campin, 2; *G. Brown, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; H. Harper, 5; A. Scott, 6; W. Howell, 7; H. Brackett, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. *Longest touch in the method. At St. Gregory's church, on Tuesday, June 19th, for practice, a touch of Bob Major (1392 changes. F. Tolliday, 1; H. Harper, 2; W. B. Ransom, Esq., 3; M. Silvester, 4; H. Brackett, 5; W. Griggs, 6; W. Cross, 7; A. Scott (conductor), 8. Tenor 16 cwt. On handbells, retained in hand, a touch of 324 Stedman Caters. C. Sillitoe (conductor), 1-2; G. Brown, 3; W. B. Ransom, 4; H. Harper, 5; W. Griggs, 6; J. Campin, 7; A. Scott, 8; A. Howell, 9-10.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Thursday evening, June 21st, a touch of 608 Bob Major, with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Emperor of Germany. Geo. Archer, 1; W. Smith, 2; E. Norman, 3; Chas. Herbert, 4; W. Mynard, 5; J. Carwell-Cooke, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; Mark Lane (conductor), 8. Other touches were also rung, in which Messrs. W. E. Turney and E. Keech took part. On Friday, June 29th, on handbells, retained in hand, 720 Bob Minor, (eighteen bobs and two singles). Cyril Herbert, 1-2; Ernest Herbert (aged eleven), 3; Frank Flood, 4; Chas. Herbert (conductor), 5; Mortimer T. Matthews, 6. First 720 by all with the exception of C. Herbert.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Saturday, June 9th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. F. A. Nunn, 1; T. Wood, 2; H. Nunn, sen., 3; J. Nunn, 4; J. Priest, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6. The above band visited Chigwell the same day, and rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 30 mins. F. A. Nunn, 1; J. Priest, 2; T. Wood, 3; J. Nunn, 4; H. Scarlett (conductor), 5. Also a 240 of Bob Doubles, H. Nunn, sen., taking part. Also on Sunday, June 1st, at St. Mary's church, for morning service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. F. A. Nunn, 1; H. Nunn, jun., 2; H. Nunn, sen., 3; J. Nunn, 4; T. Wood, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO. Printers, Exeter.

Correspondence.

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

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

THE FIRST PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES ON HANDBELLS.

SIR,—In your valuable journal of Saturday last under the heading "Saffron Walden, Essex," the following lines appear: "Among the visitors were several veteran ringers, viz., Mr. Thomas Powell, the only survivor of the band who rung the first double-handed peal of Stedman Triples." During the latter part of 1853, the rivalry was very keen between the two London senior societies respecting the first peal of Stedman Triples upon handbells. After several attempts by both parties, the Cumberlands rang on December 19th, 1853, 2 hrs. 40 mins. At the termination I publicly stated in the room (Mr. M. A. Wood was with me), that Cox shifted his bells for nearly a course, and put them right just before the part-end came up; consequently many changes were struck twice and others not at all. I was pooh-poohed, and the touch was paraded as a true peal. Some years afterwards the late Mr. Haley acknowledged in the presence of Messrs. M. A. Wood, Dorrington, myself and many others, that Mr. Cox sequestered 1-2, and that I was correct in condemning what I saw; he also added that the first true peal was rung on January 20th, 1854, every blow of which he heard, and which was called, Sir, by your obedient servant,

WILLIAM COOTER.

THE LADIES ON THE WAR-PATH.

SIR,—The correspondence of the ladies in your columns has both amused and instructed me. With regard to Mrs. "Ringer's Wife," it seems to point out, in the first place, that she leads her husband such an interesting life when he is at home, that he is glad to be elsewhere, and I think the remedy lies in her own hands. In the second place, I very much doubt that there is any belfry where practice is kept up every night in the week, for bell ringing with all its fascinations, and they are many, would hardly engage so much attention as all that, although belfries nowadays, as a rule, are so comfortable that it is quite pleasant to be there, as a lady friend remarked a short time ago, when visiting a belfry not very far from us, "Well I did not think it was as nice as this." Now for Miss "Ringer's Daughter." This young lady, whom I suppose is well on in her "teens," appears to possess a small modicum of jealousy, which, I am sorry to say, is often the case with young ladies at her time of life, and would be more interested in *belle-ringing* at a very not far distant date; well! well! the remedy here again lies with herself. Why not follow the example of our noted *confreres* or rather *con-soeurs* Miss Cruwys Sharland, of Devon, and the Misses Brine, of Kent, about whose doings we used often to read. If she be of a bashful and retiring disposition (which I very much doubt), and not like to act alone in the matter, she might get some lady friends together and beg of her adorer to instruct them in the mysteries of "bob" and "single," (the latter term they might possibly object to), on the handbells, for I suppose that lassie's heads are sufficiently clear at times to receive mild instruction, and, with their muscular arms and a light calisthenical dress, they might manage to ring upon the larger bells. PAX VOBISCUM.

Carshalton, July 2nd, 1888.

THE PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB AT BOLTON, YORKSHIRE.

SIR,—In your issue of June 16th, there is a peal reported at the above place. Well, Sir, I have no objection to a peal being inserted when it has been rung, but I have good reason to believe that after ringing over three hours they left the tower with the idea that such was not the case, and it was not till a day or two after that this wonderful discovery was made, that it had come all right at the fifteenth course-end. I have had some talk with one or two who took part in the ringing, and they say it was a queer finish. I think that the least that they could have done would have been to meet and try the peal again before reporting it in your valuable paper.

A RINGER.

THE SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY.

SIR,—In reference to "Free Lance's" "if" last week as to the antiquity of this society, I have to state that by the will of a Mr. Thomas Turner, certain property was devoted among other purposes for a memorial sermon and for the bells to be rung on the anniversary of his death. The will is dated June 10th, 1623; his death occurred a few days later—June 27th—and the churchwarden's accounts show an unbroken list of these payments. Tradition says that Mr. Turner being benighted, had lost his way, and discovered his whereabouts by hearing the bells rung. Allow me to compliment "Free Lance" on the use of his weapon, which though straight and sharp, is devoid of poison. I would suggest, if it could be so arranged, that his remarks should be concurrent with the account of events. JNO. F. PENNING.

Church News.

The announcement of the appointment of Canon Chapman to the vicarage of St. Paul's Cray, is incorrect.

The Rev. Henry Bircham, vicar of Gilderstone, Leeds, has withdrawn his acceptance of the vicarage of St. James's, Nottingham, to which living he was recently nominated by the Lord Chancellor.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has fixed St. James's Day at St. Paul's (the 26th inst.) for the consecration of the Suffragans of Bedford and Leicester.

The Derbyshire Archidiaconal Choral Association held its annual festival at Southwell this year for the first time. The choir mustered about five hundred strong.

In consequence of the sessions of the Lambeth Conference of Bishops, the library was closed to the public on Tuesday, July 3rd, and will not be opened till Friday, July 6th. It will be again closed from Monday, the 23rd, till Friday, the 27th.

On Thursday, June 28th, the Bishop of Exeter laid the memorial stone of a new Mission Hall for St. George's, Stonehouse, which is designed to accommodate about 300 persons. It is expected to cost £900.

The members and Sunday-school teachers in connection with the Congregational chapel in the parish of Short Heath, Wolverhampton, having expressed to the vicar, the Rev. G. W. Johnson, a desire to come over to the Church, on Sunday the chapel was reopened as a Mission room in connection with the parish church.

On St. Peter's Day was opened the new organ at St. Peter's Eastbourne, the chapel-of-ease to the church of St. Saviour's, an address being given by Archdeacon Sutton, who acted for the first time in his public capacity as Archdeacon of Lewes. The new instrument, which has two manuals, is by Conacher, of Huddersfield, and its good qualities were shown in a recital after the service by Dr. Sangster, the organist of St. Saviour's.

The Bishop of Exeter has appointed the Rev. Ernest Grey Sandford, vicar of Cornwood, Ivybridge division, to the archdeaconry of Exeter and the residentiary stall, vacant by the death of Archdeacon Sanders. Mr. Sandford, whose name was one of those submitted by the Bishop of London for the suffraganate of Marlborough, and who preached the sermon at the consecration of Archdeacon Earle, graduated from Christ Church (First Class Moderations, 1860) in 1863. He was ordained the next year, and was curate of Alvechurch till 1874, and vicar of Landkey till 1885, when he was presented to Cornwood and to a prebend in the Cathedral.

Kelvedon Hatch parish church, having undergone thorough restoration, was reopened on St. Peter's Day. There has been a new oak steeple, new roof, and a large vestry erected on the south side of the chancel, as well as many alterations in the interior, including a handsome dossal with gold cross. The work was carried out under Mr. Newman, architect. There was a large congregation at three o'clock, when the choir was surpliced for the first time. The sermon was preached by the Bishop of Colchester. At 8 p.m. there was a second evensong, when the church was crowded. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Alban Wylde, from Psalm cxxii, 1. The offertories amounted to £19 13s. 4d., which, added to donations from numerous friends of the rector, will leave but a small debt remaining.

At the annual luncheon of the congregation of St. Alban's, Holborn, an address, signed by 930 persons, was presented to the Rev. A. H. Stanton, who had completed a quarter of a century's service at that church. It was accompanied with a cheque for £530. In acknowledging the gift Mr. Stanton is reported by the *Church Times* to have said that, although the laity had treated him most generously and most kindly, his ecclesiastical superiors, generally speaking, had treated him most ungenerously and unkindly. After mentioning the Bishop of St. Albans when Bishop of Rochester; the late Bishop of Llandaff, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, and the late Bishop of London, he went on to say if one thing more than another had caused the iron to enter into his soul it was Lord Addington's withdrawal of £200 a year from the curates' fund of St. Alban's. This fund had been kept up for twenty years, and after twenty years of work in that parish, Mr. Hubbard withdrew that provision, and that he had felt a very great stigma upon his ministry. When Bishop Temple came from Exeter to London, he thought that the Bishop, being a justice-loving and liberal-minded man, would do something for him, and, foolishly enough, he had made up his mind to write and lay the circumstances of the case before the Bishop.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting was held at Bletchingley on Monday, July 2nd, and was attended by about twenty-five members from London, Beddington, Bletchingley, Croydon, Guildford, Nutfield, and Reigate. There was some practice in Grandsire and Stedman Triples; but at about half-past five the association had the misfortune of making the acquaintance of one of the church-wardens under the following circumstances. We were ringing a few rounds before starting for Treble Bob when a gentleman in a great state of excitement rushed in (the ringing is performed on the floor of the church close by the west door) and with some violence of expression, which would be regrettable anywhere, but still more so in church, ordered that the ringing should cease and that we should all leave the building; adding that if we did not go *he would pitch us out*, an expression which of course greatly alarmed us, seeing that there were not more than a dozen or so of us present at the time. During the course of a somewhat excited address we gathered the following facts—1st. That the living was vacant. 2nd. That this gentleman was the Sequestrator, and that nothing at all could, would or should be done in the church without his permission. 3rd. That there had been a funeral in the church in the early part of the afternoon and another somewhere else in the district. Having pointed out that if he had come to us quietly and told us No. 3, and that it was the wish of the inhabitants that the ringing should cease, we should have gone at once without a word. We quietly left the church and Mr. Sequestrator, the latter staying behind we presume to cool down. It was now time for the tea at the "Red Lion" to which all went eagerly, knowing what nice teas they are there.

The subsequent business meeting, at which the Rev. F. W. Pelly, curate in charge, kindly presided, was of a most unanimous character, so the business was quickly disposed of. The officers and committee were re-elected for the ensuing year, and three new names were added to the latter. Eight new members were elected. Eight peals were reported and ordered to be entered into the book. It was resolved to apply for leave to hold the next District Meeting at Croydon and the Quarterly Meeting at Beddington.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of the above was held at Woburn, on Saturday afternoon last (June 30th). Members attended from Aspley Guise, Bedford, Biddenham, Bromham, and elsewhere. Numerous touches of Major and Triples were rung. It was arranged to hold the next District meeting at Houghton Conquest, on the 29th September, being the last Saturday in that month.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

The next Ringing Meeting of the above branch will take place on Saturday, July 14th, at St. James's church, Waterfoot. Bells ready at 2 o'clock; Meeting in the school at 6.30.

J. T. STOTT, *District Secretary.*

Newchurch.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The First Quarterly Meeting of the year will be held at Loughborough, on Saturday, July 7th. The towers of All Saints', Loughborough, and St. Bartholomew's, Quorndon, will be open for ringing from 2 p.m. JOSEPH GRIFFIN, *Hon. Sec.*
5, St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent.

The south aisle of the parish church of St. Margaret, Lee, Kent, has been converted into a chapel, and an east window placed in it to the memory of George Barnes Williams, by his widow; the window by Messrs. Clayton and Bell. Mr. Brooks, who recently enlarged and altered the church, is the architect.

WANTED by a change-ringer, age 20 years, a situation as Shopman or Book-keeper in Corn and Milling Trade preferred, have had 6 years experience in above Trades with present employer. Can ring the following Methods—Bob's Grandsire, and Stedman. Apply to G. BAKER, Jun., Orchard Place, Arundel, Sussex

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"There's no place like home."

Among the numerous accounts which we are enabled to read from time to time of the doings of our brethren in various parts, few will excel in interest the report which you give last Saturday of the opening of a new ring at Maryborough, Queensland. It must be exceedingly gratifying to us all at home to see how our friends and relatives who have taken up their abode in the distant colonies still endeavour to maintain the customs of the old mother country. But still more pleasing to us ringers will be those indications that our countrymen when they have left their native shores and settled down in their far-away homes manifest such a yearning to hear "the bells of motherland" sounding as of yore amongst them. No doubt most of us will have read the story of the settler in the Antipodes who received the present of a lark from his old home in England; how that when its arrival became known, men came for miles around to hear it sing, because its voice reminded them of their native place. So with the bells. What Englishman across the sea is there who could hear their sound without being animated with feelings of love and yearning towards that "little spot on the ocean" the land of his birth—"the isle of bell-ringing?" We who have never travelled beyond the limits of our own island will be unable to fully realise the feelings thus aroused by the sound of bells, but we may to some extent understand the enthusiasm created when a new ring is opened amidst those who for years have not been privileged to hear their time-honoured and pleasant sound. We may thus read without any great surprise of the long distances travelled by both ringers and listeners to hear that sound which is so characteristic of our land the whole world over. The men who first rung the bells of Maryborough, we are told, travelled no less than 1380 miles for that purpose, and it will at once appear no small matter to us who are accustomed to look upon a journey of a score miles or so for a ring as an item of some consequence.

Although our friends then (as the report regretfully states) were not able to accomplish a peal in any of the Standard Methods, and although their ringing performances might be considered insignificant to us at home who are accustomed to greater achievements, yet it is quite evident that everyone was pleased and gratified at what was accomplished—humble though it might be. It appeared sufficient for them for the time that they were enabled once more to hear the sweet and loved sound of the bells.

Such an event as this will doubtless be to all concerned a prominent feature of a lifetime. Let us all, therefore, while congratulating the good people of Maryborough on their latest acquisition, sincerely hope that Mr. Payton will be successful in his endeavours to introduce change-ringing in this place, so that not only this, but generations to come may have the pleasure of hearing these bells rung pleasantly and scientifically week after week, so that by this means, while their enforced absence from their mother country will be made less irksome, they will ever, on hearing the welcome sound, be animated with feelings of loyalty and devotion to the old country. Thus will the bond of union between us at home and our brothers away continue to be firmly cemented, and the bells will proclaim "with no uncertain sound" that though many miles of land and water separate us, we are nevertheless one people, one in sympathy, one in love, one in heart and mind with each other. Long may it be so.

I have dwelt, it may be thought, somewhat lengthily on this subject; but (no doubt like many more of my brethren) having near and dear relatives and friends settled in these distant places, I cannot help feeling warm upon this point, and I do not think I shall be exaggerating one bit if I venture to say that the sympathies of the whole of the Exercise at home will go with these endeavours to establish ringing—and particularly change-ringing—in the distant parts of the Great British Empire, that Empire on which the sun never sets; also that our brethren in those places may be assured of the fact that we shall ever welcome with delight any news from them in respect to their work of ringing.

"MARRIAGE.—June 26th, etc., etc., George Henry Phillott, to Ethel Maud Treon-Roper." May they be happy!

Mr. Ryde's account of the re-opening of the bells of St. Peter's, Woking, will, I do not doubt, have proved both interesting and amusing. There is, however, one portion of it—the last paragraph—which I would commend most specially to the consideration of our friends. That paragraph deserves to be posted up in every belfry; and while heartily congratulating the Woking band on the success of their efforts hitherto, I would add my humble word of encouragement to them to persevere, and let their subsequent achievements fully bear up the praiseworthy character of their beginning.

Another ringing excursion is announced. If an array of pleasant places to be visited, good rings at disposal, and talented men in the company, be anything to judge from, this surely should prove a most successful and in every way satisfactory outing to all who are fortunate enough in being able to avail themselves of it.

The Saddleworth men are once more to the front; not this time ringing two peals in one afternoon, but in doing honour to the birthday of their oldest brother. Mr. Broadbent's eighty years of life, sixty of which had seen him in his place in the belfry, is surely worthy of honourable recognition, and I was truly pleased to see that the event was honoured in a right hearty fashion.

While complimenting the ringers of Saddleworth, and particularly the central figure in this matter—Mr. Broadbent—I cannot help noting that on Monday next (I believe) another Yorkshire veteran, Mr. Sottanstill, will have reached his 88th year. May I not, on behalf of the Exercise, assure both these venerable gentlemen of our very best wishes to them on the accomplishment of their long term of years, and express the hope that they may yet have the pleasure of hearing their loved bells many—very many—times, as they have done of yore.

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THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL of the above Guild will be held on Monday, July 16th, at Witney. Dinner tickets may be had on application by members to the Secretary, ensuring railway tickets at reduced fares on G.W.R. These dinner tickets are free for change-ringing, one shilling per head for probationary, and two shillings per head for hon. members.

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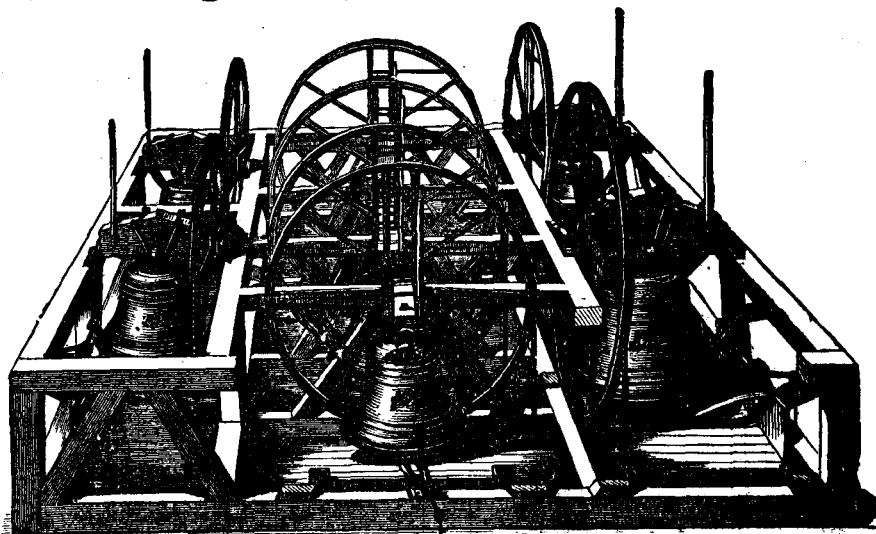
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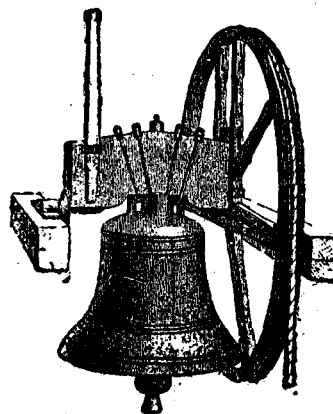
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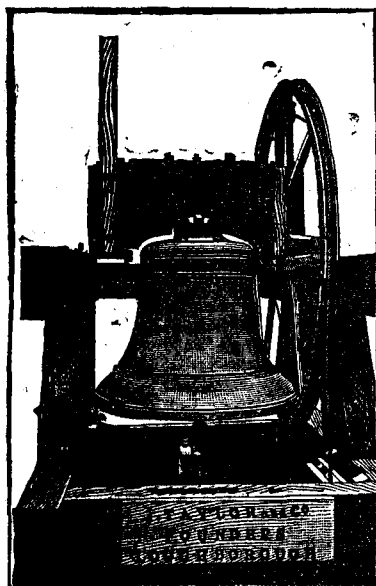
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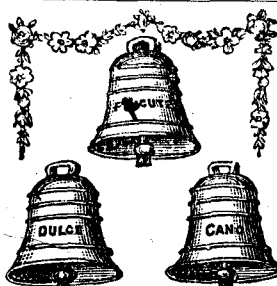
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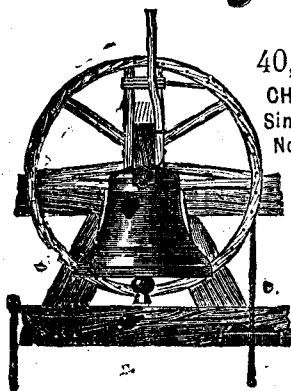
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No. 328.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, JULY 14, 1888.

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THE VISIT TO THE ISLE OF MAN.

As announced previously in this journal, a visit was made to the Isle of Man on Saturday, June 30th. On that day the following ringing friends met at Liverpool: Messrs. C. H. Hattersley, Joseph Mulligan, John Mulligan, Arthur Brearley, and David Brearley, of Sheffield; Arthur Thomas, of Birmingham; and John R. Pritchard, Henry Coley, and William Davies, of Liverpool. The party embarked on board the steamer *Ben-my-Chree* for Douglas at 1.0 p.m., arriving there at 6.0 p.m., when they immediately proceeded by train to Peel, and where on arrival they were joined by Mr. W. Rock Small, of Tipton. On Sunday morning, the company met at St. German's church, and rang for Divine Service touches of Stedman Triples and Treble Bob Major, and for evening service a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, followed by another touch of Kent Treble Bob Major. Then the whole company attended Divine Service.

Monday morning found eight of the band in the tower, and an attempt was made for Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing about one-half they were interrupted by one of the parishioners, armed with a note from the Vicar, asking them to stop ringing, on account of serious illness in the neighbourhood of the church. Later on in the day it was arranged to pay a visit to Douglas, and by the kind permission of the Vicar there, the Rev. —. Savage, various touches were rung on the peal of six at St. Thomas's church, in which Mr. R. Hill, of Southport, took part.

On Tuesday morning the same band met at Peel church, for the purpose of again attempting the peal of Stedman Triples. All went on well till within about 20 changes of the finish, when alas! a rope slipped, and it unfortunately came to grief. The remainder of the day was spent in boating, and in visiting the various places of interest in the neighbourhood.

Undaunted by their previous failures, Wednesday morning again found the ringers at their post in the ringing-chamber. This time the programme was changed, and a change of luck happily accompanied it. A peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 5184 changes, was attempted, and successfully accomplished, being the first peal ever rung on the island. On leaving the tower the ringers were pleased to find Mr. W. Whitaker, of Leeds, who congratulated them on their performance, of which he had heard the greater part. An adjournment was then made for dinner, during which it was arranged to again attempt the peal of Stedman Triples in the afternoon, and this fortunately proved successful. By special request of the Vicar the bells were again rung for Divine Service, touches of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples being performed.

Later on the whole party met together, and on the motion of Mr. C. H. Hattersley, seconded by Mr. Small, a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. G. Williams, Vicar of Peel, for so kindly placing his bells at the disposal of the visitors, was unanimously agreed to. This vote of thanks brought the proceedings to a close so far as the ringing was concerned.

On Thursday morning, the party visited Tynwald Hill, to witness the ancient custom of reading the laws of the island, which are read, both in the Manx and English tongue, on the 5th of July in each year. This ceremony over, the town of Douglas was again visited.

On Friday morning, the picturesque Dhoon Glen—the prettiest spot in the island, perhaps—was explored, calling on the return journey to view the most wonderful and world-famed Laxey Wheel. Arriving at Douglas, it was suggested that a photograph of the group be taken, which would be an excellent memento of the visit to the Isle of Man, so much enjoyed by all. This suggestion was at once acted on.

On Saturday morning the party embarked at Douglas on

board the *Mona's Isle* (Mr. Whitaker, who remains behind for a time, accompanying them to the vessel and wishing them *bon voyage*) and arrived at Liverpool about 1 o'clock, where they dispersed to their various homes, refreshed and invigorated by such an enjoyable outing.

The bells at Peel church are a very pretty ring of eight by Warner and Sons, and their "go" is everything to be desired.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ON Saturday last, July 7th, the "scruffe" of the above society held their yearly dinner at "The Crooked Billet," Walthamstow. About twenty-five members sat down to the excellent repast, the service and quality of which reflected the greatest credit on the host, Mr. G. Hopkins, who spared no effort which would conduce to the pleasure and happiness of each guest. A pleasing incident of the gathering was the re-appearance of Mr. Pettit after his recent painful illness, and his speedy restoration to robust health was the hearty wish of all present.

In the course of the evening, Mr. COOTER proposed the toast of "The Press," with pointed and forcible allusions to this paper and our contemporary. He emphasised the importance of all ringers doing their very utmost to support all literature relating to the Exercise, adding, that had there been the same facilities years ago which now existed for the interchange of sentiment and opinion between ringers, matters of a controversial nature would have been brought out into the light of day, sifted and examined there and then, thereby avoiding all future ill-feeling and unpleasantness.

Mr. MONDAY briefly seconded.

Other toasts were drank, and the remaining hours were spent in innocent conviviality, and the company separated at a very seasonable hour.

ALL SAINTS' (SHEFFIELD) RINGERS AND CHOIR.

ON Monday, July 9th, the All Saints' society, of Sheffield, had their annual trip, in company with the choir and a few members of the congregation. Southport being the place chosen, a start was made at 7.0 a.m., the trysting-place being reached at 10.30, but to find the climate cold and wet, which damped the ardour—as well as the apparel—of the excursionists. Not to be discouraged, however, by atmospheric influences, six of the visitors bravely sallied forth, regardless of the weather, and determined to have a look at the church and the bells, if possible. After a variety of dodging both up and down, the party managed to find out the residence of one of the ringers. They "doubled" up to the house accordingly, but found the ringer not "at home." While holding a conversation with this absent ringer's good lady, a member of the local company passed by. He was of course instantly waylaid, and he imparted the welcome information that Mr. Small of Tipton, and Mr. Thomas of Birmingham, were staying in Southport. Having found Mr. Thomas an arrangement was made to meet at two o'clock for a touch or peal, as it may be determined on. At that hour Mr. Small also appeared, and the bells having been raised, a course of Stedman Triples was rung by W. Gardiner, 1; W. R. Small, 2; A. Thomas, 3; J. Rowley, 4; F. Rippon, 5; J. Rew, 6; W. Smithson, 7; J. Lloyd, 8. Afterwards a 1008 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by A. Thomas. The Sheffield visitors wish through the medium of this paper to thank Mr. Thomas and Mr. Small, and their Southport friends, for kindly arranging matters for them.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL of the above Guild will be held on Monday, July 16th, at Witney. Dinner tickets may be had on application by members to the Secretary, ensuring railway tickets at reduced fares on G.W.R. These dinner tickets are free for change-ringing, one shilling per head for probationary, and two shillings per head for hon. members.

Bearwood Rectory, Wokingham. DOLBEN PAUL, Hon. Sec.

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

(From the Framlingham and Saxted Leaflet.)

THE precise time of the foundation of Framlingham parish church "is not easily discovered" (as Robert Hawes says in his old history of Framlingham) "but by the arms of the Mowbrays cut on stone near the foundation, and about the middle of the steeple, it is a plain demonstration that this, if not the church too, was erected by them, and very probably both; for the one seems not more modern as to the order of its work than the other. And admitting that both of them were built by the Mowbrays, when Dukes of Norfolk and patrons of the Church, it must be in that interval of time from 1398 to 1475, for no longer were they possessors of that title and patronage." It would seem as if the present building stood upon the site of an older building, for while the nave thus dates from the beginning of the fifteenth century, and the chancel from the middle of the sixteenth, the chancel arch shows work of the twelfth or thirteenth century, and thus probably contains all that is left of the original chancel. This was pulled down by Thomas Howard, third Duke of Norfolk, and the stonework rebuilt by him towards the latter end of the reign of Henry VIII., and the whole was finished by Edward VI., in 1549, and covered with lead; the king at the same time repairing the whole church also. The great width of the chancel is a remarkable feature of the church, and it seems not improbable to have been the intention of the rebuilder that the two chancel aisles should be used as chantries, or burial chapels for his family. The south porch is comparatively modern and seems to have been rebuilt or at least considerably renovated about the year 1771.

In former times there were only two postures used in divine service, viz., kneeling and standing, for the people stood even to hear sermons, and it was only the aged and infirm who were allowed to make use of the stone seats by the walls and pillars of the Church. Consequently there were no sittings, benches or pews, originally in the Church. And the time when seats were first adopted in the Church appears to have been about the years 1512-1520. These seats were open benches and were at first perhaps only used during the sermon. The ends of these benches were beautifully carved, and the Church thus fitted must have presented a very striking appearance. However, gradually people got more and more lax in their behaviour, and those who were able began to have their seats shut in by doors and to raise the sides and back until there began to appear those hideous arrangements, the high pews and square pews. These, by one of those waves of popular fancy which can hardly be accounted for, came into general use the earlier part of the 18th century, and in conformity with the general fashion the Church of Framlingham was re-seated probably between the years 1710-1720. The beautiful carved work was pulled down and barbarously cut up to be used as joists for the flooring of the new pews: and not only so, but the stonework of the arches and pillars was treated with equal disrespect and was cut away and destroyed to fit in the new arrangements. The new pews naturally led to that most objectionable custom of allotting them to families, who looked upon them as their own and resented any intrusion as an insult. Irreverence and carelessness were also fostered by the height of the pews, which hid the occupants from the rest of the congregation. And so it has come to pass that in too many cases it would seem as if the professing Christians of England considered that there was but *one* posture to be used in divine worship, i.e., *sitting*!

Last year, when the manner of celebrating the Queen's Jubilee was discussed, one of the projects brought forward was the re-hanging of the bells. This plan, which would have formed such an excellent memorial of so notable a year, did not meet with an overwhelming amount of success, and though many were found willing to subscribe to the bell fund, yet the total promises did not justify the churchwardens in giving orders for the work to be done. It is to be hoped that they will soon be able to set forward the work, that we may once again hear our fine ring of bells as as they ought to sound.

The Bells were formerly five in number, and it was at some period prior to 1657 that the "Bell rope meadow" was added to the Glebe land of the Rectory in order to provide ropes when necessary for the said five bells. In the year 1657 a sixth bell was bought (as is noted in the Churchwardens' accounts for that year) "partly by way of free contribution by ye Townsmen, &c.,

partly by some Timber sold of ye Town grounds." Five ropes for these bells were still provided by the Rector, but the other rope was found by the Parishioners. In the year 1717 a subscription was made amounting to about £65 with which two new bells were bought, thus raising the number of the ring to eight. This has been said to be the oldest ring of eight bells in the county of Suffolk, though from late researches it appears that the ring of eight at Horham is a little earlier.

Each bell bears an inscription; as follows:—

Treble.—John Stephens, of Norwich, made me, 1718.

Second.—John Stephens fecit, 1718. Prosperity to all my benefactors.

Third.—John Stephens made me, 1720.

Fourth.—Gabriel Noc Pange Suave Hoc in Coclave.

Fifth.—Virginis Ægregie Vocor Campna Marie.

Sixth.—Omnis Sonus Laudet Dominom. Anno Domini, 1583.

Seventh.—W. I. B. Anno Domini, 1622.

Tenor.—Per me Fideles Convocantur ad Preces. J.S., 1718.

Thomas Mulliner. Moses Bury. C.W. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

The restoration of the west doorway of the parish church has been completed in the most satisfactory manner. The door has been enriched with new ironwork hinges of very good design, worthy of one of the best periods of Gothic architecture, and the stonework of the deeply recessed doorway carefully restored, and, where necessary, replaced with new material. The parish is to be congratulated on this good work, and the anonymous donor to be warmly thanked for his liberality in doing it. The churchwardens have fixed a handsome brass tablet to the chime case. It reads thus:—"William Woolston, of Westlands, in this town, a Member of the Society of Friends, Presented these Chimes to the Parish of Wellingborough, to commemorate the Jubilee of Queen Victoria. Her free people rejoice in her long, happy, and prosperous reign. 21st June, 1887."

THE IRISH EXHIBITION, OLYMPIA.

The exclusion of all political questions from the scheme of the Irish Exhibition was one of the first and wisest principles determined by the Executive Council. It has thus been made possible, while politicians are opposing one another on Irish questions, for the wives and daughters of the chiefs of all parties to meet in happy union to buy and sell Irish products for the benefit of Irish peasants and Irish Technical Schools. The Marchioness of Salisbury and Countess Spencer, the Marchioness of Londonderry and Countess of Aberdeen, Mrs. Gladstone and Miss Balfour, Countess of Bective and Lady Harcourt, are not only actively assisting in the organization of the Fancy Fair, which is to be held in the old Market Place, at the Exhibition, but they will preside and sell at the shops each day of the Fair. Lady Arthur Hill and the Marchioness of Downshire will sell music and books by Irish composers and writers. The Duchess of Manchester and Lady George Hamilton will sell flowers and shamrock from Vinegar Hill. Lady Hayter will display photographs of famous Irish men and women. The Countess of Leitrim and Lady Lewisham have the fancy stall. Countess Tolstoi and the Countess of Kilmorey will have some of the choicest glass, cutlery, perfumery, &c. Irish work will be sold by Marchioness of Waterford, Lady Charles Beresford, Marchioness of Headfort, Lady Castletown, and Mrs. Pierce Mahony, the latter of whom will dispose of one of her husband's celebrated Kerry cows, while Mrs. Arthur Kennard will invite offers for some choice little Irish pigs. The Fancy Fair will open on Tuesday the 17th inst., at 3 o'clock, and remain open the three following days. As there will be additional attractions in the Exhibition itself it will be a good opportunity for paying a visit to Olympia.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. Samuel Wood has removed to 166 Margaret Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

FOR SALE.—A beautiful-toned set of Handbells, 24, in G.; nearly new; warranted perfect. Price £10. Company broken up cause of sale.—Apply to J. STURTT, Richmond Road, Kingston-on-Thames.

GREAT WALTHAM, ESSEX.

On Friday, July 6th, a party from Writtle and Widford made an expedition to Great Waltham, a village five miles from Chelmsford, where there is a fine heavy ring of eight bells, tenor 28 cwt., of various dates from 1581 to 1796; but no change-ringing is, or has for many years been practised. There is, however, a band of call-change ringers, and the bells are in fairly good order: the chief drawback being the belfry itself, which is awkward of access, with a bad sight from some of the ropes. Ringing began with a 504 of Grandsire Triples. R. C. Burrell (Chelmsford), 1; J. Dains (Widford), 2; A. Edwards (Writtle), 3; F. Radley (Writtle), 4; A. Tarbun (Widford), 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon (Writtle), 6; W. Lincoln (Writtle, conductor), 7; W. G. Dickins, Esq. (Writtle), 8. After this, Messrs. S. and H. E. Hammond, and T. Watson, from Braintree, with Mr. Livermore, from Waterford Cathedral (who is paying a visit to his old county), appeared in the belfry, and some touches of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples were attempted unsuccessfully. The party from Writtle and Widford were afterwards entertained at supper by the Vicar, the Rev. H. E. Hulton, to whom their best thanks are due for his hospitality, as also to the local ringers for having everything in readiness.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The General Quarterly Meeting of the above was held at Grimsby on Saturday, July 7th. During the afternoon the bells of St. James' were kept ringing by several of the members, conducted by Mr. D. Seamer. Tea was provided in the Bull Ring Coffee Hall at 5 o'clock, after which the meeting was held under the presidency of the Rev. Canon Young, of Grimsby. Mr. J. W. Watson, 15 Knight Street, Lincoln, was elected as Honorary Secretary. The next meeting is to be held at Market Rasen with Claxby, in October, when the question will be discussed whether it would not be advisable to have fewer business meetings and more ringing meetings during the year. Several probationary members were enrolled as efficient; and three new probationers were elected. Mr. H. Gadd proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. Canon Young, and the Rev. — Spawforth, for granting the use of the bells on that day. Mr. Charles Jackson, of Hull, seconded, and the Rev. Canon Young in an appropriate speech, responded. The Rev. A. N. Clay also made a few telling remarks. After the meeting an adjournment was made to the belfries, and a few short touches were rung.

BRISLINGTON, SOMERSET.

On Sunday afternoon, July 8th, several members of the Bristol St. Stephen's Amateur Society, visited the above place, where they were kindly entertained to tea at the Vicarage, after which a move was made to the tower, where several six-scores of Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles were rang for Service. J. Hinton (conductor), 1; C. Burden, 2; G. Colston, 3; F. Elles, 4; T. Phillips, 5; W. Colston, 6. After service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. C. Burden, 1; S. Phillips, 2; G. Colston, 3; F. Elles, 4; C. Tomkins, 5; J. Hinton (conductor), 6. The ringers wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to thank the Vicar for his kind entertainment and the use of the bells; also the steeplekeeper for having things in readiness for them.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the above Association will take place at Bristol, on Monday, July 30th. Short service at St. Mary Redcliffe church at 11 o'clock, address by the Rev. A. C. C. Anstey, vicar of St. John's, Clifton. Business Meeting immediately after service, at No. 1, Colston Parade (corner house). Dinner at the "Ship" Inn, Redcliffe Hill, 2s. 6d. per head, at 1 o'clock. 1s. 6d. allowed to all who have given notice to C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., Local Secretary, 30 Broad Street, on or before the 25th inst. A cheap train leaves Cheltenham at 8 a.m. on July 30th, and calls at all intermediate stations, leaving Temple Mead Station, at 8.30 p.m. the same evening.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1888.

	Jan.	Apr.	May	Total
Ancient Society of College Youths	36	4		40
Sussex County Association	30	4		34
Midland Counties' Association... ..	26	4		30
Oxford Diocesan Guild	20	3		23
Essex Association	16	6		22
Lancashire Association	18	2		20
Norwich Diocesan Association... ..	15	2		17
Yorkshire Association	11	2		13
Surrey Association	9	3		12
Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association	7	4		11
Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford ...	7	4		11
St. James's Society, London	10	0		10
United Counties' Association	8	2		10
Kent County Association	6	4		10
Salisbury Diocesan Guild	8	1		9
Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association	6	2		8
The Holt Society	7	0		7
Hertford College Youths	6	0		6
Society of Royal Cumberland Youths... ..	6	0		6
Winchester Diocesan Guild	5	0		5
Liverpool Youths' Society	4	0		4
All Hallows' Society, Tottenham	3	0		3
Hertford Association	2	0		2
Birmingham Amalgamated	2	0		2
St. Martin's Society, Birmingham	1	1		2
Waterloo Society, London	1	0		1
Eastern Counties Association	1	0		1
Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal	1	0		1
Durham and Newcastle Association	0	1		1
Bath and Keynsham Deaneries' Association...	0	1		1
Independent Societies	37	10		47
Less peals entered under two Associations	309	60		369
	27	7		34
Totals	282	53		335

The above peals were rung in the following methods: New Cumberland Surprise Major, 1; Cambridge Surprise Major, 2; Superlative Surprise Major, 7; Double Oxford Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 10; Stedman Cinques, 2; Stedman Caters, 12; Stedman Triples, 22; Duffield Royal, 3; Treble Bob Royal, 8; Treble Bob Major, 46; Prince Albert Major, 1; Grandsire Caters, 19; Grandsire Major, 1; Grandsire Triples, 130; Grandsire Doubles (5040), 11; Court Bob Triples, 2; Oxford Bob Triples, 5; Union Triples, 5; Bob Maximus, 1; Bob Royal, 1; Bob Major, 14; Bob Triples, 12; Bob Doubles (5040), 1; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1; in Seven Minor methods on six bells, 13; in one method, 1; in 14 methods on 5 bells, 2; in six methods, 1. Total 335. Quickest 5000 upon church bells, 2 hrs. 27 mins. The above-mentioned 47 peals by independent Societies were rung in the following counties:—Lancashire, 18; Staffordshire, 3; Gloucestershire, 3; Suffolk, 3; Cheshire, 3; Yorkshire, 2; Warwickshire, 2; Kent, 2; Berkshire, 2; Surrey, 2; also Devonshire, Northamptonshire, Middlesex, Huntingdonshire, Bedfordshire, Norfolk, and Derbyshire one each.

	1887.	1888.
Number of peals rung in January	50	52
" " February	76	72
" " March	65	60
" " April	62	98
" " May	57	53

Increase on the five months 25.

Brighton.

GEO. F. ATTREE.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held on Saturday, July 21st, at Bromsgrove, Worcestershire. The tower will be open for ringing at four o'clock, meeting to take place afterwards, when all members and friends are earnestly invited to attend.

Park Road, Harborne.

E. PARKER.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO. Printers, Exeter.

ST. NICHOLAS' SOCIETY, BRIGHTON.

The above society had their Annual Outing on Saturday, July 7th, at Bletchingley. Leaving Brighton at 7.35., they arrived at Redhill in due course, three miles from their destination. In passing through Nutfield, the party were met by Mr. Burkin, sen., who informed them that the vicar, the Rev. W. Bristow, had given instructions for every attention to be shown them, the bells being at their service during the day. In the belfry two peal boards were noticed, one dated March 18th, 1815, recording a peal of Double Bob Minor, the first on the bells; and a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, rang in 1836. After ringing a few touches, and a 720 of Bob Minor, an account of which will be found on another page, Bletchingley was reached, where a hearty reception was given them by Mr. Bashford on behalf of the Bletchingley ringers. Permission had previously been given for the use of the bells, but was very reluctantly withdrawn owing to an occurrence that took place the previous Monday, as recorded in the last issue of "THE BELL NEWS." At half-past one the party sat down to a substantial dinner at the "Red Lion," to which full justice was done. The usual loyal toasts having been given and drank, the Bletchingley handbells were brought into requisition, and enlivened the proceedings. A start was then made for Godstone, two miles on, Mr. Bashford going forward and obtaining leave to ring from the Vicar, the Rev. — Hoare, which was readily given. Here a nice little peal of six and in good going order was found. Time being limited, a short touch of Grandsire and Plain Bob, and a ramble down where the water lilies grow, and then tracks were made for headquarters, where a very nice tea was waiting. Song and sentiment afterwards prevailed until the starting time came and leave had to be taken, the party getting home to Brighton at eleven o'clock. The thanks of the society are due to the Rev. F. W. Pelley, of Bletchingley, to the Rev. W. Bristow, of Nutfield, the Rev. — Hoare, of Godstone, and to the Bletchingley and Nutfield ringers, who done all they could to render the day pleasant to every one.

ANNIVERSARY AT SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

On Friday, June 29th, the 14th anniversary of the augmentation of the peal at St. Peter's church to eight, by the addition of two new trebles, was held as usual. Ringing commenced at 6.30 a.m. at St. Peter's church, the bells being fired and a touch of Bob Major rung. After this a touch of Grandsire Triples, at All Saints. The bells of St. Gregory's were also rung during the day, the three towers being open for ringing, touches of Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Grandsire and Stedman Triples being rung. The dinner took place at one o'clock, at the "Oak Inn," where a first class repast was well served up by Host Good. The Rev. T. L. Green, Rector of SS. Gregory and Peter, occupied the chair, the vice-chair being filled by Dr. W. J. Mason, there being also present the Rev. C. J. Stowe, Vicar of All Saints, W. B. Ranson, Esq., Mr. W. L. Lewis, Mr. N. Aprile, churchwarden of All Saints. After dinner various toasts were proposed and healths drank, when tower ringing again became the order of the day, the finishing touch being a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), for the evening service at St. Peter's, by the following: N. W. Taylor, 1; M. Silvester, 2; W. Bacon, 3; W. Cross, 4; W. Howell, 5; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 6; W. J. Nevard (Great Bentley), 7; J. Campin, 8. The rest of the evening was spent in handbell ringing, the company breaking up at eleven o'clock.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The First Annual Festival will be held at Ross on Monday, July 23rd. Morning Service at the parish church at 11 a.m., when the sermon will be preached by the Rev. Canon Musgrave, of Hereford Cathedral. The offertory will be devoted to the funds of the Guild. Dinner at the "George" Hotel at one o'clock, tickets two shillings each; business meeting immediately after. All members and friends who are interested in the Guild, are invited to attend. The Great Western Railway Company will convey ringers to Ross and back at a fare and a quarter, provided that the party is not less than ten. Ringing will take place during the afternoon at Ross (eight bells), Foy (six bells), and Weston (six bells).

Cotwall Rectory, Malvern.

G. M. CUSTANCE, Hon. Sec.

Correspondence.

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

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

THE FIRST PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES RUNG IN HAND.

SIR,—In your valuable paper of Saturday last, a letter appeared from Mr. Cooter, stating that the first peal of Stedman Triples rung in hand by Messrs. Cox, Powell, Haley, and Britten, of the Cumberland society, was no peal, and the College Youths rang the first peal a month later. I am surprised at Mr. Cooter making such a statement, when he well knew that it was pronounced in the presence of nineteen members of the Cumberlands and College Youths' societies to be an excellent peal, and was published in *Bell's Life* and several other papers, of which I have a copy, the Cumberlands celebrating the event by a supper, when most of the society were present, nothing ever being mentioned about the peal not being true until after the death of Messrs. Britten, Cox, and Haley. Now thirty-four years have passed away, and all the senior members, so that none are now left to contradict that statement. Now Mr. Haley was well-known throughout all England as one of the cleverest and best in the science of ringing, also one of the most straightforward men in peal-ringing, as is well-known. Is it in reason that he would go on ringing, when he knew there was a change-course? He would have stopped the ringing at once, as many ringers in London can testify. Now why did not Mr. Cooter contradict it in the papers at that time. In our Editor's remarks of last Saturday's number, he truly says that bob-callers are to be found who will not stick at trifles.

THOMAS POWELL.

SIR,—In your leader last week you say "It may reasonably have been thought that the exposure could have been postponed, now that such an interval has elapsed, till all the parties concerned had shuffled off this mortal coil." When *Church Bells* gave a list of handbell peals, I sent a letter couched in similar terms to mine of last week; no notice was taken, all the party were then alive. Had "THE BELL NEWS" been published at the time, its astute and impartial Editor would have allowed me to thoroughly thresh out the matter at once.

WILLIAM COOTER.

THE PEAL OF OXFORD AT BOLTON.

SIR,—With regard to the letter of "A Ringer" on this subject, had he honourably signed his name instead of hiding himself behind a very common *nom de plume*, I would have given such explanation as would prove quite satisfactory to all; but until he puts his hints, doubts, and queries above his own name in a fair legitimate manner, I shall decline to deal with them.

F. LONDON.

USING THE PROPERTY OF OTHERS.

SIR,—The peal published by Mr. Hardy, 5184 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, was first published by me in "THE BELL NEWS" for January 2nd, 1886, and first rung at Holy Trinity church, Stalybridge, on Tuesday, August 25th, 1885, so that I still claim the peal.

SAMUEL WOOD.

A DISCLAIMER.

SIR,—The 5040 of Doubles rung at Minsterworth on June 26th, does not belong to our Association, as the performers were not members. F. E. WARD, Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Association.

PEALS WITHOUT A COVER.

SIR,—Some time ago there appeared in your valued paper a great controversy concerning a certain peal of Triples rung without a tenor covering, and many good arguments were given supporting both sides. But I notice in the issue of "THE BELL NEWS" for June 30th, that a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Tue Brook, near Liverpool, in which, as the account gives it, the tenor man being tired out after ringing two hours, set his bell, and having rested for half an hour, took on again, and rang on till the end. Now Sir, that peal was published, and no notice whatever was taken of it the following week; but yet I cannot help thinking that the peal rung by seven men without the tenor throughout was a much more praiseworthy and creditable performance than the so-called peal at Tue Brook. In fact I myself cannot quite see how the latter can be called a peal at all. I should have called your attention to this matter last week, had I not thought someone with more experience in these things would have taken it up.

JUVENIS.

WANTED by a change-ringer aged 20 years; a situation as Shopman or Book-keeper in Corn and Milling trade preferred, has had 6 years' experience in above Trades with present employer. Can ring the following Methods—Bob, Grandsire and Stedman. Apply to G. BAKER, Jun., Orchard Place, Arundel, Sussex.

TWO PEALS OF BOB TRIPLES.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

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

Five times repeated; omitting the first
 single of the third and sixth parts.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 M W

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

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

Five times repeated; omitting the first
 single of the third and sixth parts.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield.*

5200.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

Repeated.

This is a variation of J. Martin's peal.

5200.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

Repeated.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

5024.

2 3 4 5 6 W B M H

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

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

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

Repeated.

4th and 5th each eighteen times in 6ths
 place, and 6th twelve times each way in 5-6.

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES.

By S. BIDDLESTONE, *West Bromwich.*

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

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

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

Five times repeated. Single at H, at end of
 the third and sixth parts.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 6

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

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By Y. GREEN, *College Youths.*

5120.

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 5 6

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

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

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

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

Repeated.

This peal has the 5th twenty times right, and
 the 6th twelve times wrong and twenty-two
 times right.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

5043.

2 3 I 4 5 6

2 I 4 3 6 5 4 9 II 13 14
 4 I 2 5 6 3 5 16
 4 I 3 2 6 5 16
 4 I 5 3 6 2 16
 5 I 4 2 6 3 5 16
 5 I 3 4 6 2 16
 5 I 2 3 6 4 16
 2 I 5 4 6 3 5 16
 2 I 3 5 6 4 16
 3 I 2 4 6 5 5 16
 3 I 5 2 6 4 16
 3 I 4 5 6 2 16

3 I 4 2 6 5 S5 16
 3 I 5 4 6 2 16
 3 I 2 5 6 4 16
 2 I 3 4 6 5 5 16
 2 I 5 3 6 4 16
 5 I 2 4 6 3 5 16
 5 I 3 2 6 4 16
 5 I 4 3 6 2 16
 4 I 5 2 6 3 5 16
 4 I 3 5 6 2 16
 4 I 2 3 6 5 16

The above twenty-three courses repeated
 except first. Instead call I, 9, 13, 14, 16, which
 produces 213465, when bobs at 1, 7, 8, 15, 18
 bring the bells round in one change. First
 half in 9-8-7 position, second half in 9-7-8
 position. The peal has the 6th behind the 9th
 throughout.

NOW READY,

Crown 8vo., Cloth, 120 pages.

"DUFFIELD,"*A Musical Method for 8, 10, and twelve bells;*

Containing full directions for ringing, pricking, and proving the method; together with a collection of peals and an explanatory appendix. By

Arthur Percival Heywood, M.A.

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

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 14, 1888.

THE art of Change-Ringing has again been carried to a somewhat remote portion of the British Islands. In another column will be found an account of two peals being rung in one day at the parish church of Peel, Isle of Man. These performances are of course highly gratifying to the company who achieved them, and their perseverance over the difficulties and drawbacks they had to meet is certainly very commendable. Whoever organised this invasion of the island above-named, deserves some credit for the originality of the idea, if he

supposed that the ringing of a peal would lead to the establishment and practice of the science in the island. It would have been more satisfactory, however, could we have read that the Vicar had enquired of the visitors what change-ringing was, so that some hope would have been engendered that a body of Manxmen was about to be formed into a society of ringers under the direction of a qualified instructor.

This should be in fact the aim of all ringers who visit fresh fields and pastures new; to endeavour to leave behind them a longing for the knowledge they themselves possess. This feeling is generally easily aroused if only proper means are taken for the purpose. There may be cases where to work up an interest in the art requires some exertion and a little gentlemanly assurance. But what a gain is it to the Exercise. We expect our friend MR. HATTERSLEY and his companions will feel gratified if in a year or two hence they hear of a peal being performed in the Isle of Man by natives, and that gratification will be considerably enhanced if they hear that their visit gave the impetus to the formation of a society of Manxmen.

The Provinces.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 4, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE NEW CHURCH, PEEL, ISLE OF MAN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb.

WILLIAM DAVIES Treble.	ALFRED THOMAS 5.
JOSEPH MULLIGAN 2.	CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY 6.
JOHN R. PRITCHARD 3.	HENRY COLEY 7.
JOHN MULLIGAN 4.	ARTHUR BREARLEY .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent in fifth's place, and the 4th and 6th their extent in sixth's place, it also contains all the 8-6's, and is the first peal composed and rung with these combined qualities. It is also the first peal of any method ever rung in the Isle of Man.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 4, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty three Minutes,

AT THE NEW CHURCH, PEEL, ISLE OF MAN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb.

C. H. HATTERSLEY Treble.	ARTHUR BREARLEY 5.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL 2.	ALFRED THOMAS 6.
WILLIAM WHITAKER 3.	WILLIAM DAVIES 7.
JOHN MULLIGAN 4.	DAVID BREARLEY .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

The above was rung after an interval of three hours from the finishing of the 5184 of Treble Bob. A further account of these two peals will be found on another page.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, July 4, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ONE-PART.

WILLIAM ATKINS* Treble.	FREDERICK FIELD 5.
THOMAS SHORT 2.	H. D. BETTERIDGE 6.
CHARLES TRINDER 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 4.	WILLIAM COBB Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W WASHBROOK.

* First peal of Stedman.

ROCHDALE, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 5, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A. ED. WREAKS	Treble.	JOHN HARRISON	5.
WM. BRIERLEY	2.	*JAMES STANSFIELD	6.
JOHN MILLETT	3.	FRANK BIRTWISTLE	7.
W. SUTCLIFFE	4.	WM. PHILLIPS	Tenor.

Composed by J. J. PARKER, Farnham Royal, and Conducted by
FRANK BIRTWISTLE.

The above peal is in one part, and contains 90 calls, and is now rung for the first time. *First peal. Mr. Stansfield was elected a member a week previous before attempting the same peal, which failed through a change-course after ringing 2,900 changes in 1 hr. 45 mins. Mr. Wreaks hails from Manchester; Sutcliffe from Shaw; Millett and Harrison from Heywood, the rest belong to Rochdale.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Friday, July 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,
AT THE HOUSE OF MR. T. RUSSAM, CONVOLVULUS PLACE, ASTON,
ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 size in C.

BERNARD WITCHELL	1-2.	THOMAS MILLER	5-6.
WILLIAM KENT	3-4.	THOMAS RUSSAM	7-8.
		JOHN BUFFERY	9-10.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, SEN. and Conducted by THOMAS MILLER.
This peal has the 5th and 6th each twenty-four times behind the 9th, and was rung to celebrate the 30th birthday of the conductor, and this is also the first peal in the method on handbells in Aston. Referee: Mr. William Mundy who marked off every course-end; and other witnesses.

BENENDEN, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, July 6, 1888, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

J. GRANSBURY	Treble.	J. SHARPE	5.
W. POPE	2.	E. POPE	6.
W. E. POPE	3.	A. E. NUNN	7.
R. EDWARDS	4.	T. G. COLVIN	Tenor.

Conducted by A. E. NUNN.

Messrs. Edwards, Nunn and Sharpe are from Teatenden, the rest from Staplehurst.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, July 7, 1888, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD	Treble.	ALFRED THOMAS	5.
RICHARD HILL	2.	HENRY COLEY	6.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL	3.	*WILLIAM BALDWIN	7.
DAVID RIMMER	4.	WILLIAM DAVIES	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

*First peal. Mr. Small hails from Tipton, Staffordshire, Mr. Thomas from Birmingham; Messrs Pritchard, Coley and Davies from Liverpool; the remainder belong to the local company.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 7, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN SIDEBOTHAM	Treble.	WILLIAM MIDDLETON	5.
JOHN HARROP	2.	JAMES S. WILDE	6.
WALTER SLATER	3.	THOMAS WILDE	7.
MAURICE WILLIAMSON	4.	THOMAS BRADDOCK	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES S. WILDE.

Messrs. Slater and Wilde Brothers hail from Hyde; the rest are of the local company. This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is in one part, and contains the 5th and 6th their extent each way in 5-6.

CAPEL, SURREY.—THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD AND THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 7, 1888, in Five Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

10,080 CHANGES; IN FOURTEEN DIFFERENT METHODS;

Being a 720 each of the following:

YORK SURPRISE, DURHAM SURPRISE, ROCHESTER SURPRISE, CHICHESTER SURPRISE, WORCESTER SURPRISE, LONDON SURPRISE, WELLS SURPRISE, SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE, CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE, VIOLET, COLLEGE EXERCISE, COLLEGE PLEASURE, OXFORD AND KENT.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

JOHN AKEHURST	Treble.	ALFRED D. MILLS	4.
ROBERT JORDAN	2.	*EDWIN JORDAN	5.
THOMAS M. STEDMAN	3.	DAVID JORDAN	Tenor.

Conducted by DAVID JORDAN.

This is the first 10,000 on the bells, the first by all the band, and the first by the above Associations. *Cumberland Youths. Mr. A. Tidy acted as referee and booked off the course-ends as they came up.

DORCHESTER, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 7, 1888, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM COBB	Treble.	THOMAS SHORT	5.
FREDERICK FIELD	2.	H. D. BETTERIDGE	6.
CHARLES TRINDER	3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON	7.
HARRY FRUIN	4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK	Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

This is the first peal of Cambridge rang in Oxfordshire.

WALTER BELCHAMP.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 8, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

PERCY C. S. SCOTT	Treble.	FRED WELLS	5.
SAMUEL SLATER	2.	WILLIAM J. NEVARD	6.
WILLIAM HOWELL	3.	NELSON HAWKINS	7.
CHARLES SILLITOE	4.	JOHN LEES	Tenor.

Composed by DANIEL PRENTICE of Ipswich and Conducted by
CHAS. SILLITOE.

The above peal is in three parts and has the sixth at home the last two course-ends in each part, and is now rung for the first time. The calling will be found on page 158, vol. 1. of "THE BELL NEWS," the last peal in the second column.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(THE DUFFIELD SOCIETY),

On Tuesday, July 10, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 17 cwt.

SAMUEL JOHNSON	Treble.	HARRY C. WOODWARD	5.
JOHN HOWE	2.	HENRY MIDGLEY	6.
BENJAMIN SUGDEN	3.	WILLIAM HICKLING	7.
A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD	4.	GEORGE HINGLEY	Tenor.

Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, ESQ.

The band met to ring a peal in honour of Mr. W. Hickling's 37th birthday, but, information having been received of a death in the parish, a muffled peal was rung instead.

ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

This Society will hold its Annual Pic-nic at Hagley, on Saturday afternoon, July 21st. Tickets for the dinner which will be held at the "Prince of Wales," may be obtained on application to the Secretary on or before Wednesday, July 18th. Price three shillings each.

A. THOMAS, Sec.
83 Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

MOTTRAM, CHESHIRE.—THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 10, 1888, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN SIDEBOTHAM Treble.	THOMAS WILDE 5.
JOHN HARROP 2.	JAMES S. WILDE 6.
ROBERT SHAW 3.	GEORGE BRADDOCK 7.
WILLIAM MIDDLETON .. 4.	MAURICE WILLIAMSON .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES S. WILDE.

This peal which is now rung for the first time, is in one part and contains the 5th and 6th the extent wrong and right. The brothers Wilde hail from Hyde, the rest are of the local company.

Date Touch.

EYE (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, July 9th, for Divine Service, a date touch of Bob Major, 1888 changes. J. Woods, jun 1; G. Day 2; F. Day, 3; W. Gooderham, 4; J. Woods, sen., 5; D. Collins, 6; J. Bumpstead, 7; H. Torble (conductor), 8. Mr. Woods and son hail from Kenninghall, Norfolk.

Miscellaneous.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, June 30th, at the parish church, an attempt was made for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (5088 changes), but after ringing 3 hrs. 8 mins., it came to grief owing to a shift-course. W. James (first attempt at a peal), 1; E. Crump, 2; G. Hughes (first attempt with a bob bell), 3; T. Allbutt (first attempt with a bob bell), 4; O. James, 5; W. Rea, 6; G. Hayward (composer and conductor), 7; G. Bourne, 8. Great credit is due to Mr. Hughes for the manner in which he rang his bell through it, having only arm, the right one being off up to the shoulder.

OLDSWINFORD (Worcestershire).—On Wednesday evening, July 4th, several members of the above Association met at St. Mary's church, and rang a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor, in 26½ mins. W. A. Pugh, 1; R. Beasley, 2; *G. H. Pagett, 3; *H. Harris, 4; C. Beasley, 5; H. Mason (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method and first attempt. First 720 in the method on the bells. Also a 720 of Grandshire Minor, in 27 mins. C. Barrett, 1; C. Daniels, 2; C. Beasley, 3; H. Mason (conductor), 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; H. Harris, 6. Messrs. C. and R. Beasley, and Daniels hail from Cradley; Mason from Old Hill; Pugh, Harris, Pagett and Barrett from Stourbridge. The members take this opportunity of thanking the Rector for the use of the bells.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

PERRY BARR.—On Sunday, July 1st, for afternoon service at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. G. Mitchison, 1; H. Brown, 2; W. Carte, 3; C. Williams, 4; W. E. Smith, 5; W. Long (conductor), 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, May 22nd, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles), in 28 mins. H. Mitchell, 1; S. E. Romans, 2; J. Yeates, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Barnes (first 720 with a bob bell), 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. Also two six-scores of Stedman Doubles. J. Yeates (conductor), 1; S. E. Romans, 2; A. A. Waite, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; H. Barnes, 6. And on Tuesday, July 3rd, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (with eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27½ mins. A. A. Waite, 1; J. Yeates, 2; W. J. Sevier, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Barnes, 5; H. Mitchell (conductor), 6. Also three 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. J. Yeates (conductor), 1; A. A. Waite, 2; W. J. Sevier, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; H. Barnes, 6.

TEWKESBURY.—On Thursday, June 21st, at the Abbey, a half-peal of Union Triples (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 30 mins. H. Roberts, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hale, 4; L. Longney, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Hampton, 8. And on Thursday, July 5th, 1092 of Stedman Triples. C. W. Dyson, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. Also on Sunday afternoon, July 8th, for the children's Flower Service, 756 of Stedman Triples. C. W. Dyson, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; H. G. Brown, 8.

TWYNING.—On Sunday evening, July 8th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 25 mins. H. G. Brown, 1; S. Cleal, 2; L. Longney (conductor), 3; T. Devereux, 4; J. Wathen, 5; Jos. Wathen, 6. And 240 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and two six-scores of Stedman Doubles. S. Cleal, 1; T. Devereux, 2; J. Hale, 3; L. Longney, 4; J. Wathen, 5; Jos. Wathen, 6. In the Stedman Doubles H. G. Brown rang the tenor. First 720 in the method upon the bells.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday, May 24th, being the Queen's birthday, the local company, rang on the back seven, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (with nine bobs), in 30 mins. H. G. Gardener, 1; H. Mitchell, 2; R. J. Wilkins, 3; A. A. Waite, 4; S. E. Romans, 5; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 6; T. White, 7.

ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

BRISLINGTON, NEAR BRISTOL.—On Tuesday evening, July 10th, at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor. T. Salter (conductor), 1; C. Waters, 2; C. H. Gordon, 3; A. Anderson, Esq., 4; J. Davies, 5; C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., 6. Messrs Rooks (Bristol), Bevan and Walker (Brislington), also rang with the above during the evening.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, July 3rd, for practice at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. Also on Sunday morning, July 8th, for Divine Service, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. And 120 of Stedman Doubles. Also for Divine Service in the evening, 360 of Oxford Bob Minor. After evening service a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. The following took part in the above: Rev. G. F. Coleridge, T. Newman, H. Smith, J. Hands, G. Essex, E. Munday, H. Simmonds, F. Simmonds. Conducted by T. Newman, E. Munday, and G. Essex. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHARNBROOK (Beds).—On Saturday, June 23rd, at St. Peter's church, 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). I. Hills, 1; F. Smith, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; F. Keech, 4; C. R. Howard, 5; H. Chapman (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Hull, 1; A. J. Barcock, 2; E. Coleman, 3; W. Page, 4; A. Farrar, 5; W. G. Biggs (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). F. Smith (first 720 in the method), 1; C. R. Howard, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; H. Chapman, 4; W. G. Biggs, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. Tenor about 12 cwt.

CLAPHAM (Beds).—On Saturday, July 7th, at the parish church, six 6-scores of Bob Doubles. A. Mathews, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; G. Cockings, 3; F. Smith, 4; F. Sharpe (conductor), 5. And two 120's of Grandsire Doubles. A. Mathews, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; F. Sharpe, 3; F. Smith, 4; W. G. Biggs (conductor), 5.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, June 28th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Sharpe, 1; F. Smith (first 720 in the method), 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. R. Howard (first 720 in the method), 6. Also 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; F. Smith (first 720 in the method inside), 2; I. Hills, 3; H. Chapman, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. R. Howard (first 720 in the method), 6. And 120 of Stedman Doubles. S. J. Cullip, 1; F. Smith (first 120 in the method), 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; H. Chapman, 4; C. R. Howard (conductor), 5; F. Hull, 6. Also on Sunday morning, June 24th, for Divine Service at St. Paul's church, 360 of Bob Minor. F. Hull, 1; F. Smith, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; F. Keech, 4; H. Chapman, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6; W. Bettles, 7. And for evening service, 392 of Grandsire Triples. W. Bettles, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; F. Smith, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; F. Keech, 6; H. Chapman, 7; — Kempstone, 8. Also on Sunday, July 1st, 336 of Grandsire Triples. W. Bettles, 1; F. Smith, 2; H. Chapman, 3; I. Hills, 4; J. N. Frossell, 5; F. Keech, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; F. Hull, 8. And for evening service, 392 in the same method. F. Hull, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; F. Smith, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. R. Howard, 5; H. Chapman, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; W. Bettles, 8. Also on Tuesday, July 3rd, for practice, 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Bettles, 1; F. Keech, 2; F. Smith, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. Pass, 5; C. R. Howard, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; F. Sharpe, 8. Followed by 336 of Bob Major, and two courses of Stedman Triples. And on Sunday, July 8th, for Morning Service, 504 of Grandsire Triples, with the twelve 6-7's. W. Bettles, 1; F. Smith, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; F. Keech, 4; I. Hills, 5; C. Pass, 6; J. N. Frossell, 7; H. Chapman, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, June 24th, for Divine Service at Michael's church, 600 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Savill, 1; W. Hammond, 2; S. Hammond (conductor), 3; F. L. Bumstead, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; C. H. Howard, 6. Also for practice, on Saturday, July 7th,

a 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; W. Hammond, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; G. Livermore, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huxson, 6. And on Sunday, July 8th, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise was attempted but came to grief after ringing about 600 changes, through the treble slipping the wheel. T. Watson, 1; S. Hammond, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; G. Livermore, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 6. Afterwards a 600 of Kent Treble Bob, standing as before, also several touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob and Treble Bob Major, on handbells, double-handed, Messrs S. and H. E. Hammond, Livermore, Rudkin, and Huxson taking part. Mr. G. Livermore formerly a ringer here, hails from Waterford, Ireland.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, June 3rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, 360 of Bob Minor. J. King, 1; J. Lee, 2; O. Garwood, 3; W. J. Nevard, 4; W. Gridley (conductor), 5; G. Maxim, 6. Also a touch of Oxford Treble Bob.

COLNE ENGAIN (Essex).—On Monday, June 25th, at the parish church, 120 of Bob Doubles. F. Wells, 1; C. Sillitoe, 2; O. Garwood, 3; N. Hawkins, 4; S. Slater (conductor), 5. Also another 120 of Bob Doubles. F. Wells, 1; C. Sillitoe, 2; N. Hawkins, 3; S. Slater (conductor), 4; O. Garwood, 5. Tenor 11 cwt.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, July 7th, at the parish church, 720 of Double Court Bob. Z. Slater, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; F. Wells, 3; O. Garwood, 4; S. Slater (conductor), 5; P. C. S. Scott, 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

STANSTEAD (Suffolk).—On Sunday afternoon, June 3rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor. *J. King, 1; Z. Slater, 2; F. Wells, 3; W. J. Nevard, 4; S. Slater, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. Messrs. King and Nevard hail from Great Bentley, Essex. *First 720 in any method.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, June 9th, for practice at the parish church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. R. Mingay, 1; P. C. S. Scott, 2; H. Duce, 3; J. Bird, 4; W. Gridley, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6.

LOUGHTON (Essex).—On Monday, July 2nd, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 30 mins. G. Carter, 1; J. Rann, 2; E. Bacon, 3; F. Freeman, 4; W. Clarke, 5; W. Lebbon (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 on the bells and the first by all. On Monday, July 9th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. G. Carter, 1; G. Perry, 2; E. Bacon, 3; F. Freeman, 4; J. Rann, 5; W. Lebbon (conductor), 6; W. Clarke, 7; J. Brown, 8. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

WRITTLE.—On Saturday, July 7th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. W. Emery, 1; J. Dains, 2; *G. C. Scowen, 3; A. Shuttleworth, 4; F. Radley, 5; A. Edwards, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; W. Harvey, 8. *First quarter-peal. G. C. Scowen hails from Brentwood; Dains, Shuttleworth, from Widford. Also 168 in the same method, and 352 of Bob Major. And on Sunday, July 8th, for morning service, 720 of Bob Minor, with the tenor covering. W. Emery, 1; W. Lincoln, 2; F. Radley, 3; R. Wood, 4; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 5; A. Edwards, 6; W. G. Dickins, Esq., 7.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, July 8th, for Divine Service at the parish church, eight members of the above Association rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. F. W. Cook, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; J. Vickers, 3; *H. Hollingworth (conductor), 4; G. C. Tunncliffe, 5; J. W. Warren, 6; †T. Hollingworth, 7; J. R. Wood, 8. *First quarter-peal as conductor; †Longest length in the method.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Tuesday, July 10th, at the parish church, 720 of Violet Treble Bob in 25 mins. F. Sanders, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Moses, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Tuesday, July 3rd, at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor. *A. Dobinson, 1; F. Bridge, 2; F. Arnold, 3; W. Sadler, 4; F. Sanders, 5; R. Arnold (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, July 8th, for Morning Service, 360 of Oxford Bob. J. Poplett, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Sanders, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. *First 720 of Minor, and hails from Rannmore, Dorking. And on Tuesday, July 10th, 360 in the same method. A. Dobinson, 1; R. Arnold, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Moses, 4; F. Sanders, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Sunday, July 8th, after morning service, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Woods, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Woods, jun., 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Woods, sen., 3; A. Dunnett, 4; R. Hutton (conductor), 5; J. Hinchley, 6.

BELGRAVE (Leicestershire).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Monday, July 9th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Jenkins, 1-2; S. Cotton, 3-4; G. Cleal (conductor), 5-6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. S. Cotton, 1-2; G. Cleal (conductor), 3-4; W. Jenkins, 5-6. The above ringers are late of Worcester.

BENGOE (Herts).—On Saturday, July 7th, at Holy Trinity church, on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. J. Pomfret, eldest son of Mr. W. Pomfret, of Bengoe, to Miss E. Boon, second daughter of Mr. J. Boon, of Gribb Thorncombe, near Chard, Somerset, the local company rang several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Lambert, 1; E. Cains, 2; W. Odell, 3; M. Ellesmore (conductor), 4; H. Brown, 5; W. Bottrill, 6.

BATH.—On Monday, July 9th, at St. Andrew's church, for 'practice, a 518 of Grandsire Triples. G. Kingman, 1; G. Hill (conductor), 2; J. Hinton, 3; A. Meluish, 4; J. Holman, 5; H. Brown, 6; F. Beesley, 7; A. Meluish, 8. Also a plain course. H. Whyburn, 1; G. Hill, 2; J. Hinton, 3; J. Morris, 4; E. Tovey, 5; J. Meluish, 6; H. Brown, 7; A. Crocker, 8. Also a course on handbells. J. Holman, 1-2; H. Brown, 3-4; G. Hill, 5-6; A. Meluish, 7-8.

BURES ST. MARY (Suffolk).—On Monday, July 9th, on the occasion of the induction of the new vicar, four members of the Sudbury company, with Mr. J. Hume, of Bures, and Mr. W. J. Nevard, of Great Bentley, rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 27½ mins. J. Hume, 1; W. Cross, 2; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 3; H. Harper, 4; A. Scott, 5; W. J. Nevard, 6. Also another 720 of Bob Minor in 28 mins. J. Hume, 1; W. Cross, 2; C. Sillitoe, 3; W. J. Nevard, 4; H. Harper, 5; A. Scott (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 28 mins. J. Hume, 1; W. Cross, 2; A. Scott, 3; H. Harper, 4; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 5; W. J. Nevard, 6. This is the first 720 in the method on these bells for more than fifty years. Also two 360's of Bob Minor, and a touch of Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

CARLISLE.—On Monday, July 2nd, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), at St. Stephen's church, in 28 mins. G. Little, 1; J. J. Patterson, 2; W. Gregson, 3; D. Harding, 4; J. Jefferson, 5; F. Gibson (conductor), 6; G. Telford, 7. The above was rung as a wedding peal for J. J. Patterson.

EXETER (Devonshire).—On Sunday, July 8th, at St. Edmund's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), taken from Holt's Original, in 42 mins. T. Townsend, 1; E. Pitt (conductor), 2; S. Herbert, 3; A. Searle, 4; H. Swift, 5; W. Marsh, 6; W. Richardson, 7; H. Webber (first quarter-peal), 8.

EYE (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, July 8th, Mr. J. Woods, sen. paid a visit to the above place, to attempt a peal of Treble Bob Major. but after 1 hr. good ringing it came to grief, owing to a shift course and the conductor called stand. F. Day, 1; G. Day, 2; G. Westber, 3; G. Murton, 4; J. Woods, 5; G. Ford, 6; H. Torble, 7; J. Souter (conductor), 8.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—On Monday evening, June 25th, the St. Nicholas' handbell ringers were invited by the Rev. James F. Hastings to meet at his rooms for practice, when touches of Grandsire Triples, Caters and Cinques, Plain and Oxford Treble Bob were rung and conducted by Mr. Matthew Long. Suitable refreshments were kindly provided by the rev. gentleman between the ringing. Also on Monday, a touch of Grandsire Triples. A. Webber, 1-2; M. Long, 3-4; D. Hayward, 5-6; Rev. James Hastings (conductor), 7-8. Messrs. W. Fletcher, H. Ireland, and J. Tooley, were also present.

HOLME LACEY (Herefordshire).—On Friday, July 6th, at the parish church, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's ten-part), but after ringing 2 hrs. 44 mins., the eighth part-end turned up false through an error in the previous lead; 4-5 being shifted, the bells were then called round. E. Barnett (conductor), 1; J. G. Wall, 2; J. Honeyfield, 3; W. Jones, 4; H. J. Bussell, 5; J. Clark, 6; W. H. Fussell, 7; T. M. Preece, 8. Tenor 17 cwt. The above is the longest length on the bells.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, July 8th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. T. Scarlett (conductor), 1; T. Wood (first 720 in the method), 2; J. Hannington, 3; A. Howell, 4; G. Griffin, 5; G. B. Lucas, 6. A 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. G. B. Lucas, 1; T. Coard (Finchley, first 720 inside), 2; J. Hannington, 3; T. Wood, 4; G. Griffin, 5; T. Scarlett, 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. T. Scarlett, 1; G. B. Lucas, 2; T. Wood, 3; J. Hannington, 4; G. Griffin, 5; W. King, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

HURWORTH-ON-TREES (Durham).—On Tuesday, July 3rd, for practice at All Saints' church, a 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins. *B. Robinson, 1; J. Simpson, 2; H. Kirby, 3; J. Temple, 4; G. Garbutt (conductor), 5; R. Newton, 6. *First 720. Tenor 17 cwt.

MIDHURST (Sussex).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Tuesday evening, July 3rd, at the residence of Mr. Selby, 360 of Bob Minor in 10 mins. Dr. W. H. George, 1; W. Selby, 2; G. Williams (conductor), 3-4; Mrs.

G. Williams, 5-6. Also a 320 with C. Tribe, 1; Dr. W. H. George, 2. And two plain courses of Grandsire Triples. Mrs. Williams, 1-2; *Dr. W. H. George, 3; *C. Tribe, 4; G. Williams, 5-6; W. Selby, 7-8. *First attempt at Grandsire Triples.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, July 7th, at St. Andrew's church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure, in 24 mins. B. Townsend 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; W. Micklewright (conductor), 4; S. Spittle, 5; J. Smith, 6. This is S. Spittle's first 720 in this method. On Sunday morning, July 8th, on the occasion of the school sermons, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25½ mins. E. Hampton, 1; J. Smith (conductor), 2; J. Townsend, 3; W. Prestidge, 5; R. Round, 6. For evening service, 560 changes, in 20 mins., being 120 each of Oxford and Kent 60 each of Court Bob, College Single, Plain Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, and Grandsire Minor. F. Hotchkiss, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

NUTFIELD (Surrey).—On Saturday, July 7th, at the parish church, 720 of Plain Bob. *H. Miles, 1; W. Palmer, 2; J. Searle, 3; J. Burkin, 4; W. Hawkins, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. Messrs. Miles, Palmer, Searle, and Tyler, belong to the St. Nicholas society, Brighton, and Messrs. Burkin and Hawkins belong to the local company.

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Sunday, July 1st, being feast Sunday, the bells were rung for early service, 360 Oxford Bob, 560 London Single, and 360 Plain Bob being rung. A. Coles, 1; G. Kirk, 2; J. Willmott, 3; R. Pendered, 4; W. Hall, 5; H. Stubbs, 6. And for evening service 360 Oxford Bob and 360 Plain Bob, by G. Kirk, H. Stubbs, W. Hall, R. Pendered, A. Coles, F. Gilbert, J. B. and A. Martin from Higham Ferrers. On Monday, July 2nd, an attempt was made to ring ten 720s, but was lost after ringing 720 Woodbine, 720 Kent Treble Bob, 720 Court Single, 360 Double Court. H. Stubbs, 1; W. A. Hall, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; A. Martin, 4; R. Dunkley, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. And 720 Double Oxford Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Gilbert, 1; *A. Martin, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; W. A. Hall, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. J. Gilbert, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; A. Martin, 4; *R. Dunkley, 5; W. A. Hall (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Monday, June 18th, at St. Martin's church, 1652 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 8 mins., being an attempt for the last half of Holt's Original, but was called round through the conductor missing a bob. Rev. C. Jackson, 1; W. J. Prince, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; A. W. Barbus (conductor), 7; C. A. Clements, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

WEST HAM (Essex).—On Saturday, July 7th, at Holy Trinity church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. W. Smith, 1; W. Wright, 2; W. H. Dallimore, 3; *A. White, 4; J. R. Lowe, 5; H. Randall (conductor), 6. Tenor 7½ cwt. First in the method by all excepting the conductor, and the first 720 in the method on the bells.

Dr. Stainer, the well-known late organist of St. Paul's Cathedral, and Mr. G. B. Bruce, received the honour of knighthood at the hands of Her Majesty on Tuesday afternoon.

The Rev. R. W. Mann Statham has been licensed by the Bishop of London to the curacy of the parish church of Hillingdon, near Uxbridge.

SOME CURIOUS CHURCH DOORS.—Old church doors were sometimes nearly covered with ramifications of ornamental ironwork, spreading from the hinges in marvellously equable yet indefinable designs. Sometimes their stout oak planks were studded with large nail-heads or bolts; and their locks and handles were always masterpieces of the smith's skill. But, as we have said, the Ely doorway is void, but the Monkwearmouth doorway is also doorless. The south doorway of Steetley Church is very ancient. Around the semicircular doorhead is a series of large, long sharp-pointed bird-beaks, pointing downwards towards the door; and round these beaks there are rows of zig-zag ornament. The columniated jambs are also carved with intertwined ornaments and animals of dim antiquity. The idea of arranging beaks or tongues to form an enrichment seems to have found favour in the old mason's eyes. In Kilkhampton Church there is a semicircular doorhead, very rich in zig-zag mouldings, that has a bead-like row of foxy heads following the curve with their tongues lying upon the moulding below them; and in Morwinstow church there is a variety of the same idea made by a mixture of animal and human heads all ranged round a curved moulding, with their tongues or chins lying upon it—pitifully quaint. Less striking than these, but still belonging to the early Norman period, is a doorway in Bucklebury church, and another in Thatcham church, with bead-work, and a twisted variety of zig-zag ornament marking the one, and spiral enrichment of the columns distinguishing the other.—From "The Quiver" for July.

PRESENTATION OF A PEAL BOOK AT ST. ALBANS.

At the invitation of the Rev. H. N. Dudding, Vicar of St. Peter's church, St. Albans, the members of the St. Peter's Society attended at the vicarage on the evening of Wednesday, July 4th, when he kindly presented them with a handsome peal book. The reverend gentleman, in the course of an excellent address referred to the ancient character of church bells, and identified them as being analogous in the present day to the silver trumpets mentioned in the Old Testament, and pointed out the similarity of their uses in many respects. The book, which contains spaces for one hundred peals, bears upon the title page the following inscription: "Presented to the St. Peter's Society of Change-Ringers, St. Albans, by the undersigned, as a memento of the accomplishment on the 17th March, 1888, of the Society's first peal. H. N. Dudding, President, St. Peter's Vicarage, St. Albans, June, 1888." "Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." The book was supplied by Mr. B. Keeble, of Romford, and in it are entered the three peals already achieved by the Society, viz.: the peal of Grandsire Triples on the 17th of March, above referred to, and the peals of Grandsire Caters, rung on handbells, on the 23rd of that month and the 10th of April. The ringers before separating partook of refreshments at the Vicarage, and brought the handbells into requisition. Previous to the presentation the members met in the tower and rang a 560 of Grandsire Triples and some Grandsire Caters on the church bells.

MARRIAGE OF THE REV. R. COPEMAN.

Henley Church, Suffolk, was the scene of an exceedingly pretty wedding on Wednesday morning, July 4th, when the Rev. R. Copeman, curate of Fordingbridge, Hants, late of St. George's, Leicester, and Miss A. M. A. Pearson, elder daughter of the Rev. H. Pearson, Vicar of the parish, were married. The parishioners erected arches of evergreens over the entrance to the vicarage grounds, and above the churchyard gate, expressing their good will towards and sympathy with the bride and bridegroom in appropriate mottoes. The interior of the church was prettily decorated, the children who form the choir and others brought flowers to scatter on the bride's pathway, and a large congregation of friends and well-wishers assembled to witness the ceremony. The nuptial party walked over from the Vicarage, the first to enter the church being the bridegroom, attended by his best man, Mr. A. Copeman. The bridesmaids who waited for the bride in the porch were Miss I. E. Pearson, Miss Copeman, and Miss Hare. Punctually at the time appointed (11.30) the bride entered the church, leaning on her father's arm, who also gave her away. As the procession walked up the aisle the choir sang "The voice that breathed o'er Eden," and the marriage service was then read by the Rev. William C. Pearson, brother of the bride. At the close of the service the bells rang forth merrily, and flowers and rice were freely showered upon the happy couple as they returned by the carpeted pathway to the Vicarage. Lunch followed at one o'clock, and in the afternoon a large garden party was given by the Rev. H. and Mrs. Pearson. About three o'clock the Rev. R. and Mrs. Copeman left for Lincoln, en route for the north, amidst showers of rice and white satin slippers. Many handsome presents were received from sympathising friends, of which one that gave especial pleasure was a very handsome marble clock and pair of bronze candlesticks, subscribed for by the parishioners of Henley, in which the men, women, and children of every class joined. Miss Pearson felt this act of kindness very deeply, and it will ever be a substantial token to her of the good wishes and kindly feelings of many who have known her, and whom she has known from early childhood.

We feel quite sure that Mr. Copeman's Leicester friends, and all other brother-strings with whom he has had many a pull, will unite in hearty congratulations and best wishes for his happiness in the new "chapter of life" which he has now commenced.

ERRATUM.—In the notice of Mr. G. H. Phillott's marriage, we are sorry that an error should have occurred. The lady's name should have been "Ethel Maud Trevor-Roper," not "Treon-Roper."

TREVETHIN BELLS.

The following letter has been sent to the Editor of the *Trevethin Free Press* :—

"SIR,—Being an old bellringer, I was very pleased to find that a peal was obtained for Trevethin Church, and, since they have been erected, I have been anxious to see them, and have a pull, to see how they work. After making enquiries I found that the "practice" was on Wednesday last, and if I went up I should be welcomed. Consequently, I went up there and found my way into the belfry, where I found the ringers resting in a circle. I told them that I was an old ringer and wished to see how the bells worked. One man, who seemed to be the master, got up and told me I was to leave. I replied that I had made an effort to go there in order to see the bells work, and should not like to be disappointed, as I was interested in them and was an old bellringer from my boyhood; and that I was a subscriber. He said that that did not matter, and pointing to the way out, told me I was to go. Then I said that, as an old parishioner, I felt very reluctant to go out before seeing them at work, and for the third time he pointed me to the way out and said I must go. I, as politely as I could, bowed to his order and went out. But I felt much hurt, I can assure you. For over half a century I have been in the habit of visiting occasionally all the belfries in the district, in order to try my hand and keep up the practice, and I never have been refused the privilege anywhere before, but always I have been welcomed. Why this master-ringer should act so differently I am at a loss to know; but I thought at the time that he must be one of the "knowing" ones, and as such he wished to conceal his knowledge. But before I was many yards from the church on my way home, I found that he could not conceal his ignorance, for the bells rang out the fact that they could not even ring the changes.

"Now I should like to know to whom these bells belong, and who is the proper person to apply to for admission to the belfry; and whether they may be seen, touched, or handled by any one like myself or not, and how near one like myself may be allowed to approach them without trespassing? Having made an effort out of my small income to subscribe my mite towards the funds, I thought they would be the property of the parish. I may be wrong; but will you or any of your readers inform me on the matter? Hoping you will allow me space to these few lines in your valuable paper."

"I beg to remain, yours truly,
Gwent Street, Pontypool. "JOHN EVANS."

ST. GEORGE'S, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Friday evening, July 6th, was the occasion of a very interesting ceremony in connection with the newly formed Guild of Amateur Ringers; being the opening of a new peal of fifteen handbells supplied by Mr. G. Welch.

The proceedings were commenced by a little ringing on the tower bells, after which an adjournment was made to the school close by, where a knife and fork repast was in waiting, the caterer being Mr. H. T. Howell, captain of the Guild. After a few rounds, and Grandsire Triples and Doubles by Messrs. G. Daltry, F. Price, F. K. Howell, and H. T. Howell, stand was called, and getting into position, go was the word for a course of knife and fork. A few minutes later the company had the pleasure of welcoming Messrs. J. Hinton and C. Gordon. After justice had been done to the things provided, a few short addresses from the Vicar, patrons of the Guild, President, Secretary, and the captain of the Thornbury ringers, Mr. F. K. Howell, the handbells were once more brought into play, when some capitally struck Caters, Triples, and Minor were brought round by Messrs. J. Hinton, Daltry, Price, Gordon, and F. K. Howell. And lively tunes with the bells four in hand, called forth the repeated approbation of the company, being interspersed with songs from the amateurs and visitors, brought a most pleasant and enjoyable evening to a close with the National Anthem, and the hope that the visitors would favour the Guild, if spared, with another visit at a future anniversary.

The Bletchingley Society beg to announce that their usual practice will be discontinued until further notice.

Obituary.

OUR readers will recollect the account which appeared in this paper of the opening of a new ring of bells at Maryborough, Australia, the donor of which, with the tower, was E. F. Aldridge, Esq., of that town. It is with deep regret that we record the decease of this gentleman, who died somewhat suddenly on Friday, May 18th, at his late residence, Baddow House. He was over seventy years of age, and for his age a very active man. The bells were rung muffled at intervals on Saturday, the day of the funeral, and also for both services on the following Sunday. His whole heart and soul was much enwrapt in the tower and bells, which he only lived to enjoy for the short space of seven weeks. And very singular to say, that the ship "Eastminster," a fine vessel, after calling at Maryborough and landing the bells, put out to sea, and was never since heard of. The weather at the time was very rough, and as portions of wreckage believed to belong to her were found near Maryborough, it is supposed that she foundered.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

A District Meeting will be held at Dinton, for Chilmark, on Wednesday, August 1st. Dinner at the "Wyndham Arms," at 1 p.m., price two shillings each. The names of those intending to be present must be sent in to me not later than Monday, July 23rd.
J. R. JERRAM, *Hon. Sec.*

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

The next Ringing Meeting of the above branch will take place on Saturday, July 14th, at St. James's church, Waterfoot. Bells ready at 2 o'clock; Meeting in the school at 6.30.
J. T. STOTT, *District Secretary.*

Newchurch.

THE CHURCH HOUSE.—On Saturday, the Archbishop of Canterbury presided over a meeting of the general committee of the Church House, held in the National Society's offices, Sanctuary, Westminster. The report of the executive committee to June 20th stated that a site had been chosen on the south side of Dean's-yard, the right of purchase of the freehold of which had been secured for the sum of £26,500, and the entire liabilities present and prospective in connexion with the acquisition of the site would reach a total of £42,431. The Archbishop of Canterbury said that in receiving the report, the committee hoped the good ship of the Church House would be launched a fortnight hence, and that it would be all that they had expected—a perpetually growing institution of perpetually increasing usefulness. On the motion of the Bishop of London, the report was adopted.

NEW ALTAR FRONTAL AT ST. PAUL'S.—In the design of this work (which forms the subject of an illustration in last week's *Builder*), the central subject is a representation of Christ surrounded by adoring angels. On either side are illustrations of events in the life of Paul. One of these shows the martyrdom of Stephen, rays of glory falling around the prostrate form of the saint, while Saul of Tarsus is seen standing as a witness to his death. In the other space is shown St. Paul in fetters before King Agrippa and his sister Bernice. Between these subjects are single figures under arched canopies, representing the four archangels. The whole of the work, which is eleven feet in length, has been executed at the East Grinstead School of Embroidery, 32 Queen-square, W.C., and has taken nearly three years to complete. It has been presented by Miss Noyes to St. Paul's Cathedral, and was designed by Mr. J. Medland, of Messrs. Medland and Powell.

DEAN SPENCE AT ST. PANCRAS.—During the ten years Dean Spence passed at St. Pancras, he accomplished some of the most important work of his life. Most indefatigably and energetically he laboured to perfect his parochial organisation. His Sunday Schools there were probably the largest in England; in addition to which, there were well attended and highly efficient day schools and mission services, and Bible Classes.
—From "The Quiver" for July.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"The British Lion is a noble scion,
But beware how you tread on his tail."

Some members of the Surrey Association, I see, have been experiencing one of those unpleasant *contretemps* with over-officiousness of which we have had a few examples lately. Talk about the vagaries of our parish clerks of old, they are beginning to sink into insignificance before the doings of some of our modern worthies—sequestrators and such like! I am not naturally a man prone to strife, but I certainly should have been glad to read that the dozen ringers in the belfry who were thus insulted had—of course, tenderly and carefully—hoisted this fiery-tempered worthy into a safe place in the bell-chamber, and there fastened him up until they had finished their touch of Treble Bob. His experiences there would no doubt have been novel, and perhaps not over pleasant, but he would at any rate have had opportunity for reflection and time to cool down while he watched the bells tumbling about.

What do the ringers of St. Mary's, Twyford, mean by thanking the Vicar of Christchurch for "allowing them to view the Church free of charge?" Thanking that reverend gentleman for permitting them to use the bells on an extraordinary occasion I can understand; but the idea of thanking him in print for letting them inspect the sacred building without payment, is to me both singular and disagreeable.

I am obliged to Mr. Penning for his interesting bit of information respecting the Ancient Saffron Walden Society, in reply to my query, and no less so for his compliment to myself. His concluding suggestion, unfortunately, I am unable to carry out; in the words of the pantomime song—"I would if I could, but I can't."

Allow me to compliment Miss Margaret Bushnell on her ringing a 120 of Bob Doubles on handbells. It is not, comparatively speaking, a great performance in itself, but bodes well for future achievements in the science. What strikes me most, however, in this, is its apt commentary on the remarks recently made by certain of the gentler sex on ringers and ringing matters. There is evidently no fear of her complaining on that score, for while others of her sex have been grumbling she has been diligently studying and practising the art.

That reminds me of the epistle of your "peaceful" correspondent who refers to the names of three ladies well-known in the Exercise. With regard to the first one, while fully sensible of the great loss she sustained but recently, and being very diffident in making remark thereto, I cannot refrain from expressing my regret that we have seen so little of Miss Cruwys Sharland's name lately, and the hope that we shall see her soon again figuring among the list of performances and compositions.

It was "hard lines" on the men of Capel, to lose their bravely-attempted 10,080 after over four hours' ringing, particularly when the most difficult of the fourteen methods had been dealt with, and everything seemed favourable to a successful finish. Well, try again, better luck next time.

Speaking of this week's peals and attempts, one cannot help noticing the difference in point of quality between the last men

tioned performance and the peal composed of forty-two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles rung at Minsterworth. The ringers of this latter must have found the thing very monotonous before they finished. Although I would not for one moment detract from the credit due to them, yet I should like to point out to them the advisability of aiming at better things now that they have assisted their tenor man through his first peal. My friends, why content yourselves with figuring at the lower parts of the ladder with performances of Doubles when you have a ring of six at your disposal? Let us ere long see your names once more in connection with the ringing of good Minor methods, then we shall be able to reflect with pleasure on the fact that the march of improvement has commenced in yet another place.

No doubt the letter from Mr. Cooter will give rise to a considerable amount of comment. Whether that gentleman be right or wrong, I fear he will have some difficulty in taking away the reputation of the Cumberlands' performance, after its over thirty years' acceptance by the Exercise as the first peal. The late Mr. Hubbard does not appear to have had any doubts upon the matter, for he reports both peals in his "Elements of Campanalogia," giving premier honour to the one, the truth of which is now disputed. Anyhow, Mr. Cooter has made his statement clear enough, there is no ambiguity or uncertainty about his meaning; and we shall therefore wait with interest to see the other side of the question.

Before I conclude this week, I would just refer to the interesting cutting which you give us with reference to the bells and ringing matters at Liversedge, Yorks. The Exercise seems to be in a very healthy state in that place, for according to this account, their bells are for sweetness and tone everything to be desired, while the ringers are a talented and successful body of men, whose work is fully appreciated and applauded by the inhabitants of the town. All this is very pleasant reading, and I would congratulate the Liversedge men on their abilities and success, as indicated by their peal boards, and the number of prizes they have won by their handbell ringing: in fact, I feel a very strong desire to pay them a visit and hear their melodious bells, which were cast from the cannons of our country's enemies in times past. By the way, in this account, I find no mention of the Yorkshire Association. Does the Liversedge company belong to that once numerous but now rapidly decreasing body known by the name of "Independent Societies?" I can hardly think that a band like them which has shewn such proficiency in ringing will be behind hand in the great work of organisation. Perhaps this is but an omission of the reporters.

FREE LANCE.

THE WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A ringing meeting of this Association will take place at Chaddesley Corbett, near Kidderminster, to-day, Saturday, July 14th, to which all members and friends are invited. The tower will be open at any time during the day for ringing. A meat tea will be provided at one shilling per head at the Swan Hotel, for those only who forward their names on or before Tuesday, July 10th, to

JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.
37 Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

BACONSTHORPE, NORFOLK.

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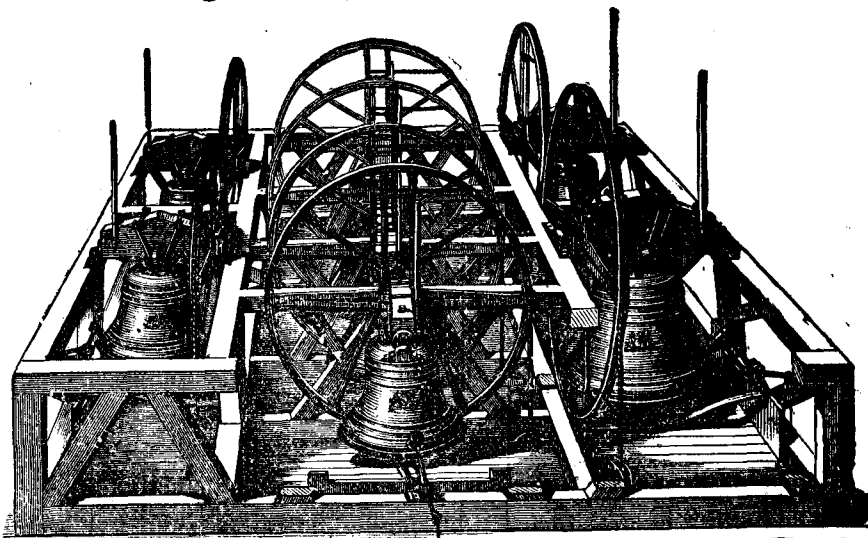
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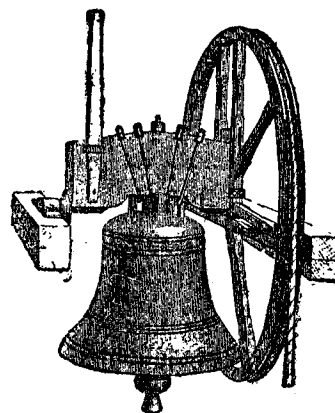
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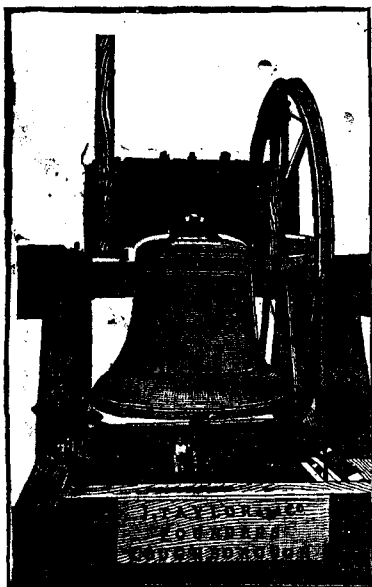
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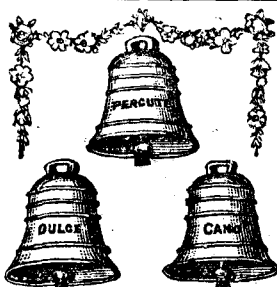
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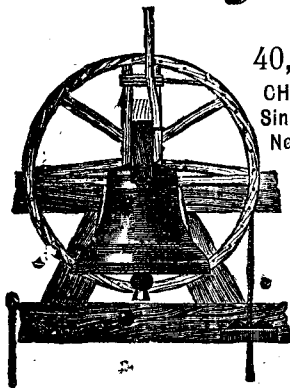
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CHURCH BELLS AND CHANGE-RINGING.

The following article appeared in last week's *Guardian*:—

"Some two years ago I was allowed to advocate, in the columns of the *Guardian*, the cause of change-ringing and belfry reform, and to urge, from the little experience which I then possessed, how desirable it is that the clergy and other influential persons should, wherever there is a peal of bells, do their utmost to organise, and if possible take part in, scientific change-ringing. The difficulties both of learning the art oneself, and of keeping others up to it, are no doubt considerable, particularly in country parishes, where among the labouring classes there is very little perseverance in overcoming difficulties, and where grown men are much like children, soon getting tired of a new thing, and having very dim conceptions of regularity and method. But the effort is well worth making; and I am quite certain that no clergyman who throws himself into the work will repent of having done so. When the preliminary difficulties have been mastered, he will have provided himself with a fascinating recreation, and an admirable exercise for both mind and body; and he will have been brought into more intimate and friendly relations with some of his male parishioners than would have been possible in his strictly ministerial capacity. He will very likely have the satisfaction of seeing that the belfry, instead of being a lounge for the idle and shady characters of the parish, and in more or less affinity to the public-house, is treated with proper respect as part of the House of God—a place where men remove their hats as they enter, and behave properly and decorously; while the ringers are no longer the worst characters in the place, but respectable Churchmen, perhaps members also of the choir and communicants. This reform of belfries and their morale is no doubt going on everywhere, with or without the active aid of the clergy; and it has been, and is being, very largely stimulated by the many diocesan or county associations for the promotion of change-ringing. But it goes on quicker where the clergyman himself is constantly in the belfry. His mere presence acts as a preventive of bad language and quarrelling, and unconsciously raises the tone of his brother-ringers. The old-fashioned sort, who were accustomed to beer and pipes in the belfry itself, and to whom it would never occur that they ought to go to church after ringing for service, drop off when the parson is always there: and their places are taken by younger men and better Churchmen. An active young curate who likes physical exercise—or for the matter of that a middle-aged rector or vicar (I never touched a bell rope myself till I was forty-three)—will find it well worth his while, if there is a good peal of bells in his church, to learn to handle a bell, and then to master together with his ringers the intricacies of change-ringing. Should any one who reads these lines be moved to do this, I trust that he may in a year or two have the satisfaction which I myself had last Easter Day, after ringing the bells at 7 a.m., of administering the Holy Communion to six out of the seven men who had stood with me at the ropes.

"Many persons are deterred from attempted change-ringing by exaggerated notions of its difficulty; many more from lack of a little perseverance. At a recent visit of the Oxford Diocesan Guild to the city of Wells, the Dean, in proposing their health, said (I quote from "THE BELL NEWS" of April 21st), that he himself had been prevented from taking up the science by reading in an article that 'much patient labour for many years was necessary for its attainment,' and he thought that at his period of life he could not spare time for such a stupendous task. Perhaps it was only as a touch of graceful (and perhaps ironical) compliment to his guests that so exalted a dignitary implied a desire on his own part to know more of their art; but, be that as it may, the statement which he quoted was a great exaggeration. Given average intelligence, a real desire to learn, and opportunities for regular practice with competent ringers, I believe that any one may in a year or two become a fairly proficient change-ringer in at least one or two methods, capable taking a part with others in ordinary practice, and even of standing in for a 'peal.' Long continued practice, no doubt, is necessary for attaining the highest excellence in this, as in any other art. But even as regards this point, I have in my mind some young men in another cathedral city, who have not been ringers for more than three or four years, yet are already masters of the art. And if we remember

how many comparatively uneducated men become proficient ringers, it is clear that the intellectual difficulty cannot be very formidable. The difficulties which really bar the way are of quite another kind—want of interest, want of perseverance, want of power to concentrate the attention. In change-ringing the mind as well as the eyes and ears must be given entirely to the work. A single lapse of attention, a word spoken by some looker-on, a diversion of the eye from the rising and falling ropes, or of the mind to some other object, may confuse a ringer and bring a peal to grief. '*Audi, vide, tace*' (Keep eyes and ears open, and hold your tongue) is (as Mr. Troyte says) the ringer's motto.

"The requisites for change-ringing are—(1) complete control over the bell; (2) 'rope-sight'—i.e., the knack of seeing which rope is pulled next to your own, either before or after; (3) remembering and applying a few simple rules. How simple these rules are, may be illustrated from the accompanying table of the first twenty changes in a plain course of 'Grandsire Triples':—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	'Rounds.'
2	1	3	5	4	7	6	1st change.
2	3	1	4	5	6	7	
3	2	4	1	6	5	7	
3	4	2	6	1	7	5	
4	3	6	2	7	1	5	
4	6	3	7	2	5	1	
6	4	7	3	5	2	1	
6	7	4	5	3	1	2	
7	6	5	4	1	3	2	
7	5	6	1	4	2	3	10th change.
5	7	1	6	2	4	3	
5	1	7	2	6	3	4	
1	5	2	7	3	6	4	
1	2	5	3	7	4	6	15th change.
2	1	5	7	3	6	4	
2	5	1	3	7	4	6	
5	2	3	1	4	7	6	
5	2	4	1	6	7		
3	5	4	2	6	1	7	
3	4	5	6	2	7	1	20th change.

"Each bell, it will be seen, works gradually from the first place or 'lead' to the last place or 'behind,' and back again, each changing only one place at a time, with the bell that pulled next to it, either before or after, in the previous change. Each ringer must therefore remember—first, which way he is going, 'up behind' or 'down to the lead'; secondly, in what place he is: He must at the same time have a 'sight' at least of two ropes, that after which he pulls and that which pulls immediately after him; and the better he is able to see *all* the ropes at once the better ringer will he be. This faculty of 'rope-sight' is acquired by practice alone. The rules may be learnt from books; their application is a matter of practice.

"In the above diagram it will be seen that up to the 14th change every bell works straight backwards and forwards ('up' and 'down'). In the 15th change, however, the bell which was in the *third* place (No. 5) strikes a second blow there, thus making it impossible for No. 3, which was in the fourth place coming 'down,' to get any further in that direction. This causes No. 3 to take a step back, changing places not with No. 5 but with No. 7, which also takes a step back out of its course; the same happening with the bells in the last two places (Nos. 4 and 6). In ringing language the bells in 4-5 and in 6-7 'dodge' while the bell in third's place '*makes thirds*;' this being the bell which the treble (No. 1) has 'taken off (i.e., succeeded in) the lead.' The rule, then, of this method is—'when the treble leaves the lead, the bell that she has taken from the lead makes thirds, and the bells behind dodge.' The treble herself, however, never dodges. Her course is unvarying—in technical language, a 'plain hunt'; and thus she is a guide to the other bells, who know, by the places in which they meet her on her way down to lead, where they ought to dodge. Thus in the 10th and 11th changes the 6th bell going up behind meets or crosses the treble in the third and fourth places, 'in 3, 4,' and the ringer of the 6th knows by this that he will have to dodge 'in 6, 7 up.'—i.e., before he has struck his two blows behind; while the ringer of the fourth, who has met the treble (changes 9, 10) in the fourth and fifth places ('in 4, 5'), knows that he must dodge '6, 7 down'—i.e., after his two blows behind; and these

two bells accordingly, in the 15th change, dodge with each other, and then continue their respective courses. In this method, therefore, each ringer must observe where he passes the treble, so that he may know when and where to 'dodge'; and he must also remember which bell he 'turns from behind' (i.e., succeeds in the last place); that being his 'course-bell,' which he follows down to lead. He will also, when 'bobs' and 'singles' vary the order of certain bells, have to remember the 'course-method,' or order in which the dodging in different places comes round.

"I have repeated these details, at the risk of being wearisome in order to show how little strain upon the memory is put by change-ringing in an easy method. The powers of attention and observation must be on full stretch to apply the rules in practice; but the rules themselves are few and easy to remember. People often ask, 'How can you possibly remember so many figures?' or 'Do you have to learn the changes by heart?' and I believe that many are deterred by the fear that some abnormal effort of memory is required. No such thing. Concentration and perseverance are infinitely more important than memory; and an exercise which stimulates these faculties, while giving healthful play to body and mind, is a recreation not to be despised. Nor are youth and strength indispensable. The ringing even of a heavy bell is as much a matter of 'knack' as of strength, and septuagenarian ringers are by no means unknown. In a long peal of 'Grandsire Caters,' rung a short time ago, which lasted for eight hours, one of the ringers was a clergyman on the wrong side of fifty, and men much older than this have taken part in ordinary peals of three hours' duration. With the possible exception of golf, there is no form of physical exercise which can be pursued so nearly to the verge of old age, and this, to men in middle life who do not like the thought of giving up active exercise, is no slight recommendation.

"Much has been done of late years to promote and encourage change-ringing by the formation of county or diocesan 'associations' or 'guilds,' holding regular meetings at various centres, and inviting the ringers of scattered towns and villages by a sense of *esprit de corps* and zeal for a common cause. A 'peal-book,' in which peals of 5,000 changes and upwards rung by members of the society are entered, with the names of the performers, serves as a record of what is being done, and an incentive to young bands who hope to get their names into it: and a social meat-tea or dinner on the occasion of the regular meetings promotes the desire for good fellowship among ringers which in former days was mainly gratified at the public-house. These ringing associations or guilds (the name is immaterial) deserve the encouragement of all Churchmen. Many of them are officered and managed by clergymen; all of them, so far as I know, put forward as a leading *raison d'être* the connection of the belfry with the church, and the cultivation of reverence and good *morale* among ringers. The yearly subscription is generally low (in the association with which I am connected it is 1s. for a ringing member, 5s. for an honorary member); and I am sure that it is well worth the while of the clergy and churchwardens of parishes where there are bells, to become honorary members themselves, and encourage their ringers to qualify as ringing members of the association which exists in the neighbourhood. There is no more loyal set of Churchmen at the present moment, take them all round, than the ringing fraternity; and the tone of its chief organ, the *Bell News*, is evidence of this. This paper, published weekly at Walthamstow, in Essex, price 1d., is a modest-looking print of about the size and shape of *Punch*, entirely devoted to ringing intelligence, such as reports of peals and shorter 'touches,' accounts of ringing festivals, &c.; and among the ringing fraternity it seems to have superseded *Church Bells*, which only devotes a column or two, or at the outside two pages, to their special subject. *Church Bells*, however, has formerly done good service to the cause; the late Mr. Ellacombe having at one time made much use of its columns to revive interest in the subject upon which he was an acknowledged authority. Time was when the only published notices of ringing performances were to be found in sporting papers, alongside of "Knur and Spell," (whatever that may be) and other low-class amusements. And the mere fact that change-ringing now finds no place in *Bell's Life* or the *Sporting Life*, but has (besides its own organ) access to the columns of Church papers, is significant of its altered character and position.

"I am often asked the question, What are the best rules for a company of ringers? and I always feel disposed to reply, 'As few as possible, so long as the ordinary rules of good behaviour and courtesy are observed in the belfry.' Where ringers receive a fixed annual payment it is possible to enforce regularity in attendance by a system of fines. But where they are volunteers it is impossible to enforce regularity and punctuality. Men of the class from which ringers are mainly taken are generally very 'casual' in this matter. They turn up or not, as the fancy seizes them, and I have known men who left home with the intention of coming up to the belfry diverted by a chance meeting with some friend. The moral duty of keeping an appointment, lest by not doing so you should inconvenience others, hardly strikes them at all; and a man who knows that seven others are waiting for him and cannot ring unless he comes will not be deterred by that consideration from going off somewhere else if it suits him. Nor does it occur to him, as a rule, to let you know if he cannot come, after having promised to do so. He simply does not turn up, and leaves you to find out why. Those who have to do with ringers must be prepared for a good many such trials of their patience. But kindness and judicious persuasion may do much to secure what no amount of scolding or the most elaborate rules can effect. No rules, in fact, are of much use unless they can be enforced—i.e., unless you are prepared to exclude a man from the belfry for non-compliance with them; and I believe that the personal influence of a clergyman who takes part in the ringing will do more to secure regularity and good behaviour than all the rules that ever were invented. I doubt the wisdom even of a rule that all the ringers shall attend divine service afterwards. Of course it is desirable that they should do so, but how are you to *make* them? You can say that, 'as a rule, it is expected that they will attend,' &c., and you can encourage among them the idea that they *ought*, as good Churchmen, to do so; but further than this you cannot go with much effect. If they respect you and value your good opinion of them they will respect your wishes in this as in other matters. You may lead where it would be hard to drive them.

"Another question often asked is, How can we get any help towards learning? This is no doubt a difficulty, even at the outset; for if the first lessons in handling a bell be given by some old hand who has never been a change-ringer, the young hands may acquire habits that must afterwards be corrected if they are ever to make good ringers—such, e.g., as letting the 'sally' or 'tuffing' slip through the hand before grasping it for the hand-stroke, or letting the slack end of the rope run through the hand when the bell has been pulled off at hand, and is coming round to to the 'backstroke.' Good advice on this and other matters will be found in some of the ringing Manuals—e.g., Troyte's *Change-Ringing*, or Snowdon's *Rope-Sight* (both published by Wells Gardner, 2, Paternoster Buildings), the first of which introduces the learner to the 'Grandsire' method, the second to that of 'Plain Bob.' It is possible for a company of learners, if the clergyman or some one of education leads them, to master the first steps of change-ringing with no other help than that of such books. But progress will be quicker, and the risk of the men giving it up in despair proportionately less, if some *personal* instruction can be secured; and most of the county or diocesan associations make it their business to recommend, and in some cases to assist in remunerating, properly qualified teachers. Such men are not always easy to find, for comparatively few good ringers in the humbler walks of life have either patience enough or power of communicating their knowledge. When I and my company were learning we got some good ringers from a neighbouring parish to come over to our practices, but found them all absolutely useless as far as teaching went. This, however, like most of the other difficulties in the way of change-ringing, can be surmounted, if there is the will to do it. I cannot too strongly repeat my conviction that the *intellectual* difficulties (and particularly the effort of memory supposed to be necessary) are very much exaggerated. Patience and perseverance in the earlier stages, and the power of concentrating one's attention and minding one's own business when ringing with others are the qualities that make most for success in this, as perhaps in others of the occupations and amusements of life. And to those of my brother clergy who have good bells under their care, but take no interest in change-ringing because they cannot see that

it is of any service to the Church, I would respectfully submit that to make the best use possible of the church bells, and to interest young men in making persevering efforts to attain skill in their use, can do no harm, and must at any rate be better than allowing the old ideas about ringing and ringers to continue. I have been in a good many belfries where change ringing is practised; but the only one in which I have recently found men wearing their hats, as though it were no part of the church, is one in which the ringers call themselves members of a 'guild,' but set their faces against change-ringing. As a rule, where change-ringing is encouraged belfry reform follows.—T. L. P.

In this week's number of the same journal Mr. Heywood writes the following:—

"SIR—I see in the *Guardian* of the 11th inst. another forcible appeal from 'T.L.P.' on the subject of church bells, in which he urges the clergy to take up change-ringing themselves and to form bands for the practice of the art. It is to be hoped that his valuable suggestions may bear fruit in parishes where change-ringing is as yet unknown or unappreciated. In the meantime I should like to be allowed to direct attention to the case of parishes that possess competent bands of change-ringers. By comparative indifference to the interests of their ringers the clergy, with few exceptions, are seriously hindering the progress of that belfry reform which was so successfully initiated by the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe. In his footsteps here and there an individual incumbent is earnestly following, and here and there a churchwarden or other influential layman. But the great strides—and they are great—that have been made in the art by which alone the beauty of our church bells can be fully manifested, the art of change-ringing, are mainly due to the energy of the ringers themselves, who, as a rule, receive but a half-hearted support from the parson. I do not speak without experience, for I have been a ringer for five-and-twenty years, and during that time, either as a churchwarden or otherwise, in constant personal contact with ringers. As president of a leading ringing association it has fallen to my lot to become acquainted with the position of matters in many belfries, and to take part in peal-ringing pretty well all over the country. Let me say, then, that change-ringers are for the most part well-educated, intelligent men, chiefly from the artisan class, and keenly interested in the scientific details of their art; but—and I state it with the deepest regret—the large majority have a very lukewarm interest in the Church. The reason is not far to seek. It is the rarest thing to see a clergyman in a belfry. The ringers are not habituated to connect their office with the service of the Church. It is strange that they grow to concentrate their regard upon the bells entirely, to the exclusion of the ultimate object for which they and the bells are there?

"If the clergy, where there are bands of change-ringers, would bestow upon these the same personal interest and supervision which they usually accord to the choir, a valuable addition to the ranks of Church helpers would result. It is not to be expected that the generality of incumbents can take up so complicated a science as change-ringing, nor is it necessary. All that is required is a knowledge of the broad principles of the art, so that they may be able to appreciate a good performance and criticise a bad one. This can soon be acquired by attending in the belfry on practice nights and drawing the leaders into conversation. I would further insist that it is impossible to expect a strong Church feeling among change-ringers unless the clergy are constantly among them in the belfry. The men should be encouraged to do their best ringing for the Sunday services, and especially on the chief festivals, and their achievements when good should be applauded. An annual tea to, and a general moral supervision of the ringers do not fulfil the requirement of 'personal interest.' A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD."

"Duffield, Derby, July 13, 1888.

Following this is a letter which will merit the indignation of our readers, viz.:—

"SIR.—I have sent off this week's copy of the *Guardian*, forgetting again to read T. L. P.'s second disastrous paper as regards the fabrics of our towers. But noticing as an antiquary the mischief done by the 'gentleman-like pastime' of change-ringing—scarcely one hundred years old—to fine towers all over England—*facit indignatio versum*—I send in my protest, the one resource of the disregarded observer. Look at the number of towers everywhere which, where change-ringing has been

encouraged or paid for, have had to be rebuilt. Go to Norwich and see the mischief that the perpetual vibration of thirteen bells has done to the once fine tower of St. Peter's, Mancroft, now transmogrified by a bibulous architect's pastrycook's Gothic; or go to Ipswich, where that munificent layman, the late Mr. Bacon, only some eighteen years ago, regardless of expense, built from the ground an elaborate tower with buttresses and huge gurgoyles and lofty spire at St. Mary-le-Tower (Canon Turnock's church), a steeple which it was fondly hoped would last all time, or last at least till the church became a cathedral for Suffolk; and what see you now? Why the clanging of the bells has not only compelled the vicar to vacate his vicarage in the churchyard for a more distant residence, but their vibration has caused the buttresses for several yards to crack and imperil the entire structure.

"I believe many of 'L. T. P.'s' *obiter dicta* to be as ill-adapted for the uprearing of the spiritual fabric of the church as his praise of the novel sport of change-ringing is disastrous to the material. *Liberavi animam!*—Your deeply moved Protestant reader,

W. H. SEWELL."

"July 14, 1888."

ST. JAMES SOCIETY, BRISTOL.—ANNUAL OUTING AND PRESENTATION.

ON Monday, June 25th, the members of the above society had their annual outing, the places selected being Frome and Longleat. The foreman (Mr. Henry Porch), made the necessary arrangements. The party, which numbered nineteen, journeyed to Frome by the train leaving Bristol at 10.25 a.m., and was accompanied by the Revs. E. H. Rogers and W. E. Blathwayte, Mr. G. W. Swinerd (Lay Reader), and a few friends. Upon arrival at Frome they proceeded at once to the fine old parish church, and spent a short time in inspecting the beautiful carving, sculpture, and unique medallions.

Lunch having been partaken of at the Crown Hotel, the brakes were the next item on the programme, and a very pleasant drive to Shearwater was much enjoyed. After wandering around the lake for some time, a move was made for Heavensgate, where a magnificent view of the surrounding scenery was obtained through the open spaces in the trees. A gentle walk through the park brought them to Longleat House, the seat of the Marquis of Bath. The party were then conducted through the various lovely apartments, which were much admired by all. Returning to the brakes, Frome was reached at six o'clock. Dinner was then capitally served by Host Bown at the abovementioned hotel, after which there was only time to catch the last train for Bristol, which was reached at nine o'clock.

Mr. G. W. Swinerd, who is an honorary member of the above Society, and who has been Lay Reader in the parish for six years, has, owing to ill-health, in his family, been compelled to leave this neighbourhood, and has taken charge of a mission at St. Michael's, Sittingbourne, Kent. So on Wednesday evening, June 27th, in the St. James Barton Schoolroom, a social gathering of the men and women's Bible Classes was held for the purpose of doing honour to one that was highly esteemed and much beloved, and to show in various ways their expression of sympathy at his departure from them. He was presented with a purse of gold from the members of both classes. The ringers through their foreman presented him with their photo framed in oak, and an illuminated address, also a book entitled "Natural Law in the Spiritual World," by Mr. Henry Drummond. The address, which is the work of Mr. Arthur Howell, is as follows:

"TO MR. G. W. SWINERD, FROM ST. JAMES' COMPANY OF CHANGE-RINGERS.—We the undersigned being desirous of expressing our deep feeling and sympathy, beg to tender this as a slight token of our esteem, for the unwavering interest which you have taken in our work, and by which we have been able to accomplish much that would have been impossible without your aid. We deeply regret the circumstances that have compelled you to retire from amongst us, and we trust that it may please Providence to pour out its blessings upon you, that in your new sphere of labour you may continue to advocate the cause of purity and righteousness. Henry Porch, Walter Hill, Francis T. Jewell, William H. Short, Frederick J. Porch, James G. Pearse, Walter W. Porch, Arthur H. Howell, Herbert H. Tucker, George W. Pymm, William R. Paddock, Alfred E. Pearse, Frank Gooding, Robert G. Collins."

THE LEGEND OF BOSHAM BELL.

Many of our readers who have visited "Glorious Goodwood," and lingered in its beautiful neighbourhood after the excitement of the busy race-week, if they like the supernatural, may have been rewarded (which is not always the case in legends) by finding what follows to be true with reference to the old superstition of "Bosham Bell."

Bosham, far from busy scenes and dissipations of a town life, lies in quiet seclusion on the Sussex coast in the neighbourhood of Chichester, and still boasts of an ancient church dedicated to the Holy Trinity; but the bell we are celebrating sounded harmoniously at an early period of the Saxon sway, when Bosham had a monastery and church dedicated to St. Nicholas, and when, in those good old times, the fisherman's patron saint was regarded with the reverence and devotion so much wanting in these latter and more degenerate days.

On one unhappy day for Bosham, some Danish pirates landed near the little town, who, being worshippers of Thor and Odin, had never heard of St. Nicholas, and had little reverence for the sanctity of his monastery; they pillaged the hamlet, they robbed the Church, they broke into the monastery, scattering the affrighted monks far and near, and, worse than all, they carried off the pride and glory of the whole country—the great tenor bell!

Some of the miserable monks betook themselves to their prayers, flinging themselves on the ground and imploring the aid of St. Nicholas, and, wonderful to relate, the seven remaining bells of their own accord rang out their best backward peal; but hard it was to them, harder even than the hearts of their enemies, to succeed without their lamented tenor, whose muffled voice was heard amidst the cries of the monks, the sobs of the women, and the lamentations of the fishermen as the pirates bore it off to their vessel.

A favourable breeze having sprung up, the ill-omened ship proceeded about a mile down the harbour undisturbed, while another and another melancholy peal sounded from the shore. Still the monks prayed on, and loud were the cries to St. Nicholas, when behold the pirate-ship stops suddenly, the crew feel an unusual constraint, and suspicion springs up amongst them; soon quarrels and threats are heard, and the ship appears to be influenced by some supernatural agency, for she refuses to answer to the helm, and the sails flag lazily against the masts in spite of the rising storm. The clouds look dark as night, and the affrighted heathens call in their agony upon Thor and Odin. All was in vain. The storm burst upon them with furious violence, and the vessel appeared likely to become a total wreck. Amidst the terror and confusion that prevailed, the voice of a little child, who had crept on board unobserved, was heard praying that the bell might be restored to the safe keeping of the monastery from which it had been so ruthlessly torn. The sailors looked at one another with terror on their countenances, and the captain, yielding to the general fear, ordered the vessel to put back; when suddenly another peal sounded over the water, and, strange to relate, the great tenor bell, which had been carefully secured on deck, sank at once through the boards out of sight of the terrified crew; they ran below, but it descended deeper and deeper through the timbers into the sea, the hole through which it passed closing of itself and not suffering a drop of water to enter into the ship. Down sank the bell into what is now called the Great Bell Hole, and there it remains to this day perfectly whole and sound, a constant memorial that St. Nicholas, although he doubtless for some good reason thought fit to take the bell from the keeping of his servants, yet suffered it not to rest in the hands of unbelievers. The lost tenor still chimes with her sister bells, and any one standing at the brink of the Bell Hole can still hear plainly and distinctly the whole octave peal.

For fear our readers should not believe this legend, and be unable to visit the Bell Hole and judge for themselves, we give the following reason why the lost tenor still remains faithful, and chimes in with her sister bells.

It is a fact well known in modern times, that if the third and fifth notes are struck at the same time on any instrument producing full tones, besides the natural sounds, the faint echo of the octave is heard also. It so happens that the woods of Itchenor, on the opposite side of the harbour, are so disposed by the natural sweep of the ground as to throw back a perfect echo to the Bell Hole, and consequently whenever the true tone of the third crosses the echoed sound of the fifth, the octave or last bell

sounds also, and of course is heard at the Bell Hole and nowhere else. Hence the legend of Bosham Bell. As an instance how marvellously all the works of the Almighty are in perfect unison, we will mention a similar phenomenon with which those who are acquainted even slightly with the laws of colour are probably aware.

The human eye always attempts to supply the complement of colour. Thus, if the eye rests for any time on any one colour, say green—which is composed of blue and yellow—on shutting the eyes a faint repetition of the object will be seen in red, which is the third of the primary colours and complementary to the other two.

The laws of acoustics are hitherto but little known, but it would seem that a similar effect is produced, two notes of the major triad when struck calling forth a faint impression on the ear on other notes being supplied. It is a curious fact, and one which quite upholds this law, that on striking any chord on the pianoforte, all the strings of the same chord throughout the instrument which are in unison with the notes struck, are in vibration, while the other notes are not agitated. This can be ocularly demonstrated by placing on these strings little saddles of paper, which will be seen to vibrate violently, while when placed on other strings which are foreign to the chord, they rest undisturbed.

We hope our readers will forgive this digression, and will visit the sunny Sussex coast, and hear for themselves the far-famed Bell of Bosham.—From *Once A Week*, Dec. 31, 1864.

THE ST. EDMUNDS SOCIETY, EXETER.

A General Meeting of the above Society was held in the belfry on Monday night, July 16th. In the absence of the rector, Mr. W. H. Webber was voted to the chair. There was also present, Messrs. S. Herbert, Swift, Pitt, Coombes, Hutchings, Crane, Allen, Marsh, Richardson, Goss, Townsend, and Roberts. The following were elected members: Messrs. Webb, Pymm, Back, Goad, Green, Balsom, Shapley, and Bright. The Assistant Secretary (Mr. Herbert) said he was pleased to say that the Society contained over 40 members, and he hoped those just elected would persevere in the art and do their utmost to make good ringers. The Annual Outing was fixed to take place on Monday, July 30th, the route chosen being to Moreton, Chagford, and Drudsteington. Some further business connected with the Society being transacted, the meeting terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the above Association will take place at Bristol, on Monday, July 30th. Short service at St. Mary Redcliffe church at 11 o'clock, address by the Rev. A. C. C. Anstey, vicar of St. John's, Clifton. Business Meeting immediately after service, at No. 1, Colston Parade (corner house). Dinner at the "Ship" Inn, Redcliffe Hill, 2s. 6d. per head, at 1 o'clock. 1s. 6d. allowed to all who have given notice to C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., Local Secretary, 30 Broad Street, on or before the 25th inst. A cheap train leaves Cheltenham at 8 a.m. on July 30th, and calls at all intermediate stations, leaving Temple Mead Station, at 8.30 p.m. the same evening.

ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

This Society will hold its Annual Pic-nic at Hagley, on Saturday afternoon, July 21st. Tickets for the dinner, which will be held at the "Prince of Wales," may be obtained on application to the Secretary on or before Wednesday, July 18th. Price three shillings each. A. THOMAS, Sec.

83, Wheley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

FOR SALE.—A beautiful-toned set of Handbells, 24, in G.; nearly new; warranted perfect. Price £10. Company broken up cause of sale.—Apply to J. SKRUTT, Richmond Road, Kingston-on-Thames.

WANTED by a change-ringer, aged 20 years, a situation as Shopman or Book-keeper in Corn and Milling trade preferred; has had 6 years' experience in above Trades with present employer. Can ring the following Methods—Bob, Grandsire and Stedman. Apply to G. BAKER, Jun., Orchard Place, Arundel, Sussex.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE
MAJOR.By HENRY DAINS, *Royal Cumberlands.*

6048.

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

In the issue of the 21st of April this year was published a peal in this method, containing the whole of the changes with the 4th, 5th, and 6th in 5-6, without the 2nd or 3rd ever being in 6ths place at a course-end, by my friend, N. J. Pitstow, and which peal is based on the old plan. The peal here given contains exactly the same qualities, excepting only that it is obtained in a less number of bobs, and is based on the plan first used in this method by our mutual friend, Mr. C. H. Hattersley. By omitting the home bobs bracketed, the peal is reduced to one of 5152 changes, the least possible number without the use of calls before.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

By J. H. BARRETT, *London.*

13,102.

2 3 1 4 5 6			
*6 2 5 1 4 3			
5 2 6 3 4 1	5	16	
5 2 1 6 4 3		16	
2 3 5 1 4 6	6	16	
2 3 6 5 4 1		16	
6 3 2 1 4 5	5	16	
6 3 5 2 4 1		16	
5 3 6 1 4 2	5	16	
5 3 2 6 4 1		16	
3 1 5 2 4 6	6	16	
3 1 6 5 4 2		16	
3 1 2 6 4 5		16	
2 1 3 5 4 6	5	16	
2 1 6 3 4 5		16	
6 1 2 5 4 3	5	16	
6 1 3 2 4 5		16	
6 1 5 2 4 3		8	
5 1 6 3 4 2	5	16	
5 1 2 6 4 3		16	
5 1 3 2 4 6		16	

These twenty courses five times repeated except for the first course call 3, 4, 14, 16, and bob instead of single in the second, third, fifth and sixth parts) produce 412365978. Round by bobs at 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 16. *Produced by bobs at 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25

TWO QUARTER-PEALS OF CANTER-
BURY PLEASURE TRIPLES.By A. E. PARSONS, *Old Hill, Staffordshire.*

1260.

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

Twice repeated.

1260.

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

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By JAMES S. WILDE, *Hyde, Cheshire.*

5152.

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

This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent in 5-6. First rung at Mottram, July 10th, 1888, conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAJOR.By HENRY DAINS, *Royal Cumberlands.*

5088.

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

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

Repeated.

First rung at Coddendam, on June 4th, 1888, by the Norwich Diocesan Association, conducted by James Motts.

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL.

By WILLIAM WALKER, *Leeds.*

5040.

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

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

4 5 2 3 6	I	I	
2 4 5 3 6			I
5 2 4 3 6			I
4 3 5 2 6	I		I
5 4 3 2 6			I
3 5 4 2 6			I
4 2 3 5 6	I		I
3 4 2 5 6	4ths		I
2 3 4 5 6	in		I

The above peal is in the tittums, with the 2nd and 3rd never in 6th's place at a course-end.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield.*

5040.

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

Repeated.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB
ROYAL.By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

5040.

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

Repeated.

5120.

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

Repeated.

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1888.

THIS week there appears, in another part of this journal, a reprint of an article which has recently appeared in the *Guardian*, on "Church Bells and Ringing." We hope we shall not be guilty of a breach of confidence in stating that the writer is the courteous and respected Honorary Secretary of the Essex Association—the Rev. T. L. PAPILLON. Our readers will hail with delight the powerful advocacy of the science which this article exhibits, and more especially that it has found a place in the columns of the leading Church newspaper. We have no hesitation in declaring

that its publication will lead to an immense amount of benefit to the Exercise. It will inevitably cause the thinking portion of the clergy to examine as far as they can what there is in the science to merit the eulogiums which the author of the article has passed upon it, and thus the spirit of enquiry will be abroad, and curiosity will be aroused to learn more and more concerning it. Already demands have arrived at our office for copies of "THE BELL NEWS," and it is very likely our publisher will be favoured in the same way.

This week also in the *Guardian* is a letter on the same subject from Mr. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, and which will be found reprinted at the end of Mr. PAPILLON's article in this number. This letter seconds in a degree the sentiments expressed in the article, and coming from such a prominent and influential Churchman as Mr. HEYWOOD, the comments of the above-named reverend gentleman thus become greatly strengthened, and their value enhanced.

There is yet another letter, from a Mr. "W. H. SEWELL," who writes as "an antiquarian." This gentleman makes some very extraordinary statements, and readers of this journal will be apt to look upon them as decidedly misleading, and frequently the reverse of fact. To a casual observer, Mr. SEWELL's letter would convey the notion that he labored under an excess of bile, or some other infirmity having an effect upon his temper, when he penned it. We would inform the "antiquarian" Mr. SEWELL, that the "gentleman-like pastime" he sneers at is more than 100 years old, to begin with. "Look at the number," says he, "of towers everywhere which, where change-ringing has been encouraged or paid for, have had to be re-built." He does not tell us where these towers are, and we say he would have a difficulty in finding them. That there are towers in existence which change-ringing would soon bring to the ground, we do not deny, but that is owing to their architecture or defective building, or to the fads of some antiquarian who has unfortunately had the power to insist upon erections of a gingerbread character. Mr. SEWELL seems to know something of Norwich; we would ask him is he the "antiquary" responsible for the building of Thorpe steeple, near that city, which has been likened to a four-legged stool with a top on it, and where a new peal of bells therein has never yet been, and never can be rung owing to the faults in architectural construction. "Go to Norwich," says he, "where there is a perpetual vibration of thirteen bells; and the once fine tower of St. Peter is now transmogrified by a bibulous architect's pastrycook's Gothic. These "pe prave 'ords." But there never was in St. Peter's, Norwich, a perpetual vibration of thirteen bells, Mr. SEWELL notwithstanding. And even an antiquary with all his narrowness, can scarcely attribute the bibulousness of the architect, or the Gothic of the pastry-cook, to change-ringing. Then again with regard to the "elaborate" tower of Ipswich. We do not lay claim to the vast erudition—or conceit—of an antiquary, but we fail to see the elaborateness of the steeple in question. People, we suppose non-antiquarians, have been heard to say that the tower at Ipswich is hardly high

enough for the spire, but such people have no right to form an opinion on the subject, perhaps. Probably the architect of this steeple did not take into account the matter of bells; certainly he thought nothing of ringers, or he would have let a little more light than he has done into the ringing-chamber. But it may be held from an antiquarian point of view that the right thing is to have very little light, very little room, very little ventilation, and very little convenience of any kind in the apartment occupied by ringers.

The belief of our learned antiquary, expressed in the last paragraph of his letter, is very little short of a gratuitous insult to the whole Exercise. But here we take leave of him.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH CHURCH TOWER, NORTHANTS.

In connection with the above the Bishop of Peterborough writes:—

"I heartily commend the appeal for the restoration of Irthlingborough Church Tower to the support of Churchmen not only within but outside the Diocese of Peterborough. The ecclesiastical and archaeological interest attaching to it give it a claim upon all who are interested in the preservation of our ancient monuments. The loss of it would be a Diocesan and even an Anglican misfortune. I trust that the effort now being made for its restoration may ere long be crowned with success."

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held on Saturday, July 21st, at Bromsgrove, Worcestershire. The tower will be open for ringing at four o'clock, meeting to take place afterwards, when all members and friends are earnestly invited to attend.

Park Road, Harborne.

E. PARKER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly meeting will be held at the parish church, Blackburn. The belfry will be open at 2 p.m. At 5 o'clock a short service will be held in the church. At 5.30 the business meeting will be held in the schoolroom. J. REDFORD, Hon. Secs.

A. WREAKS,

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

A District Meeting will be held at Dinton, for Chilmark, on Wednesday, August 1st. Dinner at the "Wyndham Arms," at 1 p.m., price two shillings each. The names of those intending to be present must be sent in to me not later than Monday, July 23rd.

J. R. JERRAM, Hon. Sec.

The Metropolis.

PUTNEY, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. JAMES SOCIETY.

On Wednesday, July 18, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 16½ cwt.

HENRY LANGDON Treble.	†JOHN WRIGHT 5.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 2.	JOHN M. HAYES 6.
GEORGE WOODISS* 3.	WILLIAM W. THORNE .. 7.
JOHN SMITH 4.	JAMES W. DRIVER Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN M. HAYES.

*First peal of Triples. †First peal of Stedman Triples.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co. Printers, Exeter.

The Provinces.

RINGMER, SUSSEX.

On Wednesday, July 11, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

ALFRED SLARKS Treble.	HENRY JONES 5.
REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 2.	GEORGE WASHER 6.
CHARLES PAINTER 3.	C. TYLER 7.
JAMES J. PARKER 4.	THOMAS MILLER Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. C. D. P. DAVIES.

This peal was arranged for Mr. Parker, who comes from Farnham Royal, and Mr. Davies regrets there was not sufficient time at his disposal to admit of his learning one of Mr. Parker's peals, which he attempted to do. Mr. Tyler comes from Steyning.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, July 13, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

ALFRED MILLIS Treble.	JOSEPH HARDY 6.
WILLIAM A. TYLER 2.	SAMUEL SMITH 7.
HENRY DAINS 3.	HARRY WAKLEY 8.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 9.
A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. 5.	THOMAS HOLMES Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

This peal, which is on a new plan and now rung for the first time, was performed on the occasion of the All Saints' Sunday School Festival. It has the usual 978 course-ends throughout, and the 5th dodging behind with the 9th, and the sixth with both 8th and 9th in every course. Mr. Dains is from London, Mr. Millis from Leicester, Mr. Heywood from Duffield, Messrs. Griffin, Wakley, and Holmes, from Burtou, and the rest from Loughborough.

WOODBIDGE, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER, IPSWICH, AND ST. MARY'S, WOODBRIDGE, SOCIETIES.

On Saturday, July 14, 1888, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 27 cwt.

JOHN FOSDIKE Treble.	WILLIAM WARD 5.
WILLIAM P. GARRETT .. 2.	JAMES MOTTS 6.
WILLIAM MOTTS 3.	FREDERICK TILLET .. 7.
ROBERT H. BRUNDLE .. 4.	ALFRED WARD Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells, and it is worthy of notice that Mr. Fosdike, the respected master of the Woodbridge Society, is in his 72nd year, and had long desired to ring a peal in this method ere he departed this life. The ringers one and all congratulate themselves upon having the pleasure to accomplish it with him. Credit is due to Mr. W. Ward for the manner in which he rang throughout the peal at his first attempt. Mr. John Fosdike has kindly promised to present the company with a tablet to record the peal. The brothers Motts, R. H. Brundle, W. P. Garrett, and F. Tillett, belong to Ipswich.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 17, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15½ cwt.

JOHN SIDEBOTHAM Treble.	MORRIS WILLIAMSON .. 5.
JOHN HARROP 2.	JAMES SHAW 6.
WALTER SLATER 3.	THOMAS WILDE 7.
WILLIAM MIDDLETON .. 4.	JAMES S. WILDE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN SIDEBOTHAM.

Messrs. Sidebotham, Harrop, Middleton, and Williamson, hail from Mottram, the rest are of the local company.

NOTICE.—The practices will be as usual at St. Mary's church, Bletchingley, every Thursday evening at 7.30, and the first Sunday in every month at four o'clock. All ringers are invited.

Date Touches.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WRITTLE (Essex).—Before evening service, on Sunday, July 15th, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 66 mins. W. Emery, 1; W. J. Piper (Widford), 2; H. F. de Lisle, Esq. (Galleywood), 3; F. Radley, 4; A. Tarbun (Widford), 5; A. Edwards (conductor), 6; W. Lincoln, 2; W. G. Dickens, Esq., 8. Tenor 18½ cwt. Composed by J. Carter.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

SUTTON COLDFIELD (Warwickshire).—On Saturday, July 14th, at the parish church, a date touch of 1888 Stedman Triples, in 1 hr. 12 mins. Bernard Wittchell (conductor), 1; Chas. Dickens, 2; Geo. Davis, 3; W. Allsopp, 4; Alfred Woodcroft, 5; William Kent, 6; Thos. Reynolds, 7; Wm. Jackson, 8. Composed by Henry Johnson, sen., of Birmingham. The above band started for Thurstans' original peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing 800 changes it came to grief, and the above date touch was rung.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Sunday afternoon, July 15th, for the Flower Service at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 6 mins. J. Prescott, 1; J. Pilkington, 2; W. Bentham, 3; J. Sholicar (composer and conductor), 4; W. J. Taylor, 5; H. Winrow, 6; G. Prescott, 7; P. H. Harvey, 8.

Miscellaneous.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ROCHESTER.—Muffled Peal.—On Tuesday evening, at St. Margaret's church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 33 mins., as a token of respect to the late Mrs. Nutter, wife of the Rev. W. H. Nutter, vicar of St. Margaret's church, and late Minor Canon of Rochester Cathedral, who died at Schwarzburg, Germany, on Thursday, July 5th. E. Raynor, 1; A. Osborne, 2; G. Chantler, 3; J. Raynor, 4; J. Kidd, 5; W. Baker (conductor), 6.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday evening, July 15th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. L. Digweed, 1; A. Cornford, 2; *G. Hayes (conductor), 3; J. Broom, 4; W. Harper, 5; G. Martin, 6. *First 720 in the method as conductor.

BOUGHTON, NEAR FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Monday, July 16th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 720 of Bob Minor (six bobs and thirty singles). W. W. Boulden (conductor), 1; J. Burch, 2; H. Foreman, 3; W. Hope, 4; F. T. Harriss, 5; G. A. Ransom, 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles). W. W. Boulden (conductor), 1; J. Burch, 2; E. Foreman, 3; W. Hope, 4; G. A. Ransom, 5; F. T. Harriss, 6. E. and H. Foreman hail from Herne Hill, the rest belong to the local company.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CHADDESLEY CORBETT (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, July 9th, a mixed band rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins. William Hemming (Chaddesley), 1; George Bourne (Bromsgrove), 2; William Brook (Birmingham), 3; George Hayward (conductor, Bromsgrove), 4; William Lawrance (Worsley, Staffordshire), 5; William James (Bromsgrove), 6; James Broad (Chaddesley), 7; Joseph Crump (Stourbridge), 8.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, July 5th, 720 Plain Bob Minor. W. Short, 1; W. Boughton, 2; J. Smith, 3; H. Morris, 4; W. Huxley, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. Also 720 Plain Bob Minor. W. Shilvock, 1; W. Boughton, 2; J. Smith, 3; H. Morris, 4; W. Short, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. These 720s were rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Thomas Lamb, who at one time belonged to the local company. On Monday, July 9th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. H. Morris, 1; G. Workman, 2; J. Smith, 3; W. Short, 4; H. Martin, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. H. Morris' first 720 in the method, and W. Short's first with a bob bell. Morris and Smith hail from Hagley; Martin from Belbroughton; the rest belong to the local company.

STOKE PRIOR (Worcestershire).—On Monday evening, July 10th, for practice at the first attempt, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. J. Lucas (first 720), 1; J. Tompson, 2; William Lewis, 3; George Hayward (conductor), 4; John Mason, 5; Walter Rea, 6. Messrs. Hayward and Rea hail from Bromsgrove.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Saturday, July 14th, for practice at St. Michael's church, 720 Cambridge Surprise. T. Watson, 1; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 2; S. Hammond, 3; G. Livermore, 4; F.

Rudkin, 5; A. Hucksion, 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, on Sunday, July 15th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 240 Plain Bob. W. Hammond, 1; S. Hammond (conductor), 2; J. Savil (Rayne), 3; G. Livermore, 4; C. H. Howard, 5; H. E. Hammond, 6.

COGGESHALL (Essex).—On Monday, July 9th, for practice at St. Peter's church on the back six, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. R. Potter, 1; W. Dyer, 2; J. Sadler, 3; D. Elliott, 4; W. Nichol, 5; James Sadler (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, July 15th, for Divine Service, 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 27 mins. Also on Monday, July 16th, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, and 120 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, the ringers standing as before.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

KINGSWOOD (Surrey).—On Saturday, July 14th, six members from Betchworth and two from Reigate paid a visit to the above place and rang on the fine-toned ring of six 720 Violet Treble Bob, in 28 mins. F. Sanders, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Moses, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Sanders, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Moses, 4; W. Webb, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Tenor 17½ cwt. First 720 of Violet on the bells.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GLOUCESTER.—On Sunday, July 8th, at St. Michael's church, for Divine Service, the first part of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples. S. E. Romans, 1; G. Brunsdon, 2; W. Brunsdon, 3; A. Roberts, 4; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 5; W. J. Sevier, 6; R. Brunsdon, 7; A. C. Sayer, 8. Also 168 in the same method. S. E. Romans (conductor), 1; A. C. Sayer, 2; R. Brunsdon, 3; A. Roberts, 4; W. Brunsdon, 5; W. J. Sevier, 6; G. Brunsdon, 7; R. J. Wilkins, 8. And six-score of Grandsire Doubles. S. E. Romans, 1; G. Brunsdon, 2; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 3; R. Brunsdon, 4; W. J. Sevier, 5; A. C. Sayer, 6.

URTON ST. LEONARDS.—On Saturday, July 7th, at the parish church, 504 of Stedman Triples. R. Brunsdon, 1; J. Yates, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. E. Gardner, 5; G. Miles, 6; A. A. Waite (conductor), 7; W. J. Sevier, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday morning, July 15th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Double Court Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; G. Essex, 3; E. Menday, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, July 16th, at John's church, 720 of Bob Minor in 28 mins. F. Lees, 1; G. Atkinson (Winlaton), 2; W. Eggleston, 3; E. Wallis, 4; G. Forsyth, 5; W. Story (conductor), 6. Also 560 of Plain Bob Major in 25 mins. H. Ferguson, 1; G. T. Ross, 2; W. F. Bennett, 3; G. Atkinson, 4; J. Pattison, 5; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 6; Z. Scott, 7; E. Wallis, 8. Tenor 12½ cwt. Messrs. Ross, Bennett, Atkinson, and Pattison, hail from Winlaton, and this is their first attempt at ringing eight bells.

ARELEY KINGS (Worcestershire).—On Monday, July 16th, at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor in 24 mins. T. Elcox, 1; W. Martin, 2; T. Fowles, 3; J. Reynolds, 4; T. Griffiths, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6.

DRONFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, June 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Butcher, 1; C. Leisley, 2; W. Price, 3; J. Atkin, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; J. Allen, 6. Also 240 Violet and 240 Oxford. W. Jervis, 1; G. Leisley, 2; W. Price, 3; J. Atkin, 4; S. Allen, 5; G. Marsden (conductor), 6. Messrs. Marsden and Price hail from Eckington; Atkin, Butcher, and Allen, from Norton.

LLANGOLLEN (North Wales).—On Monday, July 16th, for practice at the parish church, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 35 mins. T. Williams, 1; R. A. Horspool, 2; D. E. Evans, 3; Jas. Davies, 4; J. W. Davies (conductor), 5; J. W. Parry, 6; T. Davies, 7; W. Scott, 8. Tenor 17½ cwt. in F♯. This is the first half-peal by all the above.

MILVERTON (Somersetshire).—On Sunday evening, July 15th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 360 of Plain Bob Minor in 14 mins. T. Andrews, 1; W. Andrews, 2; R. Scott, 3; J. Richards, 4; R. Andrews, 5; W. Chapman (conductor), 6. Also several 120's of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles. Tenor 20 cwt.

NORTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, July 8th, for morning service, five of the local company, with Mr. J. Lawson, rang 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Butcher, 1; H. Ward, 2; J. Goucher, 3; J. Lawson,

4; J. Atkin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. In the afternoon 720 in the same method, in 27½ mins. G. Butcher, 1; J. Goucher, 2; J. Atkin, 3; J. Lawson, 4; W. Biggin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. In the evening the local company rang 240 Kent, 240 Oxford, and 240 Bob Minor. G. Butcher, 1; H. Ward, 2; J. Goucher, 3; J. Biggin, 4; J. Atkin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt. G. Yates rang the treble in the Bob Minor. J. Lawson hails from Lightcliffe, Yorkshire.

OLDBURY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, July 15th, after evening service, 756 Stedman Triples. H. Mills, 1; S. Reeves (conductor), 2; W. R. Small, 3; T. Horton, 4; A. H. Hill, 5; R. Hall, 6; C. Price, 7; G. Hall, 8. Mills, Small, and Hill hail from Tipton.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday morning, July 15th, for Divine Service at the parish church, the local company rang 630 of Grandsire Triples. A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; E. King, 7; T. Wright, 8. Also on Monday evening, July 16th, a 504 in the same method. A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; W. Ryland, 3; E. King, 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; W. Hale (conductor), 7; J. Powell, 8. And 168 with T. Wright, 1; T. Ireland, 3.

PONTEFRAC (Yorkshire).—On Thursday, June 21st, 720 Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Hirst, 1; J. Gelder, 2; W. Pease, 3; A. Pearson, 4; F. Hargreaves, 5; F. Lee (conductor), 6. On Sunday, June 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Gelder, 1; W. Pease, 2; R. Brook (conductor), 3; F. Lee, 4; F. Gelder, 5; J. Carter, 6. Time 26½ mins. On Tuesday, June 26th, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 25½ mins. T. Watkinson, 1; W. Pease, 2; R. Brook, 3; F. Hargreaves (conductor), 4; Jno. Gelder, 5; F. Gelder, 6.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Saturday, July 14th, at St. Martin's church 1260 Stedman Triples. W. S. Wise, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; W. E. Tydeman, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6; A. W. Barkus, 7; W. J. Prince, 8. And on Wednesday, July 11th, 720 Bob Minor. W. M. Lush (first 720), 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6.

TWERTON, NEAR BATH.—On Thursday, July 12th, for practice at St. Michael's church, 796 of Grandsire Triples. W. Langham, 1; G. Temple, 2; J. Smith, 3; H. Wotton, 4; J. Holman, 5; J. Wotton (conductor), 6; H. Brown, 7; C. Bendall, 8. And 120 of Stedman Doubles. J. Wotton, 1; G. Temple, 2; H. Wotton, 3; J. Holman, 4; H. Brown, 5; W. Dicks, 6.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, July 10th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, 720 Superlative Surprise, and 360 Woodbine Treble Bob Minor. C. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; G. Hyde, 3; J. Cooley, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also on Wednesday, July 11th, on the occasion of a visit from Mr. Carter, of Birmingham, 720 Oxford Treble Bob and courses of Superlative and Kent Treble Bob. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Cooley, 4; J. Carter, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

WESTBROMWICH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday afternoon, July 15th, 924 Stedman Triples. G. Hughes, 1; W. R. Small, 2; S. Reeves (conductor), 3; T. Horton, 4; A. H. Hill, 5; R. Hall, 6; C. Price, 7; G. Hall, 8. Hughes, Small, and Hill hail from Tipton.

Correspondence.

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

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

THE PEAL OF OXFORD AT BOLTON.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. London respecting the peal rung at Bolton, I may say that his reply is a very tame one, and far from giving satisfaction. He appears to think far more of seeing his name in "THE BELL NEWS" than in giving plain answers to plain questions. I would beg to remind him that everyone has not a high sounding name as Mr. London is fortunate to possess, and when he talks about hiding behind a *nom de plume*, that our great authors have taken that course. And who does not read with pleasure (especially we who live in the district in which the parts are laid), the works of that gifted authoress who wrote under the *nom de plume* of "Currer Bell." Well, Sir, he states that had such a course been taken as giving a name, he would have given an explanation that would have been satisfactory to all. That is a statement which would have to be proved before being accepted, seeing that he has not convinced those who took part in the peal yet that it came round all right. When we go further and look at the names of those who took part in the peal, we find there is one who took part and conducted a 6000 on six bells, being twenty-five twelve-scores in different methods, which stands A1 yet, and since then he was one of a company who rung in the silent peal at Dewsbury a short time since, and for which they were complimented by "Free Lance."

We may fairly suppose that he has a good knowledge of what a peal is. I may say that he is very reticent at speaking about it, so that any one would think it had a very shady appearance. Again, I happened to hear one who took part in the peal read the letter of "A Ringer," and when he came to that part where it is stated that the ringers left the tower under the impression that it had been rung, he said most emphatically, "hear, hear;" so that it is plain that he has not succeeded in convincing his own company that the peal was finished. And I would also tell Mr. London that he who wrote under the name of "A Ringer," is known as a ringer, and not a drummer, as some are, who delight in seeing their names in print. A RINGER.

REPLY TO "JUVENIS."

SIR,—If "Juvenis" will give his correct name and address the same publicity as his criticisms, I may think it worth while to reply to them—until then I will refrain from doing so.

Liverpool.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

THE FIRST PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES RUNG IN HAND.

SIR,—Kindly permit my final. Mr. Powell is surprised at my statement when the peal was pronounced excellent by both Societies, etc. I attack the truth of the performance; the incidents at an attempt made in St. Martin's Lane previously, caused me to watch one person narrowly, with the result previously stated. The Editor of *Bell's Life* would not spare room for a controversy only interesting to a small number of readers. A parry with "Free Lance," now. The late Mr. Hubbard could only publish what was sent to him; he had no opportunities of testing the accuracy of any performance in London. I opine the work was finished in a hurry, or the peals of Stedman Caters, 5086, page 178, and two peals, pages 180 and 181, would not have been inserted, the three being false. Mr. Editor, I am now in the "sere and yellow leaf"; ere entering the bourne from whence no traveller returns, I can reflect that no person associated with me in peals I was calling could ever say that I kept on when the bells got wrong, and wrong they will get sometimes. WILLIAM COOTER.

SIR,—As my name is mentioned in Mr. Cooter's letter to you of June 7th, re the first peal of Stedman Triples on handbells, permit me to say that not only myself, but at least a dozen others heard the late Mr. Haley make the confession that the peal was false. I may add that when our late friend John Cox heard what Mr. Haley had said, he (John Cox) did not attempt to deny it, but only remarked "Did he though, ah!"

GEORGE DORRINGTON.

9 Church Row, Bethnal Green.

[This controversy, if only for the sake of would-be disputants, must here cease. We are firmly of opinion that an overwhelming amount of evidence exists in favour of Mr. Cooter's assertions.—Ed.]

REPLY TO "FREE LANCE."

SIR,—With regard to "Free Lance's" query in your last issue, namely, "Why did certain ringers thank the vicar of Christchurch for permitting them to view the church free of charge?" which in his sarcastic manner he describes us being both "singular and disagreeable." I utterly fail to see where the disagreeable part of it comes in, but as the question is asked, and for the edification of "Free Lance," the following explanation is given. While some of the party were in the belfry ringing, the Vicar (who was that minute going to catch the train), informed one of the men waiting below that as the reverend gentleman who brought the ringers there was an old friend of his, he had prepared a spread for the whole party, but the kind offer was not accepted, as everything had been provided beforehand, and there was no time to spare. Also that a small fee of sixpence is expected of each one that visits the church, (which, I believe is devoted to the restoration fund), he not only privileged all to view the sacred building, but appointed a man specially to point out everything of interest without payment or gratuity of any kind. Consequently the ringers not being there to thank him personally, they wished to do so through the medium of this paper. Perhaps now "Free Lance" will understand what "free of charge" means, and I hope will not in the future attempt to appear so sharp with his criticising remarks. TWYFORD.

A WHISTLING PEOPLE.—"Oh, whistle and I'll come to you, my lad," is a song that the natives of Gomera, one of the Canary Isles, would appreciate if they could understand English, for it seems that they converse with one another by means of whistling. Boys will be pleased to know that the whistling is done by the fingers or the lips, and that it is possible to make out a message even a mile off. Each syllable of a word has its own peculiar sound—the vowels *e*, *i*, and *y*, being whistled more loudly than *a*, *o*, *u*. What is curious is that the natives of the other six islets do not use this kind of "speech."—From "Little Folks" Magazine for July.

RINGERS' OUTING.

On Saturday, July 14th, the ringers of All Souls, Halifax, had their annual outing, the place selected being York, leaving Halifax at 6.23 a.m. York was reached at 8.35 a.m., where they were met at the Station by two veteran ringers of the Cathedral Society: Messrs. Howard and West. An adjournment was quickly made to Coney Street Cafe, where an excellent breakfast was waiting, to which full justice was done. After which the party, accompanied by Mr. West, were shown round the City walls and principal places of interest; arriving at the Castle at 10.30 a.m. were met by the Chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Baldwin, who kindly showed them over the grounds and Clifford's Tower. Leaving the Castle direction was made for the Cathedral where the ringers and friends had a short look at the interior; after which the Blind School was visited. An adjournment was again made to Coney Street for dinner. After dinner the party were met by six of the Cathedral Ringers, who ascended the Tower which contains a splendid peal of 12, where a pleasant hours' ringing was indulged in. The river was then visited and the party indulged in boating, &c. After tea, Mr. Howard—determined the party should have a pleasant day—got permission from Rev. H. L. Clark to have a touch on the sweet toned peal of eight, of St. Martin's-le-Grand, Coney Street. Time being short, the party made for the station, being accompanied by the York ringers; after a friendly shake of hands the train steamed out, Halifax being reached shortly before midnight; all thoroughly enjoyed their day's outing. The ringers wish through "THE BELL NEWS" to thank the Dean for kindly granting them use of the bells. They also take this opportunity to thank Mr. Howard and his brother strings for their company, which greatly added joy to their day's out.

PRESENTATION AT CAERLEON, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

On Wednesday evening, July 11th, the Members of St. Cadoc's Society rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples as a farewell touch with Mr. W. Rees, who has been a member of the Society for several years, and is now leaving for Coventry. * R. Le Viscount, 1; † F. A. Weston, 2; H. Shearn, 3; E. Davies, 4; L. Stafford, 5; W. Rees, 6; F. Green (conductor), 7; * H. Evans, 8; time, 45 minutes. After which he was presented by the Vice-President, Mr. Thomas Parry, Churchwarden, with a purse of money subscribed by the Society, conveying therewith the hearty wishes of all present for his future happiness and prosperity. Mr. Rees thanked the company for their kindness and congratulations, and the bells were lowered in peal.

* First Quarter-peal. † First with bob bell.

WHITCHURCH, OXON.

ON Tuesday, July 10th, on the occasion of the visit of about 400 members of the Girls' Friendly Society accompanied by a band, who attended a special short service at the parish church, having been previously entertained by Mrs. Foster, of Coombe Park—360 of Grandsire Doubles before service, each six-score called differently. W. Pocock, 1; C. Pocock, 2; W. Lawrence, 3; E. Bushnell, 4; A. C. West (conductor), 5; H. Bushnell, 6. Another 360 was rung as the congregation left the church, conducted as before.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, July 14th, a ringing meeting of the above Association was held at Chaddesley Corbett, near Kidderminster, which was well attended by members from Areley Kings, Bromsgrove, Brierley Hill, Chaddesley, Coseley, Clent, Dudley, Kidderminster, Netherton, Stourbridge, and Tipton. Ringing was freely indulged in by the members from various places, and some good touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, after which some Kent Treble Bob Major, and Plain Bob Minor were gone through. An excellent tea was provided at the Swan Hotel, to which a goodly number did full justice. Some courses of Grandsire Caters, Triples, etc., were rang upon the handbells, and a very pleasant evening was spent by all.

RINGERS' OUTING.

On Monday, the 19th inst., the Croydon Ringers and friends, to the number of 30, held their annual outing at Hastings. A start was made from Croydon at 7 a.m., and Hastings was reached at 9. After taking some refreshment the steeplekeeper was called into the hunt, to get permission to ring at St. Clement's.

The hunt proved to be anything but a plain one, and after much dodging, the vicar was found and gave his consent. Arriving at the church, an ascent was made to the top of the tower, from which a fine view of the sea was obtained. Several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, amongst others, a 560 by the following:—H. E. Haley (Conductor), 1; H. Dudley, 2; W. J. Chambers, 3; S. Fisk, 4; W. States, 5; A. Bruce, 6; T. Verrall, 7; W. Hill, 8. After ringing about 2 hours the bells were lowered, and the Fish Market Pier, and other places of interest in the town were visited, a very pleasant day being brought to a close at 7 o'clock, p.m.; Croydon being reached about 9.30.

The late Mr. R. H. Rump has bequeathed a sum of over £2,000 to the parish church of Wells-near-the-Sea, Norfolk. This old church was struck by lightning and almost burned to the ground on August 3rd, 1879. The will directs that the money shall be expended in the providing and fixing a peal of eight bells, a new organ, new oak benches, etc.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE FUND FOR THE RELIEF OF THE WIDOW AND FAMILY OF THE LATE THOMAS WEST.

	£	s.	d.
Rev. Canon Jayne, Vicar of Leeds	0	5	0
Churchwardens of Leeds Parish Church	4	10	0
Leeds Parish Church Company and Friends	3	14	2
Mr. W. Snowdon, Leeds	1	1	0
Mr. W. Whitaker, Leeds	0	5	0
Mr. E. Snowden, Bradford	0	2	6
Mr. Thomas Clarke, Sharow	0	5	0
Mr. R. S. Story, Newcastle-on-Tyne	0	5	0
St. John's Company, Darlington, per Mr. R. Moncaster	0	4	6
Mr. J. Woodhead, Holbeck	0	2	6
Mr. D. Yorke,	0	2	0
Mr. C. Jackson, Hull	0	2	6
Mr. C. Bennett	0	2	6
Mr. R. B. Reed	0	2	6
Mrs. Aistrop	0	2	6
Mr. W. S. Webster	0	2	6
Mrs. Mumby	0	4	0
Mr. C. Jenkins	0	1	6
Mr. J. Pollard	0	1	6
Mr. J. Dale	0	1	0
Mr. S. Stockdale	0	1	0
Mr. J. Dixey	0	1	0
W. S.	0	1	0
R. C.	0	1	0
Mr. A. Holt	0	0	6
Mr. J. Highfield	0	0	6

This subscription list will be kept open until the end of August, when all further subscriptions will be published.

THE PUBLIC RECORDS.—Many of the precious documents at the Record Office—situated in Fetter Lane, London—after lying for centuries in damp vaults, and suffering from the depredations from rats and mice, are now so blackened and torn that to the uninitiated they seem quite illegible. The difficulty of reading them is greatly increased by the quaint lettering and the abbreviated old French and dog-Latin in which they are written. It was not till the year 1733 that the English language was finally adopted in State and legal documents. Considering the extraordinary neglect to which the public records were subjected by our ancestors, it is wonderful that so many important ancient documents as are in the safe keeping of the Records Office are handed down to us in a useful state of preservation. The number and variety of these records are so enormous that it is impossible to take more than a cursory glance at them. No doubt the celebrated Doomesday Book comes first in order of interest. As is well-known, the Doomesday Book is a register of a survey of lands in England made during the reign of William I. The book consists of two volumes and it is said that the survey was completed in five months. The reports of the surveyors was condensed and copied into the Doomesday Book which is beautifully written, and is in splendid preservation.—From CASSELL'S SATURDAY JOURNAL.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1888.

	Jan.	to May	June	Total
Ancient Society of College Youths ...	40	7		47
Sussex County Association ...	34	3		37
Midland Counties' Association...	30	6		36
Lancashire Association ...	20	8		28
Oxford Diocesan Guild ...	23	3		26
Essex Association ...	22	3		25
Norwich Diocesan Association...	17	1		18
Yorkshire Association ...	13	4		17
Surrey Association ...	12	3		15
Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association	11	3		14
Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford ...	11	0		11
United Counties' Association ...	10	1		11
Kent County Association ...	10	1		11
Salisbury Diocesan Guild ...	9	2		11
St. James's Society, London ...	10	0		10
Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association	8	0		8
The Holt Society ...	7	1		8
Society of Royal Cumberland Youths...	6	2		8
Hertford College Youths ...	6	0		6
Winchester Diocesan Guild ...	5	0		5
Liverpool Youths' Society ...	4	0		4
All Hallows' Society, Tottenham ...	3	0		3
Hertford Association ...	2	0		2
Birmingham Amalgamated ...	2	0		2
Waterloo Society, London ...	1	1		2
St. Martin's Society, Birmingham ...	2	0		2
Eastern Counties Association ...	1	0		1
Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal ...	1	0		1
Durham and Newcastle Association ...	1	0		1
Bath and Keynsham Deaneries Association...	1	0		1
Devonshire Guild...	0	1		1
Chester Diocesan Guild...	0	1		1
Independent Societies ...	47	9		56

Less peals entered under two Associations

369	60	429
34	3	37

Totals ... 335 57 392

The above peals were rung in the following methods: New Cumberland Surprise Major, 1; Cambridge Surprise Major, 5; Superlative Surprise Major, 7; Double Oxford Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 11; Stedman Cinques, 2; Stedman Caters, 15; Stedman Triples, 26; Duffield Royal, 4; Treble Bob Royal, 9; Treble Bob Major, 56; Prince Albert Major, 1; Violet Major, 1; Grandsire Caters, 21; Grandsire Major, 1; Grandsire Triples, 151; Grandsire Doubles (5040), 12; Court Bob Triples, 2; Oxford Bob Triples, 5; Union Triples, 5; Bob Maximus, 1; Bob Royal, 1; Bob Major, 18; Bob Triples, 14; Bob Doubles (5040), 1; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1; Canterbury Pleasure Triples, 1; in seven Minor methods on six bells, 14; in one method, 2; in 14 methods on five bells, 2; in six methods, 1. Total 392. Quickest 5000 upon church bells, 2 hrs. 27 mins. The above-mentioned 56 peals by independent Societies were rung in the following counties:—Lancashire, 21; Cheshire, 4; Staffordshire, 3; Gloucestershire, 4; Suffolk, 3; Yorkshire, 3; Warwickshire, 2; Kent, 2; Berkshire, 2; Surrey, 2; also Devonshire, Northamptonshire, Middlesex, Huntingdonshire, Bedfordshire, Norfolk, and Derbyshire, Wiltshire, Worcestershire, and Essex one each.

	1887.	1888.
Number of peals rung in January ...	50	52
" " February ...	76	72
" " March ...	65	60
" " April ...	62	98
" " May ...	57	53
" " June ...	38	57

Increase on the six months 44.

Brighton.

GEO. F. ATTREE.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

This Society will hold its Annual Picnic at Sutton Coldfield, on the Afternoon of Saturday, the 28th inst. Dinner will be served at the Emmanuel College Arms. Tickets for the dinner, price 3/6 each, may be obtained by application to the Secretary, on, or before the 25th.

Finch Road, Handsworth.

W. H. GODDEN, Secretary.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 7th, a successful meeting of the above Association was held at Loughborough, at which some forty ringers hailing from Bruton-on-Trent, Derby, Duffield, Leicester, Long Eaton, Nottingham and Beeston attended during the day, the only regret being that the esteemed President of the Association (A. Percival Heywood, Esq.), and the indefatigable Hon. Secretary (Mr. Joseph Griffin), were both unavoidably absent. A very hearty welcome was given to Mr. Henry Dains of London, for it was felt to be an honour that such a distinguished composer should favour the Association with his presence. The bells were kept going with but little intermission, except during the tea and business meeting, until nearly 10 o'clock, and touches were brought round in most of the Standard Methods, including "Duffield" Major and Royal; Treble Bob Royal; Grandsire Triples and Caters; Stedman Caters and Double Norwich Court Bob Major. At the tea, which took place at the "Mundy Arms" Hotel, the chair was occupied by the Rector of All Saints, Loughborough (Rev. Thos. Pitts), and a Vice-President of the Association. Eleven new ringing members were unanimously elected, including nine of the newly formed band at Beeston, whose names were received with pleasure by all present, and great hopes were expressed that it would not be long before a peal was reported from Beeston. Nottingham was then selected as the next place of meeting, presuming that the St. Mary's bells were available for the Association. The Chairman in replying to a vote of thanks which was cordially passed to the Rector and Churchwardens for so kindly granting the use of the bells, expressed the pleasure it was for him to meet the members of the Association, whom he should always be pleased to assist to the best of his ability, and to give permission to ring upon all suitable occasions.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 7, the Swanscombe band of the above association, paid a long promised visit to Eynsford and Shoreham. Starting from the Parish Church about three p.m., they arrived in Eynsford about four, where they rung a few 120s of Grandsire Doubles with the local company, after which, they proceeded to Shoreham by train, and after raising the bells, rung a 7.20 of Kent Treble Bob. A. Cornford, 1st; W. Martin, 2nd; G. Hayes, 3rd; J. Broom, 4th; G. Martin, 5th; W. Harper, (conductor), 6. They then came back to Eynsford, when after partaking of tea, they attempted a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, which unfortunately was lost when three leads from home, the bells were then lowered and the rest of the evening spent in singing and handbell playing. It is hoped that this visit will stir up the Eynsford band (most of whom can ring Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles, and are all members of the Kent County Association) to try to ring Minor. The ringers wish through the "THE BELL NEWS," to thank the vicars of Eynsford and Shoreham for granting permission to ring, and also to the ringers for having everything in readiness for them.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The First Annual Festival will be held at Ross on Monday, July 23rd. Morning Service at the parish church at 11 a.m., when the sermon will be preached by the Rev. Canon Musgrave, of Hereford Cathedral. The offertory will be devoted to the funds of the Guild. Dinner at the "George" Hotel at one o'clock, tickets two shillings each; business meeting immediately after. All members and friends who are interested in the Guild, are invited to attend. The Great Western Railway Company will convey ringers to Ross and back at a fare and a quarter, provided that the party is not less than ten. Ringing will take place during the afternoon at Ross (eight bells), Foy (six bells), and Weston (six bells).

Colwall Rectory, Malvern.

G. M. CUSTANCE, Hon. Sec.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

There will be a meeting at Wisbeach on Bank Holiday, August 6th; St. Peter's, ten bells. Members intending to be present, kindly write to the Hon. Secretary, stating station from which they propose to travel—at once.

Cambridge Road, Ely.

K. H. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"I toll the funeral knell,
I ring the festal day,
I mark the fleeting hours,
And chime the Church to pray."

A few weeks ago, I suggested that, as the annual "close season" for peal ringing was once more commencing, we might profitably turn our attention to various other matters in connection with the Exercise, thereby utilising with good results the time that is at our disposal. In response to this I have had the pleasure of receiving an interesting letter from a gentleman who holds a responsible position in one of the greatest and most active of our County Associations, on a subject which he thinks "has hitherto totally escaped the minds of the clergy as well as ringers." This subject is—Prayers in the belfry. My friend (who, for convenience sake, I will call Mr. X.) states his case so ably and intelligently that, after very careful perusal of his letter, I feel I cannot do better, in the first instance, than quote his own observations. He says—"I think there are very few belfries in England from which a prayer ever ascends to the Throne of Grace; and I venture to here suggest that were a clergyman of a church to visit the belfry of his church (say once on a Sunday) and there with the ringers assembled to offer up a prayer, his mission would not be in vain, as I maintain that it would serve to remind the—alas! too often careless—ringers of the sacredness of the place in which they are met; and furthermore it would perhaps induce them to stay and take part in the services of the church in which they are officers, instead of, as now, all leaving the church tower as soon as ringing has ceased." We are often, at our meetings, told of the duties which the ringer owes to the church, and the responsibilities of his position as an officer, but we seldom hear mention made of the duties which the parson owes to his ringers. I am glad, therefore, that Mr. X. has had the courage to call attention to this piece of remissness on the part of the clergy. It is an old and truthful saying that "a house-going parson makes a church-going people;" it may with equal truth and force be also said that—"a belfry-visiting parson will make church-going ringers." Many of our faithful parish priests think naught of walking long distances to the outskirts of their parishes, in all sorts of weather, to take part in little cottage meetings for prayer and praise; which meetings are, I doubt not, looked forward to by the participants with pleasurable feelings. Is it then unreasonable to ask that the clergyman of the parish should—as Mr. X. proposes—pay a visit to his ringers once a week in their own portion of the church, and by that means not only be carrying on his work of directing "all sorts and conditions of men" heavenward, but also be shewing to his ringers that he is desirous of encouraging them in their work. His weekly presence in the belfry would also have another good effect: that of animating his band with feelings of devotion both to their art and church. Would not this latter point gained be of itself a good return for the short time which this act of duty on the part of the clergyman would entail?

But I must not linger too long on this. Mr. X. remarks—"I myself have taken a part in the services of our church as a chorister previous to entering the campanological world, and before we entered the church proper, a short service was held in the vestry in which we all took part, and which was conducted by the vicar. Now I maintain that we as ringers play quite as prominent a part in the church as the choirmen. This being so, why should not some such service be held with the ringers in the belfry? Why should not prayer and praise ascend from the tower of the church as well as the chancel?" These are pertinent queries, which so fully cover the subject that there is really nothing left necessary for me to add. While fully agreeing with Mr. X., I think I may now confidently leave this question with the Exercise, for consideration; and therefore reserve any further remarks until I learn the opinions of our brethren on the matter.

As might have been confidently anticipated, the visit of our friends from Sheffield, Liverpool, and Birmingham, to the Isle of Man has been a successful one from a ringing point of view, in spite of unavoidable failures and other "drawbacks." While

endorsing your remarks, Mr. Editor, on this visit, I do think that good results will follow, especially if all our brethren who visit that place would make it a point, while on the little island, of interesting themselves in the ringing matters there, and of giving what assistance they can in fostering and encouraging any efforts in the way of change-ringing. They will be able to find many ways of doing this both with the clergy and the ringers there; and if they will but do this we may safely hope to read before long of the Exercise gaining a firm footing, and of peals having been accomplished by the natives of that interesting little spot.

Mr. Attree's monthly analysis comes rather later than usual this time; no doubt the holiday season will have had something to do with it. But whenever it does come, it is very welcome, from more than a mere statistical point of view. I do not propose offering any remarks upon it now, but would rather leave such till later on in the year. At the same time, however, I would earnestly commend it to the consideration of the Exercise, feeling sure that while it will be gratifying to those who are at "the top of the tree," it will encourage those who are lower down the list to make an effort in an upward direction.

Well done, ye men of Capel! Undeterred by previous failure, you have again handled the ropes, and this time with success. This is just what I like to see: men whom reverses only cause to make them more ardent to surmount difficulties and bring their efforts to a successful issue. Their peal is all the more creditable from the fact of its being composed of such musical and intricate methods. They evidently desired quality as well as quantity, and thus their achievement will be all the more pleasing to them and satisfactory to us.

I cannot help noticing the letter of "Juvenis" on the Tue Brook peal, as I had some thoughts of referring to it myself at the time. But I scarcely agree with him in his conclusions, still less do I coincide with him in his analogy between that peal and the one which caused so much wrangling in connection with the St. James' Society, as the circumstances were so much different. A peal of Triples is, as we all know, on seven bells, the tenor is introduced, like the big drum in a brass band, to give effect; but it is not in any way essential so far as the composition of the peal is concerned. If the peal is rung, cover or no cover, I maintain that the seven men who thus ring it are properly entitled to count it as having been properly accomplished. Of course, I admit that the tenor man could not fairly count it as one to his credit when he did not perform his duties to the full, and in the case of the Tue Brook peal, the foot note appended to the report seemed to show that he and the company with which he rung had no intention of doing anything of the kind. All this seemed to me so fair and straightforward that there was no need for further comment. To my mind, the seven men who rung the composition are without doubt entitled to claim the peal, and so long as the tenor ringer (who through no fault of his own did not cover the whole of the changes) does not profess to count it in his favour, I do not see what reasonable ground of complaint there can be in the case.

Before concluding, I feel constrained to remark upon the sorrowful news received from Maryborough, in connection with the ring so recently opened there. But seven weeks after the opening of these bells, which event was accompanied by such interesting and hopeful features, the generous donor has been suddenly called to his rest. And not only that, but the vessel which conveyed them, after leaving the place, has been no more heard of, it being supposed that she has foundered. Their muffled tones on the 19th of May would therefore resound with double significance. Mr. Aldridge had certainly passed his "three score and ten," and while his decease, sad though it might be if only from its very suddenness, is deplorable, it is earnestly to be hoped that the fears with regard to the good ship and its crew will prove to have been unfounded, and that we may hear afterwards of its arrival at some port in safety.

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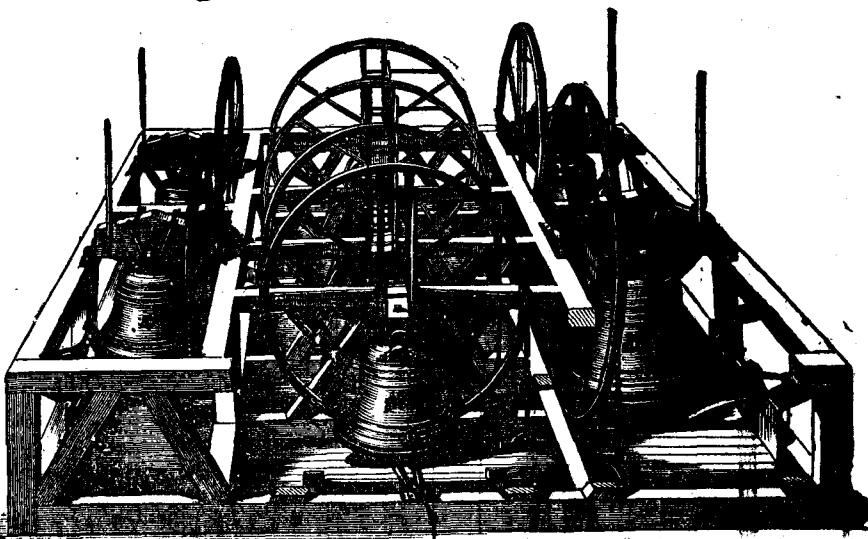
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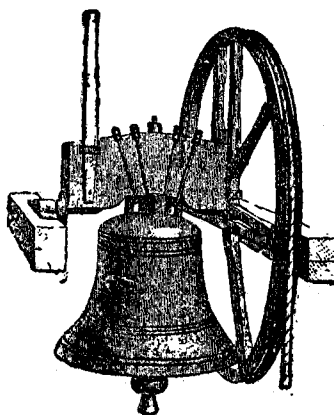
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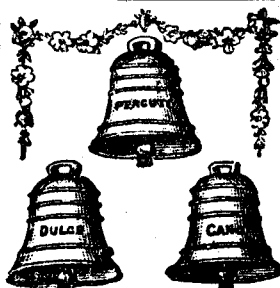
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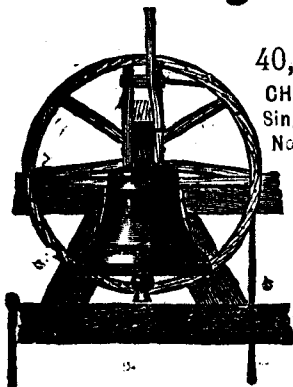
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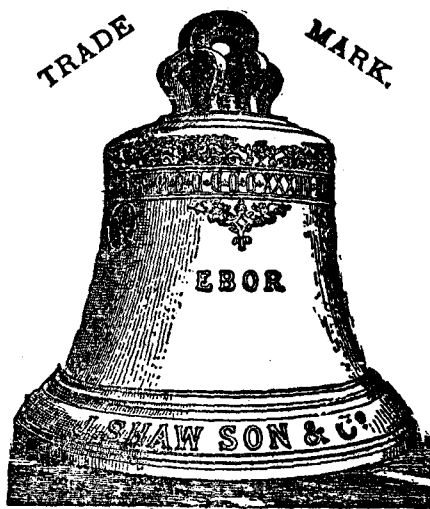
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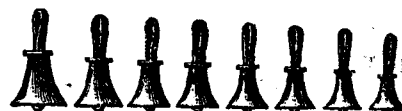
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ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Fourth Annual Meeting of the above Association was held at Kirton on July 14th, and was numerously attended by ringers from various parts of the district. There was, however, a very short attendance of clergy, a circumstance which provoked expressions of deep regret and disappointment, for Kirton being conveniently situated to several villages, it had been hoped that the clergymen from adjoining parishes would have honoured the association with their presence, and given a practical expression of their appreciation of the invaluable services rendered by the ringers. The popular president, the Rev. H. J. Cheales, of Friskney, was present, and for colleagues he had the Very Rev. the Dean of Lincoln, president of the North Lincolnshire Association, the Rev. S. Staffurth, of Frieston, and the Rev. C. B. Bevan, of Kirton. The proceedings consisted of bellringing, a special service and sermon in the parish church, a public luncheon at the "King's Head" Inn, and the annual meeting of the Association, concluding with further performances on the bells. The belfry was entered about ten o'clock, and the ringers at once commenced work, and rang 720 of Bob Minor, fourteen singles, four bobs, in thirty minutes. The ringers were—T. Cheatham (East Keal), 1; G. F. Clow (Sutton), 2; W. Vickers (West Keal), 3; J. Green (West Keal), 4; H. G. Daulton (West Keal), conductor, 5; and J. Sharpe (Frieston), 6. Later in the day 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles, were rung in twenty-eight minutes by J. Sharpe, 1; A. O. Barber (Frieston), 2; T. Sharpe (Frieston), 3; F. Clow (Sutton), 4; G. F. Clow, 5; and E. Mason (Boston), conductor, 6. Subsequently 720 of Bob Minor, fourteen bobs and two singles, was rung in twenty-eight minutes by E. Mason, 1; J. A. Hand (West Keal), 2; A. O. Barber, 3; J. Sharpe, 4; T. Richardson (Kirton), 5; and G. F. Clow, (conductor), 6. A touch—168 of Grandsire Tripels, was rung by T. Richardson, 1; F. Mawer (Sibsey), 2; F. Devoto (Boston), 3; Rev. H. J. Cheales (Friskney), 4; E. Mason, conductor, 5; G. Clarke (Skirbeck), 6; G. F. Smith (Friskney), 7; and G. Clow, 8. Three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung by T. Meeds (Skirbeck), 1; G. Clarke (Skirbeck), 2; W. F. Harwood (Boston), 3; T. Routen (Skirbeck), 4; A. O. Barber, 5; G. Goodwin (Boston), conductor, 6. Three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were also rung by C. Harrison, 1; J. Oldacre (Algarkirk), 2; G. Clarke, 3; T. Routen, 4; S. Steeper (Frieston), 5; F. Devoto, conductor, 6. Early in the morning a company drove to Sutton, and several touches of Grandsire were rung by A. O. Barber, 1; J. Mawer, 2; F. Devoto (conductor), 3; Rev. H. J. Cheales, 4; E. Mason, 5; G. Clarke, 6; and G. F. Smith, 7. During the day a visit was paid to the church at Frampton, and six-scores of Grandsire were rung on the five bells by, C. Harrison, F. Clow, G. Oldacre, J. Sharpe, and S. Steeper (conductor).

At half-past twelve o'clock a special service was conducted in the parish church at Kirton by the Rev. C. B. Bevan. The lessons were read by the R. H. J. Cheales, and an appropriate sermon was preached by the very reverend the Dean of Lincoln. The choir, which was under the direction of Mr. T. Hand, of Algarkirk, rendered Stainer's Anthem "Sing a song of praise" in a capable manner. Miss Dickinson presided at the organ. The congregation was not very large. A collection was taken at the close of the service on behalf of the funds of the Association.

The Dean of Lincoln took for his text the words contained in the 42nd and following verses of the 12th chapter of the Gospel of St. Mark, "(42) And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites which were a farthing; (43) and He called unto Him His disciples, and saith unto them, 'Verily, I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast more in than all they which cast into the treasury; (44) For all they did cast in their abundance, but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living!'" He said:—

The Lord does not weigh man's gifts with the amount given—He does not weigh the smallness of the offering. What He looks to is the size of the store from which that offering comes. Well then, dear brethren, here, as it seems to me, we have a very important lesson for our gathering together here. We see plainly how all can, if they will, make an offering; there are none so poor but they may even give more than the richest people in the world. Here especially the last may be first, and the first last. God measures, you observe, our gifts, not by the amount of the gift, but by the sacrifice we make to give it. And a

great point to remember is that our Lord Jesus Christ is now just as He was then, He knows what none can tell but Himself. He knows exactly what our gifts are—exactly what our opportunities are. He knows how much we offer, and the mind with which we offer it—it is not that which we give, but that which we keep back that tests our love for the Lord. It is not enough to offer to the Lord of that which costs us nothing. We may not be able to give much, but much or little, the real proof of our love is to give up for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, something—it matters not what; it may be money, it may be time, it may be care of others, but something we are glad to give. And so apply this to the matter which brings us here together to-day. Why are we here? We are met as brother-ringers in order that we may keep a festive day, and rightly we begin it by gathering ourselves here together in the House of God. We are met here together to take counsel how best to carry out that work which we have undertaken to do. And what is it we wish to do? You answer, it may be, to ring church bells. True, but then in what spirit are we to ring those bells? With what aim before us? Are we going to do our work merely for our amusement? Are we going to do the work merely because we have keen eyes and quick ears, and strong arms? Surely not, dear brethren. So to ring would indeed be to lose the very preciousness to our ringing. No; I trust, dear brethren, that you who are here gathered together this day have a higher and nobler aim before you. I trust you desire to offer up your strength and your skill to God's glory and for your fellows' weal. O, what a wonderful instrument, when we come to dwell upon it, is that small piece of metal which we call a bell. Think what the bell has to do. It speaks to us with sounds of joy when young hearts go forth from the House of God pledging their faith one to another to continue faithful unto life's end. It speaks to us at times of sorrow, when those whom we love are laid in their last resting-place. And above all it is, as it were, the very voice of the Church, inviting God's people to the House of God. It is a great and wonderful instrument, that Church bell, and what a great responsibility depends upon those who handle it. It is a great charge. It brings a very great reward if handled rightly, but only, dear brethren, believe me, by self-sacrifice. Let us not offer to the Lord of that which costs us nothing. What does self-sacrifice imply with regard to those who handle the church bells? First of all, surely it implies the maintenance of a high standard of moral life. Any one who handles these bells of God should consider that he is one specially set apart for a holy purpose. What does the Prophet say? "Be holy ye that handle the vessel of the Lord, be clean ye that handle the vessel of the Lord;" and those who have the great privilege of ringing the church bells should ever keep in mind that they belong to the House of God. In all society, in all places, that should be impressed upon their minds. They should say, "I am no common person: God called me for a special purpose—to invite my fellows into the holy house, and therefore my conversation and my behaviour must be above reproach; I must take care that no evil communications proceed out of these lips of mine; I must be careful that I bring no scandal upon the House of God by any impure or evil action; where the drunkards congregate together I must never be; where God's word, or God's sacrament, or God's Church, or God's people, or God's ministers are evil spoken of if I am there, I must lift up my voice and earnestly protest; and I must bring myself regularly to worship in the House of God." I remember the time when the ringers, shameful to say, where the last of all people to enter into the House of God. They rang their bells, and then passed away, just as if they were the bell ropes themselves, and had no connection or communication with the holy services in God's house. They who go into the belfry must go further—they must enter into the house of God. They must come to pray and to give praise—they must come to lead the congregation in as well as outside the church. Always maintain this—those who have the solemn office entrusted to them of inviting God's people to enter into His holy house ought to lead them further. They ought to lead them to the church and lead them to God's holy table, and never rest until they have fulfilled our dear Lord's own command—"This do in remembrance of Me." Never rest until you have fed upon the heavenly food yourselves. Unless you eat of the flesh and drink of the blood there is no life in you. How careful, how precious, how solemn, dear brethren, should the life of such as you become. And then in regard to the work itself. It must be done thoroughly. "Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might." Each body of ringers should never rest until they are thoroughly masters of their profession—not merely of tanging the bells, but of grasping the whole theory of the bells, of mastering the whole of the changes rung, and everything that makes the practice perfect. This is how the ringers should be, and this, let me tell you, is one of the great characteristics of English ringers. We do ring our bells. If you go abroad, as I have many times done, you never hear a bell decently rung. It is merely a kind of jangle—they never pull the bells up, and there is no real ringing—just a sound and that is all. Is it not the glory of the English ringers that they ring so well? The bells are well pulled up, the sounds are distinct and clear, and different kinds of

change-ringing, with one variation and then another of the changes rung, becomes not a mere pulling of bells, but a science. And this is what must be the work of bellringers—a science; to learn these changes—to make themselves acquainted with the art of bell-ringing and to do the thing thoroughly. Again another point: those who handle the bells should never fail to remember that punctuality in attendance is of the greatest importance. How grievous is it when, with a peal of six or eight bells, four or five men are waiting for either of the others, who never appears and never takes the trouble to send an apology for his non-appearance. How disheartening this is. How it puts the whole of those wishing to do their best, had they the opportunity, out of love. Oh, dear brethren, that is another point that should be most carefully kept before you—to be punctual in all you do. And when you are engaged in bell-ringing the greatest attention should be given. The great rule in the bell-chamber is, "Listen, look, and hold your tongue," and that is a good rule for the bell-chamber if ever you wish to make bell-ringing worth anything. Get the ropes set, get the bells in proper order, hear the sound and don't talk. Nothing is more injurious in a company of bell-ringers than one who chatters. This is most important. Then again, maintain the character of your belfry. Allow none to enter except those interested in the science you profess. Don't let the belfry be a place where rough words are uttered, or where intoxicating drinks are admitted, or where careless people come in, just to look and see what is going on, the same as at one of the parish lounges. Keep it as it is—a portion of the Church of God, where the tongue is to be quiet, and the head is to be bared. Always remember that the belfry, like all portions of the Church has been solemnly set apart, consecrated and dedicated to a special purpose—the gathering of ringers together to bring people to the House of God. If you carry out your work in such a spirit as this it will be a great blessing to you. I take it for granted that those whom I am addressing are not for the greater part greatly blessed with worldly goods, but, like the poor widow of whom I spoke first, you may give what you have to give, and that is what God will accept, not what the amount is, but that which he has. You may give your skill, and you may give your time, and you may give your labour in the spirit of that poor widow, and believe me, God will accept it. Your ringing will be a help to us and He will give you your reward. He will make you more and more His own. He will help you and guide all those around you. For every person here—we are young some of us here, in full vigour and strength, and others are gradually tottering to the grave—there lies before us one great reward, one great blessing for all good and faithful servants—for the hour snatched from our homes to give in faithful labour to God—yes, for all who make a sacrifice of any kind, Jesus stands on the eternal shore holding in His precious hand the crown of glory that fadeeth not away.

At two o'clock a public luncheon was provided at the King's Head Inn by Mrs. Cade, between forty and fifty persons being present. The chair was occupied by the Rev. H. J. Cheales, and he was supported by the Very Rev. the Dean, the Rev. S. Staffurth, the Rev. E. B. Bevan, Mr. E. Mason, (hon sec.) Mr. J. Taylor, Mr. J. Bellamy, Mr. T. Hand (Algarkirk), Mr. J. A. Hand (West Keal), Mr. Robinson (Old Bolingbroke), Mr. Mawer (Sibsey) Mr. T. Rodgers (Boston), and others. At the conclusion of the luncheon the Dean was compelled to leave the gathering to return to Lincoln, but before departing he expressed the pleasure it had afforded him to be present, and tendered a cordial invitation to the members of the Association to visit the county town and ring the bells of the Cathedral.

The CHAIRMAN subsequently proposed the usual loyal toasts, and in course of his remarks expressed sympathy with the Queen and the Princess Royal in their sad bereavement.

After the toasts had been honoured the CHAIRMAN said that before all things they were church workers, and they must ring out a true church sentiment from their words and opinions as well as from their bells, and he would ask them to consider what a great thing it was that the centre of church life, authority and dignity in that diocese identified itself with them in their work. The Dean had that day represented the Cathedral, and he was very sorry that circumstances prevented him from thanking him (the Dean) for the honour he had done them. Two years ago they were very much indebted to the Bishop for one of the greatest meetings, and a meeting that had done them more good than anything since the formation of the Association. It was his first public act on his first coming into the diocese, and the words he spoke on that occasion showed that he took a keen interest in the subject of ringing and the welfare of the ringers. He (the chairman) asked them to show as ringers, as well as members of the diocese, their admiration of the holy life, and piety, goodness and excellence of that great good man, the Bishop, and at the same time to shew a feeling of indignation at the in-

dignity at present being put upon him by those who had nothing to do with the diocese. If there were any complaints from their own people it would be different, but when strangers were amongst them stirring strife, they as churchmen ought to express their indignation against it, and he asked them to give three hearty cheers for the Bishop. The appeal was enthusiastically responded to.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the health of Mr. C. Bevan, the incumbent of the parish, for having given them the privilege of ringing the bells of the church, and for having provided them with such an interesting service. He also thanked Mr. T. Hand, for assisting in the musical part of the service.

Rev. C. B. BEVAN said it had been a great pleasure to him to see the ringers present that day. It was very important that they should emphasise on such an occasion the fact that the church did not consist entirely of the clergy—that it depended upon a large organisation made up of many. The clergy were as dependent upon the ringers, as the ringers were on the clergy, and the association to which they belonged was a very valuable one. In the first place bell-ringing was a science worthy of every man's learning. It was a manly science, and as they had heard that day, especially an English one, because it involves hard work. It was also an honorable science, and ringers enjoyed a great privilege and a great responsibility. He was not a ringer but merely a learner. He had, however, been much interested in what he had heard about bells and bell-ringing, and hoped that would not be the last time they would visit Kirton.

The CHAIRMAN said he wished the clergy would attend in larger numbers on occasions of that kind to show that they took an interest in their work. He was very much obliged to Mr. Staffurth for taking the trouble to come so far, and he proposed his health.

The Rev. F. STAFFURTH replied, and said the sooner the Association paid a return visit to Frieston the better they would be pleased. This concluded the toast list.

The Hon. Sec. (Mr. E. Mason, of Boston), then read the Annual Report.

The CHAIRMAN congratulated the association upon the state of their finances and said the balance was the result of the arduous and faithful work of their worthy secretary. There was no doubt that he had been the life and the backbone of the Association, and as he positively refused to take any salary, he thought they ought to make him a suitable present to shew their regard for him, and to recognise the able way in which he had conducted the matters of the secretaryship and the benefit he had done. Such a course was recommended by the committee, and he asked the meeting to confirm the wish of the committee. It was unanimously resolved to present a testimonial to Mr. Mason, and we understand it is to take form of a timepiece. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President: Rev. H. J. Cheales, rural dean, vicar of Friskney. Vice-Presidents: Rev. Canon Blenkin, rural dean, vicar of Boston; Rev. Canon Disbrowe, rural dean, rector of Benington; Rev. Canon Bond; Rev. Canon Fisher; Rev. T. W. Sale, rector of Halton-Holgate; Rev. F. Besant, vicar of Sibsey; Rev. R. E. Roy, rector of Skirbeck; Rev. D. J. White, vicar of Burgh; H. J. Atkinson, Esq., M.P.; The Right Hon. E. Stanhope, M.P.; F. Higgins, Esq., J.P., Alford; F. H. Booth, Esq., West Ashby Manor. Hon. Treasurer: Thomas Cheney Garfit, Esq., Boston. Hon. Sec.: Edward Mason, A.S.C.Y., 26, Castle Street, Boston. Committee: Mr. J. Mawer, Sibsey; Mr. H. Daulton, West Keal; Mr. G. F. Smith, Friskney; Mr. G. F. Clow, Sutterton; Mr. G. Clark, Skirbeck; Mr. A. O. Barber, Frieston. Messrs. E. Mason, G. F. Smith, J. Mawer, and A. O. Barber were appointed instructors. After some discussion it was resolved that the next quarterly meeting should be held at Halton Holgate.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. John Jaggar's address will be 230 Goodman Street, Burton-on-Trent, after Saturday, July 28th.

NOTICE.—By the kind invitation of the Rev. Canon Bridges, the Beddington ringers will celebrate the nineteenth anniversary of the opening of the bells on Bank Holiday, August 6th. The tower will be open at 2.0 p.m., when every effort will be made to suit the convenience of old and new friends. Mr. Trappitt has again kindly consented to provide tea for those who may require it.

THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY, DERBY.

On Saturday, July 14th, the above society had their annual outing. At 4.30 a.m. a start was made for Blackpool, and after riding through the beautiful scenery of the Peak of Derbyshire, they entered some of the great manufacturing centres, contrasting considerably with the green fields and trees. They reached their destination about 9.30, and the first thing they did was to find a place for breakfast. After satisfying the inner man, they had a very enjoyable walk along the beach, where they visited the Aquarium, aviary, menagerie, etc., and after viewing the animals, fish, and birds, they next visited the swimming baths of sea water, it being thought too cold to bathe in the open sea. After having a good swim and splash with each other, which felt very refreshing after somewhat long and close confinement in the railway carriage, they then began to think about dinner, and returning to the place at which the order was given, they found everything ready for immediate attack, and in a few minutes every man was at his post. All being right, the word "go" was called, and so they did in fine style for some five or six courses without a hitch, for what with the sea breeze and salt water bath, they felt in first class nip for that sort of work. "Stand" being called, they began to make ready for another short journey to St. John's Church, where arrangements had been previously made for a ring on the bells, which are certainly a very musical little peal of eight, in F, tenor about 14 cwt. Arriving at the church gates they found Mr. Worthington awaiting their arrival. Among other short touches they rang a 386 and 503 of Grandsire Triples. W. Shardlow, 1; T. Alon, 2; W. B. Midgley, 3; R. Clitheroe, 4; J. W. Thompson, 5; A. E. Thompson, 6; C. E. Hart (conductor), 7; T. Albutt, 8. They wish to thank the above-named gentleman for so kindly assisting them, and also the Vicar for granting them permission to ring on the bells.

Afterwards they made their way to the Sacred Heart Chusch, where they found Mr. Nelson and his friend ready to receive them. They visited the belfry and rang 260 of Bob Minor on the bells, which are a peal of eight steel ones. After they had partaken of a substantial tea they had a splendid drive along the promenade to Uncle Tom's Cabin and back, and then into the Winter Gardens. By this time it was getting dark, and they had to begin to think about their return journey. They visited one or two of the fancy bazaars to buy a few presents for those they left behind, and then made the best of their way to the station as it was near train time. They found the train ready, and they were ready for it. They started at 9.10, and passed a very pleasant evening in singing songs and a few recitations, and thus brought to a close one of the most pleasant days they had ever had. They wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and Churchwardens for their kindness in providing the outing, and hope that the next they have, they will be favoured with their company.

THE NEW CHURCH CLOCK, BURTON LATIMER, NORTH HANTS.

A public tea, on behalf of the fund for placing a new clock in the church tower, was held in the Assembly Room on Thursday last, July 19th. It had been announced that the tea would be held in the Hall Field, but owing to the uncertainty of the weather this project was abandoned and the repast was provided in the building named above. The cost of the new clock and the fixing of the same is estimated at from £130 to £140, and towards this about £66 has already been subscribed. The new clock is to have two dials, one of which is to face the north, as is the case with the old one, and the other will be placed in the western side of the tower. The proposal has been warmly received, both by churchpeople and dissenters. The tea tables were graced with vases of flowers, and a number of flowering plants were placed in convenient places around the room. At the conclusion of the tea an adjournment was made to the Hall Field, where an American fair, dancing, and other amusements were announced to take place, but the proceedings were greatly interfered with by the rain, which fell heavily during the evening.

WANTED by a change-ringer, aged 20 years, a situation as Shopman or Book-keeper in Corn and Milling trade preferred; has had 6 years' experience in above Trades with present employer. Can ring the following Methods—Bob, Grandsire and Stedman. Apply to G. BAKER, Jun., Orchard Place, Arundel, Sussex.

THE ST. MARY'S GUILD, TAUNTON.

On Saturday, July 21st, the members of the above Society had their first annual outing, the place selected being Plymouth. The party which numbered fifteen, left Taunton Station at 6.22 a.m. And on arriving at Plymouth, which was reached at 10.15 a.m. at once proceeded to St. Andrew's Church, where hangs a heavy ring of ten, tenor 35 cwt. Then the front six was raised, in peal, and a fairly s'rick 6-score of Grandsire Doubles was rung. F. Burge, 1; G. E. Harbour, 2; T. Doble (conductor), 3; C. E. May, 4; J. Maddock, 5; T. Radford, 6. Having raised the heavy bells (not being able to do so in peal owing to their getting in back-stroke, evidently wanting to be thoroughly overhauled by a bell-hanger), some rounds were rung by G. E. Harbour, 1; F. Burge, 2; C. E. May, 3; T. Radford, 4; W. Wakelin, 5; J. Summerhayes, 6; J. Burge, 7; J. Maddock, 8; T. Doble, 9; E. Wyatt, 10. Next followed a plain course of Triples on the heavy eight, two of our Plymouth friends taking part. T. Doble, 1; F. C. May, 2; G. E. Harbour, 3; Taylor, 4; J. Burge, 5; J. Maddock, 6; F. W. Batchelor, Esq. (Plymouth), 7; E. Wyatt, 8. Having lowered the bells in peal, Charles Church was next visited, when some more Triples was rung by F. Burge, 1; W. Wakelin, 2; ——— (Plymouth), 3; T. Radford, 4; J. Burge, 5; J. Maddock, 6; T. Doble, 7; E. Wyatt, 8. After falling the bells the party adjourned to the "Globe Hotel," where a splendid dinner was supplied by Host Watts, after which various amusements were indulged in, some taking a trip on the water, some taking a walk around Plymouth, Stonehouse and Devonport, when at the Royal Dockyard Gates at 5.0 p.m. they met the Dockyard Church Ringers, who having heard that the Taunton ringers were visiting Plymouth, sent a very kind invitation to them to visit their belfry, one of the prettiest belfries the Taunton men had seen. Here everything being ready, the heavy six was raised in peal, and a well struck six-score of Doubles brought round, standing in the same order as at St. Andrews, next followed two or three courses of Grandsire Triples. F. Burge, 1; G. E. Harbour, 2; C. E. May, 3; T. Radford, 4; J. Burge, 5; J. Maddock, 6; T. Doble, 7; E. Wyatt, 8. After having seen the bells, which are a light peal of eight, tenor, 12-cwt. and go splendid, the company went on top of the tower, where they had a magnificent view of the dock-yard below, the training ships, the Royal Albert bridge at Saltash, &c. Having thanked their Devonport friends for such a hearty welcome, they had to hurry off to catch the train, which brought them to Taunton at 9.45 p.m., here ended a day that every one enjoyed, not a single hitch of any kind having occurred to mar the days proceedings. The ringers wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to thank their Plymouth friends who had made such an excellent arrangement for them, especially to F. T. Batchelor, Esq., who spared no pains to make their short stay at Plymouth a pleasant one, also the Royal Dockyard team, who met an hour earlier than usual, to enable them to have a pull on such a handy little peal.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting will be held at Leek, this day, (Saturday), July 28th. The following is the order of arrangements: 2.30—Ringing; 4.0—Service at St. Edward's church, with sermon by the Rev. C. B. Maude; 5.0—Tea, at ninepence each; 6.0—Annual Meeting. Trains from Stoke at 1.30 and 2.45 p.m. Reduced railway fares on shewing Member's Tickets.

St. John's Vicarage, Longton. W. T. SMITH, Hon. Clerical Sec.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

A District Meeting will be held at Dinton, for Chilmark, on Wednesday, August 1st. Dinner at the "Wyndham Arms," at 1 p.m., price two shillings each. The names of those intending to be present must be sent in to J. R. JERRAM, Hon. Sec.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly meeting will be held at the parish church, Blackburn. The belfry will be open at 2 p.m. At 5 o'clock a short service will be held in the church. At 5.30 the business meeting will be held in the schoolroom. J. REDFORD, } Hon. Secs.
A. WREAKS, }

Review.

"DUFFIELD": *A Musical Method for Eight, Ten, and Twelve Bells.*—(Bemrose; London and Derby.)—As a sequel to his articles on the Duffield Method in "THE BELL NEWS" some few months back, Mr. Heywood has now published a complete treatise on that recent and valuable addition to the science of ringing. The book consists of 119 pages, in a tasteful binding, published by Messrs. Bemrose and Sons, and is issued at the price of 1s. The contents are most exhaustive. Dedicated to the change-ringers of England, the main body of the work, following a preface setting forth its scope and intention, commences with a complete Glossary of Terms peculiar to the method. This glossary, which is most concise and definite, should be well perused. Mr. Heywood is most happy in his invention of the new technical names required for his new method—notably so in the case of "after-bell," and "double-bell." It would be well, too, if the terms "odd" and "even" used by him for in-and-out-of-course were more generally adopted. After the glossary comes an introductory chapter, shewing the need of such a method as Duffield, and more than justifying its author for submitting it to the Exercise. Then there are two chapters (I. and II.) occupying thirteen pages, with complete instructions for ringing and pricking the method, shewing at the same time how the bells may be brought round at any required number of changes. In these two chapters, as throughout the rest of the book, reference is made to appendices at the end, which the reader should peruse when referred to them; but for the purpose of the reviewer they may be left till later. Chapters III. IV. and V. treat exhaustively of the proof as applied to eight bells. These chapters leave nothing to be desired. They are everything that a proof should be. A short chapter on "extents and qualities," points out among other things the possibility of obtaining a whole peal of Major with the 6th at home. When this fact was first published in "THE BELL NEWS," we were very curious to know how it could be effected, but the mystery is easily explained, when we read in the author's words that "6, 7, 8 never fall into a duplicate position in any one course." There is in fact only one "even" (i.e., "in course") 6, 7, 8 in each course. Having given a chapter (VII.) of touches the author proceeds to peals. These he divides into two classes, viz., those with the 6th undisturbed, and those with that bell called away from her home position. These peals are calculated to shew the great flexibility of the method. Eighteen are given with the 6th at home, varying in length from an exact 5000 to 5760. These are followed by ten examples with the 6th a working bell ranging in length from 5000 to 8640. They form the conclusion of part I. The next part, consisting of chapters IX.—XII., and comprising twenty pages, is occupied with the subject of Royal, which is treated in the same thoroughgoing manner. The headings of the chapters will shew the line taken by the author—"How to ring the method"—"Pricking, proving and extents," "touches of Royal," "peals of Duffield Royal." Among the last occurs what the author truly denominates Mr. Bulwer's "magnificent" peal of 10,800, containing the entire extent of Duffield Royal, with the four heavy bells together in 180 "even" courses. Part III. treats of Maximus. In chapter XIII. are given "General Directions" as to Maximus. Here on page 93 the author says: "The greater the number of bells, the more seriously does any parting of the heavy ones affect the beat; and in 'Duffield' alone among methods is all parting avoided, while such can never be the case in any system having a hunting treble or alternating quick and slow work." Mr. Heywood is here of course thinking only of music, and so far as music alone is concerned, Duffield unquestionably admits of no superior. But the great charm of the work or "duty" in Stedman (putting music for the moment out of the question) undoubtedly consists in the very fact of the existence of the alternating quick and slow work taken in connection with the dodging, which comes as a pleasing variation between them. It is no small pleasure after a long spell of dodging (and the dodging in Cinques is little short of wearisome) to find oneself once more in front where the real fray is going on, and the momentous question of "quick or slow?" gives an additional interest to the whole. The loss of this

is the only weak point that we have been able to detect in Duffield. But nothing is absolutely perfect, and the many exceptionally good qualities of Duffield render it capable of sustaining far more than the weight of a small flaw such as this, if indeed it prove to be a flaw at all. The hints to conductors in Chapter XV. are excellent, and will afford by analogy many useful lessons for conducting in other methods. Passing over the conducting chapter we come to the Appendix. For this part of the work Mr. Heywood has reserved some of his most interesting observations. With the main argument of Appendix I. we thoroughly agree, but we are inclined to contend for the old word "course-end." It is quite true, as Mr. Heywood says, that it is the proof of the following course that is founded upon it, but at the same time the "course-end" is the row at the distance of one course (or multiple of a course) from rounds, and it represents the effect of the calls that have preceded it. We think that the distinction on page 113 (Appendix IV.) as to the propriety of a peal starting or concluding with a row produced otherwise than by the strict rule of the method is rather a fanciful one. Such a thing is to our mind equally objectionable when occurring at either of those places as it would be if the peal were varied and the irregular row brought into the body of the composition. We are sorry for Mr. Lockwood's gr20 Treble Bob Major, but such has always been our opinion. From this it will be seen that we more than agree with and heartily re-echo the author's observations as to date touches. What we have just said may be taken as referring not only to date touches, which at the best are mere sentimental concerns, but also to peals on eight bells and upward, where the choice is of large extent. But in peals of Triples, where the only alternative lies between all the changes or no peal at all the case is different. Here therefore we incline to make an exception in favour of Holt's singles. These give a very great variety of peals, rendering the fabrication of other new calls quite inexcusable, and indeed may be said to have deservedly won their way to be the Grandsire singles *par excellence*. It must not be forgotten that till the publication in recent years of the five-part peals with two common Grandsire singles in each part, there was no peal extant, with the exception of those on the bob-and-single plan, that would have been admitted by Mr. Heywood as a peal of genuine Grandsire. Of Appendix VI. we can only say that it seems to be most weighty and conclusive, and we strongly commend every word of it to the careful consideration of composers. The work that Mr. Heywood has done in connection with the musical properties of Major compositions entitles him to speak with weight on the musical properties of other branches of the science. We have spoken of the matter contained in the book under review. It only remains to be said that Mr. Heywood's manner of conveying his meaning is exceedingly pleasant. The reader is carried along by the author's easy and graceful style. Mr. Heywood is so thoroughly at home in the subject of which he treats that his language is at once simple and effective, while at the same time it never degenerates to anything approaching prolixity.

THE CHURCH HOUSE.

The inauguration of the Church House took place in London, on Saturday last, in a marquee erected on a grass plot in the centre of Dean's-yard, the site selected by the committee for the building. Prior to the formal meeting service was held at the Abbey, the words of the anthem that was sung being selected by the Rev. S. Flood Jones, vicar of St. Botolph, Aldersgate. At the meeting the Primate presided, supported by the Duke of Westminster, Lord Justice Cotton, the Bishop of Wakefield, Mr. H. H. Gibbs, Mr. H. C. Richards, &c. On the proposition of Lord Justice Cotton, seconded by Mr. J. G. Talbot, M.P., it was resolved, "That the Archbishop of Canterbury be requested to declare the Corporation of the Church House to be in occupation of the site chosen for the said house." In making the declaration the Archbishop said that since the list was first opened subscriptions to the amount of £53,000 had been received. Other resolutions were also agreed to, the Benediction pronounced by the Archbishop closing the proceedings.

The handbell peal rung by the Holt Society recently, reads "5040 changes." It should have been "5039."

FOR SALE.—A beautiful-toned set of Handbells, 24, in G.; nearly new; warranted perfect. Price £10. Company broken up cause of sale.—Apply to J. SKRUTT, Richmond Road, Kingston-on-Thames.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH

COURT BOB MAJOR.

By JAMES S. WILDE, *Hyde, Cheshire.*

5072.

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

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

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

5040.

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By GEORGE HAYWARD, *Bromsgrove.*

14,094.

2 3 4 5 6

6 2 3 5 4	7th in and out at two
4 5 2 6 3	7th in two
2 4 5 6 3	9th in three
5 2 4 6 3	9th in three
4 2 3 6 5	7-9
3 2 5 6 4	7-9
5 3 2 6 4	9th in three
2 5 3 6 4	9th in three
3 5 4 6 2	7-9
4 3 5 6 2	9th in three
5 4 3 6 2	9th in three
2 6 4 5 3	7th in two
4 2 6 5 3	9th in three
3 5 2 4 6	7th in two
2 3 5 4 6	9th in three
3 4 5 2 6	7th in three
5 3 4 2 6	9th in three
4 5 3 2 6	9th in three
5 2 3 4 6	7th in three
2 4 3 5 6	7th in three
3 2 4 5 6	9th in three
4 3 2 5 6	9th in three
2 3 6 5 4	7-9
*6 5 3 2 4	7th in and out at two
4 2 5 6 3	8th in two
5 4 2 6 3	9th in three
2 5 4 6 3	9th in three
3 6 5 2 4	8th in two
5 3 6 2 4	9th in three
6 3 4 2 5	8-9
4 2 3 6 5	8th in three S
2 6 3 4 5	8th in three
3 2 6 4 5	9th in three
6 2 5 4 3	8-9
2 5 6 4 3	7-8
5 6 2 4 3	7-8
6 4 2 5 3	8th in three
2 6 4 5 3	9th in three
4 2 6 5 3	9th in three
3 5 2 4 6	8th in two
2 3 5 4 6	9th in three
5 2 3 4 6	9th in three
3 4 2 5 6	8th in three S

*These twenty courses five times repeated, 8th in two instead of 7th in and out at two, bob instead of a single at third and sixth part ends produce 23456978. Round by calling the 7th and 2nd into the hunt. This peal contains the 120 course-ends, with the bells in the tittums, and is the first ever published on this plan.

A TOUCH OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES.

By HENRY J. TUCKER, *Bishops Stortford.*

517.

2 3 4 5 6 7

6 7 2 5 3 4	I
5 7 6 2 3 4	5
7 6 5 3 4 2	2
3 6 7 5 4 2	5
4 2 3 5 6 7	I
S 3 2 4 6 7 5	2
2 4 3 7 5 6	2
6 7 2 4 3 5	3
4 7 6 2 3 5	5
3 5 4 2 7 6	I
2 5 3 4 7 6	5
6 4 2 5 3 7	3
3 7 6 5 4 2	I

Round at hand, next lead.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAJOR.By J. W. WASHBROOK, *Oxford.*

13,440.

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 6

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

Repeated.

This peal contains the extent with the tenors together.

Mr. Washbrook writes: "I notice in last week's 'BELL NEWS' a peal of Stedman Caters, by J. Barrett, London, which is very false, and also a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob, by Mr. H. Dains, of London (which was conducted by J. Motts), is false, changes repeating in the 6th and 7th course of each part."

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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 arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1888.

THE statements of the antiquarian, Mr. SEWELL, have this week received a further refutation, and that, it is believed, from a quarter where he least expected. It will be remembered that this gentleman boldly stated that the Vicar of St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, was compelled to vacate his residence near that church on account of the noise of the bells; and also that the vibration caused by ringing them had done considerable damage to the tower. These statements the Vicar—Rev. CANON TURNOCK—in a letter to the *Guardian* absolutely denies;

and adds that the real cause of the latter is of a nature "more serious and unsatisfactory." Thus we have another instance of flagrant misrepresentation by an uncompromising opponent of change-ringing brought to grief.

The letter of Mr. PAPILLON, also in the same issue of the above-named paper, clinches to a great extent our remarks upon the instability of towers which are made to carry bells. A great many cases could be mentioned where the towers are no more fit for the reception of bells than the pigeon-house of a farm-yard, owing to the failure or neglect of those responsible to provide for their accommodation either at the present or remote future. It sometimes happens—in fact rather too frequently—that in the erection of a new church the building of the tower is left for posterity to undertake, that part of the sacred edifice not being considered a necessity, and thus we find in many places churches whose outward appearances have nothing to distinguish them from the meanest puritan conventicle. In other cases, where the absence of a steeple would be felt by the erectors as a want of such distinctiveness, a mere shadow or skeleton of a tower is built just to relieve the conscientious scruples and feelings of those concerned. In the course of few years, may be some charitably disposed member of the congregation desires to add to the church in which he worships the distinctive appendage of the Church—a peal of bells. The want of bells—not as a bare feeling of sentiment—becomes to be felt when comparisons are made with other churches, and the very natural wish that "our church ought to have a peal like our neighbours" waxes greater and greater. Such a desire is most praiseworthy. The preliminaries being adjusted, the architect is called into consultation, and he, after recommending a little patching here, and a little clamping there, receives his fee and departs. By and by a crack in the tower is discovered, and "Stop the bells" is at once the cry. And in such a case the ringers come to be looked upon as the chief authors of the disaster, and the fracture of the edifice, if fracture there be is laid at their doors, and they have to suffer a sort of ostracism in consequence.

It is to be hoped that this correspondence in such a leading paper as the *Guardian* may lead to more care being taken in the erection of church towers. Architecture is among the learned professions, no doubt, and it may be necessary that architects in the practice of their profession, should have *carte blanche* to a certain extent. But they ought not to be allowed to have everything their own way. There is reason in all things, and those who are apt to fortify themselves behind every sense but common sense, and remain deaf to every entreaty of those who possess the latter, should be taught a severe lesson, whether they be antiquarians or architects.

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting will be held at Healy Parish Church on August 4th. Bells ready at 2; Meeting at 4.30 in the schoolroom.
J. HOGGARD, Hon. Sec.

THORNBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

ON Thursday, July 12th, through the kindness of the Vicar and Mrs. Hodgson, the voluntary Church Workers were entertained to a garden party. After tea the local ringers gave some selections on their handbells, and Mr. James Hinton, of Bristol, tapped off some tunes. The ringers then rang a touch of Grandsire Triples for service, and afterwards rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, in 50 mins. W. Davies, 1; G. Iles, 2; E. Eddington, 3; F. Symes, 4; F. Howell, 5; T. Alsopp, 6; J. Hinton (conductor), 7; J. Phillips, 8.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

This Society will hold its Annual Picnic at Sutton Coldfield, on the afternoon of Saturday (to-day), 28th inst. Dinner will be served at the Emmanuel College Arms. Tickets for the dinner, price 3/6 each, may be obtained by application to the Secretary. Finch Road, Handsworth. W. H. GODDEN, Secretary.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the above Association will take place at Bristol, on Monday, July 30th. Short service at St. Mary Redcliffe church at 11 o'clock, address by the Rev. A. C. C. Anstey, vicar of St. John's, Clifton. Business Meeting immediately after service, at No. 1, Colston Parade (corner house). Dinner at the "Ship" Inn, Redcliffe Hill, 2s. 6d. per head, at 1 o'clock. 1s. 6d. allowed to all who have given notice to C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., Local Secretary, 30 Broad Street, on or before the 25th inst. A cheap train leaves Cheltenham at 8 a.m. on July 30th, and calls at all intermediate stations, leaving Temple Mead Station, at 8.30 p.m. the same evening.

The Metropolis.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, July 21, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 21 cwt.

CHARLES E. KELLEY* .. Treble.	JOHN W. KELLEY 5.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 2.	HARRY KENTON 6.
JAMES NICHOLLS 3.	JAMES W. DRIVER 7.
FREDERICK W. KELLEY .. 4.	SAMUEL HOW Tenor.

Conducted by C. F. WINNY.

*First peal. It was intended to start for a peal of Caters by the parochial ringers, but unfortunately meeting short Triples had to be rung.

The Provinces.

FOXEARH, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Tuesday, July 24, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JOHN LEE Treble.	CHARLES SILLITOE 5.
SAMUEL SLATER 2.	ROBERT MINGAY 6.
PERCY C. S. SCOTT 3.	GEORGE C. HAMMOND .. 7.
FRED WELLS 4.	OLIVER GARWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and Conducted by CHARLES SILLITOE.

This peal is in three parts, and has the sixth at home at nine course-ends. It was rung as a birthday peal with the conductor, who attained his 23rd year on that day, and his brother ringers wished him many happy returns of the day.

DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, July 17, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW LITCHURCH,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 20½ cwt.

WILLIAM SHARDLOW .. Treble.	GEORGE MOTTASHAW .. 5.
JOHN WM. THOMPSON .. 2.	HARRY C. WOODWARD .. 6.
ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 3.	CHARLES HART 7.
WILLIAM B. MIDGLEY .. 4.	T. ALLBUTT & C. DRAPER Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD.

*First peal in the method by all except the conductor. The above was rung as a farewell peal to Mr. W. B. Midgley, who is leaving Derby for his native town of Keighley, Yorkshire.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 18, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. Treble.	HENRY BALDRY 5.
GEORGE PERRY 2.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, SEN. 6.
GEORGE WIGHTMAN* .. 3.	GEORGE SHARMAN 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS, and Conducted by DAVID G. WIGHTMAN.

The above is a two-part peal. Messrs. Wightman hail from Cretingham, Baldry from Brandeston, the rest belong to Framsdén. *First peal in the method.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, July 20, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JAMES SHAW Treble.	WILLIAM MIDDLETON .. 5.
JOHN HARROP 2.	MORRIS WILLIAMSON .. 6.
WALTER SLATER 3.	THOMAS WILDE 7.
JOHN SIDEBOTHAM 4.	JAMES S. WILDE Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, and

Conducted by JOHN SIDEBOTHAM.

Messrs. Wilde Brothers, Shaw, and Slater hail from Hyde, the rest are of the local company.

UPTON ST. LEONARD'S, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Three and-a-Half Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 17½ cwt. in F#.

HENRY G. GARDINER .. Treble.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 5.
ARTHUR A. WAITE 2.	SYDNEY E. ROMANS .. 6.
HENRY MITCHELL 3.	WILLIAM J. SEVIER .. 7.
RAYMOND J. WILKINS .. 4.	THOMAS WHITE Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY G. GARDINER.

W. H. Fussell hails from Slough. Rang in commemoration of the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588, Saturday being the day on which the English Navy gained her first advantage during the invasion.

MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, July 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 16½ in F#.

GEORGE DRAPER Treble.	GEORGE C. TUNNICLIFF .. 5.
HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD .. 2.	GEORGE MOTTASHAW .. 6.
JOSEPH W. WARREN 3.	GEORGE A. FISH 7.
HENRY HOLLINGWORTH* .. 4.	THOMAS ALLBUTT Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY HOLLINGWORTH.

Messrs. Draper, Woodward, Mottashaw, and Allbutt hail from Derby; the rest are local men. *First peal as conductor.

EARLSHEATON, YORKSHIRE.

On Sunday, July 22, 1888, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

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

J. NEWSOME* .. .. .Treble.	G. RUDDLESSEN .. .. .5.
W. BROWN .. .. .2.	C. A. FOX .. .. .6.
A. GOODALL .. .. .3.	W. BYRAM .. .. .7.
G. TAYLOR .. .. .4.	J. RUDDLESSEN .. .. .Tenor.

Composed by G. H. HARDY, and Conducted by JOE RUDDLESSEN.

*First peal. Mr. Taylor hails from Dewsbury.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—DRAYTON, BERKS.

On Monday, July 23, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

WILLIAM COBB .. .. .Treble.	THOMAS SHORT .. .. .5.
FREDERICK FIELD .. .. .2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. .. .6.
CHARLES TRINDER .. .. .3.	H. D. BETTERIDGE, ESQ. .. .. .7.
HARRY FRUIN .. .. .4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. .. .Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

This peal has the 4th, 5th, and 6th only in sixth's place, and is now rung for the first time. It is Mr. Fruin's first attempt at Superlative, and the peal was beautifully struck from beginning to end.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, ST. ALBANS.

On Monday, July 23, 1888, in Two Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

IN ST. PETER'S BELFRY,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

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

ALFRED BARNES .. .. .1-2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. .. .5-6.
E. PERCY DEBENHAM .. .. .3-4.	THOMAS WALLER .. .. .7-8.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

Umpire, Mr. D. Gibbons, who took off every lead as rung.

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

On Tuesday, July 24, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT ST. SIDWELL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

CHARLES CARTER .. .. .Treble.	G. H. PHILLOTT, ESQ. .. .. .5.
STEPHEN BINFIELD .. .. .2.	EDWIN SHEPHERD .. .. .6.
FERRIS SHEPHERD .. .. .3.	JAMES MOSS .. .. .7.
REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. .. .4.	THOMAS J. LAKE .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by FERRIS SHEPHERD.

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—On Sunday, July 15th, at St. Michael's church, 360 Plain Bob Minor. T. Newman, 1; W. T. Prior, 2; H. J. Tucker, 3; W. Prior, 4; G. Prior, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. A 720 Plain Bob Minor. T. Newman, 1; W. T. Prior, 2; H. Prior, 3; W. Prior, 4; G. Prior, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. This was rung on the front six. Messrs. Prior hail from Stanstead; the rest are local men.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday, July 22nd, at St. Mary's church, for Divine Service in the afternoon, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 28 mins. *E. Chaplin, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; *F. Saunders, 4; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 5; E. Radley, 6. *First 720 in the method. Messrs. Radley, Saunders, and Chaplin hail from Stisted; Hammond from Braintree; the rest are local men.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Thursday, June 19th, at the parish church of St. Michael, on the occasion of the annual church school treat, among the several touches were 720 Plain Bob, and 360 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; W. Hammond, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; F. L.

Bumpstead, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; S. Hammond (conductor), 6. Also 360 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; J. Savill, 3; C. H. Howard, 4; F. L. Bumpstead, 5; F. Rudkin (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, July 22nd, for Divine Service in the morning, 360 Cambridge Surprise and 144 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; S. Hammond, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; F. L. Bumpstead, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Thursday, June 28th, at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, 720 Plain Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; G. Prior, 2; W. Watts, 3; Isaac Cavill, 4; Isaac Hammond, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, July 1st, 720 College Single. W. T. Prior, 1; W. Watts, 2; W. Prior, 3; Isaac Cavill, 4; G. Prior, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. And 720 Plain Bob Minor. J. Harvey, 1; W. T. Prior, 2; G. Prior, 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Hammond, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. On Saturday, July 14th, 720 Double Oxford Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Prior, 3; H. Prior, 4; G. Prior, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. On Sunday, July 15th, 720 Plain Bob Minor, without a single, composed by the late John Holt. W. T. Prior, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Prior, 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, July 22nd, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Prior, 1; W. Watts, 2; J. Luckey, 3; Isaac Cavill, 4; W. Prior, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. Also 720 Plain Bob Minor. J. Luckey, 1; Isaac Hammond, 2; Isaac Cavill, 3; H. Prior, 4; G. Prior, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday, July 22nd, at All Saints' church, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six singles). F. Saunders, 1; E. Chaplin, 2; W. Bearman (Bocking), 3; E. Radley, 4; A. Chaplin, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

HAGLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, July 17th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). F. Wright, 1; H. Morris, 2; J. Smith, 3; W. Short, 4; T. Lees (conductor), 5; C. Boughton, 6; T. Barber, 7; J. Davis, 8. Messrs. Barber, Boughton, and Short hail from Clent; the rest belong to the local company. This is the first quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples by all except the conductor.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—On Wednesday, July 11th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. M. Shilvock, 1; W. Boughton, 2; W. Short, 3; H. Raybould, 4; T. Barber, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by Raybould, who hails from Halesowen.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—Chiming.—On Sunday, July 22nd, for Divine service, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. A. Barnes, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 3-4; T. Waller, 5-6. Also six courses of Stedman Triples. H. Lewis, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. Also 252 Bob Triples. A. Barnes, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. Also two courses of Bob Caters, with J. C. Mitchell and G. W. Cartmel. On Wednesday, for practice 504 Grandsire Triples was rung. T. Conley, 1; J. Brewer, 2; G. W. Cartmel, 3; H. Brewer, 4; J. C. Mitchell, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; T. Waller (conductor), 7; D. Gibbons, 8. Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday, July 21st, 720 Bob Minor. H. Lewis, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 3-4; G. W. Cartmel, 5-6.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, July 21st, an attempt was made at St. John's church, Waterloo Road, for a peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. George Banks, of Kennington, a much-respected member of this Society, but it unfortunately came to grief after ringing 3980 changes, in 2 hrs. 4 mins. George Wild (conductor), 1; William Coppage, 2; Albert E. Church, 3; William Jones, 4; William W. Thorn, 5; Henry L. Partington, 6; Richard T. Woodley, 7; George Chesterman, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, July 17th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; W. Lawrence (Whitchurch), 2; J. Hands, 3; T. Newman, 4; H. Smith, 5; E. Menday (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Grandsire Doubles. C. Kidby, 1; W. Lawrence, 2; J. Hands, 3; H. Smith, 4; E. Menday (conductor), 5; H. Simmonds, 6. Also another 720 of Plain Bob Minor. H. Smith, 1; W. Lawrence, 2; C. Bennett (Reading), 3; J. Hands, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, July 22nd, for Divine Service, 360 Stedman Doubles. T. Newman, 1; G. Essex, 2; H. Smith, 3; J. Hands, 4; E. Menday, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. After evening service, 720 College Single. F. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; H. Simmonds, 3; T. Newman, 4; E. Menday, 5; G. Essex (first 720 in the method as conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MIDHURST (Sussex).—On Sunday, July 8th, for Divine Service in the morning, at the parish church, 360 Bob Minor. T. Ellis, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; C. Tribe, 3; G. Batts, 4; W. Selby, 5; E. Jordan, 6. And on handbells, in the afternoon, at the residence of Mr. Williams, 720 Bob Minor, in 19½ mins. *Mrs. Williams, 1; *W. Selby, 2; E. Jordan, 3; *Dr. W. H. George, 4; G. Williams (conductor), 5-6. Also two 120s of Stedman Doubles. †W. H. George, 1; E. Jordan, 2; G. Williams, 3-4; Mrs. Williams, 5-6. *First 720. †First 120s of Stedman. E. Jordan hails from Capel, Surrey. Also on Sunday, July 22nd, for morning service, 360 and 120 Bob Minor. T. Ellis, 1; J. Batts, 2; C. Tribe, 3; G. Williams (conductor), 4; W. Selby, 5; G. Batts, 6. An attempt for a 720 in the evening was lost in the last course. J. Batts hails from Hambledon, Hants., and this is his first attempt at Bob Minor.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, July 22nd, for evening service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. G. Wood, 1; J. Wood (conductor), 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; W. Baddeley, 5; E. Glover, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HEYWOOD (Lancashire).—On Sunday, July 22nd, for the annual flower service at St. Luke's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. J. Kay, 1; A. Schofield, 2; W. R. Barrett, 3; D. Wild, 4; W. H. Walmsley, 5; J. Harrison, 6; E. Bishop (conductor), 7; J. Millett, 8. Tenor 23 cwt.

PRESTWICH (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, July 15th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. T. Hutton, 1; A. Barrett, 2; A. Hardman, 3; J. Brooks, 4; W. Warburton, 5; E. Bishop (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

RADCLIFFE (Lancashire).—On Sunday, July 15th, for afternoon service at the parish church of St. Bartholomew, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. F. Rudman (conductor), 1; A. Barrett, 2; A. Hardman, 3; J. Hardman, 4; E. Bishop, 5; W. Fielding, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MILTON (near Gravesend).—On Saturday, July 21st, at the parish church, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. L. Digweed, 1; F. Hayes, 2; G. Hayes, 3; C. Waterman, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday, July 22nd, at the parish church, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Plain Bob. G. Hayes, 1; A. Cornford, 2; W. Jackson, 3; J. Broom, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ROSS (Herefordshire).—On the occasion of the anniversary of Her Majesty's coronation, 700 Grandsire Triples was rung at St. Mary's church. H. Bird, 1; J. G. Wall, 2; J. King, 3; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 4; J. Atkins, 5; J. Clark, 6; E. Andrews, 7; R. Clark, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. On Thursday, July 12th, 720 Bob Minor, on the back six, in 29 mins. H. Bird, 1; E. Turner, 2; J. G. Wall, 3; J. Atkins, 4; A. Bird, 5; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 6.

LLANGARREN (Herefordshire).—On Sunday, July 15th, at St. Deinst church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 25 mins. Also 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Clark, 1; E. Turner, 2; A. Bird, 3; J. G. Wall, 4; E. Andrews, 5; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. These bells have recently been rehung by Messrs. John Warner and Sons, of London.

WESTON (Herefordshire).—On Monday, July 16th, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (called differently), in 26 mins. H. J. Pike, 1; W. Redding, 2; J. E. G. Bowen, 3; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 4; Geo. Wilks, 5; C. Thompson, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. Also on Sunday, July 22nd, 720 Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. H. Bird, 1; J. G. Wall, 2; A. Bird, 3; J. Clark, 4; J. Atkins, 5; E. Andrews (conductor), 6. And some Grandsire Doubles and Minor, conducted by W. H. Fussell, in which four of the local ringers took part.

FOY (Herefordshire).—On Wednesday, July 18th, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 25 mins. Joseph Cartwright, 1; Thos. Phillips, 2; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 3; F. Voyce, 4; Richard F. Treherne, 5; R. Amies, 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

ANSTON (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, July 22nd, at St. James' church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, and 240 of Violet. W. Price, 1; H. Watkinson, 2; D. Russon, 3; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 4; G. Marsden, 5; J. Hargreaves, 6. Also 720 Duke of York. S. Tomlinson, 1; S. Harvey, 2; R. Fox, 3; C. Fowler, 4; G. Marsden (con-

ductor), 5; T. Silvester, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Lidster, 1; S. Harvey, 2; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 3; F. Fowler, 4; G. Marsden, 5; T. Silvester (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford. S. Tomlinson, 1; W. Price, 2; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 3; F. Fowler, 4; G. Marsden, 5; D. Russon, 6. Messrs. Price and Marsden hail from Eckington; J. and W. Hargreaves, Tomlinson, Harvey, and Russon from Shireoaks; Lidster from Sheffield; H. Watkinson from Workop; the rest belong to the local company.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Thursday, July 19th, at the parish church, 360 Grandsire Minor, and several 6-scores of Doubles. C. Hawkins, 1; Rev. C. Buston, 2; W. Sadler, 3; W. West, 4; A. Ashford, 5; F. Hewlett (conductor), 6. All the above, with the exception of W. Sadler (who belongs to the local company) hail from Twyford, Hants.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, July 15th, at the church of St. Werburgh, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Colston, 1; *C. Burden, 2; F. Elles, 3; C. Trevett, 4; W. Emery, 5; J. Hinton (conductor), 6. And 720 Plain Bob Minor. C. Burden, 1; S. Phillips, 2; *G. Colston, 3; *F. Elles, 4; J. Hinton (conductor), 5; W. Emery, 6. Also several 6-scores, in which Messrs. Baynham, Paradise and Gordon took part. *First 720 on an inside bell in the method. This is the first 720 in the methods on the bells since they have been in the present tower.

ELMORE (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, July 15th, at the parish church, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. Prosser, 1; W. Ward, 2; T. Harmer (conductor), 3; R. Ellis, 4; R. Prosser, 5; R. Gardner, 6. On Thursday, July 19th, twelve courses of Grandsire Minor. E. Taylor, 1; R. Ellis, 2; T. Harmer, 3; W. Ward, 4; R. Prosser, 5; H. Merrett, 6. This is the first courses of Grandsire Minor by all. Messrs. Ellis, Ward, Taylor, and Gardner hail from Longney; the rest are local men.

HALSTEAD (Essex).—On Saturday, July 21st, 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins. William Gladin, 1; Thomas Arnold, 2; William Cooper (first 720), 3; Harry Wiffen, 4; Walter Ward (conductor), 5; Nelson Hawkins, 6. Tenor 19 cwt.

LONGNEY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, July 22nd, for Divine Service in the morning, at the church of St. Lawrence, six members of the local company rang 1260 changes of Grandsire Doubles, each 6-score called differently. W. Ellis (conductor), 1; W. Ward, 2; R. Ellis, 3; A. Longney, 4; R. Gardner, 5; E. Taylor, 6.

LOWICK (Northants).—On Monday, July 14th, for practice at St. Peter's church, four 6-scores of Bob Doubles. E. Curtis, 1; G. March, 2; W. Fox, 3; G. Guess, 4; C. Swan, 5. On Sunday, July 22nd, 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. R. Dunkley, 1; G. Guess, 2; G. March, 3; C. Swan, 4; W. Fox (conductor), 5. Also two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (each called differently). G. Guess, 1; G. March, 2; E. Curtis, 3; R. Dunkley (conductor), 4; C. Swan, 5. Also a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. R. Dunkley (conductor), 1; G. March, 2; W. Fox, 3; E. Curtis, 4; C. Swan, 5. Also a 6-score each of Stedman Slow Course, New Doubles, and St. Simon's Doubles. G. Guess, 1; G. March, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; E. Curtis, 4; C. Swan (conductor), 5.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Thursday evening, July 19th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), called differently, with 7-6-8 behind. J. George (Coventry), 1; G. Winter, 2; W. Adler, 3; T. W. Chapman (conductor), 4; T. Bates, 5; A. Palmer, 6; H. Horwood, 7; J. Ballard, 8. On Saturday, July 21st, a start was made for forty-two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, which came to grief after ringing nearly 5000 changes, through a miscall. T. W. Chapman (conductor), 1; G. Winter, 2; J. Clarke, 3; H. Horwood, 4; T. Bates, 5; W. Adler, 6. Another attempt will be made on Saturday, August 4th.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Monday, July 23rd, for practice, 504 Stedman Triples. F. Linter, 1; F. T. Hoad (conductor), 2; E. Moses, 3; G. H. Croucher, 4; W. Argent, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Webb, 7; J. Howard, 8.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Tuesday, July 10th, at All Saints' Church, 336 Grandsire Triples. S. V. Salisbury, 1; O. Coombes, 2; W. Ward, 3; W. Jennings, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; A. R. Ward, 6; J. Morris, 7; A. Ward, 8.

WIDFORD (Essex).—At the parish church, for practice, on Tuesday, July 3rd, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 25 mins. A. Edwards, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; H. F. de Lisle, 4; W. Lincoln (conductor), 5; W. J. Piper, 6. On Friday evening, July 13th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. A. Edwards, 1; J. Dains (conductor), 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Harvey, 4; W. Lincoln, 5; A. Tarbun, 6. On Tuesday evening, July 17th, 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains (conductor), 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. J. Piper, 4; E. Scotcher, 5; A. Tarbun, 6. In this 720 the tenors never come up the wrong way behind.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

The Annual Festival of the above Guild was held at Leatherhead, on Thursday, July 19th. Ringing commenced at the parish church at 10.30, when a 360 of Bob Minor was rung by the Bagshot band, a 450 of Grandsire Doubles by the Shalford band, and a short touch of Grandsire Caters by a mixed band. The service began at 11.30, consisting of a shortened form of Matins with special lesson, psalms, and hymns suited to the occasion. The prayers were said by the Vicar, the Rev. F. E. Utterton, the lesson was read by the Rev. R. F. Tompkins, of Arundel, and a very practical sermon was preached by the Rev. J. C. Tyler, Vicar of St. John's, Richmond, from the text Ephesians iv. 1—"Walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called." He exhorted the ringers to bring credit on their calling as Church workers by consistent lives, and to show a good example to their congregations by being constant attendants at the services for which they rang their bells. At the conclusion of the service the ringers adjourned to a large tent on Mr. Loxleys ground, where about 150 sat down to dinner. The chair was taken by W. W. Moore, Esq., of Bournemouth, the President of the Guild, who was supported by the Rev. H. C. Spyers (Purbrook), Rev. F. E. Robinson (Drayton), Rev. T. G. Tyler (Richmond), Rev. F. E. Utterton (Leatherhead), Rev. R. F. Tompkins (Arundel), Rev. F. Whyley (Alton), Rev. C. Buston (Ashe), L. Proctor, Esq. (Benington), F. W. J. Rees, Esq. (Guildford).

The CHAIRMAN in giving the loyal toasts, mentioned that the Duke of Connaught was a patron and life member of the Guild, and that the Winchester Guild was the only Association of ringers directly connected with the Royal Family. In proposing "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," he thanked the Rev. F. E. Utterton heartily for the loan of his Church and belfry, and for the service that morning. The Vicar having been suddenly called away previously, the Rev. F. Whyley responded.

In giving "The Winchester Diocesan Guild," the Chairman said the Guild was now entering upon its tenth year, and they had 393 performing and honorary members. Ten peals had been rung in the district during the year, and he especially referred to the progress recently made by the Bournemouth band.

The Rev. H. A. SPYERS, who was received with applause, responded. Speaking of the doings of the members, he said since the publication of their report, a long peal consisting of 10,080 changes had been rung by the Capel band in 5 hrs. 18 mins. He believed that this was a performance which had not yet been equalled in six-bell ringing, as the peal was rung in fourteen different Treble Bob methods, nine of them being Surprise methods. He spoke with satisfaction of the good assistance which he had received from the local secretary for Hampshire, there being a prospect of several bands joining the Guild on the western side of the main line of the South Western Railway. He thanked the late local secretary for Surrey for the good work done in and around Bramley, but as the Rev. S. E. Budge had now left the district, he was glad to be able to say that he had secured the services of a good substitute in the person of F. W. J. Rees, Esq., of Guildford. He spoke of the strange refusal of the St. Nicholas, Guildford, to join the Guild, after all the assistance they had received, but said he was pleased to hear that Mr. Rees had altered all this, and he hoped that before long, Guildford would become a centre of scientific change-ringing. The officers for the year were then elected, which were the same as in the previous year, with the exception of the new local Secretary for Surrey.

The members then dispersed to ring at various churches in the neighbourhood. The Basingstoke, Alton, Havant, Weybridge and Guildford bands went to Ashstead where a 120 of Stedman Doubles and a 360 of Grandsire Triples were rung.

The Bagshot, Hambledon, Shalford and Catherington bands went to West Clandon, where a 630 of Bob Minor and a 720 of Grandsire Minor were rung by W. Harding, 1; T. Gould, 2; F. Francis, 3; H. Stapleton, 4; E. Spooner, 5; H. Houlton (conductor), 6. Here an excellent tea was provided in the Schoolroom. The 'go' and the tone of the West Clandon were much admired. The Bramley and Twyford bands with the Rev. C. Buston went to Betchworth. The Capel and Hursley bands

went to Esher and were hospitably entertained to tea. The Hursley men rang 600 Grandsire Doubles called differently. Touches of Oxford Treble Bob were rung by the Capel men.

The Farnham and Privett bands went to Dorking where a 336 Grandsire Triples was rung by W. Paice, 1; F. G. Ayling, 2; H. Gasforth, 3; A. Baker, 4; H. Sutton, 5; T. Housford, 6; G. H. Barrett, 7; T. Baker, 8; and a 504 of the same by E. Dodd, 1; H. Boxall, 2; H. Gasforth, 3; A. Baker, 4; H. Sutton, 5; C. Fry, 6; G. H. Barnett, 7; H. Curtis, 8.

At Leatherhead during the afternoon several touches of Grandsire Caters and Stedman Triples were brought round, including a 305 of Grandsire Caters by H. Newnham, 1; E. Hull, 2; L. Proctor, 3; C. Want, 4; J. Hewett, 5; R. Jordan, 6; W. Marks, (conductor), 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 8; G. Williams, 9; J. Lisney, 10. A 168 of Stedman Triples by J. Hewett, 1; J. Whitney, 2; G. Russell, 3; R. Jordan, 4; G. Grafton, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; S. Brooker (conductor), 7; J. Lisney, 8. A 204 of Oxford Bob Triples by G. Williams, 1; — Lindoff, 2; E. Hull, 3; R. Jordan, 4; H. Chandler, 5; F. Wickens, 6; S. Brooker, 7; J. Lisney, 8. Also three leads of Treble Bob Royal by J. Hewett, 1; G. Williams, 2; G. Russell, 3; — Lindoff, 4; R. Jordan, 5; E. Jordan, 6; H. Chandler, 7; F. Wickens, 8; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 9; S. Brooker, 10.

CHURCH BELLS AND CHANGE-RINGING.

The following additional letters have appeared in this week's *Guardian*—

SIR—Your "deeply moved Protestant reader," Mr. Sewell, in laying upon change-ringing the blame of damage to the fabric of towers, forgets another side to the question—viz., the responsibility of architects and builders to make towers, which are intended to carry bells, strong enough to bear their vibration. If the architect who designs a new tower troubles himself but little about the bells (as is too often the case), or if the contractor "scamps" the work, the tower will very likely prove too weak; and, if I mistake not, it is more often in the case of new towers, such as that of St. Mary-le-tower at Ipswich, that we hear of such complaints. I know nothing about St. Peter Mancroft at Norwich, to which Mr. Sewell also refers; but I was not long ago at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, and what I heard on the spot does not altogether agree with Mr. Sewell's letter.

Mr. Sewell speaks of the art of change-ringing as "scarcely one hundred years old." The "Ancient Society of College Youths," in London, is said to have been established in the sixteenth century; and the Royal Cumberland Society, organised under that title in 1746, had existed as the "Society of London Scholars" prior to the year 1702. The author of one of the most scientific of change-ringing methods, Mr. Fabian Stedman, was born in 1631. I hope that these facts are a sufficient answer to your correspondent's chronology.

The support of such an authority as Mr. Percival Heywood more than counterbalances any amount of ill-informed criticism. I can assure those who may read his letter that no man in England is more qualified to speak on the subject of change-ringing.

T. L. P.

SIR,—Mr. Sewell, in a letter which he is kind enough to inform me he did not intend for publication, makes two statements relating to myself and my church at Ipswich which, with your permission, he must kindly allow me to correct.

He is entirely mistaken when he says that the clanging of the bells of my church compelled me to leave my vicarage for another residence. I simply required a larger house. Nor is it the case that the vibration caused by our peal has necessitated the reconstruction of several of the buttresses of our church tower. The real cause I am sorry to say, is one more serious and more unsatisfactory. Nevertheless it is one not at all likely to "imperil the entire structure."

JAMES R. TURNOCK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

There will be a meeting at Wisbeach on Bank Holiday, August 6th; St. Peter's, ten bells. Members intending to be present, kindly write to the Hon. Secretary, stating station from which they propose to travel—at once.

Cambridge Road, Ely.

K. H. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

EARLS BARTON, NORTH HANTS.

By permission of the Rev. R. R. Cobbold, seven of the Wellingborough parish church ringers visited Earls Barton on Saturday evening, and rang several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles on the bells in this old Saxon tower. These bells go remarkably well, it is quite a pleasure to ring them. The ropes formerly fell to the pavement, but the bells are now rung from the clock-room. They are a rather light peal of six, the tenor measuring $41\frac{1}{2}$ inches across the mouth, and weighing about 14 cwt. The treble is a sweet-toned little bell. Messrs. Taylor & Son, of Loughborough, rehung these bells in the old frames three years ago. There was some talk at that time of increasing the peal to eight. There is plenty of room for additional bells. When the tenor was recast in the year 1761 the founder (Eayre, of Kettering), made the bell somewhat too light, he therefore (according to a tradition in the village) reduced the diameter of the fifth bell by chipping away its lip in order to tune it to the defective tenor. The mutilated "skirts" of the fifth bell seem to verify the truth of this tradition. The treble, second, fourth, and fifth, were all cast by Penn, of Peterborough, in the 1720. The third was recast by Arnold, of St. Neots, 1775. Penn was the founder of the peal of ten bells placed in Peterborough Cathedral in the year 1709, five of which have since been removed. He also cast the "Priests Bell" or "Ting Tang" at Wellingborough, 1708. The inscriptions on Barton Bells were given in a recent number of the Parish Magazine, as follows:—The English translation of Latin words is given in brackets:—(1) *Beati Pacifici* [Blessed are the Peacemakers]. Robert Whitworth, Senr., Benefr., 1720. (2) *Si Deus Pro Nobis Qvis Contra Nos* [If God be for us who can be against us]. (3) Edward Arnold, St. Neots Fecit, 1775. John Smit and William Kemshead, Churchwardens. (4) *Ihs Rex Ivdeorum Fili Dei Misere Mei* [Jesus, King of the Jews, Son of God have mercy on me]. 1720. (5) *Vera Jvdicet Ecclesia Fixvs Adversa Sperno* [Let the Church determine the truth, being firm I despise adversity] 1720. John James, Henry Wine, Churchwardens. Henry Penn, Founder. (5) *To The Church The Liveing I Do Call and To The Grave I Summon All.* John Warren & John Smith c. ws., 1761. Thos. Eayre Vincent Barker, Benefactor. In the year 1700 (according to Bridges) there were five bells.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 15, six members of the Loughborough branch of the above Association visited Wymeswold to ring a muffled peal at the funeral of Mr. John Gutteridge, for over fifty years the respected parish clerk of Wymeswold, and well-known locally as a change-ringer. The service was impressively read by the Rev. R. C. Green, vicar, and was attended by a large congregation. After the service a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung. A. Cresser, 1; E. D. Taylor, 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; S. Smith, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Brooks (Wymeswold, conductor), 1; S. Smith, 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; A. Cresser, 4; R. W. Charles, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun., 6. Afterwards a 720 of Grandsire, by the same band as in the Treble Bob. Within a few days of his death, Mr. Gutteridge had performed his duties as usual, and after the briefest illness he peacefully passed away on the 10th inst., at the ripe age of eighty-four.

HINDLEY, NEAR WIGAN.

On Sunday morning, July 22nd, a very large chiming clock was started in St. Peter's church by the Rev. Peter Jones, the first vicar of this church, who came purposely for the ceremony. The clock has four dials each six feet across, of very chaste but simple design. The quarters are chimed upon four bells, and the hours struck upon the largest bell in the tower. The movement is constructed with every modern improvement, so to maintain perfect accuracy, and chiefly to the designs of Lord Grimthorpe. It has a gravity escapement with a compensated pendulum. The whole of the work has been carried out by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, who have also in hand a similar but somewhat larger clock for Rawten-stall church, Lancashire.

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."

QUICK PEALS.

SIR,—Some time back the members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang a peal of Stedman Triples at Drayton in 2 hrs. and 27 mins. A fortnight ago they rang another peal in 2 hrs. and 54 mins. in the same method, same place, and called by the same man. Why this difference in time? In answer to a paragraph of mine at the time of the quick peal, Mr. Washbrook informed me that if I liked to visit Drayton, he would show me they would ring a quicker one. I now take the opportunity of thanking Mr. Washbrook for his kind invitation; at the same time beg to decline his proffered offer for two simple reasons, firstly, when I go for a peal I do not go in for racing; secondly, to have the audacity to doubt the veracity and accuracy of the unique performances of the Oxford Guild, I might get a hard knock for my trouble, and they might have the courtesy to ask me where I should like to be hit. I will now repeat an observation made by a gentleman at the house of my friend, Mr. Mash, viz.; when the members of the Oxford Guild are on a week's ringing tour in the country, the captain's advice to his colleagues if they get into a mess is "Don't stop, Washbrook will put you right." If these spasmodic ejaculations are accurate, and I had the honour to be in one of these marvellous achievements, I should be under the excruciating necessity of telling them to put one half of the peal in their hat, and the other half in their boots.

THE PEAL AT TUE BROOK.

SIR,—With all due respect to Mr. Pritchard I cannot quite see in what way the disclosure of my name and address will affect the matter of this peal in question: it will neither make it right or wrong, so I must beg him to be content with a *nom de plume* for once. With regard to the comments of "Free Lance" upon my letter, I may say that I did not declare the composition of the peal to be false through the tenor dropping out, in fact I did not say a word about the composition. But what I tried to shew, was, that I did not consider it ought to be claimed as a peal so long as the eight bells having once started, one of them dropped out before the conclusion of the peal, though I will own as far as I know through no deliberate fault of the ringer.

JUVENIS.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—I am informed that a peal of Grandsire Triples was rang at St. Thomas' church, Douglas, Isle of Man, by the St. Peter's company, Liverpool, on their visit to open the bells on December 7th, 1852. Therefore the peal of Treble Bob recorded in "THE BELL NEWS" of July 14th, should read the first peal in the method rung on the Island. The same sentence is also applicable to the peal of Stedman Triples.

C. H. HATTERSLEY.

P.S.—The bells at Douglas are now only a peal of six.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE FUND FOR THE RELIEF OF THE WIDOW AND FAMILY OF THE LATE THOMAS WEST.

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Mr. W. Whitaker, Leeds	0	5	0
Mr. E. Snowden, Bradford	0	2	6
Mr. Thomas Clarke, Sharow	0	5	0
Mr. R. S. Story, Newcastle-on-Tyne	0	5	0
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Mr. D. Yorke,	0	2	0
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Mr. R. B. Reed,	0	2	6
Mrs. Aistrophe,	0	2	6
Mr. W. S. Webster,	0	2	6
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Mr. J. Pollard,	0	1	6
Mr. J. Dale,	0	1	0
Mr. S. Stockdale,	0	1	0
Mr. J. Dixey,	0	1	0
W. S.,	0	1	0
R. C.,	0	1	0
Mr. A. Holt,	0	0	6
Mr. J. Highfield,	0	0	6

This subscription list will be kept open until the end of August, when all further subscriptions will be published.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Honi soit qui mal y pense."

After your remarks, Mr. Editor, on the correspondence from the *Guardian*, which you publish, I feel almost ashamed to be found referring to it here. I trust, however, that I may be excused if I venture to remark that the thanks of the Exercise are due to our two well-known and respected brethren who have so ably championed our cause in the "Bishop's organ." They have thus added one more to the many services rendered by them to us, and if they are not rewarded with thanks ostentatiously by those whose cause they maintain, they will at any rate have the satisfaction of knowing that they have the hearty sympathy and goodwill of us all.

* * * * *

The last letter of the trio is certainly, as you say, "very little short of a gratuitous insult to the whole Exercise." It, however, is to my mind, another evidence of the ignorance and intolerance too often displayed by men who have confined their studies to one object, and allowed their mind to become warped around it to the exclusion of everything else. Mr. Sewell's jaundiced epistle has evidently emanated from one who can see nothing except through the fossilised spectacles of an effete and bigoted mind, which the owner fondly imagines to be antiquarianism. His charge against us as to the mischief we have done "to fine towers all over England" is so utterly absurd as to be calculated merely to rain a contemptuous and pitying smile from those who—unlike him—understand the question at issue.

* * * * *

I would here leave this subject, but for the few words which prefix the signature of this high-souled individual, who subscribes himself as "your deeply moved Protestant reader." What in the name of common sense has Protestantism to do with this matter? But this observation, I am rather inclined to think, displays the "cloven hoof" in the whole affair. This individual must surely be a descendant of those Scottish fanatics who for years opposed the introduction of organs into their churches—designating these instruments as the "deil's kist o' whistles." If so, we may quite understand his opposition to bell-ringing; and be willing to let him go along in his own small way, while we are content with the fact that his *genus* is so scarce amongst us; and that such oppositions as his will but serve to do good to the Exercise in many ways. As the Yankee would say—"Let him slide."

* * * * *

The correspondence on the disputed first peal of Stedman Triples has been, I think very properly, brought to a close by the Editor. I say "very properly," because I certainly do agree with the words of the footnote that "an overwhelming amount of evidence exists in favour of Mr. Cooter's assertions." The only course left for us, then, is to accept what is evidently the truth of the matter, and like sensible men "adapt ourselves to the altered circumstances."

* * * * *

I really must compliment Mr. "Twyford" on his extraordinary prowess of penetration, and his faculty of discovering things which have no existence. He speaks of my "sarcastic manner" in reference to their report. I am totally at a loss to know where the sarcasm of my note comes in, as I certainly had no intention of anything of the sort. Had I been so inclined, I might have hinted that instead of thanking the

clergyman for "allowing them to view the church free of charge" they ought to have thanked him for—in effect—giving them sixpence apiece on that occasion, which, according to their first account it simply amounted to. But I did nothing of the kind; I simply objected as disagreeable to the term "free of charge," which implies a stated fee for admission into the sacred edifice, which is to my mind very repugnant, and—to say the least of it—un-English. A voluntary subscription from visitors in aid of the restoration fund is quite another matter; and had Mr. "Twyford" given his latest explanation in the first instance, as ought to have been done, there would have arisen no cause for my note. Perhaps he and his band will be a little more careful next time.

* * * * *

I am sorry to see personalities cropping up again in the correspondence columns of last week. Some time ago I referred to this unpleasant feature of controversy in ringing matters; and have been much gratified of late to observe its absence. My friends, when we are discussing subjects in connection with our work, what need is there for us to lower ourselves in the opinion of outsiders by indulging in personal remarks one towards another, just for the sake of saying something which we imagine to be "smart" or "cutting." Such line of action does not affect the real point at issue, and simply detracts from the weight of any other arguments or statements which may be adduced. These personalities may be allowable in a common pot-house or tap-room, but they are most certainly out of place in the columns of "THE BELL NEWS." Whenever you are tempted to err in this manner, think of our national motto—"Evil be to him that evil thinks."

FREE LANCE.

MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

Friday, July 13th, was the first anniversary of the opening of the peal of eight bells in the tower of the above church. Since the opening, five peals have been rung on them by the Melbourne society, viz., one of Bob Triples on September 24th, 1887, two of Bob Major, and two of Grandsire Triples. It was intended to attempt a peal on Friday, but as the day was not convenient for all members of the band, the idea had to be abandoned, and short touches of Grandsire Triples only were rung. J. R. Wood, 1; F. W. Cook, 2; J. W. Warren, 3; H. Hollingworth (conductor), 4; G. C. Tunnichiff, 5; G. A. Fish, 6; T. Hollingworth, 7; M. E. Fryer, 8. On Saturday, the Melbourne ringers were honoured by a visit from five gentlemen from Derby, Messrs. Woodward, Ward, Maskery, Mottashaw, and Draper. On their arrival at the church they were met by the Melbourne ringers, and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung. C. Draper, 1; H. G. Woodward, 2; A. B. Ward, 3; H. Hollingworth, 4; G. C. Tunnichiff, 5; S. Maskery, 6; G. Mottashaw (conductor), 7; G. A. Fish, 8. Afterwards a short touch of Bob Major. An adjournment was then made to the "Blue Bell" Inn, where an excellent tea had been provided by Mrs. Holmes, to which sixteen sat down. After tea, through the kindness of W. D. Fane, Esq., the famous Melbourne Hall gardens were visited, and a course of Grandsire Triples was rung in front of the hall in a very creditable manner. G. Mottashaw, 1-2; A. B. Ward, 3-4; H. C. Woodward, 5-6; S. Maskery, 7-8. All the places of interest were visited, and on arriving at the part known as the "four seasons," some more handbell ringing took place. The gardens which looked at their best, were greatly appreciated by all. A move was again made to the church, where a well-struck touch of Grandsire Triples was rung by the Melbourne ringers, and listened to by all the visitors, except Mr. Mottashaw, who rang in the touch. The return journey to Derby was commenced at 9 p.m., all expressing themselves highly pleased at the enjoyable afternoon spent at Melbourne.

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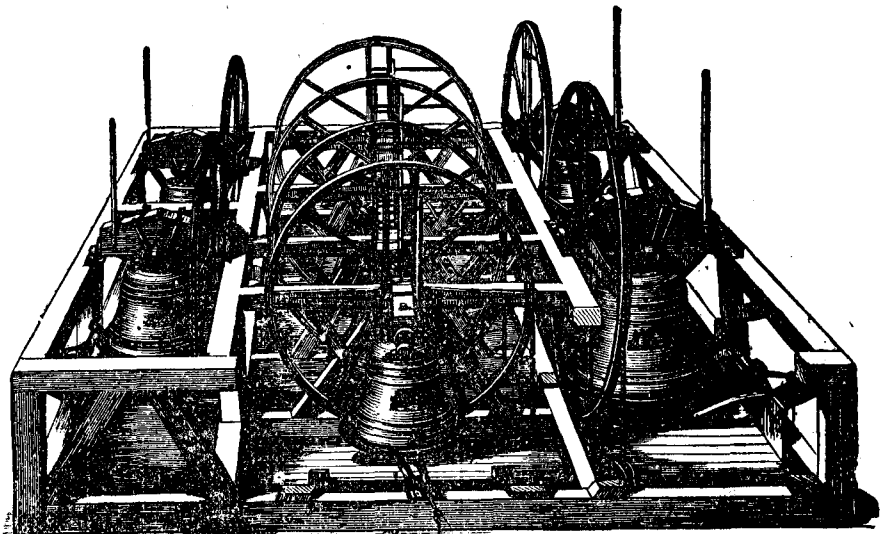
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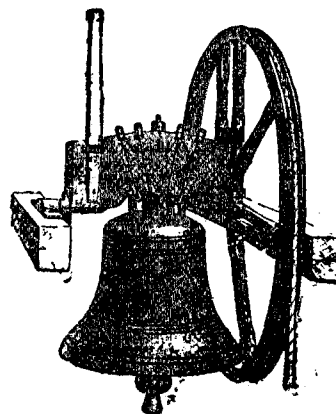
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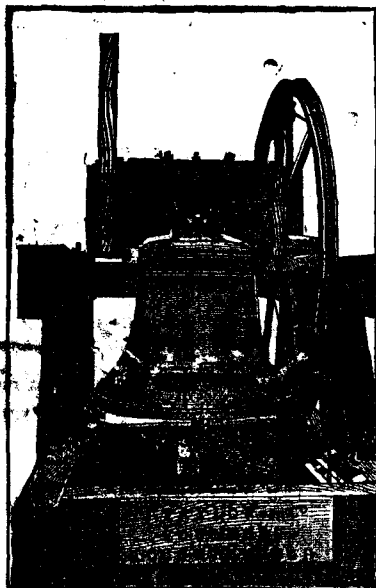
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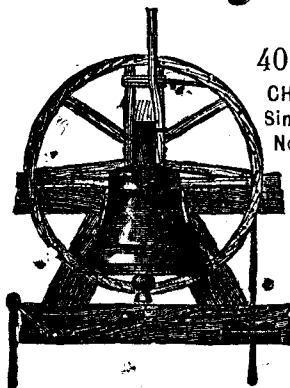
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No. 331.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1888.

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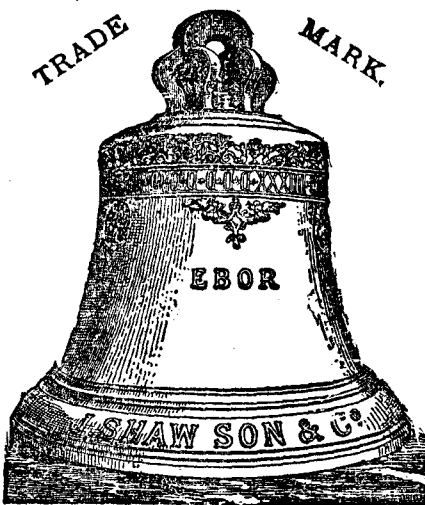
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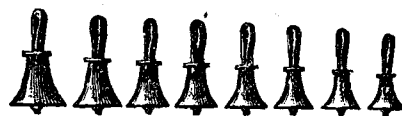
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THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—ANNUAL FESTIVAL AT WITNEY.

Witney was this year selected as the place for holding the Annual Festival of the above Guild, which came off on Monday, July 16th. The science of campanology never seems to lose its popularity, but the ways and manners of church bellringers have undergone a decided change for the better during the last quarter of a century. Whatever decorousness might be thought due to the interior of a church, the belfry was regarded more as a place of festivity and amusement than anything else, and not unfrequently was used as a convenient hiding place. Local traditions avers that the dark recesses of the old belfry of St. Mary's, Witney, have concealed many a haunch of venison brought from Wychwood Forest, and old ringers from country belfries could doubtless tell tales of strange uses to which the dark corners have been put in days gone by. All this is now changed, and, thanks to a better tone of Church feeling, and the influence of the Diocesan Guild, belfries have been rescued from profanation as drinking places, and the ringing is carried on under more wholesome rules, subscribed by ringers on joining the Guild.

The proceedings on Monday began with morning service at St. Mary's, the sermon being preached by the Rev. W. Foxley Norris, rector of Witney, and rural dean, from Col. iii. 23—"Do it heartily as to the Lord." Observing that the Bible, like God its author, had a boundless reach as well as a particular application, he said the text spoke on a great subject, Intention. That day's festival represented to the members of the Guild the conduct and work of the past twelve months. Let them lay hold of that word "Intention," carry it away with them, and put into their prayers. The clergy had been grossly in fault about bells and bell-ringing years ago, and no wonder the ringers were so too, but a reformation had taken place in the condition both of the belfries and the ringers through the instrumentality of ringers' guilds. He left with them three thoughts on the spirit in which they should perform their duties, viz: in the power of feeling, the power of will, and the power of influence. Influence was an electrical force amongst mankind, springing from the mystery of the Incarnation, which made men meek while manly, and courageous while modest—and what a responsibility was this influence when exercised on the side of reverence towards God's house and His worship! It had been said that "reverence is the highest joy of this life," and this brought them back to the thought of Intention, with which they started, and suggested the highest conception of church bell-ringers' work—that of calling souls to God, to worship at His altar, and to sing His praises.

The special psalms chosen for the day were the 48th, 98th, and 150th; the special lessons, Numbers, x. and 1 Cor. xiv; and the hymns, "When morning gilds the skies," "Hark, hark, my soul," and "Bright the vision that delighted."

After the service the members of the Guild adjourned to St. Mary's parish room at Croftdown, for the Annual Meeting, their numbers being continually augmented by fresh arrivals until nearly 200 had assembled, coming from all parts of the Diocese. The Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Guild, presided. The first business was the confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting, and the election of officers. The Master was unanimously re-elected amid cheers, and a similar compliment was paid to the Secretary, the Rev. Dolben Paul. Six outgoing members of the General Committee were also re-elected, and six members of the Change Ringing Committee, substituting Mr. W. Napper for Mr. Field (Oxford), resigned. The Secretary reported that since the last Committee meeting forty-three change-ringers and twelve probationers had been enrolled.

It was unanimously resolved that Mr. Washbrook should be appointed permanent instructor to the Guild, and Messrs. Newell, Haworth, and Smith, supplementary instructors, and that the Secretary should send a copy of the resolution to those who had occasionally acted as instructors, but whose services were not at present required.

The notice calling the meeting contained the following addition to rule X. to be moved as a resolution by the Rev. A. H. Drummond: "To insert after the word 'Clergyman,' but unless he qualifies as a change-ringer within two years of his election, he shall cease to be a member of the Guild." It was moved by the Rev. P. Newhouse, Mr. Drummond not being able

to attend, and duly seconded, but called forth strong opposition.

The Rev. Dolben Paul, Hon. Sec., said the first object of the Guild was to enforce the recognition of the ringers as Church officers; the second, to qualify them as change-ringers; and the third, to promote belfry reform. The resolution would convert the Guild into a change-ringing society. There were eighteen towers in the Guild where all the ringers were probationers, and there were about 300 members who were probationers and not change-ringers. Carrying the resolution would probably lose them all. He had received a letter from Archdeacon Randall, most energetically protesting against the motion, saying it would split the Guild in two, if it did not smash it up altogether.

The Chairman said his opinion was totally different. He held that almost every member could qualify in two months, and the motion allowed two years, and he thought it would elevate the Guild to make all its members, in due course, practical change-ringers.

After a short discussion the motion was negatived by a large majority.

The Secretary reported that since January, ninety-two new names had been added to the Guild, which now numbered close upon one thousand members, and was the largest ringers' guild in the island. He urged that the clergy and churchwardens of every parish connected with the Guild should become honorary subscribers—the churchwardens were supposed to take special interest in all that belonged to the fabric of the church. Mentioning that he had received no report from the University branch of the Guild, and that letters to the secretary remained unanswered, he asked that information on the subject might be sent him by any member who could give it, and also wished it to be known that, as through some misunderstanding all members had not been able to get tickets at railway stations on the terms agreed to by the Great Western Railway (a fare and a quarter), he would endeavour to get any overcharge refunded if members would furnish him with particulars.

After the meeting, the company adjourned to the large hall of the Corn Exchange, where a substantial spread had been put on the tables, Mr. Boddington, of the Fleece Hotel, being the caterer. The Rector of Witney presided, in the unavoidable absence of the Archdeacon of Bucks. On the cloth being removed,

The Chairman said he had the first toast to propose—one which he knew they would all receive heartily, viz., "Church and Queen." As time was limited and they wished to be off somewhere else, he thought it advisable for them to have few speeches and short ones. With this idea he would set an example of brevity. The toast represented a principle which was dear to the hearts of all present, for he believed the State was established by the Church and not the Church by the State, and he hoped he should never see the day when their position would be changed. The toast also included their most gracious Sovereign, who set an example which they would do well to follow. He gave them "The Church and Queen."

The toast was heartily drunk with loud cheers.

The Chairman next proposed the toast of "Prosperity to the Diocesan Guild," and coupled with it the name of Mr. Robinson. He said he was very pleased to see such a large company of ringers at Witney, and also to see such a good number of junior members present. They had now a membership of over 800, which he thought was very good for a Guild which was only eight years old. Referring to the motion passed at the meeting, the speaker said, with all due respect to Mr. Robinson, he quite agreed with the decision arrived at. They should do everything to extend rather than to contract the work of the Guild. He thought that any movement which would do good to the work in the villages, was a healthy movement. In conclusion, he wished all success to this ancient art and science, and prosperity to the Oxford Diocesan Guild. He coupled with the toast the name of one who could ring for eight hours without fatigue, and could give his whole heart to it.

The Rev. F. E. Robinson thanked them for the way in which the toast had been drunk. As to the prosperity of the Guild it might be desirable to say a few words. They had been fast increasing in numbers, and now had a membership of nearly one thousand. As to what the Guild was doing, he considered

that one of the most important features of their work was going about and giving advice about ringing and about the towers. He wished it to be known to all present and to those who were absent, that although he was Master of the Guild, he was to each one "your obedient servant." They appeared before them that day with four distinct feathers in their caps, although one had been slightly lowered. It had all been done by the Guild during the first three months of the year. He did not want all the credit himself, but he would here mention the name of their able conductor, Mr. Washbrook, whom they all admired. He thought they ought to be congratulated on the number that had mustered this year, especially as the day had opened so stormily. He thanked them once again for the way in which they had received the toast.

The Rev. DOLBEN PAUL, Hon. Secretary, in proposing the health of the Chairman, said he was thankful to see such a large number present. They came from all parts of the diocese, which included Oxon, Berks, and Bucks, and they had had the pleasure of worshipping in one of the most beautiful and interesting churches in the diocese. They had also the pleasure of listening to a most splendid sermon from the lips of the rector, their present chairman. He had formerly held the opinion that no one but a ringer was able to address a congregation of ringers, but the rector's sermon had quite changed that opinion, and he was thankful for the words of advice and counsel which they had listened to. They had also to thank the rector for preaching that day, and he hoped Mr. Norris would feel equally gratified with them, and that he had received a favourable impression of the Guild, which would help him to take a greater interest in it.

The toast was received in a hearty manner, with cheers.

The RECTOR, in responding, said they had that day had two disappointments—one in a preacher, and another in a chairman—and they had borne them very patiently. He thanked them for the way in which they had received his name. He hoped they were all enjoying themselves, and that they would come to Witney again whether he (the speaker) was alive or not. With the help of his three curates and the Witney ringers, he hoped to do all in his power to promote bell-ringing in the adjoining towns and villages.

The Rev. F. E. ROBINSON proposed the health of the Secretary (the Rev. Dolben Paul), who briefly responded, after which the proceedings terminated.

After dinner the members of the Guild made up several parties to visit the towers in the neighbourhood—one brake load going to Woodstock, another to Bampton, Brizenorton, and Burford, and another to Aston, Northmoor, and Standlake. Another ascended the belfry of St. Mary's, and rang a touch of 504 of Stedman Triples, 336 of Grandsire Triples, 252 of Stedman Triples, and two touches of 336 Double Norwich Court Bob Major.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE first Annual Meeting of this Guild was held at the historical town of Ross on Monday, July 23rd. The Guild, which owes its existence mainly to the efforts of the Rev. G. M. Custance (the Hon. Sec.), the Rev. Prebendary Phillott (Hon. Treasurer), and G. H. Phillott, Esq. (Master), has twenty-four towers in the diocese affiliated to it. The president is the Lord Bishop of Hereford, the vice-presidents being the Dean of Hereford and the Archdeacon of Salop.

Many of the members and their friends came by the morning train to Ross, and were welcomed by the sound of the bells, which were well struck in several short touches of Grandsire Triples by the local band. The following towers were represented on this occasion: Burwarton, Colwall, Much Dewchurch, Fownhope, Foy, Goodrich, Holme Lacey, Linton, Lugwardine, Upton Bishop, Weston-under-Penyard, Ross, and Hereford Cathedral. Several towers from the Shropshire district were unable to attend because of the distance and of the very uncertain state of the weather.

Divine Service took place at the parish church at 11 o'clock, a fair congregation being present, comprising several of the clergy of the neighbourhood. The Rev. G. M. Custance intoned the prayers, and the lessons were read by the Rev. Canon Phillott

and the Rev. R. H. Cobbold. The service was choral, and very effective. The hymns used were 356, 223, and 508 (A & M.).

The sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Musgrave, who took his text from Psalm xciii. 5, "Holiness becometh Thine house, O Lord, for ever," and upon this passage he founded an impressive and appropriate discourse.

At 1 o'clock, a dinner was laid at the town hall, to which about eighty sat down. The Rector of Ross occupied the chair, On the termination of the repast,

The Rev. R. H. Cobbold, after alluding to the first part of the sermon that morning, thanked Canon Musgrave (the preacher) on behalf of those present, for the admirable way in which he had put forward the subject, and the useful things he said in the sermon delivered to them.

Canon Musgrave, after expressing his obligations for the kind way in which he had been referred to, said that as they had heard enough of him already, it was not for him to make any lengthened remarks on the present occasion. He must confess that when he was asked by their secretary to preach on this occasion, he felt somewhat loth to know what to preach about. He had preached about many things, but had never preached about a bell-ringing guild; and he was not sure that he had not exposed his ignorance; if he had he trusted they would excuse him. He hoped, however, that he said nothing to offend any ringer who might be present, but if his sermon met with their approval, and they could point to it with satisfaction, he should feel that it had not been uttered in vain.

The Rev. R. H. Cobbold next proposed "Prosperity to the Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers." He hoped that the Guild so happily begun would flourish vigorously, that the bells would go on in goodness, and to the betterment of the ringers.

The Rev. E. B. Hawkshaw proposed that the thanks of this meeting are due to the Rev. R. H. Cobbold for the use of Ross church, in which they had assembled that day. Perhaps Mr. Cobbold would repudiate the statement that any special thanks were due to him for allowing them to meet there, but they were all agreed that there was no place in the world where they could better assemble than inside a church, as they had done that day, to listen to an admirable sermon like that of Canon Musgrave. A great deal of the work done in every parish during the past year had had something to do with the church bells, and it was a curious and pleasing thing in connection with the Jubilee year of the Queen that the first thought in most of the parishes was to see whether the church bells could not be put in order. Almost, if not all the parishes surrounding Ross had had something done to the church bells. And now they met together in harmony in that room it was pleasing to notice the different ages of the men, and all conditions of men. This was the object of bell-ringing. It created a real brotherhood. And as the various sounds of the bells were sent forth in combined voice up to heaven, so should the hearts and feelings of the ringers be combined in this heavenly work, while the sound which never died crept through space and time and all eternity. He regarded the Guild as doing important work in this diocese, but not so much as was required. Now that they had made a fresh start, every man could have great influence in his own neighbourhood as a church bellringer: and if the rules were carried out they would have scientific ringing, and a great improvement in the ringing throughout the diocese. After an appreciative reference to the discourse of Canon Musgrave that morning, Mr. Hawkshaw went on to say that the work was not for any time. It was for ever.

Mr. Hebb proposed thanks to the Rector of Weston and the Vicar of Foy for the use of their towers that day for the purpose of practice.

The Rev. G. F. Custance, as Secretary of the Guild, returned thanks for the toast proposed by the chairman, and related an amusing incident how a lady in Ross, in reply to his application for pecuniary assistance to the Guild, had stated that if he would institute guild for the suppression of bellringing she would be glad to subscribe handsomely. That was very encouraging. After mentioning a few details in connection with the organization, he passed a high compliment on Mr. W. H. Fussell, the able instructor of the Guild, and referred to the remarks made by Canon Musgrave about the conduct of the ringers. Church ringers, he said, ought to be church goers, and when they go out

of the tower they ought not to cut the service. In reference to the financial department, he hoped the Guild would meet with the help it required. Money they must have or they could not get on, and he particularly urged upon those to whom he forwarded letters to reply to them. In conclusion he said he should always be glad to lend a helping hand in any way he could.

The Chairman, in regard to what Mr. Custance had said about the lady in Ross and the bells, explained that she did not object to church bell ringing, but it must be admitted that even the most ardent admirer of the science, having a class to attend to, whose open windows were not a hundred yards off, would at times be fairly beaten, dispirited and disheartened by the poor bells when the wind was in a certain direction. He had interested himself on her behalf in this matter on one or two occasions, for she was a most generous lady, who gave largely in the town, and her letter was more an amusement than anything else, for she told him what she had written.

Three cheers being given for the Hon. Sec., the meeting dispersed, some of the members of the Guild visiting towers in the neighbourhood, and during the remainder of the day touches were rung upon the bells of the parish church, Ross.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The annual festival of the above Association was held on Monday, July 30th, at Bristol. Divine service was held in the Lady chapel of St. Mary Redcliffe church, a good number of members being present. The hymn, "O God, our help in ages past," was sung, after which the Litany was read. The Rev. A. C. C. Anstey then delivered an address to the ringers, which he founded on Ecclesiastes xi., 1—"Cast thy bread upon the waters." Bell-ringing, he said, was like seed-sowing, for, as the peals rang out of the belfry, they reminded some of their careless lives, and warned them to prepare to meet their God; whilst they brought to the minds of scenes of sorrow and pain, the lonely home, with its attendant desolation, and taught them the duty of charity. These messages were carried by the bells, the ringers being all unconscious of their import. Bells spoke in varied tones. To some their sounds were those of joy, inviting them to come up to the house of God. To others, however, the sounds of the bells were painful, speaking in voices as of anger. In this respect their message was like every Divine message—of love and joy to some, of gloom and regret to others. One of the objects of the society was to have bell-ringing properly taught, and to benefit socially and morally the ringers. The work was important, but in order that the members may reap the full reward of their service, they should consecrate their work to God. They should never enter the belfry without prayer, and profane language and improper thoughts should be banished therefrom. If they did this they might expect that their service would be acceptable to God, and they would meet their reward. The service concluded by the singing the hymn, "Hark, hark, my soul," and the pronunciation of "The Blessing," by Rev. Pitt Eykyn, as chaplain of the association.

The members then adjourned to No. 1, Colston-parade, to transact business. The Rev. A. C. Anstey was voted to the chair. The Rev. Pitt Eykyn, the hon. sec., read the minutes of the prior meeting, which were confirmed. The election of officers was then proceeded with. Mr. P. E. Ward, of Cheltenham, was re-appointed master. Mr. Ward observed that he thought it scarcely fair to the Bristol end of the diocese that the master should be selected from the neighbourhood of Gloucester. He would gladly yield in favour of anyone else. As no other name was proposed, Mr. Ward was confirmed in his office. The Rev. Pitt Eykyn, of Magor, Newport, Monmouthshire, was re-appointed hon. secretary, Mr. H. Hatherly, of Gloucester, was again chosen hon. treasurer. The Right Hon. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Bart, M.P., and Sir John Dorrington, Bart., M.P., were re-elected lay vice-presidents. It was moved and seconded that the members of the committee, thirty in number, as they appeared in the printed report of the previous year, be re-elected. An amendment was proposed and seconded that it be left in the power of the officers of the association to revise the list of committeemen, and on the matter being put to the vote the amendment was adopted.

On the proposition of the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, seconded by Mr F. E. Ward, it was resolved that the committee meetings in future be held alternately in Bristol and Gloucester.

The Rev. Pitt Eykyn said that in order to get greater interest in the society a scheme had been devised by himself for obtaining the aid of local secretaries. In the printed report they would see that in each deanery there was what was called a provisional local secretary. He hoped the meeting would ratify that scheme so, that in the next report the word "provisional" might be erased. He proposed that that be done. Mr. Ward seconded the motion, which was carried.

The members further resolved that the business of the annual meeting be transacted at the anniversary meeting held in January, and the wording of the fifth rule was altered accordingly.

Several honorary and performing members were then elected. This concluded the business of the meeting, the proceedings ending with a vote of thanks to the Rev. A. C. Anstey, on the motion of Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower, seconded by Mr. Ward.

The members afterwards dined together at the Ship Inn, Redcliffe-hill, under the presidency of Mr. F. E. Ward, the master. After which the loyal and other toasts were duly honoured.

After the dinner several touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters were rung by the members present. The meeting was the most successful and the best attended that the Association has held for some time.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

This society held its annual outing at Hagley on Saturday, the 21st ult., when members assembled from Birmingham, Aston, Handsworth, West Bromwich, Tipton, and Sheffield. A capital dinner having been partaken of at the "Prince of Wales" inn, the members adjourned to the church, permission for ringing having been kindly given by the vicar (Rev. W. C. Gibbs), and touches of Stedman and Treble Bob were rung upon the light but pleasant peal of eight which this society inaugurated in November, 1885.

During the ringing several of the members enjoyed a ramble through the beautiful Hagley park, wherein is situate the mansion well-known as the seat of the famous Lyttleton family.

It was necessary to assemble at the station at 8.30 p.m. for the return journey to Birmingham, which the majority of the members reached in due course, having thoroughly enjoyed their eminently pleasant excursion. They take the opportunity, through the medium of this journal, of thanking the Rector for the use of the bells.

TYDD S. GILES, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

The old peal of five bells hanging in the detached campanile at Tydd S. Giles (the tenor of which had been cracked for nearly 50 years), has been re-cast and made into a light peal of six by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, London. Tenor $8\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. The new peal was opened on June 4th, last, when 720's of Oxford Treble Bob and Bob Minor; and several 6-scores of Doubles were rung by the Walpole St. Peter's, and Spalding companies. The tone of the bells and the 'go' was everything that could be desired. The old peal of five were a trifle heavier than the new one, the tenor weighing about 10cwt. This bell and the old treble were cast by Henry Penn, of Peterborough, in 1726 and 1710 respectively. The other three old bells were cast by the Norrisses of Stamford.

The new bells are thus inscribed:—

Treble.—"Omnia fiant ad gloriam Dei."

2nd.—Sigismund Trafford, of Dunton Hall, Tydd St. Maries, 1710

3rd.—I. M. John Scott, Rector, 1862–1868.

4th.—I. M. James W. Berryman, Rector, 1868–1877.

5th.—I. M. Samuel Charlton, Rector, 1877–1882.

Tenor—Gordon Woodgate, Rector.

Henry Smith Ward, Churchwarden.

1887.

The old peal was re-cast.

WANTED by a change-ringer, aged 20 years, a situation as Shopman or Book-keeper in Corn and Milling trade preferred; has had 6 years' experience in above Trades with present employer. Can ring the following Methods—Bob, Grandsire and Stedman. Apply to G. BAKER, Jun., Orchard Place, Arundel, Sussex.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—DEDICATION OF BELLS.

A very fine ring of eight having been put up at St. Saviour's-on-the-Cliff, Shanklin, Isle of Wight, by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, a dedication service was held on Friday, July 27th. The local band have been diligently practising for some weeks past, but they have not been allowed to disturb those living near the church by their first attempts at the art. But the clappers of the bells have been kept fastened, and, as they have Seage's apparatus attached to the bells, the work of learning to handle the ropes has been carried on in silence. The bells were heard for the first time on the morning of the Dedication day, when they were raised singly at 11.15 a.m., preparatory to the service at 11.30. They were found to have a rich mellow tone, the tenor is 18 cwt. in E. After a short service had been held in the body of the church, the choir and clergy went to the base of the tower at the west end, where the dedication prayers were said by the vicar, the Rev. C. I. Burland. At the conclusion of these prayers, the Ven. Archdeacon of the Isle of Wight delivered the ropes to the vicar, and said:—"Receive these bells as a sacred trust committed to thee, as the appointed minister of Christ in this church and parish, and take heed that they be used only in His service and for the benefit of His people." As the clergy and choir returned to their places in the chancel, the bells were rung for two or three minutes by the band selected for the opening of the bells. The Archdeacon then preached an eloquent and interesting sermon, describing the history of bells from the earliest days of Christianity, and reminding the congregation of the various occasions on which their new bells would help to raise their minds to the full enjoyment of the services of the church. After the service which was hearty and bright throughout, the bells were set going and a well struck touch of (504) Stedman Triples was brought round in 18 minutes. J. Hewett, 1; J. W. Whiting, 2; G. Grafham, 3; F. Hill, 4; W. Marks, 5; G. Williams, 6; S. Brooker, 7; G. Passingham, 8. After partaking of slight refreshment and a walk through the beautiful Shanklin Chine, the ringers again ascended the tower and rang several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples during the afternoon.

The Brading and Newport ringers also took part in the afternoon performance. A 447 of Grandsire Triples was rung by J. Hewett, 1; G. Williams, 2; F. Hill, 3; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 4; W. Marks, 5; G. Passingham, 6; J. Whiting, 7; G. Grafham, 8. And a 840 of Stedman Triples by J. Hewett, 1; J. Whiting, 2; G. Grafham, 3; F. Hill, 4; W. Marks, 5; G. Williams, (conductor), 6; S. Brooker, 7; G. Passingham, 8. At half-past four, the local band and selected ringers were entertained at the parish-room to a substantial tea by the vicar and the churchwardens, and the Guild ringers were then obliged to hurry to the last train which took them to meet the six o'clock boat for the mainland.

Great satisfaction was expressed by everyone at the beautiful tone of these new bells, which reflect much credit on the White-chapel foundry, and the Guild hope before long to be able to send a band to try for a peal on this "harmonious ring."

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, GREAT TOTHAM, ESSEX.

On Saturday, July 21st, the ringers of All Saints', Maldon, paid a visit to the above town, and rang several touches assisted by some members of the Great Totham band. A 720 of Plain Bob. W. Last, 1; — Aust, 2; C. Taylor, 3; J. Newman, 4; G. Mansfield, 5; W. Mansfield, 6. And another 720. — Aust, 1; W. Chalk, 2; W. Mansfield, 3; W. Last, 4; *E. Ballard, 5; *J. Janner, 6. *First 720, and members of the local band. Also a touch of Oxford Treble Bob. C. Tabor, 1; R. Hutson, 2; J. Mansfield, 3; G. Mansfield, 4; W. Chalk, 5; W. Mansfield, 6. And on Sunday, July 22nd, at the invitation of the vicar, the Coggeshall band came for their annual visit, and rang several touches of Plain and Oxford Treble Bob, and a 720 of Plain Bob. *S. Rushen, 1; — Aust, 2; J. Sadler, 3; J. Newman, 4; Jas. Sadler, 5; J. Janner, 6. *First 720, and member of the local band.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO. Printers, Exeter.

CHRIST CHURCH, BACUP.

The ringers of the above church had their annual outing on Saturday, July 21st, the place selected being Waddington, Yorkshire. Leaving Bacup at 5.35, the party arrived at Clitheroe at 9 o'clock, where breakfast was awaiting them which was fairly dodged in until "that's all" was called. A wagonette was here awaiting to convey them to Slaidburn, through the noted villages of Chatburn, Sawley, Bolton-in-Bolland, and on arriving at Slaidburn, an ample dinner was served up. After full justice had been done to the good things provided, the ringers made for the church, permission having been obtained to ring, they soon set to work; two 360's of College Single and Oxford single being done by the following:—A. L. Hardman, W. Ormerod, J. Hardman, A. A. Downiug, L. Lord, A. Chew, A. White, G. Smith, and W. Smith, conductor. The bells are a heavy ring of 6 tenor 18 cwt. Time being short they had to make their way to their destination, which was reached shortly after 6 o'clock. After partaking of a substantial tea, the ringers wended their way to the belfry for a short touch. A meeting was afterwards held at the "Buck Inn," where recitations and singing was the order of the evening, the company dispersing at ten o'clock, and the ringers putting up at the above Inn. Sunday morning found them ringing a peal for service, and in the afternoon a 720 of College Single. The party then made their return journey at five o'clock. Arriving at Blackburn, and having some time to wait for a train, the ringers made for Trinity Church which has recently been fitted with tubular bells, but these will soon be replaced by a heavy ring of six, by Taylor. Loughborough. Resuming their journey they arrived safely at Bacup at nine o'clock, having spent two happy days. The thanks of the ringers are due to the vicars of Slaidburn and Waddington, and to all who contributed to make it such a pleasant outing.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

The First Annual Festival of the above Guild will be held at Chester on Monday, August 6th. The following is the order of arrangements. 10.5 a.m.—Meet in the nave of the Cathedral for service at 10.15 a.m., with address by the Ven. Archdeacon of Chester. 11.30 a.m.—General Meeting in the Refectory, by kind permission of the Dean. 1.0 p.m.—Dinner in St. Mary's-on-the-Hill Infant School. The towers of the Cathedral, St. Mary's, St. Michael's, and other towers, will be open for ringing in the afternoon. 5.0 p.m.—Tea in St. Mary's-on-the-Hill Infant School.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE FUND FOR THE RELIEF OF THE WIDOW AND FAMILY OF THE LATE THOMAS WEST.

	£	s.	d.
Rev. Canon Jayne, Vicar of Leeds	0	5	0
Churchwardens of Leeds Parish Church	4	10	0
Leeds Parish Church Company and Friends	3	14	2
Mr. W. Snowdon, Leeds	1	1	0
Mr. W. Whitaker, Leeds	0	5	0
Mr. E. Snowden, Bradford	0	2	6
Mr. Thomas Clarke, Sharow	0	5	0
Mr. R. S. Story, Newcastle-on-Tyne	0	5	0
St. John's Company, Darlington, per Mr. R. Moncaster	0	4	6
Mr. J. Woodhead, Holbeck	0	2	6
Mr. D. Yorke, "	0	2	0
Mr. C. Jackson, Hull	0	2	6
Mr. C. Bennett, "	0	2	6
Mr. R. B. Reed, "	0	2	6
Mrs. Aistrophe, "	0	2	6
Mr. W. S. Webster, "	0	2	6
Mrs. Mumby, "	0	4	0
Mr. C. Jenkins, "	0	1	6
Mr. J. Pollard, "	0	1	6
Mr. J. Dale, "	0	1	0
Mr. S. Stockdale, "	0	1	0
Mr. J. Dixey, "	0	1	0
W. S., "	0	1	0
R. C., "	0	1	0
Mr. A. Holt, "	0	0	6
Mr. J. Highfield, "	0	0	6

This subscription list will be kept open until the end of August, when all further subscriptions will be published.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Many hands make light work."

The excellent address of the venerable Dean of Lincoln to our friends of the East Lincolnshire Association, coming as it does so closely after the correspondence which I referred to last week, seems quite in keeping with "the eternal fitness of things." It deals in a kindly manner with the position, the duties, and the responsibilities of the ringers; while the first-named letters so ably point out the obligations and the duty of the clergy.

* * * * *

There can be no question about one thing, that with the growth of a better understanding and good feeling between clergy and ringers, there has also grown up simultaneously (I might say equally on both sides), a keener perception of the duties devolving upon us all. There can be no doubt as to another thing, namely, that during the years past while the good work of improvement has been going on if the ringers have not fully understood their duties, it has been through no fault of the clergy, for at every meeting we have been treated to the same old theme, till it has almost become monotonous through its oft repetition. But do not misunderstand me; I am not referring to this in any disrespectful or carping spirit. On the contrary, no one can be more gratified than myself that such has been the case. Although of opinion that we should busy ourselves looking forward and providing for the future, rather than content ourselves with reflecting on the past, yet a momentary glance at our previous history will be sufficient to shew that all these addresses, these injunctions, and these pleadings, have been every one of them required—that they have been in very deed "water to a thirsty land." I could not, therefore, regard them with aught but feelings of thankfulness for the good which they have assisted in accomplishing.

* * * * *

But, as the old and well-known saying goes, there are two sides to every question. While the ringers have been constantly reminded of their duties, little—very little indeed—have we heard of what ought to be done by the clergy. The last few weeks have, however, given us a few bright exceptions in this respect; and now that "the ball has started rolling," I shall look forward to a pretty free and extensive expression of opinion on the part of my brother laymen of the belfry. Those of us who are honestly and unceasingly endeavouring to do our duty with regard to ringing matters according to the circumstances under which we are placed, have a right and exceedingly just cause for calling upon our clergy to do likewise.

* * * * *

Unless and until the clergy as a body "put their hand to the plough" the work of reformation will of necessity go on at a comparatively slow rate. As Mr. Heywood very forcibly remarks: "By comparative indifference to the interests of their ringers, the clergy, with few exceptions, are seriously hindering the progress of that belfry reform which was so successfully initiated by the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe. In his footsteps here and there an individual incumbent is earnestly following, and here and there a churchwarden or influential layman. But the great strides—and they are great—that have been made in the art by which alone the beauty of our church bells can be fully manifested, the art of change-ringing, are mainly due to the energy of the ringers themselves, who, as a rule, receive but a half-hearted support from the parson." These are the words of one who can lay claim to a quarter of a century's experience as a

ringer, and to whom Mr. Papillon truly asserts that "no man in England is more qualified to speak on the subject of change-ringing."

* * * * *

Indeed, the whole of this lately-written letter is a serious indictment against our clergy; it is all the more forcible and emphatic because of its truth, as we, most of us, will be able to bear out from our own personal experience. Is it strange, then, that much as it is to be regretted, "the large majority (of ringers) have a very lukewarm interest in the Church," when it is "the rarest thing to see a clergyman in a belfry!" Can it be wondered at that "The ringers are not habituated to connect their office with the service of the Church?" that "they grow to concentrate their regard upon the bells entirely, to the exclusion of the ultimate object for which they and the bells are there?"

* * * * *

A very great responsibility, then, in this matter rests upon the clergy themselves; and while not shirking our own duties in one iota; we may fairly claim the right to call upon them to help on this work of reformation amongst us, not half-heartedly, but honestly and with all their weight and influence. If they do this, I am convinced that they will not only find efforts warmly seconded by those for whose good they thus strive; but they will also find in their parishes a body of Churchworkers and Church-defenders who will prove a valuable help to them in their parochial labours.

* * * * *

I wish the two last issues of "THE BELL NEWS" could have been sent to every ringer, and every clergyman in the land who has a ring in his tower: as I believe that by such means many would have been reminded of their responsibilities, as well of the celebrated words of the great naval hero—"England expects that every man this day will do his duty."

* * * * *

That "deeply moved Protestant," I opine, will by this time have heartily wished his untruthful and absurd effusion had been consigned to the flames before it reached the *Guardian* office, for a more complete *expose* of statements made I think I never saw than was contained in the two replies quoted last week. That individual will probably hesitate before he again runs the risk of burning his fingers, and especially in reference to bell-ringers.

* * * * *

I am pleased to note more ringing performances by lady friends. But a very short time back such events would have been regarded by "the sterner sex" with considerable surprise; and if they are more frequent, they will on that account lose none of their pleasant features.

* * * * *

By the way, Mr. Washbrook, you're 'on your mettle this time. The correspondent, who is evidently our old friend Mr. Muskett, gives you a nut to crack. Let us see you crack it satisfactorily, and not entirely ignore it like you did the accusation of a very doubtful peal of Grandsire Triples in Herefordshire.

FREE LANCE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

There will be a meeting at Wisbeach on Bank Holiday, August 6th; St. Peter's, ten bells. Members intending to be present, kindly write to the Hon. Secretary, stating station from which they propose to travel—at once.

Cambridge Road, Ely.

K. H. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

NOW READY,

Crown 8vo., Cloth, 120 pages.

"DUFFIELD,"*A Musical Method for 8, 10, and twelve bells ;*

Containing full directions for ringing, pricking, and proving the method ; together with a collection of peals and an explanatory appendix. By

Arthur Percival Heywood, M.A.

Post free, on receipt of 1s., from Messrs. Bemrose and Sons, 23, Old Bailey, London, and Irongate, Derby. Also

A BROADSHEET,

Containing diagrams and directions for ringing the "Duffield" method.

*Gratis on application to***A. P. HEYWOOD, DUFFIELD BANK, NEAR DERBY.**

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

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1888.

THE REV. F. E. ROBINSON, at the recent meeting of the Oxford Guild, supported very telling resolution, having for its object certainly the extension of the science among the members of that Guild. The rev. gentleman is an ardent ringer, as every one knows, and the fact that there are among the members of that body of which he is the chief ornament many who never intend perhaps to become ringers has made him apparently impatient of their connection with it. His resolution, we cannot help

thinking, would, if carried, have eliminated a most influential number of members, and therefore it is as well, perhaps, that it was defeated, and Mr. ROBINSON will have to be content with the raising of the question, and that by itself will no doubt lead to some good results in the very direction wished for. It has often been felt that some effort should be made by which the honorary members of our Guilds and Associations could become more useful to the science than they are. We cannot expect they all can become efficient, but many of them could, and would no doubt if some little pressure was brought to bear upon them.

This pressure must not be of too severe a nature—the remedy must not be too drastic. We are afraid if the worthy master of the Oxford Guild grasps at too much, he may lose all. His object, however, merits the sympathy of every one, and as we have said, the fact that such a proposal has been made, will no doubt have all the effect which he expected.

CHURCH BELLS.

The following letter appears in this week's *Guardian* :—

SIR,—Your correspondents in the present issue, in noticing the insecurity of church towers from the action of the bells, have omitted what I consider to be one of the most important reasons. I will borrow from Lord Grimthorpe the account of the injury to which towers are exposed from the improper frames on which the bells are too often hung :—

"Every architect, as well as every bell-founder, knows that a bell-frame ought not to touch the walls and that many a tower has been seriously damaged by parish carpenters making the frame 'steady' by wedging it against the wall. And I notice the point here in order to remind clergymen and churchwardens that there is no part of their fabric in which the maxim that a 'stitch in time saves nine' is more true than in the bell-chamber, and moreover that they should see that the stitch they take is the right one, add taken under good advice.

"The bell frames themselves are often made too slight ; for in this as in other church work the unscientific construction of the old builders has been carefully copied, while the massiveness, which made it of little consequence, has been omitted. Thus we see bell frames which bend and vibrate in every direction when the bells are ringing, because the timbers are neither thick enough to resist the bending force, nor stiffened with any diagonal bracing to make up for it."—[E. Beckett Denison, *Lectures on Church Building*, Lon., 1856, pp. 272-3.]

There is more to the same effect well worthy of careful notice. Sandford St. Martin, July 27th, 1888. ED. MARSHALL.

The Metropolis.

DEPTFORD, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

On Friday, July 27, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES ;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN ROSE Treble.	FREDK. J. FRENCH 5.
FREDK. G. NEWMAN 2.	EDWARD E. RICHARDS .. 6.
THOMAS TAYLOR 3.	ABRAHAM G. FREEMAN .. 7.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 4.	JOSEPH LAWS Tenor.

Conducted by **FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.**

This is the conductor's 100th peal. R. London, Esq., Churchwarden at St. John's, has kindly promised a tablet for the above peal.

The Provinces.**HINDLEY, LANCASHIRE.**

On Sunday, July 22, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-one and a-Half Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr.

RICHARD CALLAND Treble.	EDWARD BENTHAM 5.
EDMUND PRESCOTT 2.	THOMAS TICKLE 6.
EDMUND BROWN 3.	JOHN WHITTINGHAM 7.
JOSEPH PRESCOTT 4.	GEORGE LANG Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH PRESCOTT.

The above was rung on the occasion of the opening of a Memorial Clock erected in the tower in memory of R. Pennington, Esq., late of Hindley Lodge, one of the principal benefactors of the above church, also a large employer of labour in the township of Hindley. The clock was erected by public subscription. E. Bentham hails from Wigan, and John Whittingham from Westhoughton.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, July 23, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.

WILLIAM COBB Treble.	THOMAS SHORT 5.
CHARLES TRINDER 2.	H. D. BETTERIDGE, Esq. 6.
FREDERICK FIELD 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
HARRY FRUIN* 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

*First peal in the method. This peal has the 4th, 5th, and 6th each eighteen times in 6th's place, the 2nd and 3rd never there.

OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**Birthday Peal.**

On Thursday, July 26, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 42 cwt. in C.

CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. Treble.	*WILLIAM C. BASTON .. 6.
EDWARD HIND* 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
HARRY FRUIN* 3.	*THOMAS PAYNE 8.
ALFRED BROWNING* .. 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 9.
THOMAS SHORT 5.	G. TOLLEY, C. TOLLEY, } Tenor.
	and S. HOUNSLOW

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

The above peal was rung on the conductor's 24th birthday. *First peal in the method. The tenor going very badly, required three men.

SOUTHPORT.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 26, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt. 8 lbs.

JOSEPH RIMMER* .. Treble.	*JAMES W. RIMMER .. 5.
RICHARD HILL 2.	†DAVID E. RIMMER .. 6.
JAMES RIMMER* 3.	WILLIAM BALDWIN .. 7.
WALTER HEWITT* .. 4.	†A. LAWRENCE PORTER .. Tenor.

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD, and Conducted by DAVID E. RIMMER.

*First peal. †First peal in the method; †first peal as conductor.

WOBURN, BEDS.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 28, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE OLD CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

WALTER SMITH* .. Treble.	WILLIAM G. BIGGS .. 5.
HARRY CHAPMAN 2.	CHARLES W. CLARKE .. 6.
MARK LANE* 3.	†REV. W. W. C. BAKER .. 7.
CHARLES HERBERT .. 4.	†ISAAC HILLS Tenor.

Composed by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, and Conducted by the REV. W. W. CAREW BAKER.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. This peal contains all the combinations of 4, 5, and 6, in 5-6, with the 2nd and 3rd never in 6th's place. No. 173 Midland Counties' Association Report, 1887. Messrs. Chapman, Biggs, Clarke, and Hills hail from Bedford, the rest are members of the Woburn company.

RAUNDS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.**THE RAUNDS AND WELLINGBOROUGH DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**

On Saturday, July 28, 1888, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

5040 CHANGES; IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:—

WOODBINE, KENT. OXFORD TREBLE BOB, YORKSHIRE COURT, COLLEGE, SINGLE, PLAIN BOB, AND OXFORD BOB.

Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qrs. 10 lbs.

ARCHIBALD COLES .. Treble.	ALFRED MARTIN 4.
HENRY W. STUBBS 2.	FRED GILBERT 5.
WILLIAM J. GILBERT .. 3.	WILLIAM A. HALL .. Tenor.

Conducted by W. A. HALL.

The above was rung to commemorate the 22nd birthday of Mr. F. Gilbert; also the 24th birthday of Mr. W. A. Hall, which was on Sunday, July 22nd, their brother ringers wishing them many happy returns of the day.

MANCHESTER.**THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

On Monday, July 30, 1888, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5020 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

THOMAS G. DOWNS .. Treble.	JAMES BARRATT 6.
JOSEPH TURNER 2.	GEORGE E. TURNER .. 7.
JAMES GRATRICK 3.	A. EDWARD WREAKS .. 8.
JOHN E. POLLITT 4.	JOHN EACHUS 9.
REV. H. J. ELSEE 5.	JAMES PARKINSON .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, and Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS.

The above peal was Mr. Wreaks' rooth. Previous to starting, the Rev. H. J. Elsee was elected a member of the Lancashire Association, and this is his first peal in any method. J. Barratt hails from Eccles, the rest belong to Manchester.

Date Touch.

EARL SMILTON (Leicestershire).—On Wednesday, July 25th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire and Plain Doubles. William Powers, 1; Enos Garner, 2; Samuel Cotton, 3; John Swinfield, 4; Arthur R. Aldham (conductor), 5. Tenor 11 cwt.

Miscellaneous.**THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Sunday, July 22nd, for afternoon Service, 720 College Exercise. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; W. Short, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. After service 720 Superlative Surprise. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; E. Jordan, 4; H. Chandler, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Charman, 1; R. Jordan, 2; W. Charman, 3; M. Jenkins, 4; D. Jordan, 5; A. Mills (conductor), 6. And two 120s of Stedman Doubles. W. Short, 1; A. Mills, 2; W. Charman, 3; E. Jordan, 4; H. Chandler, 5; M. Jenkins, 6. On Friday, July 27th, 720 College Exercise. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; T. Stedman, 3; E. Jordan, 4; T. Newnham, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And 360 London Surprise. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; M. Jenkins, 4; T. Stedman, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Messrs. Charman, Short, and Chandler hail from Warnham; T. Newnham from Southampton; the rest are local men.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, July 28th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. W. Short, 1; C. W. Bassano, Esq., 2; H. Martin, 3; H. Mason, 4; T. Barber, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure, in 28 mins. *W. Boughton, 1; C. W. Bassano, Esq. (conductor), 2; *J. Smith, 3; H. Mason, 4; *W. Short, 5; *H. Martin, 6. *First 720, and rung at the first attempt. Messrs. Mason and Bassano hail from Old Hill. On Sunday, July 22nd, for the annual Flower Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 25 mins. M. Shillock, 1; W. Boughton, 2; J. Smith, 3; W. Short, 4; T. Barber, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. On Monday, July 23rd,

360 Plain Bob Minor, in 12 mins. T. Barber, 1; W. Boughton, 2; J. Smith, 3; W. Short, 4; W. Huxley, 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6.

HAGLEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, July 22nd, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. *F. Molineaux, 1; W. Short, 2; J. Smith, 3; H. Morris, 5; T. Barber, 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, July 24th, 336 Grandsire Triples. F. Wright, 1; H. Morris, 2; J. Smith, 3; C. Boughton, 4; W. Short, 5; T. Barber, 6; H. Martin (conductor), 7; J. Davies, 8. On Sunday, July 29th, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. F. Wright, 1; *J. Davies, 2; J. Lees, 3; H. Morris, 4; J. Smith, 5; W. Short (conductor), 6. *First 720.

COSELEY (Staffordshire).—On Friday, July 13th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Horton, 1; W. Cheshire, 2; W. R. Small, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; B. Gough, 5; J. Goodman (conductor), 6. Cheshire, Horton, and Gough belong to the local company, and this is their first 720 of Minor. Goodreds and Small hail from Tipton; Goodman from Dudley.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, July 29th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs), in 25 mins. T. Watson, 1; W. Hammond, 2; F. L. Bumpstead, 3; C. H. Howard (conductor), 4; S. Hammond, 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. Also five 6-scores of Bob Doubles (called differently), in 20 mins. T. Watson, 1; F. L. Bumpstead, 2; W. Hammond, 3; C. H. Howard, 4; S. Hammond (conductor), 5.

CHELMSFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, July 29th, for morning service, at the parish church a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. T. Burrell, 1; W. Rowland, 2; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 3; G. Cornell, 4; J. Priest, 5; W. Hawkes, 6; E. Barnett, 7; J. Parmenter, 8.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, July 29th, for Divine Service in the morning, seven courses of Grandsire Triples. L. Copsey, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; G. Roughton, 3; M. L. Myhill, 4; W. Pye, 5; A. J. Perkins, 6; W. Nash, 7; S. James, 8. The above are all of the local company. *Chiming*.—In the afternoon two 120s of Stedman Doubles. A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; M. L. Myhill, 5-6.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, July 29th, for afternoon service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Cornell, 1; J. Dains, 2; W. Rowland, 3; J. Priest, 4; E. Barnett, 5; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 6.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Sunday, July 22nd, 720 Plain Bob, on the back six. W. Emery, 1; F. Radley, 2; R. Wood, 3; A. Edwards, 4; G. E. Hammond (formerly of Long Melford, conductor), 5; W. Lincoln, 6. On Sunday, July 29th, for morning service, 350 Grandsire Triples (N. J. Pitstow's), and a touch of Bob Minor. W. Emery, 1; A. Edwards, 2; J. Everard, 3; R. Wood, 4; F. Radley, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; A. Bonnington, 8. For afternoon service, 720 in the same method. W. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; A. Edwards, 3; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 4; F. Radley, 5; W. Lincoln (conductor), 6. On Saturday, July 28, at the parish church, a start was made for a peal of Bob Major, but after ringing about 1000 changes it had to be abandoned, owing to one of the bells going badly. E. Barnett (conductor), 1; W. Rowland, 2; A. Edwards, 3; G. Cornell, 4; W. Hawkes, 5; J. Priest, 6; W. Lincoln, 7; A. H. Gardom, 8. Afterwards a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. A. H. Gardom, 1; W. Rowland, 2; A. Edwards, 3; G. Cornell, 4; W. Hawkes, 5; E. Barnett (conductor), 6; J. Priest, 7; W. Lincoln, 8. This quarter-peal was composed by H. J. Tucker, and contains the twelve 4-6's twelve 7-4's, and twelve 6-7's.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, July 24th, for practice, 720 Double Court Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; T. Newman, 4; H. Smith, 5; G. Essex (first 720 in the method as conductor), 6. Also two 120s of Grandsire Doubles (each called differently). C. Kidby, 1; G. Essex, 2; J. Hands, 3; H. Smith, 4; E. Menday (conductor), 5; H. Simmonds, 6. On Sunday morning, July 29th, for Divine Service, 720 College Single. T. Newman, 1; E. Menday, 2; H. Simmonds, 3; J. Hands, 4; H. Smith, 5; C. Essex (conductor), 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. J. Hands, 1; G. Essex, 2; H. Smith, 3; J. Hands, 4; T. Newman, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. For evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; H. Smith, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Menday, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. After service an attempt was made for a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor, which was lost after ringing five parts. H. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; J. Hands, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17' cwt.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Sunday, July 28th, at the parish church of All Saints, Boyne Hill, for afternoon service, two 120s of Grandsire Doubles (called differently). A. H. Simpson, 1; J. W. Wilkins, 2; F. Dentry, 3; R. Smith, 4; W. Ayres, 5; J. Todd, 6. The first

120 was called by F. Dentry (his first time at calling), the other by R. Smith. A. H. Simpson, B.A., is a member of the Sussex County Association, and hails from Pulborough, Sussex. For evening service, 210 and 97 Grandsire Triples. H. Gilding, 1; O. Fasey, 2; J. W. Wilkins (conductor), 3; F. Bissley, 4; R. Smith, 5; S. Quintin, 6; E. Rogers, 7; J. Woolford, 8.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, July 12th, at St. Mary's chnrch, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Sharp (first 720 inside), 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; H. Clifton, 6. At St. Paul's church, on Sunday, July 15th, for evening service, 688 Bob Major. F. Hull, 1; F. Smith, 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. R. Howard, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; F. Keech, 7; H. Chapman, 8. On Wednesday, July 18th, on the occasion of a wedding, a 1008 of Grandsire Triples, containing the twenty-four 6-7's. F. Hull, 1; F. Smith, 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; J. N. Frossell, 4; F. Keech, 5; H. Chapman, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; W. Bettles, 8. Also a 504 (H. J. Tucker's). W. Bettles, 1; F. Smith, 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; J. N. Frossell, 4; H. Chapman, 5; F. Keech, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; F. Hull, 8. And another 1008 (containing all the 7-5-6's and 5-6-7's. F. Hull, 1; F. Smith, 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; F. Keech, 4; H. Chapman, 5; C. W. Clarke (composer and conductor), 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Bettles, 8. On Sunday, July 22nd, for morning service, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Bettles, 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Hull, 3; — Grantham, 4; H. Chapman, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; I. Hills, 7; F. Sharpe, 8. For evening service 518 Grandsire Triples, containing the twelve 4-6's. F. Hull, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; —, 4; C. R. Howard, 5; H. Chapman, 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Bettles, 8. Also 336 Bob Major. S. J. Cullip, 1; F. Smith, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; I. Hills, 5; F. Keech, 6; W. G. Biggs, 7; H. Chapman, 8. On Friday, July 27th, on the occasion of a visit from the Rev. T. L. Papillon, Hon. Sec. of the Essex Association, 503 Grandsire Triples. H. Chapman, 1; C. Pass, 2; F. Smith, 3; F. Keech, 4; I. Hills, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; W. Bettles, 8. Also 336 Bob Major. C. Pass, 1; F. Smith, 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; F. Keech, 4; I. Hills, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; H. Chapman, 8. On Sunday, July 29th, for evening service, 756 Grandsire Triples. W. Bettles, 1; F. Smith, 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; I. Hills, 4; F. Keech, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; H. Chapman, 7; F. Hull, 8.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GLOUCESTER.—On Thursday, July 26th, at St. Michael's church, for practice, 420 Stedman Triples. F. E. Hart, 1; S. E. Romans, 2; G. Brunson, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; R. Brunson, 5; W. J. Sevier, 6; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 7; E. E. Bewick, 8. Also 350 Grandsire Triples. S. E. Romans, 1; R. J. Wilkins, 2; A. C. Sayer, 3; A. Roberts, 4; F. E. Hart (conductor), 5; W. J. Sevier, 6; R. Brunson, 7; G. Watts, 8. The longest touch of Stedman by the above Association.

HUNTLEY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, July 8th, six members of the Upton St. Leonard's Society visited this place, and rung a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. H. G. Gardner, 1; S. E. Romans, 2; W. J. Sevier, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. Barratt (conductor), 6. Also 360 in the same method. J. H. Brawn, 1; W. J. Sevier, 2; S. E. Romans, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. Barratt (conductor), 6. And two 120s of Stedman Doubles. W. J. Sevier, 1; S. E. Romans, 2; H. Mitchell, 3; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 4; J. H. Brawn, 5; R. Barratt, 6. This is the first 720 on the bells.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

SUTTON COLDFIELD (Warwickshire).—On Saturday, July 28th, 336 Double Norwich Court Bob. H. Johnson, jun., 1; T. Reynolds, 2; H. Bastable, 3; T. Russam, 4; B. Wittchell, 5; W. Kent (conductor), 6; C. Stanbridge, 7; T. Miller, 8. And 180 Stedman Triples. C. Stanbridge, 1; B. Wittchell, 2; T. Hemming, 3; J. Buffery, 4; J. Plant, 5; W. Kent (conductor), 6; W. Holmes, 7; W. Jackson, 8. And 209 Grandsire. T. Matthews, 1; W. Baldwin, 2; T. Hemming, J. Buffery, 4; J. Plant, 5; W. Kent (conductor), 6; W. Long, 7; T. Holmes, 8. And a plain course of Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Hemming, 1; J. Buffery, 2; B. Wittchell, 3; C. Stanbridge, 4; J. Plant, 5; W. Kent, 6; W. Holmes, 7; T. Reynolds, 8. A 504 Stedman Triples by the Sutton Coldfield company brought the tower ringing to a close.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—On Monday, July 9th, at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor. T. Bozzard, 1; W. Charlton, 2; F. Charlton, 3; J. Pallister, 4; J. Cleminson, 5; E. Titt (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Charlton, 1; J. Pallister, 2; J. G. Pratt, 3; E. Titt, 4; F. Charlton, 5; J. Cleminson (conductor), 6. On Monday,

July 23rd, for practice, 360 Plain Bob. T. Bozzard, 1; W. Charlton, 2; A. J. B. Waldron, 3; H. C. Mayne, 4; F. Charlton, 5; E. Titt (conductor), 6. Also 1554 Grandsire Triples. T. Bozzard, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; A. J. B. Waldron, 3; J. Pallister, 4; H. C. Mayne, 5; F. Charlton, 6; E. Titt (conductor), 7; J. Cleminson, 8. On Sunday, July 29th, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Charlton, 1; E. Titt (conductor), 2; J. G. Pratt, 3; J. Pallister, 4; H. C. Mayne, 5; F. Castree, 6; F. Charlton, 7; J. Cleminson, 8.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—At St. John's church, on Monday, July 30th, a quarter-peal (1264, by H. Johnson) of Bob Major, in 45 mins. C. L. Routledge (conductor), 1; G. T. Ross, 2; W. C. Bennett, 3; G. Atkinson, 4; J. Pattison, 5; W. Egglestone, 6; Z. Scott, 7; F. Lees, 8. Also a 1008 in the same method, in 37 mins. H. Fergusson, 1; G. T. Ross, 2; W. C. Bennett, 3; G. Atkinson, 4; J. Pattison, 5; C. L. Routledge, 6; F. Lees, 7; W. Story (conductor), 8. Messrs. Atkinson, Ross, Scott, Bennett, and Atkinson hail from Winlaton, Durham. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Wednesday, July 25th, for practice at St. Peter's church, 672 Grandsire Triples. C. Conley, 1; E. Hull, 2; A. Barnes, 3; J. C. Mitchell, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; T. Waller (conductor), 7; E. P. Debenham, 8. Also a touch of Grandsire Caters and some Stedman Triples, with J. Brewer and A. Sibsey.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday, July 29th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. L. Digweed, 1; G. Hayes, 2; W. Harper, 3; J. Broom, 4; W. Martin, 5; G. Martin (conductor), 6. First in the method on a bob bell by J. Broom. For afternoon service, 720 Plain Bob. J. Harding, 1; L. Digweed, 2; G. Hayes, 3; J. Broom, 4; A. Cornford, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, July 29th, for evening service 720 Duke of York Treble Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; W. Baddeley, 5; J. Wood (conductor), 6.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

RETTFORD (Notts).—On Sunday, July 22nd, for evening service, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26½ mins. J. Briggs, 1; R. Potter, 2; W. Drake, 3; N. G. Hunt (conductor), 4; H. Haigh, 5; J. W. Clarke, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. 9 lbs. On Sunday, July 29th, another 720 in the same method was rung, in 25½ mins. J. T. Haigh (aged 15, first 720), 1; W. Skelton, 2; J. W. Clarke, 3; N. G. Hunt, 4; H. Haigh (conductor), 5; R. Potter, 6.

ANSTON (Yorks).—At St. James's church, on Monday, July 30th, 720 London Scholars' Pleasure. R. B. Smith, 1; R. S. Fox, 2; Jos. Bland, 3; C. F. Fowler, 4; S. Smith, 5; T. Silvester (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by any of the above company.

BLETCHINGLEY (Surrey).—On Saturday, July 28th, the local company rang in honour of the marriage of Mr. Frederick Smith, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. G. Brown, 1; J. Tidey, 2; L. Killick, 3; J. Bashford, jun. (conductor), 4; W. Mayne, 5; G. Potter, 6; T. Boniface, 7; A. Wallis, 8. The above company wish Mr. Smith long life and happiness.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday, July 29th, for Divine Service in the morning, 360 Bob Minor. A. Spurge, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; J. Hayes, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. For afternoon service, several touches of Oxford Treble Bob. A. Spurge, 1; W. Bearman, 2; W. Radley (Stisted), 3; S. Sargent, 4; E. Radley (Stisted), 5; C. Bearman, 6.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Monday evening, July 23rd, the local company rang several courses of Plain Bob Doubles on the front five, at St. Mary's church, with 7-6-8 covering. T. Collinson, 1; J. Prickett, 2; W. R. Small (Tipton), 3; J. Powell, 4; J. Morley, 5; J. Simmons, 6; G. Watkins, 7; C. Davis, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E. The local company, with Mr. W. R. Small, of Tipton, and Mr. E. Fellowes, of Dudley, indulged themselves in the method of "Stoney," and afterwards adjourned to the "Eight Bells," where they partook of a parting glass with their Staffordshire friends, and as they were leaving the station the local company rang them a farewell peal, and afterwards spent the rest of the evening at the "Eight Bells" in singing, toast making, etc.

COLN ST. ALDWYN (Gloucestershire).—On Monday evening, July 30th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. *R.

Packer, 1; R. Jefferies (conductor), 2; *C. Bate, 3; *H. Griffin, 4; J. Kitchener, 5; *T. Smith, 6. *First 720 in the method.

GREAT WALDINGFIELD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, July 29th, after Divine Service in the afternoon, an attempt at a 720 Oxford Treble Bob came to grief owing to the tenor rope breaking. H. Diggins (first attempt in the method), 1; G. Maxim (Foxearth), 2; H. Bowers, 3; A. Keeble, 4; H. Smith, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. The rope being spliced a 720 of Bob Minor was rung. A. Symonds, 1; A. Keeble, 2; J. Stiff, 3; W. Leeks, 4; H. Bowers, 5; H. Diggins (conductor), 6.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Thursday, July 26th, at St. Nicholas church, for practice, 360 Grandsire Doubles (three 120s called differently) by the St. Nicholas Guild. C. W. Miller, 1; F. W. J. Rees, 2; J. Heathorn, 3; F. Bennett, 4; W. Groves (conductor), 5; H. E. Hart, 6.

HARROGATE (Yorks).—On Saturday, July 21st, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles. J. Treland, 1; B. T. Copley (conductor, Bradford), 2; B. Emmott (Saltaire), 3; A. Atkinson, 4; H. Brown, 5; A. Riley (Saltaire), 6. On Sunday, July 29th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 27 mins. J. Treland, 1; H. Robinson, 2; J. Vickers (first 720), 3; A. Atkinson, 4; H. Brown, 5; W. Turner (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, July 17th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs). H. Symonds, 1; H. Smith, 2; A. Symonds, 3; A. Hollocks, 4; W. Snell, 5; W. Hollocks (conductor), 6. This was rung as a birthday peal for the conductor, who attained his 24th year on that day, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day. On Sunday evening, July 18th, 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). W. Green, 1; C. Parker, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; J. Moore, 4; A. Keeble, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, July 26th, 720 Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs). H. Symonds, 1; H. Smith, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; J. Moore, 4; A. Symonds, 5; W. Hollocks (first 720 as conductor in the method), 6. Messrs. Keeble, Parker and Green hail from Monks Eleigh; Symonds and Smith from Lavenham; the rest are local men.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday, July 29th, at All Saints' church, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), in 20 mins. A. Spurge (Bocking), 1; E. Radley, 2; A. Chaplin, 3; F. Saunders, 4; W. Bearman (Bocking), 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Saturday, July 28th, at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Luckey, 1; F. W. Chapman (first attempt at the method), 2; I. Cavill, 3; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 4; G. Prior, 5; H. Prior, 6. Also 720 Double Oxford Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 25 mins. T. Newman, 1; W. Watts, 2; W. Prior, 3; G. Gray, 4; H. Prior, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Also 720 Plain Bob Minor (Holt's one-part, with twenty-one bobs), in 25 mins. W. T. Prior, 1; W. Watts, 2; J. Luckey, 3; I. Cavill, 4; F. W. Chapman, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. Messrs. H. J. Tucker, F. W. Chapman, and T. Newman belong to Bishops Stortford, Herts; the rest are local men. All are members of the Essex Association except F. W. Chapman and T. Newman.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, July 28th, at St. Thomas' church, 720 Grandsire Minor (with the tenor behind), in 30 mins. C. Barrett, 1; J. Parsons, 2; J. Guest (conductor), 3; H. Harris, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; G. H. Pagett, 6; J. Crump, 7. Also on Sunday morning, July 29th, for Divine Service, a touch of Bob Minor and 252 Bob Triples. J. Guest, 1; J. Pagett, 2; W. A. Pugh, 3; C. Barrett, 4; E. Bourne, 5; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 6; H. Harris, 7; J. Crump, 8. On Monday, July 30th, for practice, 400 Bob Minor. H. Bennett, 1; C. Barrett, 2; J. Pagett, 3; J. Guest (conductor), 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; H. Harris, 6; J. Crump, 7. Parsons hails from Woolston; Guest from Brierley Hill; Lawrence from Wordsley; Bourne from Kingswinford; and Bennett from Rowley.

TUE BROOK (near Liverpool).—On Saturday, July 28th, 720 Grandsire Minor, at St. John-the-Baptist church, in 29 mins. John R. Pritchard (conductor), 1; H. W. Abbott, 2; J. Bennett, jun., 3; J. Aspinwall, 4; G. Fisher, 5; T. Hammond, 6. Also a touch of Treble Bob Minor. T. Hammond, 1; H. W. Abbott, 2; J. R. Pritchard, 3; J. Aspinwall (conductor), 4; H. Coley, 5; G. Fisher, 6. And 120 Stedman Doubles. J. R. Pritchard, 1; H. W. Abbott, 2; J. Aspinwall, 3; H. Coley, 4; G. Fisher, 5; J. Bennett, jun., 6. Afterwards a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (taken from Haley's Variation), in 47 mins. John R. Pritchard (conductor), 1; T. Hammond, 2; J. Aspinwall, 3; H. Coley, 4; G. Fisher, 5; H. W. Abbott, 6; W. Davies, 7; J. Bennett, jun., 8. It was arranged to start for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but one of the band mistaking the time arrived too late, and the above was rang instead. Mr. Abbott hails from Nottingham; Mr. Bennett from Kidderminster.

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 WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

SIR,—One important matter was brought forward at the annual festival of the Winchester Diocesan Guild of Ringers held at Leatherhead, July 19th, it was the question of having a die sunk for casting a medal or badge to be worn by change-ringers at their outings and other occasions, so that those who are strangers may the more easily recognise one another. It is a question that I have advocated for some time past. The time at our disposal at the meeting was limited, so we could do nothing more than adopt the principle of the thing, which was agreed too unanimously, the question of detail to be left for further consideration. The day before the meeting took place I called at the firm of Wyon, Regent Street, and they strongly advised me to put the idea before the Exercise and see if any other association would take it up as well as that of Winchester. They gave me to understand the name of any association or guild could be cast from the same die. I will not go into the question what the design should be till I see if any others are likely to take it up.

SAMUEL MERRITT.

22, Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth,
July 28th, 1888.

SIR.—I see in the report of the meeting of the Winchester Guild of ringers held at Leatherhead on July 19th, special mention was made by Mr. Spyers to the withdrawal of the St. Nicholas Guildford band of Ringers from the Guild, and the strange refusal to join the Guild after all the assistance they have received. I should like Mr. Spyers to explain the nature of the assistance rendered to the band by the Guild, for I am at a loss to know what all the assistance means. That gentleman's answer to my question through your valuable paper, will oblige

Guildford, July 31st, 1888.

ONE OF THE LATE BAND.

A QUESTION.

SIR,—In your issue of "THE BELL NEWS" for July 21st, there is a peal of Stedman Caters by me which Mr. Washbrook, of Oxford, says is very false. May I ask him to state in what part of the peal the very falseness occurs.

London, August 1st, 1888.

J. H. BARRETT.

FALSE PEAL.

SIR,—I very much regret the peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major turns out false—hopelessly false, and I am indeed vexed that it has been rung. I therefore tender most sincerely my apologies to the gentlemen of Ipswich Society, and more particularly those who took part in the performance. The figures of this same peal appear on page 24 of the late Mr. Snowden's treatise on this method.

147, Barnsbury Road, 31st July, 1888.

H. DAINS.

"QUICK PEALS."

SIR,—I see Mr. Muskett is still very dissatisfied with the peal of Stedman Triples being rung rather quicker than he is used to them. What does that gentleman say about the quick peals rung at West Bromwich? One of Triples in 2 hrs. 23 mins. amongst them, and I think I heard Mr. F. Pitstow of Saffron Walden say they have turned their bells about at over 30 to the minute in Stedman Triples. Permit me also to say that had we had the luck to have finished the recent attempt for a peal of Stedman Caters at Chelmsford, in which several well-known ringers took part, the peal would have been completed in 2 hrs. 50 mins, with a tenor over a ton, and most excellent ringing, that was allowing time to get slower, which I don't believe we should have done. The peal was stopped by the churchwarden. And how about the famous peal of Stedman Caters rung at the Cathedral, Oxford, in 3 hrs. 7½ mins., which was listened to by Mr. N. J. Pitstow, and said by him to be some of the finest ringing he had ever heard. Tenor 42 cwt., rung single-handed. Why does not our friend object to all these performances? Oh, I beg pardon, they were not all members of the Oxford Guild who rung these peals. I made a mistake, by mentioning them. Ah, well! we are all liable to mistakes, and that is the reason people have to be put right, both in ringing and criticising others. From now we shall consider Mr. Muskett answered, since he will not take part or even listen to a repetition of the said performance. Will he give us permission to ring another quick one?

THE TENOR RINGER.

Other correspondence unavoidably left over till next week.

Obituary.

On Tuesday, July 24th, Charles Underwood, late a ringer belonging to the York Minster branch of the Yorkshire Association of change-ringers departed this life, after a long illness, at the early age of 34 years. As a ringer he has rung at several churches ten peals of 5000 changes and upwards in Grandsire, Treble Bob, and Stedman, and not least three peals on hand-bells retained in hand, viz: one of Grandsire Triples, one of Grandsire Caters, and one of Treble Bob Royal in the Kent variation, and promised to be a good conductor till his illness came upon him. His funeral took place on Thursday the 26th, at the cemetery, his remains being carried to the grave by four of the company, and after the office for the burial of the dead (which was rendered impressively by the chaplain, the Rev. G. H. Hewison), a course of Grandsire Caters was rung on the hand-bells in the presence of a numerous gathering of friends, by the following members: W. H. Howard, 1-2; A. C. Fearnley, 3-4; G. Breed, 5-6; J. Thompson, 7-8; and Wm. Morrell, 9-10. The coffin was covered with wreaths and flowers, and suspended on each side were two hand-bells, indicating that he was a lover of the science of ringing in all its branches. In the evening was rung on the bells of the Minster several touches of Caters with the bells muffled, as a last parting tribute to an old friend and comrade.

RINGERS' OUTING.

On Monday, July 23rd, the ringers of the parish church, Poslingford, Suffolk, held their first annual outing. Being a rural district, the first thing was to walk down to the ancient town of Clare (where hangs the only peal of eight bells in Suffolk that are unringable, tenor 28 cwt.) to find two conveyances awaiting them. Starting from Clare at 8.45 they reached Hartest about 10.15. The peal of five were soon seen set in motion, and three 6-scores of Grandsire and one of Bob Doubles were rung by:—W. Atkinson, 1; G. Basham, 1; D. Gridley, 3; H. Burling, 4; C. Howe, (conductor), 5; also another 6-score, with C. Rawlinson, 3; the others standing as before.

The next tower on the list being Shimpling, they made a start at 11.45, and in about fifteen minutes they were in the churchyard, but now a difficulty arose as to where to find the sexton, for the church stands quite out of the village, but after a good deal of running here and there, he was discovered working about two minutes' walk from the church. The bells, five in number, were found in rather a poor condition, not having been rung for several years, but after a little perseverance two 6-scores of Bob and one of Grandsire were rung by:—W. Atkinson, 1; G. Basham, 2; D. Gridley, 3; H. Burling, 4; C. Howe, (conductor), 5.

A move was then made to Stanstead, Suffolk, but as it was time for dinner, "a peal on the knives and forks" was first thought about, and successfully "brought round," at the White Hart. After which, they were joined by Mr. S. Slater, of Glemsford, and they at once bent their steps toward the church, which possesses a nice little ring of six, tenor 12 cwt., upon which they rang, at the second attempt, their first 720 of Bob Minor, in 30 minutes, by:—W. Atkinson, 1; D. Gridley, 2; G. Basham, 3; S. Slater, (conductor), 4; H. Burling, 5; C. Howe, 6; also some touches with C. Rawlinson on the 5th.

At they had yet another tower to visit, namely, Glemsford, (six bells, tenor cwt.) they lost no time in reaching it, and there they rang another 720 of Bob Minor, as follows:—W. Atkinson, 1; S. Slater, (conductor), 2; G. Basham, 8; D. Gridley, 4; H. Burling, 5; C. Howe, 6. After which, some touches were rung with F. W. Hicks (who had just arrived from Clare) on the 4th. Messrs. C. Adams, Z. Slater, and W. Downes, of the Glemsford company, also took part during the evening. After a friendly chat the party returned home at a seasonable hour, having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

The next ringing meeting of the above branch, will take place on Saturday, August 11th, 1888, at St. Saviour's Church, Bacup, bells ready at 2 o'clock. Meeting in the School at 6.30.

J. T. SROTT, Local Sec.

RINGERS' OUTING.

On Thursday, July 26th, seven members of the Dalton-on-Furness parish church company had their first outing, starting from Dalton by the seven o'clock train they arrived at Coniston about nine. After an hour's good walk they got to the village of Hawkshead, made their way to the church, and having received permission to ring and finding all ready they raised the bells and rung a 120 of Grandsire Doubles. T. Watson (conductor), 1; T. Townson, 2; G. Spencer, 3; M. Cuddy, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. A start was then made for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, but it came to grief after ringing 500 changes. T. R. Jackson, 1; T. Townson, 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Cuddy, 4; J. Burrows, 5; T. Watson (conductor), 6. Tenor about 10 cwt. After lowering the bells, the time being limited, the company adjourned to the "Red Lion" for dinner, which was served up by the hostess, Mrs. Latterwaite, in her very best style. Dinner being over an enjoyable walk was made to Brathay, where all was in readiness. Raising the bells another 720 of Grandsire Minor was attempted, but came to grief after over 400 changes were rung. T. R. Jackson (conductor), 1; T. Townson, 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Cuddy, 4; T. Watson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. Also a 240 Grandsire Minor. T. Jackson, 1; T. Townson, 2; T. Watson (conductor), 3; M. Cuddy, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. Time being short the bells were dropped and the company wended their way to the "Water Head," Wandermere, and took the steamer for Bowness. Arriving there a refreshing cup of tea was obtained at the "Commercial" Inn, and having only a short time to stay they proceeded to the church, raised the bells, and rang a few short touches of Grandsire Minor on the middle six. The bells are a peal of eight. Tenor 12 cwt. T. Jackson, 1; J. Spencer, 2; T. Townson, 3; T. Watson (conductor), 4; M. Cuddy, 5; T. R. Jackson, 6; J. Burrows, 7; ———, 8. After lowering the bells the homeward journey was commenced, Dalton being reached about 9.30, everyone having thoroughly enjoyed himself. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the vicars of each of the above churches for their kindness in permitting them to ring.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The members of the above society held their annual outing at the ancient village of Salford Priors, on Saturday last, July 28th. On arriving there by train about 3.30 p.m., they made their way to the "Bell" Inn, where a most substantial dinner awaited them, being served up in grand style by the worthy hostess, Mrs. Houghton. After doing ample justice to the good things provided for them, they adjourned to the church tower, which contains a fine peal of eight bells. Tenor 16 cwt. A start was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing about 900 changes, the conductor, Mr. Carter, brought the bells round owing to the bad go of the tenor. After which touches of Stedman Triples, Bob Major, and Bob Triples were rung. After falling the bells the company returned to the "Bell" Inn, where hand-bell ringing and joyous songs were indulged in till time was up for the return home, where after 1 hour and 35 minutes ride they arrived safely well pleased with their outing, and they take this opportunity of thanking the vicar and churchwardens for their kindness in granting them the use of the bells.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of this Association was held on Saturday last, at the Parish Church, Blackburn; the attendance of ringers was good, considering the state of the weather. Members were present from Manchester, Bolton, Southport, Heywood, Bury, Colne, Church, and Ramsbottom. Very little ringing was done, owing to the serious illness of a parishoner, who resided very near the church. The meeting was subsequently held, over which Mr. Hill, of Southport, presided. A few short speeches were delivered in furtherance of the act of ringing and the development of the work of the Association in the East Lancashire district. Eleven new members were elected. Votes of thanks were accorded to the vicar and wardens for the use of the bells, etc.

In response to enquiries we beg to state that Mr. J. Redford, of 9, Portugal Street, Bolton, is secretary of the Lancashire Association.

THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, HAMPSTEAD.

On Monday, July 23rd, the members and friends of this company had their annual excursion. The day fortunately turned out fine, and this added considerably to the enjoyment of the party. The town of Hertford was the place selected, and there the visitors were met by Mr. Ellsmore, who conducted them to the "Black Swan" inn, the chosen head quarters for the day. After refreshing themselves, a move was made to All Saints' tower, where a short touch of Grandsire Caters was rung. A start was then made for a peal in that method in honor of the silver wedding of the Rev. Canon Wigram, who was married at Hampstead on July 23, 1863. All went well for 2 hrs. 20 mins., when the 2nd bell became deranged somehow, bringing the peal to an untimely end. The ringers were S. Clarke, 1; T. F. Stephens, 2; B. Paine, 3; G. Newson (conductor), 4; H. Tyler, 5; D. W. Greggs, 6; B. Foskett, 7; N. Alderman, 8; E. Chapman, 9; W. Arscott, 10. It was afterwards found that the rope had become fixed in the pulley-wheel, caused by a piece of wood, which was found between the wheel and frame. The usual expressions of disappointment having been allowed full play, the church of St. Andrew, which has a peal of eight, was visited, a short touch of Grandsire Triples being brought round. At two o'clock dinner was held at the above-named inn, and judging by the general appearance of the dining table, this was the most important event of the day. After dinner, the tower was again visited, and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples rung, while some of the company enjoyed a gentle row up the stream. All Saints' church was again visited, and a touch of Grandsire Caters rung, and the bells lowered. Some of the local band now joined the company, and a touch of Stedman Triples was attempted, but without success. This brought a very enjoyable day to a close, the visitors being accompanied to the railway station by their Hertford friends. They wish to thank the incumbents of both the above-named churches for the use of their bells, and Mr. Ellsmore and the steeple-keepers for their kindness on this occasion.

THE ARMLEY SOCIETY, YORKS.

On Saturday afternoon, July 21st, the members of this society, accompanied by a friend, paid a visit to Woodlesford, near Leeds, and there met several of the local ringers. They being two short, two of the Armley company preceded the remainder, so as to assist them to ring for a special service of the Girls' Friendly Society, for which service they rang a 720 of Oxford. Afterwards, the remainder of the band turned up, and a mixed company ascended the tower and rung two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, and, also touches of Violet and Woodbine, the "go" of the bells being very good. The ringers returned to Leeds at 8.24, having enjoyed a very pleasant outing.

The Armley company wish through this paper to thank the vicar, the Rev. A. J. Irvin for allowing the use of the bells, and also the ringers for having things in readiness, and the hearty welcome received at their hands.

ST. MICHAEL'S AMATEUR SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

ON Monday, July 16th, the members of the above society had their annual outing, Bournemouth being the place selected. They left Bristol at 7.5, and Bournemouth was reached a little before eleven. After indulging in a sail in the bay, a little campanology was resorted to as a variation to the day's proceedings. Accordingly by the kind permission of the rector, several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 4, 6, 8, as cover, were rung on the bells of St. Peter's church. G. Webley, 1; A. Isaac, 2; G. Sheppard, 3; W. Lea, 4; J. Weaver, 5; W. Lewis, 6; F. Price (conductor), 7; E. Lea, 8. After the ringing was accomplished, tea was partaken of at the "Quadrant," shortly after the party wended their way to the station, and after a journey of four hours, Bristol was reached at 11.30., which terminated a most enjoyable day.

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting will be held at Healy Parish Church on August 4th. Bells ready at 2; Meeting at 4.30 in the schoolroom. J. HOGGARD, Hon. Sec.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

This Society held its annual picnic and dinner on Saturday, the 28th ult., at Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.

Having gathered together from different stations along the line, the members, numbering between twenty and thirty, arrived at their rendezvous, the "Emmanuel College Arms," about 3.30, where they were met by Mr. Holmes of Burton, who had availed himself of the opportunity to listen to and examine the fine peal of eight bells in the tower of the parish here.

The weather being decidedly damp, the interval being arrival and dinner was enlivened by the minstrelsy of a cast-iron-throated troubadour, who afforded as much amusement by his brazen effrontery as by his vocal efforts. A crude mixture of cast-iron and brass, however, affords but indifferent music, so that the prompt summons to dinner was doubly welcome.

Setting to work with that grim but radiant determination so characteristic of the change-ringer, the knives and forks rattled merry music, each course-end coming up with the distinctness and regularity peculiar to well-struck peals and hearty dinners.

The cloth having been cleared, that veteran ringer, Mr. John Day, of Harborne, was unanimously and enthusiastically elected to preside over the further proceedings, and that no time might be lost, immediately proposed, in a few well-chosen words—"The Queen," which toast was duly honoured. Then followed, "Success to the Holt Society," by the Secretary; and "The Health of our Visitor, Mr. Johnson, sen." Mr. Hemming, in a brief speech, referred to Mr. Johnson's well-acquired fame as a composer, and explained how much Mr. Johnson had forwarded the science, not only by the truth and symmetry of his compositions, but by the example of his unflagging zeal and life-long devotion, beginning as a young man when change-ringing was under a cloud, and its votaries despised, and still continuing during its present happier days, although he was now in his 80th year.

Mr. Johnson having suitably responded, a start was made for the tower, when the Master of the company having divided his forces in such a way that all might have the pleasure of ringing on the bells, touches of Double Norwich, Stedman, Treble Bob, and Grandsire were duly brought round. The ropes were then taken in hand by the Sutton ringers, who under the tuition of Mr. Kent made their start in scientific change-ringing some six months ago, and the listeners, many of whom have themselves profited by Mr. Kent's instructions, were astonished and delighted at the proficiency arrived at in so short a time.

The members again gathered together, their number augmented by the presence of the Sutton ringers, and the rest of the evening was enlivened by pleasant converse, singing, and handbell ringing. Ever-welcome old time reminiscences of ringers and ringing were given in that racy style so familiar to all who have the pleasure of an acquaintance with the veterans, Mr. H. Johnson, sen., and Mr. John Day. Touches of Stedman Cinques and Caters were rung on handbells by Messrs. Russam, Wittchell, Miller, Bastable, Kent, Johnson, jun., and Buffery; and appropriate songs were capitally rendered by Messrs. Day, Miller, Johnson jun., Bastable, Reynolds, and Matthews.

Not unmindful of services rendered, hearty votes of thanks were passed to the Chairman for presiding, and to the hostess for her capital catering. "Success to 'THE BELL NEWS,'" the healths of the founder of the society (Mr. W. Kent), the secretary (Mr. W. H. Godden), and the master (Mr. H. Bastable), having been drank and suitably responded to, the proceedings were closed by the singing of the National Anthem, and at a seasonable hour the members dispersed to their several homes.

We cannot help thinking that such pleasant gatherings as these do much to foster and keep up an interest in our science, as well as to encourage that friendly feeling and mutual understanding which is so necessary to its development.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The next District Meeting is fixed to be held at Tenterden on Thursday, August 16th. It is also the Tenterden Cricket week. It is intended to visit Rolvenden (eight bells), Benenden (eight bells), and Woodchurch (six bells). All who wish to attend are requested to communicate with

Winsted Court.

R. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN, Hon. Sec.

CROYDON, SURREY.

On Monday, July 23rd, the ringers of the parish church were invited by the Vicar, the Rev. J. M. Braithwaite, to spend the evening in the Vicarage grounds. Arriving about 7 o'clock p.m., the ringers were cordially received by the Vicar and the Rev. E. D. L. Harvey. A stroll was taken through the gardens, and Dr. A. B. Carpenter, the Hon. Secretary of the Surrey Association, having arrived, the ringers sat down to a splendid dinner served on the lawn. Several change-courses occurred, but stand was not called until they had all been brought round.

After grace the Vicar rose and said that although he hoped everyone present would enjoy themselves, they could not help thinking with sorrow that Mr. Holman, who last year had been with them apparently a strong man, had since gone to his rest. Mr. Holman had been greatly missed by everyone connected with the belfry, and as it had pleased God to call him, it behoved them all to be prepared to follow him, for no one could tell when the time would come for them to meet their God. The Vicar also expressed his approval of the advance made in the science, three peals in three different methods having been rung at the parish church since he met them here last year. He was also very pleased to see so many young members overcoming the difficulties of change-ringing. In conclusion, the Vicar said he had read with much pleasure the last issue of "THE BELL NEWS," with every word of which he fully agreed, and regretted very much that a standing engagement prevented him visiting the tower on the regular practice night, but he was sure his place would be efficiently filled by the Rev. E. D. L. Harvey, who, he heard, had already won his spurs in the belfry.

The Churchwardens (Dr. A. Carpenter, J.P., and R. Flint, Esq.), now arrived, and some churchwardens provided by the Vicar, being filled and lighted, subjects bearing on belfry reform, etc., were discussed, and the Churchwardens kindly promised to visit the belfry and see if they could not carry out some improvements there.

During the evening touches of Grandsire Caters, etc., were rung on the handbells, and the Vicar also brought out his telescope, through which the beauties of the heavens were seen that were quite invisible to the naked eye.

Dr. A. B. Carpenter on behalf of the ringers then thanked the Vicar for his great kindness and hospitality, and the Vicar having responded, a most enjoyable evening was brought to a close.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

On Saturday, July 14th, a ringing meeting of the above branch took place at St. James's church, Waterfoot, when about twenty-five ringers from Christ Church, and St. Saviour's, Bacup, Newchurch, Waterfoot, and Helmsford, attended and took part in the ringing during the afternoon and evening. A splendid knife and fork tea was provided by the Waterfoot ringers, the tea tables being presided over by the ringers' wives and sisters. At the meeting in the schoolroom, presided over by the Rev. C. Wilson, vicar, it was resolved that the next ringing meeting be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup. The Chairman in addressing the ringers, said he hoped that the present good feeling existing between the clergy and ringers of the various churches would continue, and showed what great good ringers' associations had done in the past. Votes of thanks to the vicar for presiding, to the wardens for the use of the bells, brought the meeting to a close, after which the ringing again commenced and was brought to a finish about 10 o'clock by a well-struck 720 of Plain Bob. J. Bolton (conductor), 1; W. Maden, 2; J. B. Taylor, 3; A. L. Hardman, 4; G. Lord, 5; W. Whittaker, 6.

NOTICE.—By the kind invitation of the Rev. Canon Bridges, the Beddington ringers will celebrate the nineteenth anniversary of the opening of the bells on Bank Holiday, August 6th. The tower will be open at 2.0 p.m., when every effort will be made to suit the convenience of old and new friends. Mr. Trappitt has again kindly consented to provide tea for those who may require it.

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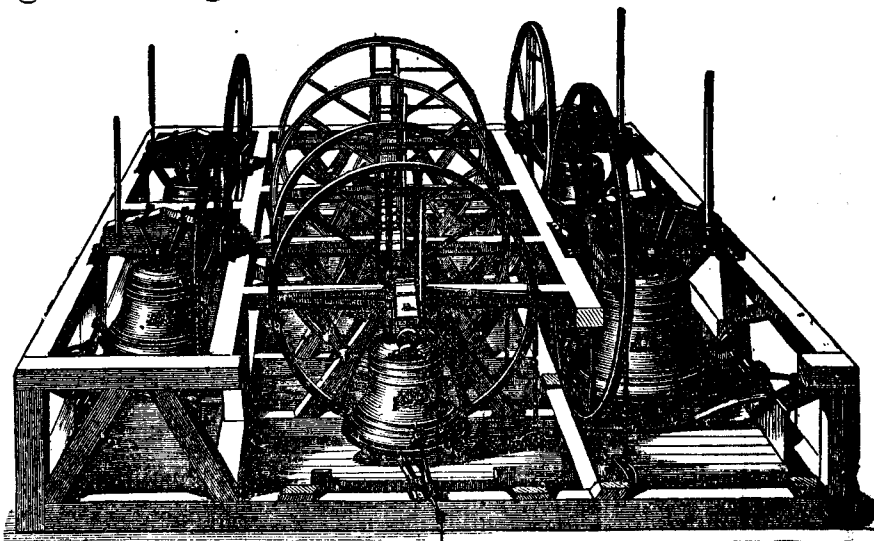
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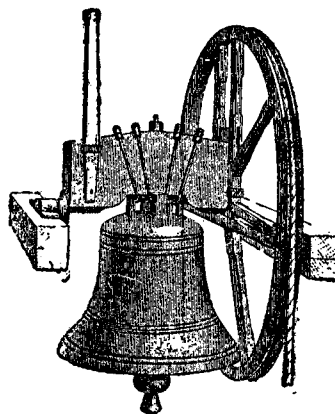
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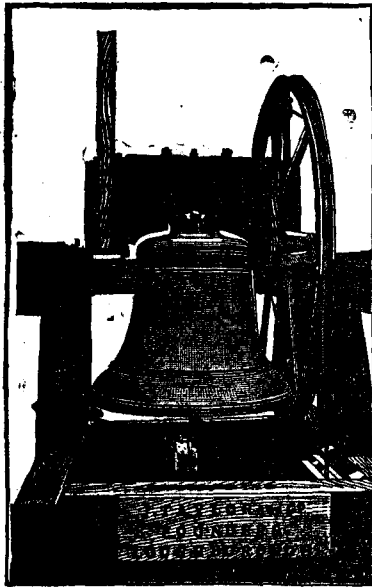
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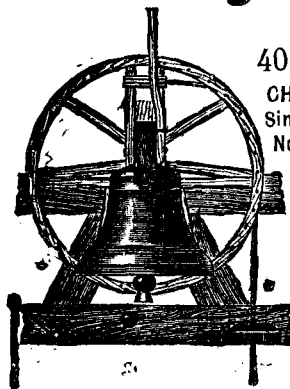
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No. 332.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 1888.

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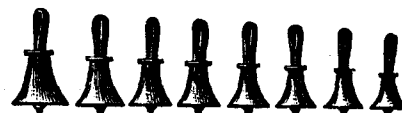
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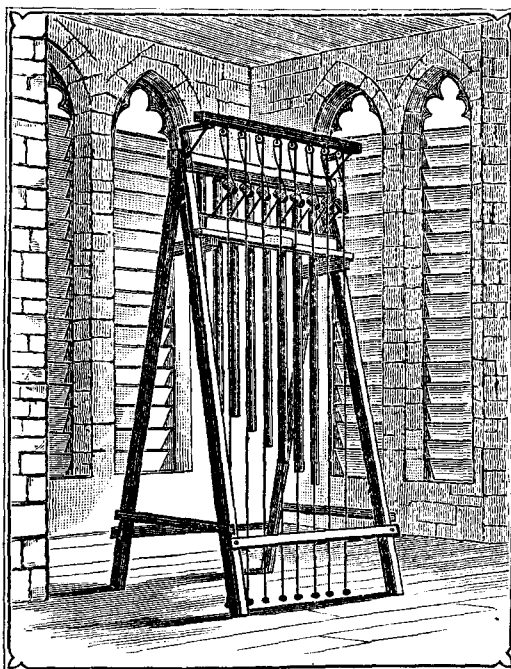
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THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

ON Saturday, July 28th, a District Meeting of the bands affiliated to the Devonshire Guild, which will be recorded in the annals as one of the most successful and pleasant of its kind, was held at Exeter. The head-quarters for the day was the St. Sidwell's Institute in Summerland Crescent, kindly placed at the disposal of the Guild by the Rector of St. Sidwell's (the Rev. S. W. E. Bird). The bands met at 2 o'clock, and formed parties to visit the following belfries: St. David's, St. Sidwell's, St. John's, St. Petrock's, St. Thomas's, and Alphington, all of which had been kindly thrown open. At 4 o'clock the majority of the ringers wended their way to the Cathedral, where, by permission of the Dean and Chapter, they were allowed to view and ring upon the notable peal of ten. The former privilege, it is almost needless to say, was taken advantage of, and those interested in change-ringing were not slow to express a hearty wish that the bells could be speedily rehung so as to be rung according to scientific methods. As many as possible had a pull, and the ringing concluded with a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles on the Cupthorne six in capital style by —. Mudge, 1; S. Binfield, 2; E. Shepherd, 3; F. Shepherd, 4; J. Moss, 5; T. J. Lake and B. Mundy, 6. It was many years since half-pull changes were rung at Exeter Cathedral, the last occasion being by a party of the College Youths, from London.

After leaving the Cathedral the bands proceeded to St. Sidwell's church, where a short service was held, the Rev. S. W. E. Bird and the Rev. E. C. Spicer officiating. The Ven. Archdeacon Sandford delivered an appropriate address, in the course of which he said:

It was not very easy after the excitement of bell ringing for them to attune their hearts to the quietude of prayer and worship. And yet it was a good thing to make the effort, for it was not a thing impossible to do. He remembered one who tried to teach him the lesson of the connexion between hard work and real worship long years ago. He remembered how a true teacher of young men used to bring them, very often from the excitement of a hard game at football from the playing fields to the communion lectures. He wanted to teach them the good lesson of how a man could work hard and well, and, while doing it, serve God. He (the Ven. Archdeacon) thought that was a lesson needed in these times. They had heard some of them of the phrase "muscular Christianity." It was a good thing, "muscular Christianity," if they took heed both to the muscularity, and also to the Christianity. It was a good thing to remember that Christianity might be muscular. But there was another side to it. He wanted them to remember that manhood and strength must be Christian. They knew, perhaps, that there was a fear in these days that the working-men of England should go away from God. He wanted them to feel and say, "I will raise my protest against this; I will bring my manhood and my strength to God." And that, he took it, was just the lesson, and, indeed, the motto of their Guild. But he wanted to give them one or two words of warning, and he was sure they would take them in good part, because they knew that there was very often a vast difference between the ideal and the actual—what they professed to be and what they really were. And so he wanted them to remember, firstly, that they must not be high-minded; that they must be humble. They were reformers, as he took it, and it was their province to improve the condition of the belfry. But probably they knew the danger which beset all reforms. It was the danger of parting company with the past, of thinking that there never was any good thing in the past, and this new man born into the world was going to set everything right. It spoiled all reform, and was absolutely fatal to all religious reform. They had done something to clear out the baser things of the church belfry. But did they believe that a man who went into the belfry with the thought that he was much better than the old ringers used to be, that he understood methods which they did not, did they believe that that kind of man was really purging the belfry? He knew of nothing which was more contrary to the good God above than the spirit of pride. And it was because he wished well to their ringing and to their Guild that he wanted them to remember that the foundation of the Kingdom of God was light in the humble spirit. They knew that there was a tendency in all human systems to deteriorate. Reforms began, and began well generally; but the reforms of one day sometimes became the abuse of the next. The old heathen poet used to say that all things were ever tending towards decline. And so it was true in regard to all things human. But it was not true in regard to the Church of God. And if they wanted to preserve their Guild from this fatal tendency, they must try to regulate it by the true laws of the Kingdom of Christ. There must be a penetrating power from without. He meant this—that if they wanted their Guild to go forward they must let the lessons of the Guild work down into the depths of their own souls. They must not only fly, as it were, the temperance flag, but they must be them-

selves, in their own lives and hearts, temperate men and true Churchmen. If their scientific ringing was to be of any real service to the Church of God, it must be because the scientific ringers themselves were true Churchmen. And there must not be only the penetrating power from without to what was inward, but there must also be the growth, the advance, year by year, in their own lives if they wanted their Guild to go forward and prosper. They were respectable young men; they must become religious men, or else, little by little, the law of deterioration was sure to begin to work. There must be progress, there must be growth. It was one of the principles of bell-ringing, as he understood, that there should be no monotony, but constant changing. Yes, constant changing was a beautiful thing when it went along with progress. Progress was a beautiful thing if all the time there was the steady power of a diapason, and the harmony of Christian love and steady labour for God. As there must be no monotony in the ringing, so there must not be any monotony in the life. They must go forward, or else he could predict for them an absolute certainty that before long the scientific ringers of the present day would be no better than the ringers of the past.

After the service the ringers proceeded to the Institute, where a substantial tea was awaiting them. There were nearly eighty present, the bands represented being St. David's, St. Sidwell's, Kenn, Whitstone, Tiverton, Upton Pyne, Clyst St. George, and Bradninch. Among those present were the Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote, the energetic and obliging Hon. Secretary of the Guild, who made the arrangements for the day, Colonel Hobart, the Ven. Archdeacon Sandford, the Rev. S. W. E. Bird, the Rev. R. Porter (Kenn), the Rev. S. H. Berkeley, and Mr. R. Jerman. The tea-tables were presided over by Mrs. F. Shepherd, Mrs. E. Shepherd, Mrs. B. Mundy, Mrs. T. J. Lake, and Miss Mundy, who carried out their duties in the most pleasant manner.

In the course of a few remarks at the close of the tea, the Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote, who was cordially received, thanked, on behalf the ringers, Archdeacon Sandford for his address. He also mentioned that the Ven. Archdeacon had allowed his name to be put down as one of the Vice-Presidents of the Guild. Continuing, he said he wished in their name to offer their best thanks to the clergy who had been so kind as to allow them the use of their towers, and to the Cathedral ringers for so kindly assisting them to ring what was the finest peal of bells in the world. He also desired to express their thanks to those ladies (Miss Norman and Miss Woolcombe) who had so kindly arranged the tea, and to those ladies who had presided at the tea-tables. He expressed regret that the President of the Guild (Colonel Troyte) was unable to be present, and read a telegram which he had received from him to that effect.

The Ven. Archdeacon SANDFORD said he took a great interest in bell-ringing. In his early days, being of an ambitious turn of mind, he caught hold of a bell rope and was very nearly drawn up to the ceiling. Since then he was afraid his ringing was not of a practical kind. He nevertheless took a great interest in it, and if they would accept of such support as he could give it, he could assure them that he should be most happy. He wished to express, in the most hearty way, his great desire that the Guild of Devonshire Ringers might go forward and prosper with the work it had begun.

MR. GRATER, of Tiverton, in a few suitable words proposed a vote of thanks to the Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote, which was carried by acclamation.

The hon. and rev. gentleman having replied, the ringers adjourned to various belfries, and later in the day proceeded homewards, having taken part in a district meeting which will be remembered by them as one of the most enjoyable ever held in connexion with the Guild.

Considerable dissatisfaction was expressed that St. Edmund's belfry should have been closed to the Guild, but it was stated that the tower was not closed to the Guild, but only to a few individuals of a particular band.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The next District Meeting is fixed to be held at Tenterden on Thursday, August 16th. It is also the Tenterden Cricket week. It is intended to visit Rolvenden (eight bells), Benenden (eight bells), and Woodchurch (six bells). All who wish to attend are requested to communicate with

Wrinstead Court.

R. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN, Hon. Sec.

THE ST. LUKE'S SOCIETY, LIVERPOOL.

The members of the above had their Annual Outing, on Monday, August 6th, the place selected being Chester. The party which consisted of Messrs. R. S. Mann, J. R. Pritchard, W. James, F. W. Moore, P. Barton, R. Gowans, J. Aspinwall, T. Hammond, W. Booth, W. Davies, G. Fisher, and J. Martin, left Liverpool at 8.45 a.m. arriving in Chester shortly after 10 a.m., and at once proceeded to the village of Christleton. Arrived here we were met by the genial clerk of the church. Mr. S. Mayers, who had everything in readiness for us. After raising the bells, touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Kent Treble and Plain Bob Major were rung, conducted by Messrs. Hammond, Mann, Pritchard and Aspinwall respectively. Having dropped the bells, the whole party proceeded to the village inn where a pleasant half-hour was spent; on the motion of Mr. F. W. Moore, seconded by Mr. J. R. Pritchard, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for placing the bells at our disposal, and also to Mr. Mayers for having everything in readiness for our comfort.

Leaving Christleton we returned to Chester, reaching there about two o'clock. An adjournment was then made for dinner. This having been concluded to the entire satisfaction of all, a move was made to the Cathedral, when we had the pleasure of listening to the music of a touch of Stedman Triples on this grand peal of bells. On reaching the belfry we found it crowded with ringers from all parts of Cheshire, who had come to attend the meeting of the Chester Diocesan Guild. On the completion of the Stedman Triples which was rang by a mixed band, the courteous conductor of the Cathedral Ringers, Mr. Freeman Ball, at once placed the bells at our disposal, when we rang short touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, conducted by Messrs. Hammond and Mann. Descending the tower we proceeded to the new church of St. Mary-Without-the-Walls, which contains a fine new peal of bells, tenor about a ton. Here we found the belfry in the same manner as at the cathedral, literally packed with ringers, Mr. Bethell, the conductor here, working his hardest to see everyone was obliged with a pull.

On getting possession of the ropes we rang a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, followed by touch of Plain Bob Major, Mr. Ball taking part with us in both, conducted by J. R. Pritchard. After having had tea, we joined our friends at the "Coach and Horses," and spent the remainder of the evening in handbell ringing, singing, &c., until the time came for departure, Mr. Ball and Mr. Bethell accompanying us part of the way to the Railway station, which we left shortly after 11 p.m. arriving at Liverpool soon after midnight, highly gratified with our day's pleasure, and we now take the opportunity through the "THE BELL NEWS," of tendering our sincere thanks to all kind friends who contributed to our enjoyment.

P.

A TRIP TO THE MIDLANDS.

Being in Derbyshire for my holidays this year I thought I should like to try their bells, and accordingly made arrangements with Mr. J. W. Taylor, Jun., of the well-known firm of bell-founders for a peal at All Saints, Loughboro', on the Friday night, July 20th (Grandsire Caters), which was lost after ringing just over an hour, when to complete the evening, touches of Stedman Triples and Grandfire Caters were brought round, and after lowering the bells in peal, I returned to the "Bell," one of the head hotels in Loughboro', where accommodation had been kindly engaged by the above-named gentleman for the night. On the Saturday, having had breakfast, I visited Messrs. Taylor's bell-foundry, which is quite a picture for anyone to see. Mr. Taylor, sen., who is a farmer in a very unique way, as well as a bell-founder, then took me for a drive to his farm which is some little distance out of Loughboro', and the morning being fine, this was a great treat to one who is accustomed to indoor work. Our next order was for dinner, at the house of Mr. Taylor, sen., and after the last course-end had been brought up, two traps were waiting to drive our band to Quorndon, a village about two miles out, for a peal of Stedman Triples on the beautiful light peal at St. Bartholomew's Church, hung by Messrs. Taylor in an iron frame the same as at Loughboro', which go splendidly. This peal, however, was lost, after ringing about 1,500 changes. Not having time to start for it again, a short touch or two was rung and the bells were lowered in peal, after which the handbells

were brought into requisition. We were then ordered to take our seats and drive back to Loughboro' where we took tea, and I went on to my destination quite satisfied with what I had done, although not successful at either place. I wish through the columns of "THE BELL NEWS" to express my best thanks to the Messrs. Taylor for the very kind way they entertained a stranger.

F. G.

THE ROYAL DOCKYARD DEVONPORT BRANCH OF DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, July 21st, this band met an hour earlier than usual, viz., 5 p.m., to welcome their brother-strings from St. Mary's, Taunton. A report of the proceedings may be read in "THE BELL NEWS" of July 28th. Mr. Doble may be congratulated in having such a promising band of all young men under his care. We wish them every success. While they were leaving the tower the Dockyard band rang a 420 Grandsire Triples.—E. Ross, 1; G. Broderick, 2; A. Richards, 3; J. Steed, 4; Walter Marsh, (conductor), 5; W. Pyne, 6; J. Eastabrook, 7; T. Batten, 8. We then had a very pleasant surprise in the form of a visit from the vicar of Dockyard Chapel, the Rev. W. Dickson, LL.D., who informed us he had become an hon. member of the Guild. He told us he was pleased to see our society thriving, and asked if he could do anything for our comfort. He also asked us to ring on the following Sunday, on the occasion of a volunteer church parade, in accordance with which, the band met on that day and rang several short touches of Grandsire Triples. It was arranged to visit Revelstoke, near Plympton, on Saturday, July 28th, where there is a nice peal of eight, but the secretary having received a communication from the rector, the Rev. H. F. Roe, that there was illness near the church, the visit was postponed, and a meeting convened for the Dockyard instead, when the first part of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples was brought round by the following members:—E. Cross, 1; Walter Marsh, (conductor), 2; E. Hendy, 3; J. Steed, 4; A. Richard, 5; W. Pyne, 6; J. Eastabrook, 7; P. Manning, 8. Also a 504 in the same method, with nine 6-7's. E. Cross, 1; G. Broderick, 2; A. Richards, 3; J. Steed, 4; Walter Marsh (conductor), 5; W. Pyne, 6; J. Eastabrook, 7; T. Batten, 8. Also some six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 6-7-8 covering.—T. Murch, 1; G. Broderick, 2; E. Hendy, 3; J. Steed, 4; W. Marsh, 5; T. Batten, 6; N. J. Friend, 7; Chas. Richards, 8. Brother-strings' heartily welcomed every Saturday at 6 p.m., at the Dockyard gates.

BANK HOLIDAY AT DRAYTON, BERKS.

On Monday, August 6th (at the invitation of their genial master, the Rev. F. E. Robinson), members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, visited Drayton for a day's ringing. As arranged all met at the tower at 6 o'clock, and at 6.20 a.m. a start was made for a peal at Cambridge Surprise, and all went well till 8.35, when the third bell slipped wheel and upset our equilibrium. After pausing a few minutes in conversation, we were invited by the Master to partake of breakfast, after which, nothing daunted, we were into the sweet intricacies of Cambridge again at 9.30. This time we had the pleasure of welcoming "that's all" to a well-struck peal in 2 hrs. and 40 mins. No time to be lost, the inner man was again replenished, and at 2.0 o'clock we were again enjoying the sweet music of Superlative, and was again crowned with success in 2 hrs. and 40 mins. This brought tea time, and after that very refreshing repast, we repaired to the tower once more for the final touch, and 6.15 we were off for Double Norwich, and again had the pleasure of finishing another good peal at 8.57 p.m. By this time everyone seemed to have had enough ringing for one day, as we had rung nigh upon 20,000 changes, altogether ten hours and a quarter. We hope some day to be able to score London, Superlative and Cambridge. See peal column for peals.

J. W.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

The next ringing meeting of the above branch, will take place on Saturday, August 18th, 1888, at St. Saviour's Church, Bacup, bells ready at 2 o'clock. Meeting in the School at 6.30.

J. T. STOTT, Local Sec.

THE STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

This Association had its Annual Meeting at Leek on July 28th. Members were present from Leek, Stoke, Wolstanton, Horton, Norton, Cheddleton, Uttoxeter, Brickwall, and Ellastone Towers.

Ringling commenced in the tower of St. Edward's church at 2.30 p.m., and was continued until 4 o'clock, when a service was held in the church, and an admirable sermon was preached by the Vicar, the Rev. C. B. Maude, M.A., from the text, 1 Cor. x. 31., "Whether therefore ye eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." The preacher addressed a few hearty words of welcome to the visitors, and then proceeded to speak in a very sympathetic way of the office of ringers, whose work he described as that of angels, and exhorted his hearers to make the text their guide and aim in their work.

After the service the members proceeded to the Leek Coffee Tavern, where an admirable tea was provided. That being concluded, the Annual Meeting was held, at which the Rev. B. Blakeway, Vicar of Horton, took the chair, in the absence of the Bishop of Shrewsbury and Archdeacon Lane, who were kept away by an engagement in London.

The Rev. W. J. Smith, Hon. Clerical Secretary and Treasurer, read the report, in which the Committee regretted more general interest was not taken in the work of the Association, and begged the clergy and churchwardens who have bells under their care to do what they can to encourage the work of the belfry being carried out in the best spirit. The Treasurer's report showed a decrease in subscriptions, and only a very small balance in hand, but on the other hand a larger sum than usual had been spent to assist in giving instruction in towers from which appeals for help had been received.

The Right Rev. the Bishop of Shrewsbury was elected a patron of the Association; the new Archdeacon of Stoke, president; and the Rev. H. C. Turner, Vicar of Horton, and the Rev. C. B. Maude, Vicar of Leek, vice-presidents.

It was decided after a warm discussion to continue the monthly ringing meetings at various centres. The meeting was a very hearty one, and apparently the members separated for another year's work with a revived interest in their labour.

THE RAWMARSH CHANGE AND HAND-BELL RINGERS AT PETERBOROUGH.

On Tuesday, July 24th, at the invitation of the Hon. Thomas Fitzwilliam, the Rawmarsh Society went to Peterborough to give performances on the hand-bells, at a grand fete, held in Milton Park, in aid of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution. After viewing the beautiful scenery of the park, they proceeded to a tent and partook of an ample lunch which had been provided. At two o'clock they began to ring, and rang at intervals during the afternoon. At 7 o'clock a coach was procured to convey them to the station, but, when change-ringers get to a place where there is two peals of bells, they like to have a pull; so it was resolved to stop over-night and have a pull next morning. The company stayed at the "Bedford" coffee tavern, and the next morning, at 8 o'clock, they rang at St. Mary's Church, on that beautiful peal of six, tenor 8 cwt., and, in the afternoon at St. John's, a peal of eight, tenor, 28 cwt., which evidently wants a thorough overhauling with a bell-hanger. The ringers wish to take this opportunity of thanking the vicars, churchwardens, and others, for their kindness in granting them permission to ring. The ringers were—S. Whitworth, R. Whitworth, W. Whitworth, T. Whitworth, J. Farmery, J. Ensor, J. Hawkins, V. Hawkins, and J. Schofield.

NOTICE.

The members of the Midland Counties' Association are invited to a Garden Party, at Duffield Bank, on Saturday, September 8th, from two till six o'clock. Tea at half-past four. The Church Tower will be open from two till half-past four, and from half-past five till nine o'clock. Mr. Heywood will also be glad to see friends who are members of other associations.

FOR SALE.—A beautiful-toned set of Handbells, 24, in G.; nearly new; warranted perfect. Price £10. Company broken up cause of sale.—Apply to J. STRUTT Richmond Road, Kingston-on-Thames.

HEENE, NEAR WORTHING.

A combined party of Arundel and Warnham men paid a visit to the above place, on Bank holiday last, and started a peal of Grandsire Triples, (Reeves' variation), but failed when they reached within 80 of the half-peal, owing to the seventh rope breaking. Ringers as below:—G. Treagus, 1; E. Ede, 2; F. Luxford, 3; C. Blackman, 4; H. Chandler, (conductor), 5; W. L. Chamberlain, 6; W. Short, 7; W. Twigg, 8. Afterwards, a visit was paid to West Tarring Tower, in which a 720 plain Bob was rung. Ringers as follows:—W. Short, 1; W. L. Chamberlain, 2; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 3; C. Hills, 4; C. Blackman, 5; H. Chandler, (conductor), 6. Afterwards, a six-score of Bob Doubles was rung, one of the local band standing in the two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with one local man, and one from Heene standing in. H. Chandler, and W. Short hail from Warnham, H. Hodges, from Heene, C. Hills, Angmering, the rest from Arundel.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE FUND FOR THE RELIEF OF THE WIDOW AND FAMILY OF THE LATE THOMAS WEST.

	£	s.	d.
Rev. Canon Jayne, Vicar of Leeds	0	5	0
Churchwardens of Leeds Parish Church	4	10	0
Leeds Parish Church Company and Friends	3	14	2
Mr. W. Snowden, Leeds	1	1	0
Mr. W. Whitaker, Leeds	0	5	0
Mr. E. Snowden, Bradford	0	2	6
Mr. Thomas Clarke, Sharow	0	5	0
Mr. R. S. Story, Newcastle-on-Tyne	0	5	0
St. John's Company, Darlington, per Mr. R. Moncaster	0	4	6
Mr. J. Woodhead, Holbeck	0	2	6
Mr. D. Yorke,	0	2	0
Mr. C. Jackson, Hull	0	2	6
Mr. C. Bennett	0	2	6
Mr. R. B. Reed	0	2	6
Mrs. Aistrophe	0	2	6
Mr. W. S. Webster	0	2	6
Mrs. Mumby	0	4	0
Mr. C. Jenkins	0	1	6
Mr. J. Pollard	0	1	6
Mr. J. Dale	0	1	0
Mr. S. Stockdale	0	1	0
Mr. J. Dixey	0	1	0
W. S.	0	1	0
R. C.	0	1	0
Mr. A. Holt	0	0	6
Mr. J. Highfield	0	0	6
St. Marie's (R.C.) Company, Sheffield, per Mr. T. Dixon	0	5	6
Mr. C. H. Hattersley, Sheffield	0	2	6
Mr. T. Hattersley,	0	2	6
Mr. G. Holmes	0	1	0
Mr. Wm. Lomas	0	1	0
Bradford Members of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers, per Mr. J. Broadley	0	10	0
Mr. G. Bolland, Tong	0	2	6
Mr. F. Woodhead, Holbeck	0	1	0
Mr. W. Abbishaw, Rothwell	0	1	6
Mr. A. Chapman	0	1	6
Mr. G. Breed, York	0	2	0
Mr. W. H. Howard, York	0	1	6
Mr. J. Thompson	0	1	0
Mr. J. Cundall	0	1	0
Mr. E. Dawson	0	1	0
Mr. A. C. Fearnley	0	1	0
Mr. T. Haigh	0	1	0
Mr. T. Hodgson	0	1	0
Mr. J. Underwood	0	1	0
Mr. M. West	0	1	0
Mr. G. Worth	0	1	0
Mr. R. Long	0	1	0
Mr. R. Thompson	0	0	6

This subscription list will be kept open until the end of August, when all further subscriptions will be published.

The annual party of poor residents of Lambeth and its neighbourhood was given by the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Benson on Wednesday, August 1st, when the recipients of the Archbishop's weekly "dole" and "coursy" (between forty and fifty), beside a large number of blind people and children, spent a happy evening, in spite of the inclement weather. After tea, at which Mrs. Benson and several ladies assisted, a selection of songs were sung.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Onward and Upward—
Keep moving."

Our friends of the Oxford Guild will have had every reason to be satisfied with their annual festival at Witney. The mere fact of their meeting at a place which is in itself a living witness of the good work done by the Guild must have been specially gratifying; and the large number of members who attended will no doubt be most encouraging to those of its officers who have to bear the brunt of the work. I must, however, confess my astonishment at the proposal of the Rev. A. H. Drummond to compel all to qualify as change-ringing members within a given time or suffer expulsion. It appeared to me to go much too far in the direction of a "hard and fast line," which to my mind is very inadvisable for many reasons. While scarcely agreeing with the Ven. Archdeacon Randall in his contentions that such a resolution would "split the Guild in two," I am at the same time pleased to see that it has been rejected by a large majority. Mr. Robinson and the other members of the Guild who are endowed with the natural abilities which go to make good ringers, are perhaps—as ordinary mortals are prone to be—a little forgetful of the fact that such is not the case with many others who are doubtless quite as anxious for the success of the Guild and its work as even the Master himself. To adopt any plan which would virtually exclude such from membership, whatever may be advanced in its favour from a change-ringing point of view, would be to my mind a very unwise step to take. If it did not at the outset alienate many who are now earnest supporters of our work but who for various reasons might be unable to comply with the rule, it would at the least put them in such a position that the Guild would eventually—in all probability—lose them and their assistance. I am therefore pleased, for these reasons alone, that the motion was so emphatically defeated. But had it not been proposed at all would to my mind have been better still.

* * * * *

Passing over this point, there is one feature of the meeting which will be gratifying to us all, namely, the success which has attended the work of the Guild during the past year, ninety-two new names having been added to the list since January last, making its total number close upon 1000, thus becoming numerically the largest ringing organisation in the country. That in itself is no small matter for the members to be proud of. One cause of this success is, no doubt, the fact of the Guild having been well officered in the past, and the re-election of those officers, while denoting the confidence reposed in them by the members, is at the same time a good augury for the future.

* * * * *

The reports of two other annual meetings—the Hereford Guild and the Gloucester and Bristol Association—though not so large in point of numbers as the first named, and consequently not showing such great strides of improvement, are nevertheless equally satisfactory. They are evidences that our brethren throughout the land are alive to their work, that every year is an improvement upon the previous one. When this is the case we have cause to rejoice and heartily wish them "God-speed."

* * * * *

The perusal of these annual reports from time to time—I would remark *en passant*—has caused me to observe the growth of an ambitious desire on the part of some to get "big names" on their lists of officers. The Hereford Guild, for instance, has for its principals the Bishops, Dean, and Archdeacon of Salop. The Gloucester and Bristol Association, in a similar way, has re-

ected as its lay vice-presidents, Sir M. Hicks-Beach and Sir John Dorrington. (I mention these two cases simply because of their being "the last in the field.") Of course, each County Association ought to be the best judge as to how to manage its own business; but, on principle, I think this plan of making their chief offices into sinecures is open to grave objection. On the contrary, I maintain that they should be filled by the very ablest and most energetic working members they possess. With the Secretary and Treasurer, they ought to be the very life and soul of the Society, its moving and guiding spirit, always on the look out for its welfare. These "big guns" are all very well in their proper place; if by enrolling them amongst us we can induce them to take some interest in us and our work, I say by all means get as many as possible; but I do contend that they are out of their proper sphere when filling such offices as Presidents and Vice-Presidents—offices which require that constant and active work which it is practically impossible for them to give. If some distinction is necessary or advisable in their cases, why not put them under the head of Patrons?

* * * * *

The *Guardian* correspondence on bells and ringing still continues, which is a very satisfactory item to note, as it cannot fail to do us good service. I am pleased to observe that it and coincident remarks in "THE BELL NEWS" are already commencing to bear fruit. The vicar of Croydon has led the way in a very happy fashion. Let us hope his worthy example will be extensively followed. Every vicar, it is true, has not the essentials absolutely necessary for a garden party wherewith to invite his ringers, but all could find ways and means of bringing them together for a social evening now and then, and by that means create and cement mutual feelings of respect and friendship which would be life-long, and could not fail to be productive of good.

* * * * *

Last Saturday's list of peals are of an unusually interesting character. Although only eight in number, they bristle with characteristics: two of them are "century" peals, two birthday peals, and two conductors' first, while of the performers no less than 16 figure in their "first peal in the method." This looks healthy.

* * * * *

Mr. Washbrook has in this way seen the celebration of his 24th birthday. I would compliment him specially on this event, as I fancy very few of us could boast of his record at that age. Whatever feelings he may have shewn—and we are none of us without our share—there can be no doubt that, young as he is, he has come to the front in a very marked and able manner as one of our most prominent ringers. The Oxford Guild is indeed fortunate in possessing him; and I trust they will ring very many more birthday peals in his honour as years roll on.

* * * * *

Turning overleaf from the list of peals, I could not help being struck with a paragraph recording some "goings on" at Chepstow. "Comparisons are odious," Mrs. Partington says, but surely thought I after reading it, we have come from the sublime to the ridiculous. These Monmouthshire worthies inform us that after ringing "several courses of Plain Bob Doubles, with 7-6-8 covering," they indulged in that very scientific method known as "stoney," after which they adjourned to the "Eight Bells," and partook of drinks with two visiting friends. Then, as their friends departed they rang a farewell peal (more stoney, I expect), and finished the evening with more drinks at the aforesaid pub. All this may be very interesting reading to them, but

had I been a member of the Chepstow band, I should certainly have objected to see my name figuring in "THE BELL NEWS" in connection with such performances as courses of Plain Bob Doubles with three covers, and a selection of stoney by way of variety. Then if I *was* inclined to have a glass—parting or otherwise—I don't think I should care to publish the same to the ringing world in such an ostentatious fashion. The Chepstow men appear to have two "Eight Bells" at their command; the next time we hear from them let us hope that the the "Tower Eight" will be handled to something more creditable and scientific, even if the "Licensed Victualler Eight" is consigned to the background, or at any rate is less conspicuous than in this instance.

Mr. Samuel Merritt writes on what he styles the "important matter" of providing ourselves with a medal or badge of some sort to wear at our meetings, with the object of enabling us more readily to recognise each other. I am open to conviction, but at present I fail to see the need of this "trade mark," much less do I perceive how any importance can be attached to the subject. If Mr. Merritt is desirous of seeing his suggestion adopted, I imagine it will necessary for him to advance further and stronger reasons in its favour than what he gives in his letter of the 28th ult.

I scarcely think "the tenor ringer" has dealt with Mr. Muskett's letter in anything like a satisfactory manner. The real point at issue—the difference in time between the two peals—he ignores altogether, and confines himself to extraneous matters and generalities. Come now, Mr. "Tenor Ringer," if you are in earnest in thus taking up the cudgels on behalf of Mr. Washbrook, do not let his reputation suffer through your championship, but confront the point straight, and deal with it likewise.

The angel of death keeps busy in our ranks. This time it is a promising young ringer of the great City of the North—historic Eboracum—that has been called to his rest. May these oft recurring obituaries, while they remind us of the uncertainty of our sojourn here, incite us to even greater efforts for the good of the Exercise, that it may be said of all of us when our time of departure has arrived. "He did what he could."

FEEF LANCE.

ST. MICHAEL'S, COVENTRY.

On Thursday week the restoration of the tallest of Coventry's three spires was practically completed by the refixing of the top stone and weathercock of St. Michael's. About a dozen gentlemen took part in the ceremony, Mr. George Woodcock, a contributor of £10,000 to the fund, refixing the stone and assisting Mr. Thompson, the contractor, to poise the vane. There was a short religious service and some congratulatory speeches. The famous bells are not re-hung, but a set of Harrington's tubes were utilized prior to being despatched to Tonga, one of the Polynesian Islands, where they will be placed in King George's Royal Church. The work of restoring the far-famed church and steeple of St. Michael has occupied over three years, and has cost nearly £40,000. Some details yet remain to be done.

The majority of the readers of this paper, in all parts of the world, will be anxious to hear of the celebrated peal of bells—St. Michael's ten—being restored to their old position in the newly-built steeple. We cannot help indulging in a hope that the authorities of St. Michael's will obtain the best counsel and advice possible, with reference to their being re-hung, and that at an early date.

BRADFORD (Somerset).—On Monday, August 6th, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. G. E. Harbour, 1; F. Burge, 2; T. Doble (conductor), 3; T. Radford, 4; J. Maddock, 5; J. Summerhayes, 6.

OXHEY, HERTS.

On Saturday, July 28th, a contingent from St. Albans met at St. Matthew's Parish Church, Oxhey, to place in the tower a tablet to commemorate the first peal on the bells, which was rung on Monday, 6th February, 1888, by members of the Ancient society of College Youths' and Essex Association. The peal board, which is the work of Messrs. W. H. Hurrell & Co., Lowth Road, Camberwell, London, is of Spanish mahogany, painted an olive green with gold lettering, and is very neatly executed. It bears a simple record of the peal, as follows:—

The Ancient Society of College Youths, Founded 1637.—On Monday, February 6th, 1888, eight members of the above society rang on these bells, Holt's original one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, in two hours and forty-six minutes. Geo. W. Cartmel, treble; John C. Mitchell, 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; Alfred Barnes, 4; E. Percy Debenham, 5; Challis F. Winny, 6; Thomas Waller, 7; Arthur Hull tenor. Conducted by John C. Mitchell. Newton Price, vicar; Robert Savill, Joseph Benskin, churchwardens.

The vicar accompanied the ringers to the tower, and pointed out the best place for the Board was over the doorway, where it was accordingly fixed. When this was done, the following band rung the last 1300 of Holt's Original, in forty-two minutes:—E. Hull, treble; R. A. Fowler, 2; John C. Mitchell, (conductor); A. Gibbard, 4; E. P. Debenham, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; T. Waller, 7; A. Hull, tenor. Mr. G. Derrick, of Ryde, I.W., attracted by the ringing, came up in the tower, and some more Grandsire Triples were rung with—G. W. Cartmel, 2; G. Derrick, 7; conducted by E. P. Debenham. After a short interval, 168 Bob Triples was rung by E. Hall, treble; R. A. Fowler, 2; John C. Mitchell (conductor), 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; E. P. Debenham, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; T. Waller, 7; G. Derrick, tenor. A very good finish was made to the evening's ringing by the vicar's son (aged 13), ringing his first 120 Grandsire Doubles. G. V. Price, treble; John C. Mitchell (conductor), 2; E. P. Debenham, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; G. Derrick, 5; A. Hull, 6. The local band are making headway slowly but surely, and we hope soon to see the report of their first 120 Doubles, when they will not be long getting to the higher stages of the art.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 4th, the rector (Rev. W. C. Gibbs), and the ringers of St. John the Baptist, Hagley, reinforced by a few fellow-ringers from Clent, had what they all wished without exception would be their annual trip to Bridgnorth. Starting from Hagley about eight o'clock they arrived at Enville by nine, and proceeded to the church to ring a touch of Grandsire Triples. Having raised the bells the first attempt was 560, by F. Wright, 1; H. Morris, 2; W. Short, 3; T. Lees, 4; C. Boughton, 5; J. Barber, 6; H. Martin (conductor), 7; J. Davis, 8. There only being time for a short touch a 180 was called. Journeying from there to Bridgnorth all enjoying the ever-varying scenery of the surrounding country till the "Six Ashes," was reached, when all dismounted for a little refreshment. Time being short, it was not long before the horses were again on the road, the pretty little town of Bridgnorth being reached at half-past twelve. Two short touches of 210 and 180 were rung at St. Leonards, before proceeding to the "Castle" Inn, where a substantial dinner was provided. After doing full justice to the repast, some went for a stroll through the town, while others went to St. Mary's and rang a 360 of Plain Bob and a 360 of Kent Treble Bob. W. Short, 1; T. Barber, 2; T. Lee, 3; J. Smith, 4; J. Barber, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. Again meeting at St. Leonard's, a 360 of Grandsire Triples was rung by F. Molineux, 1; T. Barber, 2; J. Smith, 3; C. Boughton, 4; T. Lees, 5; J. Barber, 6; H. Martin, 7; J. Overton, 8. Leaving the town at a quarter-past six, they arrived at Kidderminster at eight o'clock, where a 532 of Grandsire Triples was rung by F. Wright, 1; W. Short, 2; J. Smith, 3; C. Boughton, 4; T. Lees, 5; T. Barber, 6; H. Martin, 7; J. Barber, 8. The "go" of the bells at St. Leonards is all that can be desired, and are a grand-toned peal of eight. Those at St. Mary do not go nearly as well. They reached Hagley at half past eleven, bringing to a close a long but thoroughly enjoyable day.

NOW READY,

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Containing full directions for ringing, pricking, and proving the method; together with a collection of peals and an explanatory appendix. By

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 1888.

It is desirable to call the attention of our friends to the manner which many of them adopt in forwarding peals for publication. We should like the many footnotes which invariably accompany them to be as brief as possible, because they take up a large amount of space, and, in many instances, are not pertinent to a peal-record. Nothing really ought to go with our peal records but what would be proper on a peal tablet in the belfry. When the ringing of a peal is attended by some extraordinary circumstances, we shall have no objection to call attention to them in another part of the paper.

The Metropolis.

LONDON.—THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

Handbell Ringing.

On Thursday, July 26, in Two Hours and Thirty-four and-a-half Minutes,

AT THE MEETING-HOUSE, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

WILLIAM BARON, SEN. .. 1-2.	GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN .. 5-6.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 3-4.	GEORGE WILD 7-8.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

Umpires, Messrs. C. F. Winny and R. T. Woodley. First handbell peal by the Society.

The Provinces.

DORCHESTER, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 4, 1888, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES.

Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM COBB Treble.	HARRY FRUIN 5.
FREDERICK FIELD 2.	H. D. BETTERIDGE 6.
CHARLES TRINDER 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
THOMAS SHORT 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, August 6, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	GEORGE WOODISS 6.
HENRY DAINS 2.	NATHAN J. PITSTOW .. 7.
ARTHUR JACOB 3.	GEORGE GREY 8.
FREDERICK PITSTOW .. 4.	EDWARD CHAPMAN .. 9.
ACKLAND J. PERKINS .. 5.	JOHN SMITH Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN COX, and Conducted by
GEORGE NEWSON.

The above is Mr. Dains' 100th peal, a notice of which appears in another place.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

WILLIAM COBB Treble.	THOMAS SHORT 5.
CHARLES TRINDER 2.	H. D. BETTERIDGE 6.
HARRY FRUIN 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
FREDERICK FIELD 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

WILLIAM COBB Treble.	THOMAS SHORT 5.
CHARLES TRINDER 2.	FREDERICK FIELD 6.
REV. F. C. ROBINSON .. 3.	H. D. BETTERIDGE 7.
HARRY FRUIN 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5184 CHANGES. Tenor 9½ cwt.

WILLIAM COBB Treble.	THOMAS SHORT 5.
H. D. BETTERIDGE 2.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 6.
CHARLES TRINDER 3.	HARRY FRUIN 7.
FREDERICK FIELD 4.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

NORWICH.—THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 6, 1888, in Three Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 41 cwt.

CHARLES MEE Treble.	WILLIAM MOTTS 7.
EDGAR PEMBERTON 2.	ROBERT HAWES 8.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER .. 3.	EDWARD REEVE 9.
ROBERT H. BRUNDLE .. 4.	JAMES SKINNER 10.
ALBERT E. DURRANT .. 5.	GEORGE SMITH 11.
PHILIP SADLER 6.	EDWIN HORREX Tenor.

Composed by DAVID PRENTICE, and Conducted by C. MEE.

Messrs. Skinner, Smith, and Sadler, belong to Norwich, E. Horrex hails from London, and the rest from Ipswich. This peal, which is now rung for the first time, contains the 5th and 6th in sixth's place throughout, and is the first composed on this plan, and has been published in "THE BELL NEWS."

HERTFORD.—THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, August 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

HENRY BOTTRILL* Treble.	MATTHEW ELLSMORE .. 3.
HERBERT BAKER 2.	WILLIAM GOODCHILD .. 6.
EDMUND HOLIFIELD .. 3.	STEPHEN KNIGHT 7.
HARRY HOLIFIELD 4.	FREDERICK GEORGE .. Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT BAKER.

*First peal.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—THE ESSEX AND HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Monday, August 6, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. in D.

EDWARD HULL* Treble.	E. PERCY DEBENHAM .. 6.
ALFRED BARNES* 2.	WALTER BATTLE 7.
HENRY LEWIS 3.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 8.
GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. 4.	THOMAS WALLER 9.
JOHN C. MITCHELL .. 5.	*GEORGE CORNELL Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COX, and Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

*First peal of Caters. The above, with the exception of the tenor man, are all local.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Handbell Peal.

On Monday, August 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

IN ST. PETER'S BELFRY,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5147 CHANGES.

JOHN C. MITCHELL 1-2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 5-6.
GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. 3-4.	E. PERCY DEBENHAM .. 7-8.
THOMAS WALLER 9-10.	

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAM CARTMEL.

Umpire, Mr. Arthur Hull, who checked off all the lead-ends. This peal is taken from the Shipway Reprint. The same band also took part in a Grandsire Cater peal on the church bells the same day, the handbell peal being rung in the evening. The above belong to the St. Peter's society and the Hertfordshire Association.

BRIGHTLING, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 6, 1888, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS A'BECKET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

GEORGE THWAITES Treble.	JOHN REILLY 5.
HARRY WESTON 2.	ARTHUR A. FULLER .. 6.
THOMAS HART 3.	HORACE CORNWELL .. 7.
JAMES E. WORSSELL .. 4.	EDWARD BUTLER Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY WESTON.

First 5040 on the bells. Mr. T. Hart hails from Eastbourne, the rest from Brighton.

SALISBURY, WILTS.—THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 4, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

WALTER S. WISE† Treble.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 5.
WILLIAM E. TYDEMAN .. 2.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 6.
ALFRED P. GODDARD† .. 3.	THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 7.
CHARLES A. CLEMENTS .. 4.	†SYDNEY LAWRENCE .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS BLACKBOURN.

† First peal in the method. Mr. Greenleaf hails from London. All the above belong to the Ancient Society of College Youths excepting Mr. Wise. This is supposed to be the first peal of Stedman ever rung in the county of Wilts.

TORRINGTON, DEVON.—THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD AND THE ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

On Monday, August 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

CHARLES CARTER Treble.	FRANK DAVEY 5.
EDWIN SHEPHERD 2.	WILLIAM MUNDY 6.
WILLIAM STOCKER 3.	JAMES MOSS 7.
FERRIS SHEPHERD 4.	BENJAMIN MUNDY .. Tenor.

Conducted by FERRIS SHEPHERD.

This is the first peal on these bells, and the members wish to thank the Vicar for kindly placing the bells at their disposal.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.—THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 6, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

STEPH. WIGHTMAN, JUN.* .. Treble.	STEPH. WIGHTMAN, SEN... 5.
DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. 2.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN .. 6.
WILLIAM G. CRICKMER* .. 3.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	WILLIAM GRIMES Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN.

*First peal of Triples. Messrs. Thurland hails from Framsdon, Grimes from Debenham, the rest are all members of All Saints' Brandeston society.

LEEDS, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt.

HARRY PEARCE Treble.	ALCHIN MOORCRAFT .. 5.
GEORGE KING 2.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 6.
STEPHEN KEMP 3.	EDGAR NUNN 7.
WILLIAM E. NUNN 4.	GEORGE J. MOORCRAFT .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

Date Touch.

BRISTOL.—On Tuesday, July 31st, a date touch of 1888 Kent Treble Bob Major. E. Beak, 1; G. Colston, 2; C. Burden, 3; F. Elles, 4; C. Trevett, 5; F. Price, 6; S. Phillips, 7; J. Hinton (conductor), 8.

Miscellaneous.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Sunday, July 15th, at St. Peter's church, 504 Grandsire Triples, in 17 mins. J. Reilly, 1; J. Jay, 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; W. Allfrey (conductor), 4; J. Searle, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; A. A. Fuller, 7; E. Butler, 8. On Sunday, July 22nd, 504 Grandsire Triples, in 16 mins. J. Jay, 1; J. Reilly (conductor), 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; G. A. King, 4; J. Searle, 5; W. Allfrey, 6; A. A. Fuller, 7; E. Butler, 8. On Sunday, July 28th, 504 Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. D. Ross, 1; J. E. Worsell, 2; C. E. Golds, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; G. A. King, 5; H. Weston (conductor), 6; J. Jay, 7; G. Thwaites, 8. Also 518 Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. H. Eves, 1; J. E. Worsell, 2; J. Jay, 3; J. Reilly, 4; H. Weston (conductor), 5; G. A. King, 6; A. A. Fuller, 7; E. Butler, 8. On Sunday, August 5th, 1050 Grandsire Triples, in 36½ mins. J. Reilly, 1; H. Weston (conductor), 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; J. Jay, 5; W. Shepherd, 6; H. Cornwell, 7; W. F. Vernon, 8. W. Shepherd hails from Streattham.

MIDHURST (Sussex).—On Thursday, August 2nd, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor, in 26 mins. *J. Batts, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; *C. Tribe, 3; *J. Lee, 4; W. Selby, 5; *G. Batts, 6. This is the second 720 ever rung on the bells, which were cast in 1763, and the first ever rang by a local band in Midhurst. On Sunday, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. *T. Ellis, 1; *W. Court, 2; G. Williams (conductor), 3; J. Lee, 4; W. Selby, 5; G. Batts, 6. And in the evening, for Divine Service, another 720, in 24½ mins. by the same band. Tenor 12 cwt. in G. *First 720.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

CHELMSFORD (Essex).—On Saturday, August 4th, eight members of the above Association rung a date touch of 1888 Grandsire Triples, on the back eight, at St. Mary's church, in 1 hr. 10 mins. R. C. Burrell, 1; A. Edwards, 2; W. Rowland, 3; W. J. Piper, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. Hawkes, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; J. Parmenter, 8. Tenor 22½ cwt. in Eb. Composed by John Carter of Birmingham.

WITHAM (Essex).—On Tuesday, July 31st, in commemoration of a peal-board being erected, several 720s were rung, as follows: 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. G. Richards, 1; A. Chalk, 2; W. Rowland, 3; J. Parmenter, 4; W. Chalk, 5; J. Young (conductor), 6. And 720 in the same method. W. G. Richards, 1; A. Chalk, 2; W. Rowland, 3; A. Fryatt, 4; W. Chalk, 5; J. Young (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Butler, 1; A. Chalk, 2; A. Fryatt, 3; E. Garnett, 4; W. Chalk, 5; H. Sayer (conductor), 6.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Sunday, August 5th, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob, with the tenor covering. W. Emery, 1; W. Lincoln (conductor), 2; J. Everard, 3; F. Radley, 4; R. Wood, 5; A. Edwards, 6; A. Bonnington, 7.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

HYDE (Cheshire).—On Monday, August 6th, the following members attempted a peal of Stedman Triples at St. George's church, but after ringing 1512 changes stand was called, owing to a shift-course. Frank Hallsworth (Walsall), 1; George Longden (Ashton), 2; James Shaw (Hyde), 3; Walter Slater (Hyde), 4; Samuel Wood (Ashton, conductor), 5; Thomas Wilde (Hyde), 6; James S. Wilde (Hyde), 7; David Leigh (Hyde), 8. Also the same evening, at the meeting house of the Hyde Society, the "Crown" inn, on handbells, retained in hand, a course of Grandsire Royal. F. Hallsworth, 1-2; J. S. Wilde, 3-4; T. Wilde, 5-6; G. Longden, 7-8; S. Wood, 9-10. Also 672 Kent Treble Bob Major. S. Wood (conductor), 1-2; J. S. Wilde, 3-4. G. Longden, 5-6; T. Wilde, 7-8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, July 31st, for practice, 720 Yorkshire Court Bob Minor. Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; T. Newman, 4; H. Smith, 5; H. Simmonds (first 720 in the method as conductor), 6. Also a plain course of Violet Treble Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 5; T. Newman, 6. Also another plain course of Violet Treble Bob Minor. H. Smith, 1; the rest as before. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles. C. Kidby, 1; J. Hands, 2; G. Essex, 3; H. Smith, 4; E. Menday (conductor), 5; H. Simmonds, 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. T. Newman, 1; G. Essex, 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; J. Hands, 4; E. Menday, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. On Sunday morning, August 5th, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Doubles, on the front five. For evening service three 120s of Grandsire Doubles. C. Kidby, 1; J. Hands, 2; T. Newman, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Menday (conductor), 5; H. Simmonds, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—At the parish church, on Sunday,

August 5th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 53 mins. R. Jarvis, 1; J. R. Mackman (aged 13), 2; J. S. Wright, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; R. Mackman (conductor), 5; T. Measures (Peterborough), 6; C. Creasey, 7; G. L. Richardson, 8.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

COSELEY (Staffordshire).—At the parish church, on Friday, August 3rd, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing the twelve 7-4's and twelve 6-7's, in 48 mins. E. Goodreds, 1; W. Cheshire, 2; W. Horton, 3; W. R. Small, 4; W. Pardoe, 5; B. Gough, 6; J. Goodman (conductor), 7; A. E. Law, 8. Cheshire, Horton, Gough, and Law belong to the local company, and this is their first quarter-peal; Goodreds, Small and Pardoe from Tipton; and Goodman from Dudley.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Sunday evening, August 5th, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. W. Gower, 1; F. Hotchkiss, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. W. Gower hails from Newport, and this is his first 720 in any method.

THE ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

EXETER (Devon).—On Tuesday, July 31st, for practice at St. Sidwell's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. B. Mundy, 1; F. Davey, 2; J. Moss, 3; S. Binfield, 4; C. Carter, 5; W. Stocker, 6; F. Shepherd, 7; J. Bastin, 8. And 518 Grandsire Triples. T. Mudge, 1; F. Shepherd, 2; W. Stocker, 3; S. Binfield, 4; C. Carter, 5; T. Davey, 6; J. Moss, 7; J. Bastin, 8. Also 168 Stedman Triples. C. Carter, 1; W. Stocker, 2; T. Shepherd, 3; F. Davey, 4; S. Binfield, 5; E. Shepherd, 6; J. Moss, 7; B. Mundy, 8. And 168 Grandsire Triples. B. Mundy, 1; F. Shepherd, 2; F. Davey, 3; W. Stocker, 4; C. Carter, 5; S. Binfield, 6; E. Shepherd, 7; F. Langmead, 8. On Saturday, August 4th, the following started for Brooks' peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing 4500 changes it came to grief. J. Rowbotham, 1; F. Davey, 2; E. Shepherd, 3; S. Binfield, 4; W. Mundy, 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd (conductor), 7; B. Mundy, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

WINSHILL (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, August 4th, at St. Mark's church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. R. Logie, 1; J. Jaggard, 2; *F. Sheppard, 3; J. Austin, 4; J. Woodward, 5; L. Bullock (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. J. Morley, 1; J. Austin, 2; *C. Golder, 3; W. J. Smith, 4; L. Bullock (conductor), 5; J. Jaggard, 6. *First 720. †First 720 in the method. Also several 120s of Grandsire Doubles. J. Rice, 1; W. Wyld (conductor), 2; F. Sheppard, 3; J. Parker, 4; J. Woodward, 5; W. J. Smith, 6. The above was rung on the occasion of the re-opening of the belfry, which has been thoroughly cleaned, the ceiling whitewashed, the walls painted, and the floor laid with linoleum cloth, while in the centre of the belfry is a few pots of choice plants now in full bloom. The whole of the work has been done by the local ringers, and great credit is due to them for the admirable way in which they have performed their task. The churchwardens also have not forgotten them, for they have had the bells (which are a very fine peal of six by Taylor and Co.) put in thorough repair, and they "go like fiddles," and have also added a centre light in the belfry, which is a great improvement.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—On Thursday evening, August 2nd, at St. Michael's church, for practice, 503 Grandsire Triples, with nine 6-7's. W. Rickett, 1; W. W. Tucker, 2; C. Martin, 3; G. Brand, 4; W. Morriss, 5; F. W. Chapman, 6; H. J. Tucker (composer and conductor), 7; J. Sampford, 8. Also 504 Oxford Bob Triples (twenty-four bobs), with queens and tittums. W. Rickett, 1; G. Brand, 2; C. Martin, 3; G. Martin, 4; W. Morriss, 5; F. W. Chapman, 6; H. J. Tucker (composer and conductor), 7; J. Sampford, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. W. Morriss hails from Sawbridgeworth, Herts, and it is his first attempt at Oxford Bob Triples.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday evening August 7th, for practice, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, 504 Grandsire Triples, in 21 mins. H. Dudley, 1; G. Russell (conductor), 2; J. Chambers, 3; T. Verrall, 4; *H. Brooker, 5; W. States, 6; A. Bruce, 7; S. Fisk and R. Richards, 8. Tenor 32 cwt. *First 500.

FINEDON (Northants).—On Saturday, August 4th, a mixed company of ringers from Higham Ferrers and Irthlingborough met at St. Mary's church and rang the following: 720 Oxford Bob. W. Pettett, 1; W. Groome, 2; J. Houghton, 3; A. H. Martin, 4; J. B. Martin, 5; W. Parker (conductor), 6. 360 London Single. A. H. Martin, 1; J. Houghton, 2; J. B. Martin, 3; W. Pettett, 4; A. Wright, 5; W. Parker (conductor), 6. 108 Plain Bob. J. Houghton, 1; W. Groome, 2; W. Pettett, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; A. H. Martin, 5; A. Wright (conductor), 6. The company take this opportunity of thanking the Rev. F. Paul for the use of the bells on this occasion.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Tuesday, August 8th, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 23 mins. *P. D. Taff, 1; *W. Evans, 2; *W. Cooke, 3; J. Baker, 4; †W. Haigh, 5; A. Haigh (conductor), 6; *W. C. Harvey, 7-8. †First 720. *First 720 in any method.

HERTFORD (Herts).—On Sunday, August 5th, at All Saints church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, on the occasion of the church parade and street collection in aid of the Hertford Infirmary. E. Holifield, 1; J. Jauncey, 2; H. Holifield, 3; S. Knight (conductor), 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; W. Bennett, 6; W. Goodchild, 7; H. Bottrill, 8. Tenor 22 cwt.

HORTON (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, August 4th, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Wood, 1; W. Twigg, 2; F. Corbishley, 3; *C. Burgess, 4; T. Simmister, 5; T. Turner (conductor), 6. *First 720. W. Wood and T. Turner hail from Leek; W. Twigg and C. Burgess from Bucknall; the rest are local men.

LOWICK (Northants).—On Saturday, August 4th, at St. Peter's church, two 120s of Grandsire Doubles. F. Slade, 1; C. Swan, 2; G. Stubbs, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; W. Fox (conductor), 5. Also 120 Bob Doubles. G. Stubbs, 1; W. Fox, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; H. Stubbs (conductor), 4; C. Swan, 5. *Handbell Ringing*.—At the house of Mr. G. Styles, on handbells retained in hand, a plain course of Grandsire Triples. F. Slade, 1-2; G. Stubbs, 3-4; R. Dunkley, 5-6; H. Stubbs, 7-8. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles. F. Slade, 1; W. Fox, 2; R. Dunkley, 3-4; H. Stubbs (conductor), 5-6. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles, with 4-6-8 covering. G. Guess, 1; W. Fox, 2; R. Dunkley, 3-4; H. Stubbs (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6; C. Swan, 7-8. Also 108 Bob Minor. G. Stubbs, 1; C. Swan, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; W. Fox, 4; F. Slade, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. H. Stubbs, F. Slade, and G. Stubbs hail from Raunds; the rest belong to Lowick.

NORTON FITZWARRREN (Somersetshire).—On Monday, August 6th, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 29 mins. F. Burge, 1; G. E. Harbour, 2; T. Doble (conductor), 3; T. Radford, 4; J. Maddock, 5; W. Pearce, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

ROMFORD (Essex).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday evening, July 28th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 21 mins. *Samuel James, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3-4; †Mark L. Myhill, 5-6. *First 720. †First 720 double-handed.

RHYL (North Wales).—On Sunday evening, August 5th, for Divine Service at St. Thomas' church, 420 Grandsire Triples (sixteen bobs and two singles), containing all the 7-5-6's. W. Liggins (Ashby-de-la-Zouch), 1; R. W. Evans (Wrexham), 2; F. Hordley, 3; J. Wallis, 4; Charles Thorpe (Crewe), 5; F. Wallis, 6; F. J. Gamlin (conductor), 7; Parker Owen, 8.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Tuesday, July 31st, for practice at All Saints church, 350 Grandsire Triples. A. R. Ward, 1; A. Williams, 2; W. E. Ward, 3; W. Jennings, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; O. Coombes, 6; J. Norris, 7; A. Ward, 8.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—At St. Thomas' church, on Monday, August 6th, 546 Grandsire Triples. W. E. Tydeman, 1; W. Greenleaf, 2; H. D. Adams, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Also three courses of Stedman Triples. W. E. Tydeman, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5; H. D. Adams, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; W. Greenleaf, 8.

SOUTH NEWTON (Wilts).—On Tuesday, August 7th, two 720s of Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. S. Wise, 1; W. W. Gifford, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; F. E. Dawe (conductor), 6. Also 720 Plain Bob. H. D. Adams, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6. Messrs. Greenleaf and Dawe are from London.

TWYFORD (Hants).—On Tuesday, July 31st, for practice at the parish church of St. Mary, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. C. Hawkins, 1; H. White, 2; G. Brown, jun., 3; W. West, 4; A. Ashford, 5; F. Hewlett (conductor), 6. Also 480 Grandsire Doubles. C. Hawkins, 1; H. White, 2; F. Hewlett, 3; W. West, 4; A. Ashford, 5; G. Brown, sen., 6.

WRAXALL (Somersetshire).—Recently, at the parish church, by the St. Stephen's Amateur Society, Bristol, 168 Grandsire Triples. C. Burden, 1; G. Colston, 2; J. Harvey (first attempt), 3; J. Hinton (conductor), 4; C. Trevett, 5; W. Emery, 6; F. Elles, 7; W. Colston, 8. Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Hinton, 1; G. Colston, 2; C. Burden, 3; S. Phillips, 4; C. Trevett, 5; F. Price (conductor), 6; W. Emery, 7; W. Colston, 8. First quarter-peal on the bells. And 504 Kent Treble Bob Major. C. Burden, 1; G. Colston, 2; F. Elles, 3; C. Trevett, 4; S. Phillips, 5; F. Price, 6; W. Emery, 7; J. Hinton (conductor), 8. Also several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 4-6-8 covering. J. Harvey, 1; J. Good, 2; G. Colston, 3; C. Winston, 4; J. Bishop, 5; J. Windsor, 6; J. Windsor, 7; G. Goodland, 8.

Correspondence.

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

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

AN EXPLANATION.

SIR,—In answer to the man who signs himself "One of the late band of St. Nicholas, Guildford," I beg to state the following facts:—Some months ago a member of that band wrote to me saying that they wanted some instruction. I attended one of their practices, performing a journey of 80 miles at my own expense. After the practice I asked the head-ringer what they would wish done in the way of instruction. His reply was that they were not ripe for instruction, having no belfry rules and the attendance being irregular. I suggested that they should hold a ringers' meeting in a fortnight's time, which I would attend to discuss their new code of rules. In the meantime I sent them a copy of some rules which had been found to work well in other places, and which would form a basis for making their new code. The meeting was held under the presidency of the vicar, the rules discussed, altered to suit local needs, and agreed to unanimously. Soon afterwards I wrote to enquire whether they were ready to receive an instructor, offering to pay from the Guild funds half the cost, and suggesting a man as instructor who had done good work in the neighbourhood by bringing on his own band. I was informed that the Guildford men did not approve of my choice. I then suggested another instructor, whom I knew to be able and willing to undertake the work, but who lived at some distance away. This man was objected to because the travelling expenses would be too heavy. They then suggested that they would prefer to have as their instructor a man who lived a few miles from Guildford. To this I raised no objection, as the man was a member of the Guild and competent to instruct, still offering on behalf of the Guild to pay half the cost of instruction. A short time after this I received a letter saying that the Guildford band wished to withdraw from the Guild. As I had travelled some 200 miles on their account and had given them the benefit of my advice and experience, and had done all I could to help them on, I ventured to speak at our annual festival of their strange refusal to join the Guild after all the assistance they had received. By assistance I did not mean money received. One man may take a horse to the water, a hundred cannot make him drink.

H. A. SPYERS.

Purbrook, August 5th, 1888.

ANSWER TO MR. BARRETT.

SIR,—Mr. Barrett will find an answer to his query of last week by pricking out the following courses in each part, viz:

Second and Eighth	- repeats at 2.
Third and Sixth	" 1.
Fifth and Eleventh	" 1.
Sixth and Fifteenth	" 2.
Seventh and Thirteenth	" 1.
Seventh and Sixteenth	" 2.
Ninth and Twelfth	" 1.

Liverpool.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

SIR,—If Mr. Barrett doubts the correctness of my statement, as regards his peal, I should advise him to compare the second six of the 5th and 11th and 9th and 19th course of each part. It would be good practice for him to find out the other false places (if any) himself.

J. W. WASHBROOK.

"QUICK PEALS."

SIR,—I think the Exercise are entitled to have some better explanation or answer to Mr. Muskett than the letter published in your last. Nobody wants to depreciate Mr. Washbrook's abilities, but unfortunately there is something more than tradition extant to show that abler men than he have not scrupled to "cook" performances. The peals quoted by Mr. Muskett demand a much better explanation than already given, and that gentleman deserves great praise for having the courage to call attention to them. Many ringers are apt from various causes to close their mouths when they hear of untrue peals being rung. The evil sir, is not decreasing, by any means, and I hope to see these defaulting conductors brought to book. Mr. Washbrook has never ventured one word in defence of the charge made against him some time back in connection with a reputed peal of Grandsire Triples at I think—Ross. This charge, if not explained away satisfactorily, must prevent him being looked upon in the same light as Mr. Johnson, Mr. Cooter, Mr. Hattersley, or the late Mr. Haley, is regarded. I hope to hear his explanation at once, and I may ask him to come to the point at once, without any unnecessary fencing or shirking of the question.

FAIR PLAY.

BELL MOUNTING.

[From "*The Engineer*," April 16th, 1880.]

Bell mounting, properly signifying the appendages and their mode of attachment to large bells so that they may be swung singly or in peal is often incorrectly called "bell-hanging," a very different phrase and properly applicable to the means by which bells, as domestic signals, are made to act. In the latter, though a very inferior branch of technical art, the improvements introduced during the last twenty years have been many and varied, and such refinements, some of them as in electric bell-hanging, have been drawn from amongst the best methods of applied science, that bell-hanging may now be said to possess quite a repertory of methods and appliances still in great part unwritten, and awaiting a literature of its own. Our present purpose, however, is confined to offering some considerations upon certain innovations on the ancient and long-established methods of mounting large bells which have been proposed, and, to a very limited extent, already put in practice, and some notices of which have from time to time appeared in our pages. Chief amongst these is to be found the proposed substitution of iron for wood-mounting; and the direct attachment of the bell to its mounting by a single iron bolt passing through a hole in the centre of the crown of the bell, the head of this bolt within the interior of the crown of the bell being so fashioned as also to sustain and keep in place the staple or axis about which the clapper, when the bell is swung, shall vibrate. By this arrangement the somewhat complex castings of "the cannons" upon the crown of the bell is superseded; and some economy both in bell-metal and in workmanship is produced. The most prominent advantages, however, promised by this method is that as the bell and clapper are only attached through the single central bolt to the mounting, so by slacking slightly the nut of that bolt the bell itself may be swivelled round through any desired arc of its mouth, so as to present at will new places upon which the clapper may strike when after long-continued percussion the old place of the blow may have become more or less indented. Then it is alleged also that bell-mounting entirely of iron is less costly—bell and mounting being both taken into consideration—and is much more durable than timber-mountings, as durable in fact as the bell itself. Some of these, at least, are certainly plausible advantages, but a little impartial consideration will, we think, cause most competent mechanicians to arrive at the opinion that some of the alleged advantages are nominal rather than real; while others are obtained not without some sacrifice of conditions the reality of the advantage of which does not admit of doubt; and that upon the whole the ancient and time-honoured method of mounting large bells is probably the best as yet devised. This applies whether the bells are to be swung or merely bolted to hard timber stocks carefully fitted to the cannons and pressed into contact and secured to these by several straps, bolts, which, with the hoops and pivots forming the axis of oscillation, are almost the only iron forming any part of the bell-mounting. It is a mistake, often repeated orally and in print, that timber was employed for bell-mounting—including the extremely ingenious and effective devices of joinery exhibited by the ancient timber bell-wheels, with their grooved rim for the bell-rope—from motives of economy. The earliest authentic examples of timber-mounted bells which have reached our time do not, we believe, date quite so far back as the twelfth century of our era. For our present purpose it is sufficient that it was not the costliness of malleable iron which evolved the prevalent method of casting bells with cannons upon the crown, and timber mounting secured thereto. As in the case of church organs, church bell-mounting was slowly elaborated and thought out by monks and secular clergy, who were not only the best educated men of their day, and almost its only intellectual life, but were also the architects and practical builders—the creators in short—of Gothic architecture, and often the military engineers and scientific soldiers, the road makers and bridge builders of their day. It would be wonderful, therefore, if the method of bell-mounting which they evolved was the mere issue of parsimony and ignorance. Indeed, that the cost of iron had nothing to do with the matter is evident when we consider the lavish use that was made of it between the fourteenth and the seventeenth centuries in mere ornamental smith-work. We should also bear in mind that iron, probably produced

direct by the smith from powdered hemalite, as it continues to be at the present hour in the remote provinces of Southern Italy and Sicily, was cheap enough nearly 900 years ago, in the days of Duke William of Normandy, to be employed for horseshoes of every description. If, therefore, the sparing use of iron in bell-mounting was not the result of economy, its use in combination with timber must have been the result of choice. The modern innovator who proposes to supersede it by iron bell-mounting, into which no wood shall enter, should pause to consider whether his innovation may not be one in a wrong direction. The ancient cannons served the purpose of the bell-founder, in that there were so many "rising heads," tolerably uniformly distributed over the crown of the bell, so as effectually to enable scoriae and air bubbles to flow off, and yet, by their division into many small jets, to avoid the evil likely to arise from the production of hollow spaces, or "draws," due to the powerful contraction produced at the junction of the crown of the bell of one or more "rising heads" of large diameter. This evil is almost certain to arise in bells cast without any cannons, for some sort of "rising head" there must be, not only to clear away scoriae from the crown, but to secure for it the solidity due to the hydrostatic pressure of some head of metal at the moment of consolidation. This seems to suggest itself as an obvious objection to casting a bell with a plain crown from which one "rising head," or several, must be afterwards mechanically severed. An exact consideration of the weakening effects on any plate of metal, flat or dish-shaped, of either casting or drilling a hole in its centre, is fully supported by what is certainly known with respect to all metals consolidating from fusion, especially those which, like bell-metal, crystallise on cooling. Upon the system of iron-mounting, the head of the central bolt upon which the suspension entirely depends must be always held rigidly in metallic contact with the interior of the crown, which can only be effected by the draw of the bolt elastically elongated by the draw of its nut. As soon as this condition is altered, so that the head of the bolt has its contact loosened to however small an extent, the sound of the bell must be impaired, and if rung in this condition the risk is incurred of a piece being pulled out of the crown of the bell. The stock, if formed of well-seasoned and well-chosen timber, requires only a moderate pressure from the nuts of the suspending bolts to cause it to afford a fine elastic cushion-like pressure against the cannons, which, under the moderate vicissitudes of dryness and moisture to be found in a well-constructed belfry, may not require to be restored by tightening up the nuts of the suspending strap-bolts for several years. Every nut in contact with a bell is certain, after a certain lapse of time, to lose more or less of its firm bearing, if that be due to screwing up of one rigid metal against another by the mere effect of vibration, aided or not by the formation of rust. Instances in proof of this are afforded upon an immense scale by the well-known fact that wrought-iron viaducts, in cases where the stress of a rolling load exceeds a very low strain per square inch of section, are known to have their rivet heads, which have been closed at a red heat, shaken loose by the tremour of a few years' traffic; this, for example, proved to be the case with the Crumlin Viaduct, constructed of Warren girders, the rivetting of which had all to be done a second time after a few years' work.

There are some other points which would justify more extended remarks upon this subject; these we shall pass, except to remark that the assumed advantage of being able to change the striking place of the clapper seem at least to be over-rated. There are old bells in Germany, France, and Belgium which have been rung for centuries without the production of any such deformation at the spot struck as to be of material importance in any sense; but in any event it would not be difficult to devise such a suspension of clapper to a bell provided with cannons as should enable its striking place to be changed at pleasure. We have, perhaps, said enough to justify the thought that the substitution for timber of mounting wholly of iron may not be without some disadvantages.

On Wednesday, August 1st, the Bishop of Chichester, in the presence of nearly thirty clergymen and a very full congregation, consecrated the beautiful and spacious church of St. Andrew's, Worthing, his lordship having at an earlier service celebrated the Holy Communion in the building.

Obituary.

GEORGE BASDEN.

We regret to have to record the death of the above named ringer, who died at his residence, Farnham Royal somewhat suddenly, on Monday morning, July 9th. Mr. Basden has been connected with the belfry at Farnham Royal, ever since the commencement of change-ringing, ten years ago, and was the only one left with Mr. Parker of the original party. The funeral took place on Friday, July 13th, and the ringers followed him to his last resting place, after which they rang muffled peals, and on the following Sunday, the bells were rung half muffled for the morning and afternoon services, as a last tribute of respect.

WRAYSBURY, BUCKS.

On Saturday afternoon, August 4th, six members of the Farnham Royal Company, visited Wraybury to have a friendly ring with the local company, after ringing a variety of touches of Minor and Doubles the Rev. J. H. Hindson kindly invited the visitors to tea with him and his ringers on the lawn at the vicarage, after which they returned to the tower, and a nice clean touch of 432 Grandsire Minor was rung. E. Whatmore, 1; J. J. Parker, 2; H. Shanks, 3; J. Mills, 4; R. Parker, 5; G. Whatmore (conductor), 6; also a 720 Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. H. Shanks, 1; Rev. J. H. Hindson, 2; J. J. Parker (conductor), 3; J. Mills, 4; R. Parker, 5; C. Clarke, 6; Tenor 12-cwt. First 720 by all except 3rd and 6th men.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.

The annual election of officers will take place on Monday, August 20th, 1888, after the usual practice at St. Clement Dares Church.

J. BARRY, Hon. Sec.

27, Arlington Street, N.

MR. DAINS' 100TH PEAL.—In this performance, reported in the proper place, Mr. Dains rang his 100th peal, the number being made up as follows: 15 peals of Grandsire Triples; 6 peals of Stedman Triples; 7 peals of Double Norwich Court Bob Major; 29 peals of Treble Bob Major; 13 peals of Grandsire Caters; 10 peals of Stedman Caters; 11 peals of Treble Bob Royal; 2 peals of Grandsire Cinques; 6 peals of Stedman Cinques; 1 peal of Treble Bob Maximus. Forty-two rings of bells have been brought into requisition, in ten several counties, during a space of about 15 years. Eight of the foregoing peals were rung half-muffled, being one on each number of bells, and in each of the methods. In two peals only does he operate as conductor. After the peal the ringers were joined by Messrs. Wright, Strutt, and others of the local company. The old veteran, William Phillips, steeplekeeper, looks hale and well and seemed in high glee, to meet members of the Cumberlands under the circumstances.

The *Yorkshire Post* says the late Frank Holl, while painting the portrait of Mr. Bright, incidentally mentioned that he was about to perform the same operation on Mr. Gladstone, adding, "It must be a very painful thing for you, Mr. Bright, that after all these years you should have found cause to sever your connection?" "Indeed it is," responded Mr. Bright, with a sigh; "to think that after we have trodden the same path together, shoulder to shoulder and hand in hand, we should be forced apart in the evening of our lives. And by what? By a bogey that has risen up within him and his beckoning him away from duty and sense—by a Frankenstein. Do you know, Mr. Holl, I seriously fear that my dear old friend's mind has really become radically undermined?" When he was at Hawarden, painting Mr. Gladstone, the subject of the artist's portrait of Mr. Bright cropped up. "Ah!" said Mr. Gladstone, with much interest, "and how did you find him?" "Fairly well; and he spoke very affectionately of you, Mr. Gladstone." "Did he indeed?" replied the sitter, sorrowfully; "did he indeed? That was a cruel blow. That after a lifetime of mutual esteem and of good work undertaken and carried through together we should be divided on so clear a question. Tell me, Mr. Holl"—and here his mouth twitched, for he was evidently struggling with great emotion—"tell me, did you notice anything in the manner of my old friend which would lead you to believe that his reason was becoming any way unhinged?"

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL.

In a letter to the *Times* of Wednesday last the Dean of Peterborough says that in making the excavations necessary for underpinning the interior of the north transept of the cathedral, the workmen came upon a richly ornamented slab, covering a grave, and evidently still lying in its original position. It is no doubt of the date of the second church—that in which Hereward was knighted—of which considerable remains were discovered a short time since after taking down and rebuilding the central tower. "The surface of the slab is about 1ft. 6in. below the level of the late floor, which, in its turn, was about 5in. above the Norman floor. Its length is about 5ft. 3in. with a top width of 1ft. 10in. and a bottom of 1ft. 6in. The surface is completely covered with the richest Saxon interlacing ornament, forming a design of a central band of ornament about 5in. wide, crossed at right angles by rather wider strips of ornament. Three of these are uninjured; the fourth, at the top, was almost entirely destroyed when the present transept was built by William de Waterville. The design was originally, therefore, a fourfold cross. Each of these crosses is outlined with a double roll border, the inner one being twisted work. There is thus left between the borders of the cross arms three oblong spaces on each side between the broad central strip and the outer edge of the slab. Three of these are filled in with finer interlacing work, two with star crosses, and one is plain, having been left unfinished. The slab is probably the most beautiful specimen of Saxon ornamental work of the kind that has come to light. We have decided to raise it, carefully keeping it on its present site, so that it may still mark the resting-place that it originally covered, but in such a way that it will be above the level of the new floor and properly guarded from injury. It was found close beside the spot where rest the remains of Bishop Dove, Queen Elizabeth's 'Dove with silver wings.' If any representative of the good Bishop's family still exist, they may perhaps be induced to erect a monument to his memory in place of the one which was destroyed by Cromwell's soldiers, and bearing the same inscription, Of Hereward's church the lines of the transept and the choir can be followed in the south transept, under the lantern, and in the nave of the present cathedral, but the nave of the Saxon church lay outside the present building. Measurements carefully made show that the present Norman cathedral is exactly double the size of the Saxon church, just as the Jewish Temple was double the size of the Tabernacle.

At a recent meeting of the Gosberton (Spalding) Burial Board, the question of consecrating a portion of the cemetery again came forward, the board having several times refused to accede to the memorial of the vicar and churchwardens praying for such consecration. At this meeting the vicar wrote stating that the Bishop of Lincoln had written, announcing that he would consent to come and consecrate the ground on the petition of the vicar and churchwardens, but his lordship required an assent from the burial board that no obstacle would be placed in his way on arriving at the ground. After a heated discussion, in which strong language was used, it was decided, by 6 votes to 3, to have the gates locked should the Bishop persist in visiting the ground. The board intimated that they would receive no more correspondence upon the consecration question.

On Saturday the Bishop of Salisbury presided at a meeting in his cathedral city which was attended by most of the foreign ecclesiastics who were at Farnham. In his address the right rev. prelate said he thought they would all feel that the news they had recently had from Italy made it very necessary for the Church of England to be strong on the subject of marriage. He confessed that he was very much distressed and pained, knowing what was said about Pope Leo as a reforming Pope and strong man, to hear that for £4,000 he had given a dispensation to the Duke of Aosta, to marry his own blood niece. They knew that these things were done in the Church of Rome. They knew that, unfortunately, that laxity had crept into the civil laws of the country, to a great extent in Germany, and to a less extent in Switzerland, where such a marriage would not be allowed. It was necessary in dealing with foreign Churches to remember that these evil precedents set by the Church of Rome had been followed by the States of those countries.

A VISIT TO BRIGHTLING, SUSSEX.

On Monday last, eight members of the Brighton Branch of the Sussex County Association paid a visit to the above village, for the purpose of attempting a peal on the historical bells which hang in the tower of the Parish Church of St. Thomas a'Beckett. These bells, or six of them, were hung in the year 1815, while two new trebles were added three years later. Bell inscriptions do not often allude to events of the time, but the inscriptions on these bells refer to the victories of the great Duke of Wellington, for the tenor bell tells us that their ring of six bells were hung in honour of the illustrious Duke of Wellington. His last six victories are here recorded, each of the bells bearing respectively these words:—"Talavera," "Salamanca," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Orthes," "Toulouse." It was premature to say his "last," but, however, in 1818, two new trebles were added, each inscribed with the word "Waterloo." We are also told that the bells were placed in the tower at the expense of John Fuller, Esq., late member for the county, A.D. 1815. Mears, of London, are the founders of the bells; the tenor weighing about 14 cwt. But to return to my former subject. The party consisting of E. Butler, H. Cornwell, A. A. Fuller, J. Reilly, G. Thwaites, W. F. Vernon, H. Weston, and J. E. Worsell, left Brighton by the train at 7.15 a.m. for Hastings, being joined at Polegate by M. T. Hart, a Eastbourne ringer. Arriving at Hastings somewhat late, owing to the heavy traffic, a hurried visit was made to St. Clement's Church, where it had been intended to have a pull on the steel bells for which this church is noted, but in order to catch the 10.40 train to Robertsbridge, this had to be abandoned. Having arrived at the latter place, a waggonette was procured and the party at once drove to Brightling, some 4½ miles distant. This was, perhaps, the most enjoyable part of the day's programme, the scenery in this neighbourhood being exquisitely beautiful, embracing as it does a part of the great St. Leonard's Forest. On arrival, a hearty welcome was accorded the ringers, by the rector, the Rev.—Hayley, who kindly provided light refreshment previous to attempting the peal, and kindly allowed the party to take a walk through his beautiful garden, where the ringers found it no easy task to keep their "hands off" the fruit with which the garden was stored. A course of cake and wine having been brought round, the rector conducted the ringers to the tower, where preliminaries having been got through, a start was soon made for the first peal on the bells, which was successfully brought round in three hours and two minutes (particulars of which see peal column). It is, perhaps, needless to say that the band was heartily congratulated by the rector and a few of the local band who had listened to the peal. By the by, I regretted to hear that the local ringers contented themselves with *practising* on the bells, evenings in the week, while on Sunday the sound of these village bells were not heard, or if heard at all, only occasionally, when it seemed to suit them. I would wish to remind them here that ringing for Sunday service was the object for which the bells were placed in the tower. I deeply regret to make these remarks, but Brightling ringers may rest assured they are made with all due respect. A visit was next paid to Salehurst Church, where 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung on this peal, tenor 19 cwt., the ringers standing thus:—A. A. Fuller, treble; T. Hart, 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; G. Thwaites, 4; H. Cornwell, 5; J. Reilly (conductor), 6; H. Weston, 7; E. Butler, tenor. After a meat tea had been partaken of, a start was made for Brighton, which was reached about 12.15, a journey of forty miles, occupying about four hours. The thanks of the band is due to Mr. H. Weston, for so kindly arranging the visit—a visit to be repeated it is hoped, and to the rectors of Brightling and Salehurst, for so kindly placing their bells at the disposal of the ringers. J. E. W.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

An interim meeting of the above society (for practice) will be held at St. Mary's, Woolwich, on Tuesday, August 21st, at eight o'clock p.m. Members are cordially invited to attend.

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THE SHEFFIELD RINGERS AT HULL.

On Saturday, July 28th, the St. Peter's Amalgamated Society of Sheffield held their annual outing, the town of Hull being the place selected. On arrival there the visitors were met by Mr. Charles Jackson, who immediately conducted them to the parish church of Holy Trinity. After ringing a 504 of Stedman Triples, and a similar length of Grandsire, a move was made to the church of St. James, where touches of Stedman, Grandsire, Treble Bob, and Plain Bob were rung. The whole party then adjourned to the "Alexander Hotel," where they partook of substantial refreshment. The next order of things was a general all-round discussion on ringing topics, the most noticeable remark being made by Mr. H. Jenkins, who expressed his opinion that ringers ought to make themselves more familiar with the theory of the science, which, he said, was altogether distinct from the practical part. His sound observations were much appreciated. Songs by Messrs. C. Jackson, C. H. Hattersley, T. Hattersley, and other friends, interspersed with tunes and change-ringing on the handbells, was next indulged in. Later on, Mr. Charles Henry Hattersley rose and said that it would be great remissness on his part and also on that of his colleagues, if he did not propose a vote of thanks to the Hull ringers for their kind hospitality, and their arrangements for the day. He could assure them that when it was finally agreed that he and his colleagues should visit Hull, it gave great satisfaction. Referring to the sensible observations of Mr. Jenkins, he said he hoped the science would continue to improve, although in recent years it had got pretty well wound up. It occurred to him how different it were the circumstances that afternoon to some of those which he experienced while out with his Birmingham friends the week previous. On the latter occasion him and his friends were visiting a beautiful village in the charming county of Worcester called Hagley, which place unfortunately did not possess a local band of ringers. The church itself was a neat building, situated in a large park, and had a musical light ring of eight. If those in authority there were to communicate with any of his friends at Birmingham, he did not doubt that change-ringing would soon become established in Hagley. He concluded his remarks by expressing a hope that their visit to Hull would further extend that amicable feeling which already existed between the two towns, and wished "Success to the Hull ringers," and he coupled with that sentiment the name of Mr. Charles Jackson.

Mr. Jackson, in acknowledging the compliment, said that one of the greatest pleasures he had was to know that he was pleasing his brother-ringers, and he could assure them that they in Hull were very glad indeed to welcome their Sheffield friends. He took that opportunity of reminding the company that the next general meeting of the Yorkshire Association was to be held at York, and that he looked forward to again have the pleasure of meeting with some of the members.

The Sheffield visitors shortly afterwards departed for home amid the good wishes of their Hull friends.

PRESENTATION.

On Friday evening, July 20th, the members of the St. Andrew's Society, Derby, gathered together at the "Locomotive" inn, to partake of supper, along with one of their eldest members, who is leaving the town and going to reside at Keighley, his native place. After supper, he was presented with an ebony walking stick, with polished buckhorn handle, and mounted with a beautifully chased silver band, upon which was engraved:—"Presented to W. B. Midgley, by the St. Andrew's Society of Change-Ringers, July 20th, 1888." Mr. Midgley, in reply, said he had no idea whatever of anything of this sort being done, nor did he think he was deserving of it; he had done what he could in forwarding the society, but that was very little. The rest of the evening was spent in hand-bell ringing and songs. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, the host and hostess, who kindly prepared the supper and attended to the wants gratuitously.

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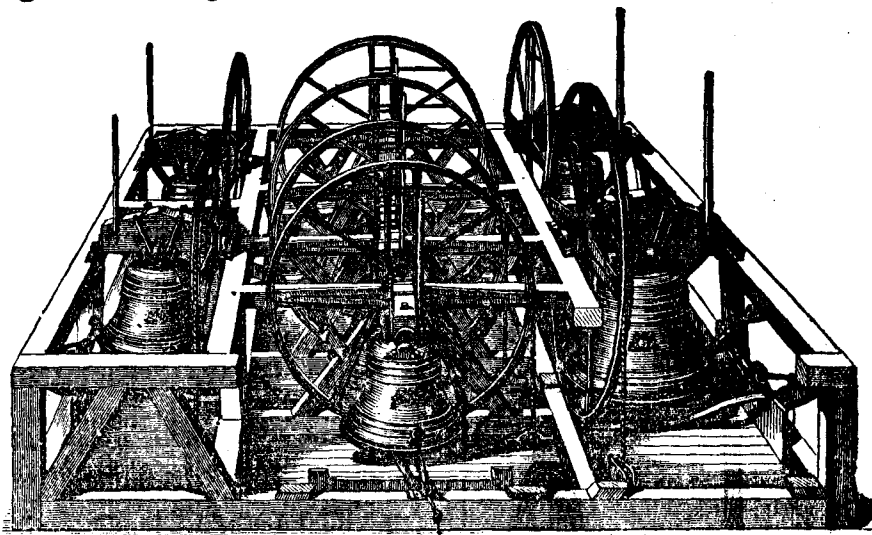
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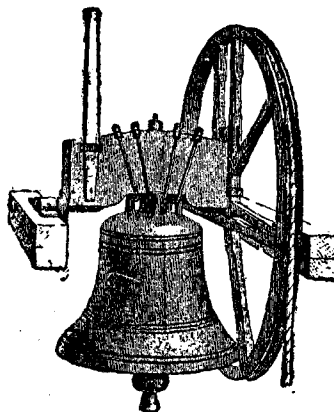
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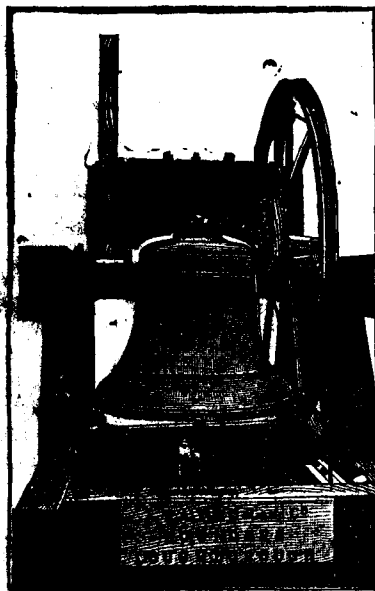
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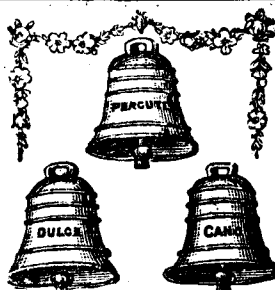
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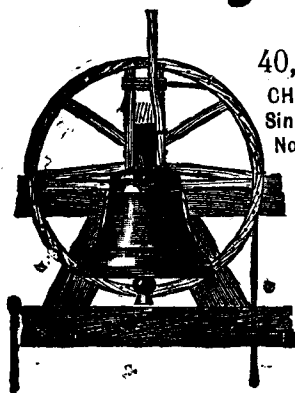
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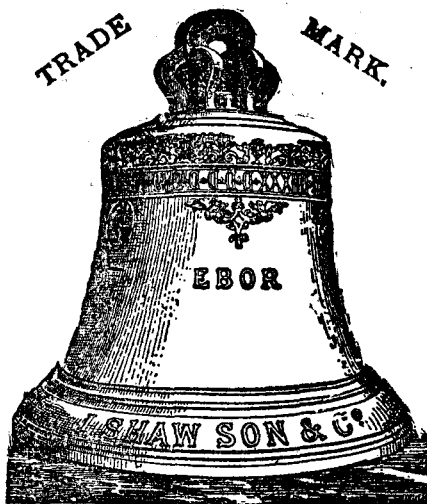
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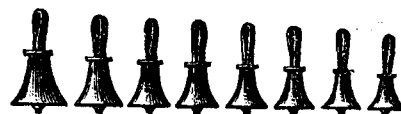
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STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE MADE EASY FOR BEGINNERS.

BY WM. ALEXANDER BALDWIN.

In my opinion there are many promising youths hindered considerably in their progress, and in some cases, lost to the Exercise, because they do not understand the technical terms made use of by senior members, when they are asked to explain, or give rules for ringing this or any other method.

When I commenced change-ringing, I remember asking a senior member of the company to which I then belonged, to explain to me the work of a bell in Stedman. The explanations I received were so technical, that I derived no benefit from the information. I am inclined to think that my experience is not unique, and with a view of removing this difficulty for others, I have dwelt at length on the terms used, and laid down rules for ringing this method, in the hope that they will commend themselves to the minds of junior members of ringing societies, and encourage them to persevere in the study and practice of scientific change-ringing.

For convenience I have divided the subject into two parts. The first part will be on "the plain course," and the second part will be devoted will be devoted to "bobs and singles."

I. THE PLAIN COURSE.

Stedman's Principle is applicable to five, seven, nine, and eleven bells. On five bells the changes are termed "Doubles," on seven "Triples," on nine "Caters," and on eleven "Cinques."

One hundred and twenty changes being the extent on five bells, I do not see that much benefit is to be derived from the study or practice of this principle on that number, so I shall devote my attention exclusively to Stedman's principle on seven bells, or in other words "Stedman Triples."

Some of my readers may be aware that on three bells it is possible to obtain six changes, and that these six changes can be obtained two different ways. However, to meet all cases, both ways of obtaining these six changes are shown below, as they may be useful for reference.

EVEN OR QUICK SIX.

1 2 3
2 1 3
2 3 1
3 2 1
3 1 2
1 3 2
1 2 3

ODD OR SLOW SIX.

1 2 3
1 3 2
3 1 2
3 2 1
2 3 1
2 1 3
1 2 3

Before we go further I will explain a few terms which will hereafter occur under their technical names, viz:

1.—A whole pull right. 2.—A whole pull wrong. 3.—A half pull right. 4.—A half-pull wrong.

We will take No. 1. A whole pull right consists of striking two blows at the lead commencing at handstroke.

No. 2.—A whole pull wrong consists of striking two blows at the lead commencing at backstroke.

No. 3.—A half pull right consists of striking one blow at the lead at handstroke.

No. 4.—A half pull wrong consists of striking one blow at the lead at backstroke.

In the first six changes given, you will observe that all the bells come to lead the right way; i.e., handstroke first, and that they are whole pulls right. These six changes are therefore termed "even" or a "quick six."

In the second six changes you will notice that the treble leads half a pull right, and that the third leads a whole pull wrong, followed by the second doing the same and terminating by the treble leading a half pull wrong, thus finishing the half pull left undone at the commencement. These six changes are for this reason termed "odd" or a "slow six."

Now, Stedman's Principle consists of any three bells which may be in front, ringing first one and then the other of these six changes, which causes the bells in 4-5 and 6-7 to make a double dodge, or in other words all the bells above third's place are continuously double dodging. On the completion of each six, the bell dodging in 4-5 down comes in and takes the place of the bell which goes out to dodge in 4-5 up.

Before drawing your attention to the plain course of Stedman Triples, I must trouble you to commit the following rules to memory.

PLAIN COURSE.

1234567

2135476

2314567

3241657

2346175

2431657

4236175

4321657

3426175

4362715

4637251

6432715

6347251

3642715

3467251

4376521

3475612

3746521

7345612

7436521

4735612

7453162

7541326

5743162

5471326

4573162

4751326

7415236

4712563

4175236

1472563

1745236

7142563

1724653

1276435

2174653

2716435

7214653

7126435

1762345

7163254

7612345

6713254

6172345

1673254

6137524

6315742

3617524

3165742

1367524

1635742

6153472

1654327

1563472

5164327

5613472

6514327

5641237

5462173

4561237

4652173

6451237

6542173

5624713

6527431

6254713

31657431

2564713

5267431

2576341

2753614

7256341

7523614

5726341

5273614

2537164

5231746

5327164

3521746

3257164

2351746

3215476

3124567

1325476

1234567

In this method every bell has to do the following work to do, viz.—slow work, dodging, quick work, and dodging. The "slow work" when coming from behind and entering the changes as "slow bell," consists of making 3rds place, and leading a whole pull wrong, strike one blow in 2nds place, and lead a whole pull right, make 3rds again (this is termed the "first whole turn"). Lead a half pull right, 3rds place again ("first half turn"). Lead a half pull wrong, 3rds again (last half turn). Lead a whole pull right, strike one blow in 2nds place, and lead a whole pull wrong (the "last whole turn"). Make 3rds place, and enter the dodging in 4-5 up.

So that shortly stated the slow work is 3rds and first whole turn, 3rds and first half turn, 3rds and last half turn, 3rds and last whole turn, 3rds and enter the dodging in 4-5 up.

I have before told you that all the dodging above 3rds place is double, so there is no need to make any comment upon it.

The "quick work" simply consists of hunting to lead from dodging in 4-5 down, and back again to the dodging in 4-5 up.

For the purpose of illustrating this work, a plain course is given above.

A bell is said to go in a "slow bell" when that bell performs the slow work previously described; and a bell is said to go in a "quick bell" when that bell hunts straight to lead from dodging in 4-5 down and back again to the dodging in 4-5 up.

For a full illustration of the slow work, see the 4th bell in the plain course.

I must impress upon my readers the necessity for committing these rules to memory before going further, as a full knowledge of them is indispensable.

I will now draw your attention to the work of the treble in the plain course. You will observe that this bell goes out "quick" into 4-5, dodges twice in that place and then hunts up into 6-7 (the fifth bell being the last bell to strike over, behind, forms the course bell to the treble), dodges twice in 6-7, lies a whole pull behind, which changes her position to 6-7 down—she dodges twice in that place, hunts into 4-5 down, dodges twice in that position, and then comes in as a "slow bell," makes thirds, and leads a whole pull wrong, strikes one blow in 2nds place and leads a whole pull right, hunts, out and makes 3rds place and back again to the front, leads a half pull right, out, and makes 3rds again, back again, and leads a half pull wrong, hunts up and makes 3rds, down, and leads a whole pull right, strikes one blow in 2nds place, and leads a whole pull wrong, hunts up, makes 3rds place, and then enters the dodging in 4-5 up, dodges twice in that position, twice in 6-7 up, twice in 6-7 down, twice in 4-5 down, and then runs into lead as a "quick bell" which brings the plain course to an end.

If you have followed me step by step, you will have noticed, that whenever you go out a "quick bell," you must come in the next time a "slow bell," and following the same reasoning whenever you go out a "slow bell" you must come in the next time a "quick bell."

It sometimes happens that one forgets which way to go in, i.e. whether a "quick" or "slow" bell. I will therefore give a rule by which you can always be certain which way to go in. If you remember the fifth bell was the course bell to the treble (see the 2nd six in the plain course). Now I want you to observe the work of these two bells from that point. You will notice that there is only one bell between the 5th and the treble whilst they are dodging behind, and that the treble hunts into 4-5 down after the 5th, and there the 5th bell ceases to be of any further use to the treble, inasmuch as the 5th bell has gone in "quick," leaving the treble dodging in 4-5 down—but you will also notice (and this is the point to bear in mind), that the treble strikes over the 5th the last blow in 4ths place, just as the dodging in 4-5 down is finished and then goes in a slow bell. It therefore follows that if you strike your first blow in 4ths place over your course bell, you go in "quick," because your course bell is then making 3rds preparatory to going in "slow," and if you strike your last blow in 4ths place over your course bell, you go in "slow" because your course bell has gone in "quick" and is coming out to dodge in 4-5 up.

The invariable rule is to go in the opposite way to that which your course bell goes in, and the rule I have given will always enable you to determine with absolute certainty whether your course bell has gone in either quick or slow.

If you study the work of the treble, or indeed any bell, you will soon overcome any little difficulty you may experience in understanding the working of your course bell, and why your course bell is indispensable to you.

It is worth remembering that whenever you go in a quick bell, you take your course bell off lead, and that when you go in slow you always commence to make 3rds at handstroke.

(To be continued).

DISTRICT MEETING OF THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

The third meeting of the above was held at the "Wyndham Arms," Dinton, on Wednesday, August 1st. Mr. W. H. Gramshaw presided, and there were present, among others, the Rev. J. H. Audland (Vicar), the Rev. Josiah Mitchell (Barford), the Rev. A. D. Hill (Master of the Guild), Mr. J. R. Jerram (secretary), with about forty other guests, ringers from Salisbury, Barford, Broadchalk, Damerham, Dinton and Fovant. After ample justice had been done to the dinner.

The Chairman proposed the toast of "Church and Queen," remarking that the union of Church and State had been of great value to this country, and would continue to be so, provided neither party usurped the position of the other. The Church had rights with which the State should not be allowed to interfere, and equally the State demanded obedience from the Church in matters temporal.

The Rev. J. H. Audland replied for the Church, welcoming the Guild to Dinton.

The Chairman in proposing "The Diocesan Ringers' Guild," told one or two amusing anecdotes in connection with bells, and spoke of the much more pleasant sound of a peal of bells than a single one.

The Rev. A. D. Hill briefly responded, and a vote of thanks to Mr. Gramshaw, which was heartily responded to with musical honours.

The company then separated, Damerham and Barford divisions went to Fovant to ring, Fovant and Broadchalk to Dinton, and Salisbury to Chilmark, where the latter rang 720 Bob Minor. J. Short, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6. Broadchalke division afterwards came on to Chilmark. The Rev. A. Earle provided tea for those who went to Fovant. Altogether a very enjoyable day was spent.

THE ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

This Society held its annual outing on Monday, August 6th, and by the kind invitation of Mr. J. Richards, they visited Torrington, North Devon, where half-pull ringing was never believed in, the old round ringers saying it was a matter of impossibility for a peal of 5040 changes to be rung without stopping. The party left Queen Street Station at 6.50 a.m. and their destination was reached at 9.30, where Mr. Richards was in waiting to receive us. After a pleasant walk over the moor about a mile, we reached the pretty town. Mr. Richards then conducted us to the "Plough Inn," where he had prepared a very substantial breakfast, which it was needless to say, done ample justice too after so long a journey. About 11 o'clock a move was made to the church of St. Michael where hangs a very fine peal of eight in F sharp, which were augmented from six to eight in 1884, two new trebles being added, and the tenor recast by Warner, and the wholere-hung. The 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th are by Rudhall, dating back to 1716. After a short touch a start was made for a peal, but stand was called after 40 mins. then another start, and all went well for 30 mins. the conductor missing a bob. Nothing daunted, another start was made, being determined to get it if it was possible, and Hollis's five-part peal was successfully brought round in 2 hrs. 40 mins. The rest of the time was spent with some local ringers and an enjoyable day was brought to a close, by reaching home at 10.30 p.m. and leaving behind at Torrington the fact that a peal of 5040 can be done.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

THE NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held in the Lyttleton Middle Class schoolroom, Malvern, at 5 o'clock prompt, on Saturday, August 25th. The Rev. Dr. Gregory Smith has kindly consented to preside. The bells of the Abbey church will be open for ringing.

JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

WANTED by a change-ringer, aged 20 years, a situation as Shopman or Book-keeper in Corn and Milling trade preferred; has had 6 years' experience in above Trades with present employer. Can ring the following Methods—Bob, Grandsire and Stedman. Apply to G. BAKER, Jun., Orchard Place, Arundel, Sussex.

THE ST. JOHN'S SOCIETY, LOUGHTON, ESSEX.

ON August 6th the above Society had their annual outing, the places selected being Hatfield and St. Albans, Herts. 5.30 a.m. found all astir, after breakfast, and a brake and pair ready for a start by 6.0, when "go" was called, and away they went through the beauteous and cool air of Epping Forest—quite refreshing so early in the morning. "Stand" was called at Waltham Abbey, at the "Three Tuns," to visit an old and esteemed friend—Mr. Powell—and refresh the inner man. No time, however, to lose, and away they went through the quiet lanes of Cufley, during which several touches were rung on the handbells, the folks seeming quite interested as they appeared at the doors and windows, rubbing eyes, watching the party. A halt was made at Cufley to bait horses and likewise themselves. Here a touch of Stedman Triples, on the handbells, was rung, while others were busy stowing away sandwiches and good ale. Then straightway to Hatfield, which was reached at 10.30, and the sound of the fine old peal in the parish church was heard, some of the local band being busy pulling them up. The visitors found their way into the ringing-room, and unharnessing, started off and rang several touches of Grandsire, when up came some of the St. Albans' men, and a short touch of Stedman and Bob Major brought the ringing here to a finish. A look round the grand old church and into the Marquis of Salisbury's grounds was enjoyed, and then off to the station to catch train for St. Albans, where dinner was waiting at the Temperance Hotel. Everybody seemed just fit for a good packing, and the party were soon busy with roast beef, and all such things that take away the appetite. All went on very nicely while the strains of the Salvation Army fell on their ears. The repeat being concluded, away to the Abbey, where everything was waiting. The bells here were soon in motion and "went" fine for a hearty peal of 30 cwt. tenor, although the circle is rather bad. Some good touches of Grandsire, Stedman, and Treble Bob were brought round, the bells lowered and then the top of the tower was visited, from which a splendid view of the ancient town and surrounding district is obtained. Reaching ground once again, a hasty look at the cathedral, and off to St. Peter's for a ring on the peal of ten. The bells being up, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters and Bob Royal were indulged in, most of the visitors never having pulled off in ten before. These bells go like tops, and the pull was thoroughly enjoyed. Here they had to take leave of the St. Albans gentlemen, who made their visit such a success, and make haste to the station to take train back to Hatfield, where everything was ready for the homeward journey, but feeling a bit low, they had a good tea at the hotel, and loading up, left Hatfield at 8, landing safe home just before 12, having spent a most enjoyable day. The company wish, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to thank the clergy and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and all those gentlemen who so kindly assisted to make the outing so successful.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Members of the above are respectfully reminded that the financial year ends with the present month (August). Members owing subscriptions are requested to pay them to the undersigned as soon as possible. New members elected during the present year are also requested to pay their subscriptions if they have not already done so, otherwise their names and peals (if any), will not be inserted in the Annual Report. Conductors of peals will oblige by sending the compositions of such to Mr. A. Ed. Wreaks, providing the same have not appeared in the last Annual Report. To forward the business of the next Annual Meeting, members may send in nominations to fill the places of the following retiring officers, viz., the Rev. C. Lowe, President; Mr. J. Redford, Secretary; and Messrs. Horrocks, Nutter, Wilde, and Wood (Committee); and Messrs. Booth and Davis (Auditors), but who are eligible for re-election. Members proposing new rules or alterations to the existing rules must give notice of the same before the last day of the present month to the undersigned. Notice of errors in the ringing calendar must be also sent to Mr. Joel Redford, 9 Portugal Street, Bolton-le-Moors, or to Mr. A. Edward Wreaks, 25 Tweedale Street, Rochdale, or 42 Cleveland Road, Crumpsall, Manchester.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

ON Saturday last, August 11th, the members of the above society, in connection with St. Peter's Church, held their annual picnic, the place selected being Prestbury, near Macclesfield, Cheshire, the parish church of which contains a peal of eight bells, tenor 18 cwt. The party left Guidebridge for Macclesfield about 2.30 p.m. and after a tiresome journey got there about 4 p.m. After a lovely walk through the fields, Prestbury was reached shortly after 5 p.m. and a descent was at once made on the hostelry of ye "Black Boy," to refresh the inner man. This having been accomplished, a move was made for the church and a touch of Treble Bob Major, conducted by Mr. J. Thorp, and a touch of Stedman Triples, conducted by Mr. S. Wood were successfully brought round. An attempt was made for a course of Grandsire Triples with one of the local men, and while this was in progress, some of the visitors were looking round the church yard, and the dates on one stone, a family of the name of Newton, 1596, 1620, 1640, 1671, while on another stone was a date of the 14th century. In a glass case are the remnants of an old Saxon cross which were found during some repairs which were being done to the church, and which had lain there for 400 years. It is supposed to have been erected to commemorate the first preaching of Christianity in the village. There is also the lower portion of an old stone coffin which dates from 1250, and a gravestone showing the death of a person 104 years of age, also one containing the following inscription—"Also Sarah Pickford, sister to the above-named James Pickford, was here interred. August ye 17 Anno. Dom. 1705, and died a bachelor in the 48 years of her Age."

A short meeting was afterwards held at the "Black Boy" under the presidency of Mr. G. Longden, where it was resolved on the motion of Mr. Hopwood, seconded by Mr. Gillot, that—the best thanks of the meeting be given to Canon Wilson for the use of the bells. Also on the motion of Mr. Hopwood, seconded by Mr. S. Wood, that a vote of thanks be given to the wardens of St. Peter's Church, for their kindness in contributing so liberally to the picnic fund.

A move was then made for Prestbury Station to commence the return journey, which was accomplished by 10.30 p.m. all being highly satisfied with the few hours from home.

RINGERS' OUTING.

ON Monday, August 5th, a portion of the local company of St. Mary's and the local company of St. Mary's, Caldicot, near Chepstow, paid a friendly visit to Caerleon, Monmouthshire, which they reached at 10 a.m., and had a ring on the pretty ring of eight, tenor 7½ cwt. Afterwards the Caerleon band rang 168 and 360 of Grandsire Triples, also a plain course of Stedman Triples, and a plain course of Grandsire Major to please their visitors. After visiting the museum where they were much interested, they took a quiet stroll through the ancient town. They then bade a farewell to their Caerleon friends, and then returned to Newport, where the rest of the evening was spent in viewing the ancient church of St. Woollos, with a ring six bells, tenor 14½ cwt., but owing to a death near the church they could not ring, and all arrived home safely at 9.30 p.m., pleased with their day's outing. The visitors wish to thank their Caerleon friends for the use of their bells.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE FUND FOR THE RELIEF OF THE WIDOW AND FAMILY OF THE LATE THOMAS WEST.

	£	s.	d.
Mr. J. Pickersgill, Holbeck	0	1	0
A Ringing Acquaintance	0	2	6
Mr. O. Franklin, Guiseley	0	1	0
Mr. J. Baldwin, Guiseley	0	1	0
Mr. D. E. Rhodes, Guiseley	0	1	0

The subscription list will be kept open until the end of August, when all further subscriptions will be published. HERBERT W. NEEDHAM.

49, Green Mount-street, Beeston Hill, Leeds.
August 11, 1888.

The Bishop of Oxford formally signed the deed of registration on Saturday last.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT
BOB MAXIMUS.By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

5016.

23456	I	4	7
25634	-	-	-
56234	-	-	-
62534	-	-	-
63425	-	-	-
34625	-	-	-
46325	-	-	-
32465	-	-	-
24365	-	-	-
43265	-	-	-
26435	-	-	-
64235	-	-	-
42635	-	-	-
24536	-	-	-
53246	-	-	-
32546	-	-	-
25346	-	-	-
34256	-	-	-
42356	-	-	-
23456	-	-	-

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE
ROYAL.By CHARLES PRICE, *Eccleston*.

5040.

23456	W	H
45236	-	-
24536	-	-
53246	-	-
25346	-	-
34256	-	-
23456	-	-
45236	-	-

Repeated.

This peal is called in and out of the tittums in each part.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

5056.

23456	W	B	M	H
52364	-	-	-	-
35264	-	-	-	-
23564	-	-	-	-
62345	-	-	-	-
36245	-	-	-	-
23645	-	-	-	-
42356	-	-	-	-
63254	-	-	-	-
26354	-	-	-	-
32654	-	-	-	-
65324	-	-	-	-
36524	-	-	-	-
53624	-	-	-	-
25346	-	-	-	-
32546	-	-	-	-
54326	-	-	-	-
35426	-	-	-	-
43526	-	-	-	-
24536	-	-	-	-
53246	-	-	-	-
45236	-	-	-	-
32456	-	-	-	s

Repeated.

This peal has the 6th twenty times at home, and the 4th eighteen times in 6th's place, with the 2nd and 3rd never there.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield*.

5120.

23456	M	W	H
46532	I	I	2
52364	I	I	2
25463	2	2	2
35642	I	2	I
34256	2	I	I
26543	I	I	2
42635	2	2	2
62345	2	I	I
53246	I	I	I
23456	2	I	I

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By BEN SHAW, *Lindley*.

5056.

23456	M	B	W	H
36452	I			2
63254	2			2
52364			2	2
24365	2	-	I	2
65432	2	-	I	2
52436	2	-	I	2
54326	I	-	2	2

Repeated.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool*.

5093.

23456	
32456	7th in and out at 2
42653	7-9
62354	7-9
36254	9th in 3
23654	9th in 3
63452	7-9
43256	7-9
24356	9th in 3
34652	7-9
64253	7-9
26453	9th in 3
64352	7-9

Three times repeated, except first course call the 7th in 3, which brings up part-ends—

Then call—

64523	7th in and out at 2
42563	8th in 3
32546	9th in and out at 2

This peal is in the 9-8-7 position.

A QUARTER-PEAL OF COURT BOB
TRIPLES.By FREDERICK WICKENS, *Charlwood, Surrey*.

1260.

234567	
752346	I
357246	5
573462	4
245736	I
742536	5
547236	5
475362	4
234756	I
342567	4

Twice repeated.

FOUR PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool*.

5080.

23456	M	W	H
25634	2	I	I
26354		I	2
23564		I	2
23645	2	2	I
26435		I	2
24365		I	2
24653		2	2
24536	2	2	I
25346		I	2
23456		I	2

5080.

23456	M	W	H
24536		I	2
23645	2	I	I
26435		I	2
24365		I	2
24653	2	2	I
26543		I	2
25463		I	2
25634	2	2	I
25346	2	2	I
23456		I	2

5080.

23456	M	W	H
23564	2	2	I
25634		I	2
26354		I	2
26543	2	2	I
26435	2	2	I
24365		I	2
23645		I	2
24536	2	I	I
25346		I	2
23456		I	2

5080.

23456	M	W	H
25634	2	I	I
26354		I	2
23564		I	2
23645	2	2	I
26435		I	2
24365		I	2
25463	2	I	I
24653		I	2
25346	2	I	I
23456		I	2

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE
MAJOR.By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

5376.

23456	M	W	H
54632	-	-	-
63542	-	-	-
56342	-	-	-
35642	-	-	-
24653	-	-	-
62453	-	-	-
35426	-	-	-
43526	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE
MAJOR.By JAMES S. WILDE, *Hyde, Cheshire.*

5088.

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

This peal has the 6th its extent at home.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By JAMES S. WILDE, *Hyde, Cheshire.*

5184.

2 3 4 5 6	W	5th	4th	M	H
4 5 2 3 6	-	-	-	-	-
2 4 6 5 3	-	-	-	-	-
6 4 3 5 2	-	-	-	-	-
2 3 6 4 5	-	-	-	-	-
6 4 2 3 5	-	-	-	-	-
5 2 6 4 3	-	-	-	-	-
4 6 2 5 3	-	-	-	-	-
2 4 3 6 5	-	-	-	-	-

This part repeated, with an extra bob at home in the last course produces 42356. The whole twice repeated. This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent each way in 5-6.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

5040.

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

Repeated.

6080.

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

Repeated.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By JAMES S. WILDE, *Hyde, Cheshire.*

5056.

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

This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent each way in 5-6.

5088.

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

This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent each way in 5-6. Also their extent right at five course-ends. First rung at Mottram by the United Counties' Association, July 7th, 1888, conducted by its composer.

A QUARTER-PEAL OF DUFFIELD
MAJOR.By A. E. PARSONS, *Old Hill, Staffordshire.*

1296.

1 2 3 4 5	I	B	O
5 3 4 1 2	-	-	
4 3 1 5 2	-	-	
1 3 5 4 2	-	-	
2 5 4 1 3	-	-	
4 5 1 2 3	-	-	
1 5 2 4 3	-	-	
3 2 4 1 5	-	-	
4 2 1 3 5	-	-	
3 1 2 4 5	-	-	

Twice repeated.

By omitting the bob B the bells will come round at the first part-end, making a touch of 432 changes.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield.*

5120.

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

Repeated.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By GEORGE HAYWARD, *Bromsgrove.*

13,193.

2 3 4 5 6

6 2 3 5 4	7th in and out at 2
2 5 3 6 4	9th in 3
3 2 5 6 4	9th in 3
5 3 2 6 4	9th in 3
2 3 4 6 5	7-9
4 3 5 6 2	7-8
5 4 3 6 2	9th in 3
3 5 4 6 2	9th in 3
4 5 2 6 3	7-9
2 4 5 6 3	9th in 3
3 2 4 6 5	9th in 3 s
4 3 2 6 5	9th in 3
3 6 2 4 5	7th in 3
2 3 6 4 5	9th in 3
6 2 3 4 5	9th in 3

3 4 2 6 5	7th in and out at 2
2 3 4 6 5	9th in 3
4 2 3 6 5	9th in 3
3 2 5 6 4	8-9
5 2 4 6 3	8-9
4 5 2 6 3	9th in 3
2 4 5 6 3	9th in 3
5 4 3 6 2	8-9
3 5 4 6 2	9th in 3
4 3 5 6 2	9th in 3
5 3 2 6 4	8-9
2 5 3 6 4	9th in 3

The last twelve courses nine times repeated; 8th in 2 instead of the 7th in and out at 2; 9th in 3, with a single first course of the sixth part instead of 8th in 2, produces 42563. Round as usual. This peal contains the 120 courses with the bells in the tittums.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE
MAJOR.By JAMES S. WILDE, *Hyde, Cheshire.*

5152.

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

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

Sir Morell Mackenzie has decided that he will vindicate his professional reputation from the slurs and slanders that have been cast upon it during the time that he was in attendance on the Emperor Frederick.

NOW READY,

Crown 8vo., Cloth, 120 pages.

"DUFFIELD,"*A Musical Method for 8, 10, and twelve bells;*

Containing full directions for ringing, pricking, and proving the method; together with a collection of peals and an explanatory appendix. By

Arthur Percival Heywood, M.A.

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[A. P. HEYWOOD, DUFFIELD BANK, NEAR DERBY.]

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

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

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

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

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

F. DAY (Eye).—You did not send the number of changes with the peal, so that it could not be inserted.

"PLAIN BOB" has not sent his name and address, so that his letter cannot be inserted.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1888.

THE Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild has satisfactorily answered the questions of Mr. GEORGE MUSKETT, relative to two peals rung at his church. The Exercise will rest content with Mr. ROBINSON's explanations, and accept, without hesitation, his assurances as to the truth of the performances under discussion. It is to be regretted that all such doubts cannot be met in the same way, and either explained in such a straightforward manner, or a

confession made that the objectors have some reason for the belief that is in them. It is more courageous to meet an accusation face to face, than attempt to get rid of it by ridiculous bombast which is entirely beside the object. And a prompt settlement of all differences of opinion is the most speedy, as well as the most effective way of adjusting those feelings which become outraged in a prolonged dispute.

At present there appears to be further "trouble on the carpet" with respect to a performance at Ross, and other charges are made in this week's correspondence, in which the same ringer is said to be a prominent character. We hope these assertions will be contradicted, if untrue, in a manner that will admit of no ambiguity. Or, if there should be any ground for such charges, it is much better to admit it at once honestly, and prevent any further cross-fire of interrogatories. If this had been done in the first instance with respect to the peals rung at Drayton, the apparent ebullitions of feeling would have been prevented. It is not, we suppose, pretended that any member of the Exercise, whatever his status may be, deserves to be reproved should he happen to approach a distinguished conductor, and question him upon certain of his achievements. Yet it would appear so from the tenor of some of the replies which have been given.

It may be rightly held that there is scarcely any inquiry respecting the performance of a peal which may be regarded as impertinent. And, therefore, when such inquiry is made, it should be considered that those inquiring have a right to do so, and that their action is not to be pooh-poohed, or dealt with by attempts at sarcasm. We should counsel that the allegations at present afloat should be met boldly and effectively denied, as we believe they can be. But if there is the least shadow of truth in either of them, far better is it to honestly say so, and confess to the errors made. A great deal of unpleasantness may thus be avoided, and satisfaction and relief will be felt by the disputants on either side.

THE LATE DEAN OF CHICHESTER.

A correspondent of the *Guardian* sends the following reminiscence of the late Dean:—

"It was the custom for many years for the late Dean to spend several weeks during the summer at Turvey Abbey, in Bedfordshire, with his loved brother-in-law, Charles Longnet Higgins, and since his death, four years ago, with the widow, his attached sister. Near to this charming place and pretty village is the beautiful church, famous for having had the Rev. Legh Richmond for rector, and also the county reformatory, where about sixty lads are brought up to agricultural pursuits. At the annual harvest festival, with prize-giving, might always be seen Dean Burgon taking the most animated delight in getting the best half-a-dozen boys to recite a piece of poetry, for which he had been personally coaching them. Last year the 'rep' consisted of 'John Gilpin,' with a few primitive accessories in the shape of a home-made wig, &c., and winding up as the rewards were taken from the old-fashioned, silk-knitted purse with some hearty words of approval from the dignified-looking scholar and an expression of hope that the future emigrants on a long winter's night in the backwoods of America might amuse their companions with a recital, always remembering to suit the action to the word."

ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

A SPECIAL general meeting of this society will be held on Tuesday, August 28, in the tower, at 7.45 p.m. The attendance of members, for the consideration of important business, is earnestly requested.

ALFRED THOMAS, Secretary.

The Metropolis.

LONDON.—THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, August 11, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt.

THOMAS TITCHENER Treble.	ALFRED PITTAM 5.
BENJAMIN FOSKETT 2.	GEORGE NEWSON 6.
ARTHUR TENNANT 3.	HENRY DAINS 7.
JAMES HANNINGTON 4.	ARTHUR JACOB Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by
GEORGE NEWSON.

The Provinces.

BIRMINGHAM.—THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, August 4, 1888, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

WILLIAM H. GODDEN .. Treble.	ALFRED THOMAS 5.
JOHN BUFFERY 2.	WILLIAM LONG 6.
WILLIAM BALDWIN† 3.	THOMAS MILLER 7.
WILLIAM KENT 4.	*JOHN HODSON Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS MILLER.

The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. W. Stephens, who was Churchwarden for twelve years at the above church. *First peal; †first peal with a bob bell.

PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 4, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

SIMEON LONGSTAFF .. Treble.	JAMES A IDLE 5.
JAMES HAIGH 2.	GEORGE H. HARDY 6.
WILLIAM STAINTHORPE .. 3.	HENRY HUBBARD 7.
JOHN WHITAKER 4.	ROBERT BINNS Tenor.

Composed and conducted by G. H. HARDY.

J. Haigh hails from Woodlesford, W. Stainthorpe from Birstal, J. Whitaker from Headingley, J. A. Idle from Dewsbury, G. H. Hardy from Earlsheaton, R. Binns and H. Hubbard from Leeds; S. Longstaff belongs to the local company.

ABINGDON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 11, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lbs.

JOHN BROWN Treble.	ARTHUR BURGESS 5.
HAROLD HUMFREY† 2.	THOMAS SHORT 6.
EDWARD ALDWORD 3.	EDWIN HUMFREY 7.
WILLIAM SPIERS* 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Tenor.

Conducted by HAROLD HUMFREY.

*First peal inside. †First peal as conductor.

FOXEARH, ESSEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, August 8, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 8½ cwt.

SAMUEL SLATER Treble.	G. C. HAMMOND 5.
ZACHARIAH SLATER 2.	JAMES BIRD 6.
FRED WELLS 3.	NELSON HAWKINS 7.
GEORGE MAXIM 4.	N. J. PITSTOW Tenor.

Composed and conducted by N. J. PITSTOW.

The peal in one part, contains the last 6th nine course-ends at home in the last eleven courses, was composed on July 12th expressly for the occasion, and has never been previously performed.

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

On Saturday, August 11, 1888, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 26 cwt.

WILLIAM ORME Treble.	JOHN WALKER 5.
RICHARD LOGIE* 2.	JOHN JAGGAR 6.
WILLIAM J. SMITH 3.	LEONARD BULLOCK 7.
JOHN AUSTIN 4.	JOHN CARWELL Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

First peal as conductor. *First peal inside.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, August 11, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt.

REUBEN FLAXMAN* .. Treble.	GEORGE NEWSON 5.
ALFRED H. ANDREWS* .. 2.	ALFRED C. FUSSELL .. 6.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 3.	*WILLIAM WILDER 7.
THOMAS W. UDELL 4.	ARTHUR JACOB Tenor.

Composed by B. ANNABLE, and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

*First peal of Major. First peal in the method on the bells. Messrs. Newson and Jacob, hail from London. The rest are local men.

APPLETON, BERKS.—THE APPLETON SOCIETY, AND THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, August 14, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

F. WEBB Treble.	F. WHITE 5.
F. S. WHITE 2.	G. HOLIFIELD 6.
B. BARRETT 3.	A. BUNCE 7.
W. BENNETT 4.	R. BENNETT Tenor.

Conducted by G. HOLIFIELD.

A. Bunce hails from Wantage, and this is his first peal.

Miscellaneous.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

EPSOM (Surrey).—On Monday, August 13th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 42 mins. A. E. Bassett, 1; T. Miles, 2; S. Brooker (conductor), 3; H. Pederick, 4; J. Easton, 5; W. Sanders, 6; J. Hawkins, 7; G. Pederick, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. This is the first quarter-peal in the method by all except the conductor.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

FOXEARH (Essex).—On Saturday, July 28th, an attempt was made for a peal of 6048 Treble Bob Major, which was unfortunately lost

after an hour's excellent ringing. S. Slater, 1; W. P. Gridley, 2; F. Wells, 3; C. Honeybell, 4; G. Maxim, 5; R. Mingay, 6; J. Lee, 7; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 8. And 420 Bob Triples. F. Wells, 1; J. Lee, 2; W. P. Gridley, 3; C. Honeybell, 4; G. C. Hammond, 5; R. Mingay, 6; S. Slater (conductor), 7; G. Maxim, 8.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Saturday evening, August 11th, 720 Bob Minor. *W. Pye, 1; A. Porter, 2; S. Barrell, 3; A. J. Perkins, 4; W. Nash, 5; T. Scarlett (conductor), 6. Also a 1008 of Grandsire Triples. W. Pegrum, 1; T. Scarlett, 2; S. Barrell, 3; A. Porter, 4; W. Pye (longest touch), 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6; W. Nash, 7; S. James, 8. This contains twenty-four 6-7's all at backstroke. For morning service, on Sunday, August 12th, 336 Grandsire Triples. L. Copsey, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; G. Roughton, 3; T. Scarlett (conductor), 4; W. Pye, 5; A. J. Perkins, 6; W. Nash, 7; S. James, 8. In the afternoon 720 Bob Minor. W. Pye, 1; *W. Pegrum, 2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3; G. Roughton, 4; W. Nash, 5; A. Porter, 6. A quarter-peal was lost after service after ringing two parts out of three, through a shift-course. The above was rung as a welcome to the new Vicar. The Romford company beg to thank those who kindly assisted them on Saturday and Sunday. Practice nights on Saturdays. Ringing on Sundays at 10 o'clock, in the evening if desired. *First 720 on tower bells.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, August 12th, at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, for evening service, three courses of Plain Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Hammond, 5; Isaac Cavill (conductor), 6. After evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; W. Watts, 2; J. Luckey (conductor), 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Hammond, 5; Isaac Cavill, 6. This is the first 720 by the local company without a Prior. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, August 5th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Single. Z. Lord, 1; G. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. On Tuesday evening, August 7th, 720 College Single, in 25 mins. W. Ormerod, 1; G. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. The latter was rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. Arthur Chew to Miss Lucy Ward, of Worksop, Notts.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday evening, August 7th, for practice at SS. Mary and Nicolas, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. G. L. Richardson, 1; *C. Neaverson, 2; *J. W. Jarvis, 3; R. Mackman (conductor), 4; J. S. Wright, 5; *G. Skeef, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. *First 720 of Treble Bob. †First 720 with a Bob bell.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DURHAM.—On Sunday evening, August 12th, at St. Oswald's church, for Divine Service, a 6-score of Plain Bob Doubles was rung. W. G. Newton (conductor), 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; C. Bradford, 3; W. Prince, 4; L. Newton, 5; G. Hinchley, 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure. W. G. Newton, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; *C. Bradford, 3; W. Prince, 4; L. Newton, 5; C. J. Butterworth (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

HEXHAM.—On Monday, August 6th, an attempt for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was made at the Abbey, but unfortunately had to stop after ringing 1 hr., owing to a funeral requiring one bell to be tolled. H. Ferguson, 1; W. Reed (conductor), 2; F. Lees, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; T. Denton, 5; R. S. Story, 6; W. Story, 7; J. Hern, 8. Afterwards a touch of Oxford Treble Bob and an attempt for a touch of Stedman Triples. Tenor 21 cwt.

NEWBURN-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, August 3rd, at St. Michael's church, 720 Oxford Bob Minor. J. Laidler, 1; G. Atkinson, 2; W. Reed, 3; R. S. Story, 4; Z. Scott, 5; W. Story (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

On Tuesday evening, August 14th, at the church of St. James, for practice, 630 Grandsire Triples. R. S. Collins, 1; F. Gooding, 2; F. J. Porch, 3; F. Perrin, 4; G. Pymm, 5; W. Paddock, 6; W. W. Porch (conductor), 7; H. Porch, 8. Also 504 Stedman Triples. F. Gooding, 1; W. W. Porch, 2; F. J. Porch, 3; F. Perrin, 4; A. Pearse, 5; G. Pearse, 6; H. Porch (conductor), 7; F. T. Jewell, 8.

ANGMERING (Sussex).—On Sunday afternoon, August 12th, 720 Plain Bob. E. Parsons, sen., 1; C. Clear, 2; W. Short, 3; C. Hills, 4; C. Blackman, 5; H. Chandler (conductor), 6. Short and Chandler hail from Warnham; Parsons, Clear, and Hills from Angmering; the rest from Arundel.

ARUNDEL (Sussex).—On Sunday, August 12th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples. C. Hills, 1; E. Ede, 2; W. Challen, 3; C. Blackman, 4; G. Balchin, 5; H. Chandler (conductor), 6; W. Short, 7; W. Twigg (conductor), 8.

BEIGHTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, August 12th, being Feast Sunday, the above village was visited by ringers from Norton, South Anston, and Eckington, the latter company numbering nine, who had the first pull and succeeded in ringing 720 each of Oxford and Violet Treble Bob, in 50 mins. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. Also 720 of Kent. G. Butcher (Norton), 1; W. Biggen (Norton), 6. Conducted by G. Marsden. And 360 of Oxford. G. Butcher, 1; F. Fowler, 2; E. James, 3; J. Shaw (conductor), 4; G. Norman, 5; W. Biggen, 6. Tenor 10 cwt. Fowler hails from South Anston; Butcher and Biggen from Norton; the others from Eckington.

CRADLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, July 31st, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor. C. Daniel, 1; H. Woodhall, 2; G. H. Hatton, 3; R. Beasley, 4; J. A. Meredith, 5; C. Beasley (conductor), 6. On Sunday, August 12th, 240 Grandsire Minor. G. Dukes, 1; C. Daniel, 2; H. Woodhall, 3; R. Beasley, 4; J. A. Meredith, 5; C. Beasley (conductor), 6. G. H. Hatton hails from Lye; the rest are local men.

DATCHWORTH (Herts).—On Monday, August 6th, at the parish church, five 120's of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. J. Shepherd, 1; J. Hollingsworth, 2; W. Powers, 3; H. Rowe, 4; A. Shepherd (conductor), 5; G. Smith, 6. The above all belong to Hatfield.

EAST HAGBOURNE (Berks).—On Sunday, August 12th, for Divine Service in the evening, 504 and 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Pether, 1; W. Lawrence, 2; F. Napper, 3; C. Allen, 4; E. Napper, 5; W. Napper (conductor), 6; D. Napper, 7; A. Woodley, 8.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, July 31st, being the occasion of the annual Horticultural Show and parish fete, the bells were rung at intervals during the day, when upwards of 5000 changes were rung in various Minor Treble Bob, and Surprise methods. The following are the principal touches that were rung: 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. C. Hammond (conductor), 1; C. Honeybell, 2; H. Duce, 3; F. Wells, 4; O. Garwood, 5; S. Slater, 6. 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Slater, 1; Joseph Slater, 2; H. Duce, 3; F. Wells, 4; G. C. Hammond, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. Z. Slater, 1; Joseph Slater, 2; H. Duce, 3; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 4; Edward W. Downs, 5; S. Slater, 6. To finish the day's ringing a 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung, non-conducted, no bobs being called or any intimation given whatever. F. Wells, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; G. C. Hammond, 3; Z. Slater, 4; S. Slater, 5; O. Garwood, 6. On the following Tuesday, on handbells, retained in hand, 720 Bob Minor, in 22 mins. G. C. Hammond (conductor), 1-2; S. Slater, 3-4; H. Duce, 5-9. Messrs. Hammond and Duce hail from Long Melford.

HATFIELD (Herts).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Tuesday, August 7th, at the house of Mr. J. Kentish, a plain course of Grandsire Triples. J. Hollingsworth, 1-2; J. Shepherd, 3-4; H. Rowe, 5-6; W. Powers, 7-8. Also 216 of Grandsire Minor. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. Rowe (conductor), 5-6.

HULL (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, August 12th, for Divine Service at Holy Trinity church, 720 Bob Minor. *J. Highfield, 1; C. Bennett, 3; H. Jenkins, 4; J. Pollard, 5; J. Dixey, 6; C. Jackson (conductor), 7; *J. Dale, 8. *First 720. On Tuesday, August 14th, for practice, a touch of Grandsire Minor, with 7th and tenor covering. H. Wood, 1; A. Shepherd, 2; A. Bramall, 3; W. Heyhoe, 4; G. Weldon, 5; D. Seamer (conductor), 6; J. Lamb, 7; J. Dale (Hull), 8. And 672 Grandsire Triples. D. Seamer, 1; T. Stockdale, 2; J. Pollard, 3; H. Jenkins, 4; W. Southwick, 5; J. Dixey, 6; C. Jackson (conductor), 7; A. Bramall, 8.

IPSWICH.—On Saturday, August 4th, at the church of St. Mary-le-Tower, three courses of Double Norwich Court Bob Royal. W. P. Garrett, 1; E. Pemberton, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; R. Hawes, 4; C. Saul, 5; C. Mee, 6; E. Horrex (London), 7; W. Motts, 8; W. Catchpole (conductor), 9; R. H. Brundle, 10.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Sunday, August 5th, at SS. Mary and All Saints, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples from Holt's Original. J. Bennett, 1; T. Bennett, 2; H. Williams, 3; J. Bennett, 4; J. Crane, 5; John Clark, 6; R. E. Grove (conductor), 7; T. Walters, 8. J. Clark hails from Ross. On Saturday, August 11th, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Bennett, 1; T. Bennett, 2; A. Salters, 3; H. Adams, 4; C. Bearman, 5; T. Griffiths, 6; J. Crane, 7; T. Walter, 8. C. Bearman and T. Griffiths hail from Areley Kings, and this is C. Bearman's first 504. Also 336 in the same method. J. Bennett, 1; T. Bennett, 2; G. Salters, 3; H. Adams, 4; H. Smith, 5; J. Bennett, 6; J. Crane, 7; S. Smith, 8. This was H. Smith's longest touch of Triples. And on

Sunday, August 12th, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Bennett, 1; T. Bennett, 2; T. Salters, 3; J. Bennett, 4; H. Adams, 5; J. Leach, 6; J. Crane, 7; T. Walters, 8.

LAVENHAM (Suffolk).—On Thursday, August 9th, 720 Bob Major, in 32 mins. W. Bobby, 1; C. Fish, 2; A. Symonds, 3; H. Duce, 4; H. Smith, 5; W. Snell, 6; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 7; W. Moore, 8. Also 464 in the same method, the ringers stationed as before. Tenor 24 cwt.

LONDON.—On Sunday, August 12th, for Divine Service in the evening, at Stephen's, Westminster, 742 Grandsire Triples in 30 mins. S. J. Reed, 1; W. Carter, 2; A. Ingerfield, 3; J. Pryor, 4; E. Duff, 5; H. R. Newton (conductor), 6; H. T. Ellis, 7; W. Cropley, 8.

MANCHESTER.—On Sunday, August 12th, for evening service at Holy Trinity church, Salford, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 23 mins. Thomas G. Downs, 1; George E. Turner, 2; Joseph Brooks, 3; A. Edward Wreaks (conductor), 4; Henry Chapman, 5; John Eachus, 6. Tenor 11½ cwt. For afternoon service at Manchester Cathedral, 572 Grandsire Caters. Thomas Thorpe, 1; Joseph Turner, 2; Henry Chapman, 3; John E. Pollitt, 4; Thomas G. Downs, 5; George E. Turner, 6; James Thorpe, 7; A. Edward Wreaks (conductor), 8; John Eachus, 9; James Parkinson, 10. For evening service, two courses (640 changes) of Treble Bob Major. Joseph Turner, 1; Thomas Thorpe, 2; Thomas G. Downs, 3; George E. Turner, 4; Henry Chapman, 5; James Thorpe, 6; A. Edward Wreaks, 7; John Eachus (conductor), 8. Tenor 25 cwt. Chapman hails from Bedford; Brooks from Walkden; the rest belong to Manchester.

MILVERTON (Somersetshire).—On Sunday, July 29th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. T. Andrews, 1; W. Andrews, 2; R. Scott, 3; J. Richards, 4; R. Andrews, 5; W. Chapman (conductor), 6. Tenor 20 cwt. This is the first 720 in the method ever rung on these bells.

NORTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, August 5th, being Feast Sunday, the local company rang 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Butcher, 1; H. Ward, 2; J. Goshen, 3; J. Atkin, 4; W. Biggen, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford and 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Butcher, 1; J. Goshen, 2; E. James, 3; W. Biggen, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; J. Allen, 6. Also 360 of Oxford. G. Butcher, 1; J. Atkin, 2; E. James, 3; J. Biggen, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; J. Allen, 6. G. Marsden and E. James hail from Eckington.

NORWICH.—On Monday, August 8th, at the church of St. Peter Mancroft, a course of Double Norwich Court Bob Royal. A. E. Durrant, 1; W. Motts, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; C. Mee, 4; P. Sadler, 5; R. Hawes, 6; E. Reeve, 7; E. Horrex, 8; R. H. Brundle, 9; G. Smith, 10. Messrs. Sadler and Smith belong to the St. Peter's Mancroft company, Mr. E. Horrex to the College Youths, London, and the rest to St. Mary-le-Tower society, Ipswich.

ROWLEY REGIS (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, August 11th, at the church of St. Giles, 1260 of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. C. Barrett, 1; G. H. Pagett, 2; W. H. Hartshorn, 3; H. Harris, 4; R. Hall, 5; J. Hall, 6; B. Lowe, 7; B. Oakley, 8. Composed by J. Carter, of Birmingham, and conducted by W. H. Hartshorn. Messrs. Pagett, Harris, and Barrett, hail from Stourbridge, the brothers Hall from West Bromwich, Hartshorn from Brierley Hill, the rest belong to the local company. The visitors wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to thank the local company for the kind manner in which they were received.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—On Sunday, August 5th, at the parish church, 720 Court Single. J. Bailey, 1; G. Burton, 2; W. Lewis, 3; A. E. Chapman, 4; F. Clayton, 5; W. A. Hall (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, August 7th, on handbells, 360 Yorkshire Court and 360 Oxford Bob. A. H. Martin, 1-2; G. Burton, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; W. A. Hall (conductor), 5-6. On Wednesday, August 8th, 360 Court Single and 360 Bob Minor. J. Bailey, 1; G. Burton, 2; A. E. Chapman, 3-4; W. A. Hall (conductor), 5-6. On Friday, August 10th, at the parish church, 360 Oxford Bob, 360 College Little, and 120 Oxford Treble Bob. The following took part: J. Bailey, G. Heath, G. Burton, C. West, A. E. Chapman, F. Clayton, W. Lewis, and W. Hall.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Thursday, August 2nd, on handbells, retained in hand, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (taken from Holt's Original), in 38 mins. W. S. Wise, 1-2; W. W. Gifford, 3-4; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 5-6; H. D. Adams, 7-8. On Wednesday, July 18th, on the tower bells, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. W. W. Gifford, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; S. Lawrence, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; W. J. Prince, 5; W. E. Tydeman, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday morning, August 5th, for Divine Service at St. Thomas' church, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles, with 6-8 behind), in 30 mins. J. Pagett, 1; C.

Barrett, 2; H. Mills, 3; G. H. Pagett, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; J. Crump, 6; H. Harris, 7; J. Bird, 8. Composed and conducted by H. Harris. Also 258 Bob Triples. J. Pagett, 1; J. Guest, 2; H. Harris, 3; H. Mills, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; C. Barrett, 6; G. Pagett (conductor), 7; J. Crump, 8. J. Guest hails from Brierley Hill; W. Lawrence from Wordsley; Mills from Tipton.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, August 11th, for practice at St. Gregory's church, 1056 changes of Bob Major. F. Tolladay, 1; J. Bonney, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; J. Campin, 4; J. Hume, 5; H. Harper, 6; W. Howell, 7; A. Scott (conductor), 8. Afterwards on handbells, a touch of Grandsire Caters. F. Tolladay, 1-2; A. Scott, 3-4; J. Bonney, 5-6; W. Howell, 7-8; H. Harper, 9-10. Also touches of Bob Royal and Kent Treble Bob Major. On Sunday evening August 12th, for evening service, at St. Peter's church, 560 Bob Major. W. Cross, 1; M. Silvester, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; J. Bonney, 4; H. Harper, 5; A. Scott (conductor), 6; W. Howell, 7; H. Brackett, 8. After service a touch of Grandsire Triples, and 288 Stedman Triples, conducted by J. Bonney. Mr. Hume, aged 83, hails from Bures St. Mary; Bonney from London.

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 QUICK PEAL OF STEDMAN AT DRAYTON.

SIR,—A line from me on this subject may be of service in reply to "G.M." and "Fair Play" and in defence of Mr. Washbrook. I solemnly declare that the peal of 5040 Stedman Triples rung at Drayton on April 13th, 1888, in 2 hrs. 27 mins., was true, complete, and well-struck throughout. There were no "scrambles" in it as "G.M." suggested; there was no "cooking" (*vide* "Fair Play"), nothing was omitted, and we are quite sure about the time, which was taken by the clock in the belfry. Seeing the first single come up at 1 hr. 14 mins. from the start, and knowing that the work was being done and had been done correctly—Mr. W. and I said several times in the latter part of the peal "keep them going," the result being that the whole peal was rung at racing pace, but I again solemnly assure the Exercise quite truly and completely throughout. Now if G.M. does not care to ring at the like rate and still doubts the possibility of the whole of the 5040 changes being correctly rung in so short a time, let him come or send some competent witness to hear us, and we will undertake to repeat the performance of April 13th. Will "Fair Play" please ask "G.M." why he did not meet the conductor of the said quick peal in London when asked to do so, in order to receive his testimony on the subject? Then as to the slower peal in the same method on the same bells, but *not* by the same conductor (G.M. should take care to be quite accurate in his assertions), rung in 2 hrs. 54 mins., on July 4th. The treble ringer in this peal being a novice required considerable help, and thus the peal was rung at a much slower pace than the other; but this peal also was true and complete without omissions or additions. We do not mean to ring our peals always at racing pace, nor do we see why the truth of our performances should be suspected when we occasionally shew how fast small bells can be rung. In any case it seems to me anything but "Fair Play" to asperse any man's character for truthfulness, and thus to discount the value of all his performances simply because he takes part in an unprecedented feat or possesses exceptional abilities as a conductor. F. E. ROBINSON, *Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.*

"QUICK PEALS."

SIR,—I see another correspondent signing himself "Fair Play" is in the field. If that individual is afraid to append his name to his epistle I am afraid he will fail in his purpose. The unknown critic, "Free Lance," too, is erring. I was not the conductor of the quick peal rang at Drayton, but simply the poor "tenor ringer," so I cannot see how I am to blame so much, as I should have been a poor tool if I could not keep her in her place, and in her place she was. Mr. Muskett should be reminded of this also. Poor man! he must have overlooked the fact. The other peal mentioned by the latter gentleman was perfectly correct, and the speed of the peal rests with the performers, and not with Mr. Muskett or anyone else; surely we are not obliged to ring at one speed always. If I wanted to find fault with a company of ringers, I should first of all go and listen to one of their peals before I opened my mouth in public. Now, Sir, here is a man, and I may say a clique, seeing a peal in "THE BELL NEWS," contradicts its truth, refuses to believe in any performance of the company, yes, and refuses to listen to another performance of exactly the same kind. He is afraid. Why? Because he knows it

was done and can be done again. He knows from experience that people do not offer to do a thing which they know would be impossible. Bah! it is bigotry, selfishness and jealousy. He do not want people to do what he cannot do himself. Let him take a pattern from another well-known conductor in London, a gentleman to the backbone, who would pat a young one on the back and say "Well done lad." If he cannot improve in his ringing abilities, he can undoubtedly improve his feelings by that pattern. Now, Sir, in conclusion may I add, if there is a hundred more letters on this subject, I shall ignore them all, as I do all other valueless and ridiculous epistles. For we know this, that faultfinders only operate on their betters.

J. W. WASHBROOK.

37 Catherine Street, Cowley Road, Oxford.

WASHBROOK v. BARRETT.

SIR,—I am pleased to note through the columns of our paper that false peals are at once detected as soon as the figures appear. The assertions made in Mr. Washbrook's first letter regarding Mr. Barrett's peal were apparently not believed by the last-named gentleman, though by this time he has doubtless come to the conclusion that the peal is untrue. At the same time I think it would have shewn a little courtesy had Mr. Washbrook communicated direct with Mr. Barrett before rushing into print, and thus have allowed him the privilege of withdrawing his peal, and excusing himself as best he could. We must also credit Mr. Washbrook with apprising the Exercise of the existence of this false peal, though long before his letter appeared, it was well known all over Birmingham, being instantly discovered to be false by our able composer. I am likewise pleased to notice that Mr. W. has evidently been working Stedman up lately, and now that he seems to have mastered the proof-scale so well, we shall hear no more of him compiling and conducting worthless peals in this intricate method, as we heard of some time ago. It is well known to readers of our paper that one of his friends induced him to part with the figures of a peal he had conducted, and as it turned out to be false, he was remonstrated with, but he unscrupulously denied having rung that composition, and gave another set of figures, and this last turned out worse than the first. Not hearing any more talk of these affairs, I presume he has not yet been fortunate enough to find the one that was performed, if he has, it ought to have been acknowledged in some way that he had rung a false peal. This matter I should like to see properly squared up, as well as those other matters which correspondents are enquiring about. If such performances as these are acknowledged, what percentage must we take off the weekly list to arrive at what are true peals?

ASTONIAN.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—I think that Mr. C. H. Hattersley should have made himself a little better informed of the real state of things at Hagley before he made the statement he did to his Hull friends. That statement does not look right as to Hagley not possessing a local company, when in the same number of your paper is the report of the said company's outing to Bridgnorth. That Hagley does not possess a full band of change-ringers we will allow, but that it is on the high road for it the following facts will show: that the company numbers nine members; of that number seven have rung 720s of Minor, six of them are able to take their stand in touches of Grandsire Triples, and that a quarter-peal was rang a few weeks ago, five of the performers belonging to the Hagley company. All this has been done since March last. More we hope to do in the future.

H. MARTIN.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—Seeing in last week's issue a peal of Treble Bob Maximus rung at Norwich, said to be composed by Daniel Prentice, and has been published in "THE BELL NEWS," will Mr. Prentice please to tell me in what number the peal can be found, and at the same time will he please to answer my letter which appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of Saturday, April 14th, 1888.

GEORGE HAYWARD.

TYDD ST. GILES, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

SIR,—Seeing in "THE BELL NEWS" of August 4th, 1888, a report of the new peal of six bells, which were opened at Tydd St. Giles, Cambridgeshire, on June 4th, and of the Walpole St. Peter's and Spalding ringers ringing Treble Bob, Bob Minor, and Grandsire Doubles, would you allow me to correct a slight mistake. The Walpole ringers attempted a 720 of Treble Bob, which came to grief. The Spalding ringers then rang 720 London Single (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins., which was the first true 720 on the new bells. J. Peck, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; J. W. Jarvis, 3; G. Skeef, 4; R. Jarvis, 5; R. Mackman, 6. Conducted by R. Mackman.

G. SKEEF.

THE WEST CITY OF LONDON SOCIETY.

On Monday, August 6th, the members of this society held their eleventh annual outing and dinner at "The Bush Inn," Horsham Road, Dorking. The party left London about 9 o'clock and arrived at Dorking about 10.45 where host Collins had provided waggonettes to convey them to their destination, and after a little light refreshment, a delightful walk was taken through the Glory one of the most picturesque spots in the neighbourhood. Dinner was served punctually at two o'clock, to which twenty-two members and friends did ample justice. The chair was occupied by Mr. Lovett, and the vice-chair by Mr. Wheeler, and the cloth being cleared a lengthy programme was carried out. After the usual loyal toasts, the first performance was a course of Grandsire Caters on the hand-bells by Messrs. H. J. Davis, A. E. Church, W. D. Matthews, R. French and J. Barry. The remaining toasts included "Prosperity to the Society," "The Clergy and Churchwardens of St. Sepulchre," and "The Visitors," which was responded to most ably by Mr. French. Several selections on the hand-bells were given by Messrs. Clarkson, Matthews and Lovett, and Messrs. Barry and Moore, and some excellent songs were song were rendered by Messrs. Clarkson, Church, Barry, Davis, Matthews, Chapman, Rumsey, and Milner. Mr. Holmes created great amusement by his song and representation of "The Countess." The final toast on the list (which was received with musical honours) was "The Host and Hostess," to whom great credit was due for the able and efficient manner in which they catered for the party. In reply host Collins congratulated the officers of the society, Messrs. D. Lovett (master), J. Wheeler (treasurer), and A. E. Matthews (secretary), also the steward, Mr. W. D. Matthews, for the able manner in which the arrangements had been made and carried out, and thus ended one of the most successful and enjoyable outings the society ever had.

REOPENING THE BELLS OF ST. MARY MAGDELINE, GILLINGHAM, KENT.

The bells of this, one of the finest churches in Kent, were once more set in order on Saturday, the 4th instant, being silent for about two years, having become unmanageable at that time, a move was made to get them rehung, but without success, however, after a lapse of time, another move was made, and thanks to the untiring efforts of Mr. Churchwarden Munchin and friends two concerts were given and a subscription opened, the sum of about fifty pounds were realised, of which Mr. Munchin collected about two thirds, finally the work was put in the hands of Mr. Snelling of Sittingbourne, he having fitted new gudgeons and bearings pulleys, runners and ropes, and repaired the wheels, &c. Saturday being the day appointed for the reopening, the newly formed band ascended the tower and rang a few rounds, after which, with the help of a few friends, a start was made for Holt's Original, after ringing about half through a shift course the bells came round. It is supposed that there has only been one peal rung on the bells, which was in the time when the two Trebles were added in May 27th, 1811. A peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major by following: W. Murray, 1; P. Aubrey, 2; W. Eversfield, 3; R. Evans, 4; F. Strange, 5; T. Connber, 6; E. Kittle, 7; J. Braner, 8—J. Yullet, 1; C. Wiltshire, 2; L. Conyard, 3; A. Haigh, 4; W. Baker, 5; J. Baker, 6; F. French, 7; W. Haigh, 8. Great praise is due to Mr. Snelling for the way in which he carried out the work, the go of the bells being all that could be desired.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

An interim meeting of the above society (for practice) will be held at St. Mary's, Woolwich, on Tuesday, August 21st, at eight o'clock p.m. Members are cordially invited to attend.

106, King George Street,
Greenwich, S.E.

FREDERICK W. THORNTON,
Secretary.

The Rev. J. Marshall Andrews, of St. Jude's, Gray's-inn road, has been appointed vicar of St. Michael's, Highgate, in place of the Rev. Dr. Daniel Trinder, deceased.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"I regretted to hear that the local ringers contented themselves with practising on the bells evenings in the week, while on Sunday the sound of these village bells was not heard, or if heard at all, only occasionally, when it seemed to suit them."

I am obliged to "J. E. W." for giving me a text this week, in the words above. The circumstance which is thus narrated opens out most forcibly a question which has often risen in my mind. What do we ring for? In the old days which we are prone to refer to as the "dark ages" of our history as ringers, when ringers and ringing were under the ban of "respectable society," when our predecessors in the art were not considered by the clergy and church officials as having risen to the dignity of even the organ blower, the gravedigger, or the church sweeper, and were thus left to their own devices, unrecognised and uncared for; there can be no wonder, I say, if in those times the ringers met and rang for their own pleasure alone, and with scarcely a thought for either the reason of the bells being there, or indeed anything else save their own amusement. But now-a-days, when we are said to have emerged from this slough of despond into a brighter atmosphere, when we are being recognised more as church officials and as individuals engaged in a distinct branch of church work in each parish, this question comes to the front with such force that it cannot be longer gainsaid, and must sooner or later be answered. What do we each and every-one ring for? Do we still meet week after week in our belfries, as our forefathers did, simply and solely to gratify our own pleasure, just in the same way as we should join in a cricket match or any other athletic sport, or do we take our part in ringing from a true sense of its real object? If this example of the Brightling band, as given in the words in my "text," were to be taken as an indication of our real purpose and aim in ringing—that of simply ringing for pastime—I fear we are yet a long way—a very long way off, actually occupying that position in the church which we are in the habit of claiming for ourselves. Were that so, I have no hesitation in saying that the look-out would be still dark indeed. But, although, happily, we have exceedingly good grounds for declining to accept this case as a fair example. I am much inclined to fear that after all the principle (if I may call it such) which underlies this deplorable state of things at Brightling operates to a greater or less degree in far too many instances amongst us. I am afraid that too often, as Mr. Heywood remarked recently, our brethren were apt to forget the true reason why the bells are in the tower. Nevertheless, believing in the truth of the good old adage, that "open confession is good for the soul," I would say to our friends with reference to this point, "come and let us reason together," that perchance good may come out of our deliberations.

Then how shall we answer this question, what do we ring for? In the first place, our bells are acknowledged to be "the outward voice of the church," proclaiming to the people the times of assembling for public worship, its season of rejoicing and of sorrow. That, I think, is so much matter of fact, so well-known and understood, as to be not even debatable. The great and primary object of our ringing is thus undoubtedly the calling together of the people to the House of God. This being so, it follows naturally that all who are engaged in the work should use their utmost endeavours so that they may perform this duty in the most efficient manner. Thus constant and unremitting practices are absolutely necessary. These practices consequently should be regarded as means to an end—that of promoting the excellence of the Sunday performances. Thus far our positions and duty as ringers is quite clear and intelligible; and when the ringing is engaged in with these motives, while there will be every reason to look for advancement in the science, and good striking a right answer to the question will be an easy thing to give.

But besides this, ringing for the public services of the church, we as ringers, have other duties to perform with our bells. We have to proclaim the varied seasons as they come round. As we should ring our jubilant peals on the great festivals and other times of rejoicing, so we should mark in like manner, the Church's solemn seasons, and the times of grief when the Church and nation suffers bereavement in the loss of its sons. As the old year dies out also, we should mark its departure with muffled tones, thus proclaiming the close of another era in our sojourn on earth—one more year added to our life's span, one nearer the coming of the Great Judge, of the quick and the dead, to whom we must all render account for our doings in the flesh. Then when we herald in the new year with our date touches so peculiarly commemorative of our Christian era, we should be likewise proclaiming that "sure and certain hope of a glorious resurrection" which the advent of the new year has brought us so much nearer to its accomplishment.

Then comes our peal-ringing performances. As the choir practices its anthem, week after week, until it is competent to sing it at the service in the church *ad majorem Dei gloriam*, so should we ring our peals. As excellence in the performances of the choir is praiseworthy so is excellence in ringing. To quote the beautiful simile of a late and beloved vicar of my old parish church; just as the parson preached the sermon, so should the choir sing the anthem, for the edification of the people and the glory of God. So with peal ringing, which should be engaged in with like motives. Just as our choirs endeavour to show their proficiency in their singing of anthems, so we as ringers should strive to mark our progress with peal-ringing performances, that the people may be gratified at the long continued sound of their bells, and likewise be animated with feelings of renewed devotion to their Church and heavenly Father.

Such, then, I venture to submit, are our duties as ringers. Such are the objects, in short, that we should ring for. But I would ask in all earnestness, is it *this* that we really do ring for? I admit that until recent years, we have had little or no encouragement from our spiritual superiors to regard our work in such a light. That state of things is undoubtedly passing away, and in the future this cannot be counted upon as affording an excuse for remissions on our part. Shall it then be said of us, now or in the time to come, that while our clergy have awoken, or are awakening to a true sense of their duties towards us and our work, we, on the other hand, still remain as our ancestors were simply ringers for amusement, without a due recognition of our work, or a thought as to the real object for which "we and the bells are there."

Surely we shall rise "to the situation;" and remembering that as is the preacher in the pulpit, the choir in the stalls, so should be the ringers in the belfry—living voices of the Church; then such examples as that of Brightling will vanish from our midst, and we shall "with no uncertain sound," be able to proclaim what we ring for.

FREE LANCE.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.

The annual election of officers will take place on Monday, August 20th, 1888, after the usual practice at St. Clement Danes Church.
J. BARRY, Hon. Sec.
27, Arlington Street, N.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO. Printers, Exeter.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

The first annual festival of this Guild was held at Chester on Monday last. The Guild originated at the Diocesan Conference in October, 1887, when a resolution that it was desirable to found it, was moved by the Archdeacon of Chester, and carried unanimously. In accordance with this resolution a meeting was held in the Old Refectory on November 12th, 1887, at which the Guild was established, rules were adopted, and a provisional committee was appointed to carry on the work until the first annual meeting. The Rev. Canon Greenall kindly undertook the office of secretary *pro tem.*, and Mr. J. Tinsley that of treasurer, and to their exertions much of the success of the Guild will be ascribed. Local branches are established in various parts of the Diocese, and representatives from them are elected to the executive committee. The first object of the Guild is to secure the recognition of the ringers as Church officers, while it seeks to improve the art of change-ringing and to promote belfry reform.

The members of the Guild were invited to be present at the morning service at the Cathedral, and though the exigencies of Bank Holiday traffic made some of the trains bringing distant visitors to be late, there was a large congregation present. After the anthem, a short address was given by the Archdeacon of Chester, who took for his text Psalm xxix. 2.

At 11.30 the general meeting of the Guild was held in the Old Refectory, by kind permission of the Dean, who presided, and gave a hearty welcome to the Cathedral precincts to these church workers who had gathered together from the different parts of the Diocese. The report was read by Canon Greenall, and gave an account of the progress which had been made in the first nine months of the Guild's existence. From this it would appear that there are now seven local branches, containing forty-six honorary members, 235 change-ringers, and fifty-two probationers. The local branches are Chester, Wirral, Macclesfield, Bowdon and Stockport, Northwich, Runcorn and Frodsham, and Grappenhall; whilst it is hoped soon to establish others at Holmes Chapel, at Crewe or Nantwich, and elsewhere. A full discussion on some of the rules was raised by some suggested alterations moved by Mr. Pease, of Saltney, but the general opinion was that it would be better to give the rules a longer trial before making any change. The officers and committee for the ensuing year were elected, but no election was made to the office of Master, in the hope that ere long some influential person in the Diocese, who is a change-ringer, may be met with, and be willing to occupy that position. Mr. H. A. Heywood, of Caldly Manor, was elected secretary and treasurer, and the following were chosen as members of the committee:—The Rev. the Precentor, Rev. H. Grantham, Dr. Bridge, Messrs. R. Bushell, J. Tinsley, H. Hatt Cooke, F. Ball, Matthews, Dexter, Pease, Bithell, and T. Marshall. The following were approved of as instructors:—For Chester, Messrs. F. Ball, Bithell, and Pierce; for Frodsham, Mr. G. Rigby; for Grappenhall, Mr. Houghton; for Runcorn, Mr. Hoxworth; for Macclesfield, Mr. Walmsley; for Holmes Chapel, Mr. Johnson; for Wirral, Mr. W. Woods; and for Northwich, Mr. W. Forster. Arrangements were made for the distribution of the certificates of membership and the belfry prayers through the secretaries of local branches, and very hearty thanks were unanimously accorded to Cannon Greenall and Mr. Tinsley for their provisional work as secretary and treasurer respectively. On the motion of the Rev. H. Blogg, a vote of thanks to the Dean for the use of the refectory and for his conduct in the chair was passed, and after a graceful acknowledgment from the Dean, the Company adjourned to the school St. Mary's on-the-Hill (kindly lent by the Archdeacon), where a substantial dinner had been provided by Messrs. Baker. Nearly 190 sat down, and the room was well filled. After dinner was over the Dean proposed the toast of "Church and Queen," which was duly honoured; and Mr. Matthews, of Macclesfield, in cordial terms proposed the health of Archdeacon Barber, as the founder of the Guild. The toast was very warmly received. The Archdeacon, in reply, said that any efforts of his to establish the Guild had been amply repaid by the magnificent gathering that day, whilst they would have been useless and vain had he not been so heartily seconded and supported by many energetic workers. It had been a great pleasure to him to do what he had done, and he wished continued and increasing success to the Guild which had begun so auspiciously.

During the afternoon the towers of the cathedral, St. Mary's-

without-the-Walls, St. Mary's-on-the-Hill, St. Michael's and St. Peter's were open to the members of the Guild, and there being no time for regular peals, touches of the following methods were rung: Stedman, Grandsire Triples, Treble Bob, and Plain Bob.

At six o'clock the members reassembled at St. Mary's School for tea; and the opportunity was taken of consulting them as to the best time and place for the next annual meeting. It was ascertained that a large majority were in favour of meeting at Macclesfield (D.V.) on the August Bank Holiday. The Rural Dean of Chester proposed a vote of thanks to Canon Greenall and Mr. Tinsley, which was most heartily accorded, and thus was brought to a close a festival which on all sides was pronounced to be most pleasant and successful.

THE ST. PAUL'S (BRIGHTON) GUILD.

On Monday, August 6th, the members of the above Guild held their annual outing at Mr. Turner's farm, near East Hoathly. The party, numbering about twenty-five, left Brighton by 8-17 a.m. train to Uckfield, and on their arrival proceeded by wagonettes to East-Hoathly. After partaking of refreshments they rang several 6-scores of Doubles on the bells of the parish church and subsequently indulged in cricket. At one o'clock the members sat down to an excellent luncheon provided by Mr. and Mrs. Turner. In the afternoon a visit was paid to Waldron, and touches of Triples were rung upon the bells of All Saints Church, including a well-struck quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples which was accomplished in forty-five minutes by the following ringers: P. Allfrey, 1; W. Allfrey, 2; W. Palmer, 4; F. W. Harding (Eastbourne) 5; E. Willoughby (Eastbourne), 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; George Murray, 8. The members then adjourned to Mr. Turner's, and after partaking of tea returned in their conveyances to Uckfield, *en route* for Brighton, highly satisfied with their outing. The thanks of the Guild are due to Mr. and Mrs. Allfrey, who journeyed from Brighton the previous day in order to make the necessary arrangements for the visits. So admirably had they arranged everything for the comfort of the ringers, that the day proved one of the most enjoyable the Guild has spent since its existence. The members also take this opportunity of thanking the incumbents of East Hoathly and Waldron parish churches, for kindly granting them permission to ring upon their bells.

BRISTOL.

On Friday, the 10th of August, a mixed band of the ringers of Bristol had great pleasure in meeting Mr. J. Dennis, of the St. Phillip's Society, Sydney, Australia, at St. Matthew's Church, Kingsdown, where several touches were rung in the Grandsire method, in which Mr. Dennis took part, after which they rang at St. Mary Redcliffe, and St. Peter's. The ringers comprised the following: Messrs. York, Salter, Knill, Dennis, Beak, Walters, Gordon, Chammings, Palser and Rooke. The band then adjourned to the "George Hotel," Narrow Wine Street, where a very pleasant evening was spent.

NOTICE.

The members of the Midland Counties' Association, are invited to a Garden Party, at Duffield Bank, on Saturday, September 8th, from two till six o'clock. Tea at half-past four. The Church Tower will be open from two till half-past four, and from half-past five till nine o'clock. Mr. Heywood will also be glad to see friends who are members of other associations.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

The next ringing meeting of the above branch, will take place on Saturday, August 18th, 1888, at St. Saviour's Church, Bacup, bells ready at 2 o'clock. Meeting in the School at 6.30.

J. T. STOTT, *Local Sec.*

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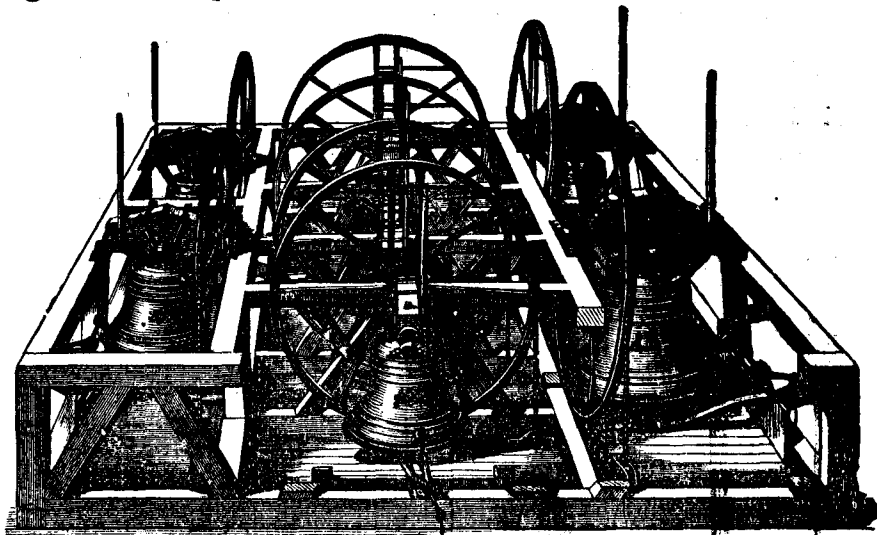
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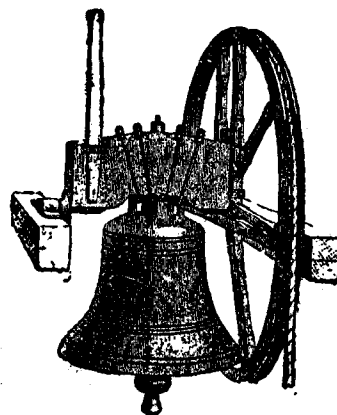
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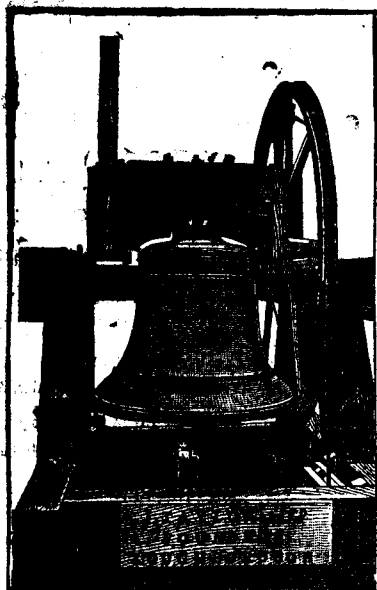
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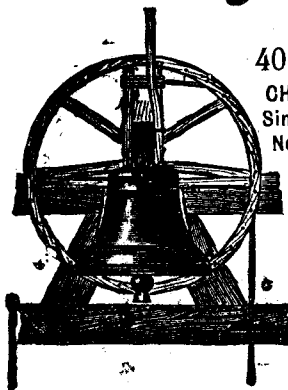
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No. 334.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1888.

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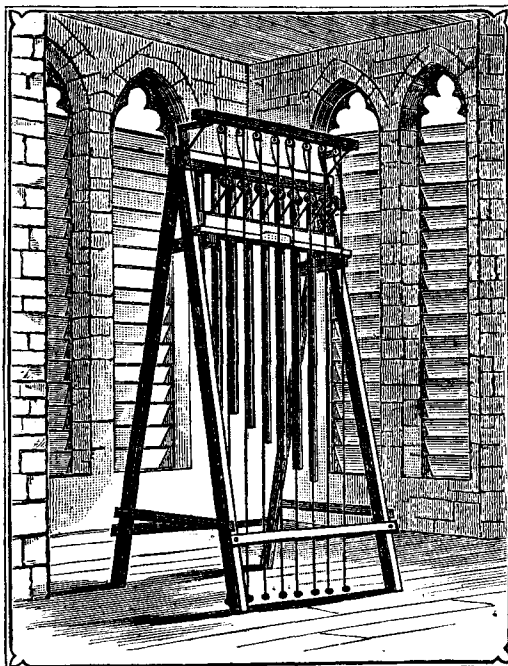
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ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, WEST BROMWICH.

ON Monday, August 6th (Bank Holiday), the ringers of the above church had their annual outing, the place selected being Coalbrookdale, Shropshire. The ringers were accompanied by the Vicar (the Rev. M. M. Connor), and Messrs. C. Price and J. Frisby, of the Christ Church band, and Mr. W. R. Small, of Tipton. They started in rather miserable weather from West Bromwich at 8.10 a.m., and reached Wolverhampton at 8.45. Here they had to change, and while they were waiting for the train, the party was joined by Mr. Rowland Cartwright, of Wombourn. The train coming in, every one had to make a rush for a seat, and some of the party had to content themselves with getting a place in the very special apartment—the guard's van. At Shifnal they were able to improve on it by being put into a second class carriage. Wellington was reached a few minutes before ten, and here there was a stop for an hour and a half, so it was determined to try the bells if they could gain permission. With this object in view, the Vicar at once set out to find the proper authorities. He first trudged off to find the vicar of Wellington, and having found him and obtained his permission, he had to jog off to the Churchwarden to get his. Then there was another journey to find the steeplekeeper, but "all's well that ends well," and at last they found themselves in the belfry, which contains a peal of six, tenor 23 cwt. Ringing at Wellington is at a very low ebb, and there is plenty of room for improvement. The "go" of the bells is very bad. The present Vicar of Wellington has only lately taken charge of the parish, and it is hoped that belfry reform will be one of the first works on which he will commence. We need only refer to one case to illustrate how sadly reform is needed when we mention that one individual came into the belfry with his pipe in his mouth and his hat on his head, and went on with his smoking till told by one of the party that smoking was not allowed in belfries. A 120 of Stedman Doubles was rung by S. Reeves, 1; W. R. Small, 2; J. Frisby, 3; R. Cartwright, 4; C. Price, 5; E. Woodhall, 6. Other members of the party tried the bells, but none seemed to care about ringing too long. At 11.10 all were again in the train ready to start for Coalbrookdale. On the way down, courses of Grandsire were rung on the handbells, which Mr. Small had kindly brought with him. On arriving at their destination, a move was at once made for the church, when the bells were raised, and ringing then became the order of the day. A 294 of Grandsire Triples was rung to test the bells and see if it would be safe to try for a peal in the afternoon. It was thought this could be done, and while the peal band went to refresh themselves, other members of the party rang various touches of Grandsire Triples. When the cravings of the inner man had been satisfied, the following members attempted Biddlestone's peal of Grandsire Triples, which came to grief after ringing 1700 changes, owing to a miscall. G. Griffiths, 1; S. Reeves, 2; S. Slater, 3; W. R. Small, 4; C. Price, 5; S. Smith, 6; W. Cooper, 7; R. Cartwright, 8. While the ringing was going on, other members of the party strolled about, enjoying the beautiful scenery with which this part of the country abounds. A visit was made to Ironbridge, to view the bridge, from which we suppose the place takes its name, and which is said to be the first iron bridge ever made in the world. Some wandered along the banks of the Severn, and others wended their way through beautiful lanes back to Coalbrookdale, and got to the Church in time to meet the rest of the party. Tea was provided in the schoolroom, which had been kindly placed at their disposal by the Vicar, the Rev. H. Harris. A good repast had been provided by Mrs. Beddoe, consisting of tea and coffee, beef and ham, bread and butter, cakes, watercress, salad, etc., to which full justice was done. After tea, the Rev. M. M. Connor, in a few remarks, said he was sorry the Vicar had not been able to hear the ringing that day, as he had to be away from home, and he proposed that a hearty vote of thanks be given to Mr. Harris for his kindness in allowing them the use of the schoolroom, and to Mrs. Beddoe for providing such an excellent tea. Mrs. BEDDOE briefly responded, and said she hoped it would not be the last time the West Bromwich ringers would visit Coalbrookdale.

Mr. WOODHALL said how pleased they were to see members from other belfries with them that day, and hoped such meetings

as this would tend to bind ringers together more, and also further the art of change-ringing.

Mr. CARTWRIGHT in responding, said how pleased he was to receive the invitation, and to be present, and to do all in his power to help and forward the science.

Rambles by some, and ringing by others, till it was time to assemble at the station for home, brought a most pleasant and enjoyable day to a close.

The party wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to convey their thanks to the Vicars of Wellington and Coalbrookdale for their kindness in allowing them the use of the bells.

THE ORMSKIRK SOCIETY.

ON Monday, August 6th, the annual pic-nic of the above society (with a few friends), took place, Bromborough and Neston in Cheshire being the places selected. Leaving Ormskirk by the 6.50 a.m. train, and arriving in Liverpool about 7.30 a.m., a move was made to the underground railway to go by train to Birkenhead, the latter place being reached in good time, and enquiries made as to trains to Bromborough, etc. Leaving Birkenhead by the 8.55 a.m. train, Bromborough was reached, and the party alighted, and after a pleasant walk of a mile, arrived at the church. Keys being obtained, a move was made to the belfry, and having raised the bells, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal was rung in 1 hr. 30 mins. J. Prescott, 1; E. Prescott (Hindley), 2; W. Ellis, 3; H. Winrow, 4; W. Bentham (conductor), 5; W. J. Taylor, 6; G. Prescott, 7; P. H. Harvey, 8. Tenor about 25 cwt. The ringing-chamber is very noisy, almost making it impossible to hear the calls. The bells were cast by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough. On descending the tower the party found the rector waiting in the churchyard, who after a very pleasant chat showed the party through the church, which is a very pretty one, and explained to them the history of the various stained windows, etc. On taking leave of the rector, the ringers thanked him for the use of the bells, and having wished all the party a pleasant good day, a move was made to Bromborough station, and having booked to Neston, changing at Hooton Junction, the party arrived at Neston. During the walk from the station to the church, bells could be heard at intervals, supposed to be Chester Cathedral bells. The party then partook of refreshments, and obtained a rest for a short time, after which a move was made to the church, where touches of Grandsire Triples were rung. The bells are a musical peal of eight by Mears and Stainbank, and run very well. At this place the ringers stand on the ground floor to ring, and can just hear the bells in the ringing-room, the conductor having no difficulty in making himself heard. After lowering the bells the party dispersed in various directions, the place being quite *en fete*, being the annual club day. After a short walk the party came together again, they being enlivened by the comic anecdotes of "Tassier," who kept the party in roars of laughter. Leaving Neston, Birkenhead was reached, and then by boat to Liverpool, where a short stay was made to refresh the inner man. The party arrived at Ormskirk about 11 p.m., having had a very good day, and they wish through "THE BELL NEWS" to thank the ringers and all concerned for the kind manner in placing the bells of both churches at their disposal.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

The annual election of officers took place on Monday, August 20th, at the "Shakespeare Head," Wych Street, Strand, when the following gentlemen were chosen to serve for the ensuing year: Master, Mr. W. Chew; Secretary, Mr. G. T. McLaughlin; Treasurer, Mr. E. Albone; Senior Steward, Mr. G. S. Hammond; Junior Steward, Mr. C. F. Winny; Auditors, Messrs. Hubbard and Thorne. There was good attendance of members, and several new ones elected, including Mr. Wood, of Ashton-under-Lyne. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the past officers, and the business terminated.

WANTED by a change-ringer, aged 20 years, a situation as Shopman or Book-keeper in Corn and Milling trade preferred; has had 6 years' experience in above Trades with present employer. Can ring the following Methods—Bob, Grandsire and Stedman. Apply to G. BAKER, Jun., Orchard Place, Arundel, Sussex.

DEDICATION OF THE BELLS OF ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, MINEHEAD, SOMERSETSHIRE.

For a great number of years, the parish of Minehead has possessed but a very poor ring of bells, which were certainly not a credit to the town, or in keeping with the fine tower and handsome old parish church. These bells were a peal of five, hanging in a cage totally unfit to stand the strain of heavy bells swinging in peal. Last year steps were taken in the parish to collect money with which to pay the cost of re-hanging the whole, and last summer a bazaar was held at Clanville and a considerable sum of money thereby raised for the same object. A leading part in the movement has been taken by H. A. Bosanquet, Esq. (one of the churchwardens), who, in fact, initiated the scheme and contributed most generously to the fund, and the Misses Bosanquet (3) have also each added a new bell to the old ring, increasing the number of bells to eight. Minehead now possesses one of the finest rings of eight in the county, and it is hoped that a band of young ringers will be found who are willing to learn the art of scientific change ringing, and so lend their help in the direction of belfry reform and towards furthering a science which is so little known and practised in the county of Somerset—Dunster, Old Cleeve, St. Mary's Taunton, and Milverton being almost the only places in the county where the scientific method is practised. Nearly every other county in England, too, has its county association or diocesan guild of change-ringers—societies which do immense good towards promoting scientific change-ringing and belfry reform, and it is hoped that Somerset will ere long possess an association or guild of this kind.

The following are the inscriptions on the bells:—Treble, "Cast by John Warner and Sons, London. Amy Louisa Bosanquet gave me, A.D. 1888. We give thanks to Thee." 2nd—Cast by John Warner and Sons, London. Edith Caroline Bosanquet gave me A.D. 1888. We bless Thee." 3rd—"Cast by John Warner and Sons, London. Mary Bosanquet gave me, A.D. 1888. We glorify Thee." 4th—"Cast by John Warner and Sons, London. This bell recast and enlarged, A.D. 1888. H. A. Bosanquet, W. Tarr, churchwardens." 5th—*Soli Deo detur gloria, 1607*," (then comes the figure of a bell followed by the letters T.P.) 6th—"Edward Lee and John Jenkins, churchwardens. Bilbie, Cullompton, fecit 1804." 7th—"Mark Walker John Richards, churchwardens, 1766. Cast by Thomas Bayley, Bridgwater." Tenor, "Edward Lee and John Jenkins, churchwardens. Thomas Bilbie, Cullompton, fecit 1804." The approximate weight of the bells, as supplied by Messrs. Warner and Sons, are:—Treble, 6½ cwt.; 2nd, 7 cwt.; 3rd, 8 cwt.; 4th, 8½ cwt.; 5th, 9½ cwt.; 6th, 11 cwt.; 7th, 15 cwt.; tenor, 21 cwt. The 3rd, 4th, and 5th bells of the old peal have been retained for the 6th, 7th and 8th in the present ring. The old treble bell, which was very badly out of tune with the rest, has been recast and enlarged (as will be seen from the inscription which it bears) and is now in very good tune, and Messrs. Warner are to be congratulated upon the very successful manner in which the "splice" has been affected. The 5th bell is 280 years old, and is a remarkably long waisted bell. The Rev. H. T. Ellacombe (who was one of the best authorities on church bells), in his "Church Bells of Somerset," says, respecting this bell, "If date of this bell is correctly given, there is no clue to name of founder. It is too early for either Thomas Purdew or Thomas Pennington." The lip of the bell has abundant signs that in days gone by the local smith or carpenter had been employed to tune it, and the manner in which he applied himself and his cold chisel to the work may be easily imagined upon examination of the lip of the bell; large pieces have been chipped off, and it certainly has a very "broken-mouthed" appearance. The 6th and 8th bells were both cast by Thomas Bilbie, of Cullompton in 1804, and are in a very good state of preservation. The 7th, which is older than either of the last mentioned, being cast in 1766 by Thomas Bayley, of Bridgwater, has an ornamental band of light tracery round its crown—a feature which neither of the other bells possess. The three new bells are very fine specimens of the bell founder's craft, and indeed nothing but the very best workmanship is seen in anything which Messrs. Warner and Son handle. The bell cage is a very massive English oak one, and rests on a set-off from the tower walls, which will prevent forcing out and cracking of the walls, as is often the case in towers where

the cage is wedged against the walls to steady it. The frame is firmly bolted together with iron tie bolts and corner plates. The 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th bells have each been quarter-turned, and the whole are hung on the most approved scientific principles with wheels of oak, steel gudgeons, and bearings of gun metal resting in iron carriages, which are firmly bolted to the cage. A chiming apparatus on Ellacombe's principle, by means of which the whole of the bells can be chimed by one man, has been fixed.

On Monday evening, at six o'clock, service was held in the church. Proper Psalms, 122 and 150, were chanted, and the lessons read were Numbers x, and Revelation vii., verse 9 to end. After singing Hymn 242, at the end of the prayers, the Rev. A. A. F. Luttrell (vicar) and the Rev. C. Sainsbury (curate) proceeded to the west end, and, standing under the tower, a short dedication service was said by the vicar, after which the bells were chimed for a short time with the chiming apparatus, by Mr. H. W. Tomkins, of the Old Cleeve Guild of ringers. The service concluded with the benediction, pronounced by the vicar. Among those present in the church were H. A. Bosanquet, Esq., Mrs. and the Misses Bosanquet, T. Ponsford, Esq., Miss Hill, Dr. Ollerhead, Mr. W. Tarr (vicar's churchwarden) and Mr. R. K. W. Owen, of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Ringers.

Directly the service was over, eight members of the Dunster Guild of change-ringers raised the bells in peal, after which they rang a plain course of Grandsire Triples, followed by a touch of 504 of Grandsire Triples very finely struck, standing in the following order:—R. Thorne, Treble; E. Hole, 2nd; F. Pitts 3rd; J. Tudball, 4th; R. Hole, 5th; J. Grabham, 6th; C. B. Craze (conductor), 7th; W. Thrush, Tenor. A plain course of Triples was rung with Mr. T. Doble, of Taunton, at the 7th. The ringing concluded with a well-struck 168 Grandsire Triples, and the bells lowered in peal. The "go" of the bells was very satisfactory. It was the general opinion of the ringers that in order to bring in the belfry with any degree of accuracy and comfort the floor between the belfry and the bells should be tightly packed with sawdust, tan, or something similar to deaden the sound of the bells, which at present is deafening, the conductor having to shout his loudest in order to be heard distinctly. The ringers then adjourned to the Feathers' Hotel, where an excellent supper awaited them, which was presided over by the Rev. C. Sainsbury, supported by Dr. Ollerhead and Mr. W. H. Lewry, with Mr. W. Tarr (churchwarden) in the vice-chair.

After the removal of the cloth the Rev. C. Sainsbury rose and thanked the Dunster men, in the name of the vicar, himself, and the people of Minehead generally, for their kindness in coming over there that evening and opening their new bells. He should, and he felt sure also that the vicar and churchwardens would gladly welcome them to ring on their bells at any time, and he hoped that when the young band of ringers had been formed at Minehead, the Dunster men would come over and help them to master the intricacies of change-ringing.

Dr. Ollerhead said he had great pleasure in seconding all that the Rev. C. Sainsbury had said.

Mr. C. B. Craze, replying on behalf of the Dunster Guild, expressed himself satisfied with the bells in every way, and said he and his brother ringers would at all times willingly come over from Dunster and give their assistance in pushing on the young band of ringers which he was pleased to hear was likely to be formed.

Several songs and touches on the handbells made the evening pass very pleasantly, and the party broke up after passing a hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. W. Tarr, to the chairman for presiding.

THE BELL AND THE SEA SERPENT.

The ancient town or city of Hammer on the shores of Lake Mjosen, the large lake near Christeance in Norway, was once a place of considerable importance, as the ruins of a cathedral sufficiently testify. It is believed by the inhabitants of the district that there still exists an enormous Sea Serpent in Mjosen Lake. It is said to lie coiled about the great bell of the ancient cathedral, the bell having been thrown into the lake during the Seven Years' War, and now lying at the bottom, where, under certain light, it can be seen. Many attempts have been made to bring to shore that bell, but hitherto without success.

ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, FULHAM.

The annual outing of the above society took place on Saturday last, when a very enjoyable day was spent at the historical town of St. Albans. The company consisting of the following members, viz; Messrs. Davies, Gale, Driver, F. Kelley, C. F. Winny, How, Nicholls, J. W. Kelley, Porter, Green, and a friend, started from Putney Bridge Station, by the 8.47 train for Willesden, and from thence to St. Albans. During the railway journey, the handbells were brought into requisition, and amongst other touches, 223 Grandsire Triples were smartly brought round at hand. On alighting at St. Albans, St. Peter's Church was "made for," and some very creditable ringing was indulged in, amongst which were 559 Grandsire Triples, 521 and 305 Grandsire Caters, conducted by Messrs. J. W. Kelley and C. F. Winny. By this time all were ready to do justice to the excellent dinner which was awaiting them at the noted hotel, the "Peahen." Here the company was met by the much respected President of the Society, viz.: Rev. F. H. Fisher, vicar of Fulham, who presided at the dinner in his customary good natured style. After thanks had been unanimously given to the vicar, a start was made for the "Cathedral," where the genial Mr. Battle was awaiting to conduct the company through the labyrinth of passages to the tower. Notwithstanding the weight of the bells and the beams in the belfry, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were successfully accomplished, in the latter method being assisted by some of the local ringers. An inspection of the grand cathedral was the next pleasure which all thoroughly appreciated. St. Peter's Church was again found to be the meeting place where the Fulham Company were met by Leonard Proctor, Esq., J. R. Haworth, S. Page, Messrs. Cartmel, Waller, Battle, Brewer and Buckingham, who, with four of the Fulham company rung some touches of Stedman Triples and Caters. Farewells were now exchanged, and the latter company soon found themselves on the way for Full-home (Fulham), which place was reached soon after ten. The members of the Fulham Society take this opportunity through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" of thanking all those concerned in the making the day what it was, viz.: a very enjoyable one.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The next District Meeting of this Association will be held at St. Peter's, South Croydon, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Saturday, September 1st. The tower will be open for ringing from 4 p.m. The tower of the parish church will also be open for ringing from 5.30 p.m.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

THE NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held in the Lyttleton Middle Class schoolroom, Malvern, at 5 o'clock prompt, this day, August 25th. The Rev. Dr. Gregory Smith has kindly consented to preside. The bells of the Abbey church will be open for ringing.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

THE LATE BISHOP OF MICHIGAN.—A funeral service on the remains of the late Rev. Samuel Harris, Bishop of Michigan, took place under the Lanthorn Tower, Westminster Abbey, on Wednesday afternoon. Dr. Westcott read the introductory psalm and lesson, and Dr. Thompson, Bishop of Mississippi, who spoke with great emotion, eulogised the deceased's services as a jurist, priest, soldier, and bishop, whose memory and good example would remain though his life's work was done. The service was intoned. The mourners were Mrs. Harris, Miss Harris, Master J. Harris, and Dr. McCarroll.

On Tuesday Lady Crossley started a new clock placed in the tower of St. John's Church, Lowestoft, as a memorial of the Queen's Jubilee. The clock was dedicated for public use for all time.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co. Printers, Exeter.

RINGERS' OUTING.

On Saturday afternoon, August 18th, the Dewsbury Society left Dewsbury by the 2.5 p.m. excursion train *en route* for Gainsborough, arriving after a very pleasant journey at 3.30. At the station they were met by Mr. W. Tinker, who escorted them to the church, but on arriving there found that a service was being held, so a temporary adjournment was made for refreshment. Afterwards they proceeded to the tower, in which there is a splendid peal of eight bells, tenor 20 cwt. The bells were raised in peal, and a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major was attempted, which was successfully brought round in 1hr. 11mins. The ringers were: J. Garforth, 1; J. H. Dixon (conductor), 2; J. Idle, 3; H. Robinson, 4; N. Hepworth, 5; G. H. Hardy (composer), 6; J. Buckley, 7; G. Taylor, 8. After the ringing the visitors started to have a look round the market and then wended their way back to the "Friendship Inn," where they spent the rest of the evening in a jovial manner. Their very best thanks are due to the local ringers for the way in which they assisted to make the outing successful. The return journey was commenced at 10.5, Dewsbury been reached at 11.45, being satisfied with the outing.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting was held at Tenterden, on Thursday, the 16th inst., and was attended by about forty members from Folkestone, Mersham, Staplehurst, etc. The towers of Woodchurch, Rolvenden, and Benenden were visited and touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob rung. The experiment of more frequent meetings seems to be succeeding, the attendance of a smaller number making it possible for every one to have a chance of ringing.

ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

A SPECIAL general meeting of this society will be held on Tuesday, August 28, in the tower, at 7.45 p.m. The attendance of members, for the consideration of important business, is earnestly requested.

ALFRED THOMAS, *Secretary.*

SALE OF AN HISTORICAL CASTLE.—On Tuesday last, at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, was offered by sale by auction the Devizes Castle Estate, Wiltshire. The property was described as unique, and in the particulars of sale the history of the castle was traced from its foundation in 1107, by Roger, Bishop of Salisbury, its first Governor. For several centuries it formed part of the dowry of the Queens of England, and until comparatively a recent date it had all the immunities of a Royal Castle. In 1645 it was besieged and taken by Cromwell, by whom the ancient castle was ruined. A certain portion of the foundations and the ruins of the Castle remain, the existing modern house having, the auctioneer stated, been built to accord with the character of the Castle which formerly stood upon the place. He added that the late owner, Mr. Valentine Leach, and his father had spent years of time and incalculable sums of money on making the estate what it now was. Apart from the Castle and grounds, an income of 170*l.* was derived from property let off, but that amount could be increased to 270*l.*, which at 30 years' purchase would be 8000*l.* The outlay on the residence would not be represented by 70,000*l.* or 80,000*l.* The first bid made was 4000*l.*, which was speedily followed by one of 6000*l.* The auctioneer said that they ought to have started at 60,000*l.*, jocularly adding that if some one would buy the Castle and present it to the nation, he would certainly be made a baronet, and possibly a peer. The last offer made was 8000*l.*, at which the property was sold, the name of the purchaser not transpiring.

NOTE TO THE PEAL RANG AT HORHAM, SUFFOLK.—The regular striking of this peal throughout reflected great credit on the performers. This is the first peal ever rung upon the bells, which are the oldest p 1 of eight in the Eastern Counties, if not in England, and also the lightest peal ringable. They are quite a curiosity, being hung as bells were three and-a-half centuries ago, four of them having but three-quarter wheels, the clappers working upon the old fashioned baldricks, with cow-hide and hempen string, so often described in old writings, with C hook and wooden busk tied round the stalk of clappers. The diameter of tenor is 2 ft. 8 in. and that of treble 1 ft. 8 in. The ropes hang in the belfry 1, 5, 6, 4, 3, 2, 7, 8.

BRINKBURN PRIORY.

Brinkburn Priory, beautifully situated on the river Coquet, Northumberland, was in ancient times hidden in so dense a forest that not a turret could be seen by the passer-by. There is a tradition that once upon a time—the date is uncertain—a party of Scottish borderers, laden with the spoils of a successful foray were on their way home by the Devil's Causeway, which crosses the Coquet a little below the priory. It was the intention of the marauders to make a raid on the monks, who were always understood to be well provided with the world's goods, although they had, of course, taken the usual vow of poverty. They entered the forest in search of the secluded pile; but, being unable to find it, they returned to the road, and so proceeded on their way towards merry Teviotdale. The monks, who had heard of the raiders' approach, naturally felt overjoyed at their discomfiture. So the great bell of the priory was rung to assemble the brethren to offer up thanks for their deliverance. But, unfortunately for the monks, the Scots had proceeded only a short distance from the spot, when the sound of the bell struck their ears, revealing the situation of the pious retreat. The band soon penetrated the thicket, broke in the doors, and put the monks to flight. Every corner of the building was searched, and every valuable taken. The Scots then fired the place, and the flames consumed everything but the solid walls.

The Brinkburn bells, tradition says, were sent to Durham after the suppression of the monastery. They are believed to have been possessed of great power combined with sweetness; but they cannot have been of any great size, since we are told they were dispatched on their way to their new destination in the charge of some trusty men on horseback, and that they were lost in the attempt to ford the river Font, when in high flood, and only recovered miraculously afterwards through the prayers of some holy men. But we are afraid there is some anachronism in this tale. Wallis, in his "History of Northumberland," affirms, indeed, that the Brinkburn bells found their way to Durham, and James Hardy, a good authority, tells us it is a saying in Coquetdale to this day that they are still to be heard there.

But Waller White, in his "Northumberland and the Border," says the deep pool where the bells were lost is yet to be seen in the river Coquet, while another good authority, Mr. Wilson, in the fourth volume of the "Proceedings of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club," states positively that a fragment of one of the lost bells was found some years ago buried at the root of a tree on the hill on the opposite side of the river from Brinkburn. How much or how little truth there is in these contradictory stories we cannot tell.

OLD ST. JAMES'S PALACE.

King William IV. did not originate the clock which, with its lozenge-shaped tablet, appears in views of a much earlier date; but he caused the dials to be fresh gilded, and he has left the record in letters of gold. It was on this occasion, no doubt, that a little affair occurred with regard to the bell-turret that may give an interest to that little structure. That incident was the removal of the bell that had long given out the hours to the tradesmen of Saint James's Street. These last deplored the loss of their timekeeper, and ventured to call the king's attention to the matter. His Majesty inquired into the matter himself, and was told that the bell had been removed because the roof was insecure. "Insecure, is it?" said the king. "Then how is it that I see so many people on the top of it when there is any sight to be seen?" That little question settled the matter; the bell was returned to the turret without another word; and no doubt is the same that now chimes the hours.

NOTICE.

The members of the Midland Counties' Association are invited to a Garden Party, at Duffield Bank, on Saturday, September 8th, from two till six o'clock. Tea at half-past four. The Church Tower will be open from two till half-past four, and from half-past five till nine o'clock. Mr. Heywood will also be glad to see friends who are members of other associations.

A FORTNIGHT'S RAMBLE IN KENT.

In a recent number of the *People's Palace Journal* the Editor gives a gossiping article upon a ramble in this beautiful part of England, which is not unsuited for reproduction in "THE BELL NEWS." Many of our readers will remember the interesting sketches of Kentish churches which were contributed by Dr. Francis Grayling, of Sittingbourne, in former numbers:—

"First then, we will take the train to Rochester. There is a great deal to be seen at Rochester: the Castle, where the pigeons are so tame: the Cathedral, the old Alms-house for the Seven Poor Travellers: the Town Hall: the Dockyard at Chatham: the Medway with its shipping—one must go down by an early train, and stay the whole day at Rochester. A walk across a most lovely country brings us next day to Maidstone, where there is nothing at all to see, if I recollect aright; it is a comfortable quiet old town with a broad High Street and a general air of great respectability. From Maidstone one would walk or ride to Sheerness, just to see that quiet and picturesque old Dockyard. Then to Canterbury. Canterbury is really the most delightful of all old English cities. The Cathedral is, in some respects, the most beautiful, as it the largest and most venerable of all our Cathedrals. There are the City Walls, the School, the Close, St. Augustine's College, the winding old streets: the tutors and students of the College going about in their caps and gowns—everybody ought to see Canterbury. Thence we should walk to Whitstable, and from that quiet little place make our way along the coast of Herne Bay, the Reculvers, and Margate. Avoid, however, a stay at Margate during the month of August, when it is crowded, noisy and dear. The walk from Margate to Broadstairs on the edge of the cliff is one which, for pure and bracing air, and a delightful seaward prospect, is not to be beaten anywhere. Unfortunately it is only four miles round. Thence to Ramsgate, and from that pleasant place, which has the best fruit market in England, to Sandwich, partly by the cliff and partly by road. This way leads you through Richborough, the finest of the many Roman castles left in the country—Pevensy Castle and Rochester Castle, perhaps, excepted. As for Sandwich, it is so sleepy, so quiet, so deserted, that it seems a hundred years behind the times. It is a Cinque Port, but the sea has left its shores, and now there is nothing but a creek and a quay, and a little trading craft inside. From Sandwich to Deal there is a footpath across the sandhills by the sea shore. It is a wild and solitary walk: there are "rhines" full of brown and brackish water: water-rats plunge in as you pass: rabbits run about among the coarse strong grass: kingfishers flash their green wings along the surface of the water: you never meet a single person: and when you presently come upon a stone which commemorates a horrid murder wrought upon that spot, you feel that the place is indeed a likely one for the purpose. Then you come out upon the sea shore and the solid mass of ruin called Sandown Castle. Then terraces begin, and you are presently at Deal, where the houses have their backs upon the sea. Out at sea are the Goodwin Sands: at low tide you may see them: you may even land upon them: but remember that beneath your feet are buried hundreds of tall ships with their rich cargoes. The walk from Deal to Dover is along high road hot and dusty. But it is only about eight miles long. At Dover you change from the east coast to the south coast, and a noticeable difference in the air is felt immediately. Dover Castle, Shakespeare's Cliff, and the Harbour, are all worth seeing. You can see the coast of France quite plainly, and I hope you will not omit a grateful sigh for the twenty one miles of sea between us and that lively country. Further, I do hope that at every election, as long as you live, you will vote steady against any Government which would sanction the Channel Tunnel, and so not only destroy our insular safety, but convert yourself and all of us into soldiers instead of civilians.

"A very pleasant walk takes us from Dover to Folkestone, and thence to Hythe, which is full of officers, and is therefore an expensive place to stay at. Do not let us stay here: let us push on and walk to Lydd or the Romney Marsh. Here, if you please, we are as far from London and London ways as we are likely to get. A quieter and duller place does not exist. Next day to Rye across the Marsh. At Rye and Winchelsea there is plenty to see. We can stay a whole day here, and then—but I find we have got to the end of our fortnight, and I hope there is money enough left to carry us back."

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By YORK GREEN, *College Youths.*

5152.

2 3 4 5 6	W	M	H
4 2 6 3 5	-	-	-
5 6 2 3 4	-	-	-
2 3 5 6 4	-	-	-
5 2 3 6 4	-	-	-
3 5 2 6 4	-	-	-
2 6 3 5 4	-	-	-
3 2 6 5 4	-	-	-
4 6 2 5 3	-	-	-
3 2 4 6 5	-	-	-
4 3 2 6 5	-	-	-
2 4 3 6 5	-	-	-
3 6 2 4 5	-	-	-
2 3 6 4 5	-	-	-
6 2 3 4 5	-	-	-
5 3 6 2 4	-	-	-
6 5 3 2 4	-	-	-
4 3 5 2 6	-	-	-
5 4 3 2 6	-	-	-
3 2 5 4 6	-	-	-
5 3 2 4 6	-	-	-
2 5 3 4 6	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 6	-	-	-
3 2 4 5 6	-	-	S

Repeated.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

5016.

2 3 1 4 5 6	I	5	6	7	19
3 1 5 6 2 4	-	-	-	-	-
3 1 4 5 2 6	-	-	-	-	-
3 1 6 4 2 5	-	-	-	-	-
6 1 3 5 2 4	-	-	-	-	-
6 1 4 3 2 5	-	-	-	-	-
4 1 6 5 2 3	-	-	-	-	-
4 1 3 6 2 5	-	-	-	-	-
4 1 5 3 2 6	-	-	-	-	-
5 1 4 6 2 3	-	-	-	-	-

Three times repeated produces—

2 3 1 4 5 6

2 3 1 4 5 6 Bob on 11 9 10

2 3 1 4 5 6 Bob on 10 11 9

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

6336.

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

Repeated produces—

3 5 4 2 6

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

A 720 OF DOUBLE COURT BOB MINOR.

By F. GILBERT, *Raunds.*

720.

2 3 4 5 6
5 6 3 4 2
S 2 4 6 3 5
3 5 4 6 2
B 6 2 4 3 5
3 5 2 4 6
B 4 6 2 3 5
3 5 6 2 4
2 4 5 6 3
B 6 3 5 2 4
S 4 2 3 5 6
5 6 2 3 4
S 4 3 6 2 5
2 5 3 6 4
B 6 4 3 2 5
2 5 4 3 6
B 3 6 4 2 5
2 5 6 4 3
4 3 5 6 2
B 6 2 5 4 3
S 3 4 2 5 6
5 6 4 2 3
S 3 2 6 4 5
4 5 2 6 3
B 6 3 2 4 5
4 5 3 2 6
B 2 6 3 4 5
4 5 6 3 2
3 2 5 6 4
B 6 4 5 3 2
3 2 4 5 6

Repeated.

A TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By ALFRED SQUIRES, *Hitchin, Herts.*

1008.

2 3 4 5 6 7

S 5 7 2 6 3 4	I
S 4 3 5 2 6 7	2
S 2 7 4 6 3 5	I
- 3 5 2 4 6 7	2
S 4 7 3 6 5 2	I
- 5 2 4 3 6 7	2
S 3 7 5 6 2 4	I
S 4 2 3 5 6 7	2 part end.

Five times repeated.

A bob to be substituted for a single at the end of the third and sixth part-ends. This touch contains the twenty-four 6-7s.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By W. F. HARTSHORNE, *Brierley Hill.*

5376.

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

Five times repeated. Single for bob at the end of third and sixth parts.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

88co.

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

The above courses nine times repeated, with a single at home at end of 5th and 10th parts, completes the peal.

By calling the following nine courses from the half-way single the peal is reduced to 5120 changes.

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

s. at home.

In this peal 7-8 are at home every five leads.

A QUARTER-PEAL OF DUFFIELD MAJOR.

By A. E. PARSONS, *Old Hill.*

1296.

1 2 3 4 5	I	B	O
5 3 2 4 1	-	-	-
1 5 2 4 3	-	-	-
3 1 2 4 5	-	-	-
5 2 1 4 3	-	-	-
3 5 1 4 2	-	-	-
2 3 1 4 5	-	-	-
5 1 3 4 2	-	-	-
2 5 3 4 1	-	-	-
1 3 4 2 5	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

A touch of 432 changes may be had by omitting the call I, the bells coming round at the first part-end.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

5184.

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

Five times repeated, with a single at 4 in last course of second and fourth parts. In this peal the 2nd is never in 5-6 at a course-end, and the 2nd and 3rd never in 6ths place.

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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 arriving 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 News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1888.

THE Secretary of the Ely Diocesan Association informs the members of that body that its Annual Meeting will be held at Cambridge. This announcement is accompanied by the portentous statement that "unless the members bestir themselves, the prospects of the Association are anything but cheerful." This confession does not redound to the credit of those ringers who are supposed to come under the jurisdiction of the Association, and for whose special benefit it was established. It certainly cannot be maintained that the majority of ringers in the Ely diocese possess any remarkable aptitude for great exertion, so far as the exercise of ringing is concerned. Neither do we find among them any sign of a movement which is calculated to give encouragement to the Honorary Secretary in his work—a work, by the way, he has manfully adhered to through good and evil report. Are the ringers of the counties concerned affected by any peculiarity of the soil therein? This part of East Anglia is believed to be of a "flat," marshy, and somewhat stagnant nature; if this is true, has it a corresponding effect on the people who inhabit it? The suggestion would seem tenable, so far as ringers are concerned.

Among the ringing Associations the one we are dealing

with seems to be the most backward in every respect. The apathy of its members, or the neglect of ringers to become members, are no doubt the actual causes. The officers of an Association may work in the cause heartily, the subscriptions of honorary members may flow in, a galaxy of names may appear as Vice-Presidents, but all will be of no avail unless the rank and file of ringers give their co-operation. We would ask those dissentients who refrain from helping on the Association, what is the reason for their holding aloof? We are afraid that no satisfactory reply can be given. But—and the question is a painful one—do they hold aloof when there is a good fee in perspective?

We hope to see this Association yet to the fore. The recent meeting may give a fillip to it, and we may have the pleasure of noticing that our comment has done something towards a better state of things in the Ely diocese, so far as ringing matters are concerned.

The Metropolis.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

On Thursday, August 16, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt.

BENJAMIN FOSKETT	Treble.	*GEORGE B. LUCAS	5.
JAMES HANNINGTON	2.	NEWLAND ALDERMAN	6.
THOMAS TITCHENER	3.	GEORGE GRIFFIN	7.
ARTHUR TENNANT	4.	THOMAS SCARLETT	Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COX, and Conducted by J. HANNINGTON.

*First peal in the method. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells.

The Provinces.

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

On Thursday, August 16, 1888, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 26 cwt.

HENRY PARKES	Treble.	JOHN H. DUNMORE	5.
WILLIAM J. SMITH	2.	LEONARD BULLOCK	6.
RICHARD LOGIE	3.	WALTER CANNER	7.
JOHN AUSTIN	4.	FRANK SHEPPARD	Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

Messrs. Canner and Dunmore belongs to Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

QUORNDON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, August 22, 1888, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt. in F#.

AMOS CRESSER	Treble.	SAMUEL SMITH	5.
ARTHUR JACOB	2.	RICHARD LANE	6.
W. A. TYLER	3.	JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN.	7.
CHARLES SMITH	4.	GEORGE NEWSON	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

This is a variation of Mr. Newson's three-part peal, and the second is never in sixth's place at the course-ends. Messrs. Newson and Jacob hail from London.

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.
SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Thursday, August 16, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

GEORGE MITCHESON* .. Treble.	REV. J. R. KEBLE .. 5.
MARTIN MURPHY .. 2.	WILLIAM LONG .. 6.
WILLIAM SMITH* .. 3.	WILLIAM COOPER .. 7.
GEORGE SMITH .. 4.	CHARLES WILLIAMS.. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM LONG.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. ‡First peal with a bob bell. Mr. Murphy hails from Erdington; the rest belong to the local company.

ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S
SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, August 18, 1888, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5028 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

JOHN W. CARTWRIGHT .. Treble.	BERNARD WITCHELL .. 6.
JOHN BUFFERY .. 2.	ALFRED THOMAS .. 7.
WILLIAM KENT .. 3.	CHARLES STANBRIDGE .. 8.
ISAAC GEORGE SHADE .. 4.	JOHN JAMES .. 9.
HENRY BASTABLE .. 5.	HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SENR., and Conducted by
HENRY BASTABLE.

This peal contains the 5th and 6th twenty-three courses behind the 9th, and has not been previously performed. Mr. Shade hails from Greenwich.

LISCARD, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, August 18, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

RICHARD S. MANN .. Treble.	THOMAS HAMMOND .. 5.
WILLIAM JAMES .. 2.	HENRY COLEY .. 6.
JOHN R. PRITCHARD .. 3.	WILLIAM DAVIES .. 7.
JOHN ASPINWALL .. 4.	GEORGE FISHER .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM JAMES.

First peal in the method on the bells.

ST. ALBANS.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE
YOUTHS, THE HERTS AND ESSEX ASSOCIATIONS, AND
THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, August 18, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

IN ST. PETER'S BELFRY,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. 1-2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 5-6.
E. PERCY DEBENHAM .. 3-4.	THOMAS WALLER .. 7-8.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

Umpire—Mr. E. Hull, who took off every treble lead. Mr. A. Barnes also heard part of the peal.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 18, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S ONE-PART. Tenor 17 cwt.

HARRY WESTON .. Treble.	WILLIAM PALMER .. 5.
JOHN JAY .. 2.	GEORGE A. KING .. 6.
JAMES E. WORSELL .. 3.	JOHN REILLY .. 7.
FREDERICK MORRIS* .. 4.	EDWARD BUTLER .. Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY WESTON.

*First peal of Triples.

GRIMSBY.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION, AND THE
NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 18, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

D. SEAMER* .. Treble.	C. JACKSON .. 5.
H. GADD* .. 2.	T. STOCKDALE .. 6.
H. BURKITT* .. 3.	J. VICKERS .. 7.
C. WELLS* .. 4.	A. BRAMALL .. Tenor.

Composed by J. J. PARKER, and Conducted by CHARLES JACKSON.

This is the first peal on the bells since their erection by Messrs. Warner in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee. Messrs. Gadd and Burkitt hail from Market Rasen, Wells and Vickers from Lincoln, Jackson and Stockdale from Hull, the rest are of the local company. *First peal. This peal, which is in four parts and contains ninety calls, is now rung for the first time.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS
ASSOCIATION, AND THE SOCIETY FOR THE
ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, August 18, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt. 25 lbs.

GEORGE HUGHES .. Treble.	BENJAMIN GOUGH .. 5.
WILLIAM CHESHIRE* .. 2.	SAMUEL JESSON .. 6.
HARRY MILLS† .. 3.	SAMUEL REEVES .. 7.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. 4.	EDWARD GOODREDS .. Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL JESSON.

Messrs. Gough and Cheshire hail from Coseley, S. Reeves from West Bromwich. †First peal in the method with a bob bell. *First peal in any method. ‡First peal with tenor. First peal as conductor by S. Jesson, and was rung at the first attempt.

HEYWOOD, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, August 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 23 cwt.

JOHN MILLETT .. Treble.	WILLIAM H. WALMSLEY .. 5.
JAMES PILKINGTON .. 2.	ERNEST BISHOP .. 6.
WILLIAM R. BARRETT .. 3.	JOHN HARRISON .. 7.
ALBERT SCHOFIELD .. 4.	JAMES MILLETT .. Tenor.

Conducted by ERNEST BISHOP.

Mr. Bishop hails from Bury, the rest belong to Heywood.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, August 22, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5006 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

AMOS CRESSER .. Treble.	GEORGE NEWSON .. 6.
WILLIAM A. TYLER .. 2.	ARTHUR JACOB .. 7.
RICHARD LANE .. 3.	CHARLES SMITH .. 8.
JOHN W. TAYLOR, SEN. .. 4.	JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 9.
SAMUEL SMITH .. 5.	EDWARD WIGHTMAN .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

HORHAM, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, August 11, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 7 cwt. in Bb.

FREDERICK DAY .. Treble.	DAVID COLLINS .. 5.
GEORGE DAY .. 2.	ROBERT RUTH, SEN. .. 6.
EDGAR COLLINS .. 3.	ROBERT RUTH, JUN. .. 7.
GEORGE MURTON .. 4.	HENRY TORBLE .. Tenor.

Composed by T. LOCKWOOD, and Conducted by F. DAY.

The Messrs. Day, G. Murton, and H. Torble, hail from Eye; E. Collins and D. Collins from Worlingworth; the Messrs. Ruth belong to the local company.

Date Touch.

SUBBURY (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, July 18th, on the occasion of a meeting of Freemasons held in this town, the following rang a date touch of 1888 Bob Major, at St. Peter's church, in 1 hr. 15 mins. F. Tolliday, 1; M. Silvester, 2; J. Campin, 3; W. Howell, 4; H. Harper, 5; A. Scott, 6; W. Griggs, 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. Composed by H. J. Tucker, of Bishops Stortford. Tenor 23 cwt. in Eb.

Miscellaneous.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—On Monday, August 6th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Short, 1; W. Huxley, 2; H. Martin, 3; G. Pagett, 4; J. Barber, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by G. Pagett, who hails from Stourbridge.

HAGLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, August 7th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 23 mins. C. Boughton, 1; —, Bennett, 2; J. Smith, 3; T. Lees, 4; T. Salter, 5; W. Short (conductor), 6. Messrs. Bennett and Salter hail from Kidderminster.

BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, August 11th, at the parish church, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Bob Major (5337 changes), but after ringing over 4000 changes, the conductor called the bells round owing to the heat in the belfry. J. Mason, 1; H. Mason, 2; G. Bourne, 3; T. Allbutt, 4; W. Rea, 5; W. James, 6; G. Hayward (composer and conductor), 7; O. James, 8. And on Sunday morning, August 12th, for Divine Service, 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major. E. Crump, 1; G. Bourne, 2; G. Hayward (conductor), 3; T. Allbutt, 4; W. James, 5; H. Mason, 6; O. James, 7; W. Rea, 8. J. Mason hails from Stoke Prior, H. Mason from Old Hill, Staffordshire.

REDDITCH (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, August 12th, about thirteen members of the above Association paid a visit to the above place, and arriving there about four o'clock were met by the curate of the parish. The Vicar being out, he conducted them to the parish church, where they found a peal of six, tenor about 16 cwt., and having raised the bells, a start was made for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, which very soon came to grief. Then a course of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung, and another start was made, which went on well, and was got through in 30 mins. H. Tompson (Stoke Prior), 1; W. Rea (Bromsgrove), 2; O. James (Bromsgrove), 3; H. Mason (Old Hill), 4; G. Hayward (Bromsgrove, conductor), 5; J. Mason (Stoke Prior), 6. Afterwards another 720 of Grandsire Minor. T. Lucas (Stoke Prior), 1; J. Tompson (Stoke Prior), 2; W. Lewis (Stoke Prior), 3; J. Mason (Stoke Prior), 4; G. Hayward (Bromsgrove, conductor), 5; H. Mason (Old Hill), 6. Afterwards the company returned home, well pleased with their afternoon's outing.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, August 19th, for morning service at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 27 mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; W. Baddeley, 5; J. Wood (conductor), 6.

WOLSTANTON.—On Sunday morning, August 5th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. F. Grocott, 1; T. Miller, 3; A. Walker, 4; A. Grocott, 5; S. Walker, 6; W. Miller (conductor), 7. W. Slater, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—On Monday, August 6th, eight members of the above Association attempted a peal of Bob Major, but "stand" was called after ringing 2528 changes in 1 hr. 33 mins., owing to a shift-course. C. Prior, 1; H. Prior, 2; W. Watts, 3; J. Luckey, 4; G. Prior, 5; F. W. Chapman, 6; I. Cavill, 7; H. J. Tucker (composer and conductor), 8. Mr. F. W. Chapman was elected a member of the above previous to starting. Also a 704 of Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Prior, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Watts, 3; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 4; C. Prior, 5; H. Prior, 6; J. Cavill, 7; Y. Green, 8. And 336 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. G. Prior, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Watts, 3; Y. Green, 4; C. Prior, 5; H. Prior, 6; J. Cavill, 7; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 8. Also 672 of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Luckey, 1; H. Prior, 2; C. Prior, 3; H. J. Tucker, 4; G. Prior, 5; F. W. Chapman (first attempt), 6; Y. Green (conductor), 7; J. Cavill, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Saturday evening, August 11th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; A. Edwards, 4; E. Scotcher, 5; W. Lincoln (conductor), 6. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Edwards, 1; W. Harvey, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Lincoln, 4; E. Scotcher, 5; A. Tarbun (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of New London Pleasure. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; A. Edwards, 4; W. J. Piper, 5; W. Lincoln (con-

ductor), 6. The above 720s were rung on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. W. Moorhouse and Miss S. J. Piper, sister to one of the above ringers.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Saturday, August 18th, at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, 720 of Kent Treble Bob in 26 mins. H. J. Tucker (conductor), 1; F. W. Chapman, 2; I. Cavill, 3; G. Prior, 4; W. Prior, 5; H. Prior, 6. An attempt was made for 720 of Double Court, but after ringing 600 changes, it came to grief, owing to the breaking of a rope. F. W. Chapman, 1; W. Watts, 2; C. Prior, 3; J. Luckey, 4; H. Prior, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. W. Prior, 1; W. Watts, 2; H. Prior, 3; F. W. Chapman (first attempt), 4; J. Luckey, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Messrs. Tucker and Chapman hail from Bishops Stortford.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday evening, July 31st, five members of the local band, assisted by Mr. F. Hannis, of Witcombe, rang 720 Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles) in 26½ mins. J. Yeates, 1; F. Hannis, 2; G. Miles, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; W. J. Sevier, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. Also five 6-scores of Stedman Doubles (each called differently), in 21 mins. J. Yeates (conductor), 1; S. E. Romans, 2; G. Miles, 3; A. A. Waite, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; E. E. Bewick (Hempstead), 6. On Tuesday evening, August 7th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 27 mins. G. Miles, 1; S. E. Romans, 2; J. Yeates, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

CRANHAM (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday afternoon, July 29th, prior to the evening service, six members of the Upton St. Leonard's Society visited this place and rung 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 25 mins. H. Barnes, 1; H. G. Gardener, 2; J. Yeates, 3; G. Miles, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. Also two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. J. Yeates (conductor), 1; H. G. Gardener, 2; A. A. Waite, 3; G. Miles, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; H. Barnes, 6. Also a touch of 660 Plain Bob Minor, in 23 mins. H. Barnes, 1; G. Miles, 2; A. A. Waite, 3; J. Yeates, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; H. G. Gardener (conductor), 6. Tenor 9½ cwt. in Ab. This is the first 720 of Treble Bob and the first 6-scores of Stedman Doubles ever rung on these bells.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire).—On Monday, July 30th, 350 Grand-sire Triples. A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; W. Ryland, 3; C. West (age 16), 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; E. King, 7; J. Powell, 8. Conducted by W. Hale. Also five 6-scores of Doubles. On Sunday, August 5th, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles on the back six. On Monday, August 6th, on the occasion of the wedding of their leader, W. Hale, a touch of Grandsire Triples was rung on his leaving church, and the ten bells were fired. On partaking of a wedding supper at Mr. Hale's new residence, on Wednesday, August 8th, 518 from Holt's peal was rung. A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; William Ryland, 3; E. King, 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; W. Hale (conductor), 7; T. Wright, 8. Also two courses on the front seven, with 11-9-8-10-12 covering. A very pleasant evening was spent, several courses and tunes being rung on the handbells.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday morning, August 12th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor and 120 of Stedman Doubles. After evening service 120 of Stedman Doubles. Also on Sunday morning, August 19th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor and 120 of Stedman Doubles. Also for evening service 240 of Stedman Doubles. After evening service, a 720 of College Single. The following ringers took part in the above: Rev. G. F. Coleridge, T. Newman, G. Essex, J. Hands, E. Munday, H. Smith, H. Simmonds, and F. Simmonds. Conducted by T. Newman. Tenor 17 cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DURHAM.—On Monday evening, August 20th, at St. Oswald's church, 720 Plain Bob Minor (four bobs and fourteen singles), in 27 mins. *T. Wheatley, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; J. E. Avery, 3; C. Bradford, 4; C. J. Butterworth, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6. *First 720.

HEIGHINGTON.—On Saturday, August 18th, the members of St. John's, Darlington, paid a visit to the above village by invitation of the Vicar, and rang 720 College Single. J. Bolton, 1; J. Little, 2; W. Patton, 3; H. S. Taylor, 4; W. D. Lister, 5; J. H. Whitfield (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Little, 1; H. S. Taylor, 2; W. Patton, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; W. D. Lister, 5; J. H. Whitfield (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, August 20th, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, an attempt was made to ring T. Lockwood's peal of 5392 Bob Major, but unfortunately had to stand at the end of the 2816th change, two bells having changed course. F. Lees, 1; G. T. Ross, 2; W. C. Bennett, 3; G. Atkinson, 4; Joseph Pattison, 5; R. S.

Story, 6; Zachariah Scott, 7; W. Story (conductor), 8. Tenor 12½ cwt. At the same church, on Monday, August 13th, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles). F. Lees, 1; G. T. Ross, 2; W. Story, 3; G. Atkinson, 4; Z. Scott, 5; W. C. Bennett (conductor), 6.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

PERRY BARR (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, August 20th, 1008 Grandsire Triples, in 36 mins. G. Mitchison, 1; W. H. Godden, 2; W. E. Smith, 3; W. Long (conductor), 4; C. Williams, 5; H. Brown, 6; C. Smith, 7; G. Fluck, 8. Composed by H. Johnson, sen.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ANGMERING (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, August 19th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 360 of Bob Minor. E. Parsons, 1; C. Clear, 2; C. Tribe, 3; H. Evans, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Bob Doubles. E. Parsons, 1; H. Evans, 2; C. Tribe, 3; C. Hills, 4; F. Finch (conductor), 5; C. Clear, 6. After service a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. E. Parsons, 1; C. Clear, 2; C. Tribe, 3; H. Evans, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Grandsire Doubles. C. Clear, 1; H. Evans, 2; C. Hills, 3; F. Finch, 4; J. Parsons (conductor), 5; C. Tribe, 6. C. Tribe hails from Midhurst, H. Evans from Goring; the rest are local men.

BRIGHTON.—On Sunday, August 12th, by the local branch of the above Association at St. Peter's church, 504 of Stedman Triples in 17 mins. C. Tyler, 1; G. A. King, 2; J. Jay, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; J. Reilly, 5; T. Miles, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; H. Weston, 8. Also at St. Nicholas church, 504 of Grandsire Triples in 18 mins. A. Bassett, 1; J. Searle (conductor), 2; T. Miles, 3; C. Tyler, 4; J. Reilly, 5; J. Fox, 6; W. Palmer, 7; E. Butler, 8. Messrs. Bassett and Miles hail from Epsom, Surrey.

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 16th, at All Saints, Hamer, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. W. Schofield, 1; J. T. Lucas, 2; J. Stott, 3; J. Crossley, 4; T. Stott, 5; A. Crossley (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by J. Stott.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH (Leicestershire).—On Monday, August 20th, for practice, the first part of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, at the parish church, and three courses of Bob Major. W. Liggins, 1; H. Canner, 2; T. Jacques, 3; J. Hopkins, 4; W. Owen, 5; J. H. Dunmore, 6; W. Canner (conductor), 7; J. Jaggar, 8. G. Thornley rang the tenor in the Triples.

HANBURY-ON-THE-HILL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, August 18th, several members of the above Association paid a visit to this picturesque village, and with the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. R. Foot, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 30 mins., with 6-8 covering. R. Logie, 1; W. J. Smith, 2; J. Jaggar (conductor), 3; J. Austin, 4; L. Bullock, 5; G. Robinson, 7; J. Carvell, 6; W. Burton, 8. Also a 360 of Bob Minor and several round peals, in which the local ringers took part, conducted by L. Bullock. The above was the first 720 on the bells.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ASPLEY GUISE (Beds).—On Thursday, August 9th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. E. Keech, 1; C. Herbert, 2; E. Norman, 3; W. Smith, 4; M. Lane, 5; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 6. On Sunday, August 12th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Smith, 1; E. Norman, 2; W. Chibnall, 3; W. Mynard, 4; M. Lane, 5; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 6.

CRAWLEY (Beds).—On Thursday, August 9th, on the occasion of a wedding, two 120s of Bob Doubles. E. Keech, 1; E. Norman, 2; W. Smith, 3; M. Lane (conductor), 4; C. Sillitoe, 5.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Saturday, August 12th, at St. Mary's church, a touch of 720 Bob Major. W. Smith, 1; E. Norman, 2; W. Mynard, 3; C. Herbert, 4; W. E. Turney, 5; M. Lane, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. Also a touch of 1056 Bob Major. W. Smith, 1; E. Norman, 2; W. Mynard, 3; C. Herbert, 4; A. Morrison, 5; M. Lane, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. On Tuesday, August 14th, 1680 of Bob Major. W. Smith, 1; E. Norman, 2; W. Mynard, 3; C. Herbert, 4; A. Morrison, 5; M. Lane, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. Composed by Samuel Slater, of Glemsford, Suffolk. Tenor 13 cwt. in G. Handbell Ringing.—On Friday, August 10th, at the house of Mr. Charles Herbert, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). Cyril Herbert, 1-2; Chas. Herbert, 3-4; Chas. Sillitoe (conductor), 5-6. Also another 720 Bob Minor. Cyril Herbert, 1-2; Ernest Herbert, 3; Frank Flood, 4; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 5-6. On Monday, August 13th, a touch of 1008 Bob Major. *Cyril Herbert, 1-2; *Ernest Herbert, 3; *Frank Flood, 4; Chas. Herbert, 5-6; C.

Sillitoe (conductor), 7-8. *Longest touch in any method. On Tuesday, August 14th, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). Ernest Herbert (age 11), 1-2; Cyril Herbert, 3; Frank Flood, 4; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 5-6. On Thursday, August 16th, 720 Bob Minor. Ernest Herbert, 1-2; Cyril Herbert, 3-4; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 5-6. Charles Sillitoe hails from Sudbury, Suffolk.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS (Suffolk).—On Monday, July 23rd, at the Norman tower of St. James' church, a touch of 800 Grandsire Caters. A. Osborne (Bury), 1; E. Pemberton (Bury), 2; E. Debenham (Bury), 3; G. C. Hammond (Long Melford), 4; W. Howell (Sudbury), 5; W. Griggs (Sudbury), 6; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury), 7; H. Harper (Sudbury), 8; W. Moore (Bury), 9; W. Farrants (Bury), 10. Conducted by A. Osborne. Also a touch of 408 Stedman Triples. A. Osborne, 1; H. Harper, 2; W. Howell, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; G. C. Hammond, 5; W. Griggs, 6; E. Pemberton, 7; W. Moore, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. in C♯.

DITCHLING (Sussex).—On Sunday, August 19th, some members of the Worth and Balcombe branches of the Sussex County Association paid a visit to the above place, and rung for morning service at St. Margaret's church, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. E. Streeter, 1; W. Denman, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; G. Illman, 4; H. Meads, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. After service a 720 of Oxford Bob. F. Streeter, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Rice, 3; B. Payne, 4; G. Illman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. And for afternoon service a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. F. Streeter, 1; H. Meads, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; F. Rice, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. After service, 720 of Plain Bob. J. Cheeseman, 1; W. Denman, 2; J. Tulett, 3; G. Illman, 4; E. Streeter, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also 600 of Plain Bob, conducted by E. Streeter. And a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles by the local company, and two 6-scores by the visitors, with Mr. D. Baker conducting. The ringers wish through the medium of this paper to thank the Vicar for his kindness in allowing them the use of the bells, also to Mr. D. Baker for the kind way in which he had arranged everything for them.

GRIMSBY (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday morning, August 19th, for Divine Service at St. James's Church, 714 of Grandsire Triples. D. Seamer, 1; D. Gadd, 2; W. Birkett, 3; *A. Bramall, 4; T. Stockdale, 5; †G. Weldon, 6; C. Jackson (conductor), 7; †A. Wood, 8. †First touch of Triples; *first on an inside bell. Messrs. Gadd and Birkett hail from Market Rasen, Stockdale and Jackson from Hull; the rest are local men.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday, August 19th, for Divine Service, two touches of 108 Grandsire Minor. C. W. Miller, 1; J. Jones, 2; F. W. J. Rees, 3; J. Heathorn, 4; F. Bennett, 5; W. Groves, 6. On Monday, August 20th, for practice, 216 Grandsire Minor. C. W. Miller, 1; J. Heathorn, 2; F. W. J. Rees, 3; G. Mansfield, 4; F. Bennett, 5; W. Groves, 6. Two covers rung by J. Jones and M. Smith. Conducted by F. Bennett.

HANLEY CASTLE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, August 19th, at the church of St. Gabriel, before evening service, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 24 mins. *J. Pitt, 1; *J. Thomas, 2; *A. Layton, 3; *C. Layton, 4; †D. Greening, 5; L. Longney (conductor), 6. Tenor 8 cwt. *First 720; †first 720 in the method. L. Longney hails from Croome, Pitt belongs to the local company, and the rest hail from Mathon.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, August 21st, at St. Anne's church, with the bells half-muffled, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27½ mins., as a token of respect to the late Mrs. Margaret Platt, of Stalybridge, who was the donor of the fifth bell at the above church, her late husband was also the donor of the tenor bell. J. Ramsden, 1; W. Wilde, jun., 2; J. Bardsley, 3; J. Howard (conductor), 4; W. Wilde, jun., 5; J. A. Thomas, 6.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, August 12th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 26 mins. T. Scarlett, 1; T. Wood, 2; H. Barnett, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; G. Griffin, 5; G. B. Lucas, 6. After service 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. Nixon, 1; G. B. Lucas, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; H. Barnett, 4; G. Griffin, 5; T. Scarlett, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

LIVERPOOL.—Handbell Ringing.—On Wednesday, August 15th, at the house of Mr. John R. Pritchard, 1651 of Grandsire Triples. J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 1-2; J. Aspinwall, 3-4; T. Hammond, 5-6; W. Davies, 7-8. And two courses of Stedman Triples. J. Aspinwall, 1-2; J. R. Pritchard, 3-4; T. Hammond, 5-6; J. Martin, 7-8. Also a course of Bob Major. J. Aspinwall, 1-2; J. R. Pritchard, 3-4; T. Hammond, 5-6; W. Davies, 7-8. And on Monday, August 20th, at the house of Mr. T. Hammond, the last half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 17 mins. John R. Pritchard (conductor), 1-2; J. Aspinwall, 3-4; T. Hammond, 5-6; W. Davies, 7-8. Also on

Sunday afternoon, August 19th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Nicholas, 396 of Stedman Cinques. G. Helsby, 1; J. Aspinwall, 2; C. A. Heron, 3; J. R. Pritchard, 4; H. Brooks, 5; G. Fisher, 6; T. Hammond, 7; H. Coley, 8; W. Dowie, 9; W. Davies (conductor), 10; J. Egerton, 11; Robert Thistlewood and E. Coley, 12.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, August 15th, at St. John's church, 720 Bob Minor was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. Miller, of West Beach, who was interred at the above church. W. Bamber (conductor), 1; B. Taylor, 2; Jno. Mark, 3; G. Maries, 4; Jno. Fell, 5; Robert Whiteside, 6. Muffled touches were also rung on Sunday, August 19th.

LONDON.—On Thursday evening, August 16th, for practice at St. Stephen's church, Westminster, 616 of Grandsire Triples in 20 mins. F. Ellis, 1; T. Johns, 2; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 3; H. S. Ellis, 4; E. Duff, 5; G. McLaughlin, 6; W. Carter, 7; W. Cropley, 8. Also on Sunday, August 8th, for Divine Service in the morning, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins. J. S. Reed, 1; H. R. Newton (conductor), 2; W. Lally, 3; J. Pryor, 4; E. Duff, 5; W. L. Chamberlain, 6; H. S. Ellis, 7; W. Cropley, 8. W. L. Chamberlain hails from Arundel.

MIDHURST (Sussex).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Wednesday evening, August 8th, at the house of Mr. Williams, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 20 mins. C. Tribe, 1; W. Selly, 2; G. Williams, 3-4; *Mrs. Williams, 5-6. Also two 120s of Stedman Doubles in the same order. *First 720 double-handed, On Thursday, August 9th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 23½ mins. C. Tribe, 1; W. Count, 2; G. Batts, 3; J. Lee, 4; W. Selly, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. Also at the house of W. Selly, two courses of Stedman Triples. C. Tribe, 1; W. H. George, 2; G. Williams (conductor), 3-4; W. Court, 5; W. Selly, 6; Mrs. Williams, 7-8. Also two courses of Grandsire Triples. Mrs. Williams, 1-2; G. Williams (conductor), 3-4; W. H. George, 5; C. Tribe, 6; W. Selly, 7-8. On Thursday, August 16th, two courses of Grandsire Triples. Mrs. Williams, 1-2; W. George, 3-4; G. Williams, 5-6; W. Selly, 7-8.

ORSETT (Essex).—On Sunday, August 12th, at the church of St. Giles and All Saints, the local ringers rang for Divine Service in the morning and evening, several 120's of Grandsire Doubles. Tenor 11 cwt. F. Stock, 2; H. Read, 2; C. F. Winny, 3; E. Kent, 4; A. Keeling (conductor), 5; F. Roast, 6. D. Harrod and G. Ong also took part in the ringing.

PRESTWICH (Lancashire).—On Sunday afternoon, August 19th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. J. Hardman, 1; R. Fitton, 2; W. Warburton, 3; J. Brooks, 4; H. Percival (first 720), 5; J. Hopwood, 6. Warburton hails from Whitefield; the rest belong to the local company.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Sunday, August 12th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. P. Goddard, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; W. E. Tydeman, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6. And another 720 in the same method, for evening service. W. S. Wise, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2.

STANFORD-LE-HOPE (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, August 12th, at St. Margaret's church, by the kind permission of the rector, Dr. Sedgwick, several 120's of Grandsire Doubles. Tenor 9 cwt. F. Stock, 1; H. Read, 2; C. F. Winny, 3; E. Kent, 4; D. Harrod, 5; A. Cowell (Stanford), 6. Also with G. Ong, 4; and A. Keeling, 5; the rest as before.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, August 18th, for practice at St. Gregory's church, 504 Stedman Triples. W. Howell, 1; H. Harper, 2; W. B. Ransom, Esq., 3; J. Campin, 4; W. Cross, 5; W. Griggs, 6; A. Scott (first attempt in the method as conductor), 7; J. Tolladay, 8.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, August 11th, at St. Mary's church, 448 Grandsire Minor (twenty-six bobs and one single), composed by J. J. Parker of Farnham Royal, 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor, 360 Plain Bob Minor (three bobs and six singles), and 360 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. E. Yates, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; J. R. Pritchard, 3; J. Aspinwall, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw, 6. And on Sunday evening, August 19th, for Divine Service, three 6-scores of Grandsire Triples. J. Nightingale, 1; H. Kelly, 2; R. Hurst, 3; W. Short, 4; E. Wilson (conductor), 5; T. Johnson,

WRENBURY (Cheshire).—On Saturday, August 18th, at the parish church, five members of the Whitchurch (Salop) society visited the above place for the purpose of ringing a 720 of Grandsire Minor with Mr. Ralph Sutton, of Wrenbury, it being his first attempt at Minor. R. Sutton, 1; F. Ryder, 2; J. Gibson, 3; T. Barron, 4; R. T. Holding, 5; G. Woodhall (conductor), 6. Time 28 mins. Also a touch of Treble Bob Minor, and another of Grandsire Minor, with Jno. Thomas, jun., of Wrenbury, at the treble, the rest standing as before.

Correspondence.

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

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

A PERTINENT ENQUIRY.

SIR.—In your paper of December 31st, 1887, was published "Date Touch," (1888 changes of Bob Major,) composed by F. Harding of Eastbourne. On the supposition of it being correct a company of ringers rang it on the 16th inst. but after the bells were brought round correct, we discovered it consisted of more than 1888 changes, viz.; 2336, also there are repetitions in both parts. Will Mr. Harding be good enough to explain the above facts? A. LAWRENCE PORTER

MR. PRENTICE'S REPLY.

SIR.—In reply to Mr. Hayward concerning the peal of Treble Bob Maximus rung at Norwich, I claim it to be the first peal composed on that plan, as it was composed by me in 1880. I shewed it to Mr. N. J. Pitstow, on board of the steam boat crossing from Harwich to Ipswich, August 29th, 1881; if Mr. Hayward had it previous to that he is the composer. My friend, Mr. C. Mee, received the same from Mr. A. Knights, October 12th, 1885. How did he come into possession of it? I sent all my compositions to the late Mr. W. Snowdon in the year 1882. DANIEL PRENTICE.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR.—I should like to know through your paper why it is that there has not been any meeting held by the Sussex Association since their Annual Meeting at Brighton last Whit Monday, when it was proposed to hold more meetings than had been before, but I am sorry to say there has been no notices sent out or published in your valuable paper of which we read of many meetings to be held. Having appointed an assistant secretary, I am at loss to know why it is the meetings have not been held; I hope I am not trespassing on your valuable space by making these inquiries. Several members in the same mind as myself want to know. A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION.

THE CHEPSTOW RINGERS AND "FREE LANCE."

SIR,—In reply to "Free Lance's" comments on the ringers of Chepstow, and the doings of those worthies (as he is pleased to call them) I must say that he takes a lot upon himself. When he talks of Bob Doubles with 6-7-8 covering as ridiculous, if it only be a plain course, as we must all start at the foot of the ladder before we can ascend higher, "Free Lance" seems to have nothing else to occupy his time but passing his bigoted opinion on every one's work in change ringing. Let not us only but our brother strings throughout the country see what abilities he has in the art, but it seems his assumed named covers him very well, and as for the drinks we had, "Free Lance" did not have to pay for, as we always pay our own ourselves, and we hope that in a short time we shall be able to do something on the tower eight, and as the licensed victualler eight is not movable, I suppose we must put up with it being left where it is. PLAIN BOB.

ST. JOHN'S BELLS, PETERBOROUGH.

SIR.—I was surprised to read in your report of the visit of the Rawmarsh ringers to Peterboro, that the bells of St. John's Church, "required a thorough overhauling with a bell hanger." (I give the quotation as it appears in your report). On behalf of the vicar and churchwardens of St. John's, I wish to very decidedly contradict that statement; on the contrary, they go very well indeed, and visitors to our belfry always speak in praise of the "go" of the bells. I should not have troubled you, but you may readily see that the assertion is apt to cast a reflection on the churchwardens, who are always most willing to order any necessary repairs, and upon your humble servant, THE STEEPLE KEEPER.

MR. WASHBROOK'S ANSWER.

SIR.—It is quite correct that I called a false composition of my own which was duly struck out of the Guild Report. But "Astonian" should not append such statements as he did, as they stray from the truth, I did not absolutely deny anything, I only sent the wrong peal, which was replaced by the altered one with apology and unfortunate disaster. I am glad to say I did not take matters as the anonymous writer did, but in a good spirit, I hope to improve, and I hope others will do the same. A satisfactory reply is waiting to the other allegation on receipt of the proper name instead of a *nom de plume*. I can give a guess at this one. J. W. WASHBROOK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting was held at Wisbeach, on the Bank Holiday. The attendance was limited to members from Ely and Soham. At a business meeting held afterwards, a member of the Worcestershire Association, present as a guest, addressed some very sensible remarks to those present, upon the general apathy amongst ringers. Two members of the Eastern and Midland Association were also present. The annual meeting will be held at Cambridge, of which due particulars will be announced; but unless the ringers bestir themselves, the prospects of the Association are anything but cheerful. We shall hope to see ringers rally round us at the annual meeting in the course of September.

STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE MADE EASY FOR BEGINNERS.

By WM. ALEXANDER BALDWIN.

2. BOBS AND SINGLES.

The plain course of Stedman Triples consisting of only eighty-four changes, it is obvious that to obtain a greater number or the extent of changes possible on seven bells (that is 5040), something must be done to change the coursing order of the bells. To effect this two calls are made use of, namely, a "bob" and a "single." Before we can take part in a peal, it will be necessary for us to know how these bobs and singles are made. We will therefore turn our attention to them, and draw out a few rules for guidance when ringing.

All bobs and singles in this method are made by the bells behind, so that the three bells in front are not affected by either a bob or a single being called, but go on with their work as if no call had been made.

We will take the "bob" first.

To make a "bob," the bell which is dodging in 4-5 up, makes 5ths place, dodges twice in 4-5 down, and then goes in the opposite way she came out; that is to say, if you came out a quick bell, you would go in slow and *vice versa*. The bell which makes the bob omits all the dodging in 6-7. The bell dodging in 4-5 down is not affected by the call, and simply goes in the reverse way she came out. The bells dodging in 6-7 up and 6-7 down make a triple dodge in addition to their proper work, and owing to this extra dodging work, which keeps them behind six changes longer than they would have been, had no call been made, they go in the same way they came out, that is to say, if you came out slow, you would go in slow, and if you came out quick, you would go in quick.

Shortly stated—at a bob the bell dodging 4-5 up makes 5ths place, dodges twice in 4-5 down, and then goes in the reverse way she came out, and the bells in 6-7 repeat the dodging of the last six for every bob called. The bell dodging 4-5 down is not affected by the call.

This brings us to the "single."

To make a single the bells dodging in 4-5 up and 4-5 down do exactly the same work as at a bob, so that I need not repeat the rule already given. In addition to this, the bell which is dodging 6-7 down, makes 6ths place, and commences dodging in 6-7 up again, dodges twice in that position, twice in 4-5 down, and then goes in the reverse way she came out. The bell dodging 6-7 up continues her course undisturbed by the call and simply goes in the reverse way she came out.

Briefly stated, the work of the bells at a single is precisely the same as at a bob with regard to the bells in 4-5. The bell dodging 6-7 down makes 6ths place and re-commences dodging in 6-7 up, and the bell dodging 6-7 up continues her course undisturbed.

In ordinary plain leads the whole pull behind is made over two bells—and you will find it will aid you considerably if you

remember that whenever you are called upon to make 6ths place at the single, that you will be over the bell which is making 5ths a whole pull, and that when dodging in 6-7 at a single that the whole pull behind will be over the bell which is making 6ths place.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

2 1 3 5 4 7 6

2 3 1 4 5 6 7

Bob. 3 2 4 1 5 7 6

2 3 4 5 1 6 7

2 4 3 1 5 7 6

4 2 3 5 1 6 7

4 3 2 1 5 7 6

3 4 2 5 1 6 7

4 3 5 2 6 1 7

4 5 3 6 2 7 1

5 4 3 2 6 1 7

5 3 4 6 2 7 1

3 5 4 2 6 1 7

3 4 5 6 2 7 1

4 3 6 5 7 2 1

3 4 6 7 5 1 2

3 6 4 5 7 2 1

6 3 4 7 5 1 2

6 4 3 5 7 2 1

4 6 3 7 5 1 2

Single. 6 4 7 3 5 1 2

6 7 4 5 3 2 1

7 6 4 3 5 1 2

7 4 6 5 3 2 1

4 7 6 3 5 1 2

4 6 7 5 3 2 1

For convenient reference, illustrations of bobs and singles are given above. If the work of the treble and the fifth is examined, a thorough knowledge of the effects of these calls will be obtained.

In this method there are frequently several bobs called in succession to keep the big bells dodging behind so as to add to the musical effect. This continuous calling of bobs is sometimes very puzzling, because one is apt to forget which way to go in—but if you will make a careful study of the rule given in Chapter I. as to your course bell, you will always be able to ascertain definitely whether to go in quick or slow. However you must bear in mind that at each bob you change your course-bell. And now a few words as to course bells.

In case of bobs having been called, the bell which makes the 5ths place needs no course bell—she simply goes in the reverse way she came out.

The bell dodging in 4-5 up, goes up and finds her course bell in the bell she first dodges with when she comes behind.

The bell dodging in 6-7 down takes for a course bell the bell which makes 5ths place, or the bob.

The bell dodging in 6-7 up takes for a course bell the bell with which she dodges at the bob.

In case of a single having been called, the bell dodging 6-7 up will course the bell which makes 5ths place—and the bell which makes 6ths place will course the bell with which she dodges after making that place.

In this and the preceding chapter, I have endeavoured to explain in the simplest possible manner everything which is likely to prove a stumbling block to the beginner. If my remarks throw light upon the subject and serve to make this intricate method easy to the youthful members of the Exercise, my labours will not have been in vain.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Are we not men and brethren?"

The "Drayton time controversy" must now be considered a thing of the past, the plain and pointed letter of Mr. Robinson leaving no room for any doubt whatever as to the truth of the two peals in question.

* * * * *

It would be well for the Exercise if all our friends would follow Mr. Robinson's example when they write their letters to the Editor. His communication is brief, to the point, and without the slightest trace of anything approaching personalities or ill-temper. How seldom do we find this the case with our controversialists? Were his example to be more extremely followed, what heart-burnings and animosities would be prevented, and how much pleasanter would be our path in getting at the truth! My friends—as the Yankee papers say—"please copy."

* * * * *

But what does "Astonian" mean by accusing Mr. Washbrook of want of courtesy because he published the falseness of Mr. Barrett's peal in "THE BELL NEWS" instead of communicating direct with that gentleman? He surely must have written this hastily, and without thought of the consequences, or he would not have placed himself so completely on the horns of a dilemma. If Mr. Washbrook is guilty of being uncourteous in this, then what must be said of fully nineteen-twentieths of all the correspondence which appears in these pages? What indeed, must be said of "Astonian's" own letter itself? When anything is published, it then becomes public property, and whatever issues may arise therefrom should likewise be dealt with through the same source. That is an axiom which I thought we all understood; and the idea of private communications with respect to newspaper productions (as enunciated by "Astonian") is something novel to me. Apart from the interminable amount of correspondence which such a notion would entail, that *modus operandi* would prove unsatisfactory and objectionable for many reasons. Any person who cannot bear public criticism should be careful not to give the public anything which it has the power to criticise.

* * * * *

I certainly have no intention here of taking up the cudgels on behalf of Mr. Washbrook; that gentleman, I imagine is well able to take care of himself; but I do begin to suspect, sometimes, when I see the evidences of this hole-picking business, that the "green-eyed monster," jealousy, has more to do with the matter than it ought to have. Put your heel on the jaundiced reptile, my friends, and crush it out of existence.

* * * * *

Ye gentlemen of Cheshire, who *don't* stay at home at ease (excuse this parody on a good old song), I salute you. Although late in the field, you have at any rate made a good start now that you have entered on the road of reform and organisation. Your total of 333 members and probationers at the end of your Society's first year is in itself evidence that you have "meant business" and gone heartily to work during the past twelve months. Your record altogether is indeed one which older societies than yours might have good reason to be proud of. Having thus "put your hand to the plough," do not allow your first harvest, by reason of its abundance, to tempt you to indulge in any "rest and be thankful" policy, but rather let it be an incentive to further and greater exertions, so that while

your influence for good becomes more and more felt throughout the diocese, you may be able to say with proud satisfaction—"Though last, we are not least among the brethren."

* * * * *

I was very agreeably surprised to see Mr. Baldwin's first instalment of his paper on Stedman's principle. Short articles like this, explaining the different methods in a short but lucid manner, I believe, would be of almost incalculable benefit to us—particularly to our young brethren just entering upon their studies in the art. I would suggest that when Mr. Baldwin has concluded this paper, either he or some other of our friends should follow suit and deal with other methods in a like manner; plain, understandable, and void of all unnecessary technical terms and other language which, however correct it may be, is likely to bewilder the young beginner.

* * * * *

A short time ago, I spoke about the (as yet) unpublished works of the Yorkshire composer, Mr. Sottanstell. Since then, in response to an invitation, a friend of mine to whom I am much indebted, has visited the old gentleman on my behalf. He tells me that he met the veteran in his home on the steep hillside of Sowerby, and found him, considering his years, fairly well and comfortable. My friend also informs me that Mr. Sottanstell has by dint of great perseverance gathered together and completed the "copy" of the remaining volume of his "Campanalogia," which he fondly hopes to see in print. The account given of the contents of these volumes fully bears out my previous remarks as to their great value to the Exercise. I therefore trust that before long some steps may be taken so that they may be published for the benefit of the Exercise. But more of this anon.

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THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Members of the above are respectfully reminded that the financial year ends with the present month (August). Members owing subscriptions are requested to pay them to the undersigned as soon as possible. New members elected during the present year are also requested to pay their subscriptions if they have not already done so, otherwise their names and peals (if any), will not be inserted in the Annual Report. Conductors of peals will oblige by sending the compositions of such to Mr. A. Ed. Wreaks, providing the same have not appeared in the last Annual Report. To forward the business of the next Annual Meeting, members may send in nominations to fill the places of the following retiring officers, viz., the Rev. C. Lowe, President; Mr. J. Redford, Secretary; and Messrs. Horrocks, Nutter, Wilde, and Wood (Committee); and Messrs. Booth and Davis (Auditors), but who are eligible for re-election. Members proposing new rules or alterations to the existing rules must give notice of the same before the last day of the present month to the undersigned. Notice of errors in the ringing calendar must be also sent to Mr. Joel Redford, 9 Portugal Street, Bolton-le-Moors, or to Mr. A. Edward Wreaks, 25 Tweedale Street, Rochdale, or 42 Cleveland Road, Crumpsall, Manchester.

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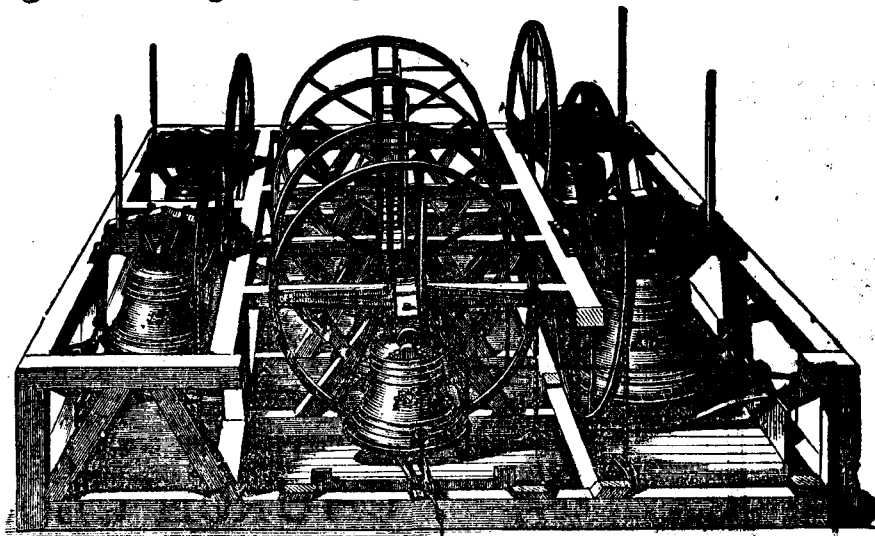
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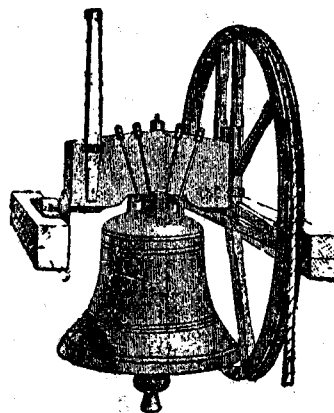
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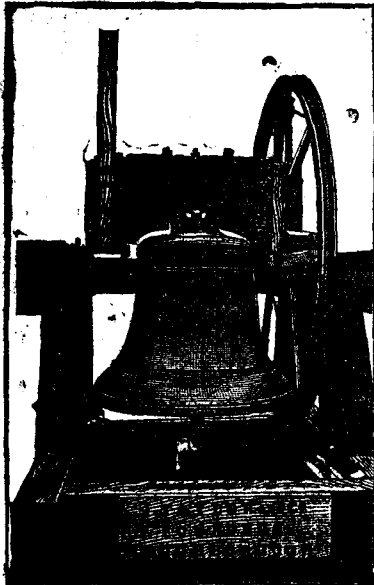
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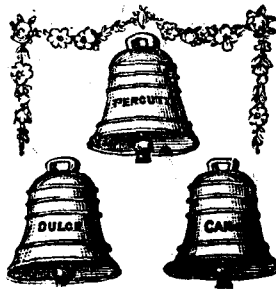
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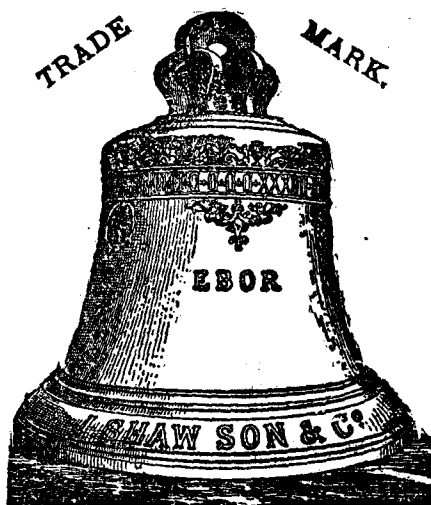
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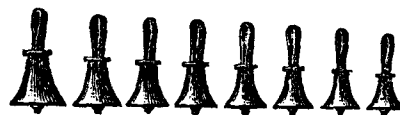
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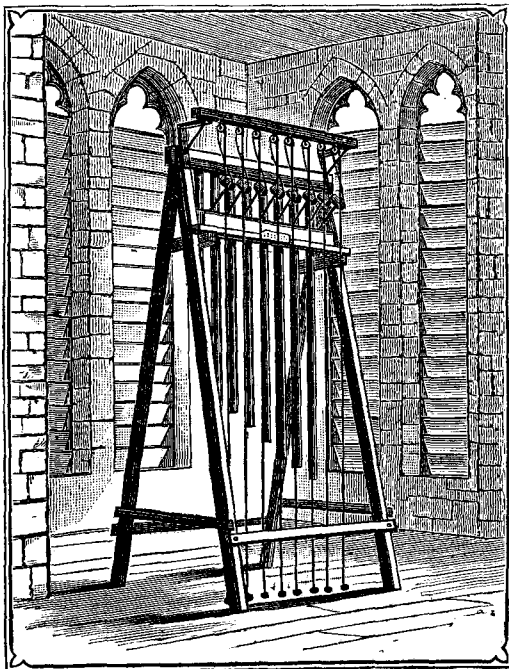
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ST. ALBANS.

Now that this ancient town is through the energy and talent of its local society becoming an important ringing centre, the following brief sketch from the *Midland Railway Guide* may not be out of place:—

The site of St. Albans is thought to be nearly coincident with that of the primæval city which formed the stronghold of the Casii, whose king Cassivelaunus, made brave but fruitless resistance to the all-conquering legions of Julius Cæsar. This British settlement was enclosed within a large earthwork which can still be traced, starting from the Ver to the north-west of St. Albans, circling round the base of the town, and returning to the river below it, embracing a total area of nearly four square miles. The Roman fortification, Verulamium, named after the River Ver, was built on the hill to the south-west of the modern town, by the side of the famous Roman road to the north, known as Watling Street. Fragments of this the first Roman city built in Britain still remain in the form of mural ruins and huge tree-topped mounds, and from these and other memorials it is plain that the settlement was a very considerable one. It was stormed by the Iceni under Boadicea, and its inhabitants were mercilessly massacred; but after the warrior queen's defeat it rose from its ruins, and again became a place of considerable importance.

St Albans, as every one knows, takes its name from Britain's proto-martyr. About the end of the third century, when the Diocletian persecution was at its height, there was living at Verulam a young Roman named Alban, of good family, and of the ancient religion. One day a persecuted priest of the new faith, Amphibalus by name, sought refuge in Alban's house, and not in vain. While here, his earnest exhortations won the Roman soldier from his "gods many" to the religion of the despised Galilean. But the fugitive priest's hiding-place was discovered, and a guard sent to arrest him. Dismissing his guest in secrecy, Alban wrapped himself in the priest's robe and mantle, and was taken before the magistrates, where the ruse was detected. Called upon to die or to sacrifice to the gods of Rome, he chose the former alternative, and after cruel torments heroically borne, was beheaded, amid, according to the legend, earthquakes and other disturbances of nature.

The scene of Alban's execution and interment bore the name of Holmhurst, and is believed to be identical with the site of the present Abbey, which was founded in his honour at the end of the eighth century by Offa, King of Mercia, by way of salving his conscience for the treacherous murder of Ethelbert, King of the East Angles. Soon after the martyrdom of his convert, Amphibalus was captured, brought back to the neighbourhood of St. Albans, and put to death with exceptional cruelty at Redbourn, a village some four miles to the north-west of the town. His relics were long afterward discovered, and, like those of Alban, enshrined in the Abbey Church.

The Abbey was rebuilt by Paul of Caen, a relative of William the Conqueror, the ruins of Verulam—this town having been gradually deserted after the foundation of the minster—serving as a quarry. It has since undergone considerable alterations. The structure, seen from a distance, is not without imposing effect, but it cannot be said to be either symmetrical in design or picturesque in treatment. Its nave is longer than that of any other church in the country. The plan is a Latin cross, and the total length is 548 feet. The greater part of the nave, which has been undergoing restoration, dates from the thirteenth century. The shrine which enclosed the relics of St. Alban was destroyed at the Reformation, but when the work of restoration was begun pieces of sculpture were found built into the masonry of some of the arches. The discovery of many frag-

ments was the reward of careful search, and these being carefully fitted together, the shrine was reproduced in tolerable completeness. The shrine of St. Amphibalus had also been re-constructed, though less perfectly than that of the Roman saint.

To the north of the Abbey, at the junction of two streets, stands the Clock-tower, dating from the beginning of the fifteenth century, and built chiefly of flint. It contains a bell, used in former days as a curfew, which bears the following inscription:—"Missa de celis habeo nomen Gabraelis."

The Monastery, which belonged to the Benedictine Order, flourished for several centuries, but was dissolved in 1539, when the fortieth abbot—a puppet of the monarch who became our first *Fidei Defensor*—delivered up the conventual seal, now in the British Museum, to the representatives of the Crown. Except the church and a massive gate-house the whole of the ecclesiastical buildings that once crowned the knoll of Holmhurst has disappeared. The Abbey itself would have gone the way of the rest when the monastery was dissolved, had not the burgesses purchased it as their parish church. The Abbey gate, formerly used as a gaol, is now the Grammar School.

In the church of St. Peter, which we see to our left as the train leaves St. Albans behind, lie the remains of Edward Strong, the mason who, under the supervision of Sir Christopher Wren, rebuilt St Paul's Cathedral. To the west of the city stands the little church of St. Michael—plain and insignificant in appearance, but always to be held in honour in virtue of its enshrining the remains of the founder of the inductive philosophy. Sir Francis Bacon, Baron of Verulam, Viscount of St. Albans, was entombed within its walls by his express desire, for it was not only the sole church within the precincts of the earlier city of Verulam, but also the resting-place of his mother. His marble effigy, with Sir Henry Wotton's memorable inscription, may be seen on the north side of the chancel. The ruins of the mansion inhabited by Bacon will be found near Gorhambury House, the seat of the Earls of Verulam, about two miles and half from the centre of the town. The estate was purchased by his grandfather, Nicholas Bacon, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of Queen Elizabeth, and here Sir Nicholas was frequently visited by his Royal Mistress. One day, it is recorded, he was "under the hands of his barber, and the weather being sultry he ordered a window before him to be thrown open." Being corpulent, he fell asleep, and on awaking found himself "distempered all over," the effect of the draught. "Why did you suffer me to sleep thus exposed?" he demanded of his servant. "Because I durst not awake you," was the reply. "Then," said Sir Nicholas, "by your civility I lose my life;" and in a few days he was gathered to his fathers.

The scene of the first of the two battles fought at St. Albans in the Wars of the Roses is a place on the eastern side of the town, called Key Field, now built over. The second and more important engagement, in which Queen Margaret defeated the Earl of Warwick, took place at Barnard Heath, a short distance from St. Peter's, in the churchyard attached to which many of the combatants were interred.

In 1875 St. Albans attained to the dignity of a city, being made the centre of a new bishopric created out of the Sees of London and Rochester. Its staple trade—if so abrupt a transition from the sacred to the secular may be pardoned—is the manufacture of straw hats for male sconces. It is also celebrated for its water-cresses, which it sends in large quantities to London and Manchester and elsewhere.

WANTED by a change-ringer, aged 20 years, a situation as Shopman or Book-keeper in Corn and Milling trade preferred; has had 6 years' experience in above Trades with present employer. Can ring the following Methods—Bob, Grandsire and Stedman. Apply to G. BAKER, Jun., Orchard Place, Arundel, Sussex.

CHURCH SPIRES IN LOUISVILLE, U.S.

[From the *Louisville Courier-Journal*.]

Louisville possesses many features which place her in the front rank of southern cities. Notable among these are the edifices erected by the various denominations for the purpose of religious worship. Church spires of different styles of architecture can be seen in almost every direction. As the many denominations vary in their mode of worship, so the spires of the churches vary in their style of architecture. The church spires here show many different specimens of the designer's and builder's art, and some of them were erected with great care, and are often taken as models for similar structures in other cities.

The Cathedral.—Perhaps the most attractive, as well as the most lofty spire in the city is that of the Cathedral of the Assumption, on Fifth street, between Green and Walnut. The cathedral is an exceedingly imposing structure of the best architectural design. The height of the spire is 287 feet. The lofty tower contains probably the largest and finest bell in the State. Its weight is said to be 4,500 pounds, and it cost originally 1,200 dollars. On the bell, in relief, is a beautiful figure of the Blessed Virgin, with the inscription in Spanish, "The Most Pure."

First Presbyterian.—The first Presbyterian church differs from the last mentioned in its architectural design as much as it does in religious doctrine. This church is situated on the corner of Sixth and Green streets, and is one of the most attractive in the city. The style of architecture of the spire is of the most improved plan, and the finish of the workmanship is complete in every respect. No church spire in the city or in the State presents a more imposing appearance than does that of the First Presbyterian church.

The Jewish Synagogue.—The Temple Adas Israel, at Sixth street and Broadway, familiarly known as the "Synagogue," aside from being one of the foremost specimens of architectural display in the city, is acknowledged to be one of the handsomest structures of its design in the United States. It is of a modern pattern, but it is as different in its general appearance from the other church edifices in the city as is the doctrine in contrast with the worship found elsewhere. The spires on either side of the building are low, but prominent and attractive, and the whole goes to give the church a handsome and pleasing appearance.

Christ Church.—Christ Church, on Second street near Green, approaches nearer the ideal Episcopal Church building, perhaps, than any other in Louisville, and while not of that broad, decided style of architecture calculated to attract attention, has an appearance which is at the same time pleasing and inviting. The spire on the left reaches an altitude of about seventy-five feet, and bears on the pinnacle the cross, symbolic of the Episcopacy. On the right tower, which ascends some distance above that on the left, a high-reaching spire will some day be erected, to compare in height with any other in Louisville.

St. Paul's.—St. Paul's church spire, situated on the corner of Sixth and Walnut streets, though not so tall as that of the Cathedral, is erected much after the same style. The spire of St. Paul's mounts to an unusual height, and upon the pinnacle is a cross, suggestive of the creed of the people who worship beneath it. The architectural beauty of this spire is equally as grand as that of any other in the city. Its general design, its minute finish, and the clearness of its outline make it one of the most interesting spires in Louisville.

Church of the Immaculate Conception.—The Church of the Immaculate Conception, on the corner of Eight and Grayson streets, was erected in 1848, and is one of the most elegant in the city. The spire reaches a height 160 feet. The pinnacle of the spire, like that of other churches of the same creed, is surmounted by a cross.

Second Presbyterian Church.—The Second Presbyterian church has the tallest spire of any church of that denomination yet spoken of. The spire is the loftiest in its locality, and consequently is very noticeable. The church is one of the beauties of Broadway, and to the stranger or visitor, always calls for expressions of the warmest admiration. It is constructed entirely of stone, and with its far-reaching spire constitutes one of the

most attractive places of worship in the city. The architectural design is simple and modern, and it is said to have been suggested by the late Dr. Stuart Robinson, for so long pastor of the church.

Walnut Street Presbyterian.—The Walnut-street Presbyterian church was erected in 1854 and is somewhat similar in its designs to that of the First Presbyterian church. The general appearance of this spire here compares favorably with the one there, and ascends commandingly to an altitude of 100 feet. It has recently been repainted and repaired, and is now among the most imposing spires on Walnut street.

College Street Presbyterian.—The College street Presbyterian church, at the corner of Second and College streets, is of a much smaller size than the foregoing edifice, but is reckoned to be one of the handsomest churches in the city. Its architectural design is of a different character from any other here, and by recent improvements and additions, has been made even more imposing than ever. The entire exterior of the building has been prettily repainted, the interior revarnished and furnished, and other changes made which give the little structure the handsome appearance it now has. The spire is not very tall, but owing to its situation, stands in relief bold and prominent.

St. John's Episcopal.—St. John's Protestant Episcopal church, Jefferson street near Twelfth, was recently repainted and is now an imposing edifice. The spire was constructed over twenty years ago, and is a fair specimen of the architecture of that day. St. John's was the third church constructed in Louisville, and when new, the plain, modest spire was reckoned one of the first in the city.

German Protestant.—The spire of the German Protestant church at Clay and Market streets is a quaint-looking, unpretentious structure, and has an altitude of perhaps fifty feet. The four sides contain the dials of a large clock, which is kept regulated by the city hall clock, and which is looked upon as an authority by all residents of the East End.

Broadway Baptist.—Of the many attractive spires on Broadway, one of the most prominent is that on the Baptist church, near Brook street. It is over one hundred feet in height, and standing, as it does, on the front of the building, calls for much attention and admiration. The spire here has cost the church a great sum of money, and on three different occasions has been either completely or partially destroyed by fire. Many claim the spire to be the highest in the city, and there are few which can compare with it in altitude.

St. Peter's.—One of the most unassuming churches in Louisville is St. Peter's German Evangelical church, Grayson street, between Tenth and Eleventh. The spire, or, more properly, tower, is a modest superstructure, and is perhaps fifty feet in height. The church is a very old one, but still has a presentable appearance, and ranks well in every respect with the other churches of its age in the city.

Church of The Messiah.—The Unitarian church boasts of one of the handsomest and highest spires in the city. It was constructed upon a plain, agreeable English style, and occupying a position, as it does, on the fashionable part of Fourth avenue, has been more admired than any other spire in Louisville.

German Lutheran.—The spire of the German Lutheran church, Preston and Green streets, was constructed particularly with a view to its beauty and general appearance, and being of the Gothic style of architecture, is the subject of general admiration. The church building proper reaches quite an altitude, but the spire was not erected with a view to having it ascend to any high position, and consequently rests but a short distance above the top of the building.

German Methodist.—The German Methodist church, Market and Hancock streets, has a spire which even from a point of height ranks among the first in the city. It is commanding; of old English architecture, and gives an air of prominence to the entire building. The church was erected in 1880, and is consequently a new piece of workmanship.

SET of 50 Good Toned Handbells for Sale, in good condition. Key of F. 26 size. belonged to the late Mr. G. R. Banks, Church Bell Hanger, 103, Lower Kennington Lane. S.E. Price £12, apply as above.

ON SAUCES.

"Let good digestion wait on appetite."—*Shakespeare*.

"What's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander." So the old saying runs. This is of course intended to convey the meaning that the same condiment must be used when either the male or female bird alluded to is placed upon the table. There are people who in all probability will have it that the saying bears altogether a different meaning, or that there is some moral hidden beneath it. But I won't be so particular. Sauce is sauce, all the world over; and goose is goose, and gander is gander, as every one knows.

Then we are told sometimes that "hunger is the best sauce!" The people who are fond of saying this are those not accustomed to its pangs. Hunger, forsooth! Does the gourmand try it? Have any of those fortunate people, the bare thought of whom at once suggests champagne and turtle, ever tried its effect upon their palates? A little abstinence, perhaps, they sometimes find desirable, if not positively necessary; but to dignify this by the name of "hunger" is to make a travestie on the word. I will not believe for one moment that "hunger is the best sauce," and it's "sauce" to say it is.

This brings me to the consideration of another kind of "sauce." And this the dictionary interprets as "pertness" and "impudence." Some people say there is a deal of this "sauce" among the rising generation of ringers. That may be so. And is there not to be sometimes found towards these young people by their seniors the sauce of "overbearingness?" Individuals who are denominated saucy—and I can't deny knowing a few—have only their "sauce" to recommend them, or to put it better, only their pertness, impudence, or assurance to enable them to make any headway whatever through the world.

Now my dictionary gives also another interpretation to the word "sauce;" and that is "something eaten with food to improve its relish." "That's your sort," some of my readers say; "now tell us which is the best." There's a great many to pick and choose from, and in these days of competition and adulteration the public are gulled to buy a terrible amount of wretched liquid matter which goes by the name of "sauce." The "horny-handed sons of toil"—this is, I believe, the correct denomination for those who have to earn their livelihood—have as much right to have sauce with their poultry and game as any one else, I suppose. "What's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander," you know; or, in other words, and to make the moral plainer—"What's good for one is good for another," and *vice versa*. The cheapest sauce is always the dearest. Oh, says one reader, we can get capital sauce at threepence per bottle. Capital rubbish! made of doubtful ingredients, very doubtful ingredients indeed, which if fully known would bring the vendors under the provisions of an Act of Parliament. This stuff is generally sold in bottles which has the name of some respectable sauce-maker moulded in the glass, these bottles being purchased wholesale from itinerant collectors who deal in every description of merchandise, dirty or clean.

What then is the real and genuine article. Is it Harvey's sauce? We have that very often, some readers will say, while admiring the joke. Is it that of "Reading"? Both very well, and with hundreds of others I could name, admirable for special uses. But for general utility "Worcestershire Sauce" is the acknowledged article—a veritable *multum in parvo*. And what many others are not, it is a grand remedy for dyspepsia. I say this from experience. A small quantity in water gives relief in cases of indigestion. In asking for this sauce, the believer in genuineness must, however, be wary. The popularity of the real "Worcestershire Sauce" of the time-honoured house of Lea

and Perrins has led to a host of imitations. Every conceivable art has been employed to foist upon the public a spurious imitation of Messrs. Lea and Perrins' manufacture, short of using their name. Therefore I may say, parodying the words of a popular advertisement—"When you ask for 'Lea and Perrins' Worcestershire Sauce,' see that you get it, as inferior kinds are often substituted. This sauce has been pronounced over and over again "as the only good one."

I do not know either of the gentlemen comprising the firm of Lea and Perrins, nor to my knowledge have I ever seen them. I am informed, however, by the respected Editor of our paper that Mr. Lea was Mayor and for many years Alderman and justice of the peace for the city of Worcester—that he was a most kind, generous, and charitable gentleman; that he built, in his lifetime, commodious almshouses for the deserving poor; that his name was to be found in every local philanthropic and charitable movement. He subscribed to the new clock and bells for the cathedral, and after the bells were placed in the tower, he gave two more outside the actual peal to make the carillon complete. And I am pleased to hear, from the same authority, that the son of the late Mr. Lea inherits the generous and charitable instincts of his revered father, as the list of benefactions to local institutions plainly show.

CALIBAN.

CRICKET.

CRAWLEY CHOIRS v. BELLRINGERS.

This match, which was between the Crawley and West Green choirs and the bellringers of the parish church, was played on the recreation ground on Wednesday, the 22nd, and resulted in a victory for the choirs by the narrow majority of five runs. The batting was very feeble on either side, the first innings of the choirs being only remarkable by the innings of —. Extras, Esq. who made nearly one third of the runs, and principally through his exertions won them the match. The campanologists felt pretty confident of victory, and their defeat caused them no little surprise. The bowling on either side was good, being the only redeeming feature in the match, with the exception of Mr. F. Caffyn's carefully played not out innings for the ringers. A cold collation was served by Bowden, at the "Railway Hotel," and afterwards a very pleasant evening was spent.

CHOIRS.				BELLRINGERS.			
FIRST INNINGS.				2nd INNINGS.			
E. Ockenden, b G. Wickens	...	...	4	c Thorne, b King	...	...	2
D. Bates, b G. Wickens	...	...	2	run out	...	...	6
J. Dean, run out	...	...	1	run out	...	...	1
C. Bowers, c Wickens, b King	...	...	0	b G. Wickens	...	...	6
R. Morley, b King	...	...	4	b G. Wickens	...	...	0
Killner, b G. Wickens	...	...	1	b G. Wickens	...	...	0
E. Chantler, b G. Wickens	...	...	0	not out	...	...	3
Harmann, c & b G. Wickens	...	...	9	b G. W. Wickens	...	...	2
A. Deadman, b G. Wickens	...	...	2	b G. Wickens	...	...	1
O. Knight, b B. King	...	...	0	c B. King, b G. Wickens	...	...	0
W. Knight, not out	...	...	0	b B. King	...	...	2
Extras	...	...	11	Extras	...	...	2
			35				19

BELLRINGERS.				CHOIRS.			
FIRST INNINGS.				2nd INNINGS.			
A. F. Hillier, c O. Knight, b D. Bates	...	...	0	b Ockenden	...	...	1
F. C. Thorne, b D. Bates	...	...	2	b D. Bates	...	...	0
F. Caffyn, not out	...	...	11	b w. c D. Bates	...	...	0
G. Wickens, st J. Dean, b Ockenden	...	...	3	b Ockenden	...	...	5
B. King, c Ockenden, b D. Bates	...	...	0	c Bowers, b do.	...	...	0
M. Heffer, c & b Ockenden	...	...	1	b Ockenden	...	...	3
J. Ward, b D. Bates	...	...	0	b Ockenden	...	...	0
F. Wickens, run out	...	...	1	b Ockenden	...	...	1
A. Ellis, c Morley, b Ockenden	...	...	0	b w. c Ockenden	...	...	4
J. Gibb, b D. Bates	...	...	3	not out	...	...	1
S. Jordan, c Chantler, b D. Bates	...	...	5	b Ockenden	...	...	5
Extras	...	...	2	Extras	...	...	1
Total	...	...	28	Total	...	...	21

PEAL BOOK.—Mr. B. Keeble, of Romford, regrets having mislaid a post card owing to the confusion in business matters through the recent flood at Romford—from a Mr. Evans—and will be greatly obliged if another communication is sent to him.

THREE PEALS OF TREBLE BOB

MAXIMUS.

By DANIEL PRENTICE, Ipswich.

5088.

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

5040.

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

5088

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

Repeated.

This last peal was first rung at Ipswich on March 1st, 1881, conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By E. FRANCIS, Norwich.

5024.

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

Repeated.

In this peal the 2nd and 3rd are never in 6ths place. If the first eight courses are repeated it will be a date touch of 1888.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By A. SYKES, Huddersfield.

5120.

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

Repeated.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By G. LINDOFF, Leiston.

13,440.

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

Repeated.

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, Liverpool.

5008.

2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H
- 2 3 5 6 4	-	-	-
4 5 3 6 2	-	-	-
3 4 5 6 2	-	-	-
5 3 4 6 2	-	-	-
2 4 3 6 5	-	-	-
3 2 4 6 5	-	-	-
5 4 2 6 3	-	-	-
2 5 4 6 3	-	-	-
4 2 5 6 3	-	-	-
5 2 3 6 4	-	-	-
4 3 2 6 5	-	-	-
2 5 3 6 4	S	-	-
3 2 5 6 4	-	-	-
5 3 2 6 4	-	-	-
4 2 3 6 5	-	-	-
3 4 2 6 5	-	-	-
5 2 4 6 3	-	-	-
4 5 2 6 3	-	-	-
2 4 5 6 3	-	-	-
3 5 4 6 2	-	-	-
4 3 5 6 2	-	-	-
5 4 3 6 2	-	-	-
6 3 2 4 5	-	-	-
4 2 5 3 6	-	-	-
5 3 4 2 6	-	-	-
4 5 3 2 6	-	-	-
3 4 5 2 6	-	-	-
5 2 3 4 6	-	-	-
3 5 2 4 6	-	-	-
2 4 3 5 6	-	-	-
3 2 4 5 6	-	-	-
4 3 2 5 6	-	-	-
5 4 2 3 6	-	-	-
3 2 5 4 6	-	S	-
5 4 3 2 6	-	-	-
3 5 4 2 6	-	-	-
4 3 5 2 6	-	-	-
5 2 4 3 6	-	-	-
4 5 2 3 6	-	-	-
2 4 5 3 6	-	-	-
5 3 2 4 6	-	-	-
2 5 3 4 6	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 6	-	-	-
2 3 4 5 6	-	-	-

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

HALF-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JAMES BAXTER, Kendal.

2520.

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

Four times repeated.

5016.

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

2	4	3	1	6	5	3	6	13	19
1	3	4	2	6	5	2	4	7	9
5	1	4	2	6	3	1	3	5	8
2	4	1	5	6	3	2	4	7	9
3	2	1	5	6	4	1	3	5	8
5	1	2	3	6	4	2	4	7	9
4	5	2	3	6	1	1	3	5	8
3	2	5	4	6	1	2	4	7	9
1	3	5	4	6	2	1	3	5	8
4	5	3	1	6	2	2	4	7	9

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

4	2	3	1	5	6	3	6	13	19	
1	3	2	4	5	6	2	4	7	9	
6	1	2	4	5	3	}	1	3	5	8
4	2	1	6	5	3		2	4	7	9
3	4	1	6	5	2	}	1	3	5	8
6	1	4	3	5	2		2	4	7	9
2	6	4	3	5	1	}	1	3	5	8
3	4	6	2	5	1		2	4	7	9
1	3	6	2	5	4	}	1	3	5	8
2	6	3	1	5	4		2	4	7	9

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

Repeated.

This peal has the 5th and 6th forty course-ends behind the 9th in the tittums, and 56789 four course-ends at home. First rung at St. Martin's, Birmingham, January 25th, 1887, conducted by A. Thomas.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield.*

5160.

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

By YORK GREEN, *College Youths.*

5024.

<u>2 3 4 5 6</u>	I	4	5	6
2 6 4 3 5		-	-	
6 2 5 3 4		-		-
3 5 2 6 4	-			-
5 2 3 6 4				-
2 3 5 6 4				-
6 5 3 2 4	-			-
5 3 6 2 4				-
2 6 3 5 4	-			-
6 3 2 5 4				-

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

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

Repeated.

This peal has the 4th and 6th sixteen times in 6ths, and the 5th fourteen times, with the 2nd and 3rd never there.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

5536.

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

This peal has the 4th and 6th their extent in 6ths place.

5344.

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

This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent in 6ths place.

5120.

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

This peal has the 5th nine times wrong and right, and the 6th the extent. First rung at St. George's, Hyde, on July 17th, 1888, conducted by its composer.

By W. F. HARTSHORNE, *Brierley Hill.*

5040.

2	3	4	5	6	W	M	H
6	4	2	3	5	-	-	-
2	6	5	4	3	-	-	-
5	2	3	6	4	-	-	-
4	3	5	2	6	-	-	-
5	4	6	3	2	-	-	-
6	5	2	4	3	-	-	-
3	2	6	5	4	-	-	-
4	6	3	2	5	-	-	-
3	4	5	6	2	-	-	-
5	3	2	4	6	-	-	-
6	2	5	3	4	-	-	-
5	6	4	2	3	-	-	-
4	5	3	6	2	-	-	-
3	2	4	5	6	-	S	-

Repeated.

By E. FRANCIS, *Norwich.*

5152.

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

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

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

Repeated.

In this peal the 2nd and 3rd are never in 6ths place at the course-ends.

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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 arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1888.

THE letter from the Hon. Secretaries of the Bedfordshire Association with reference to our comment of last week, makes sufficiently plain that our remarks upon the apathy of ringers in some of the Eastern counties was not exaggerated. We give the greatest amount of credit to the Bedfordshire Association and its indefatigable Executive for the work they have carried out in the archdeaconry, and we think it hardly necessary to point out that what strictures our comment possessed did not concern them in the least. But while saying this we cannot recede from the position as regards two of the counties named—Huntingdon and Cambridge.

There are we know other portions of the country in as equally a deplorable state as regards change-ringing as these. But it is only by drawing attention to the fact, in plain language, that any movement becomes initiated, and the sluggishness of those concerned is disturbed. In doing this, it is just possible we may tread upon the just susceptibilities of those who have a right to complain.

But we hope in such cases that the error may be looked over, and merely laid to our zeal for the extension of the science. We have nothing to complain of in the Rev. W. W. C. Baker's letter; it is of that courteous nature which may have been expected. No doubt he will accept this explanation, and estimate it at its proper value.

UPTON PYNE, DEVON.

On Sunday, August 19th, by the kind invitation of the Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote, the St. Sidwell's Society paid a visit to this pretty village, about four miles from Exeter, and had a ring with the rev. gentleman on the pretty peal of six. Several 6-score of Grandsire Doubles were rung and conducted by the Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote, and afterwards the visitors were shown over the church, various things of interest being explained, including the beautiful stained glass window erected to the memory of the late Earl of Iddesleigh. All things having been seen, the rev. gentleman conducted them to the club-room, where he had generously provided a good tea, and this having been done justice to, a start was made for home, after many thanks for the rev. gentleman's kindness. The following were present: F. Shepherd, B. Mundy, E. Shepherd, J. Moss, C. Carter, T. J. Lake, T. Mudge, J. Bastin, S. Binfield, Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

On Saturday, August 25th, a meeting of this Association was held at St. Saviour's church, Stubbylee. There was a good muster of ringers present, and some excellent ringing done in various methods by mixed companies from the following churches: Christ Church, Bacup; St. Saviour's, Bacup, Newchurch, Waterfoot, Ramsbottom, Rawtenstall, and Bolton. The bells of St. Saviour's Church were set swinging soon after three o'clock and continued at intervals until half-past nine. The usual general meeting was held in the schoolroom, presided over by the Rev. William Johnson, M.A., Vicar of the church. After the business had been transacted, which was of a routine character, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and Wardens for the use of the bells and the schoolroom.—The next meeting will be held at Helmshore, the date of which, however, has not yet been fixed.

NOTICE.

The members of the Midland Counties' Association are invited to a Garden Party, at Duffield Bank, on Saturday, September 8th, from two till six o'clock. Tea at half-past four. The Church Tower will be open from two till half-past four, and from half-past five till nine o'clock. Mr. Heywood will also be glad to see friends who are members of other associations.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

NOTICE.—This society's next meeting at headquarters takes place on Friday, September 7th, when the auditor's report will be presented, and officers for the ensuing year elected.

Meeting Room, 54 St. Martin's Lane. H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

CURIOUS EPITAPH.—In Hendon churchyard, Middlesex, is one of those singular epitaphs which show that in former times compositions of this order were subjected to no very severe censorship. It thus describes the characteristics of one Robert Thomas Crossfield, a Doctor of Medicine at Spinnelhorn, Yorkshire, who died on the 8th November, 1802:—

"Beneath this stone Tom Crossfield lies,
He cares not now who laughs or cries,
He laughed when sober, but when mellow
Was a harem-scarem brainless fellow.
He gave to none a designed offence,
So *Honi soit qui mal y pense.*"

ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

On Wednesday, August 22nd, the above Society had their annual outing, the place selected being Trowbridge, where they arrived about 1.45 p.m. The first place visited was St. James' Church, where they were very generously received by the local band of ringers. The bells were already raised and they were asked to take possession of the ropes and have a pull. After having had a touch of Grandsire Triples and one of Major, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was decided on, which was brought round in forty-seven minutes by the following: G. Staddon, 1; W. A. Dowling, 2; C. H. Gordon, 3; W. McCaffrey (Trowbridge), 5; W. Parsons, 5; F. Price (conductor), 6; J. Hinton, 7; J. Palser, 8. First quarter peal by Messrs. Dowling and Gordon. They then adjourned to the "Swan Inn," where refreshments were partaken of and some handbell ringing, &c., indulged in till about five o'clock. It being Trowbridge Flower Show, they then made their way to the Show Grounds, where they spent most of their spare time, the weather being all that could be desired. After leaving the show, they had just time to see the illuminations, &c., in the town, before starting for Bristol, which place was reached shortly after eleven o'clock, one and all having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The half-yearly meeting and six-bell competition will take place at Hayfield, Derbyshire, on September 22nd, commencing at 2 p.m. There will be no general dinner, but members and friends attending will find every accommodation at the several hotels and refreshment rooms. The officers and committee will sit at the Royal Hotel to enroll new members and receive subscriptions.

JAMES S. WILDE, }
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE, } Secretaries.

The Provinces.

WOODBIDGE, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 25, 1888, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AS THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 27 cwt.

WILLIAM WARD Treble.	WILLIAM MOTTS 5.
WILLIAM A. ARNOTT 2.	JAMES MOTTS 6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER 3.	FREDERICK TILLET 7.
ALFRED E. ACFIELD 4.	CHARLES WARD Tenor.

Composed by the Rev. H. E. BULWER, and Conducted by W. WARD.

Messrs. Alexander, Tillett, W. and J. Motts, are of the St. Mary-le-Tower society, Ipswich; the rest belong to the local society.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 25, 1888, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

JAMES W. TRAPPITT Treble.	ARTHUR B. CARPENTER .. 6.
JOHN FLOWMAN 2.	JOSEPH FAYERS 7.
CHARLES GORDON 3.	ALFRED BRUCE 8.
WILLIAM STATES* 4.	THOMAS VERRALL 9.
HENRY C. HALEY 5.	*WILLIAM HILL Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by Dr. A. B. CARPENTER.

*First peal of Caters. The above was rung to commemorate the birthday of Mr. W. States.

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Miscellaneous.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP.—On Tuesday evening, August 21st, for practice at Christ Church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. A. L. Hardman (conductor), 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; Z. Lord, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith, 6. And on Sunday evening, August 26th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. Z. Lord (conductor), 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith, 6.

THE ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY.

EXETER.—On Sunday, August 26th, at St. Sidwell's church, 504 of Stedman Triples. C. Carter, 1; W. Stocker, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; S. Binfield, 4; E. Shepherd, 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd (conductor), 7; J. Monday, 8. Also a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 42 mins., taken from Haley's Variation. *C. Carter, 1; W. Stocker, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; S. Binfield, 4; E. Shepherd, 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd (conductor), 7; J. Monday, 8. *First quarter-peal in the method. Mr. Monday hails from London.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CRADLEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, August 26th, at the parish church, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure in 26½ mins. G. Dukes, 1; R. Beasley, 2; H. Woodall, 3; C. Beasley, 4; J. A. Meredith, 5; C. Daniels (conductor), 6.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF ST. JAMES', BRISTOL.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, August 26th, at St. Matthew's church, Kingsdown, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins. H. Schusler, 1; C. Waters, 2; Jno. Davies, 3; C. Gordon, 4; T. Salter (conductor), 5; A. Parish, 6; R. Knill, 7; R. Channings, 8. The above was rung on the anniversary of laying the foundation-stone of the church. The bells were the gift of the late J. Bangley, Esq., merchant, of this city.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday evening, for practice, 532 of Grandsire Triples. S. James, 1; M. L. Myhill, 2; J. Scowen, 3; J. Pye, 4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5-6; W. Nash, 7-8. This touch contains the six 7-5-6's, with Queen's and Tittums.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WOBURN (Beds).—Handbell Ringing.—On Friday, August 24th, at the house of the Secretary, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 21 mins. Cyril Herbert, 1-2; M. J. Matthews, 3; E. Herbert, 4; C. Herbert (conductor), 5; *W. Starr, 6. *First 720. And on Tuesday, August 28th, at the same place, 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 16½ mins. C. Herbert, 1-2; E. Herbert, 3; M. J. Matthews, 4; F. Flood, 5; *Cyril Herbert (conductor), 6. *First time as conductor.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, July 31st, for practice at St. Mary's church, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). F. Hull (first 720 in the method), 1; I. Hills, 2; W. Hall, 3; H. Chapman, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also two 120's of Stedman Doubles. S. J. Cullip, 1; I. Hills, 2; W. Hall, 3; H. Chapman, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; W. Northwood, 6. And at St. Paul's church, on Sunday evening, August 19th, for Divine Service, 336 of Grandsire Triples. F. Hull, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; F. Sharpe (first touch with a bob bell), 3; F. Smith, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; F. Keech, 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Bettles, 8.

CLAPHAM (Beds).—On Saturday, August 25th, at the parish church, for practice, five 120's of Bob Doubles. H. Sharpe, 1; F. Smith, 2; G. Cockings, 3; T. Lane, 4; F. Sharpe (conductor), 5. Also on Sunday afternoon, August 26th, for Divine Service, three 120's of Bob Doubles, standing as before.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Saturday, August 25th, the Rochester band paid a visit to the above place, and with the assistance of the local band rang 720 of Plain Bob. J. Tulett, 1; J. Kidd, 2; G. Chantler, 3; J. Raynor, 4; W. Baker, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. And 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Broom, 1; C. Waterman, 2; G. Chantler, 3; W. Baker, 4; J. Tulett, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. First 720 of Oxford by Messrs. Chantler, Baker, and Tulett.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday morning, August 26th, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. F. Simmonds, 1; H. Simmonds, 2; E. Menday, 3; J. Hands, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. T. Newman, 1; J. Hands, 2; F. Simmonds, 3; H. Smith, 4; E. Menday, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. And for evening service, 360 of Plain Bob Minor. H. Smith, 1; J. Hands, 2; F. Simmonds, 3; T. Newman, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; E. Menday (conductor), 6. After service

120 of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by T. Newman. And 120 of Bob Doubles, conducted by the Rev. G. F. Coleridge. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. H. Smith, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; E. Menday, 3; J. Hands, 4; T. Newman, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROTHWELL.—On Sunday, August 26th, at Holy Trinity church, with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. Jno. Chapman, wife of Mr. Jno. Chapman, an honorary member of this company, a 360 of Violet was rung before the interment, and 504 of Oxford Treble Bob after. J. G. Verity, 1; J. C. Abbishaw, 2; G. Abbishaw, 3; W. Abbishaw (conductor), 4; S. Stacey, 5; J. M. Chadwick, 6.

ARELEY KINGS (Worcestershire).—On Monday, August 27th, for practice at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor in 24 mins. T. Elcox, 1; T. Griffiths, 2; T. Fowles, 3; W. Martin, 4; J. Reynolds, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6.

BATLEY CARR (Yorks).—On Sunday, August 5th, at the parish church, a 720 of London Scholars, in silence. Jno. Scott, 1; W. H. Stead, 2; W. Duffy, 3; J. Blackburn, 4; S. Mitchell, 5; G. H. Simon, 6. Also on Monday, August 27th, a silent 720 of Violet. Jno. Scott, 1; W. H. Stead, 2; S. Mitchell, 3; J. A. Idle, 4; W. Idle, 5; G. H. Simon, 6. And a 6-score of College Pleasure, with G. H. Simon, 5; W. Idle, 6; the others as before.

BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Monday evening, August 27th, at St. John's church, among other touches for practice, 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. *J. Hardcastle, jun. (conductor), 1; J. Cotterell, 2; J. H. Hardcastle, sen., 3; B. T. Copley, 4; G. Titterington, 5; J. W. Cundall, 6. *First time as conductor.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Sunday, August 19th, at St. Michael's church after Divine Service, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; J. Coleman, 2; J. Hillings, 3; J. Jackson, 4; J. Hinchley, 5; G. Websdell, 6. Also 720 of Kent Treble Bob. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, sen. (first 720 in the method with bob bell), 2; J. Jackson, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; G. Websdell, 6. And 720 of Double Court. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; J. Coleman, 2; J. Hilling, 3; J. Jackson, 4; J. Hinchley, 5; G. Websdell, 6. Messrs. Coleman, Jackson, and Websdell, hail from Tibenham; the rest belong to the local company.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Sunday, August 19th, for Morning Service at St. Paul's church, a touch of Superlative Surprise Major. G. Robinson, 1; A. Jacob, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; G. Newson, 7; W. Wakley (conductor), 8. Also for evening service, two courses of London Surprise Major. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin (conductor), 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; J. Jaggard, 7; W. Wakley, 8. And two courses of Cambridge Surprise Major, in the Burton Variation. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; A. Jacob, 5; H. Wakley, 6; G. Newson (conductor), 7; W. Wakley, 8. Also a plain course of London Surprise Major. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; A. Jacob, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; G. Newson, 7; W. Wakley, 8.

BYTHORN (Hunts).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Sunday, August 5th, at the house of Mr. L. Dunkley, a six-score each of Grandsire, St. Simon's, and Canterbury Doubles. C. Dunkley, 1; W. Richards, 2; C. Swan, 3; R. Dunkley, 4; H. Chapman (conductor), 5-6. Also 360 of Bob Minor. F. Smith, 1; R. Dunkley, 2; C. Dunkley, 3; W. Richards, 4; C. Swan, 5; H. Chapman (conductor), 6. And a course of Grandsire Triples. E. B. Howell, 1-2; C. Dunkley, 3-4; R. Dunkley, 5-6; H. Chapman, 7-8. Also on Wednesday, August 22nd, a course of Grandsire Triples. F. Smith, 1-2; C. Dunkley, 3-4; R. Dunkley, 5-6; G. B. Martin, 7-8. And 360 of Bob Minor (nine bobs). E. B. Howell, 1; C. Dunkley, 2; W. Richards, 3; G. B. Martin, 4; R. Dunkley (conductor), 5-6. G. B. Martin hails from Higham Ferrers, H. Chapman from Bedford, C. Swan from Lowick; the rest belong to Bythorn.

COTGRAVE (Notts).—On Sunday morning, August 26th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 360 of Grandsire Doubles in 14½ mins., being three 120's each called differently. W. White, 1; F. J. Mensing, 2; W. E. White, 3; F. R. White (conductor), 4; T. Squires, 5.

CRADLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, August 14th, at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. G. Dukes, 1; R. Beasley, 2; C. Beasley, 3; H. Mason, 4; G. H. Hatton, 5; A. E. Parsons (conductor), 6. Also 336 of Grandsire Triples. C. Barrett, 1; H. Mason, 2; R. Beasley, 3; A. E. Parsons (conductor), 4; J. A. Meredith, 5; C. Beasley, 6; H. Harris, 7; C. Daniel, 8. Messrs. Barrett and Harris hail from Stourbridge, Hatton from Lye, Mason and Parsons from Old Hill.

DAVENHAM NEAR NORTHWICH (Cheshire).—On Monday, August 20th, at the parish church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. W.

Forster (conductor), 1; R. H. Barton, 2; R. Chantler, 3; T. Forster, 4; J. Bell, 5; T. Moore, 6. The above are all members of the Chester Diocesan Guild, with the exception of R. H. Barton, who belongs to Christ Church, Bootle. This is the first 720 on the bells since being rehung by John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough.

FELSHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, August 19th, after Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. R. Keeble, 1; C. Parker, 2; A. Long, 3; J. Taylor, 4; A. Keeble, 5; W. Green (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, standing as before. And 504 in the same method (twelve bobs). C. Parker, 1; R. Bedingfield, 2; A. Long, 3; J. Taylor, 4; W. Green (conductor), 5; A. Keeble, 6. Tenor about 16 cwt.

HATFIELD (Herts).—On Tuesday, August 21st, at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 7-8 covering. J. Kentish, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Power, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; J. Richardson, 5; H. Rowe (conductor), 6; A. Shepherd, 7; J. Smith, 8. First 720 by all the company. Also a 360, with A. Shepherd (conductor), 6; and J. Hollingsworth, 7. And on Sunday, August 26th, 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. Kentish, 1; W. Power, 2; J. Channer, 3; A. Shepherd, 4; H. Rowe, 5; J. Richardson, 6; T. Gathard (conductor), 7; W. Valentine, 8.

MONKSELEIGH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, August 12th, at the parish church, 464 of Plain Bob Minor. R. Keeble, 1; R. Bedingfield, 2; J. Taylor, 3; A. Keeble, 4; R. Gooch, 5; W. Green, 6. Also 360 in the same method. F. Foster, 1; C. Parker, 2; R. Bedingfield, 3; J. Taylor, 4; A. Keeble (conductor), 5; R. Gooch, 6. And on Tuesday evening, August 14th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (six bobs and fourteen singles), in 29 mins. A. Keeble (conductor), 1; C. Parker, 2; R. Keeble, 3; J. Bigg, 4; R. Gooch, 5; A. Long, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. Messrs. Taylor, Long, and Bedingfield, hail from Bildestone, R. Gooch from Harrenger; the rest belong to the local company.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, August 25th, at the parish church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 24 mins. A. W. Baldwin, 1; H. Smith, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Jno. Moore, 4; A. Symonds, 5; W. Hollocks (conductor), 6. *Handbell Ringing.*—Also 252 of Bob Triples. H. Symonds, 1; A. W. Baldwin, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Jno. Moore, 4; H. Smith, 5; W. Hollocks, 6; A. Symonds (conductor), 7-8. First attempts in both methods by A. W. Baldwin.

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Saturday evening, August 25th, at St. Peter's church, 120 of Bob Doubles. A. Coles, 1; R. Pendrick, 2; N. Martin, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; J. Mitchel, 6. Also 360 of Court Single. A. Coles, 1; W. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendrick, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; N. Martin, 5; H. Stubbs, 6. And 288 of Oxford Bob. A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendrick, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; N. Martin, 5; W. Gilbert, 6. Also 120 of Grandsire Doubles. H. Stubbs, 1; R. Pendrick, 2; W. Gilbert, 3; N. Martin, 4; J. B. Martin, 5; J. Mitchel, 6. And on Sunday evening, August 26th, for Divine Service, 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-eight bobs and two singles). G. Kirk, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. Gilbert, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; W. Pettit, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also 180 of London Single. G. Kirk, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendrick, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; W. Pettit, 5; W. Gilbert (conductor), 6. *Handbell Ringing.*—On Sunday afternoon, August 26th, at the house of Mr. H. Stubbs, 360 of Plain Bob Minor. W. Gilbert, 1-2; J. Martin, 3; W. Pettit, 4; H. Stubbs, 5-6.

SALISBURY.—On Saturday, August 18th, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. W. J. Prince, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; J. R. Jerram, 3; W. S. Wise, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, August 22nd, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. H. D. Adams, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; W. S. Wise, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, August 23rd (Flower Show Day), at St. Thomas's church, 1260 of Grandsire Triples. C. A. Clements, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; H. D. Adams, 3; W. E. Tydeman, 4; W. S. Wise, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Tenor 27 cwt. in C. And on Saturday, August 25th, at St. Martin's church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. W. J. Prince, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; H. D. Adams, 3; W. S. Wise, 4; J. R. Jerram, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, August 26th, for Divine Service in the evening, another 720 in the same method. H. D. Adams, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; W. E. Tydeman, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, August 21st, at St. Mary's church, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 46 mins. C. E. Wilson (conductor), 1; H. Kelly, 2; R. Hurst, 3; H. Spinks, 4; J. Nightingale, 5; T. Johnson, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, August 19th, at Christ Church after evening service, 720 of Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. F. Nunn, 1; J. Nunn, 2; H. Nunn, jun., 3; G. Cornell, 4; E. Barnett (conductor), 5; J. Marks, 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 WEIGHT OF TENORS.

SIR,—In looking over the report of the Essex Association for the past year, I came across two peals that were rung at St. Peter's, St. Albans, contained in pages 24 and 25 of that report. The weight of the tenor is reported as 21 cwt. and 22½ cwt., while for a peal of Caters rung on August 6th, we have here given as 20 cwt.; I myself have always understood her to be 24 cwt. Will some one kindly furnish us with the correct weight, else (seeing that the local band are taking to change-ringing), we may hear of peals being rung with the weight of the tenor still more varied. May I not suggest that the weight of the tenor (if not the other bells), might be posted in the belfry, and that conductors' attention be called to it, so that in future we may get one set weight (and that the correct one), else if anyone is attempting to compile the weights of tenors from the Annual Reports of the various societies, he might get perplexed with the different weights, whereas a little carefulness would avoid any such obstacles. Hoping this may catch the eye of the sexton or conductor, who by giving the correct weight will greatly oblige
AMPHIBALUS.

THE PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES AT ROSS.

SIR,—I conclude by Mr. Washbrook's letter of last week that he has at last ventured an allusion to what you, Sir, termed "A remarkable allegation," concerning the peal of Grandsire Triples rung at Ross, published as the first peal by the Herefordshire Diocesan Guild. What I said then I still adhere to, and am prepared to stand by every word of it, that the peal in question was not rung true, being a patch-work affair after about 3000 changes of Holt's Original had been rung, there being nothing of Penning's one-part peal about it. Mr. W. says "he can give a guess who I am." If he does so I shall not be ashamed to own my name, but for the present I still withhold it.
TRUTH.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—I fail to express in the words of my pen my feelings after reading the report of the proceedings of the above Association at Wisbech on Monday, August 6th, and your remarks upon the same. I had intended to be there, as I should have been staying not far from that place, but could not get leave from my work for the occasion. I trust, Sir, that those who are holding aloof will come forward, and when the annual meeting is held we may see a better state of things reported, and the Association once more prospering in the art of change-ringing.
GEO. S. KING.

REPLY TO MR. PRENTICE.

SIR,—As my name has been brought up respecting the 5088 of Treble Bob Maximus, I may say that I composed it, with several others on the same plan, in January, 1883, and I gave them to Mr. John Fosdike, of Woodbridge, at Norwich, in October, 1885, and I believe Mr. Fosdike gave them to Mr. C. Mee on the same day. One of them is a 5280, which Mr. Hayward has since published in "THE BELL NEWS." I sent these compositions with others to the late Mr. J. W. Snowdon, in 1883.
ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

SIR,—I am not satisfied with Mr. Prentice's reply. Why did he not claim the peal when I published it in "THE BELL NEWS" two years ago? Why should he let my name appear to the peal and say nothing about it for two years, and why did he not answer my letter in "THE BELL NEWS" of Saturday, April 14th, 1888, concerning the peal, before it had been rung? Why should he publish the figures of the peal which appeared by me two years before him? Why did he not say something about it at the time? Now, Mr. Prentice, you know as well as I do that I was the first man that ever published a peal on this plan. As long as you did not answer my letter, and I could see by "THE BELL NEWS" that the peal had been rung, you must have thought that I should want to know something about it.
GEORGE HAYWARD.

THE RECENT PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES ON HANDBELLS.

SIR,—I was very much interested in a peal of Bob Triples in our valuable paper of last week, and no doubt many of your readers have noticed it. There are very few in that method rang with bells retained in hand; also the place in which the peal was rang in. Now may I call my readers attention to the proper place in which they have rung the peal? I hope many of our ringing, friends will take that as a good example for handbell peal ringing for this reason:

More attention will be paid to the art on both sides, ringers and referees, more so than in the meeting houses. At the same time there is no better place than the belfry to place their records for their good works, successfully accomplished.
A CONSTANT READER.

MR. SQUIRES' 1008 OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—The touch of 1008 Grandsire Triples by A. Squires, in your issue of August 25th, is the first part of Mr. T. Thurstans' five-part variation, omitting the bob at 2.
F. J. COPE.

P.S.—I have enclosed a copy of the peal, as I did not observe it among the collection of peals by the late J. W. Snowdon, Esq., published in "THE BELL NEWS" some time ago.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES IN FIVE PARTS.

5040.									
2 3 4 5 6 7	I	2	3			2 7 3 4 6 5	I		3
3 2 4 7 6 5	S	-	S			3 7 4 2 6 5	S		S
2 4 7 3 6 5	S	-	-			7 4 2 3 6 5	S		-
4 7 3 2 6 5	S	-	-			4 2 3 7 6 5	S		-
3 7 2 4 6 5	S	S				3 2 7 4 6 5	S		S
2 7 4 3 6 5	S	S				7 2 4 3 6 5	S		S
7 4 3 2 6 5	S	-	-			2 4 3 7 6 5	S		-
4 3 2 7 6 5	S	-	-			4 3 7 2 6 5	S		-
2 3 7 4 2 5	S	S				7 3 2 4 6 5	S		S
7 3 4 2 6 5	S	S				2 3 4 7 6 5	S		S
3 4 2 7 6 5	S	-	-			3 4 7 2 6 5	S		-
4 2 7 3 6 5	S	-	-			4 7 2 3 6 5	S		-
2 7 3 4 6 5	S	-	-			7 2 3 4 6 5	S		-

Four times repeated, produces the part-ends—

5 7 2 3 6 4
4 5 7 2 6 3
3 4 5 7 6 2
2 3 4 5 6 7

T. THURSTANS.

By omitting the bob at 2 in the first part, a touch of 1008, containing the twenty-four 6-7's, is obtained. In this peal there are 245 calls, seventy-five bobs and 170 singles. It will be noticed that the 6th is never called M. with a bob. First rung in 1848.

MR. HARDING'S REPLY.

SIR,—In your issue of the 25th inst. a Mr. Porter accuses me of publishing a date touch of Bob Major, of which he goes on to say is not a date touch at all, but a touch of 2336, and also that a repetition occurs in each part. Now would Mr. Porter kindly explain how he does it. The following is an exact copy of which he complains:—

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

Repeated.

F. W. HARDING.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—I should feel obliged for information on the following subjects: First, the weight or diameter of the tenor of the ring of eight bells at King's Sutton, Northamptonshire. Second, steel bells. Are they a success from a musical point of view, and how many peals are there in England at the present time. Trusting some of your readers can enlighten me.
GRANDSIRE BOB.

DEDICATION OF BELLS AT ST. MICHAEL'S, MINEHEAD, SOMERSET.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me space to enlighten the writer of the above article, and the ringing world generally. How he could have overlooked the chief town of Somerset I cannot imagine, but I am glad to be able to say that Bath and neighbourhood is not behindhand in the matter of scientific change-ringing. In our city, for many years there has been a company of change-ringers at the fine old Abbey, with its peal of ten bells, but for some time past they have not attempted much, and as late as the year 1880 they had the monopoly of all the towers. About that year, however, there sprang up several young companies, one at St. Mary's Bathwick (6 bells), St. Matthew's, Wid-

comb (6 bells), St. Saviour's, Larkhall (8 bells), and our own company at the towers of St. Andrew's and Christ Church (8 bells each), which by the by was the first formed of the young companies. St. Mary's and St. Saviour's were recently broken up, but I believe new companies are now being formed. All these companies ring the Grandsire method. Then again there is a good company at St. Michael's, Twerton-on-Avon, about a mile and-a-half from the city, where last Whitsuntide they rang a peal of Grandsire Triples, and I believe are thinking of going for a peal of Stedman shortly. At Weston, about half-a-mile from here, there is a peal of six, and a young company. Also at Batheaston, two and-a-half miles, Bathford, three miles, Newton St. Lo, three and-a-half miles, and Willow, five miles, there are change-ringers, and I hear a company has recently been started at Frome. I was at Wedmore some four years ago, and rang a few call-changes with the ringers there. The rector, the Rev. — Harvey, seemed to take a considerable amount of interest in them, and rang with them occasionally, so that by now I should think it very probable they had got hold of the method. In the year 1882 there was started at Bath, the nucleus of what, I hope, may someday be the county Guild. It is named "The Bath and Keynsham United Deaneries Association of Church Bell-ringers," having for its objects: 1, to recognise the true position of ringers as church officers; 2, to cultivate the art of change-ringing; 3, to promote order and good feeling amongst ringers, and greater reverence for God's House and worship. It comprises about twenty churches in the two Deaneries, and numbers between eighty and ninety members. Monthly ringing meetings are held at one or other of the churches. So that if there is not heard much about ringing in Somerset, there still is some useful work being done, and I hope that "Somerset to the fore" will be the cry for all ringers in the county. Speaking for our company, I may say that we are always pleased to give a welcome to any company of ringers, but as we have to obtain our Rector's permission for any extra ringing, anyone wishing to pay us a visit should write at least a week beforehand to 6, Abingdon Buildings, Bath. D. H. GOODMAN, Secretary.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SIR.—In your criticisms on the apathy of ringers in this diocese, you have, we think unwittingly, done injustice to one portion of them, and we shall be much obliged if you will give us space to reply to some of your observations. The Diocese of Ely consists of the counties of Cambridge, Huntingdon, Bedford, and the western division of the county of Suffolk. It is divided into four archdeaconries, with the Isle of Ely, which is under the peculiar archidiaconal jurisdiction of the Bishop himself. Now in 1888 the change-ringers of Bedfordshire formed themselves into a County Association, under the patronage of the Bishop of the Diocese, and the presidency of the Archdeacon of Bedford, whose archdeaconry is coterminous with the County, and since that time have continued to advance, if slowly, yet nevertheless with a yearly increase both of members and efficiency. When the formation of a Diocesan Society was first mooted, we attended the inaugural meeting at Ely on behalf of our association, and assured the promoters of our warm interest and co-operation in the matter; and at our next Annual Meeting proposed a motion which was unanimously carried to the effect that our County Association should be affiliated to the Diocesan Society as the Archidiaconal Association, and also made proposals which were favourably received for carrying this out with regard to subscriptions, etc. At the same time a strong feeling was expressed by the most influential members of our Association that it would be a pity to dissolve our executive, which was working successfully, and merge ourselves entirely in the new and larger scheme which was as yet untried. Events have proved we think that they were right. For though we were and are still willing to affiliate ourselves to the Diocesan Society, there has never yet been any Diocesan Society to affiliate ourselves to, and while our organization yearly increases in strength we fail to see any similar advance in other parts of the Diocese. We feel therefore that while your remarks are in a great measure justified you have failed to recognise that one quarter of the Diocese is organized, and organized on the basis of Ecclesiastical jurisdiction, and is in a position to fall into line with the rest of the Diocese whenever the desire for unity spreads sufficiently to allow of a general society embracing the whole Diocese. We hope that nothing we have said will be thought in any way to through cold water upon the energy and zeal of the Rev. K. H. Smith, of Ely, who is indeed deserving of the utmost praise for his untiring labours in the face of much discouragement. And we would here express to him our regret that previous local engagements prevented our presence at Wisbeach on the August Bank Holiday on the occasion of the last meeting of the Ely Diocesan Society. Will he be good enough to communicate with one of us as to the date of his proposed meeting in September, that it may not clash with our quarterly meeting which takes place on the last Saturday of that month. While however we unite with him in wishing to the whole Diocese organized, we are of opinion that local circumstances renders one Society for the whole

impracticable. Cambridge is the only place at which it is possible to arrange a meeting accessible from all parts of the Diocese and even that involves a long journey say from here (South Beds.) or Sudbury, Suffolk. We are convinced that the true solution of the question is an Association for each Archdeaconry, with its own organization and Executive—with perhaps an Annual meeting for the whole once a year at Cambridge.

CHARLES HERBERT,) Hon. Sec. Beds. County Association.
W. W. C. BAKER,) Assistant Hon. Sec.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—In reply to an enquiry, contained in last week's issue, respecting the Sussex County Association, the names and addresses of the Secretary and Assistant-Secretary are given below. Any communication made to them concerning Association matters shall receive immediate attention.

G. F. ATTREE, 8, Hanover Crescent.

J. E. WORSSELL, 14, Foundry Street.

Brighton.

REPLY OF "ASTONIAN."

SIR,—In reply to "Free Lance," re Mr. Washbrook and myself, I thank him for his observations, but I can hardly see the force of his argument. I beg to differ from him when he says that the green-eyed monster, jealousy, had a great deal to do with this affair. Allow me, sir, to state that there is no jealousy connected with the matter, and it is hardly a hole-picking business, as he chooses to describe it. What we want is to have a record of true peals only, if it's possible to get them, and not false and cooked performances, and when we hear of these latter, it's better to have them settled up at once. I am very much obliged to Mr. Washbrook for his answer, but he does not clearly state it was the peal of Stedman that he apologised for. If it was so I certainly have lost sight of it. I remember a controversy some time ago over a peal of Grandsire, but that job was squared up, I presume, and this I suppose must rest the same. Allow me to state that I was not directly acquainted with the matter, but from what I heard it seemed to me that a man with the ability Mr. Washbrook possesses as a conductor, it was strange to have sent the wrong peal after conducting it so recently, when a glance at the figures would have been sufficient. The Ross peal I don't know enough about to go into it. However, to shew that there's no jealousy connected with me against Mr. Washbrook, if he shews up with some of his party who are about to visit Aston, he will have a hearty reception from

ASTONIAN.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Balcombe branch at Balcombe.—On Sunday, July 29th, at the parish church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Gasson, 1; R. Streeter, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; T. Streeter, 4; H. Meads, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Plain Bob. J. Cheeseman, 1; R. Bourn, 2; H. Meads, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Streeter, 1; J. Gasson, 2; E. Streeter, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, July 28th, 360 of Canterbury Pleasure. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Bourn, 2; E. Streeter, sen., 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; T. Streeter, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Violet Treble Bob. R. Streeter, 1; T. Streeter, 2; E. Streeter, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Plain Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Bourn, 2; H. Meads, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Gasson, 5; J. Cheeseman (conductor), 6.

By the Brighton branch at St. Nicholas, Brighton.—On Thesday, August 21st, 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. J. Neves, 1; T. Miles, 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; H. Boniface, 4; J. Searle (conductor), 5; J. Fox, 6; W. Palmer, 7; E. Butler, 8. And on Sunday, August 26th, at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins. H. Langdon, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; J. Searle, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; W. L. Chamberlin, 5; E. Smith, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; G. A. King, 8. Also 531 of Stedman Triples. W. L. Chamberlain, A. A. Fuller, 2; J. Jay, 3; T. Smith, 4; G. A. King, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; D. Ross, 8. Messrs. Chamberlin and Williams hail from Midhurst, Smith from Kingston, and Langdon from London. And on Monday, August 27th, at St. Peter and Paul, Tonbridge, 504 of Stedman Triples, in 16 mins. H. Weston, 1; J. Reilly, 2; A. A. Fuller, 3; G. A. King, 4; C. Tyler, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; W. Robinson, 8. Also 504 of Grandsire Triples in 17 mins. J. Searle, 1; G. Thwaites, 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; C. Tyler, 4; G. A. King, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; H. Weston, 7; H. Cornwell, 8. And at St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells, 504 of Stedman Triples, in 15½ mins. C. Tyler, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; G. A. King, 3; G. Thwaites, 4; J. Searle, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; W. Robinson, 8.

G. F. ATTREE, Local Secretary.

FOR SALE.—Troyte's Guide to the Steeples of England, Post free, 6d. each. Published at 1s. 6d. Keeble, Peal-Book Manufacturer, Romford, Essex.

THE ST. DAVID'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

This society recently held its annual outing, and visited Dunsford, Bridford, and Christow. The party started from Exeter about nine o'clock in a convenient break drawn by a pair of horses. They had intended to ring a short touch at the parish church before starting, but were unavoidably prevented owing to the fact that an addition is being made to the six bells in the tower, in the shape of a new treble, thus bringing up the bells to seven, and which it is hoped speedily to increase to eight. The "ever faithful" city was quickly left behind, and under the welcome rays of a brilliant August sun, the little party shortly afterwards were rattling merrily along country roads and lanes, enjoying to the very full the magnificent scenery of some of the most favoured parts of Devonshire, which at the time presented one of the finest sights to be seen. Some of the party amused themselves by having a ring on the handbells, while the more advanced "strings" seemed to derive much delight from recounting odd and possibly unique incidents. But whatever might have been the ideas which predominated in each individual's mind, it was manifested in no unmistakable manner that no one's bodily wants were neglected, as the refreshments with which the party had taken care to provide themselves, were speedily and sensibly reduced in magnitude. Passing along the valley of the Teign, and taking a full survey of the scenery with which it is compassed, the company eventually arrived at about 11.30 at the parish church of Dunsford, where permission had been kindly given them by the new rector (the Rev. W. Tickell), to ring the pretty peal of six contained in the tower. Some six scores were rung but the party found, *experientia docet*, that two or three improvements of paramount importance needed to be made before the bells could be properly rung according to scientific methods. Through the kindness of the Rev. W. Tickell, who also proved an affable *cicerone*, the party inspected the charming grounds attached to the rectory, and, after many expressions of thanks to the rev. gentleman for his courtesy and attention, they shortly afterwards re-seated themselves in the break and proceeded to Bridford, some four or five miles distant, which was reached about 1.30. Dinner had previously been ordered at Mr. Sherman's, "Harriers' Arms Inn" for two o'clock. During the interval some of the company rang the handbells much to the delight of the villagers who congregated around the premises. Punctually at the hour named, "mine host" had ready a substantial collation which it is almost needless to say was attacked in a vigorous manner, the party, all of whom, however, discreetly bore in mind the Latin proverb—*appetitus rationi pareat*. Having satisfied themselves with food, some liquid was supplied to each member, not merely in order to put the finishing touch to the repast, but chiefly because it was necessary to do becoming honor to the loyal and various other toasts, which were proposed by the chairman (Mr. F. Shepherd), and other campanologists. Reference was made by the assistant secretary (Mr. A. W. Searle), in responding to the toast of "Success to the Society," to the progress made by the band in the art of change-ringing, recollecting especially that several of the members were ignorant of the principles of modern bell ringing two years ago, and that already three of its youngest associates had rung in peals. The toast list being over, the ringers adjourned to the belfry of the parish church, which was close at hand, where they knocked off some excellent 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles on the musical peal of six contained therein. The party subsequently proceeded to Christow, where they rang some fine 6-scores on the beautiful peal of six in the parish church. They also joined with the ringers of the place in some round ringing and call changes. The company wended their way about seven o'clock to the "Artichoke Inn," where they sat down to a substantial and exceedingly refreshing tea. Some changes were afterwards rung on the hand bells, to the intense gratification of the villagers. About nine o'clock the party started on the return journey, feeling satisfied that they had advanced the welfare of of change-ringing in the places they had visited. The party were delayed for some time through a waggon, the horse attached to which had fallen down and blocked the road. The driver of the break containing the ringers assisted with alacrity in putting the driver (who received rather a nasty wound near his right eye), and his steed straight. After this incident the company proceeded onward, and reached Exeter about eleven o'clock, thoroughly pleased with this, their first annual outing, and with

many wishes that the next would be equally as pleasant. Before separating, it might be mentioned that the ringers awarded a very hearty vote of thanks to the clergymen of the different parishes for allowing them the use of their bells. They also warmly acknowledged the generosity of the parishioners of St. David's who had contributed towards defraying the expenses of the excursion.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 23rd, after assembling in the belfry of the parish church, Cheltenham, and ringing two touches of Grandsire Caters, conducted by Mr. J. Belcher, captain of the Cheltenham society, a supper was held at the "Eight Bells" Hotel, to commemorate the long peal of Stedman Caters rung at Cheltenham on May 21st last. About thirty ringers and friends sat down to supper. The chair was taken by Mr. Belcher, and the vice-chair by the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, secretary to the Association. The cloth being removed, the usual loyal toasts were given and duly honoured. The next two toasts were those of the ringers of the long peal, and Mr. W. T. Pates, the conductor; after which a very handsome peal tablet was presented to Mr. Pates, through the Chairman, commemorative of the long peal, it being also his first peal of Stedman Caters as conductor.

Mr. PATES having duly responded, expressing his thanks and saying what a surprise to him such a handsome present was,

The CHAIRMAN in an appropriate and feeling speech, presented Mr. Phillott, on behalf of his ringing friends in Cheltenham and various parts, with an exceedingly handsome gift on the occasion of his marriage. The present consisted of a splendid sewing machine, having on the case a silver plate engraved with the words "Presented to G. H. Phillott by ringing friends, June 26th, 1888." Together with this was also presented a beautifully illuminated address on vellum, which was read by Mr. Ward, giving the names of the donors, and wishing Mr. and Mrs. Phillott long life and happiness. The address and also the peal tablet were illuminated by Mr. Price, of Worcester, and reflects the greatest credit on him. In the interval between this presentation and Mr. Phillott's reply, the air, "Music cannot wake us," was given as a solo on the handbells by Mr. W. T. Pates, the chorus being lustily joined in. The next toast was that of the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, who replied in a humorous speech. After this, Mr. Phillott with much feeling thanked his numerous friends, one and all, both those present and others unavoidably absent, for the utterly unexpected, and not only magnificent, but useful present which they had given him: it being an especially graceful act on their part, as being appropriate not only to himself but also to his wife.

The health of "The Visitors" was then proposed, and afterwards that of Mr. Ward, who in replying proposed the health of "The Chairman," to whom the usual vote of thanks was given. The last toast on the board was that of the well-known veteran—Mr. W. Morris—now fast nearing seventy-nine, but who is still hale and hearty, and able to "make one" in a peal of Caters. The rest of the evening was agreeably spent in harmony, various courses and tunes being rung, and a solo performance of a well-struck touch of Kent Treble Bob by Mr. W. T. Pates, which was heartily applauded by all. Solos on the handbells were also given by Messrs. Brunsdon and Humphries, and courses by friends from Gloucester and Tewkesbury. The proceedings terminated with "God save the Queen," by Mr. Pates, on the handbells. It should be mentioned that the proceedings connected with procuring the testimonial and present to Mr. Phillott were entrusted to Mr. Pates and Mr. Ward, who most ably conducted the task assigned to them. The evening was thoroughly enjoyed, and the company separated, all expressing their opinion that the gathering had been a most agreeable one, and one which will be long looked back to with pleasure by all present.

NOTICE.—The Secretary of the Ancient Society of College Youths, would be glad to receive the addresses of Mr. R. T. Hibbert, of Reading and Mr. Harry Pearce, of Maidstone, at their reasonable convenience.—RICHARD T. WOODLEY, 40, Lillington Street, Pimlico.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Nothing without labour."

It would appear as if the Ely Association is suffering just now from apathy on the part of its members. We might well understand a disinclination at this holiday period of the year to enter into serious business arrangements, and a preference being given to pleasurable habits and resorts. But unfortunately it does not seem as if this was merely the cause of a temporary "cessation of hostilities;" it looks more like the existence of a chronic disease in the midst of that Association which needs eradicating. The first enquiry, then, in this case will be—what is the cause of this? And after that comes the question—how is this state of things to be dealt with and remedied? While commending these queries to the careful consideration of the officials, I would say to them: if things look gloomy, do not lose heart, patience and perseverance seldom go without reward. Remember that many of the greatest achievements of history have been accomplished only after a long series of disheartening circumstances, through the darkness of whose atmosphere the great results have emerged as bright and shining lights, the dense blackness around but serving to make them all the more brilliant. To use an old expression, "take the bull by the horns" manfully; face bravely your difficulties and the obstacles which now beset your path, then strive your uttermost to surmount them. If you cannot obtain that amount of success which you desire (as an old friend of mine used to say) get what you can on account, and keep pegging away until you get the balance of the remainder. But above all, keep heart and work on. Who knows but that even in the near future you may be blessed with such a return for your earnest and self-denying labours as you do not now even dream of? In any case, if you cannot be the architects and builders of a magnificent edifice, you may at least so lay the foundation, that those who come after will have reason to be thankful to you for leaving them such a firm basis to work upon.

* * * * *

I should be very ungallant were I not to compliment Mrs. Williams on the accomplishment of her first 720 of Bob Minor with a pair of handbells. That lady is undoubtedly making good progress in the art; and really I begin to have a lurking suspicion that one of these days we shall find a report of tower ringing by some of our energetic lady friends, in the columns of "THE BELL NEWS." That would make some of our "old stagers" rub their eyes and wonder! The gentler sex are now appearing as Municipal voters, as members of Boards of Guardians, School Boards, the medical profession, and various other roles in which the sterner sex were hitherto supposed to have a monopoly; and if they come out as ringers in the tower—well, we shall have to look out; that's all.

* * * * *

Another little circumstance I am pleased to note, namely, the ringing of the two trebles in a 720 on handbells by Ernest Herbert, a boy of but eleven years, at Woburn. Well done, lad! You have started young—much younger than most of us did, and that is all in your favour. Let us hope you have a long and useful life before you, and that you may eventually prove yourself a credit to the Exercise, both by your abilities as a ringer and your conduct as becoming a respected member of Society, and a faithful son of the Church.

* * * * *

"Plain Bob" seems to have been greatly exercised in his mind on account of my remarks anent the recent Chepstow "performances," and, as is usually the case with persons when they allow their temper to get the best of their judgment, he

has succeeded in making an amusing exhibition of himself. On first reading his ejaculatory and pointless effusion, I could not refrain from a hearty laugh at the absurdity of the thing; but on afterthought I felt sorry for him that he had not left the writing of his rejoinder over until some calmer moment, by which means he might perhaps have appeared to better advantage. As would have been expected from such an ill-tempered rigma-role, he quite overlooks the real point of my note in question. I did not make use of one disparaging word respecting their ringing of the aforementioned courses of Bob Doubles. What I referred to was the publishing of such a small performance, and that too in so close conjunction with a repetition of drinks—ringing and drinking alternately with each other as if they were equally creditable performances. His puerile abuse I pass over with the remark that the Exercise is better calculated to decide as to the "bigotry" of my weekly remarks, than a man in a passion. As to my abilities as a ringer, which he professes to be anxious to know something about, I would add that it is many years since I rung my first course of Bob Doubles, and were I to give an epitome of my experiences and work in connection with change-ringing since that time, it is more than probable that "Plain Bob" would be considerably astonished. Let me, however, give him a piece of advice. The next time he is tempted to allow his temper to get the best of him in this manner, "sleep on it," my friend; or perhaps better still, indulge in the luxury of a cold water bath. For the present, *Pax vobiscum.*

FREE LANCE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Members of the above are respectfully reminded that the financial year ends with the month of August. Members owing subscriptions are requested to pay them to the undersigned as soon as possible. New members elected during the present year are also requested to pay their subscriptions if they have not already done so, otherwise their names and peals (if any), will not be inserted in the Annual Report. Conductors of peals will oblige by sending the compositions of such to Mr. A. Ed. Wreaks, providing the same have not appeared in the last Annual Report. To forward the business of the next Annual Meeting, members may send in nominations to fill the places of the following retiring officers, viz., the Rev. C. Lowe, President; Mr. J. Redford, Secretary; and Messrs. Horrocks, Nutter, Wilde, and Wood (Committee); and Messrs. Booth and Davis (Auditors), but who are eligible for re-election. Members proposing new rules or alterations to the existing rules must give notice of the same before the last day of the present month to the undersigned. Notice of errors in the ringing calendar must be also sent to Mr. Joel Redford, 9 Portugal Street, Bolton-le-Moors, or to Mr. A. Edward Wreaks, 25 Tweedale Street, Rochdale, or 42 Cleveland Road, Crumpsall, Manchester.

WOOLHOPE, HEREFORDSHIRE.

The fine old peal of six bells in the church of St. George has recently undergone extensive repairs. They have been entirely rehung with new stocks, wheels, and clappers. The bells from constant use were found to be very much worn, and have been turned on the new stocks, so that the clappers now strike in an opposite direction. New bell ropes have been supplied, new guides for ropes to pass through fitted with turned ornamental bosses, and new troughs between the floors for the ropes to work in. The bells being turned are fitted with reversible crown staples passing through the crown of the bell and screwing on the top of the stock, and are all hung on gun metal bearings fitted into cast iron chairs, and fitted with grease boxes and covers. The gudgeons are all turned up in the stocks and fitted in iron bed plates to the under sides of the stock. The oldest bell bears the date 1649, and has the following inscription: "Honor and Praise be given to Thee, O Lord. J.B. A.D., Churchwardens." The work has given entire satisfaction.

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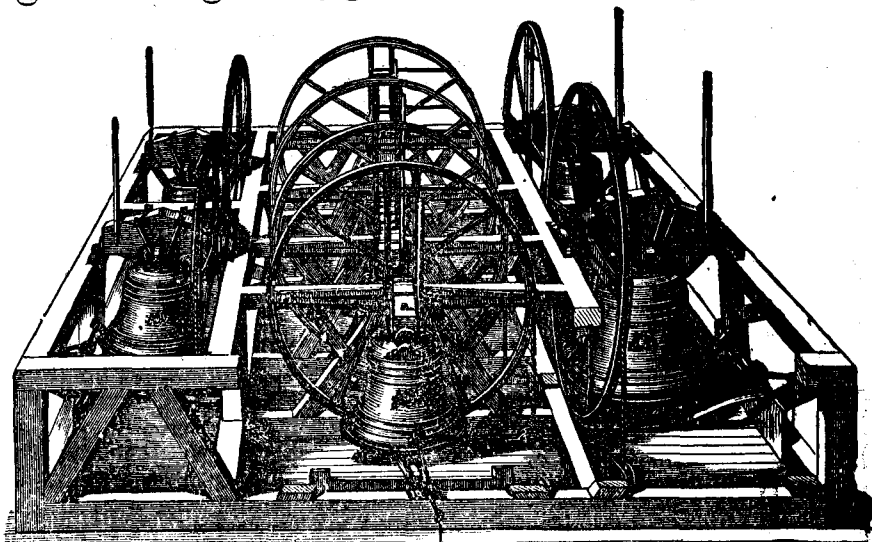
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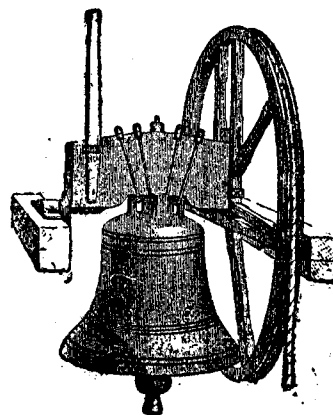
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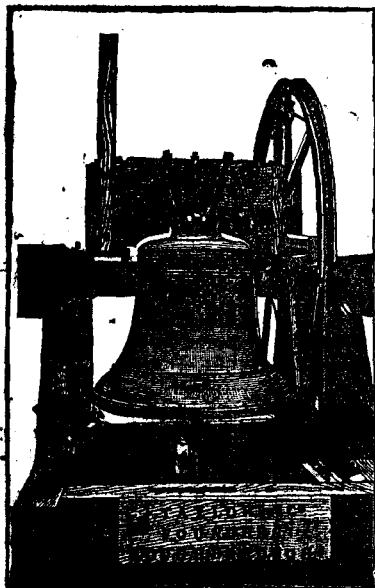
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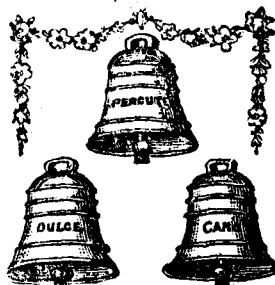
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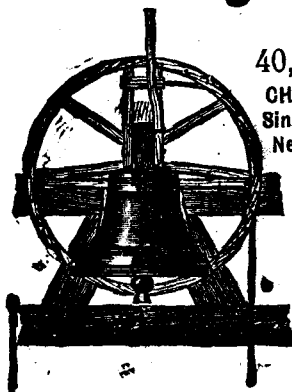
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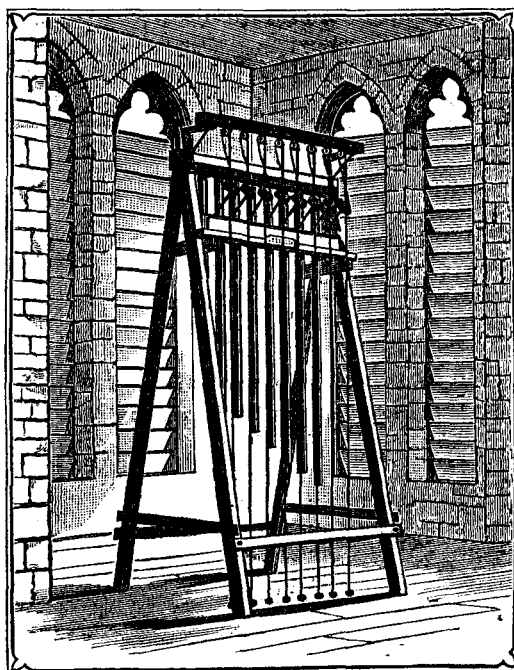
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RINGERS' VISIT TO PERSHORE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Thursday, August 20th, through the kindness of their Vicar, the members of the Clent branch of the Worcestershire Association had their first annual outing, the old and somewhat romantic town of Pershore being chosen for the purpose. Soon after eight o'clock in the morning the members assembled at Hagley railway station, and while waiting for the train the handbells were brought out, and that very popular tune known as "The Washing Day," played upon them, to the evident enjoyment of the occupants of the platform. A 6-score of Grand-sire Doubles having been well struck by the younger members of the party, the train steamed into the station, and soon were all en route for their destination. Very soon after eight o'clock Worcester was reached, and a delay of nearly an hour taking place, the party had an opportunity of taking a brief stroll into the "faithful city." Time not admitting of much sight-seeing, however, a return was made to the station just in time, and the route for Pershore was resumed, that railway-station being reached soon after ten o'clock. This station is about a mile-and-a-half from the town, the walk being at all times enjoyable, but especially so at this season of the year. The neighbourhood, through which flows the gentle and classic Avon, is very famous for every description of fruit. Testimony to this fact is apparent from the immense quantities of this kind of produce which is despatched to all parts of the kingdom, and the excellent fruit of Mr. Richard Butler, of Pressland House, Pinvin, have a wide reputation for quality and flavour. Now it is the plum season, and the visitors were fain to halt on their way for the purpose of viewing the rows upon rows of trees of that delicious fruit which was being carefully gathered by a numerous body of "pickers" from the heavily-laden branches.

The town being reached, and the journey having "whetted" the appetites of the visitors, the inner man was rendered comfortable, and ringing was the next object. For this purpose, a move was made to the old parish church of St. Andrew, where was found to be a ring of six bells, hung the reverse way. The greatest drawback to ringing here was the height of the ceiling from the floor, and without any intervening guides for the ropes. The bells were raised in peal, and a 720 of Bob Minor was attempted, which came to grief soon after the half-way had been reached. A 360 was then rung by the following: G. Workman, 1; C. Boughton, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Huxley, 4; J. Barber, 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6.

The visitors (in company with their Vicar, who had accompanied them from Clent) then repaired to the Abbey Church of the Holy Cross. The Vicar of Clent (who was formerly in charge here) pointed out to his ringers the several features of interest connected with the edifice, not the least of which was the stained glass window defining the history of the church. The ringing-chamber here is probably without a parallel. Entering underneath the tower the visitor is surprised to find that every floor in that part of the building, except the one immediately under the bells, has been removed, and the arch thrown open to the church. This of course necessitated, in the absence of any further provision, the ringers being brought down to the ground floor. To avoid this a light-looking cage of wood and iron was placed just beneath the bells, and in this cage the ringers officiate. The idea seems an ingenious one. The ascent to this unique ringing-chamber, is not however favorable to corpulence.

Permission to ring at the Abbey could not be procured until four o'clock in the afternoon, but during the interval some of the visitors were conducted through the gardens of several of the local gentlemen, who had kindly thrown them open for this purpose; while others enjoyed a row on the river Avon. At the time appointed they all met at the Abbey, and ascending to the

"cage," raised the bells, and attempted a touch of Grandsire Triples, which came to grief through the bad "go" of the bells. These bells are without doubt the best ring of eight in the county, and it is surprising, therefore, that the good folks of Pershore are content to let them remain in such a sad state. They will have to be rehung by a professional bell-hanger before anything can be done on them.

Leaving the Abbey, at five o'clock the party found that by the kindness of their vicar a good tea was awaiting them at the music-hall, to which repast ample justice was done. Then a start was made for the railway-station on the return journey home, the latter place being reached about eight o'clock, every one of the party acknowledging the enjoyment they had experienced in this—their first—visit to the "land o' plums."

VISIT TO CALDICOT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

On Saturday, September 1st, the Caerleon Society paid a visit to Caldicot, where they were met by Mr. Baynham, the steeplekeeper, and other members of the local band. The tower contains a fine ring of eight, in splendid going order. The tenor (about 16 cwt. in F) has no date, but an inscription in very indifferent church-text characters and the words divided at random by round shields or rosettes: "In honore Sancta Mari(h)a." The tenor has been quarter-turned. From the battlements a splendid view of the Bristol channel (which is one mile distant and three-and-a-half wide) is obtained. Directly across is the mouth of the Bristol Avon, and one mile south-west is the north end of the Severn tunnel. Within bowshot is the ancient castle, now restored and inhabited. The Rector, the Rev. E. V. Collins, came into the belfry to welcome the visitors, and the bells were set rolling, the visitors and local band alternately standing at the ropes. At 4.30 the Rector invited the ringers to tea, which Mrs. Collins had kindly provided on the lawn in front of the rectory. The Rector also took the visitors around the garden and greenhouse, calling attention to some of the curious plants which he cultivates. After tea some more ringing was indulged in until the time of departure, when we bade farewell to the Caldecot band and also to our friend "Plain Bob," whom "Free Lance" delighteth to honour, and who had walked from Chepstow to meet us (a very pleasant fellow by the bye, and eager to increase his knowledge of the science, though somewhat bold in trying to draw conclusions with "Free Lance.")

The company take this opportunity of thanking the Rev. E. V. Collins and Mrs. Collins for the kind reception they received at their hands, also Mr. Baynham and the local band for their kindness.

R.

ADDERBURY CHURCH, OXFORDSHIRE.

Sometime since a large clock was erected in the above church, by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, and now the same firm have fixed a large carillon in connection with the clock, which plays seven tunes on eight bells (one tune for each day of the week), at three, six, nine, and twelve o'clock. The largest bell is 25 cwt.

NOTICE.

The members of the Midland Counties' Association are invited to a Garden Party, at Duffield Bank, to-day, Saturday, September 8th, from two till six o'clock. Tea at half-past four. The Church Tower will be open from two till half-past four, and from half-past five till nine o'clock. Mr. Heywood will also be glad to see friends who are members of other associations.

THE EXECUTION BELL AT ST. SEPULCHRE'S.

There seems to be some probability of the discontinuance of the practice of tolling the bell of St. Sepulchre's, Holborn, on the occasion of executions at Newgate. The practice has been observed for many years, and the cost has been defrayed out of a rent-charge on certain premises in Smithfield, known as Robert Dowe's Prison Charity. This Charity has now been scheduled by the Charity Commissioners, who propose to divert the money from its present use and give the rector and churchwardens of St. Sepulchre's, as trustees of the Charity, power to dispense it in the manner that they direct, namely, to benefit deserving and necessitous prisoners upon their discharge; or, in the case of youthful offenders, to provide them with clothing, to assist them to return to their homes, or to gain a livelihood. In selecting the beneficiaries the trustees will prefer such prisoners who have been committed in the Central Criminal Court district. The trustees may also pay over the income to a discharged prisoners' aid society. The question of the tolling of the execution bell will shortly come before the Vestry of St. Sepulchre's, out of whose funds the costs of maintenance will have to come.

In connection with the above the *Standard* has the following interesting remarks:—

"An old London custom, which, at the best of times, had never much more than antiquity to recommend it, is about to pass away. We refer to the practice of tolling the bell of St. Sepulchre's Church on the morning of an execution in Newgate. This doleful rite has now existed for the better part of three centuries, in virtue of a fund left for the purpose. The bequest of ROBERT DOWE, Citizen and Merchant Taylor, amounted in the year 1605 to the modest sum of fifty pounds, but it would not be rash to affirm that the fund, after the manner of such Civic gifts, has assumed proportions considerably larger. At all events, the size of the endowment, and the purposes to which it has been applied, have attracted the attention of the Charity Commissioners, who have duly scheduled it for the purpose of giving the Rector and Churchwardens of St. Sepulchre's, as Trustees of the Charity, power to apply it to a more appropriate purpose. This diversion they consider ought to be in the direction of benefiting prisoners more than usually necessitous, and as 'deserving' as a criminal who has undergone a sentence can well be. In the case of youthful offenders, the income of the bequest may be used to provide them with clothing, to assist them to return to their homes or to gain a livelihood. In selecting the beneficiaries, the Trustees will prefer such prisoners as have been committed by the Central Criminal Court, as this tribunal lies in their district, and is directly connected with the gaol which has hitherto, in a round-about way, 'enjoyed' the benefits of ROBERT DOWE's melancholy bequest. Or, if it so pleases the Trustees, they may pay over the income to the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society, a mode of helping the unfortunate which is perhaps the readiest and the one least likely to be abused by those who may, in the distant future, have the patronage of the charity in their hands. In any case, the funds will no more be employed for their old purpose, for though the Vestry may, if it so please them—which is not very likely—pay for the performance of this office, the fifty pounds of the pious London citizen will be utilized for ends more in keeping with modern ideas of the fitness of things. It is quite possible that some injudicious *laudatores temporis acti* may regret to hear of the coming change. It is even within the bounds of probability that the Vestry may consider that the ratepayers ought to pay for a continuance of the ceremony. That, however, will scarcely be the opinion of any large number of people, since, in acceding to the wishes of the Trustees of the Prison Charity, the Commissioners have bereft St Sepulchre's of the least agreeable association with which it is invested.

"The tolling of the bell, and the fact that many a time the hangman has fixed the fatal hour by the clock in its tower, have led to a widespread idea that the name of St. Sepulchre's Church is in some way derived from the culprits' grave. In reality, St. Pulchre—as it is locally called—was dedicated to the memory of the Holy Sepulchre at a period long before its

vicinity obtained so strange a history. The only reason why it was selected as a sort of subsidiary chapel to Newgate was that its position at the eastern end of Snow-hill, hard by Smithfield, makes it the church nearest to the Old Bailey. Founded some time in the twelfth century, it was renewed about four hundred years later, and after the Great Fire was almost entirely rebuilt by Wren, of whose handiwork, in spite of a great deal of 'restoration' and alternation, it is generally regarded as a favourable specimen. Nor is the church without a history. In its vaults are entombed some famous, and one or two infamous, men. There, for instance, repose Roger Ascham and the Captain John Smith, whose connection with the founding of Virginia is much better authenticated than his own romantic account of being preserved from the wrath of Powhattan by the fair Pocahontas. In St. Sepulchre's lie also Dr. Bell, the educationalist, and Sarah Malcolm the murderess—though it ought to be added that three centuries ago, when the body of Awfield, executed for 'sparcing abroad certen lewed, sedicious, and traytorous bookes,' the parishioners declined to permit the interment of such a scoundrel in the same earth with 'their parents, wives, children, kindred, masters, and old neighbours.' St. Sepulchre's has been peculiarly fortunate in attracting the favour of the pious founder. Few churches, indeed, have at different times received so many gifts. In pre-Reformation times it supported many religious sisterhoods and fraternities, and maintained several chantry priests for celebrating masses for the repose of divers benefactors. On St. Paul's Day, a discourse is, or ought to be, delivered upon the excellence of the Church of England liturgy, in virtue of a bequest of forty shillings per annum left by Mr. Paul Jarvis, who also bestowed other sums, the distribution of which is so onerous as, to necessitate the Vicar, Churchwardens, and Common Councilmen dining together on the evening of the day when they duly allot the Jarvis bequest. But of all the St. Sepulchre charities the one now on the eve of transformation is the best known. According to a tablet on the right hand side of the altar, the donor was Robert Dowe, who in 1605 gave fifty pounds 'for ringing the greatest bell in the church on the day the condemned prisoners are executed, and for other services for ever concerning such condemned prisoners.' In Munday's edition of Stow the name of this benefactor is given as 'John Dowe' and 'the other services' are particularised at considerable length. For example, on the night before executions the Clerk of the church had to ring a bell under the windows of the condemned felons, and then and there repeat a rhymed admonition appropriate to their approaching end. When the culprit was in the cart, the Clerk was to stand in front of the church as the procession passed, ready with the same bell, and, after certain tolls, repeat a prayer and exhort all good people to join in these exercises. Another duty of the Clerk was to present a huge nosegay to every criminal as he passed on his way to Tyburn, and lest these offices should be performed in a perfunctory manner, as they were apt to be when there were one or two executions every week, the beadle of Merchant Taylors' Hall was allowed an 'honest stipend' to supervise the ceremonial.

"In course of time, however, one after another of these functions dropped into abeyance. The presentation of the nosegay and the exhortation in front of the church ceased when executions were held in the Old Bailey. Then the admonition under the window of the cells came to be intermitted, until nowadays all that remains of the ceremonial so carefully enjoined by Robert Dowe is the tolling of the great bell when a wretched being is suffering the last penalty of the law. This function may likewise very properly be relegated to the past. It began in a time when everything was done to make the lot of criminals as severe as possible, and when the dismal tolling of a funeral bell while the man was still alive was regarded as conducive either to repentance or to humanity. In former days, it may be remembered, often only a day, or a few days, intervened between the man's sentence and death, and all executions were in public. It was for the purpose of impressing the rabble, quite as much as with the object of benefiting the culprit, that the bell was tolled, and the Burial Service repeated in sight of the unhappy wretch's grave was supposed to have a peculiar moral effect on all concerned. We know now, or we think we do, that horror is more likely to be

the feeling on such an occasion than piety or sincere repentance. As for the mob outside the prison, it is notorious that they were little, if at all, influenced by the dread solemnity of the event. They ate, drank, and sang songs in the taverns opposite until, at daylight, the preparations began for what had brought them together, when speculation grew rife whether the criminal would "die game." Robberies were frequent in the crowd, and murders have even been committed at the foot of the gallows. Hanging in chains, burning the body, dissecting it in public, preaching the funeral sermon with the condemned culprit's open coffin in front of him, and a host of other inhuman proceedings, used to be advocated in the supposed interests of public morality. But, like the practice of breaking on the wheel, which the courtiers and fine ladies of the *ancien regime* used to consider a delightful *divertissement*, or burning at the stake, which attracted all the scum of London, these barbarous rites really tended to increase the amount of crime. Even the ride to Tyburn made a hero of a scoundrel, and, in common with the kindly attention paid him at St. Sepulchre's Church, intensified the popular notion that a highwayman, a coiner, or a murderer was a sort of public character, whose ill-fortune was to be sympathised with because he had been caught."

The *Standard* of Thursday published the following letter in connection with this subject:—

"SIR,—It is not so certain as assumed in your Article of yesterday, that no Bell will in future be tolled at capital Executions at Newgate. The instructions issued to the Sheriffs of England and Wales, by the Home Office, for the conduct of Executions of criminals, direct that the Bell of a neighbouring church, or of the prison, be tolled for a short time before the Execution. This is invariably done, and the sexton of St. Sepulchre's will doubtless, still perform this duty, but will be paid by the Sheriffs of London, instead of by the Trustees of Robert Dowe's will. Half-a-crown is, I believe, the usual fee in most places."

VANDALISM.

According to Dr. Jessop, the people of Cossey, a village four miles north-west of Norwich, have been guilty of a strange act of high-handed barbarism. The rev. gentleman writes to the *Times*:—"A fortnight ago I received a request by post that I would contribute towards the 'restoration' of Cossey church. Knowing nothing of what had been going on, I at once drove over to survey the ground, and was overcome by dismay. I remembered but imperfectly a beautifully proportioned structure, for the most part of early fourteenth century workmanship, consisting of a nave, with windows still retaining large portions of the old stone mullions and tracery, the roof in a rickety condition, the seating shabby, ugly, and inconvenient. There was a superb screen separating this nave from the chancel, and I found chancel and screen pretty much as I had seen them some years ago. Of the ancient nave its walls alone remain. Every record of the past, every vestige of anything that could suggest a reminiscence of that past, every faint hint that the life and faith of that past had any link of connection with the present, has been brutally obliterated. Everything of beauty has been swept away. The old stone mullions of the fourteenth century windows have been torn out, the very jambs hacked away; there they lie in a heap outside, doomed sooner or later to be utilised for the 'restoration' of a pigstye or the construction of a silo. In their place there are not honest sashes with weights and cords, but constructions of white brick, the ingenious moulders having set themselves to present the beholders with a fancy portrait of the ancient tracery and cusping in cooked clay. There were in the chancel five windows of rare ingenuity and beauty of design, containing considerable fragments of brilliant stained glass—the stonework in remarkably good preservation, one of the windows in the north wall presenting some characteristic features which, as far as I know, were unique. The roof was a trussed rafter roof of the early part of the fourteenth century, the moulding of the wall plate being exceedingly rich, and doubtless designed and executed by local craftsmen, the rude forefathers of the hamlet, whom we take such special pains to help their posterity to pity and despise.

The screen was thickly covered with white paint, yet not so thickly as quite to hide the exquisite carving of the spandrels, bearing upon its every line the evidence that a born artist had there given play to his genius, and worked at it as a labour of love. To 'restore' this chancel I had been asked to subscribe from my scanty means—to restore, mind, not preserve; and when I asked what was intended in this case by the term 'restoration' I was proudly told that it had been agreed by a large majority of the parishioners to substitute for those chancel windows others of a more slightly and convenient pattern to harmonise with the triumphs of brickwork in the nave. As for the screen, nobody wanted it: it was to be got rid of somehow; my informant did not quite know how. When I asked where the money was to come from, I was told confidently that the Trustees of the great hospital (for old men and women at Norwich, which own the tithes) had voted 250*l.* towards the completion of the work. Next week a representative of the society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings was sent down to the report upon the condition of affairs, and a very temperate letter was addressed to the trustees, and a representation was made to the Archdeacon to the effect that no faculty ought to be granted to anyone to meddle with the chancel without due notice, and without giving opportunity to those whom it concerned to enter objections to any plans that might be presented. But the money had been voted, and the Vandals were not disposed to lose time. They applied, it seems, last week for their faculty—(1) for replacing the windows with others 'of a similar character;' (2) for removing the present roof and substituting another similar to the nave; (3) for replastering walls and general repairs. Not a word about the screen. The surveyor for the county of Norfolk happens to be an inhabitant of Cossey; he gave notice of his intention to oppose the granting of this faculty, and was waiting quietly for the day appointed, when, lo! on Monday, the 27th of August, a contracting bricklayer with half-a-dozen labourers appeared on the scene, and forthwith the work of demolition began in earnest. Before the day was done the roof was more than half stripped off, the unique window in the north had been taken out bodily, and almost all the old stained glass destroyed. Before this letter meets the eyes of your readers the beautiful chancel of Cossey church will be a thing of the past, never—no, never—never to be restored. Meanwhile I understand that up to this moment no faculty has been granted—that is, no authority has been granted for this outrageous demolition. The Vandals laugh at faculties. Why should they not laugh? They have won the day. For myself, as a mere bystander, I have only one question to ask—How long is this kind of thing to go on?"

The Philadelphia correspondent of the *Times* sends a despatch received from Ottawa, which states that a Cabinet Council was held there on Monday. Lord Salisbury had asked for information as to the commercial relations of Canada with the United States since the confederation of the British North American provinces, enjoining the utmost caution on the Dominion Government. It is stated that several of the Ministers disagreed with Sir John Macdonald as to the course to be pursued in view of President Cleveland's message. Another meeting of the cabinet was to be held yesterday.

For Merthyr, where a vacancy has been caused by the death of Mr. H. Richard (G), Mr. J. T. D. Llewellyn is spoken of in the Conservative interest. The Gladstonian candidate has not yet been selected.

On Tuesday afternoon Lady Edward Cavendish opened a park which had been presented to the town of Keighley by the Duke of Devonshire. It is about nine acres and a half in extent.

‡ The Bishop of Bedford, who has left town for a short time, returns on September 7th, and his address will then be Stainforth House, Upper Clapton, E.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co. Printers, Exeter.

WANTED by a Change Ringer, aged 22 Years, a Situation as Gardener, Single-handed Place preferred. Good character. Can ring the principal Methods. Apply T. Stedman, Capel, near Dorking, Surrey.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"United we stand; divided we fall."

What a sudden falling off in the number of peals reported last Saturday! The appearance of the centre pages was calculated to make one instinctively turn over the leaves to see if others had not by some mischance or other wandered away from their time-honoured places. But the search was in vain, and if it had not been for the peals at Woodbridge and Beddington we should have had (for I believe the first time in the history of "THE BELL NEWS,") a "clean sheet."

* * * * *

But if there was such a reduction in the peals, the reverse was the case with Saturday's correspondence, which was pleasant reading, if only (by reason of the friendly manner in which the various points of debate were treated. Is not this feature far more pleasing and creditable to us as a fraternity than the fiery, abusive stuff to which we are treated sometimes? Let us hope we have seen the last of such.

* * * * *

"Grandsire Bob" wants to know if steel bells are a success from a musical point of view. He does not favour us with his *locale*, or I might perhaps have been able to refer him to some such ring within measurable distance of his habitation, so that he might have judged for himself. I have myself heard a few, but don't care to hear any more—unless, indeed, a mile or two away. From a purely musical point of view I consider the chiming of the new "tubular bells" infinitely superior.

* * * * *

The Hon. Secretaries of the Bedfordshire Association give us a very fair, and at the same time interesting account of the state of ringing affairs in that part of the country. The great difficulty in the way of a complete unity in that diocese appears to be mainly of a geographical character. But is this difficulty really insurmountable? With able and energetic officers and members in the various districts, I certainly think not. If distance is so great an obstacle to their friendly meeting together as one body, why not follow the plan of the Midland Counties' Association, and divide themselves into districts, each with its small working committee and local Hon. Sec., who with the President, Hon. Treasurer and Secretary would form the General Executive Committee of the Association? Thus, instead of having four small independent societies, with practically no bond of union, they might eventually raise one large and powerful Association, which, through its very numerical strength, would be better able to further the interests of our profession by stirring up the lukewarm, encouraging those eager to improve themselves, and likewise become of much greater influence for good in the diocese. Remember the old story of the bundle of sticks, and the well-known adage—"Unity is Strength."

* * * * *

I like the tone of "Astonian's" second letter, which I think is an improvement on his previous one, and particularly his disclaimer as to jealousy. But I fear he has slightly misunderstood my remarks anent jealousy and "hole-picking"—perhaps I did not express myself as clearly as I ought. In referring to this point I was speaking in a general sense, and not with any peculiar regard to his case. On looking over my note again, I can quite see how "Astonian" could reasonably have put his construction on it, but that was not my intention.

* * * * *

We too often find in assemblies of ringers a disposition to

sneer at the accomplishments of others, particularly if they are of a somewhat extraordinary character; and to hear sarcastic remarks bandied about with regard to some absent member of our craft who has perhaps made greater strides of improvement than those present. That may be a failing of human nature, but it is nevertheless regrettable, and more so when these unkind and unworthy sentiments are "reduced to print" in the columns of our weekly organ. This was what I had in mind when I made use of the remarks on "hole-picking" and jealousy. May this blot on our escutcheon grow "smaller by degrees and beautifully less" until it vanishes altogether, and in its place arise a universal disposition to "give honour where honour is due," thus encouraging each other to greater efforts, and helping to bring about a higher state of efficiency all round.

* * * * *

I have been asked what is my opinion as to the desirability or otherwise of making another attempt to form a National Association. I only wish I could truthfully express that opinion in favour of such a course. Unfortunately, I believe that were the attempt to be made, it would but be followed with the same result which rewarded the previous well-meant and energetic effort in that direction. Whether it be that the Exercise at large does not sufficiently grasp this question, or whether it be that our friends have quite sufficient work on their hands with their own county affairs; of that I do not venture to express an opinion. But from whatever cause it may arise, I certainly should not dare to prognosticate anything but failure to a renewed attempt for this purpose.

* * * * *

Institutions like this National Association would have to be were it worth the name, are not formed in a day, or a year; they can only grow as it were out of the long continued thought and working of many minds, by means, so to speak, of a current of ideas travelling in one direction, every year gaining strength and force, till at length "the hour and the man" appears; these ideas then become moulded into solid practical shape, and the thoughts and aspirations of a lifetime are worked out and realised.

* * * * *

But if this National Association is a project impracticable at the present moment, the same thing cannot be said of the plans which would tend to move in the same direction, and by their results help to bring about eventually that united society which many of our brethren long for. What is there to prevent us having an Annual Congress in some convenient centre? There is scarcely a body of any note, from the Church downwards, that has not now its regular united meetings yearly, for the purpose of mutually reviewing progress, the interchange of ideas by means of speeches and papers, and in various other ways elucidating and helping onward the work they are interested in. Then why should we be lagging behind? There would need no complicated machinery, no great expense, and very little amount of labour, to carry out this scheme. Surely none of our county associations are so badly off that they could not find some of their members able and willing to devote a day or two annually for this purpose; or so financially poor that they could not afford to give something towards the reasonable expenses of some one or two of their members who were gifted with the necessary natural abilities of writing and speaking, but who, perchance, were not sufficiently endowed with this world's goods to defray the whole of their expenses themselves.

I need not enlarge upon the benefits to be derived by us from these annual conferences; we can see their good effects on those organizations which have held them regularly for years past, and as they have been useful to others, so I am convinced they would in like manner be to us. May I therefore venture to ask of our friends that they will give us the benefit of their ideas on this subject through the columns of "THE BELL NEWS," so that even if no practical result ensued, we should at any rate be able to gather one another's opinions, which in itself has at all times a beneficial effect.

FREE LANCE.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

On Sunday, August 26th, being Hospital Sunday, at St. Saviour's church, for the afternoon service, 968 of Grandsire Triples. W. Ticehurst, 1; *H. P. Bennett, 2; W. Lawrence, 3; *L. Huggett, 4; *E. Willoughby, 5; F. Fisher, 6; *T. Hart (conductor), 7; G. Ades, 8. It was intended to start for a quarter-peal, but meeting a trifle late, it had to given up. The grand sum of £117 13s. 6d., was contributed by the congregation of this sacred edifice during the day towards this local institution. The old town is situated about 1½ miles from the beach. The parish church of St. Mary (old town), is worth a visit, and dates back to about 1150. In 1851 it was partially repaired, and twenty years later it was again renovated, when about £6,000 was expended on it. The church boasts of one of the finest peals of eight in the county. The old parsonage is on the north side of the church, and is now portioned off into labourers' cottages. On Wednesday evening, August 29th, a well-struck and quick touch of 616 Grandsire Triples was rung. *W. Piper, 1; †W. Lawrence, 2; *S. Willoughby, 3; L. Huggett, 4; E. Willoughby, 5; *T. Lewis, 6; T. Hart (conductor), 7; G. Ades, 8. *Members of the Sussex County Association; †Members of St. Lawrence's society, Reading. Close to the church is the "Lamb Inn," probably one of the oldest inns in the county, and celebrated for a curious crypt beneath it. The workhouse is situated in the old town, and was designed as a cavalry barracks during the Peninsular war. Both All Saints' and St. Saviour's church towers are fitted with Seage's silent apparatus, so that the weekly practices are carried on, and the outside world none the wiser. Christchurch has a pretty little peal of six, which go splendidly, and the whole of the belfries are nicely kept, having matting and other comforts.

RINGERS' OUTING.

On Saturday, September 1st, nine members of the St. Margaret's Society, Lee, Kent, had their first outing, the place selected being Brighton. Leaving New Cross at 8.35, they arrived at Brighton at 10.30. Previous arrangements having been made for a pull at St. Peter's, the first thing done was to find G. F. Attree, Esq., and Mr. Jay, and having done so, arrangements were made to meet at 3 o'clock at the above church. In the meantime some enjoyed an excursion on the water, while others preferred the beach. 1.30 found them refreshing the inner man, after which a start was made for St. Peter's, where they were met by the above-named gentlemen and several more of the Brighton ringers. After giving the younger members a few courses, a 500 Grandsire Triples was brought round with the assistance of four of the Brighton ringers. This being done they all returned to the beach. Leaving Brighton at 7 o'clock they reached New Cross at 9.45, one and all having thoroughly enjoyed their outing. They wish to thank the Rector and churchwardens, through the medium of this paper, for allowing them the use of the bells; also to Mr. Attree for having all in readiness.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

There will be a meeting of the members of the proposed branch for the Rochdale and Heywood District, on Saturday, September 22nd, at St. Alban's, Rochdale. Bells ready at 2 p.m.; meeting in the schoolroom, Drake Street, at 5 p.m.

JOHN MILLETT.

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."

WEIGHT OF TENORS.

SIR,—On opening the pages of last week's "BELL NEWS," I was gratified to see the expression of kindly feeling towards the local ringers which prompted you to insert that interesting article on St. Albans, and I could not help noticing that the name of St. Amphibalus was by no means the least conspicuous in the article. It was a strange coincidence to find in the correspondence column a letter from this holy man of old, pointing out certain discrepancies in recording the weight of the tenor at St. Peter's church. It is quite true that different estimates of the weights of both the cathedral and St. Peter's tenors have been given from time to time. In Mr. Stahlschmidt's work, "The Church Bells of Hertfordshire," quoting from a list prepared by Mr. J. Briant, in 1806, of the bells cast by him, one would suppose he estimated their weights at 24 and 22 cwt. respectively, and later on the author states that the diameter of the bells are 52½ and 50 inches. Mr. Turner, the late sexton at the cathedral, told me that he considered the weights were 25 and 22 cwt., but in Kelly's Hertfordshire Directory they are asserted to be 30 and 24 cwt. The current opinion of the weight of the cathedral bell seems to coincide with the last statement, as evidenced by the reports in "THE BELL NEWS" of April 14th and August 18th, and the Saint and Messrs. Kelly likewise agree as to St. Peter's. When the St. Peter's bells were being rehung last year I enquired of Messrs. Warner's foreman the correct weight of the tenor, and was told 21 cwt. This I assume to be accurate. As regards the writer's suggestion, I may say that when necessity arises for the weights of tenors to be put up in every belfry, and conductor's attention called to the same, St. Peter's will not be far behind, but I hope I shall be excused in remarking that for an attempt to be made to compile the weights from Societies' annual reports, is a work for the distant future.

E. P. DEBENHAM.

[Kelly's Directories are of no authority whatever in such a matter.—Ed.]

MR. HARDING'S DATE TOUCH.

SIR,—Two days after I wrote to your paper I examined the Date Touch over again, and found it was perfectly true with the three bobs before called successively. When I called the touch I let it run the eight treble leads between the bobs before, hence the mistake, due to my inexperience. I must sincerely apologise to Mr. Harding for calling into question the accuracy of his composition.

Southport.

A. LAWRENCE PORTER.

OUR COMPOSITION PAGE.

SIR,—On looking over the peals given in your issue of the 18th of last month, I notice that the calling of the first peal of Treble Bob Royal, by Robert Williams, of Liverpool, is incorrectly given. The seventh course should be 2M, 2W, 1H, instead of 2W 2H, and that the second and third peals are simple variations of the first peal. Surely this is using valuable space for no purpose. At the bottom of this column I find a 5376 of Superlative Surprise Major, by John R. Pritchard, of Liverpool. This composition is false. On the top of the second column of page 269 a peal of Treble Bob (5056) appears. The calling of the third course should read 2M, B, 1H, instead of 2 home. I hope all those to whom these remarks concern will receive them in the same friendly spirit as they are given.

N. J. PITSTOW.

MR. PRENTICE'S REPLY.

SIR,—I am surprised that Mr. Hayward is not satisfied with my reply. As soon as Mr. Mee called my attention to it I claimed it as mine. If he liked to put his name to it how could I stop him? Now, Sir, I did write a reply under date of April 16th, 1888, but you may have mislaid my letter, and I asked Mr. Mee to call the peal so that I could clear this matter up. Why, Sir, had I not as much right to publish the peal as Mr. Hayward had? Why I did not say anything at the time was that I never saw it in print till I sent it. Who ever said that Mr. Hayward was not the first to publish it? I think, Sir, that one can be a ringer and a gentleman at the same time. If Mr. Hayward likes to chose two or three members of the College Youths or of any other society I will forward my books under date of 1880 and 1889 to them, and whatever their decision is I am willing to abide by.

DANIEL PRENTICE.

"USING THE PROPERTY OF OTHERS."

SIR,—The peal of Treble Bob Major (5056) by B. Shaw, Lindley, which appeared in your issue of August 18th, will be found on page 35 of Snowden's *Treatise*, part II., and was also composed by me forty years since.

SAMUEL MARSH.

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1888.

THE season *par excellence* for ringers' festivities, such as excursions, picnics, "outing," and so forth, is we apprehend, nearly over. We mean of course the principal season of the year; for it is perfectly well understood that the absence of warm and genial weather does not entirely prevent ringers enjoying the innocent festive hour. In fact it may be said that climatic conditions are but a secondary consideration when the period of

relaxation, combined with renewal of friendships formed heretofore, are concerned. The summer about to close upon us has been very prolific in this kind of enjoyment, as the numerous weekly accounts of the same amply testify. And some of these reports, though the phraseology in which they were couched were of a stereotyped order somewhat, gave evidence of a much better condition of things than formerly. It was a pleasure to read, in many instances, that the "outing" included the incumbent, who correctly thought that by accompanying his ringers he could enjoy a brief relaxation, while promoting the art of ringing. The present number has a report of this kind, where a vicar accompanies his band of ringers to the scene of his former labours, and hospitably entertains them there. Such instances as these are very encouraging and satisfactory. They show improvement on one hand, and appreciation on the other.

To day Mr. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD holds a garden party at his residence at Duffield Bank. This seems a fitting close to the summer's festivities. Doubtless Mr. Heywood's invitation will be accepted by a great many ringers of the neighbourhood, and many from other parts of the country will strain a point to be there. Here is another proof of the position we take up, viz.: that our art is gradually attaining that position to which its merits entitle it. The idea that a gentleman of wealth intended to hold a conversazione of ringers in his grounds would have been scouted years ago as bordering on insanity. While feeling no uncommon satisfaction at the state of the science as compared with it a few years back, we must be grateful to such as the above-named gentleman for the hearty manner in which they identify themselves with it. It is no half-hearted co-operation; their attachment and aid to its progress is not confined to the ringing-chamber and the hours of practice. It is a continual interest they feel in it, not for themselves alone, but for the art in particular, and their ringing brethren in general.

WE again call attention to the late period of the week which we receive communications intended for insertion in this paper. Several correspondents habitually reserve their reports till the last moment, and they come to our hands just at the time of going to press. It is impossible under such conditions to comply with the earnest request of the writers that what they send will appear in the current number. We repeatedly receive reports of touches and peals on Thursday morning which we could very well have had on the Monday previous. Late arrivals are always embarrassing, and we ask our friends not to add to our labours by refraining to send off their reports at the earliest possible moment.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT TO A BELLRINGER.—On Tuesday, August 28th, an explosion of fire-damp took place at Tong, Yorkshire, in which two men were killed, and William Bolland, the engine-man, was blown eight or nine yards from his post, and so severely burnt on his face and arms that his life has been in danger.

THE ABUSE OF HOSPITALITY.

An *ex-Secretary* of the Church Congress writes to the *Pall Mall Gazette* urging it to expose the spongers on free hospitality at the annual gatherings. Descending to particulars he says:—

I have been secretary for the Church Congress one year, and had to deal with the applications for free hospitality. They were shameless. Men with big livings (not the poor curates) wrote and demanded free hospitality for the week. One man with a living of nearly £1,000 a year, wanted it for himself and wife; another, well to do, wanted it for himself, because he had had it ever since Church Congresses began; others not only asked for hospitality, but dictated where they were to have it—in the country, near the Congress Hall, with nice people, and made as much fuss as if they were going to pay. I took the trouble of tracking one of these free spongers. He had had a week's free living at Church Congresses for five or six years in succession, and he also had each of these years a week's free living with one or other learned society at its annual congress: he never contributed a word to the edification of either congress or society; he was a bachelor, had a living better than most men have, had been a schoolmaster, and was supposed to have saved money. There are lots of such cases. I know many poor scholars and clergymen who cannot attend congresses without they receive free hospitality. They ought to have it, and no one grudges it to them; but such gentlemen rarely ask officials to put them on the free hospitality list; the spongers who contribute nothing to the meeting write early and peremptorily, and disgust their host by making his house a mere caravanserai (I've had them there to stay with me). Some of the learned societies, who held congresses, have of late years put a stop to the free hospitality list: but the sponger is not to be denied; he then writes direct to the mayor of the town. How great the evil is this will show: When I was secretary to a Church Congress, the permanent officials told us we must find two thousand beds, one thousand for the people who would pay, and one thousand for spongers.

The Metropolis.

WESTMINSTER.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, August 31, 1888, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

IN THE "PICTURE ROOM" AT ST. STEPHEN'S SCHOOLS,
ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;
Size 15 in C.

HENRY R. NEWTON† .. 1-2.	†GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN 5-6.
CHALLIS F. WINNY .. 3-4.	†JOHN M. HAYES .. 7-8.
*RICHARD T. WOODLEY .. 9-10.	

Composed by the late H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by
JOHN MURRAY HAYES.

Umpire—Mr. John N. Oxborrow (St. Stephen's society and Ancient Society of College Youths). †First peal of Caters on handbells. *First peal on handbells. This is the first peal of Grandsire Caters rung on handbells in London.

TOTTENHAM, MIDDLESEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 30, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL HALLOWS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
[REV. C. D. P. DAVIES'S FIVE-PART.

THOMAS HUGHES Treble.	WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 5.
HENRY A. BARNETT 2.	GEORGE B. LUCAS 6.
JOHN CARMICHAEL 3.	JOSEPH WAGHORN 7.
GEORGE GRIFFIN 4.	THOMAS H. SCARLETT .. Tenor.

Conducted by H. A. BARNETT.

W. Weatherstone and G. Griffin were elected members of the Essex Association in the tower before starting for the peal.

On Tuesday week Lord Poltimore laid the foundation-stone of a tower which is to be added to Heavitree church, near Exeter, as a Jubilee memorial.

The Provinces.

DEWSBURY, YORKSHIRE.

On Thursday, August 30, 1888, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qrs.

JOHN GARFORTH Treble.	N. HEPWORTH 5.
JOHN H. DIXON 2.	GEORGE H. HARDY 6.
ISAAC IDLE 3.	JOHN BUCKLEY 7.
HENRY ROBINSON 4.	GARFORTH TAYLOR .. Tenor.

Composed by GEORGE H. HARDY, and Conducted by
JOHN H. DIXON.

The above peal was rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. George Oldroyd and Miss Spedding, both of Dewsbury.

HEENE, WORTHING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 1, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

ARTHUR A. FULLER Treble.	GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. 5.
JOHN REILLY 2.	JOHN C. MITCHELL .. 6.
GEORGE A. KING 3.	HARRY WESTON 7.
JAMES SEARLE 4.	CHARLES TYLER .. Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS, and Conducted by CHARLES TYLER.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells. This peal has the 6th the extent home at ten course-ends. Messrs. Cartmel and Mitchell hail from St. Albans, the rest from Brighton.

HARBORNE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY AND THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 1, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

IN TEN PARTS.

Tenor 12 cwt.

CHARLES SPARKES Treble.	CHARLES CARMEL 5.
JAMES JONES 2.	JOHN CARTER 6.
WILLIAM BROOK 3.	ALBERT HACKLEY 7.
CHARLES BARNACLE 4.	JOHN HOLLIER .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

The above was rung to commemorate the birthday of Mr. J. Hollier.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—WARNHAM BRANCH.

On Sunday, September 2, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

THOMAS HOGSFLESH .. Treble.	THOMAS ANDREWS 5.
GEORGE CHARMAN 2.	WILLIAM SHORT 6.
WALTER WADEY 3.	HENRY BURSTOW 7.
GEORGE RAPLEY 4.	GEORGE WOODMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by
HENRY BURSTOW.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—WARNHAM BRANCH.

On Monday, September 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

GEORGE WOODMAN Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT 5.
WALTER CHARMAN 2.	THOMAS ANDREWS 6.
GEORGE CHARMAN 3.	HENRY H. CHANDLER .. 7.
FREDERICK LUXFORD 4.	THOMAS HOGSFLESH .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by
HENRY CHANDLER.

F. Luxford hails from Arundel, and this is his first peal in the method.

Date Touch.

THE HOLT SOCIETY.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Wednesday, August 29th, at St. Chad's (R.C.C.), eight members of the above society rang a date touch of Double Norwich Court Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. H. Johnson, jun., 1; T. Reynolds, 2; H. Bastable, 3; T. Russam, 4; B. Wittchell, 5; T. Miller, 6; C. Stanbridge, 7; A. Thomas (conductor), 8. Composed by F. Pitstow.

SEDGLEY (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, September 2nd, for evening service, a date touch of Grandsire Major. J. Goodman, 1; W. Mills, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; D. Bruce, 4; J. Goodman, jun., 5; S. Bunn, 6; R. Schofield, 7; J. Davenport, 8. Composed by W. Johnson, of Darlaston, and conducted by R. Schofield. W. Pardoe hails from Tipton; J. Goodman, jun. from Dudley.

DUNSTER (Somerset).—On Tuesday, September 4th, at St. George's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. E. Hole, 1; T. Elliott, 2; R. Hole, 3; J. Tudball, 4; J. Graham, 5; Rev. J. U. Todd, 6; C. B. Craze (conductor), 7; W. W. Thrush, 8. Composed by J. Carter, of Birmingham.

Miscellaneous.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, September 2nd, after Divine Service at St. Barnabas' church, Pimlico, 1380 Stedman Caters, in 54 mins. C. F. Winny, 1; H. Langdon, 2; B. Hovord, 3; G. T. McLaughlin, 4; J. N. Oxborrow, 5; H. R. Newton, 6; H. Swain, 7; W. H. Judd, 8; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 9; W. Cropley, 10.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND.—On Sunday evening, September 2nd, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. W. Louth, 1; J. Allen, 2; B. Spinner, 3; J. H. Broom (Swanscombe), 4; H. D. Davis (conductor), 5; F. Hayes, 6.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Tuesday, August 28th, at St. Margaret's church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. Tulett, 1; A. Osborne, 2; G. Chantler, 3; J. Raynor, 4; J. P. Kidd, 5; W. Baker (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday evening, September 2nd, for Divine Service, 720 of Plain Bob, in 25½ mins. E. Raynor, 1; W. Baker, 2; C. Waterman, 3; A. Osborne, 4; J. P. Kidd, 5; J. Tulett (conductor), 6. C. Waterman belongs to Shorene.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WOODCHURCH.—On Wednesday evening, August 29th, the following members of the above Guild, ringers at Bidston, assisted by G. Helsby, of Liverpool, paid a visit to the above place, and rang at the parish church a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. H. Povall (conductor), 1; G. Royden, 2; G. Kendrick, 3; J. Griffiths, 4; W. Wilcox, 5; G. Helsby, 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

BIDSTON.—On Wednesday, August 22nd, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. H. Povall (conductor), 1; G. Royden, 2; G. Kendrick, 3; J. Griffiths, 4; W. Wilcox, 5; G. Helsby, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, August 30th, at St. Paul's church, 2512 Plain Bob Major, in 1 hr. 40 mins. W. Allen, 1; F. Smith (longest length in the method), 2; W. G. Biggs, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; F. Keech, 5; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 6; C. W. Clarke (composer and conductor), 7; I. Hills, 8. The above was an attempt for 5000, but on account of the bad go of the seventh, the bells was brought home half-way. Also 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. G. Biggs, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; F. Smith, 4; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 5; F. Keech, 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Allen, 8. And on Sunday morning, September 2nd, for Divine Service, 350 of Grandsire Triples. F. Hull, 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Sharpe, 3; F. Keech, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; J. N. Frossell, 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Bettles, 8. Also for evening service, 336 of Grandsire Triples. W. Bettles, 1; F. Keech, 2; F. Sharpe, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; W. Allen, 6; I. Hills, 7; F. Hull, 8. And 224 of Bob Major. W. Bettles, 1; F. Smith, 2; W. Hall, 3; W. Allen, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; F. Keech, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 8.

CLAPHAM (Beds).—On Saturday, September 1st, for practice at the parish church, six 6-scores of Bob Doubles. H. Sharpe, 1; F. Smith, 2; G. Cockings, 3; F. Lane, 4; F. Sharpe (conductor), 5.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday morning, September 2nd, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. G. Essex, 1; F. Simmonds, 2; H. Smith, 3; T. Newman, 4; E. Menday, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. And after Divine Service in the evening, 720 Yorkshire Court. J. Hands, 1; E. Menday, 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—BRADFIELD DEANERY BRANCH.

BEENHAM.—On Sunday, July 29th, at St. Mary's church, for morning service, 360 of Double Oxford Bob Minor, and after morning service 720 of College Single, in 22 mins. Also for evening service, a 360 of Oxford Bob. And on Wednesday evening, August 1st, upon handbells, 720 of Oxford Bob in 21 mins. And on Sunday morning, August 5th, for Divine Service, 720 of Oxford Bob in 22 mins; and for evening service, 360 of Grandsire Minor. And on Sunday, August 12th, after evening service, 360 of Court Bob Minor; and on Sunday morning, August 19th, for Divine Service, 360 of Oxford Bob; also for evening service, 720 of Oxford Bob in 22 mins; and after evening service, 360 of Oxford Bob. Also on Sunday morning, August 26th, after Divine Service, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure in 22 mins; and for evening service, 720 of Plain Bob in 22 mins. And on Sunday, September 2nd, for Morning Service, 720 of Court Bob Minor in 22 mins; and for evening service, 360 of Double Oxford Bob; and after evening service, 720 of Double Oxford Bob in 20 mins. This is the quickest 720 ever rang upon the bells. The following took part in the above performances: T. Greetham, G. Webb, H. Hatto, A. Richardson, T. Bidmead, J. Hatto, and J. Richardson (conductor).

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

WINSHILL (Burton-on-Trent).—On Saturday, August 25th, for practice at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 28½ mins. F. W. Smith, 1; J. Austin, 2; F. Sheppard, 3; R. W. Logie, 4; J. Woodward, 5; C. Golder (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, August 28th, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 28½ mins. J. Morley, 1; W. Wyld, 2; F. Sheppard, 3; R. W. Logie, 4; J. Woodward, 5; C. Golder (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 rung by the local band, and they wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to thank their kind friends, Messrs. J. Jaggard, J. Austin, L. Bullock, and J. W. Smith, for their able support in assisting them to ring Minor.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—On Sunday morning, August 19th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 518 of Grandsire Triples. W. Charlton, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; A. J. B. Waldron, 3; J. Palliser, 4; H. C. Mayne, 5; F. Charlton, 6; E. Titt (conductor), 7; J. Cleminson, 8. Also for evening service, an attempt was made for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, but came to grief after ringing 1148 changes. W. Charlton, 1; J. Palliser, 2; A. J. B. Waldron, 3; F. Castree, 4; H. C. Mayne, 5; F. Charlton, 6; E. Titt (conductor), J. Cleminson, 8. And on Sunday, August 26th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. A. J. B. Waldron, 1; J. Palliser, 2; H. C. Mayne, 3; J. Cleminson, 4; F. Charlton, 5; T. Clark (conductor), 6. T. Clark hails from Ripon. Also 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. A. J. B. Waldron, 1; E. Titt, 2; H. C. Mayne, 3; J. Palliser, 4; F. Charlton, 5; J. Cleminson (conductor), 6. And on Monday, August 27th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. A. J. B. Waldron, 1; J. Cleminson, 2; H. C. Mayne, 3; F. Charlton, 4; J. Palliser, 5; E. Titt (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method with a bob bell.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, September 3rd, at the church of St. John the Baptist, an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Major, 5392 changes, but it was unfortunately brought to a premature conclusion after ringing 4048 changes in 2 hrs. 15 mins., by the breaking of the sixth rope. F. Lees, 1; G. T. Ross, 2; W. C. Bennett, 3; G. Atkinson, 4; Jos. Pattison, 5; C. L. Routledge, 6; R. S. Story, 7; W. Story (conductor), 8. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Saturday evening, September 1st, 448 Grandsire Triples, on handbells, containing the six 7-5-6's. W. Pye, 1; M. L. Myhill, 2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4; Edwin Barnett, 5-6; W. Nash, 7-8. Also a touch of 144 Double Court Bob. A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; E. Barnett, 5-6. And 120 Stedman Doubles. E. Barnett, 1-2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4; M. L. Myhill, 5-6. Also a 720 Bob Minor. S. James, 1; M. L. Myhill, 2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4; E. Barnett, 5-6. This 720 is the composition of Mr. Penning, and contains forty-six calls.

ASHLEWORTH (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, August 26th, five members of the Upton Society, assisted by Mr. H. Roberts, of Cheltenham, rang a 720 Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. H. G. Gardener, 1; H. Roberts, 2; S. E. Romans (conductor), 3; A. A. Waite, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; W. Sevier, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. in E.

BATLEY CARR (Yorkshire).—On Monday, September 3rd, for practice, 720 Duke of York and 240 Violet, both in silence. J. Scott, 1; W. H. Stead, 2; Squire Mitchell, 3; *J. A. Idle, 4; W. Idle, 5; G. H. Simon, 6. *First 720 in the method.

BARWELL (Leicestershire).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, September 1st, at the house of Mr. G. Arquill, an attempt was made for Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2016 changes in 57 mins., it came to grief. C. Jenkins, 1-2; S. Cotton, 3-4; G. Cleal, 5-6; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 7-8. Afterwards a course of Stedman Triples and a course of Bob Major. And at the parish church 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. C. Jenkins, 1; W. A. Needham, 2; G. White, 3; G. Cleal, 4; S. Cotton, 5; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Tuesday evening, Mr. Thurlow, a member of the Royal Cumberland Society, visited the above belfry at practice time, and after some call-changes had been rung six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung in 29 mins. F. Mathis, 1; G. Thurlow, 2; W. Franks (conductor), 3; J. Mathis, 4; W. Thomas, 5; J. Duke, 6; F. Pepper, 7; H. Franks, 8.

BEDDINGTON (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, September 2nd, for Divine Service at the parish church, on the back six, 288 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Plowman, 1; J. Bance, 2; J. Fayers, 3; A. H. Martin, 4; C. Bance, 5; J. Trappitt (conductor), 5. And 108 of Bob Minor. A. Plowman, 1; J. Fayers, 2; A. H. Martin, 3; J. Harding, 4; J. Trappitt (conductor), 5; C. Bance, 6.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Sunday, August 2nd, for morning service at the parish church, 360 of Grandsire Minor. J. Poplett, 1; F. Sanders, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Linter, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. And for evening service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. F. Sanders, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Moses, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also after service a 720 in the same method. R. Arnold, 1; F. Sanders, 4; E. Moses, 5; the others as before. And on Tuesday, August 28th, 720 of Plain Bob. J. Poplett, 1; R. Arnold, 2; F. Arnold, 3; G. Paine, 4; F. Sanders, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. F. Linter hails from Reigate, and G. Paine from Mersham, Kent.

BLACKHILL (Durham).—On Saturday, September 1st, for practice at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Moore, jun., 1; J. McPhillips, 2; E. Wallis, 3; B. King, 4; A. Nichols (conductor), 5; J. Moore, 6. Tenor 22 cwt. First 720 in the method by all except E. Wallis.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, August 21st, for practice at the parish church, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and 360 of Court Single. A. Spurge, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; E. Carter, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, August 26th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, 360 of Double Court Bob Minor, and 120 of Oxford Treble Bob. A. Spurge, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; H. E. Hammond, 5; E. Carter (conductor), 6. Mr. Carter hails from London.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Saturday, August 25th, at St. Paul's church, with the bells muffled, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins., as a mark of respect to the memory of Mrs. E. Stone, sen. J. Austin, 1; W. J. Smith, 2; L. Bullock, 3; J. Griffin (conductor), 4; J. Jaggar, 5; G. Robinson, 6; W. Wakley, 7; T. Holmes, 8.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, August 26th, at St. Mary-Redcliffe church, 1120 Treble Bob Major. F. Elles, 1; G. Daltry, 2; G. Colston, 3; J. Perry, 4; S. Phillips, 5; C. Porter, 6; W. Emery, 7; J. Hinton (conductor), 8. On Monday, August 27th, at St. Nicholas' church, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Staddon, 1; W. Dowling, 2; H. Price, 3; W. Parsons, 4; J. Bawn, 5; C. E. D. Boutflower, 6; F. Price (conductor), 7; W. Colston and J. Vinney, 8. On Tuesday, August 28th, at the church of St. Mary-le-port, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples, but it was brought round after 3000 changes had been rung owing to the bad go of the tenor. J. Hinton, 1; W. Chew, 2; G. Gordon, 3; F. Elles, 4; S. Phillips, 5; F. Price (conductor), 6; J. Holman, 7; W. Colston, 8. On Thursday, August 30th, at St. James's church, 576 Treble Bob Major. F. Porch, 1; W. Porch, 2; G. Pearce, 3; C. Porter, 4; G. Pymm, 5; A. Howell, 6; J. Hinton, 7; H. Porch (conductor), 8. On Sunday, September 2nd, at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Palmer, 1; C. Burden, 2; G. Colston, 3; J. Hinton (conductor), 4; F. Elles, 5; C. Porter, 6; W. Emery, 7; W. Colston, 8. After evening service six courses of Bob Triples. C. Burden, 1; G. Colston, 2; F. Elles, 3; S. Phillips, 4; J. Hinton (conductor), 5; F. Price, 6; W. Emery, 7; W. Colston, 8.

CALDICOT (Monmouthshire).—On Saturday, September 1st, at St. Mary's church, the Caerleon society rang the following short touches: a plain course of Grandsire Triples, 168, 336, and another 168, containing Queens and Tittums, two plain courses of Stedman Triples, and five plain courses of Plain Bob Major. Tenor about 15 cwt. in F.

CHESTERTON (Cambs).—On Sunday, September 2nd, for Divine Service at St. Andrew's church, two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. E. Andrews, sen., 1; S. Brown, 2; E. Andrews, jun., 3; H. Mansfield, 4; W. Eusdon, 5. And a 6-score of New Doubles. G. Day, 1; S. Brown, 2; E. Andrews, jun., 3; E. Andrews, sen., 4; W. Eusdon, 5. Also a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. G. Day, 1; G. Carter, 2; E. Andrews, jun., 3; E. Andrews, sen., 4; W. Eusdon (conductor), 5. Tenor 21 cwt.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Monday, September 3rd, for practice at St. Peter's church, 350 Grandsire Triples. A. Arnold, 1; H. Brooker, 2; A. Bruce, 3; W. J. Chambers, 4; A. H. Martin, 5; W. States (conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; C. Kitchen, 8. A. H. Martin hails from Higham Ferrers.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS (Lancashire).—On Sunday, August 26th, at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. J. Spencer, 1; T. Townson, 2; T. Watson, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; *J. Burrows (conductor), 6. *First 720 as conductor.

ELLESMERE (Salop).—On Tuesday, September 4th, on the occasion of the volunteer camp at the above place, eight members of the Whitchurch society visited this place for the purpose of ringing a peal on the bells, but after an inspection of the bells and fittings, it was decided that two parts, or 1008 changes, would be quite enough, as they certainly want the bellhanger for a few weeks. After a few rounds with the local men and visitors, a start was made, and came to grief after about 600 changes had been rung, through the treble rope breaking. E. Langford, 1; J. Gibson, 2; G. Wright, 3; F. Ryder, 4; R. T. Holding, 5; G. Woodhall (conductor), 6; T. Barron, 7; W. Barron, 8. Also 360 of Grandsire Minor on the back seven. J. Gibson, 1; G. Wright, 2; F. Ryder, 3; T. Barron, 4; G. Woodhall (conductor), 5; R. T. Holding, 6; W. Barron, 7. Tenor about 20 cwt.

KILLAMARSH (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, September 2nd, being the feast of St. Giles, the Eckington company paid a visit to the above village and rang 720 each of Oxford and Violet, in 50 mins. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. Also 360 New London Pleasure. J. Shaw, 4; G. Norman, 5; G. Marsden (conductor), 6; the others as above.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Sunday, September 2nd, 720 Double Court Bob Minor, at the house of Mr. J. Miller, in 21 mins. W. Miller, 1; J. Fisher, 2; J. Allanson, 3; W. Atkinson, 4; R. Atkinson, 5; J. Miller, 6. This 720 is the composition of F. Gilbert, Raunds, Northants, and appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of August 25th, 1888. Our correspondent adds:—"I may add that the company who rang in this 720 had not seen the Double Court method on Sunday, August 26th (the day after Mr. F. Gilbert's 720 had appeared in "THE BELL NEWS"). The performance was witnessed by myself and Mr. H. Gregson, who marked the leads off as they were rung."

NEWPORT (Monmouthshire).—On Sunday, September 2nd, before evening service, six 6-scores of Grandsire and four 6-scores of Bob Doubles, in 45 mins. H. Millard and F. J. Stone, 1; W. Wreford, 2; W. Gower, 3; F. Atwel, 4; J. Trowbridge, 5; D. Thomas, 6. [Will our correspondent kindly send to the office of this paper, not to the publisher.]

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Thursday, August 23rd, at the parish church, 108 Grandsire Minor. W. Adler, 1; G. Winter, 2; J. Clarke, 3; T. W. Chapman (conductor), 4; T. Bates, 5; H. Horwood, 6. First touch in the method by all. On Thursday, August 30th, 216 in the same method, standing as before. On Sunday, September 2nd, for morning service, 216 Grandsire Minor. W. Adler, 1; T. Chapman, 2; G. Winter, 3; J. Clarke, 4; J. Lingard, 5; H. Horwood (conductor), 6. For evening service several courses in the same method. A. Palmer, 1; W. Adler, 2; H. Horwood, 3; G. Winter, 4; J. Lingard, 5; T. W. Chapman, 6. This is A. Palmer's first course in the method.

SEDGLEY (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, August 30th, a touch of 1176 Grandsire Triples. J. Goodman, 1; W. Mills, 2; J. Pardoe, 3; W. Pardoe, 4; D. Bruce, 5; R. Schofield (conductor), 6; J. Davenport, 7; E. Screen, 8. W. Pardoe hails from Tipton; J. Pardoe from Wolverhampton. J. Pardoe wishes to kindly thank the Sedgley ringers for their instruction on previous visits.

SHRAWLEY (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, September 1st, the Areley Kings band paid a visit to this place and rung 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. T. Elcox, 1; W. Martin, 2; T. Fowles, 3; T. Griffiths, 4; J. Reynolds, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6.

SEELY OAK (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, August 26th, several touches and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. C. Sparkes, 1; C. Barnacle, 2; R. Hackley, 3; E. Parker, 4; T. Lewis, 5; E. Bryant (conductor), 6; T. Gibbs, 7; J. Such, 8. The above was rung on the occasion of the Foresters and Oddfellows' Sunday parade, as the members were leaving church.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Sunday, September 2nd, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. A. Hull, 1; J. W. Brewer, 2; E. Hull, 3; H. Brewer, 4; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; T. Waller, 7; J. Waller, 8. Composed by H. J. Tucker. And for evening service the last 742 of Holt's Original, with W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; the others standing as before. *Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, September 1st, in the belfry, 960 Grandsire Major and 672 Bob Major. A. Barnes, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3; H. Brewer, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. And a plain course of Stedman Triples. H. Brewer, 1; A. Barnes, 2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. First attempt at Major and Stedman Triples by H. Brewer.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Monday, August 27th, for practice at St. Thomas's church, 360 of Plain Bob Minor. A. Orford, 1; J. H. Parsons, 2; J. Pagett, 3; H. Harris, 4; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 5; W. A. Pugh, 6. Also on Monday, September 3rd, for practice, 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Guest, 1; C. Barrett, 2; J. Pagett, 3; H. Harris, 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; W. A. Pugh, 6; J. Griffin, 8. Time 28½ mins. *First 720 with a bob bell. Messrs. Orford and Griffin hail from Oldswinford, Parsons from Wollaston, and Guest from Brierley Hill.

THRALE (Berks).—On Saturday, September 1st, six members of the St. Giles' Society, Reading visited, this place, and attempted a peal in seven different methods, but after ringing 720 Kent Treble Bob, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 College Single, and getting into the last part of a 720 Oxford Bob, in 1 hr. 42 mins., a change-course occurred. H. Blissit, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. E. Reeves, 3; A. Evans, 4; T. Hibbert, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. This is supposed to be the longest touch on the bells.

TUE BROOK (near Liverpool).—On Saturday, September 1st, at the church of St. John the Baptist, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 49 mins. John R. Pritchard (conductor), 1; F. W. Moore, 2; W. James, 3; J. Aspinwall, 4; H. C. Woodward, 5; G. Fisher, 6; H. Coley, 7; W. Davies, 8. Also 704 Kent Treble Bob Major, the ringers of the 4th and 7th changing places. And 168 Grandsire Triples, James Martin ringing the tenor. Mr. Woodward hails from Derby. It was intended to go for a peal, but time not permitting, owing to service, the above was rung instead.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, August 25th, at St. Martin's church, after evening service, 896 Bob Major. R. Hall, 1; W. Pardoe, 2; H. Mills, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; J. Buffery, 5; J. Goodman, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. R. Small, 8. Also 180 Stedman Triples. H. Mills, 1; T. Horton, 2; G. Hughes (conductor), 3; J. Goodman, 4; C. Price, 5; R. Hall, 6; W. Pardoe, 7; E. Goodreds, 8. Messrs. Horton, Price, and Hall hail from West Bromwich; Buffery from Birmingham; Goodman from Dudley; Buffery from Birmingham; the rest belong to the local company. On Sunday, September 2nd, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. R. Small, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; A. Hill, 3; H. Mills, 4; G. Hughes (conductor), 5; W. Pardoe, 6. Also 360 Grandsire Minor. A. Hill, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; W. Horton, 3; H. Mills, 4; G. Hughes (conductor), 5; W. R. Small, 6. W. Horton hails from Coseley, Worcestershire.

UPPER CLAPTON (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, September 2nd, for Divine Service at St. Matthew's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 42 mins. T. Page, 1; G. J. Smith, 2; A. S. Barrell, 3; J. Barry, 4; G. Page, 5; W. B. Manning, 6; W. D. Smith (conductor), 7; C. Davidson, 8. *First in the method.

WOKING (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, September 2nd, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, 360 of Grandsire Doubles. W. Furlonger, 1; W. C. Ryde, Esq., 2; B. Ryde, Esq., 3; F. Ryde, Esq., 4; F. Arnold (conductor), 5; A. Sanders, 6. This is the first 360 on the bells by the local band.

For some time past outside luggage porters at Ramgate have been in the habit of purchasing of persons by the Sunday excursion train from London who did not intend to go back that day the return portion of their tickets for a nominal sum, and then selling them to people intending to go to London in the evening, the sum usually obtained being 2s., whereas the ordinary fare is 6s. 2d. On the 12th August, a railway inspector purchased a ticket in this way from Alfred Gore, a porter, who yesterday pleaded guilty to the offence, and was fined 5s. and 10s. costs.

BIDDING FOR A LIVING.

The advowson of and perpetual right of presentation to the rectory of Weston Bampfylde (otherwise Great and Little Weston Bampfylde), in the county of Somerset, and the diocese of Bath and Wells, has been offered by auction in London. Amongst those present were several clergymen, including representatives of the Curates' Protection Society and the Association for the Abolition of the sale of Church Livings; but owing probably to the precautions taken to prevent a renewal of the unseemly disturbances that took place at the Mart on former occasions when similar sales were held, no opposition whatever was offered to the proceedings, and there was no manifestation of feeling by those present. The auctioneer described the glebe lands as comprising two enclosures of most productive pasture land, containing about 21 acres, and let at £60 a year to a highly respectable and solvent tenant. So far back as 1842 the tithes, which were rectorial, were commuted at £174 6s. 6d. This sum was subject to variations by corn averages, and is paid by about six principal parishioners. In reply to a bidder, the auctioneer said there was no land-tax whatever. The parish had an area of sixty-three acres, with twenty-five houses, and a population of 104 souls, and amongst these at the present time there was only one case of parochial relief. The age of the present rector was about fifty years—(a laugh)—the parochial rates 2s. 3d. in the pound, and school rate voluntary. It was a healthy, pleasant locality, and required but little clerical duty. (Laughter.) In response to the invitation of the auctioneer, who suggested that £1000 would be a fair sum to start the biddings at, an offer of £300 was made, and this sum advanced to £510, beyond which figure intending purchasers did not seem disposed to proceed. The auctioneer said that, in the interests of the vendor, he should withdraw the property, as nothing like the reserve price had been touched. He should be happy, however, to treat privately after the sale with any person desirous of acquiring the living.

HANDBELL CONTEST AT BRIGHOUSE.

The Brighouse parish church bell-ringers promoted a contest on eight bells, on Saturday, September 1st, at the "Ring of Bells" Inn, Brighouse. There were six companies competed, the aggregate prize-money amounting to £5 2s. 6d. The judge was Mr. F. Schofield, of Lindley, and he awarded the prizes as follows: First prize, £2 10s., Saddleworth; Second prize, £1 10s., Almondbury; Third prize, 15s. od., Dewsbury; Fourth prize, 7s. 6d., Huddersfield.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Brighton branch at St. Nicholas, Brighton.—On Sunday, September 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 40 mins. B. Bassett, 1; C. Tyler, 2; J. C. Mitchell, 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; W. Palmer, 5; J. Fox, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; E. Butler, 8. Also at St. Peter's church, 504 of Stedman Triples in 16 mins. H. Weston, 1; J. Reilly, 2; J. Jay, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; W. Allfrey, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; W. Robinson, 8. And on Monday, September 3rd, 504 of Stedman Triples in 17 mins. G. W. Cartmel, 1; J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 2; J. Searle, 3; W. Allfrey, 4; C. Tyler, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Reilly, 7; G. Thwaites, 8.

By the Steyning branch at Steyning.—On Sunday, September 2nd, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Matthews, 1; G. Smart (conductor), 2; T. Searle, 3; F. Morris, 4; G. Gatland, 5; J. Woolgar, 6. Also on Sunday, September 2nd, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Smart, 1; J. Woolgar, 2; G. Gatland, 3; T. Searle, 4; F. Morris, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6.

G. F. ATTREE, } Hon. Secs.
J. E. WORSELL, }

NOTICE OF A PEAL.—Eight members of the St. Paul's society, Burton-on-Trent, intend attempting 6720 of London Surprise Major on the bells of their church on Wednesday, September 12th, commencing at about 12 o'clock at noon.

WANTED by a change-ringer, aged 20 years, a situation as Shopman or Book-keeper in Corn and Milling trade preferred; has had 6 years' experience in above Trades with present employer. Can ring the following Methods—Bob, Grandsire and Stedman. Apply to G. BAKER, Jun., Orchard Place, Arundel, Sussex.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

10,361.

2 3 1 4 5 6	
3 1 2 4 6 5	4 8 11 13 14
3 1 5 2 6 4	16
3 1 4 5 6 2	16
4 1 3 2 6 5	5 16
4 1 5 3 6 2	16
5 1 4 2 6 3	5 16
5 1 3 4 6 2	16
5 1 2 3 6 4	16
2 1 5 4 6 3	5 16
2 1 3 5 6 4	16
2 1 4 3 6 5	16
4 1 2 5 6 3	5 16
<hr/>	
3 1 5 4 6 2	1 2 6 7 10 11 13 14
3 1 2 5 6 4	16
3 1 4 2 6 5	16
4 1 3 5 6 2	5 16
4 1 2 3 6 5	16
2 1 4 5 6 3	5 16
2 1 3 4 6 5	16
2 1 5 3 6 4	16
5 1 2 4 6 3	5 16
5 1 3 2 6 4	16
5 1 4 3 6 2	16
4 1 5 2 6 3	5 16
<hr/>	
4 1 5 3 6 2	5 16
4 1 2 5 6 3	16
4 1 3 2 6 5	16
3 1 4 5 6 2	5 16
3 1 2 4 6 5	16
2 1 3 5 6 4	5 16
2 1 4 3 6 5	16
2 1 5 4 6 3	16
5 1 2 3 6 4	5 16
5 1 4 2 6 3	16
5 1 3 4 6 2	16
3 1 5 2 6 4	5 16
<hr/>	
4 1 2 3 6 5	1 2 6 7 10 11 13 14
4 1 5 2 6 3	16
4 1 3 5 6 2	16
3 1 4 2 6 5	5 16
3 1 5 4 6 2	16
5 1 3 2 6 4	5 16
5 1 4 3 6 2	16
5 1 2 4 6 3	16
2 1 5 3 6 4	5 16
2 1 4 5 6 3	16
2 1 3 4 6 5	16
3 1 2 5 6 4	5 16

The above forty-eight courses repeated, except first, instead of which call 2 5 6 10 12 13 16 18, produces 312654987, when the following calls bring round: 2 9 12 13 16. The peal has the 5th and 6th each forty-eight courses behind the 9th. By calling from the ninety-third course-end 216354987 as follows: 2 4 6 8 9 10 11 13 14, the peal is reduced to 10,011.

720 OF TREBLE BOB MINOR.

By C. W. CLARKE, *Bedford.*

2 3 4 5 6
4 2 6 3 5
B 6 4 2 3 5
B 2 6 4 3 5
4 2 5 6 3
5 4 3 2 6
B 3 5 4 2 6
4 3 6 5 2
B 6 4 3 5 2
3 6 2 4 5
B 2 3 6 4 5

Twice repeated.

TWO PEALS OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

6048.

2	3	4	5	6	
<hr/>					
4	3	6	5	2	M
3	6	4	5	2	H
6	4	3	5	2	H
5	4	3	6	2	8-3
4	5	3	6	2	7-3
2	4	5	6	3	7-2
2	4	3	6	5	7-2H
<hr/>					
6	4	3	2	5	8-3
4	6	3	2	5	7-3
3	2	6	4	5	8-2
3	2	5	4	6	7-2H
2	5	3	4	6	H
5	2	3	4	6	7-3
3	4	2	5	6	8-2

Five times repeated.

Single for a bob at home in eleventh course of third and sixth parts. This peal contains the 5th and 6th twenty-four times wrong and right, and the twenty-four 8-6's. By calling a single for a bob at the seventh course of each part, 8-3 instead of 8-2 at the second, fourth, and sixth parts, the peal is reduced to 6000.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6
4 3 6 5 2 M
3 6 4 5 2 H
6 4 3 5 2 H
3 5 4 6 2 8-2
2 3 5 6 4 7-2
2 3 4 6 5 7-2H
6 3 4 2 5 8-3
4 3 5 2 6 M
3 5 4 2 6 H
5 4 3 2 6 H
2 4 3 5 6 8-3

Five times repeated. 8-2 instead of 8-3 at end of the second, fourth, and sixth parts. This peal contains the 6th eighteen times wrong, twenty-four times right, and the 5th twelve times wrong and twenty-four times right. By omitting the bob at home at the sixth course a peal of 5176 is obtained.

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES.

By GEORGE HAYWARD, *Bromsgrove.*

5040.

2 3 4 5 6	M	W	H
4 3 6 5 2	-		
6 3 2 5 4	-		
5 6 2 3 4	-		
3 5 2 6 4	-		
2 5 4 3 6	S	-	
4 5 6 3 2	-		
6 5 2 3 4	-		
3 6 2 5 4	-		
5 3 2 6 4	-		
4 2 3 5 6	S	-	-

Five times repeated.

Single for a bob at third and sixth part-ends. This peal contains only seventy-eight calls, and is the least number of calls in a peal ever published.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

By HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., *Birmingham.*

5028.

2 3 1 4 5 6	5	16
*4 1 2 3 6 5		
4 1 5 2 6 3	-	-
5 1 4 3 6 2	-	-
5 1 2 4 6 3	-	-
2 1 5 3 6 4	-	-
2 1 4 5 6 3	-	-
2 1 3 4 6 5	-	-
3 1 2 5 6 4	-	-
3 1 4 2 6 5	-	-
3 1 5 4 6 2	-	-
5 1 3 2 6 4	-	-
<hr/>		
5 1 3 4 6 2	S	-
5 1 2 3 6 4	-	-
5 1 4 2 6 3	-	-
4 1 5 3 6 2	-	-
4 1 2 5 6 3	-	-
2 1 4 3 6 5	-	-
2 1 5 4 6 3	-	-
2 1 3 5 6 4	-	-
3 1 2 4 6 5	-	-
3 1 5 2 6 4	-	-
3 1 4 5 6 2	-	-
4 1 3 2 6 5	-	-
<hr/>		
†2 1 6 3 5 4		
2 1 4 6 5 3	-	-
4 1 2 3 5 6	-	-
4 1 6 2 5 3	-	-
6 1 4 3 5 2	-	-
6 1 2 4 5 3	-	-
6 1 3 2 5 4	-	-
3 1 6 4 5 2	-	-
3 1 2 6 5 4	-	-
3 1 4 2 5 6	-	-
4 1 3 6 5 2	-	-
<hr/>		
4 1 3 2 5 6	S	-
4 1 6 3 5 2	-	-
4 1 2 6 5 3	-	-
2 1 4 3 5 6	-	-
2 1 6 4 5 3	-	-
6 1 2 3 5 4	-	-
6 1 4 2 5 3	-	-
6 1 3 4 5 2	-	-
3 1 6 2 5 4	-	-
3 1 4 6 5 2	-	-
3 1 2 4 5 6	-	-
2 1 3 6 5 4	-	-

Brought round by bobs at 2, 4, 7, 9, 10 11,

13.

*Produced by bobs at 2, 4, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13,

16.

†Produced by bobs at 3, 6, 7, 10, 14.

Omitting the coming round course and call instead bobs at 2, 9, 16, the bells are brought round at hand, a peal of 5055 being obtained.

First rung at Aston-juxta-Birmingham, on

August 18th, 1888, conducted by Henry

Bastable.

Our readers are informed that all compositions received for this page previous to this date are suppressed, most of them on hand being useless for any practical purpose. While wishing to gratify the ambition of all, we must beg that what is sent for insertion in future, must have a value of some kind. Copies of about 400 compositions, most of them of very little use, have been consigned to the waste-paper basket. When the publication of these peals was first instituted, we put each one to the proof before it appeared; this task, however, proved too arduous, and composers had to take the whole responsibility of their productions; as they will have to do in future.

ST. PETER'S PARISH CHURCH (BRIGHTON) AMATEUR SOCIETY.—ANNUAL OUTING.

The Annual Outing of the above society took place on Monday, August 27th, under very favourable circumstances, the weather (being the principal feature), being all that could be desired. Assembling at Brighton station at 8 a.m., the iron horse was shortly afterwards bearing the party away to the Kentish hop and cornfields, while during the railway journey the handbells were brought into requisition. Arriving at Groombridge the party alighted, and a waggonette being in readiness, the secretary taking the reins, they were soon on their way to Tunbridge and Tunbridge Wells, visiting on their journey hither the tower of Speldhurst, where they found a peal of eight, tenor 14 cwt. in G., by Mears and Stainbank, two of the bells having been added as a Jubilee Memorial in 1887. Having been conducted to the belfry by Mr. H. Edwards and B. Winn, two of the local band, a start was soon made for a 504 of Stedman Triples, but this unfortunately came to grief, when a course of Treble Bob was rung. In the tower is a peal board recording the first peal on the eight bells, having been rung in December last by the local company. On the belfry door is a notice requesting visitors to take off their hats, thus reminding one that here (at any rate), the belfry forms part of the sacred edifice (a fact too often entirely forgotten). After a stroll round the church, the journey was continued to Penshurst, where hangs a heavy peal of six, hung in the reverse order, tenor close upon 24 cwt. While some indulged themselves in ringing Grand-sire Doubles, others paid a hurried visit to Penshurst Place, a very historical mansion, dating from the fifteenth century. After a glass at the neighbouring inn, away to Tunbridge, which was reached at length, where luncheon was found waiting for them, which the reader may be sure was very welcome after such a long drive, some seventeen miles of road having been traversed. After luncheon a visit was paid to the church of SS. Peter and Paul, where was found a splendid ring of eight, tenor 21 cwt. Here a 504 each of Stedman and Grandsire was rung, some expressing a wish to go for a peal, but time prevented this, as they were to visit Tunbridge Wells, which place being reached it was found time allowed a hurried visit to be made to the belfry of St. Peter's church, where again a splendid ring was found, tenor 14½ cwt. in F flat. Here a 504 of Stedman was rung in very quick time, the bells going magnificently, a 168 of Grandsire bringing the day's ringing to a close, with only ten minutes for a cup of tea. The journey home was resumed, the train leaving somewhat early, and Brighton was again reached about 9 p.m. The general opinion was that one and all had spent a most enjoyable day, which in a measure was due to the forethought of their secretary, Mr. G. F. Attree, who had made all the necessary arrangements for the outing. The thanks of the society are also due to the vicars and churchwardens of the several churches for the use of their bells.

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Mr. S. Longstaff, Pudsey
The Society of change-ringers and handbell ringers, Liversedge, per Mr. L. Illingworth
	1	1	1

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

THE NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Eccleston, by the kind permission of the rector, on Saturday, September 15th. The tower will be open for ringing from 2 p.m. Business meeting in the schoolroom at 5 p.m.
57 Chorley Road, Blackrod. JAMES HIGSON, Sec.

SET of 30 Good Toned Handbells for Sale, in good condition. Key of F. 26 size, belonged to the late Mr. G. R. Banks, Church Bell Hanger, 103 Lower Kennington Lane. S.E. Price £12, apply as above.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, August 25th, a Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held in the Lyttleton Middle Class School-room, Malvern, which was well attended by members from Areley Kings, Bromsgrove, Belbroughton, Clent, Cradley, Dunsley, Malvern, Netherton, Stourbridge and Tipton. The Vicar, the Rev. Dr. I. G. Smith, who had other business of importance, could not preside as announced, the chair being occupied in his absence by the Rev. E. A. Ball, senior curate. The rev. gentleman, in opening the meeting, said he had been informed by his Vicar to give them a most hearty welcome on this their first visit to his parish, and hoped all would enjoy their outing. Speaking of the bells, he said they all knew that they had been augmented to a peal of eight, and he was pleased to say it was through his instrumentality that it was so, although at first his Vicar and a few others were against him, but with perseverance he overcame the few obstacles, and all gave him a willing hand, thus enabling him to add three new bells as a Jubilee offering to Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. The rev. gentleman then gave all who wished a hearty welcome to his residence to tea, for which they thanked him most kindly, and were sorry they could not partake of his kind hospitality, as the time was so short, and they were anxious to have a ring on what are now a fine peal of eight bells in the Abbey church of Great Malvern. The usual business of the Association was then gone through, the Rev. Dr. I. G. Smith, vicar, and P. Armstrong, Esq., Hon. Sec. of "Probationer Ringers," becoming honorary, the local company and several others becoming performing members of the Association. A hearty vote of thanks to the rev. chairman for presiding, and to the vicar for the use of the schoolroom, tower and bells, brought the meeting to a close. The time being short for the visitors, a few short touches of Grandsire Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, etc., were rung upon the tower bells. The Secretary of the above Association ventures to hope (as the vicar and his ringers have joined the Association), to hear of more ringing being done in Malvern, and to have the pleasure of recording peals rung there in the Association peal-book.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

IT having recently dawned upon a few "Youths" of this Ancient Society that a peal of Grandsire Caters had not yet been accomplished on handbells in the metropolis, and bearing in mind their two silent peals, and a peal of Stedman Triples, all in hand—five members met in Pimlico at the residence of Mr. H. R. Newton, on Friday evening, August 17th, and "go" being called, a touch consisting of 1817 changes was rung. They again met on Sunday evening, August 26th, at the St. Stephen's (Westminster) society's meeting-house in Rochester Row, and in 1 hr. and 35 mins. they rang a further touch, consisting of 2807 changes. Mr. J. N. Oxborrow held the watch on this occasion, and there were also present Mr. W. Hovord (Royal Cumberland Youths), and Messrs. E. Duff, J. Reed, and J. Pryor, of the St. Stephen's society, and also promising young "Collegians." Now when to attempt the peal? Wednesday, August 29th, being the twenty-ninth birthday of the secretary of the above society, not a more appropriate day could be found for such an attempt, and accordingly these five persevering "Collegians" met at the St. Paul's meeting-house in the evening of that day. Of course, previous to starting, "9-10" was the recipient of the usual toasts and compliments, passed on such auspicious occasions. At 8 p.m. "go" was called, but alas the fates were against these five "Collegians," for after ringing one part, a mistake occurred, and the Secretary's initial birthday performance was ended. Notwithstanding this, a very pleasant evening was spent. In no wise daunted by their unsuccessful efforts, these still more persevering "Collegians" met again on Friday evening, August 31st, with the result recorded in this week's peal column. For their perseverance and also for their performance, two of these "Youths" consider they ought to receive free admission to an Association which has amongst its ranks certain ringers with a peculiar cognomen known as the "Unattached Esquires."

R. T. WOOLEY.

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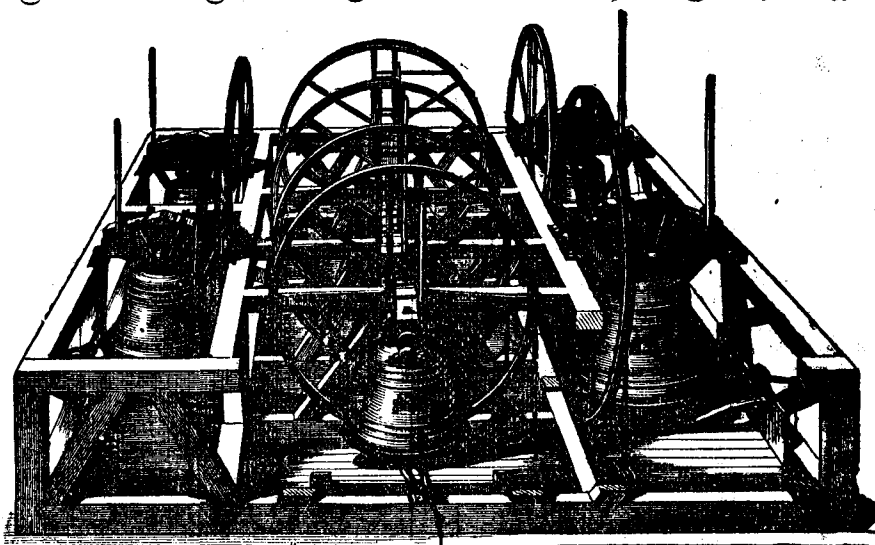
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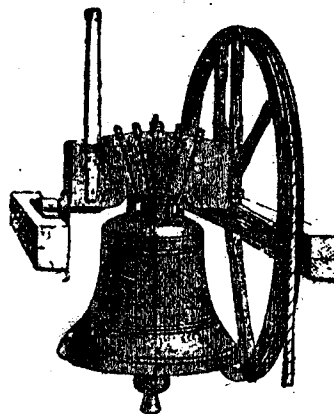
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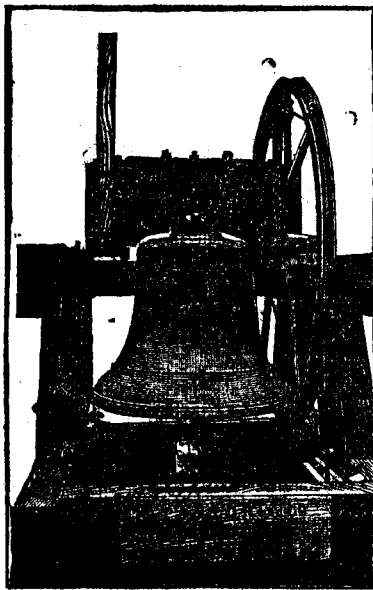
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No. 337.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1888.

ONE PENNY.

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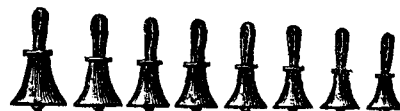
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lars of the time of performance, etc.

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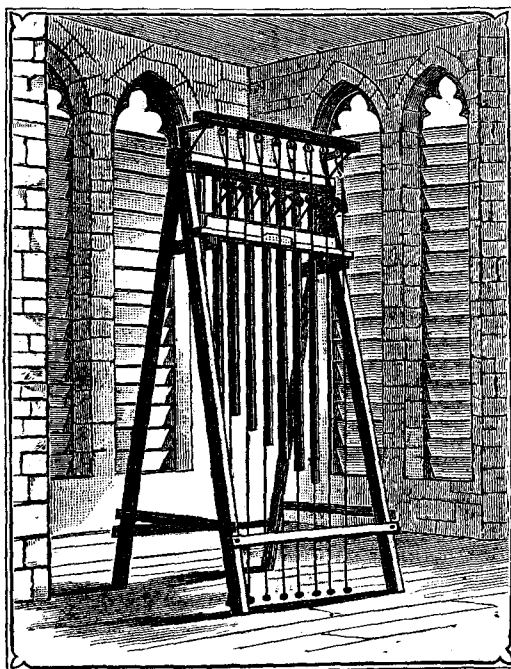
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THE SOCIETY OF COPLEY SCHOLARS, BRADFORD. PRESENTATION TO MR. B. T. COPLEY.

On Saturday, September 8th, the members of this society had a special gathering at Saltaire. It was intended to have commenced the proceedings by a 720 of Bob Minor on the bells at the Congregational Church, to be followed by touches in various methods, but owing to a case of severe illness near the church, this had to be abandoned. The members then viewed the interior of the church, and the mausoleum of the late Sir Titus Salt, and spent a pleasant hour under the trees in the church grounds, and along the grassy slopes leading to the water-side, some of them meanwhile beguiling the time with courses on the handbells, the sound of which was especially pleasing, not only to those assembled in the grounds, but also to a very large number of residents and visitors who were leisurely strolling in the pretty little park across the river. About four o'clock the members, thirty in number, assembled in front of the church, where they were photographed in group by Messrs. Dewhurst and Dobson, of Shipley. This part of the proceedings being got over satisfactorily, an adjournment was made to the Saltaire House Refreshment Rooms, where they found a very substantial and appetising meat tea awaiting them, at which the Captain of the society—Mr. B. T. Copley—was an invited guest. Full justice having been done to the good things provided, a move was made upstairs into the large sitting-room, where the members were joined by several friends, the room being quite full.

Mr. B. T. COPLEY, on taking the chair, opened the proceedings by expressing the pleasure he felt at the large attendance, all the members being present that day except a few who found it impossible to attend, to their own disappointment as well as that of those present. He then referred to the great progress made by the society since its formation in June last, and the improvement which it had effected in the ringing education of its members, particularly the younger ones. He was confident that so long as they continued in the working out of the objects and principles of the society, change-ringing would never depreciate in their district, but, on the other hand, continue to improve, and gain a firmer footing.

The Hon. Sec. (Mr. J. HARDCASTLE, jun.) then read a letter of apology from Mr. W. SNOWDON, President of the Yorkshire Association; and he also stated that Mr. W. WHITAKER, the Hon. Sec. of the Association, who was present during the afternoon, had been compelled to leave owing to business engagements.

Mr. FRED LONDON (vice-chairman) then announced that they had a little business to transact which personally concerned their chairman, and after asking that gentleman's consent to vacate his position for a short time, moved that Mr. J. Broadley should occupy the post.

Mr. GEORGE TITTERINGTON seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. BROADLEY, on complying, said they were met together that day with more than one object. While they had looked forward to having a pleasant outing together, which anticipations had been fully realised; and to the pleasure of being photographed together, as they had been; and to entertain their respected Captain to tea, all of which had been satisfactorily accomplished; there was yet another object which they had in view, namely, to give honour where honour was due. They owed their positions and knowledge as change-ringers to Mr. Copley, and had resolved to show their full appreciation of his labours on their behalf. He regretted his inability to express fully his feelings on the subject, but asked them to take the will for the deed, and called upon

Mr. THOMAS POLLITT, who in the course of a very pithy and interesting speech referred in warm terms to the long period of his friendship for Mr. Copley. They had been boys at school together, they had sung alongside each other in the choir, and when Mr. Copley commenced his career as a bellringer at their old parish church at Bradford in the year 1871, with a young company, all of them totally ignorant of the art, he joined him there also. Like the ringing members of their society, he owed all as a ringer to their old friend, who through good report and evil report, and among all disheartening circumstances, kept on steadily and unwaveringly in his work of promoting the art of change-ringing. Another very pleasing thing also he could not help referring to, namely, the fact that through all their years of

friendship not a single unpleasant word had ever passed between them; he believed this was also the case with all of them with regard to Mr. Copley, who as they all knew had spared no time or labour in his work. He was always to his time, caring not for weather or aught else; and in this respect alone he set them a good example to follow. He urged them to follow Mr. Copley's example in another way: that when anyone improved at a swifter rate than the others, he should not idly stand by until the rest overtook him, but should strive to help them on, as their Captain had done before them, so they might thus improve by means of one another.

Mr. HENRY RAISTRICK warmly supported the remarks of the last speaker, and could corroborate him in every particular. His friendship with Mr. Copley dated seventeen years back, and like Mr. Pollitt he could say that their friendship had not been only unbroken, but had strengthened as years rolled on. He was glad to be able to testify to Mr. Copley's abilities and earnest hard work through all those years, and looked forward to a long continuance of that friendship.

At the Chairman's request,

Mr. POLLITT, as the oldest "scholar," then uncovered and presented to Mr. Copley, in the name of them all, a magnificent brass-bound walnut writing desk, completely furnished with the usual stock of articles, and bearing on a plate the following inscription: "Presented to Benjamin Taylor Copley, by all his ringing scholars, 1888." Accompanying this was a "multiplier" copying machine, enclosed in a mahogany case. In doing this, he assured Mr. Copley that all his scholars had subscribed very heartily towards that little token of their regard, and they hoped he would be able to enjoy the use of it for many years to come.

This presentation, which had been kept a profound secret, came with such a surprise that the recipient was unable for some time to reply.

A course of Grandsire Major was then rung upon handbells, and Mr. Titterington charmed the company by his vocal powers.

Mr. B. T. COPLEY, on resuming the chair, was received with cheers. With apparent difficulty he expressed his thanks for the handsome present they had made him. He felt overpowered at this mark of their esteem, and it had come upon him all the more forcibly by reason of its being totally unexpected. Previous to its being placed on the table he had not the remotest idea that anything of the kind had been done, and he trusted they would under the circumstances excuse him if he did not make any lengthened remarks. They could not possibly have made the presentation in any other form so completely acceptable to him; and while thanking them most heartily for their present, and the good feeling which it betokened, he hoped the society would go on and prosper for generations to come.

The remainder of the evening was spent in a very happy fashion; songs being given by Messrs. Sugden and Cottrell, and courses of Minor, Triples, and Major on the handbells by several of the members present.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The Report and list of Members for the current year, 1888-9, has been issued. Ringing members of the Association who have not received it should apply to the secretary or foreman of their respective companies; or in the case of "non-resident" members, to myself.

I regret the accidental omission of two well-known names: Mr. G. Newson and Mr. C. F. Winny, both of which, I am glad to say, remain on our books. The name of Mr. A. S. Barrell has also been omitted without reason. Where a member's subscription has remained unpaid for two previous years, it is assumed that he has withdrawn from the Association.

I venture to invite particular attention to the remarks on page 18 of the report with regard to the payment of subscriptions; and to request that all members—and especially those whose subscription for 1887-8 is also in arrear—will forward their subscription for the current year as early as possible.

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford,
Sept. 10th.

T. L. PAPILLON,
Hon. Sec.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—
By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO. Printers, Exeter.

THE LAST DOOMED CHURCHES OF THE CITY OF LONDON.

The last day of the departed year, as duly notified by advertisement, was the latest on which application might be made by relatives or other representatives for the removal of the remains and memorials of the dead in the church of St. Olave Jewry. This, one of the two parishes to which the provisions of Bishop Tait's Act of 1860 have been last applied, is now amalgamated with St. Margaret's, Lothbury, best known beyond the bounds of the City as that in which the famous "Golden Lecture" is delivered. St. Margaret's now serves ecclesiastically for no fewer than seven civil parishes. The doomed church of St. Olave still stands on the western side of the thoroughfare which has for more than six centuries been known as the Old Jewry, the main artery of a district which must have extended considerably further westward; this appears from the designation of the Church of St. Lawrence Jewry, in the Guildhall-yard. Both these churches were rebuilt after the Great Fire by Sir Christopher Wren, and St. Lawrence, especially its interior, is a fine specimen of the Palladian style. St. Olave's is a very much plainer structure, but its east front is designated as "handsome and effective" by so competent an authority as George Godwin, in his early work, *The Churches of London*. There are few who need to be informed that the designation "Jewry" indicates the fact that here, in Plantagenet and later days, was the quarter assigned to Hebrews settled in the metropolis. It answered to the Ghetto of Rome and other Italian cities, the Parisian Rue des Juifs, and the Judenstrassen of Berlin, Prague, Strasbourg, and Frankfort. Doubtless many have beheld with interest the quaint old "Rothschild-house," stilled piously preserved in its old proportions and lineaments. But to some of these, as to others, the information may be novel, that even a portion of the Romes, the open space before the adjacent Town Hall of the old capital city of Federated Germany, there was, up till a date comparatively recent, a notification to this effect, "No swine or Jews allowed here!"

Although long before the time of Sheridan the Old Jewry had ceased to be either reserved for or specially favoured by Jews, who voluntarily selected the Houndsditch neighbourhood, we nevertheless find Crabtree in the *School for Scandal*, in reference to the practise of Charles Surface borrowing money from the Jews, saying, "If the Old Jewry were a ward, I believe Charles would be an alderman." Jewin-street and Jewin-crescent preserve the remembrance, not, as might be supposed, of a considerably further extension of the residential Jewish quarter, but of another given to them in the reign of one of the early Edwards for a burying-place without the City wall.

The hagiological designation of the church and parish points to Olave, or Olaf, Norwegian king and martyr, and commemorates a considerable Scandinavian settlement in the old City in the years immediately preceding the Conquest. This is further emphasised by three other City parishes being dedicated to the same patron saint, as well as a fourth Saint Olave in the civic appanage of Southwark. Tooley-street, in the last-named, preserves another designation under which this exceedingly equivocal Norse saint (whose remains lie under the altar of the metropolitan cathedral at Trondtjem) was familiarly known by his countrymen. Olaf, by the admission of his biographers, a pirate from his twelfth year, was yet a young man when he landed in Kent at the head of a band of marauders and plundered Canterbury, where he slew Elphege, or Alphage, a cleric with less questionable claims to sanctity, and to whom by a truly curious contiguity the adjoining church of St. Alphage, London-wall, is dedicated. The tablets and other memorials of the dead, which, with a solitary exception, present no other than local interest, are to be removed and set up in the church of St. Margaret. The exception is one to the memory of Mr. Alderman Boydell; its inscription records that he was born in 1719, at Donnington Hall, near the village of Woore, in Shropshire. "As an engraver," its proceeds, "he attained considerable eminence in his art; as a printseller, he caused its productions to become a source of commercial benefit to the country and of such profit to himself as to enable him to afford unexampled encouragement to the English school of historical painters, and to form that splendid collection of British art, the Shakespeare Gallery; as a magistrate, the conscientious discharge of his duties earned him the applause of his fellow-

citizens; as a man, the singular simplicity of his mind and the pure innocence of his heart gained him the love and esteem of all that knew him; and as a Christian, he worshipped within these walls with exemplary constancy and fervent devotion.

Such was the affectionate and happily-expressed testimony to the personal characteristics and merits of a man who may be truthfully styled a national worthy, a credit at once to the land which produced him and the great City which was the arena of his efforts, vicissitudes, and triumphs. Grandson of a rector of Ashbourne, Derbyshire, a doctor of divinity, and described as "an excellent classic," who took an active part in the training of the future Lord Mayor, his father was a land surveyor, and John was destined to follow the paternal calling. Developing, however, an uncontrollable bent in the direction of art, he left home when just of age, walked to London, and at that unusual time of life apprenticed himself as a copperplate engraver. Having fulfilled the terms of his indenture, except that he purchased out of his savings his freedom at the end of the last stipulated year, he steadily rose in his calling until he became a producer of engraved works of the highest character. His great monument, the famous Shakespeare Gallery, engaged the pencils of Reynolds, Northcote, West, Romney and other artists of lesser repute. In the production of this magnificent design he expended no less than 350,000*l*. Unfortunately, the stoppage of foreign trade in consequence of the outbreak of the great war with France, prevented Boydell from realizing anything like the full fruits of his enterprize. It must, in fact, have proved his ruin, but that Parliament interposed, and granted him the altogether exceptional privilege of disposing of his enormous stock, including all the original paintings, by way of lottery. This re-established his otherwise imperilled fortunes, and the boon was well deserved by one who did more than any other man of his time towards the dissemination of pure and healthy art, and who left English achievement in that field on the road to the excellence which it has attained since. All that was mortal of John Boydell was laid in the vault of St. Olave Jewry.

The parish of St. Mary Magdalene, the church of which stands to the east of Doctors' commons, at the junction of Knight-riders-street with Old Change, has also been recently doomed to absorption with St. Martin, Ludgate. This church also was erected by Sir Christopher. Its doom was precipitated by its all but total destruction by a conflagration which suddenly broke out just before noon on a mid-winter day of 1886. The architectural claims of the edifice were even smaller than those of St. Olave. Godwin briefly dismisses it as "a substantial fabric, surrounded by timber, the whole plain and simple." Two of the rectors of this living, which is in the gift of the Chapter of St. Paul's, have been men of note. One was Hewett, who, accused of being concerned in a plot against Cromwell and the Commonwealth, of all share in which he nevertheless protested his innocence till the last, was beheaded on Tower-hill in 1658. The other was "Ingoldsby" Barham, who, like other incumbents of this living, owed his preferment to the fact of his already being a minor canon of the adjacent metropolitan Cathedral. With the utmost difficulty, and largely owing to the zeal of one of the churchwardens (Mr. Douglass) there was saved from the fire of 1886 the most valuable of the modest treasures of this church, a large picture of the Transfiguration, by Brown, an artist of repute in the reigns of Anne and George I. There perished in the flames a small brass tablet, in the ambulatory at the west end, bearing this inscription:—

"In God the Lord put all your trust,
Repent your former wicked ways,
Elizabeth, our Queen, most just,
Bless her, oh Lord, in all her days;
So Lord, increase good counsellors,
And preachers of His Holy Word.
Mislike of all Papistes' desires;
Oh Lord, cut them off with Thy sword.
How small soever the gifts shall be,
Thank God for him who gave it thee.
Three penny loaves for three poor folks
Give every Sabbath day for aye."

A figure of a man, having underneath the date 1586, stood at the side. This represented the pious donor, Thomas Beare, a merchant of the staple in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. This glorious monarch was herself commemorated in the old church

by an effigy, with a subjoined metrical inscription. The lines are vigorous and high-spirited, and this notice of these two last doomed churches of the City, whose burghers proved themselves throughout her lifetime the most staunch and loyal supporters of Queen Bess, could not be better concluded, in a year which marks the centenary of the providential "dissipation" of the Spanish Armada, than by their citation:—

"Here lies her type, who was of late
The prop of Belgia, stay of France,
Spain's foil, Faith's shield, and Queen of state,
Of arms and learning, fate and chance;
In brief, a woman ne'er was seen
So great a Prince, so good a Queen.
Sith virtue her immortal made,
Death (envying all who cannot die)
Her earthly parts did so invade
As in it wrack't self-majesty;
But so her spirits inspired her parts
That she still lives in loyal hearts."

THE REIGATE SOCIETY, SURREY.

On Monday, September 10th, the above Society had their annual outing, the places selected being Guildford and Godalming. Leaving Reigate at 12.15, accompanied by Mr. J. Bashford, sen., of Bletchingley, they were met at Godalming by Messrs. G. Riddle, A. and W. Haigh, and J. Cooper, who had everything in readiness for them at the parish church. The bells were soon set in motion, and a 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung. W. Bone, 1; F. Hoad (conductor), 2; G. Croucher, 3; J. Bashford, 4; E. Moses, 5; W. Argent, 6; E. Kenward, 7; G. Riddle, 8. Also a 209 in the same method. G. Croucher, 1; F. Hoad, 2; J. Cooper, 3; W. Sadler, 4; T. Brown, 5; E. Moses (conductor), 6; A. Haigh, 7; W. Argent, 8. Also 252 Stedman Triples. G. Croucher, 1; F. Hoad (conductor), 2; F. Linter, 3; J. Bashford, 4; W. Argent, 5; E. Moses, 6; E. Kenward, 7; A. Haigh, 8. After having a look round and a parting glass, they proceeded to Guildford. Arriving there, about 5 p.m., they began to think that the inner man wanted a little looking to, so the first thing accomplished was to have a good meat tea. That being completed, a move was made to St. Nicholas Church, where Mr. F. W. J. Rees was in waiting with the bells up ready for them. A start was made for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), which was brought round in 47½ mins. G. Croucher, 1; F. Hoad (conductor), 2; J. Bashford, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; E. Moses, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Argent, 7; J. Howard, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. Another attempt for a touch came to an abrupt termination by the treble rope breaking. On leaving the church a friendly glass was partaken of, and a little vocal harmony. They parted with their friends, and was soon in the train for Reigate, which was reached about 9.40 p.m. Here they parted, each man going to his home well pleased with his outing. Messrs. Riddle, the brothers Haigh and Cooper, belong to Godalming. They wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to thank the vicars of Godalming and St. Nicholas, Guildford, for the use of the bells, and also the steeplekeepers and ringers at each church for having the bells ready for them, and giving them such a friendly welcome.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

The next ringing meeting of the Rossendale Branch will take place on Saturday, September 22nd, at St. Thomas's church, Helmshore. Bells ready at 2.30; meeting at 6.30.

J. T. STOTT, Local Sec.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

There will be a meeting of the members of the proposed branch for the Rochdale and Heywood District, on Saturday, September 22nd, at St. Alban's, Rochdale. Bells ready at 2 p.m.; meeting in the schoolroom, Drake Street, at 5 p.m.

JOHN MILLETT.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1888.

	Jan. to June.	July.	Total.
Ancient Society of College Youths ...	47	3	50
Midland Counties' Association ...	36	4	40
Sussex County Association ...	37	1	38
Lancashire Association ...	28	3	31
Oxford Diocesan Guild ...	26	5	31
Essex Association ...	25	3	28
Norwich Diocesan Association ...	18	2	20
Yorkshire Association ...	17	2	19
Surrey Association ...	15	1	16
Glos'ter and Bristol Diocesan Association ...	14	1	15
United Counties' Association ...	11	4	15
Kent County Association ...	11	1	12
St. James' Society, London ...	10	2	12
Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford ...	11	0	11
Salisbury Diocesan Guild ...	11	0	11
The Holt Society ...	8	1	9
Worcester and adjoining Districts' Association ...	8	0	8
Society of Royal Cumberland Youths ...	8	0	8
Hertford College Youths ...	6	0	6
Winchester Diocesan Guild ...	5	1	6
Liverpool Youths Society ...	4	0	4
All Hallows' Society, Tottenham ...	3	0	3
Waterloo Society, London ...	2	1	3
Hertford Association ...	2	0	2
Birmingham Amalgamated Society ...	2	0	2
St. Martin's Society, Birmingham ...	2	0	2
Devonshire Guild ...	1	1	2
Eastern Counties' Association ...	1	0	1
Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal Association ...	1	0	1
Durham and Newcastle Association ...	1	0	1
Bath and Keynsham Deaconries Association ...	1	0	1
Chester Diocesan Guild ...	1	0	1
Bedford Association ...	0	1	1
Independent Societies ...	56	6	62
Less peals entered under two Associations ...	429	43	472
Totals ...	302	39	431

The above peals were rung in the following methods: New Cumberland Surprise Major, 1; Cambridge Surprise Major, 6; Superlative Surprise Major, 8; Double Oxford Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 12; Stedman Cinques, 2; Stedman Caters, 17; Stedman Triples, 31; Duffield Royal, 4; Treble Bob Royal, 9; Treble Bob Major, 65; Prince Albert Major, 1; Violet Major, 1; Grandsire Caters, 23; Grandsire Major, 1; Grandsire Triples, 163; Grandsire Doubles, (5040) 12; Court Bob Triples, 2; Oxford Bob Triples, 5; Union Triples, 6; Bob Maximus, 1; Bob Royal, 1; Bob Major, 21; Bob Triples, 14; Bob Doubles (5040) 1; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1; Canterbury Pleasure Triples, 1; in seven minor methods on 6 bells, 15; in 14 minor methods, on 6 bells (10,080) 1; in one ditto, 2; in 14 methods on 5 bells, 2; in 6 methods 1; Total 431. Quickest 5000 upon church bells, 2 hours and 27 minutes.

	1887.	1888.
Number of peals rung in January ...	50	52
" " February ...	76	72
" " March ...	65	60
" " April ...	62	98
" " May ...	57	53
" " June ...	38	57
" " July ...	14	39

Increase on the seven months 69.

Brighton.

GEORGE F. ATTREE.

MATRICATION (London) Jan. 1889. An experienced Tutor prepares Pupils for this and other Examinations. Help by correspondence. For terms (moderate) address F. C. S., office of this paper.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"An ounce of fact is worth a ton of theory."

Mr. Editor, for once in my life, I give you credit for pluck. Talk about "massacreing the Innocents," you have done it with a vengeance. The four hundred compositions which you have consigned to the waste paper basket must have made that indispensable editorial adjunct feel much like as if it had been indulging in an extraordinarily good feed—rather crowded in its interior, you know. I don't think it would have been any worse (both for us and the aforesaid waste-paper basket), if you had performed this summary consignment operation long ago. However, now that you *have* put your foot down, Mr. Editor, I hope you will take the advice of one, even if he is an irresponsible individual, and keep it there.

This page of "original compositions" I have had occasion to refer to two or three times previously, and unfortunately in every instance with regret, because of its far too numerous discreditable features. There can be no doubt about it, that while confidence was being lost in the truth or the originality of what appeared in it, some of the productions have been of a nature to make one feel thoroughly disgusted. Of course, the blame of this can in no way be laid to the Editor; while it would be literally impossible for him to carry out his original intention of examining and proving every composition sent up, it is hardly to be expected that the finances of the proprietors of the paper should be taxed with the engagement of a permanent official to do that which every composer should in common fairness take very particular pains to perform himself.

If this new regulation laid down by the Editor as to each composition having a distinct value of its own, and the proof and originality of each peal or touch be firmly established by every composer—or at least, if every composer honestly uses every endeavour in that direction—before sending such for insertion; although there may be a considerable diminution in quantity, yet the increase in quality will considerably more than make up for it.

Suppose some analysing friend like Mr. Attree were to tabulate and make a report of the compositions of say the past twelve months, as to their musical qualities, their truth, and their originality, what would be the result? Very—very far from creditable, to say the least of it.

As I write, if the arrangements announced on Saturday are carried out, the bells of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, will be swinging to the tune of a 6720 of London Surprise Major. The next time I write, may I be able to congratulate the members of St. Paul's society on their accomplishment of a true and well-struck peal.

I was somewhat surprised to read that the 5039 of Grandsire Caters rung in St. Stephen's school, Westmnsnster, was the first peal in that method in the metropolis on handbells. Perhaps now that the "Ancients" have started the ball rolling, we shall before long find some other society in the "big smoke" beating, or attempting to beat this record.

Kent Treble Bob appears to be making its way in the south, which I do not wonder at. To those who have been accustomed to confining their efforts in the direction of that interminable Grandsire, this method will, I imagine, come as a welcome change in the programme, and if well rung, delight both ringers and listeners who have hitherto studiously kept the tenor from getting out of its own place behind.

That is a serious charge which is brought by Dr. Jessop against the church authorities of Cossey, and if correct in all its particulars, will doubtless lead to trouble for somebody. I am no stickler for the preservation of ancient buildings, merely on account of their antiquity, particularly when they become dangerous through decay; but in the case of our old parish churches, I maintain that wherever restoration is needed in these venerable buildings, which are without doubt the pride of our land, such work ought to be carried out in strict conformity with the original lines of the edifice thus restored. To pull down an ancient and architecturally-beautiful structure and replace it with an erection of some modern Jack-in-the-box style of building, and then call the proceeding restoration, is to my mind a gross abuse of terms. Such abominable work should be condemned not only by antiquarians, but by every lover of the Church, and every man who has any feeling of pride for his old country.

I may be asked, how does this matter affect us as ringers? To this I answer, that it concerns us in a particular degree. Our own particular portion of the church is specially necessary to be of a strong and well-built character. Our old towers as a rule have been built by our forefathers with that object in view: but how often do we find the reverse to be the case in more modern campaniles? How often do we see evidences of gross incapacity on the part of architects of the present day in designing towers intended for the reception of bells? Then I say that we as ringers, ought to be watchful of our towers. If we should find in any of our parishes that "modernising" spirit abroad which looks askance at the venerable old church and tower because may be it appears heavy and ponderous, and not in accordance with namby-pamby æsthetic notions of elegance; should such sentiments ripen into active efforts to "restore" it, we shall be grievously lacking in our duty if we do not strive by every means in our power to prevent the old and substantial building being substituted by a gimcrack pile of bricks and (substitute for) mortar, with perhaps a thin veneering of stone. This is no mere fancy picture. Such has been done in too many places already; and without careful watching will be done again. How many rings throughout the country are silent through this cause? In how many of these "restored" churches have the bells been compelled to cease their ringing because of these defects of construction through the ignorance of architects and builders? Then I say, we *have* need as ringers to be ever watchful and see that the modern Vandal does not attack *our* habitation; or if this rebuilding is finally determined upon, that the new erection is structurally fitted for the purpose for which it is, or should be, put up.

"A very pleasant fellow, by the bye, and eager to increase his knowledge of the science." Such is the character given of one of our brethren whom I had occasion to address somewhat plainly—perhaps more plainly than was agreeable—the other week. Nevertheless, I was right glad to read it. We have,

happily, amongst us many such "pleasant fellows" who are, like "Plain Bob," eager to increase their knowledge. My own personal acquaintance, I am proud to say, includes a goodly number of them. On the older members of our craft, then, rests the responsibility of imparting to these younger ones that information which they seek. It is the bounden duty of the seniors to watch over their younger brethren, to help them on their path of learning by every means in their power, that they may not be lost to the Exercise, but on the other hand increase in knowledge and in excellence as ringers, so that the rising generation may at the very least equal in the future the exploits of their predecessors. I am happy in being able to say of myself without egotism that no young ringer ever applied to me in vain for any help or information which it was in my power to give him; and if there be any such who are so unfortunately situated as not to be within reach of that practical teaching which none but an old practitioner can give, or are searching for information whereby "to increase their knowledge of the science," they will not be disappointed if they ask for it from your humble servant,

FREE LANCE.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

In accordance with a notice in this paper a fortnight ago, the annual meeting and election of officers took place at headquarters on Friday evening, September 7th, in the absence of several old and otherwise noted members. The balance sheet was passed as read unanimously. Mr. George Wild was elected to the office of junior steward, and Mr. Daniel Lovett, by virtue of his previous office, becomes senior steward in the place of Mr. Albert E. Church, who, *per rota*, goes out of office, having completed his term of two years' duration.

A contest took place as to the choice of a Master for the ensuing year, which was decided in favour of the Master, Mr. James Hannington, retaining the office, and those who would delight in honouring the steeplekeeper of the Royal parish church, Mr. J. Mansfield, by electing him to that exalted position, cheerfully agreed to await yet another year. The Treasurer (Mr. W. Baron), and the Secretary were each re-elected to serve in the same offices as heretofore, and a hearty and cordial vote of thanks were given to officers for past services. Other routine business being disposed of, the most interesting to members assembled was brought forward.

A few months ago it will be remembered by your readers, although escaping the eye of your able correspondent of the period, that eight members of this society scored an extraordinary performance in the art of ringing viz., a peal of Cambridge Surprise. Of course we all know such performances are somewhat common in parts of the country of late. We know also that peals in Surprise methods have previously been accomplished in and near London, although not recently, but it is over one hundred years ago since a London band of ringers engaged in the intricacies of Cambridge, and that being so, this society decided on Friday night upon the form and inscription of a tablet intended to record this meritorious performance, and adorn the walls of the meeting-room in future, and hopes are entertained that that record may again be beaten by some enterprising members.

H. DAINS, *Hon. Sec.*

On Saturday week, at the parish church of Coston, Leicestershire, Bishop Mitchinson dedicated a new reredos of carved oak in memory of the Hon. and Rev. John Sandilands (formerly rector) and his wife, given by their children; and a new altar and altar rails in memory of the Hon. F. R. Sandilands, Commander R.N., the former given by his widow, and the latter by his brothers and sisters. A new tenor bell, in memory of the late Mrs. Rendell, wife of the present rector, was dedicated, the two original bells having been rehung and the belfry thoroughly put in order. The new bell was cast by Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who also put up the new frames.

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 REPLY AND AN INQUIRY.

SIR,—In reply to "Amphibalus," *re* tenor at St. Peter's church, St. Albans, allow me to inform him that the diameter as given by the Rev. W. C. Lukis is 49½ inches. Your correspondent, E. P. Debenham, quoting from Stahltschmidt's work, says 50 inches. Assuming the latter to be correct, the weight could not exceed 21 cwt. In answer to "Grandsire Bob," *re* King's Sutton bells, the late Mr. North in his "Church Bells of Northants," gives particulars from which it appears that they were originally a peal of six:—Treble by Henry Bagley, 1722; Second—an ancient "Ave Maria" bell; Third and Fourth by James Keene, 1626; Fifth by Michael Darbie, 1655; Tenor by Bartholomew Attun, 1602. The two trebles were added by Briant, of Hertford, in 1793, making a peal of eight. Unfortunately Mr. North does not give either the diameter or weight of the tenor. As to steel bells, "Free Lance" has said all I could have done as to their merits (?) although I can scarcely agree with him in saying that tubes are better in a musical point of view. Having replied to these two correspondents, I should now like to ask for some information myself, viz., for the particulars and inscriptions on the bells of the following London churches:—St. Leonard, Shoreditch; St. Margaret, Westminster; St. Giles-in-the-Fields; St. Catherine Cree, Leadenhall Street; St. Olave, Hart Street; and St. Lawrence, Jewry. Also can anyone tell me the full inscription on the tenor at St. Saviour's, Southwark (I have all the inscriptions on the other bells there). Information as to any of the above would oblige me greatly.

J. R. JERRAM.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—The peal of Bob Triples, which appeared by me in last week's "BELL NEWS," should read "the least number of calls a peal has been published in six parts."

GEORGE HAYWARD.

Bromsgrove.

FALSE PEALS.

SIR,—The peal of Superlative Surprise in your issue of August 18th, and the peal of Stedman Cinques in the issue of the 25th ult., by me are both false. I tender my apologies to the Exercise, and also to yourself, for thus trespassing on your space.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD,
40 Lowther Street, Liverpool.

"USING THE PROPERTY OF OTHERS."

SIR,—I noticed in your composition page of last week's "BELL NEWS," a peal of Bob Triples by Mr. G. Hayward, of Bromsgrove. I wish to tell him that the peal was rung at St. Mary's church, Titchmarsh, for the first time on Whit-Monday, June 14th, 1886, composed by me, and conducted by Mr. C. W. Clarke, of Bedford. The only difference between them is that you have to use bobs at the w's in the fifth and tenth courses in each part, and I have used singles. But the peal was not published in "THE BELL NEWS" at the time it was rung, but it was published in *Church Bells*, so if Mr. Hayward will write to me privately, I will send him a peal card of it being rung, and the peal itself.

F. GILBERT.

Hill Street, Raunds, Northants.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—I have either read somewhere or been told a story to the effect that some time last century, or, it may be, the century before, all the ringers in a certain 5000 performed in London were noblemen, and that after the peal was finished they all drove away in their carriages and pair. I am not sure it was not their coaches and four. I shall be much obliged if any of your numerous readers could enlighten me, and say whether there is any truth in the story or is it a pure myth?

ONE OF THE EXERCISE.

The Dean and Chapter of Lincoln Cathedral are about to restore the Chapter-house of the minster, at a cost of at least 7,000*l.*

SET of 50 Good Toned Handbells for Sale, in good condition. Key of F, 26 size, belonged to the late Mr. G. R. Banks, Church Bell Hanger, 1031 Lower Kennington Lane, S.E. Price £12, apply as above.

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Containing full directions for ringing, pricking, and proving the method; together with a collection of peals and an explanatory appendix. By

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1888.

In another column the Secretary of the Essex Association makes a request to the members of that body which certainly ought not to be required. We are sorry to say that such request does not possess by any means the charm of novelty. Unfortunately there is nothing new in the fact that a secretary has almost to implore backward and dilatory members to pay their quota towards the funds. Anyone would be apt to think from these

continued appeals for some regularity in payment, that the subscription was a large amount, and necessitated the practice of self-denial in a great degree. But this is not so, as is well known. The real cause of the evil is neglect—neglect however which is totally inexcusable. It should constantly be remembered by the members of County and other Associations that the duties of their Hon. Secretaries are most arduous, and sometimes calculated to disturb the most serene of tempers. They should therefore be careful to discourage in every possible way anything which may have a tendency to create additional work for those gentlemen who regard it as a labour of love to serve them.

We have felt it our duty to allude to this matter more than once. The neglect to pay at the proper time the small contribution necessary for carrying on the concern, seems pitiable in the extreme, and bordering on meanness. It is necessary to get rid of this reproach. There is no hesitation in taking advantage of any boon the Associations offer, therefore there should be no backwardness in meeting their necessary but modest demands with promptitude. We could say a deal more on the matter, but we forbear, lest our observations should become more pointed than kindly. We hope this is the last occasion that it will be necessary to revert to it.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

ST. MARY'S, WOOLWICH.—On Tuesday next, September 18th, and on the third Tuesday in each month the tower of this church will, by permission, be open to members for ringing at 8 p.m.

ST. ALPHEGE, GREENWICH.—Until further notice, meetings of the Society for the transaction of business are held after ringing on the first Tuesday in each month, in the vestry-room of this church, by kind permission of the Vicar and churchwardens. **FREDK. W. THORNTON, Secretary.**

106, King George Street, Greenwich.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The half-yearly meeting and six-bell competition will take place at Hayfield, Derbyshire, on Saturday, September 22nd, commencing at 2 p.m. There will be no general dinner, but members and friends attending will find every accommodation at the several hotels and refreshment rooms. The officers and committee will sit at the "Royal" Hotel to enrol new members and receive subscriptions.

JAMES S. WILDE, } Secs.
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE, }

The Metropolis.

ROTHERHITHE, SURREY.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS AND THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, September 11, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 16 cwt.

WILLIAM PEAD	<i>Treble.</i>	THOMAS TAYLOR	5.
Rev. H. A. COCKEY	2.	EDWARD E. RICHARDS	6.
WILLIAM BEDWELL	3.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN	7.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE	4.	JOSEPH LAWS	<i>Tenor.</i>

Conducted by **FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.**

The Provinces.**OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Thursday, September 6, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 41 cwt.

W. FINCH .. .. .	.. Treble.	W. BASTON	6.
H. FRUIN .. .. .	.. 2.	Rev. F. E. ROBINSON ..	7.
A. W. BARKUS* ..	.. 3.	S. HOUNSLOW	8.
C. TOLLEY* .. ..	.. 4.	J. W. WASHBROOK ..	9.
T. BLACKBOURN* ..	.. 5.	A. STRANGE	Tenor.

Composed by Mr. H. JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by the
REV. F. E. ROBINSON, Master of the Guild.

*First peal of Stedman Caters.

ERITH, KENT.**THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

On Saturday, September 8, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

GEORGE CULLUM* ..	.. Treble.	GEORGE CONYARD	5.
EDWARD E. RICHARDS ..	.. 2.	WILLIAM BEDWELL ..	6.
FREDERICK CULLUM† ..	.. 3.	JOHN GARARD	7.
WILLIAM ATKINS .. ..	.. 4.	WILLIAM SAXBY	Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BEDWELL.

*First peal. †First peal inside. Messrs. G. Cullum, F. Cullum, and Garard belong to Erith; Conyard and Saxby to Crayford; Richards and Atkins to Woolwich; and W. Bedwell to Greenwich, and this was his first peal as conductor.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.—THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 8, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

THOMAS TAYLOR .. ..	.. Treble.	JOHN LEIGH	5.
JOHN HOPWOOD .. ..	.. 2.	JOSEPH GILLOTT	6.
JAMES WOOD .. .. .	.. 3.	GEORGE LONGDEN	7.
THOMAS WROE .. .. .	.. 4.	SAMUEL WOOD	Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD, and Conducted by
JAMES WOOD.

■The above is Mr. James Wood's 100th peal, and it is also the 100th Treble Bob peal in which Mr. Longden has taken part.

MILNROW.**THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

On Tuesday, September 11, 1888, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

T. THURSTANS' FIVE-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

FRANK BIRTWISTLE ..	.. Treble.	WILLIAM SUTCLIFFE ..	5.
GEORGE HOYLE .. ..	.. 2.	CHAS. J. BUTTERWORTH ..	6.
A. EDWARD WREAKS ..	.. 3.	ALFRED CLEGG	7.
LANCELOT NEWTON ..	.. 4.	SAMUEL BRIERLEY	Tenor.

Conducted by CHAS. J. BUTTERWORTH.

*The particulars and part-ends of the above peal will be found in "THE BELL NEWS" for September 1st. This peal was arranged to accommodate Messrs. Butterworth and Newton, who hail from Durham, and are members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.

ROMFORD.—On Saturday evening, September 8th, at St. Edward's church, an attempt was made for a long touch of Grandsire Triples, but was brought home through a change-course, after ringing over 1000 changes. Also several courses of Stedman. And on Sunday morning, September 9th, for Divine Service, 812 of Grandsire Triples. L. Copsey, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; G. Roughton, 3; M. L. Myhill, 4; W. Pye, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6; W. Nash, 7; S. James, 8. The above was taken from Holt's Original. Tenor 17 cwt.

HEYWOOD, LANCASHIRE.**THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

On Saturday, September 8, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WILLIAMS'S BOB-AND-SINGLE.

Tenor 22½ cwt. in Eb.

WILLIAM R. BARRETT ..	.. Treble.	A. EDWARD WREAKS ..	5.
GEORGE HOYLE .. ..	.. 2.	CHARLES J. BUTTERWORTH ..	6.
LANCELOT NEWTON* ..	.. 3.	FRANK BIRTWISTLE ..	7.
JOHN HARRISON .. ..	.. 4.	JAMES MILLETT	Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES J. BUTTERWORTH.

*First peal. Messrs. Butterworth and Newton hail from Durham, and Mr. Newton was elected a member previously to commencing the peal.

DRAYTON, BERKS.**THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On September 8, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

ERNEST BISHOP* .. ..	.. Treble.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK ..	5.
THOMAS SHORT .. ..	.. 2.	*ARTHUR W. BARKUS ..	6.
Rev. F. E. ROBINSON ..	.. 3.	JOHN BROWN	7.
THOMAS BLACKBOURN ..	.. 4.	HARRY FRUIN	Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal of Stedman Triples. Mr. Bishop belongs to Bury.

ABINGDON, BERKS.

On Monday, September 10, 1888, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

WILLIAM ADKINS* .. ..	.. Treble.	*THOMAS BLACKBOURN ..	6.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK ..	.. 2.	EDWARD ALDWORTH ..	7.
ARTHUR BURGESS* .. ..	.. 3.	THOMAS SHORT	8.
ARTHUR W. BARKUS* ..	.. 4.	*JOHN BROWN	9.
ALBERT J. KIMBREY ..	.. 5.	*WILLIAM CARTER	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

*First peal of Grandsire Caters. Messrs. Blackbourn and Barkus belong to Salisbury.

Date Touch.**THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

HOLBECK, LEEDS (Yorks).—On Friday, September 7th, at St. Matthew's church, a date touch of Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. T. Harrington, 1; H. Tomlinson, 2; H. Moss, 3; S. Baspett, 4; J. Woodhead, 5; F. Woodhead, 6; M. Tomlinson (conductor), 7; D. York, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. Composed by the late Thomas West.

Miscellaneous.**WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**

ROWLEY REGIS.—On Saturday, September 1st, eight members of the above Association met at the parish church of St. Giles to ring a peal of Plain Bob Triples in honour of the birthday of Mr. W. F. Hartshorne, but after ringing 4,200 changes in 2 hrs. 25 mins., it came to grief. E. Pugh, 1; T. Lees, 2; F. Daniels, 3; H. Harris, 4; H. Hartshorne, 5; G. H. Pagett, 6; W. F. Hartshorne (composer and conductor), 7; C. Beasley, 8. Messrs. Pugh, Harris, and Pagett hail from Stourbridge, the brothers Hartshorne from Brierley Hill, Daniels and Beasley from Cradley.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WHITTLE (Essex).—On Friday evening, August 24th, a peal board was placed in the tower of the parish church to commemorate a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (5024 changes), rung here on Whit-

Monday, June 2nd, 1884, composed by the late John Cox, and conducted by George Newson. On this occasion a touch of Grandsire was rung, and a 720 of Plain Bob Major. *R. C. Burrell, 1; J. Everard, 2; J. Dains, 3; F. Radley, 4; W. Harvey, 5; A. Edwards, 6; A. Tarbun, 7; W. Lincoln (conductor), 8. *Longest touch of Major. And on Sunday morning, August 26th, for Divine Service, 518 of Grandsire Triples; and on Wednesday, September 5th, for practice, two courses of Bob Major, 882 of Grandsire Triples. W. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; A. Edwards, 3; W. Lincoln (composer and conductor), 4; W. Harvey, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; A. Tarbun, 7; W. J. Piper, 8. Also on Sunday morning, September 9th, for Divine Service, 503 in the same method, and 120 of Bob Minor. W. Emery, 1; R. Wood, 2; A. Edwards, 3; F. Radley, 4; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 5; W. J. Piper, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; A. Bonnington, 8. It appears that the bad go of the tenor in this tower, which has caused the loss of two peals since she was rehung at Whitsuntide, is due to unsteadiness of the frame, caused by insufficient support to the joists below. If this can be remedied, it is hoped that the bell will again be pealable.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—On Saturday, September 8th, at the parish church, eight members of the above attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (5184 changes), which came to grief after ringing 3968 changes in 2 hrs. 25 mins., through a change-course. C. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; J. Luckey, 3; Y. Green (composer), 4; G. Prior, 5; F. W. Chapman, 6; H. Prior, 7; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 8. And on Sunday, September 9th, at St. Michael's church for afternoon service, 720 of Plain Bob Minor (three bobs and eighteen singles), in 26 mins. T. Newman, 1; J. Luckey, 2; F. W. Chapman, 3; G. Prior, 4; H. J. Tucker (composer and conductor), 5; H. Prior, 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

GREAT HADHAM (Herts).—On Sunday, September 9th, at St. Andrew's church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen singles and three bobs), in 22 mins. W. T. Prior, 1; F. W. Chapman, 2; H. J. Tucker, 3; J. Luckey, 4; G. Prior, 5; H. Prior (composer and conductor), 6. Also 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 23 mins. W. T. Prior, 1; G. Prior, 2; J. Luckey, 3; F. W. Chapman, 4; H. Prior, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor (Hammond's, thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 23 mins. W. T. Prior, 1; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 2; G. Prior, 3; H. Prior, 4; F. W. Chapman, 5; J. Luckey, 6. These are believed to be the first 720's ever rang on these bells, and is H. J. Tucker's 201st 720, which were rung between the afternoon and evening services.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CORBRIDGE-ON-TYNE.—On Saturday, September 8th, a sale of work, garden party and concert was held in aid of tower fund of the parish church (St. Andrew's), and two 720's of Bob Minor were rung, the first one with forty-two singles. E. Wallis, 1; W. C. Bennett, 2; J. Pattison, 3; R. W. Wignell, 4; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 5; W. Story, 6. The second with eighteen bobs and two singles. W. C. Bennett, 1; J. Pattison, 2; R. W. Wignell, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; G. Atkinson (conductor), 6. Tenor 6½ cwt. These are the first 720's on the bells. Mr. Lisle (Newton Hall), also took part in an attempt for another 720, which came to grief half-way.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NORTH WINGFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, September 9th, at St. Laurence's church, 360 of Bob Minor (nine bobs). W. Brown (Clay Cross), 1; T. Allibone, 2; J. Cook (Clay Cross), 3; G. Brown (Clay Cross), 4; J. Atkin (conductor), 5; T. Clough (Clay Cross), 6. Also three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. T. Allibone, 1; J. Atkin (conductor), 2; W. Brown, 3; G. Brown, 4; J. Cook, 5; G. Oates, 6. And three six-scores of Bob Doubles, called differently. F. Knowles (aged 15), 1; T. Allibone, 2; W. Hopkinson, 3; J. Tarlton, 4; J. Atkins (conductor), 5; G. Oates, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, September 9th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 504 Grandsire Triples. A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; W. Ryland, 3; E. King, 4; J. Wager, 5; W. Hale, 6; H. G. Gardener (Gloucester, conductor), 7; T. Wright, 8. Painswick Feast is on September 23rd, and the church bells will be rang at 7 a.m., 10.30, and during the afternoon, on the occasion of the annual Sunday school anniversary. All ringers will be made welcome. The twelve bells are in good ringing order.

STROUD (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, September 8th, eight members of the above Association attempted Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but it came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. and 10 mins., owing to some persons gaining access to the church and talking at the back of the ringers. A. Trigg, 1; C. King, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Nash, 5; G. Latham, 6; F. Stephens, 7; T. Wright, 8.

TWYKESBURY.—On Thursday evening, September 6th, for practice at the Abbey, 1008 of Stedman Triples. C. W. Dyson, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; F. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; S. Cleal, 5; J. Wathen, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; T. Devereux, 8.

TWYNING.—On Sunday, September 9th, at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. F. J. Moore, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; L. Longney (conductor), 3; J. Hale, 4; T. Devereux, 5; Jno. Wathen, 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday morning, September 9th, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, three 120's of Grandsire Doubles on the front five. G. Essex, 1; H. Smith, 2; T. Newman, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; E. Menday (conductor), 5. Also for Divine Service in the evening, 360 of Canterbury Pleasure. F. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And after service, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; H. Smith, 4; E. Menday, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Thursday, September 6th, for practice at All Saints' church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. S. V. Salisbury, 1; O. Coombes, 2; W. E. Ward, 3; W. Jennings, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; A. R. Ward, 6; J. Norris, 7; A. Ward, 8.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Monday, September 10th, at the parish church, on the occasion of the wedding of the Rev. A. Du Boulay Hill, founder and first secretary of the Guild, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. D. J. Jeffery, 1; C. Privett, 2; F. Hill (conductor), 3; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 4; G. Grafham, 5; G. Passingham, 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; W. Swash, 8. Also a course of Stedman Triples by the same, excepting that C. Greenstock rang the tenor instead of W. Swash.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Thursday evening, August 30th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor. J. Harding, 1; J. Broom, 2; W. Jackson, 3; A. Cornford, 4; W. Martin (conductor), 5; W. Harper, 6. And on Thursday evening, September 6th, for Divine Service, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. L. Digweed, 1; A. Cornford, 2; G. Hayes (conductor), 3; J. Broom, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper, 6.

CHARLWOOD (Surrey).—On Sunday, September 9th, some of the Betchworth band visited this place, and rang at the parish church a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. F. Sanders, 1; F. Bridger, 2; J. Newnham, 3; W. Sadler, 4; R. Arnold, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. And 720 of Plain Bob (twenty-two singles). J. Poplett, 1; F. Sanders, 2; A. Ellis, 3; W. Sadler, 4; R. Arnold, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6.

COCKLEY (Worcestershire).—On Monday, September 10th, for practice, 240 Grandsire Minor. N. Davis, 1; G. Salter, 2; T. Salter, 3; H. Smith, 4; W. Smith, 5; H. Williams (conductor), 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor. F. Wright, 1; G. Salter, 2; W. Smith, 3; H. Smith, 4; H. Williams (conductor), 5; T. Salter, 6. First touch of Minor by N. Davis, and first 720 by H. Smith. And two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. F. Wright, 1; T. Salter (conductor), 2; W. Smith, 3; G. Salter, 4; H. Williams, 5; H. Smith, 6. F. Wright hails from Hagley.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Monday, September 10th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, 518 Grandsire Triples. G. Burt, 1; A. Arnold, 2; R. E. Pearson, 3; W. J. Chambers, 4; H. Brooker, 5; W. States (conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; A. E. Collins, 8. First 500 by R. E. Pearson.

DRAYTON (Berks).—On Saturday, September 8th, at the parish church, six courses of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. J. Brown, 1; J. W. Washbrook, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; T. Short, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; H. Fruin, 6; E. Bishop, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8.

FARNHAM (Surrey).—On Wednesday evening, September 5th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. *R. Le Clercq, *H. Garfath, 2; W. Fright, 3; A. White, 4; *J. Hawkes, 5; *C. Fry, 6; G. Lindoff (conductor), 7; *T. Spreadborough, 8. *First quarter-peal.

GRIMSBY (Lincolnshire).—On Monday evening, September 10th, at St. James's church, 120 Grandsire Doubles with 6-7-8 covering. C. Chapman, 1; W. H. Heyhoe, 2; H. Wood, 3; G. Weldon, 4; H. Fuller, 5; C. S. V. Cudbird, 6; A. Shepherd, 7; Rev. C. Claze, 8. Also 360 Grandsire Minor, with 7-8 covering. H. Fuller, 1; A. Shepherd, 2; A. Bramall, 3; W. H. Heyhoe, 4; G. Weldon, 5; D. Seamer (con-

ductor) 6; W. Lamb, 7; F. Iles, 8. The first 360 of Minor by all, and longest touch in any method by the treble, 2nd, and 4th men. All the above are members of the local company.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Thursday, September 6th, for practice at St. Nicholas church, 240 of Grandsire Minor. C. W. Miller, 1; J. Heathorn, 2; J. Jones, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; F. Bennett (conductor), 5; W. Groves, 6. Two covers by Messrs. Colburn and Sutton. And on Sunday, September 9th, before Evensong, 720 of Grandsire Doubles (six 120's called differently), in 29 mins. C. W. Miller, 1; J. Heathorn, 2; F. W. J. Rees, 3; F. Bennett, 4; W. Groves (conductor), 5. Three covers by Messrs. Jones, Stone, and Colburn. Tenor 22½ cwt.

HATFIELD (Herts).—On Sunday afternoon, September 9th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 360 of Grandsire Minor, with 7-8 covering. J. Runney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. Rowe (conductor), 5; A. Shepherd, 6; J. Kentish, 7; G. Smith, 8. Also for evening service, 240 in the same method, standing as above. And 144, with J. Richardson, 5; A. Shepherd (conductor). Also on Monday, September 10th, on handbells, 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 7-8 covering. F. Stocks, 1; G. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. Rowe (conductor), 5-6; G. Smith, 7-8. First 720 on handbells by the local band. And several plain courses of Grandsire Triples. J. Hollingsworth, 1-2; J. Shepherd, 3-4; H. Rowe, 5-6; W. Powers, 7-8. Also 120 of Grandsire Doubles. *J. Hollingsworth (conductor), 1; J. Shepherd, 2; H. Rowe, 3-4; W. Powers, 5-6. *First time as conductor.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, September 9th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. W. King (first 720), 1; J. Hannington, 2; T. Card, 3; A. Howell, 4; G. Griffin, 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6. After service a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 27 mins. T. Card (first 720 in the method), 1; T. Titchener, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; A. Howell, 4; G. Griffin, 5; G. B. Lucas, 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty bobs and twenty singles), in 27 mins. G. B. Lucas, 1; T. Card, 2; G. Griffin, 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; T. Titchener, 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. T. Card (first 120 in the method), 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; G. Griffin, 3; G. B. Lucas, 4; T. Titchener, 5; A. Howell, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Sunday morning, September 2nd, at the parish church, for Divine Service, 1030 of Grandsire Triples in 38 mins. J. Bennett, 1; T. Bennett, 2; G. Salter, 3; J. Bennett, 4; T. Salter, 5; J. Crane, 6; H. Williams (conductor), 7; T. Walters, 8. And on Wednesday, September 5th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. J. Bennett, 1; H. Williams, 2; G. Salter, 3; H. Smith, 4; T. Salter (conductor), 5; T. Bennett, 6; J. Crane, 7; J. Bennett, 8. Also 420 of Bob Triples. J. Bennett, 1; T. Bennett, 2; J. Bennett, jun., 3; R. E. Grove, 4; J. Crane, 5; T. Salter, 6; H. Williams (conductor), 7; T. Walters, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. And on handbells, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, rang without the bobs being called. T. Salter, 1-2; H. Williams, 3-4; J. Crane, 5-6.

LIVERPOOL.—On Monday, August 27th, at St. Luke's church, an attempt was made for Thurstans' peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to the excessive heat the bells were brought round at half-way (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 25 mins. C. H. Hattersley (conductor), 1; R. S. Mann, 2; J. R. Pritchard, 3; W. James, 4; T. Hammond, 5; J. Aspinwall, 6; G. Fisher, 7; W. Davies, 8. *Handbell Ringing.*—On Sunday, August 26th, at the house of J. R. Pritchard, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 1-2; J. Aspinwall, 3-4; J. Martin (first 720), 5-6. On Monday, September 10th, at the house of Mr. Pritchard, an attempt was made to ring Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples. All went well until the seventh part, when a change-course occurred and the bells were stopped after ringing 3528 changes, in 1 hr. 48 mins. J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 1-2; J. Aspinwall, 3-4; T. Hammond, 5-6; W. Davies, 7-8. Umpire, George Fisher.

NORTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, September 2nd, at St. James's church, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. G. Butcher, 1; J. Goucher, 2; J. Atkin, 3; J. Widdowson, 4; J. Allen, 5; J. Harris (conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt. J. Harris hails from Staveley and J. Widdowson from Moor Top farm, late of Staveley.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, September 9th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Stedman Slow Course Minor in 28 mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; W. Baddeley, 5; J. Wood (conductor), 6.

PRESTWICH (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, September 9th, after Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Hardman, 1; R. Fitton, 2; J. Gratrix, 3; J. Brookes, 4; H. Percival, 5; W. Warburton, 6. Gratrix hails from Manchester, Warburton from Whitefield; the rest belong to the local company.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—On Monday, September 3rd, at the parish church, for practice, 324 of London Single (twelve bobs). J. Bailey, 1; E. Chapman, 2; G. Burton, 3; W. A. Hall (conductor), 4; F. Clayton, 5; C. West, 6. Also 360 of College Little (nine bobs). J. Bailey, 1; G. Heath, 2; G. Burton, 3; C. West, 4; J. Martin, 5; E. Chapman (conductor), 6. And 360 of Oxford Treble Bob (three bobs). F. Clayton, 1; G. Heath, 2; G. Burton, 3; C. West, 4; E. Chapman, 5; W. A. Hall (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, September 4th, 720 of London Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Bailey, 1; G. Heath, 2; G. Burton, 3; E. Chapman, 4; F. Clayton, 5; W. A. Hall (conductor), 6. *Handbell Ringing.*—On Friday, September 7th, 224 of Bob Triples. A. Clayton, 1; J. Martin, 2; W. Lewis, 3; E. Chapman, 4; C. West, 5; G. Heath, 6; W. A. Hall (conductor), 7-8. Also 360 of London Single. J. Bailey, 1; A. Clayton, 2; E. Chapman, 3-4; W. A. Hall, 5-6. And on Sunday, September 9th, 360 of Oxford Bob (eighteen bobs and twelve singles). J. Bailey, 1; G. Heath, 2; W. Lewis, 3; A. Clayton, 4; F. Clayton, 5; E. Chapman (conductor), 6. Also 360 of London Single. J. Bailey, 1; G. Heath, 2; F. Clayton, 3; A. Clayton, 4; W. Lewis, 5; E. Chapman (conductor), 6. And on Monday, September 10th, for practice at the parish church, 324 of London Single. J. Bailey, 1; F. Clayton, 2; W. A. Hall (conductor), 3; F. Green, 4; G. Burton, 5; C. West, 6. Also 360 of Bob Minor. J. Bailey, 1; C. West, 2; G. Heath, 3; W. A. Hall (conductor), 4; G. Burton, 5; F. Clayton, 6. And 360 of College Little. J. Bailey, 1; G. Burton, 2; W. Lewis, 3; G. Heath, 4; W. Pettit, 5; W. A. Hall (conductor), 6. Tenor 20 cwt. in E. Messrs. Martin and Pettitt hail from Higham Ferrers.

TAMWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday afternoon, September 9th, for Divine Service at St. Editha's church, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, in 48 mins. A. Everitt, 1; J. Timms (conductor), 2; †R. Brindley, 3; G. Woods, 4; F. Chapman, 5; C. Chapman, 6; H. Slaney, 7; *W. Chapman, 8. *First quarter-peal. †First quarter-peal with a bob bell.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, September 9th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 360 of Bob Minor. S. Jesson, 1; W. R. Small, 2; A. H. Hill, 3; H. Mills, 4; G. Hughes (conductor), 5; W. Pardoe, 6. Also 408 of Stedman Triples. H. Mills, 1; W. Pardoe, 2; E. Goodreds, 3; W. R. Small, 4; A. H. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. Cheshire, 8. And 224 of Bob Major. E. Goodreds, 1; W. Cheshire, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; H. Mills, 4; A. H. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. R. Small, 8. Also for evening service, 1076 of Grandsire Triples. W. Horton, 1; A. H. Hill (conductor), 2; B. Gough, 3; H. Mills, 4; W. Cheshire, 5; E. Goodreds, 6; G. Hughes, 7; W. Reynolds, 8. Messrs. Cheshire, Gough, and Horton, hail from Coseley.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Sussex).—On Friday, August 17th, at the church of St. Peter in-the-Fields, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 40 mins. *R. Pelling, 1; J. Baker, 2; *E. Mankelow, 3; W. Latter, 4; G. Turley, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; *G. Kember, 7; *A. Kember, 8. Messrs. Pelling, Baker, and Turley hail from Speldhurst, and G. F. Attree from Brighton. *First quarter-peal.

TWYFORD (Hants).—On Tuesday, September 4th, at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 24½ mins. C. Hawkins, 1; H. White, 2; G. Brown, jun., 3; W. West, 4; J. Whiting, 5; F. Hewlett (conductor), 6. The above and several other touches were rung on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. G. Shirfield, formerly a member of the local company. Also on Sunday, September 9th, for Divine Service, several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. C. Hawkins, 1; G. Smith, 2; W. West, 3; F. Hewlett, 4; W. Neville, 5; G. Brown, 6.

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN (Gloucestershire).—On Monday, September 3rd, for practice at St. Mary's church, 1260 of Grandsire Doubles in 45 mins. E. Bullock, 1; G. Pincott, 2; J. Gleed, 3; W. Gleed, 4; T. Hart (conductor), 5; F. Wood, 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

WHITCHURCH (Salop).—On Sunday, September 9th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 350 of Grandsire Triples. E. Langford, 1; R. T. Holding, 2; J. Gibson, 3; F. Ryder, 4; G. Wright, 5; G. Woodhall (conductor), 6; T. Barron, 7; W. Barron, 8. Also for evening service, six courses of Grandsire Triples. R. Welch Marbury, 1; J. Gibson, 2; J. Morris, 3; F. Ryder, 4; R. T. Holding, 5; G. Woodhall (conductor), 6; T. Barron, 7; W. Barron, 8. And on Monday evening, September 10th, for the usual weekly practice, two 120's of Grandsire Doubles. *W. Barron, 1; J. Morris, 2; G. Wright, 3; G. Woodhall, 4; R. T. Holding, 5; T. Barron, 6. *First attempt with the treble. Also a plain course of Kent Treble Bob Minor. F. Ryder, 1; G. Wright, 2; J. Gibson, 3; T. Barron, 4; T. Holding, 5; G. Woodhall, 6. And two plain courses of Stedman Triples. *E. Langford, 1; J. Gibson, 2; G. Wright, 3; F. Ryder, 4; R. T. Holding, 5; G. Woodhall, 6; T. Barron, 7; W. Barron, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. *First attempt at Stedman, and was rung at the third attempt.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, September 1st, 1888, the St. Martin's Society of Tipton had their annual outing, Hanbury, Worcestershire, a village a few miles from Bromsgrove, being the place selected. A start from the church was made at 7.45 a.m. in a waggonette, a few of the ringers taking their wives with them. The route taken was through Oldbury, Harborne, and Selly Oak, each church containing a peal of eight, and through the famous Lickey Hills, reaching Bromsgrove at 10 o'clock, where they were met by several of the local ringers. A short stay was made at this place for refreshments and to give the horses a rest. They were here joined by Mr. H. Martin, of Bellbroughton, and Mr. G. Hayward, of Bromsgrove, and Hanbury was reached at 11.30, after a beautiful ride away from the black country smoke. Reaching the church of St. Mary the Virgin, permission having been previously obtained from the Rector, the Rev. C. W. N. Ogilvy, to ring, they were met by Mr. A. Moore with the keys, and a touch of 1008 Bob Major was rung. Alfred Moore, 1; George Hayward, 2; Harry Mills, 3; Edward Goodreds, 4; Henry Martin, 5; Samuel Jesson, 6; George Hughes (conductor), 7; William R. Small, 8. Afterwards some of the party betook themselves to the top of the tower, where a splendid view of the country for miles around was obtained, the church standing on the top of a high hill. A stroll to the village through the fields brought them to the "Compasses" inn, and a few courses were rung on the handbells. Ample justice having been done to a good knife and fork tea the company again adjourned to the tower and rang 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Martin, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; G. Hayward (conductor), 3; H. Mills, 4; A. H. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes, 7; A. Moore, 8. Falling the bells, which are a nice peal, tenor about 14 cwt the party got on the road again calling once more at Bromsgrove, and rung two courses of Plain Bob Royal. E. Crump, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; H. Mills, 3; O. James, 4; A. H. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes, 7; W. R. Small, 8; H. Martin, 9; W. Rea, 10. And a course of Grandsire Caters, with G. Hayward ringing the 4th. Taking a farewell of their Bromsgrove friends they started again on the road, and arrived home at a good hour after a day's enjoyment and pleasure.

ST. SEPULCHRE, SNOW HILL.

Apropos of your article on the tolling of the bell at St. Sepulchre's for executions, allow me to add the following remarks. St. Sepulchre's tower contains a ring of ten bells, tenor 32 cwt. All were originally cast by Samuel Knight, of Reading (afterwards of St. Andrew's parish, Holborn), in 1739. The treble was recast by Thomas Mears, sen., in 1807, and the seventh by him in 1804. The sixth was recast by Thomas Mears, jun. in 1830, as was also the tenor, which is thus inscribed: "T. Mears of London fecit. Joseph Hearn, Thos. Henry Fenton and Charles Thos. Dupree, churchwardens. Recast 1830." Of the remaining bells of Knight's, the second is un-inscribed; the third, fourth, fifth and eighth have simply "S X K X 1739" on them. The ninth has this record: "Samuel Knight cast us all, and Robert Catlin made the frame and hung us all, 1739."

Tablets in the belfry record the following performances: 5200 Oxford Treble Bob Royal by Society of Eastern Scholars, April 7th, 1741. Also on May 30th, 1741, 5000 Union Bob Royal, by College Youths. Below this tablet is:—

"When merits justly due, a little praise then serveth;
A good peal needs no frame, a bad one none deserveth."

Other tablets record 5111 Grandsire Caters, by Junior Cumberlanders, December 10th, 1793; and 5056 Stedman Caters, by the St. James's Society, January 24th, 1857. J. R. J.

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL.

The committee which is collecting funds for the restoration of the Bristol bishopric has issued a report showing that nearly two-thirds of the whole amount required has been subscribed or promised. The total so far amounts to upwards of £40,000, this sum including an anonymous donation of £10,000. The church-women's branch has subscribed more than £2,000, and £1,000 has been realised as interest on investments. The committee make an earnest appeal for additional subscriptions.

ST. PETER'S NEW CHURCH, WOOTON, NEAR LIVERPOOL.

On Saturday afternoon, September 8th, the members of St. Peter's cathedral church, Liverpool, by the kind invitation of A. S. Mather, Esq., churchwarden, had the pleasure of trying the new ring of eight, tenor one ton, cast by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, when touches of Grandsire, Stedman, and Treble Bob Major were rung. Great credit is due to the founders for the excellent manner in which they have done their work, the "go" of the bells being everything that can be desired, and the tone of them is much admired by the parishioners. The following members were present: Richard Williams, Robert Williams, Charles Williams, Henry Meadows, Edwin Booth, William Booth, John Brown, Thomas Hammond, William Woodhead, and Richard Diggle. These bells are now silent until the Harvest Festival, early in October. A young company has been formed, and Mr. Robert Williams appointed instructor. After partaking of refreshments at the "Elephant" hotel, the company strolled through the lanes to the ancient parish church of Childwall, and rang on the grand peal of six a 720 of Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. R. Williams, 1; E. Booth, 2; C. Williams, 3; W. Booth (conductor), 4; J. Brown, 3; T. Hammond, 6. After an hour's enjoyment at the old Abbey the company wended their way home, all highly pleased with their outing.

VISIT OF THE ST. MARGARET'S (KING'S LYNN) SOCIETY TO CROMER ST. PETER'S.

On Saturday, September 8th, eight members of this Society, with their respected captain, Mr. George Holland, paid a visit to this lovely little town, for the purpose of having a ring on Cromer's musical bells. The party reached Cromer at 2.45. They were met at the station by Mr. W. Lee, late captain of the St. Nicholas' company, Yarmouth, and after a stroll on the beach and refreshing the inner man the party rang a 720 of Bob Minor (thirty-bobs and two singles). W. Brown, 1; E. Lockwood (aged 79 years), 2; W. Lee (conductor), 3; J. Dodman, 4; W. G. Cross, 5; G. Holland, 6. The two last-named are members of the Eastern Counties Guild. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G. Several touches of Treble Bob Minor were also rung, assisted by Messrs. W. Curston, T. Giles and W. Crome, who rang the 4th bell in turns. The company then left the tower, and after bidding good-bye to their old and esteemed friend, Mr. Lee, whom they hope to see shortly and to always welcome at Lynn, proceeded to the station, reaching Lynn at 10 p.m., after having thoroughly enjoyed their outing. Several touches of Treble Bob Major and Bob Major were rung on the handbells both going to Cromer and also on the return journey. The company take this opportunity of thanking the Rev. F. Fitch, Vicar, for the use of the bells, and also the steeplekeeper, for having the bells raised and ready for ringing.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A ringing meeting of this Association will be held at Clent, near Stourbridge, on Saturday, September 22nd, 1888, to which all members and ringing friends are invited. The tower of St. Leonard's, Clent (six bells), and St. John's, Hagley (eight bells) will be open for ringing, through the kindness of the Vicar and Rector respectively. Tea will be provided at a reasonable price at "Fair View," Adam's Hill, Clent, for all who wish to partake of same. Members to take this as sufficient notice.

JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

37, Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

In accordance with the result of the vote taken at the last annual meeting, the next annual meeting will be held at Bolton, on Saturday, October 13th, 1888. Further particulars later.

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

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE
MAJOR.By HENRY DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

6048.

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

This peal contains the whole of the changes of the 4th, 5th, and 6th in 5-6, and is obtained by the use of only three bobs home with the 6th in that position. Like other peals of its class, if the home bobs bracketed are omitted, this peal is reduced to 5152 changes. By calling a before in the thirteenth course, the seventeenth course-end of the original peal is brought up, and a peal of 5056 changes is obtained. Again, by calling a before in the 4th course, the 8th course-end of the original peal is brought up, and another peal of 5056 changes is obtained, and in this latter case the whole of the changes with the 6th at home is retained. It is also noteworthy that the 2nd and 3rd are never in 6ths place at course-ends in either peal.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By SAMUEL MARSH, *Westbromwich.*

5024.

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

This peal has the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent in 6ths place; the 2nd never there at a course-end; the 5th and 6th each nine times in 5ths. The three middle bells are their extent together in 4-5-6, and 2-3 their extent together before, and is thought to be the first 5024 in fourteen courses having these properties, and has not yet been rung.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

5290.

2 1 3 4 5 6	7	12	13	16	18	20
2 1 3 4 6 5	7	12	13	16	18	20
2 1 5 3 6 4	-	-	-	16	-	-
2 1 4 5 6 3	-	-	-	16	-	-
4 1 2 3 6 5	-	-	5	16	-	-
4 1 5 2 6 3	-	-	-	16	-	-
5 1 4 3 6 2	-	-	5	16	-	-
5 1 2 4 6 3	-	-	-	16	-	-
5 1 3 2 6 4	-	-	-	16	-	-
3 1 5 4 6 2	-	-	5	16	-	-
3 1 2 5 6 4	-	-	-	16	-	-
3 1 4 2 6 5	-	-	-	16	-	-
4 1 3 5 6 2	-	-	5	16	-	-
4 1 3 2 6 5	s5	-	-	16	-	-
4 1 5 3 6 2	-	-	-	16	-	-
4 1 2 5 6 3	-	-	-	16	-	-
2 1 4 3 6 5	-	-	5	16	-	-
2 1 5 4 6 3	-	-	-	16	-	-
5 1 2 3 6 4	-	-	5	16	-	-
5 1 4 2 6 3	-	-	-	16	-	-
5 1 3 4 6 2	-	-	-	16	-	-
3 1 5 2 6 4	-	-	5	16	-	-
3 1 4 5 6 2	-	-	-	16	-	-
3 1 2 4 6 5	-	-	-	16	-	-
2 1 3 5 6 4	-	-	5	16	-	-

These twenty-four courses repeated, except first, instead call 1, 9, 13, 14, 16, which produces 513462, when the following calls bring round: 1, 5, 7, 8, 9s, 15s 18. This peal has the 6th forty-eight courses behind the 9th. By calling from the forty-sixth course-end as follows: 1, 7, 8, 9s, 15, 18, the peal is reduced to 5074. First half in 9-7-8s; second half in 9-8-7s.

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES.

By W. F. HARTSHORNE, *Brierley Hill.*

5040.

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

Five times repeated. Single for bob at the end of the third and sixth parts.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE
MAJOR.By CHARLES PRICE, *Eccleston.*

5184.

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

Twice repeated.

This is the only three-part peal of London ever composed with bobs before throughout.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By THOMAS POLLITT, *Bradford.*

5003.

2 3 4 5 6	
4 2 3 5 6	7 in and out at 3
3 4 2 5 6	9 in 3
5 4 6 3 2	8 in 2 and 7 8
4 3 6 5 2	8 in 2 and 8 9
3 5 6 4 2	8 in 2 and 8 9
4 5 2 3 6	8 in 2 and 7 8
5 3 2 4 6	8 in 2 and 8 9
2 5 3 4 6	9 in 3
3 2 5 4 6	9 in 3
4 2 6 3 5	8 in 2 and 7 8
2 3 6 4 5	8 in 2 and 8 9
3 4 6 2 5	8 in 2 and 8 9
2 4 5 3 6	8 in 2 and 7 8
4 3 5 2 6	8 in 2 and 8 9
5 4 3 2 6	9 in 3
3 5 4 2 6	9 in 3
2 5 6 3 4	8 in 2 and 7 8
5 3 6 2 4	8 in 2 and 8 9
3 2 6 5 4	8 in 2 and 8 9
5 2 4 3 6	8 in 2 and 7 8
4 3 2 5 6	8 in 2 and 8 9s
2 4 3 5 6	9 in 3
3 2 4 5 6	9 in 3
5 2 6 3 4	8 in 2 and 7 8
2 3 6 5 4	8 in 2 and 8 9
3 5 6 2 4	8 in 2 and 8 9
2 5 4 3 6	8 in 2 and 7 8
5 3 4 2 6	8 in 2 and 8 9
4 5 3 2 6	9 in 3
3 4 5 2 6	9 in 3
2 4 6 3 5	8 in 2 and 7 8
4 3 6 2 5	8 in 2 and 8 9
3 2 6 4 5	8 in 2 and 8 7
4 2 5 3 6	8 in 2 and 7 8
2 3 5 4 6	8 in 2 and 8 7
5 2 3 4 6	9 in 3
3 5 2 4 6	9 in 3
4 5 6 3 2	8 in 2 and 7 8
5 3 6 4 2	8 in 2 and 8 9
3 4 6 5 2	8 in 2 and 8 9
5 4 2 3 6	8 in 2 and 7 8
2 3 4 5 6	8 in 2 and 8 9s
6 5 3 2 4	8 in 2
5 2 3 6 4	8 in 2 and 8 9
2 6 3 5 4	8 in 2 and 8 9
4 5 6 2 3	8 in 2
6 4 5 2 3	9 in 3
3 2 4 6 5	8 in 2
2 6 4 3 5	8 in 2 and 8 9
6 3 4 2 5	8 in 2 and 8 9
4 6 3 2 5	9 in 3
6 2 3 4 5	8 in 2 and 8 9
2 4 3 6 5	8 in 2 and 8 9
4 2 3 6 5	9 in and out at 2 & 9 8
1 3 5 7 2 9 4 8 6	8 in 3

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield.*

5360

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

Repeated.

For several days past the church clock at Harpenden has refused to work. On an inspection being made, it was found that a swarm of bees had taken up their abode among the works.

EXCURSION TO THE MIDLAND COUNTIES.

On Saturday, August 18th, Messrs. G. Newson and A. Jacob, two well-known prominent members of the Society of Royal Cumberlands, paid a visit to Burton-on-Trent. Mr. Jacob thus describes the incidents of the tour:—

"Arriving at Burton we soon made our way to the residence of Mr. W. Wakley, and were fortunate enough to find that gentleman at home. We were soon having a chat together over the tea-table, and after tea we very quickly got into the company of the noted Burton ringers. At 10.25 on Sunday morning we met at St. Paul's, and rang a touch of Superlative Surprise. In the evening, for Divine Service, we rung a touch of London Surprise, and also a touch of Cambridge Surprise in the Burton variation. On Monday morning Mr. J. Griffin escorted us to several of the most interesting places in the neighbourhood. In the evening an attempt was made for a peal of Superlative, but it unfortunately came to grief after ringing 80 minutes. A touch of London Surprise was then rung. Tuesday morning we took train for Derby, and having arrived there we soon found the church of All Saints, whose tower I should think is one of the finest in Derbyshire. We were not able to ring on the fine peal of ten, so we walked on to Duffield, the way there being through a splendid part of the county. Arriving there we were much disappointed to find that the Squire was from home, but we must take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Heywood for his kindness in providing a guide to show us over the grounds, and point out the interesting features of his estate. In the evening an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing beyond midway, it came to grief.

"On Wednesday morning we returned to Derby by another road, and booked from thence to Barrow-on-Soar, that station being the nearest to Quorndon, where Messrs. Taylor and Son, the well-known bellfounders of Loughborough, and their men, welcomed us into the village by a touch on the back six. All being ready on our arrival in the tower, we were soon in the depths of a peal of Treble Bob Major, which was successfully brought round, and duly published in our own paper. Leaving Quorndon Mr. J. W. Taylor drove us to Loughborough, and we were soon ringing on the grand peal of ten at All Saints' church, a peal of Stedman Caters being accomplished in 3 hrs. 22 mins., the second peal we had rung the same afternoon. The company then adjourned to the "Bull's Head" hotel, being invited to supper thereto by J. Cartwright Esq. (Churchwarden) in honour of his wedding. The usual loyal, patriotic, and complimentary toasts having been satisfactorily disposed of, Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., proposed "The Health of Mr. and Mrs. Cartwright" in felicitous and appropriate terms. This toast being heartily drunk, Mr. Cartwright in responding said that the hearty manner in which the toast had been received gave him much pleasure. Although not a ringer himself, it always pleased him to be in their company. He should be glad to do all in his power for the benefit of their art. He then proposed "The Visitors," which was responded to by Mr. Newson. The remainder of the evening was spent in pleasant harmony. I may add that Mr. Cartwright has promised a peal-tablet to record the peal of Stedman Caters.

"On Thursday morning we visited the bellfoundry of Messrs. Taylor, and were much interested in all we saw. Mr. Taylor had kindly arranged for a day's ringing at Leicester, and we enjoyed a ten-miles drive to that town from Loughborough. Arriving at Leicester our first pull was at St. Saviour's, a nice peal of eight bells, tenor 26 cwt. From here we went to St. Mark's, a peal of eight, tenor 23 cwt., and thence to St. Margaret's, a peal of ten, tenor 30 cwt. From Leicester we went to Belgrade, and assisted at the opening of a peal of bells, tenor 14 cwt., augmented to eight by Messrs. Taylor and Son. Here touches of Treble Bob Major and Grandsire and Stedman Triples brought our ringing to a close. We wish to thank the clergy of the various churches for their kindness in granting permission to ring, and also all those gentlemen who so kindly assisted to make our outing so enjoyable."

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THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.

The members of the above Society held their second annual outing at Beddington, on Saturday last, September 8th, when, being favoured with fine weather, a very enjoyable afternoon was spent. About 2.45 p.m. the following members met at Victoria Station and journeyed to Beddington: Messrs. Newton (Master), J. M. Hayes, Oxborrow, Willshire, Pryor, Ellis, H. S. Ellis, Duff, McLaughlin, and Gohns (Secretary), where they were met by Mr. Mash (St. Saviour's, Southwark), R. T. Woodley, Dr. Carpenter and Mr. Russell (Croydon), Messrs. J. Plow and Trappitt, and a strong contingent of the St. Mary's Society. After ringing several touches of Grandsire Triples and Stedman Caters, an adjournment was made to the "Plough," and nineteen members and friends sat down to tea, under the presidency of Mr. Newton, Mr. Gohns occupying the vice-chair.

After tea, and before re-assembling at the tower for another touch, a very pleasant ceremony had to be performed, viz.: the presentation of a massive gold pin, bell-shape, and engraved with a suitable inscription (subscribed for by the members) to Mr. J. M. Hayes, "as a slight token of their friendship, and as a mark of their appreciation of his valuable services and advice as instructor to the Society."

Mr. GOHNS, after roughly sketching, for the benefit of the uninitiated, the causes which led to this pleasant ceremony, called upon Mr. Newton, on behalf of the Society, to make the presentation.

Mr. HAYES, in a few well-chosen sentences, thanked the members for their kind present, which had taken him completely by surprise, and for the kind feeling which had prompted it, and assured them of the pleasure it afforded him to know the respect and friendship in which he was held by the members, and, as they well knew, his services were always at their disposal to promote the interests of the Society.

After the presentation three more touches were rung, and a very enjoyable concert, in which the following gentlemen took part, brought the evening to a close. Songs were sung by Messrs. Pryor, Trappitt, Duff, Woodley, Gordon, Russell, Newton, and Mash. A touch of Grandsire Caters was rung on the handbells by Messrs. — Oxborrow, 1-2; — Newton, 3-4; — McLaughlin, 5-6; J. M. Hayes, 7-8; H. Ellis, 9-10. And a touch of Grandsire Triples by members of the St. Mary's Society. The health of the visitors was proposed by Mr. Gohns, coupled with the name of Dr. Carpenter.

Dr. CARPENTER, in reply, assured the members, on behalf of the visitors and himself, the pleasure it had afforded them to be present on that occasion, and the very pleasant evening they had spent together.

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Mr. S. Longstaff, Pudsey	0 1 0
The Society of change-ringers and handbell ringers, Liversedge, per Mr. L. Illingworth	1 1 1

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

THE NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Eccleston, by the kind permission of the rector, on Saturday, September 15th. The tower will be open for ringing from 2 p.m. Business meeting in the schoolroom at 5 p.m.

57 Chorley Road, Blackrod.

JAMES HIGSON, Sec.

BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The members of the above Society will hold their next quarterly meeting at the "Swan" Hotel, Edmund Street, Birmingham, on Monday, October 1st, at 8 p.m., when most important business will be brought forward.

W. BROOK, Sec.

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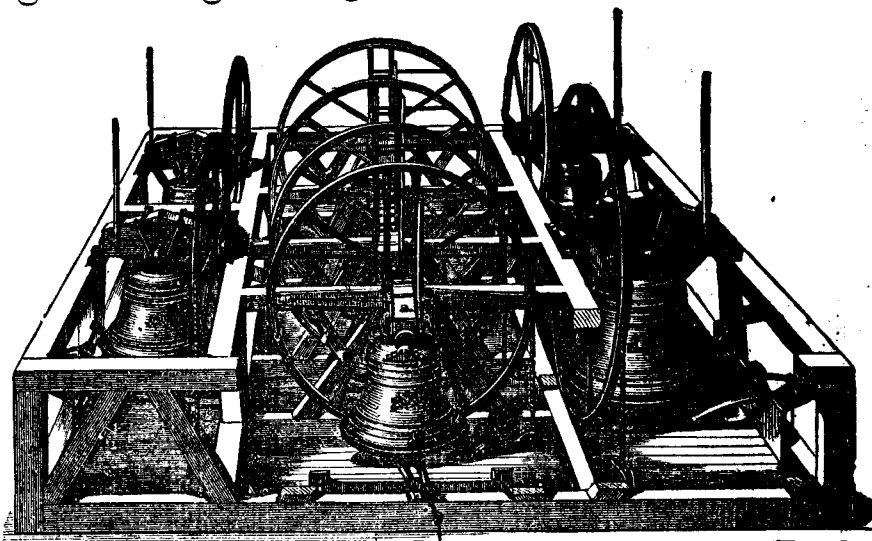
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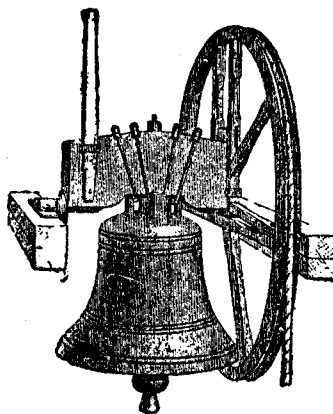
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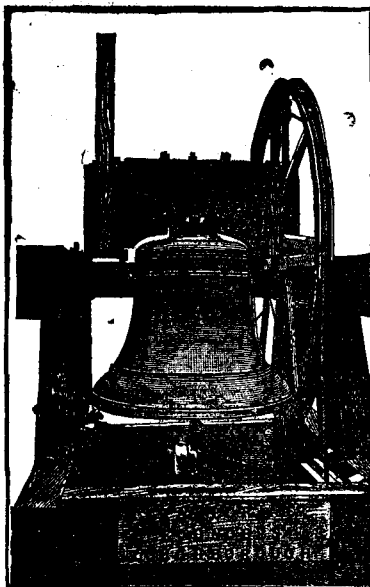
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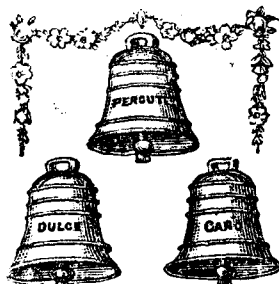
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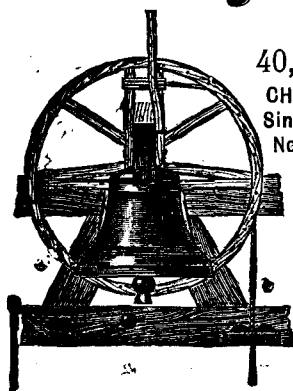
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No. 338.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1888.

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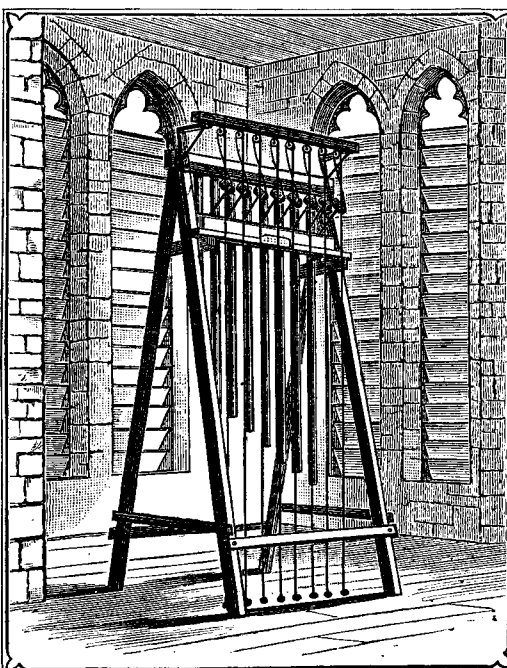
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DEDICATION OF PIPE-CUM-LYDE BELLS.

A very interesting service was held at the Church of St. Peter, Pipe-cum-Lyde, on Friday, September 14th, when the bells, which have been recently placed in position in the tower, were solemnly dedicated to their office. There were originally four bells, which having long been in use had become worn and ill-toned, and those have been renovated, re-tuned, and fitted with new clappers and apparatus for ringing. Two new bells have been supplied: these first of these, the treble, being given by a former vicar, the Rev. Preb. F. T. Havergal, in memory of his sister, Miss M. V. G. Havergal, sister of the well-known writer of sacred poetry, &c., to whose memory Mr. Havergal has dedicated a bell in the church of his present parish of Upton Bishop. The tenor bell bears the inscription, in old English characters—

In Memoriam; M. V. G. H., A. D., 1817, D. D.
Francis T. Havergal, Vicar, 1861—1874.

The second bell was partly intended as a memorial of Her Majesty's Jubilee, and bears in plain modern letters—

"Gloria in excelsis Deo."
Victoria, 1887.
James Brown, Vicar.
J. Bosley, } Churchwardens.
W. Jay, }
Jubilate.

The total cost of the bells was £207 10s. 6d., towards which £185 11s. 2d. had been received, leaving a balance of £21 19s. 4d. to be obtained. The new bells were cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel foundry. At the service on Friday £8 10s. 7d. was collected, which further reduced the debt. For this special service the church had been profusely decorated. The pulpit was showy with an elaborate arrangement of geraniums, marguerites and ferns; the steps behind, which led to the gallery now taken down, were covered with the feathery foliage of asparagus and spikes of scarlet gladioli and rushes. The chancel was decked with ferns, marguerites, and sunflowers, and the bases of the windows were decorated in the same way. The font was filled with beautiful white water lilies, and tastefully arranged round it were mosses and ferns, with coloured foliage and white Japanese anemones. The clergy present were: The Lord Bishop, the Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Hereford, the Rev. J. Brown (vicar), the Revs. R. Muckleston, R.D. (Dinedor), W. D. V. Duncombe (Custos of the College, Hereford), H. St. John (Dinmore), G. W. Voysey (Wellington), Donald Tait (Trowbridge), R. Powell (Withington), Preb. F. T. Havergal (Upton Bishop), C. H. Taylor (Moreton), T. H. Clutton-Brock (Marden), and J. Morgan (Holmer). The vicar had also received letters expressing regret for unavoidable absence from other clergy. The first part of the prayers was intoned by the Rev. J. Brown, the vicar, and the second part by the Rev. Preb. F. T. Havergal. The first lesson, from Numbers 10th chap., 1st to 10th verses, was read by the Dean, and the second, Rev. 5th chap., 8th verse, by the Rev. R. Muckleston. The psalms were 81, 148, 149, and 150, and after the third collect a hymn, appropriate to the occasion, commencing

"Now, at length, our bells are mounted,"

was sung with evident appreciation by the congregation. After this, the Bishop walked to the west end of the church—where, under the tower were the ringers—and read several prayers referring to the mission of the bells in calling to prayer, and announcing marriages and deaths, and asking for grace for the ringers. At the close of these supplications a short touch was rung on the bells, and the Bishop then ascended the pulpit. His Lordship preached a most interesting and edifying sermon from exodus. chapter 39, verse 43, "And Moses looked upon all the work, and behold they had done it; as the Lord commanded them even so had they done it, and Moses blessed them." This was in reference to the building of the tabernacle, and his lordship pointed out the marvellous amount of detail put before them as to the materials used in its erection. There was to be nothing common or second-rate used. From this he thought it likely that the late Bishop Wordsworth was quite right in considering that it was meant as a lesson to us as to how we should treat the houses of God, their services, and all connected with them. He had come amongst them that afternoon to rejoice with them on the completion of the work they had in hand, a work which was begun in faith, carried on in prayer, and completed with thankfulness to Him who had inspired them with a

desire to glorify his house, and consecrated that day by the high office of thanksgiving and praise. In that service there was nothing superstitious. Time was in England when, as now in countries where less pure forms of Christianity prevailed, on such an occasion as that an elaborate ceremony would be used. The bells would be consecrated, anointed, and baptised with the name of some saints, and blessed by the bishop. But it was good that some public acknowledgment of that addition to the church should be made, some solemn dedication to God of these bells, something to remind them that they were church bells, and therefore not to be thoughtlessly employed. The Bishop, in the course of his sermon, gave an eloquent description of the various uses of the bells. Taking the inscription on the mouths of the bells at Strasburg, now familiar to all our readers, he spoke of the mission of the bells in each of these duties, dwelling with feeling on the associations called up by the passing bell. He exhorted the ringers to remember that when they rang they were engaged in a religious duty, and concluded by speaking of the sweetness of the sound of a peal of bells. The service concluded with hymn 303 A. & M., "When morning gilds the skies."

THE DEVONPORT BRANCH OF THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

This Society, which was re-organised about five months ago, had its first annual outing on Saturday, September 8th, the place selected being Tavistock. All bands in union with this Guild are enabled to enjoy an outing every year, their travelling expenses being paid out of the funds of the Guild. The Hon. Secretary of the Guild (the Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote) having obtained the permission of the Vicar of Tavistock to ring, the party proceeded thither at 2.0 p.m. by South Western railway. Arriving at their destination, the first business was to place themselves under the hands of Mr. Allsford, one of their members, to be photographed in group. This was effectively done in front of the church porch. The ringing-chamber being gained, a touch of Grandsire Triples, 210 changes, was rung to try the bells. They are a splendid peal of eight, and go very fairly, in fact with two at the tenor (which weighs 28 cwt.) they are pealable. A start was then made for a quarter-peal in the same method by E. Cross, 1; G. Broderick, 2; A. Richards, 3; J. Steed, 4; W. Marsh (conductor), 5; W. Pine, 6; J. Eastabrook, 7; W. Condy, 8; but after ringing 840 changes, a mistake occurred. Another attempt was then made, and a "shift" again happened after 600 had been rung. A move was then made to the Temperance Hotel, where "high tea" had previously been ordered. Arriving there, and host Sheppard having got everything in readiness, "go" was called, and a capital start was made, the changes being well struck for at least half-an-hour, but whether the guests found the metal too heavy for them, or the oil (in the form of Devonshire cream) became too cloggy, cannot, says our deponent, be correctly ascertained, but it is a fact that at that period they began to look terribly fagged, and came to a sudden stop without the conductor calling "stand." A retreat was then made to the tower, where 420 of Grandsire Triples was rung, with Private E. Bampton, O.S.C. at the treble, E. Hendry, 3; A. Richards, 7. Then some call-changes by the juniors—Messrs. Manning, Allsford, Murch, C. Richards, Friend, and Batten. The local ringers being then assembled, the Devonport secretary handed to them copies of the annual reports of the Guild, given him for that purpose by the Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote. He urged them and also the Whitchurch band (a tower one-and-a-half miles from Tavistock) to join the Guild. An early train was then taken advantage of by the party, who arrived home at 10.0 p.m., great satisfaction being felt at the result of the first outing of the Devonport branch of the Devonshire Guild.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

The next ringing meeting of the Rossendale Branch will take place on Saturday, September 22nd, at St. Thomas's church, Helmshore. Bells ready at 2.30; meeting at 6.30.

J. T. STOTT, Local Sec.

FINEDON CHURCH BELLS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

Finedon Feast has come round once more, and the ringers, as usual, announced the entry upon "Feast Sunday" with well-struck peals on the church bells. A few particulars concerning the bells may perhaps prove interesting. The musical ring of six now hanging in the beautiful tower of the church of St. Mary, were recast from the ancient bells in the year 1825, the tenor being again recast fifty years later. The old tenor weighed 19 cwt., but the present fine-toned bell weighs 24 cwt., and is full heavy for the front bells; it would make an excellent "cover" for a peal of eight or ten. Formerly the bells hung in two frames, but they are now placed all together in the bell-chamber proper. Below are the inscriptions as given in North's "Church Bells of Northamptonshire":—

Treble.—Ex dono Gilbert Dolben Armiger, 1688. Recast 1825. Call a solemn assembly. W. and J. Taylor, Founders, Oxford. Thomas Boddington and Peter Smith, Churchwardens. Diameter 34 in.

Second.—Holiness unto the Lord. Recast by W. and J. Taylor, Oxford, 1825. Thomas Boddington and Peter Smith, Churchwardens. Diameter 36 in.

Third.—Praise God upon the high sounding cymbals. Recast by W. and J. T., Oxon, 1825. T. Boddington and P. Smith, Ch. Ws. Diameter 39 in.

Fourth.—A voice from the Temple, a voice of the Lord. Rev. S. W. Paul, Vicar, Richard Vincent and Vincent Bailey, Churchwardens, 1779. Recast 1825. Diameter 40 in.

Fifth.—As in Adam all die, so in Christ shall be made alive. Cast by Watts, of Leicester, 1639, and recast by W. and J. Taylor, Oxford, 1825. Diameter 41½ in.

Tenor.—Watch therefore, for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. This Bell cast by John Taylor and Co., 1875. Mrs. Mackworth Dolben, Lady of the Manor. Revd. G. W. Paul, Vicar. John Hawkes, Willm. Lea Hill, Ch. Wardens. Date of original Tenor Bell, 1613. Diameter 51 in.

These bells come very close in weight to the rings of six at Higham Ferrers and Middleton Cheney, but run rather lighter on the whole.

It is worthy of note that "Watts of Leicester," founder of the fifth bell, 1639, also cast Wellingborough "Great Bell" that same year.

Wellingborough Parish Church Ringers visited Finedon recently, and were much pleased with the "go" of the bells, the capital ropes, and the general tidiness and comfort of the ringing-room. The ropes of two of the bells pass over rollers, just above the ceiling, which makes a considerable rattle, rather annoying to strangers. Suitable oak blocks with sloped sides would be quite as effective and much less noisy.

On the South wall of the Belfry is a Tablet recording the ringing of 3000 changes and a Royal Salute on Thanksgiving Day, February 27th, 1872.

On the opposite side are portions of the old plaster inscribed with various names (enclosed in ornamented borders) of ringers, &c., of bygone days. In one case six names are given, concluding with that of the sexton and the date, 1636, which would lead one to infer that Finedon possessed a peal of six at that time.

The old custom of ringing a "Restoration Peal" is still kept up at Finedon; the bells being always rung half-muffled on the 29th of May.

The new Lych Gate at the entrance of the churchyard is designed in the Late Perpendicular period in strict accordance with ancient examples. It is built with English oak, and covered with ornamental tiles, surmounted on top with a gilt iron cross, and stands on a base of ironstone of substantial character with folding oak gates, the upper panels of which are filled in with ornamental ironwork. There is a side gate to match leading to the public path through the churchyard. In the spandrels of the arch are carved the arms of the Diocese of Peterborough, the Bishop of Peterborough, and the Rector. An inscription on the front beam tells us that "This Lych Gate was erected to the Glory of God, anno domini, 1888." The whole of the works have been most admirably carried out by Mr. George Henson, from designs, and under the superintendence of Messrs. Talbot-Brown and Fisher, architects, Wellingborough.

RINGERS' OUTING.

ON Saturday, September 15th, the Speldhurst branch of the Kent County Association visited St. Nicholas church, Sevenoaks. Starting from home at 2.30 p.m. in a splendid brake supplied by Mr. Hardwick, after a beautiful ride of 2 hrs. 15 mins., Sevenoaks was reached, where all preparations were made for the visit, and being met at the church by Mr. W. Ashdown, captain of the Sevenoaks team, who conducted them to the "Bricklayers Arms," where refreshments were partaken of, being much needed after the ride. From thence to the belfry (ringing not being able to commence before 5.30, owing to a short service), where a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 55 mins. G. Card, 1; J. Baker, 2; J. Maynard, 3; G. Turley, 4; Frank Still, 5; F. Still, jun. (conductor), 6; C. Chapman, 7; H. Edwards, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. Also a touch of Major. H. Edwards, 1; J. Baker, 2; J. Maynard, 3; G. Turley, 4; F. Still, sen., 5; F. Still, 6; C. Chapman, 7; F. Still, jun. (conductor), 8. At eight o'clock the bells were lowered in peal by special desire of the Sevenoaks members by the Speldhurst members. Walking to the "Bricklayers Arms" both bands sat down to a splendid spread (ringers' fare), bread and cheese, etc., provided by host Honnywell, through the kindness of the Rector and churchwardens, who had agreed to "pay all." After supper the chair was taken by A. Laurie, Esq., people's churchwarden, supported by W. Johnston, Esq., (the vicar not being able to take the chair as was his wish). The Chairman proposed the first toast, viz., "Church and Queen," and after a few appropriate remarks, it was drank with musical honours. The Chairman next proposed "The Kent County Association of Change-Ringers," coupled with the name of Mr. Frank Still, secretary to the Speldhurst band, who in response pointed out several of the advantages of the Association, also telling the Sevenoaks members (who by the way are about to become members of the Association), that by joining the society they would see more of change-ringing than heretofore, and to finish, he would like to propose one toast before he sat down a toast which he hoped all would drink with musical honours, and that was "The Rector and Churchwardens of St. Nicholas parish church," coupled with the name of the Chairman, A. Laurie, Esq. The toast was drank with three times three.

The Chairman in response, thanked the ringers for the kind way he had been received that evening, saying he had great pleasure in being amongst them, and would do anything he could towards the welfare of the bells, or change-ringing, which he took great interest in. He next proposed "The Visitors," coupled with the name of H. Edwards, who in response thanked them for the way they had been received that day, and proposed "The St. Nicholas band," coupled with the name of their Captain, Mr. Ashdown, who ably responded. "The Ladies" having been responded to by a "single" gentleman, "The Press" was the next, and "The Host" having been responded to, brought one of the jolliest meetings to a close. The return journey commenced at ten o'clock, landing safe home about midnight, and thus finished another ringers' outing.

WARMINSTER, WILTS.

On the evening of the 7th inst. a meeting of the parishioners of Christchurch was held in the Sambourne Reading Room, the Vicar (the Rev. W. Hickman) in the chair, to decide whether the tubular bells, which had been on trial for several weeks, should be retained. It was stated that the majority of the inhabitants were against retaining the bells, and the chairman said that their sound had been described in the town as resembling bagpipes. Mr. B. W. Coates, one of the churchwardens, had been in communication with Messrs. Harrington, the makers, who advised that the bells should be rung slower. Feelings were, however, expressed against this, and the chairman said it would be no improvement. It was decided to await a reply from Messrs. Harrington on Saturday morning, and that if the committee was not satisfied with it the bells should be returned. The letter was duly received, and as it was not considered satisfactory, the bells are to be returned. The trial has cost £15. It is hoped that a peal of real bells will be obtained for the church.—*Salisbury Journal*.

MATRICATION (London) Jan. 1889. An experienced Tutor prepares Pupils for this and other Examinations. Help by correspondence. For terms (moderate) address F. C. S., office of this paper.

THE PALACE OF THE SAVOY A CENTURY AGO.

Great part of the Palace called the Savoy in London was standing when Pennant described it a century ago, but was little better than a military prison. The palace of the potent Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester, stood on this place. Henry III. had granted to Peter of Savoy, uncle to his Queen Elianor, daughter of Berenger of Provence, all the houses upon the Thames, where this building afterwards stood, to hold to him and his heirs yielding yearly at the Exchequer three barbed arrows for all services. This prince founded the Savoy, and bestowed it on the fraternity of Montjoy. Queen Elianor purchased it and bestowed it on her son, Edmund, Earl of Lancaster. It was rebuilt in a most magnificent manner by his son Henry. It was made the place of confinement of John, King of France, 1356, after he was taken prisoner at the Battle of Poitiers. After his release he made a visit to his brother in 1363, and died in this his ancient prison on April 8th following. He was a prince of the strictest honour; for he came over to apologise for the escape of one of his sons, whom he had left a hostage for the performance of certain treaties.

In 1381 it was entirely destroyed by Wat Tyler, out of spleen to the great owner, John of Gaunt. He set fire to it in several places. The rebels made a proclamation that no one should convert any part of the rich effects to their own use under pain of death.

They actually flung into the fire one of their companions who had reserved a piece of rich plate. They afterwards found certain barrels which they thought had been gold and silver, which they flung into the flames. The contents happened to be gunpowder, which blew up the great hall and destroyed several houses.

Devolving to the Crown, Henry VII. began to rebuild it with a design of forming it into a hospital for a hundred distressed people. He says in his will he intended by this foundation "To doe and execute VI out of the VII works of pitie and mercy by means of keping, susteynyng, and mayntenyng of common hospitalis, wherein if thei be duly kept the said nede pouer people be lodged, viseted in their sicknesses, refreshed with mete and drink, and if nede be with clothe, and also buried yf thei fourtune to die within the same; for lack of theim, infinite nombre of pouer nede people miserably dailie die no man putting hande of helpe or remedie." This building was in form of a cross, the walls of which are entire to this time. His son continued and completed the design.

The revenues at the suppression by Edward VI. amounted to above £500 a year. Queen Mary restored it, and her maids of honour, with exemplary piety, furnished it with all necessaries. It was again suppressed by Queen Elizabeth. In 1612 the Prince's wardrobe was at the Savoy. That illustrious nobleman, George Clifford, Earl of Cumberland, died here in the Dutchy house in 1605, as did William Compton, first Earl of Northampton, in 1630. A century ago part served as lodgings for private people, for barracks, and a scandalous infectious prison for the soldier and for transports.

The church of St. Mary-le-Savoy, originally the chapel to the hospital, but was made parochial on the impious destruction of St. Mary-le-Strand by the Duke of Somerset. It is engraven in Tab. xii., Vol. 11 of the *Vestusta Monumenta*. The roof is remarkably fine, flat, and covered with elegant small compartments cut in wood, and shields containing emblems of the Passion surround each with a neat garland.

Among the monuments in the chancel, that in memory of the wife of Sir Robert Douglas merits notice. The lady who died in 1612, is but a secondary figure, and placed kneeling behind her husband, dressed in a vast distended hood. Before her is her husband in an easy attitude, reclined and resting on his right arm, the other hand on his sword. He is represented in armour with a robe over it; on his head a fillet with a bead round the edge, a motto on his arms, "Toujour santaches" (see the inscription on the "New View of London" II., 402). She died in 1612.

The sculptor has much merit in this figure.

In a pretty Gothic niche on the opposite side, occupied probably in old times by the image of Our Lady, is now the figure of a kneeling figure, with a countess's coronet on her head. This commemorates Jocosa, daughter of Sir Alan Apsley, Lieu-

tenant of the Tower—first wife to Lyster Blunt, Esq., and afterwards of William Ramsey, Earl of Dalhousie. Another fine monument of a recumbent lady in a great ruff and long gown, in her arms cut on it, attracts our notice, but, unfortunately, the inscription is lost.

W. LOVELL.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

"The thirteenth session of the Telegraphists' School of Science, which was established in the Central Telegraph Office in 1876, is about to commence, and a good and useful programme is announced, embracing classes in telegraphy, magnetism and electricity, mathematics, chemistry, workshop and laboratory practice, and a new and special course of instruction in relay and cable manipulation, the *raison d'être* of this last class being the approaching transfer of the Submarine Telegraph Company's system to the Post Office. The principal of the school is Mr. W. Slingo, who is assisted by three of his old pupils. The school is now a recognized portion of the Central Telegraph Office, and has for some time received considerable support from the department, as indeed it should, seeing that it derives very material profit from the work carried on. Last year's classes were unusually successful, taking at the examinations of the Sciences and Art Department and the City and Guilds Institute 81 certificates, as compared with 41 in the preceding year. In the telegraphy examinations 22 certificates were gained by the school out of the 70 awarded throughout the kingdom. A valuable prize, consisting of a bronze medal and £3, was also gained. During the past five years 33 medals and £85 have been awarded as prizes throughout the kingdom; and of these, six medals and £24 have been gained by the school. In electrical instrument-making, the honours prize (consisting of a bronze medal and £5) was also gained by the school. Altogether more than 350 members of the staff of the Central Telegraph Office have passed through the school, and have gained upwards of 500 certificates.

Obituary.

JOHN FUDGER.

We have to record the death of the above-named ringer, an event which occurred at his late residence in Warmstry-slip, Worcester, on the 5th instant, at the ripe old age of 76 years. Deceased was a prominent member somewhat of the Worcester company, and was a steady Treble Bob and Grandsire ringer, having taken part in several peals in the latter method. Though he was a safe ringer at a bob bell, he almost invariably preferred to ring the treble, and at times indeed the tenor. On the 2nd of December, 1866, he rang the treble in a 5003 of Grandsire Caters at All Saints, Worcester, in which peal the 9th was rung by the Editor of this journal, the 2nd by J. Kershaw Slack, Esq., now or recently Churchwarden of Prescott parish church, near Liverpool, and the 8th by Mr. E. Moses, now of Reigate in Surrey. A few years previous to this, he at the same church rang the tenor to a peal of Stedman Caters which was conducted by Mr. John Day, of Birmingham, and in which the old veteran W. Chattell, also of Birmingham, rang the treble.

On Thursday, the 6th instant, the following members of the Worcester company rang at St. Helen's church, with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the deceased, a touch of 504 Grandsire Triples, and the usual whole pull and stand: J. Clements, 1; H. Pheasant (conductor), 2; N. Wale, 3; W. Powell, 4; W. Pudge, 5; W. Blandford, 6; F. Owen, 7; T. Malim, 8.

THE CLOCK OF ST. MARGARET LOTHBURY.—Another complaint of the stoppage of this clock is made, this time in a letter in the *Echo*, signed "The Clock in Lothbury," in which the clock is made to observe that, though situated in the wealthiest part of the world—"bank in front of me, banks on either side of me, and banks in the rear,"—no one deems it worth while to spend a little money to set it right.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co. Printers, Exeter.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"If a good thought strikes thee—
Put it down in writing;
Does a kind thought fill thy mind—
Act upon it."

My first impulse on receiving the paper last Saturday was to see if my anticipations respecting the 6720 of London Surprise at Burton had been realised. But I looked in vain. Perhaps the pleasing news of its accomplishment is reserved for Saturday next. Let us hope so.

* * * * *

"The Royal Cumberlands" appear to have had a very agreeable and all but unanimous meeting. In fact, cordial good feeling and practical unanimity seems to be a characteristic of the "Royals," and I am tempted sometimes to wish that the seventeenth rule of my own "Ancient" Society was not in existence, so that I might have the honour and pleasure of belonging to them also. But the rule in question is a salutary one and without doubt serves well the purpose for which it was mutually agreed upon, namely, "keeping up a friendly rivalry, and promoting the art of Change-Ringing."

* * * * *

Their peal of Cambridge Surprise is well worthy of being recorded on something more substantial and enduring than paper. Apart from its intricacies or its musical qualities, the mere fact of its being the first rung by a London band for more than a century is quite enough to give it a more than ordinary character: it thus deserves a more than ordinary recognition, and I am pleased to read that they intend to perpetuate it by means of a tablet on the walls of their meeting room. I look forward to having the pleasure some day of paying the Cumberlands a visit, and of inspecting the tablet when it has been "mounted."

* * * * *

Well done, "Copley Scholars"! you appear to be a young Society, but have most effectively taught us older ones a lesson how to manage a large amount of business in a short space of time, and come out with great credit in the performance. First you have a pleasant outing, then you get photographed, after that you play the host and entertain your Captain to tea, then you finish up with a social meeting and present your old and respected teacher with a most substantial token of your esteem. All this within the limits of a Saturday afternoon. And more than this, you appear to have kept this latter part of your programme such a profound secret among yourselves that it seems to have come down upon the devoted head of your captain like a thunderbolt, "knocking the wind out of him" properly. A present always comes with more effectiveness when it is unexpected, and you evidently have been mindful of this fact by keeping your secret well. I have no doubt Mr. Copley will be as proud of his "Scholars" as they appear to be of him, and most assuredly wish their society every success.

* * * * *

By the way, as this society appears to be of recent formation and to be doing good work in promoting change-ringing, perhaps some of its officers or members might give us an outline of its constitution and mode of carrying on its work; so that perchance others may be induced to copy its good features with benefit to themselves.

* * * * *

During the same time as the events noted above were trans-

piring, another presentation was being made at Beddington to our old friend Mr. J. M. Hayes. As a brother "Ancient," I would congratulate him heartily; at the same time I cannot help remarking that he fully deserved it.

* * * * *

These presentation ceremonies are very gratifying from many points of view. Leaving out the pleasure which they give alike to donors and recipients, they are commendable from the mere fact of their indicating a disposition to give honour where honour is due. No one but those who have practically experienced it can comprehend the expenditure of time and thought necessary for carrying out any branch of our work. Whether it be the training of the young beginners, the composing and conducting of peals, the endeavour to instil more science and better striking into the minds of older brethren, or in the important work of organisation, I say, no one but those who heartily and ungrudgingly devote themselves to the work can possibly form anything like a correct estimate of the amount of time and anxiety which such a duty entails. Then, although one who devotes his time to it may be conscious in his own mind that he has the respect of those around him, although he feels confident of having gained the esteem of those for whom he labours, and may be, experiences a gratification at the thought that his work is appreciated; these tangible proofs of such sentiments cannot fail to be extremely pleasing to such a devoted worker, and to be an incentive to him to even greater exertions in the future. It is an old saying, that "familiarity breeds contempt," and while accepting and fully appreciating all the labours for our good, we are too prone to forget that some little recognition, more substantial than our own private thoughts, would often be to those whom we respect and honour an event of a lifetime, and, however small in monetary value the gift might be, that it would through its very spontaneity and the expressions of good feeling which would accompany it, give new life to the recipient, and nerve him to redoubled efforts for the good of those who have thus shown in a practical manner their appreciation of his labours. May this disposition to reward faithful services ever remain a trait in our character as ringers, as by so doing we shall not only be performing a pleasant duty, but also be helping on in a very material manner the work in which we are engaged.

* * * * *

Were it possible for me to be in Ashton-under-Lyne I should not fail to have a right good old English shake of the hand with Mr. James Wood and Mr. George Longden, and congratulate them—the former on his century peal and the latter on his hundredth of Treble Bob. But as I can't be there *in propria persona*, I would greet them with my pen, assuring them that my heart goes along with it.

* * * * *

I am afraid "One of the Exercise" will have to relegate the pretty story which he narrates of the aristocratic ringers to the category of such well-known and equally veracious narratives as "Cinderella," "Jack and the Beanstalk," and the like. Supposing the story to be true, and the peal to have been one of Maximus, what an exhibition of horse-flesh and vehicles there would have been round the church, to be sure! Quite large enough, one would imagine, to have warranted recording in Macaulay's History of England. But I fear that this story will have to be placed among the fairy tales to which we were regaled when youngsters. "Very nice reading, but sadly wanting in fact."

Before I write again, the hand-bell contest at Manchester for 1888 will be a thing of the past. Lack of time has prevented me hitherto joining in this pleasant pastime of tune-ringing, but I have many friends who take great interest in it, and consequently are much exercised in their minds just now as to the issue of this annual competition in Cotonopolis. While wishing all the competitors every success, from what I learn I very much fear they will have a hard nut to crack in the shape of the Liversedge (Yorkshire) band, who by the reports which reach me are in excellent form, and eager to carry off premier honours. Whatever may be the issue of this contest, it is to be hoped for our own credit's sake, that there will not be a repetition of the disgraceful scene which was enacted at the recent Brass Band Contest at that place, but that the decision of the judges will be received with that respect which it certainly should deserve.

* * * * *

I am not in the habit of "spinning yarns," but have been told a little story which I cannot help repeating. Somewhere in the "lake district" is a very pretty little spot rejoicing in the euphonious name of Silverdale. I paid a hurried visit to that place many years ago, so long ago, in fact, that I can scarcely describe its whereabouts, although I yet retain many pleasant memories of its picturesque beauty. I think it is about two years ago that I read of the opening of a ring of six in the tower of the charming little Church there, and felt a great longing to pay another visit, particularly now that I might have the additional pleasure of hearing the sound of a musical peal resounding through the pleasant vale, and of having the pleasure of a ring. Circumstances, however, have so far prevented me from indulging in that desire, but this story which has been told to me certainly mitigates the disappointment which I have felt in thus being unable to gratify myself in this direction. It appears that recently a band of ringers in the North—a band by the way which is competent to handle a ring of six with credit to themselves and pleasure to their hearers—chose this place for their annual outing, and as a matter of course a communication was sent to the rev. Vicar informing him of the same, and asking permission to be allowed the pleasure of a ring. Of course, nothing but a cordial consent was expected, and they therefore had an extra practice or two to get themselves properly in form so as to execute a few well-struck touches in various methods, thereby giving the inhabitants the opportunity of hearing some good change-ringing, which of course could not be expected from their newly-formed band at home. Imagine their astonishment on receiving in reply an intimation that the Church authorities had established a strict rule that no person should handle the bells but their own ringers. They might look through the church, and (but I will not even be quite sure of this) have a peep at the bells, but as for ringing them—"No! none but our own men shall ever do that!"

* * * * *

What a contrast does this "dog-in-the-manger" policy present to the hearty welcomes and generous treatment given by our clergy week after week to visiting bands of ringers! We all of us know that the visit of a skilled band to a place, particularly one where a young company is located, is always productive of good, to a more or less degree; it helps to stir up the local company; where they are young in the art they learn something; and the parishioners in turn have the pleasure of hearing their bells rung in perhaps a more scientific manner than usual. But what can be the cause or object of this exclusive mode of dealing with the bells? It surely does not arise from the fear of a mysterious disappearance of those

denizens of the tower, or of any damage being done to them because strangers have hold of the ropes' ends. It should not be that the vicar and his local company are actuated by jealousy; that they are afraid of any one "taking the shine" out of their own performances; and I cannot think that it is from any motive of principle, for if such were the case, then the vicar should in all consistency apply this rule to all matters in connection with the church: he should not allow any visitor to sing in his choir or take the place of his own organist at any of the services, however talented such a man might be. In fact to carry out this rule to its logical conclusion, he would have to prevent any but his own parishioners from attending the church at all! So I am at a loss to find a sensible reason for this most extraordinary rule; one which if carried out universally would simply kill all our organization, and with it the science, so that bell-ringing would speedily become a thing of the past. We may congratulate ourselves, however, that the instance I have narrated is, if not absolutely unique, at any rate a very isolated case; and I don't think we have cause to fear that this example will ever be extensively followed.

FREE LANCE.

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL.

On Saturday, September 8th, eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association and the junior society of St. Michael, Gloucester, visited the above Cathedral, and attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples, in which they were unfortunately unsuccessful, because the band was not well arranged. It is now sixty-eight years since a peal was rung on these bells, which are a ring of eight, tenor between 25 cwt. and 25 cwt., in D. The band hope, however, to attempt the peal again shortly.

This peal of bells is one of the oldest in the kingdom, and one of the most interesting. When the Abbey of St. Peter was dissolved, and the church became the Cathedral Church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity, there were nine bells hanging in the tower. These were confiscated; but the last Abbot of Gloucester, William Parker—*alias* Malverne—had erected in the tower a clock and chimes, and the people of the city sent a petition to Edward VI. to spare the bells for the clock and chimes to play upon. Thus the old clock and chimes have saved for us these beautiful bells. The treble was recast, as the inscription shews, in 1598. The second is one of the old ring, and is supposed from the initial J.S., and the impression of a coin, to have been cast by John Sandre, or John de Gloucester whose bell mark was found in the Thames some years ago about 1350. It is thus one of the oldest ringing bells in the kingdom. The third and fourth were reheat by Rudhall in 1810, the third has been twice recast, for the predecessor of the present one bore the inscription "G u I Jane S.T.P. DE Anno Dom., 1666," (Bigland's History of Gloucester), but William Jane was not installed Dean until 1683, so that the date was probably 1686. The old fourth was the original bell, and bore the inscription "Sit nomen Domini Benedictum" (Bigland). Five and six are mediæval, and were probably cast in the beginning of the sixteenth century. The seventh was recast in 1626 by John Pennington, of Exeter, who preserved the old inscription "Missi de celio habeo nomen Gabrielis" but reversed it on the bell. The tenor was recast by Abraham Rudhall, of this city, in 1736. The ninth bell, or clock, weighs 65 cwt., and has this inscription: "Me fecit fieri con ventus nomine petri," in mediæval characters. Its date is uncertain, but it is older than the existing vault of the choir, erected in the fourteenth century, and is thus older than the thirteenth century tower, since it will not pass through the hole left for the bells in the crown of the arch. After the attempt for the peal, a touch of 336 of Grandsire Triples was then rung. H. L. James, Esq., 1; F. E. Hart, 2; R. Brunsdon, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; G. Brunsdon, 5; S. Romans, 6; W. J. Sevier, 7; E. E. Bewick, 8. The ringers then adjourned to St. Michael's vestry, and rang a course of Royal and Caters. A. Roberts, 1-2; R. Brunsdon, 3-4; R. J. Wilkins, 5-5; H. L. James, 7-8; F. Hart, 9-10. Then a course of Major and Triples by the last four, and a course of Minor and Doubles by the last three.

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The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1888.

A very satisfactory incident is reported this week on the visit of a branch of the Devonshire Guild to a spot where hitherto change-ringing has not yet met with sufficient encouragement, if the ignoring of the County Guild is any criterion. The Devonport branch have had their first annual outing to the town of Tavistock, and if only from the humorous observations of the correspondent who

sends the account of the proceedings, it can easily be imagined that they enjoyed themselves. Ringing, both of whole-pull and half-pull descriptions, was taken advantage of, and the customary repast, without which an outing would certainly be shorn of one of its most distinctive features, was apparently enjoyed to the full. Nevertheless the secretary of the Devonport branch had, amid all this, an eye to business. He had made himself acquainted with the fact that the Tavistock ringers did not belong to the Guild, so armed with copies of the last report, he distributed them to the Tavistock gentlemen, to reflect upon at their leisure, and urged them, no doubt with all the eloquence at his command, to come into the fold of the recognised County of Devon ringers.

If this action should be the cause of one person joining the Guild who previously ignored its influence, the act is one to be most highly commended. Energy and interest of this kind has over and over again been strongly advocated in this journal, and we are glad to see another instance of our advice being acted on. Members of our Guilds should be always on the *qui vive* to secure new members; they should in the pursuit of such an object be actuated with the determination of an inquisitor-general, or a disciple of Loyola. The distribution of reports in aid of such work is a wise and practical idea, which could however well be supplemented by the presentation of copies of a ringers' newspaper.

RICKMANSWORTH, HERTS.

On Wednesday, September 12th, the fine peal of eight bells, tenor 24 cwt.), at the parish church, were re-opened, after restoration, by Squire Proctor and his band of change-ringers. The proceedings commenced with touches of Stedman Triples, including a 504, in which the following took part: L. Proctor, Esq., Rev. E. W. Carpenter, S. Page, Joseph and John Kitchener, Nathan and Jabez Warner, A. Hobbs, C. Shambrook (Benington), J. R. Haworth (London), conducted by S. Page. By this time the company were augmented by the arrival of Messrs. Newson, Chapman, and Foskett, of Hampstead, Gray and Holifield, of Hertford, when an adjournment was made for dinner, which took place at the "Swan" Inn. This being successfully got through, a move was again made to the tower where a well-struck touch of Cambridge Surprise Major, 556 changes, was rung. N. Warner, 1; J. Kitchener, 2; John Kitchener, 3; B. Foskett, 4; S. Page, 5; A. Hobbs, 6; E. Chapman, 7; G. Newson (conductor), 8. After which a touch of Superlative Surprise was attempted, L. Proctor, Esq., — Holifield, and J. Warner, taking 3, 2, and 6, respectively, the rest as before; this was unfortunately lost in the last lead. Three courses of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, was then rang with E. W. Chapman and J. R. Haworth, in place of L. Proctor and A. Hobbs. Time being called, a move was made to the station, Messrs. Newman, Chapman, and Foskett accompanying the Benington ringers to Hatfield on their way home, where touches of Superlative Surprise Major, and Stedman Triples were rung, conducted by G. Newson.

Champagne drinkers, whether connoisseurs or otherwise, will gain some information and comfort from the article of the *Times* correspondent who has been on a visit to Epernay and Rheims. The wine, he says, is the fermented and expressed juice of the grape, and nothing else. There is no addition of water, nor sugar, nor spirit, with very few exceptions. There is no charging with carboic acid, as in the case of seltzer and other manufactured table waters. The whole of the gas is the product of the process of fermentation after bottling, the sugar of the grape juice being gradually converted into carbonic acid gas.—*Dogberry, in the "City Press."*

WILLEY PARK, SHROPSHIRE.

A large clock, striking hours, chiming the Westminster quarters, and shewing time on two large dials, has just been erected here to the order of Lord Forester, by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby. It is fitted with all the latest improvements, and is expected to go with extreme accuracy.

THE GOOSE AND GRIDIRON public house, 8, London House-yard, St. Paul's Church-yard, was the scene of a fire of considerable extent on Sunday. Mr. W. H. Making, the owner and occupier, is insured in the Liverpool and London, and Globe office. As many of our readers are aware, this house is an important rendezvous of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

The Provinces.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.
(THE DUFFIELD SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, September 6, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD MAJOR, 5004 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

JOHN HOWE Treble.	GEORGE HINGLEY 5.
SAMUEL JOHNSON 2.	HENRY MIDGLEY 6.
BENJAMIN SUGDEN 3.	WILLIAM HICKLING 7.
HARRY C. WOODWARD 4.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

This peal which is now rung for the first time, has the 6th at home at 104 out of 106 course-ends, without the use of singles.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, September 11, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt.

AMOS CRESSER Treble.	REV. CHAS. D. P. DAVIES .. 6.
ALFRED THOMAS 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. 3.	NATHAN J. PITSTOW .. 8.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	JOHN W. TAYLOR 9.
HERBERT BAKER 5.	EDWARD WIGHTMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq., and Conducted by JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN., Esq.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, has the 6th fixed in 2nds place throughout.

ROCHDALE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, September 13, 1888, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

W. A. BARRETT Treble.	LANCELOT NEWTON 5.
JOHN MILLETT 2.	FRANK BIRTWISTLE 6.
GEORGE HOYLE 3.	A. EDWARD WREAKS 7.
C. J. BUTTERWORTH .. 4.	JOHN HARRISON Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY HUBBARD, and Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS.

First peal in the method by Messrs. Barrett, Butterworth, and Newton. Messrs. Butterworth and Newton hail from Durham; Wreaks from Manchester; Harrison, Barrett and Millett, from Heywood, Hoyle and Birtwistle belong to Rochdale.

WANTED by a Change Ringer, aged 22 Years, a Situation as Gardener, Single-handed Place preferred. Good character. Can ring the principal Methods. Apply T. Stedman, Capel, near Dorking, Surrey.

GLOUCESTER.—GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS.

On Thursday, September 13, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt. 48 lbs.

HENRY S. JAMES Treble.	GEORGE BRUNSDON* 5.
FRANCIS E. HART 2.	SYDNEY E. ROMANS† 6.
RICHARD BRUNSDON 3.	ROBERT A. BARRETT 7.
RAYMOND T. WILKINS .. 4.	ERNEST E. BEWICK Tenor.
	WILLIAM J. SEVIER

Conducted by SYDNEY E. ROMANS.

*First peal with a bob bell. †First peal as conductor. This is the second peal rung on these bells, and was rung in twenty minutes less than the other. The tenor goes very badly, and Mr. Bewick had to give up at the end of half an hour, and Mr. Sevier finished it. The ringers wish to thank the rector for the use of the bells.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(THE DUFFIELD SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, September 13, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

HENRY MIDGLEY Treble.	GEORGE HINGLEY 5.
SAMUEL JOHNSON 2.	WILLIAM HICKLING 6.
BENJAMIN SUGDEN 3.	HARRY C. WOODWARD 7.
EVAN MORETON 4.	— CLARK Tenor.

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD, and Conducted by HARRY C. WOODWARD.

This peal is in five parts without a single.

DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, September 14, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. DAVIES'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 21 cwt.

SAMUEL JOHNSON Treble.	BENJAMIN SUGDEN 5.
HERBERT BAKER 2.	JOHN W. TAYLOR 6.
NATHAN J. PITSTOW .. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
REV. CHAS. DAVIES .. 4.	JOHN HOWE Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT BAKER.

DEWSBURY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 15, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qrs.

J. BUCKLEY Tenor.	J. A. IDLE 5.
W. IDLE 2.	G. H. HARDY 6.
J. IDLE 3.	D. STEPHENSON 7.
J. HUTCHINSON 4.	R. BINNS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by G. H. HARDY.

Messrs. Binns and Hutchinson are of the St. Peter's society, Leeds. W. Idle, J. A. Idle, and Stephenson hail from Ossett; the rest belong to the local company.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—WARNHAM BRANCH.

On Sunday, September 16, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

THOMAS HOGSFLESH .. Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT 5.
FREDERICK LUXFORD* .. 2.	THOMAS ANDREWS 6.
WALTER WADEY* 3.	HENRY H. CHANDLER .. 7.
GEORGE CHARMAN 4.	GEORGE WOODMAN Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY H. CHANDLER.

*First peal in the method.

Date Touches.

HUNTLEY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, September 9th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1888 changes), with extremes, in 1 hr. 2 mins. G. Pincott, 1; H. Grendon, 2; J. Gleed, 3; T. Hart (conductor), 4; F. Trigg, 5; W. Gleed, 6. Also 240 of Grandsire Minor, T. Ancill, 1; J. Gleed, 2; T. Hart (conductor), 3; H. Grendon, 4; F. Trigg, 5; J. H. Brawn, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

BADGWORTH (Gloucestershire).—Recently at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 5 mins. A. Humphries (Cheltenham), 1; H. Karn (Cheltenham, conductor), 2; J. Wallace (Badgworth), 3; J. Hooper (Cheltenham), 4; F. Musty (Cheltenham), 5; W. Oakey (Badgworth), 6.

Miscellaneous.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING.—On Tuesday, September 11th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, 1554 of Grandsire Triples. R. Jarvis, 1; R. Skeef, 2; G. Ladd, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; J. W. Jarvis, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6; J. S. Wright, 7; G. L. Richardson, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, September 16th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. W. Emery, 1; *A. Edwards (conductor), 2; W. Harvey, 3; F. Radley, 4; W. Lincoln, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; H. F. de Lisle, Esq., 7; W. G. Dickens, Esq., 8. *First quarter-peal as conductor. And on Wednesday, September 12th, for practice, 966 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Penning's one-part peal. W. Harvey, 1; A. Tarbun, 2; F. Radley, 3; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 4; H. F. de Lisle, Esq., 5; W. J. Piper, 6; A. Edwards (conductor), 7; W. G. Dickens, Esq., 8. Also a course of Bob Major, with G. Fitch.

ROMFORD.—On Saturday evening, September 15th, for practice at St. Edward's church, the last 1300 of Holt's Original in 50 mins. W. Pegrum, 1; E. Barnett, 2; A. S. Barrell, 3; M. L. Myhill, 4; W. Pye, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6; W. Nash, 7; S. James, 8. Also 630 of Grandsire Triples, standing as before, with E. Barnett (conductor).

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HARSMONDEN.—On Sunday, September 9th, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor in 28 mins. T. Lambert, 1; W. Pope, 2; *W. H. Lambert, 3; W. E. Pope, 4; E. Pope, 5; *F. J. Lambert (conductor), 6. First 720. The Messrs. Pope hail from Staplehurst, F. J. Lambert from Canterbury, the rest belong to the local company. The above was rung on the occasion of the sixty-first birthday of the oldest ringer—Mr. Thomas Lambert.

FRINDSBURY NEAR ROCHESTER.—On Friday evening, September 14th, for practice at All Saints' church, six 6 scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 25 mins. D. Winsor, 1; E. Collard, 2; G. Hutchings, 3; A. Ring, 4; W. Hunt (conductor), 5. Tenor 18 cwt.

TENTERDEN (Kent).—On Monday, September 17th, for practice at the parish church, 1064 of Grandsire Triples, and 84 of Stedman Triples. J. Bartlett, 2; R. Edwards, 2; H. G. Rummery, 3; A. Hinds, 4; J. Sharpe, 5; A. E. Nunn (conductor), 6; G. Neve, 7; H. Holdstock, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH (Leicestershire).—On Monday, September 10th, 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins. *W. Liggins, 1; *H. Canner, 2; J. Jaggar (conductor), 3; *J. Hopkins, 4; *W. Owen, 5; W. Canner, 6. *First 720. On Saturday, September 15th, at the parish church, an attempt was made to ring Brook's peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing thirteen parts (or 3334 changes), in 2 hrs. 5 mins., it came to grief. W. J. Smith, 1; S. Gretton, 2; J. Jaggar (conductor), 3; G. Robinson, 4; J. Austin, 5; L. Bullock, 6; W. Canner, 7; W. Orme, 8. Tenor 18 cwt. in Eb.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Tuesday, September 11th, at the house of Mr. Austin, an attempt was made for Holt's Original, but it unfortunately came to grief after ringing 3028 changes, in 1 hr. 35 mins. W. J. Smith, 1-2; J. Jaggar (conductor), 3-4; L.

Bullock, 5-6; J. Austin, 7-8. On Friday, September 14th, at the parish church, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Orme, 1; J. Jaggar, 2; F. Shepherd (first touch of Triples), 3; W. J. Smith, 4; J. Austin, 5; J. Walker, 6; L. Bullock (conductor), 7; W. Burton, 8.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, September 6th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Hull, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; F. Sharpe, 3; F. Smith, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. On Thursday, September 13th, 720 Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Sharpe, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; F. Keech, 3; F. Smith, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; I. Hills, 6. And 120 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. F. Sharpe (first in the method), 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; F. Smith, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; F. Keech, 6. *Handbell Ringing*.—On Thursday, September 4th, at St. Paul's belfry, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Spencer, 1; F. Sharpe, 2; I. Hills, 3; F. Smith, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5-6. On Sunday, September 16th, for Divine Service, 360 Bob Minor. F. Hull, 1; F. Sharpe, 3; F. Smith, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; J. N. Frossell, 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Bettles, 8. For evening service, 615 Grandsire Triples. F. Sharpe, 1; W. Allen, 2; F. Smith, 3; J. N. Frossell, 4; F. Keech, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. W. Clarke (composer and conductor), 7; F. Hull, 8. Also 336 in the same method. W. Bettles, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; F. Sharpe, 3; W. Allen, 4; I. Hills, 5; F. Smith, 6; J. N. Frossell, 7; J. Spencer, 8.

CLAPHAM (Beds).—On Saturday, September 8th, at the parish church, for practice, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and four 6-scores of Bob Doubles (each called differently). H. Sharpe, 1; F. Smith, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; T. Lane, 4; H. Sharpe, 5. This was the longest length on the bells, and the first 120 of Grandsire Doubles by this company. C. W. Clarke hails from Bedford; the rest belong to the local company.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, September 16th, for morning service, as a last token of respect to the late Mrs. Deane, of Spragg House, Norton, with the bells half-muffled, 720 Court Bob Minor, in 29 mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; W. Baddeley, 5; J. Wood (conductor), 6. Also for evening service, with bells half-muffled, 720 Oxford Bob Minor, in 27 mins, the men standing as above.

ACTION (Middlesex).—On Thursday evening, September 13th, at the parish church, 1330 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. C. Reeves, 1; W. Baron, 2; A. Fenwick, 3; W. Baron, jun., 4; G. Trinder, 5; H. S. Thomas, 6; W. Fenwick, 7; G. Ilsey, 8.

ARUNDEL (Sussex).—On Monday, September 10th, at the church of St. Nicholas, 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Balchin, 1; E. Ede, 2; F. Luxford, 3; C. Blackman, 4; H. Haggett, 5; J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 6; G. Baker, 7; G. W. Cartmel, 8. Messrs. Mitchell and Cartmel hail from St. Albans, the rest are local men. And on Sunday evening, September 16th, 1260 of Grandsire Triples. O. Evershed, 1; E. Ede, 2; H. Haggett, 3; G. Baker, 4; G. Balchin, 5; W. L. Chamberlain, 6; C. Blackman (conductor), 7; R. Goacher, 8.

BECKWITHSHAW (Yorks).—On Saturday, September 15th, the ringers of St. Mary's church, Harrogate, paid a visit to the above village, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 27½ mins. J. Ireland, 1; H. Robinson, 2; J. Vickers, 3; A. Atkinson, 4; H. Brown, 5; W. Turner (conductor), 6. Also a 360 (nine bobs). H. Brown, 4; A. Atkinson, 5; the rest standing as before. Tenor 14 cwt.

BRADFORD (Somerset).—On Friday evening, September 14th, at the parish church, four six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and four six-scores of Bob Doubles, each called differently. T. Andrews (conductor), 1; W. Andrews, 2; R. Scott, 3; J. Richards, 4; R. Andrews, 5; W. Chapman, 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Monday, September 17th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, 350 Grandsire Triples. R. E. Pearson, 1; G. Burt, 2; A. Arnold, 3; A. Bruce, 4; H. Brooker (conductor), 5; C. Kitching, 6; F. G. Hermon, 7; G. Wing, 8. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles, on the back six, with the 1st and 2nd leading. W. C. Palmer, 1; B. Blake, 2; R. E. Pearson, 3; C. Kitching, 4; G. Burt, 5; W. Collins, 6; F. G. Hermon (conductor), 7; A. E. Collins, 8.

GLOSSOP (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, September 16th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. John Booth (Dinting), 1; Frances Lee (Newcastle),

2; Joseph Maloney (Glossop), 3; Samuel Shaw (Dinting), 4; Thomas James (Glossop), 5; Thomas Brocklehurst (conductor, Hayfield), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

HALESOWEN (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, September 11th, at the parish church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. G. B. Raybould, 1; G. Cockin, E. White, 3; E. Hackett, 4; H. Raybould, 5; R. A. Eaton (conductor), 6. Tenor 20 cwt. First 720 by all; and is believed to be the first 720 on the bells.

HAMER (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, September 16th, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26½ mins. J. Hartley, 1; L. Newton, 2; R. Whittles, 3; J. Crossley, 4; C. J. Butterworth, 5; A. Crossley (conductor), 6. Also for evening service 720 of Plain Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles). J. Hartley, 1; *I. Holt, 2; R. Whittles, 3; *R. Holden, 4; J. Crossley, A. Crossley (conductor), 6. And on Monday evening, September 17th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 25½ mins. *A. Crossley, 1; G. Hoyle, 2; *L. Newton, 3; C. J. Butterworth, F. Birtwistle, 5; A. E. Wreaks (conductor), 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. Messrs. Newton and Butterworth hail from Durham, Wreaks from Manchester, Hoyle and Birtwistle from Rochdale. *First 720 in the method.

HATFIELD (Herts).—On Tuesday, September 11th, for practice at the parish church, 600 of Grandsire Minor, with 7-8 covering. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. Rowe (conductor), 5; E. P. Debenham, 6; G. Smith, 7; F. Stocks, 8. Also 700 of Grandsire Triples. J. Kentish, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. Rowe, 5; J. Richardson, 6; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 7; F. Stocks, 8. And 504 in the same method. J. Rumney (first 504), 1; G. Smith, 8; the rest as before. Also a 97. J. Kentish, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; H. Rowe, 4; A. Shepherd, 5; J. Richardson, 6; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 7; F. Stocks, 8. E. P. Debenham belongs to St. Albans, the rest belong to the local company. And on Sunday, September 16th, for Divine Service, 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. Kentish, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. Rowe, 5; J. Richardson, 6; T. Gathard (conductor), 7; G. Smith, 8. Also for evening service 600 of Grandsire Minor in 23 mins., with 7-8 covering. J. Kentish, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. Channer, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; W. Powers, 5; H. Rowe (conductor), 6; G. Smith, 7; W. Valentine, 8.

LONDON.—On Sunday, September 16th, at the church of St. Matthew, Bethnal Green, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. John Dupen, 1; William Cecil, 2; Joseph West, 3; John Bonney, 4; Thomas Dupen, 5; Matthew A. Wood (composer and conductor), 6; Arthur Hayward, 7; James Monday, 8. Also on Sunday evening, September 16th, at the Rochester Row Arms, on handbells, 1979 of Grandsire Caters in 1 hr. 12 mins. H. R. Newton, 1-2; C. F. Winny, 3-4; G. T. McLaughlin, 5-6; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 7-8; J. N. Oxborrow, 9-10.

MILVERTON (Somerset).—On Sunday morning, September 16th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 26 mins. T. Andrews (conductor), 1; W. Andrews, 2; R. Scott, 3; J. Richards, 4; R. Andrews, 5; W. Chapman, 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

SALISBURY.—On Saturday, September 15th, at St. Martin's church, 1120 of Kent Treble Bob Major. C. A. Clements, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; W. Bedwell (Greenwich), 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; W. E. Tydeman, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 8. And on Sunday morning, September 16th, 1260 of Stedman Triples. W. S. Wise, 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; W. Bedwell, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; C. A. Clements, 8. Also in the evening, 1260 of Grandsire Triples. W. Bedwell, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; W. E. Tydeman, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; C. A. Clements, 8. And on Monday, September 17th, a peal of Stedman Triples was attempted, but came to grief after ringing 3024 changes. W. S. Wise, 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; W. Bedwell, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; C. A. Clements, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. Also in the evening, at St. Thomas's church, 1260 of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. W. E. Tydeman, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; H. D. Adams, 3; W. Bedwell (conductor), 4; T. Blackburn, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; C. A. Clements, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in C♯.

SHADWELL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, September 12th, at St. Paul's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), taken from Holt's Original, in 43 mins. *T. Bernardin, 1; C. Relton, 2; W. Cecil, 3; E. Hall, 4; G. Tanner, 5; R. Turner, 6; H. Springhall (conductor), 7; *G. Barrall, 8. *First quarter-peal.

STOKE NEWINGTON.—On Tuesday evening, September 18th, at the

church of St. Mary, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. *W. Moore, 1; A. S. Barrell, 2; G. J. Smith, 3; W. Burkin, 4; J. Barry, 5; W. D. Smith (conductor), 6. *First 720.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, September 8th, for practice at St. Thomas's church, 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), on the back six, in 28½ mins. *A. Orford, 1; J. Guest, 2; C. Barrett, 3; W. F. Hartshorne, 4; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 5; H. Harris, 6. *First 720. Also on Monday, September 17th, 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. J. Pagett, 1; H. Woodhall, 2; C. Barrett, 3; C. Daniels, 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; H. Harris (conductor), 6; W. A. Pugh, 8. And 504 of Bob Triples. J. Pagett, 1; H. Woodhall, 2; C. Barrett, 3; W. Lawrence, 4; C. Daniels, 5; G. H. Pagett, 6; H. Harris (conductor), 7; W. A. Pugh, 8. Also 168 of Grandsire Triples. J. Pagett, 1; H. Woodhall, 2; C. Barrett, 3; W. Lawrence, 4; C. Daniels, 5; H. Harris, 6; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 7; A. Orford, 8. And a course of Bob Major. J. Pagett, 1; H. Woodhall, 2; W. A. Pugh, 3; W. Lawrence, 4; C. Daniels, 5; C. Barrett, 6; H. Harris, 7; A. Orford, 8. Messrs. Daniels and Woodhall hail from Cradley, Lawrence from Wordsley, and Orford from Oldswinsford.

TWEEKSBURY.—On Thursday evening, September 13th, at the Abbey, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. S. Cleal, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; L. Longney, 3; J. Hale, 4; Jno. Wathen, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. This is Mr. Longney's longest touch of Stedman Triples.

WOKING (Surrey).—On Tuesday, September 4th, at St. Peter's church, 360 Grandsire Doubles was rung by the local band, in honour of the 66th birthday of E. Ryde, Esq. And on Sunday, September 9th, four 6-scores in the same method. W. Furlonger, 1; W. C. Ryde, Esq., 2; F. Arnold (Betchworth), 3; F. Ryde, Esq., 4; F. Arnold (conductor), 5; F. Sanders, 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."

ANSWER TO INQUIRY ABOUT THE ARISTOCRATIC PEAL.

SIR,—I beg to inform "One of the Exercise" that the following account was published by me in my remarks on the *Twelve Bell Steeple of London* in "THE BELL NEWS" of December 1st, 1883, being copied from *Old and New London*, 1873.—"St. Bride's, Fleet Street. On Saturday, February 26th, 1726, the first peal of Maximus was rung by the following persons: Wm. Woodrove, treble; Robt. Catlin, 2nd; Edwd. Chadwell, 3rd; John Ward, 4th; John Hardham, 5th; Admiral F. Geary, 6th; J. Dearmor, 7th; Saml. Jeacock, 8th; Wm. Laughton, 9th; Peter Merrygarts, 10th; William Thompson, 11th; Mr. Benjamin Annable, tenor, who called the peal. This peal consisted of 5280 changes. All the persons who took part in it left the steeple in their own carriages. The ringers in those days were often persons of high position, and at that time Fleet Street used to be thronged with carriages full of gentry who had come to hear the music of the bells." J. R. Haworth published a similar account taken from the same periodical, in a contemporary, in 1873.

J. R. JERRAM.

A FALSE PEAL.

SIR,—The peal of Bob Triples in your last issue by me, was sent in a mistake, as it is a false peal. I tender my sincere apologies to the Exercise and to yourself, for thus trespassing on your space.

Brierley Hill.

W. F. HARTSHORNE.

TREBLE BOB MINOR.

SIR,—The 720 by Mr. C. W. Clarke, published in your issue of September 8th, is false; this will be observed by comparing both blows of the treble. I do not think it possible to compose a new peal of Treble Bob Minor.

JNO. F. PENNING.

A Canterbury correspondent writes to *The Standard*:—"The singular character of the present season is illustrated by a sight which can be seen just now at Hever, in Kent, where there is an apple tree with bright blossom on one part and fully-developed apples on the other portions."

THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The members of the above Society had their annual outing on Saturday, September 8th, Brighton being the place selected. A meet was appointed for London Bridge Station at 8.15. Only ten members put in an appearance, under the guidance of the worthy Master, A. H. Gardom, Esq. Unfortunately the members who were deputed to look after the enlivenment of the journey cut it too close, and forgot the handbells, but notwithstanding this the monotony of the long ride was pretty well broken by their funny member, who entertained them with the Italian bagpipes. Arriving at Brighton they were met (in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Attree) by Mr. F. Vernon, of the St. Peter's Society, who most kindly piloted them throughout the day. After refreshing the inner man a move was made for St. Peter's church, where they ascended to the top of the tower and had a magnificent view of Brighton. Descending to the ringing-room (which by the way is the pattern of what a belfry should be), two touches of Grandsire Triples were then brought round, the following taking part therein: A. H. Gardom, H. Scarlett, G. Cornell, J. Priest, E. Barnett, J. Nunn, H. Nunn, sen., J. Marks, and F. Vernon. After a course of Treble Bob Major on the handbells a move was made for the beach, where some indulged in the briny, and some on the top of it to get an appetite for their dinner, which was done full justice to at Host Box's, the "White Eagle," the catering of which for quality, quantity and cheapness could not be surpassed. After dinner a move was made for St. Nicholas' church, where two or three touches were rung, along with members of the Brighton Society. Afterwards they had a general sail on the briny, which brought round tea time. After tea the return journey was commenced, everyone having thoroughly enjoyed himself. The company take this opportunity of thanking the clergy and churchwardens of the two churches for the use of the bells, also Mr. Attree, for the trouble he took to arrange everything for them.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A ringing meeting of this Association will be held at Clent, near Stourbridge, on Saturday, September 22nd, 1888, to which all members and ringing friends are invited. The tower of St. Leonard's, Clent (six bells), and St. John's, Hagley (eight bells) will be open for ringing, through the kindness of the Vicar and Rector respectively. Tea will be provided at a reasonable price at "Fair View," Adam's Hill, Clent, for all who wish to partake of same. Members to take this as sufficient notice.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

37, Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting will be held at York, on Saturday, October 6th. Divine Service at the Minster at 4.30, with special sermon by the Very Rev. the Dean. Tea at 6 and business meeting at 6.45. Members desirous of having tea provided for them are requested to send word to Mr. W. H. Howard, 43, Trinity Lane, York, on or before October 1st. Tea tickets, 6d. each, in accordance with the resolution of the Association. Further particulars will be given in the circulars.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

There will be a meeting of the members of the proposed branch for the Rochdale and Heywood District, on Saturday, September 22nd, at St. Alban's, Rochdale. Bells ready at 2 p.m.; meeting in the schoolroom, Drake Street, at 5 p.m.

JOHN MILLETT.

RAT-CATCHING INDUSTRY.—The trade of rat-catching in the basements and sewers is a flourishing one. The skins of captured rodents are sold to glove manufacturers.

Mr. B. Keeble, Peal Book Manufacturer, of Romford, begs to intimate that he has disposed of the whole of his stock of "Troyte's Guide to the Steeples of England."

NORTON, DERBYSHIRE.

On Monday, August 20th, the Norton company had their annual outing, the place selected being Hull. After a pleasant journey by train and water Hull was reached, and after refreshments had been obtained Holy Trinity church was visited, and 120 Bob Minor rung. G. Oates, 1; H. Ward, 2; G. Butcher, 3; J. Goucher, 4; J. Atkin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. And 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with the assistance of Mr. Pollard. G. Butcher, 1; H. Ward, 2; —. Pollard, 3; J. Goucher, 4; J. Atkin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. Mr. Jackson having arrived 168 Grandsire Triples was rung. G. Butcher, 1; H. Ward, 2; —. Pollard, 3; J. Goucher, 4; J. Atkin, 5; J. Allen, 6; C. Jackson (conductor), 7; G. Oates, 8. An adjournment was then made to the "Coach and Horses," and the rest of the time was spent in handbell ringing, singing, and recitations. A very pleasant day was spent by all.

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL.

Some splendid carving in church stone has been found in the interior of an old buttress against the north transept of Peterborough Cathedral. It doubtless belonged to the lady chapel, which was demolished in 1670 to repair the rest of the Cathedral. Upon the various pieces, some of which are of great size, are traces of very brilliant pigments, and would seem to have belonged to some elaborate shrine. For ornate workmanship they are stated to be unexampled. An attempt is being vigorously made to complete the peal of bells in the north-west tower of Peterborough Cathedral. There was originally a peal of ten, but five were removed, sold, and recast into a peal for Witham-on-the-Hill in 1830. This was done as the bell frames were dangerous. Rev. H. P. Gates has given £350 for the renewal of the frames, hence the desire to get the complete peal again. The cost of the five bells, which are the five smaller ones in the ring, is expected to be about £400.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING of the year will be held at Nottingham on Saturday, October 13th, and the following towers will be open for ringing from 2 p.m., viz., St. Mary's (ten bells), St. Peter's (eight bells), and All Saints' (eight bells). Committee Meeting in St. Mary's schools at 5 o'clock. Tea and subsequent General Meeting at 5.30. Tickets 1s. 6d. each.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, *Hon. Sec.*

5, St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

In accordance with the result of the vote taken at the last annual meeting, the next annual meeting will be held at Bolton, on Saturday, October 13th, 1888. Further particulars later.

J. REDFORD, } *Hon. Secs.*
A. E. WREAKS, }

BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The members of the above Society will hold their next quarterly meeting at the "Swan" Hotel, Edmund Street, Birmingham, on Monday, October 1st, at 8 p.m., when most important business will be brought forward. W. BROOK, *Sec.*

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

The usual quarterly meeting of this society will be held in the tower on Thursday next, September 27th. W. H. GODDEN, *Sec.*

THE PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE.—In this attempt the band rang nearly fourteen courses in 2 hours 6 minutes, when, to use the words of our correspondent, they had a clean smash up,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

5003.					
2	3	4	5	6	
2	3	6	5	4	*
6	3	4	5	2	8 9
2	6	3	5	4	9 in 3 s
3	2	6	5	4	9 in 3
6	2	4	5	3	8 9
52463 first lead single					
4	5	2	6	3	9 in 3
3	4	5	6	2	9 in 3 s
2	3	4	6	5	9 in 3 s
4	2	3	6	5	9 in 3
3	4	2	6	5	9 in 3
5	3	4	6	2	9 in 3 s
2	5	3	6	4	9 in 3 s
32564 9 in 3					
4	3	2	6	5	9 in 3 s
5	4	3	6	2	9 in 3 s
2	5	4	6	3	9 in 3 s
52364 9 in 3					
3	5	2	6	4	9 in 3
4	3	5	6	2	9 in 3 s
2	4	3	6	5	9 in 3 s
32465 9 in 3					
5	3	2	6	4	9 in 3 s
4	5	3	6	2	9 in 3 s
2	4	5	6	3	9 in 3 s
54326†					
4	2	3	5	6	8 in 3
3	5	2	4	6	8 in 3 s
2	4	5	3	6	8 in 3 s
43526 8 in 3					
3	2	5	4	6	8 in 3
5	4	2	3	6	8 in 3 s
2	3	4	5	6	8 in 3 s
35426 8 in 3					
4	2	5	3	6	8 in 3 s
5	3	2	4	6	8 in 3 s
2	4	3	5	6	8 in 3 s
45326 8 in 3					
5	2	3	4	6	8 in 3
3	4	2	5	6	8 in 3
2	5	3	4	6	8 in 3 s
53426 8 in 3					
3	2	4	5	6	8 in 3
4	5	2	3	6	8 in 3 s
2	3	5	4	6	8 in 3 s
62543 9 in 3 s					
3	2	5	4	7	6†

* 7th in and out at 3 with a single and a 7 8.

† First lead single and 8 9. a 9th in with a single and a bob next lead. This peal has the 6th twenty-four times right, twenty-four times behind the 9th, and the 5th twelve times right.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

5007.					
2	3	1	4	5	6
5	1	6	3	4	2
6	1	2	4	5	3
6	1	3	2	5	4
3	1	6	4	5	2
3	1	2	6	5	4
3	1	4	2	5	6
4	1	3	6	5	2
4	1	2	3	5	6
4	1	6	2	5	3
6	1	4	3	5	2
4 1 2 5 6 3					
4	1	3	2	6	5
3	1	4	5	6	2
3	1	2	4	6	5
2	1	3	5	6	4
2	1	4	3	6	5
2	1	5	4	6	3
5	1	2	3	6	4
5	1	4	2	6	3

* 2, 6s, 8, 10, 16, 17, 18, 20.

The last eighteen courses repeated, with single instead of a bob at 5 in first course produces 514362. Round as follows; 2 7 13s 15 16, in six sixes and one change. This peal has the 5th and 6th each eighteen times in 5ths place.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By GEORGE H. HARDY, *Earlsheaton.*

8064.					
2	3	4	5	6	M B W H
3	6	4	5	2	2 - 1 2
5	3	4	6	2	1
6	2	3	4	5	1 2 2
4	5	2	3	6	2 - 2
3	6	5	2	4	2 - 2
4	2	5	6	3	2 - 2 1
6	4	5	2	3	1
4	2	3	5	6	1 2

Twice repeated.

A TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By WILLIAM LINCOLN, *Writtle.*

882.					
2	3	4	5	6	7
2	5	3	7	4	6
2	7	5	6	3	4
-	4	6	2	3	7
-	5	3	4	7	6
-	5	7	3	2	4
-	5	2	7	6	3
-	4	6	5	3	2
-	7	3	4	2	6
-	7	2	3	5	4
-	6	5	7	4	2
-	3	4	6	2	5
-	3	2	4	7	6
-	3	7	2	5	4
-	6	5	3	4	7
-	2	4	6	7	5
-	2	7	4	3	6
-	2	3	7	5	4
-	2	5	3	6	7
-	4	6	2	7	5
-	3	7	4	5	6
-	3	5	7	2	4

Twice Repeated.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By THE EDITOR.

5184.					
2	3	4	5	6	7 8 9
8	9	2	6	7	4 5 3 3
2	7	8	9	5	6 3 4 5
4 6 2 3 9 5 7 8 2					
6	2	4	3	9	5 7 8 6
3	2	6	5	4	8 9 7 7
2	6	3	5	4	8 9 7 6
3	4	2	6	9	5 7 8 5
4	2	3	6	9	5 7 8 6
6	2	4	5	3	8 9 7 7
2	4	6	5	3	8 9 7 6
6	3	2	4	9	5 7 8 5
3	2	6	4	9	5 7 8 6
S	2	4	3	5	6 8 9 7 7
3 6 2 4 9 5 7 8 5					
6	2	3	4	9	5 7 8 6
4	2	6	5	3	8 9 7 7
2	6	4	5	3	8 9 7 6
4	3	2	6	9	5 7 8 5
3	2	4	6	9	5 7 8 6
6	2	3	5	4	8 9 7 7
2	3	6	5	4	8 9 7 6
6	4	2	3	9	5 7 8 5
4	2	6	3	9	5 7 8 6
3	2	4	5	6	8 9 7 7

Repeated; and calling the 8th and 9th before completes the peal.

The 5th undisturbed throughout.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield.*

5120.					
2	3	4	5	6	M W H
5	6	2	3	4	2 1
3	4	5	6	2	2 1
4	3	2	6	5	2 2
6	2	3	4	5	2 2
4	5	2	3	6	1 2 2

Repeated.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

6003.					
2	3	1	4	5	6
6	2	4	3	1	5 s2 3 5 8
2	1	4	5	6	3 4 5 6s 16
2	1	3	4	6	5 16
2	1	5	3	6	4 16
5	1	2	4	6	3 5 16
5	1	3	2	6	4 16
3	1	5	4	6	2 5 16
3	1	2	5	4	6 16
3	1	4	2	6	5 16
4	1	3	5	6	2 5 16

The last nine courses five times repeated. Omitting the call at 6 in the first course of each part, and single instead of a bob at 5 in first course of fourth part produces 413265, when the following calls bring round—1 7 8 13s 15 18. The peal has the 5th and 6th eighteen times behind the 9th.

The inhabitants of Chelmsford on Wednesday celebrated the receipt of the Charter of Incorporation granted by the Queen. The proceedings included a dinner in the Corn Exchange, and the town was illuminated at night.

ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, PENZANCE.

It was the intention of the above band to have visited the cathedral city of Truro for their excursion of 1888, and to have rung on the peal of eight at Kenwyn; but in this they were disappointed, through the sixth bell having cracked, which, with other repairs, will be rectified as soon as the required funds shall have been raised—all unnecessary ringing in the meanwhile being wisely stopped.

Nothing daunted, however, the advantage of an excursion to Plymouth was embraced by this small but united band, and rising early on the morning of Wednesday, the 5th of September, comfortable seats were obtained in the railway carriages, and the day being fine, though rather dull, the varied scenery along the route was thoroughly enjoyed. Skirting for a couple of miles the northern shore of Mount's Bay, where smooth waters reflect St. Michael's Mount in all its grandeur—

"He whose brow
Is crown'd with castles, and whose rocky sides
Are clad with dusky ivy."

After running a few miles through a district more or less agricultural, and catching a glimpse of the northern sea or Bristol Channel from Hayle with St. Ives, a quaint fishing town in the distance, the mining district of Camborne and Redruth presents a peculiar appearance to the traveller, a veritably weird one by night, with its numerous engine-houses studded here, there, and everywhere, all busily engaged in obtaining from the depths below the greater part of that metal which, after finding its way through the "stamps" and smelting-house, is converted by the bellfounders with their perfected art into—

"Those evening bells."

At Truro, from whose railway viaduct a good view of the Cathedral is obtained, the scenery changes to some of the most beautiful in the West, and delightful peeps are obtained of thickly-wooded valleys as one rushes along the side of a hill, or is conveyed over one of the massive stone structures now rapidly replacing the very frail-looking wooden viaducts, then into the utter darkness of a tunnel, to emerge, if possible, into more lovely scenery than before; such until the reach of water termed the Hamoaze, bursts on the view, with its "old heroes of the deep" peacefully enjoying their well-earned slumbers thereon; then again that marvellous engineering production of Brunel's, the tubular bridge spanning the Tamar at Saltash, demands attention, over which they are conveyed, and being quickly deposited at their destination—in truth the last half-hour of the journey demands all your "rope-sight" to take in what is presented to your view.

After slight refreshment, steps were wended to St. Andrew's church, where the bells were raised, and left set owing to there being service, and a short visit paid to Charles Church, when some short touches, including two 168s of Grandsire Triples, were rung with the assistance of the local men. The "go" of these bells might be considerably improved upon, although the ringers there do contrive to ring them very creditably, yet a party of strangers, we feel confident, will never be able to accomplish more than a short touch of half-pull changes in their present condition, unless they are exceedingly more fond of hard work than pleasure. A retreat was then made to St. Andrew's, when that noble ring of ten were sent off in rounds for a few minutes, causing many of the party perfect ecstacy at their melodious tone, the tenor being 35 cwt. 45 lbs in D. A representative of the peace, clad in blue, however, intruded his presence into the belfry, with the request from the Guildhall just below that the ringing should cease for half-an-hour, there being an important case on. That brief interval was not to be wasted, so the party, with some of their Plymouth friends, repaired to an adjacent refreshment saloon for the replenishment of the inner man, and felt much more in the humour to do justice to the bells after their meal. A touch of 336 Grandsire Triples was rung on the front bells, with 9, 8, 10, covering, and which was reported by the local men as having been creditably struck; afterwards a short touch was attempted on the heavy eight, with F. W. Batchelor, Esq. at the 7th.

After thanking the local ringers, Messrs. Batchelor, Taylor, Screech, and Widdicombe for their courteous reception and great kindness in getting everything ready, the individual

members separated to wend their footsteps wherever their inclination led them—some by tram to Devonport, others on the Hoe to enjoy the unequalled view of the Sound and its shipping; the day drawing too soon to a finish when the muster-roll was called at the station at 6.20 for their homeward journey, which was safely accomplished about 11 o'clock p.m., after a most enjoyable and satisfactory day.

Great regret was felt by the band at not meeting with their old friend and adviser, Mr. Banister, whom they have since heard with much satisfaction was at the time in the country rapidly convalescing from a serious illness. They were also pleased to see Mr. Taylor able once again to take to the ropes, and hope he may soon regain that robust health which will enable him to espouse the cause he has so much at heart.

J. S.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

On Saturday, September 15th, a Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at Eccleston, by the kind permission of the Rector, and was well attended by members from St. Andrew's Leyland, St. James' Leyland, Chorley, Standish, Blackrod, and Eccleston. Several 720s of Plain Bob and touches in other methods were rung during the afternoon and evening. The bells of this parish church have lately been rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. They have been quarter-turned, had new clappers and new gearing of all kinds, and have been hung in one of their improved iron A frames. The treble, which was half a note flat, has been removed, and replaced by a new tenor a little over 11 cwt., which makes them a splendid peal of six. The new bell was given by Mrs. Talbot, the Rector's Aunt, and cast by the above firm, and the other work has been defrayed by subscription. Great credit is due to Messrs. Taylor for the excellent manner in which they have done their work. It was the general opinion of the ringers that the "go" of the bells was everything that could be desired. At 5 o'clock the company adjourned to the Schoolroom, and at the kind invitation of the Rector about thirty sat down to an excellent tea. The cloth having been removed, the President, Mr. William Bowling, opened the business meeting. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and unanimously passed, and other business having been transacted, four new ringing members were elected, whose names were received with pleasure by all present. St. James', Leyland, was selected as the next place of meeting in December. The chairman, replying to a vote of thanks, which was cordially passed to him (and to the Rector for so kindly providing them with a good tea, and granting them the use of the bells) brought the meeting to a close.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The half-yearly meeting and six-bell competition will take place at Hayfield, Derbyshire, on Saturday, September 22nd, commencing at 2 p.m. There will be no general dinner, but members and friends attending will find every accommodation at the several hotels and refreshment rooms. The officers and committee will sit at the "Royal" Hotel to enrol new members and receive subscriptions.

JAMES S. WILDE,
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE, } Secs.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

ST. ALPHEGE, GREENWICH.—Until further notice, meetings of the Society for the transaction of business are held after ringing on the first Tuesday in each month, in the vestry-room of this church, by kind permission of the Vicar and church-wardens.

FREDK. W. THORNTON, Secretary.
106, King George Street, Greenwich.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The District Meeting will be held at Loughton, on Saturday, October 6th. Particulars will be given next week.

T. L. PAPILLON, Hon. Sec.

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford.

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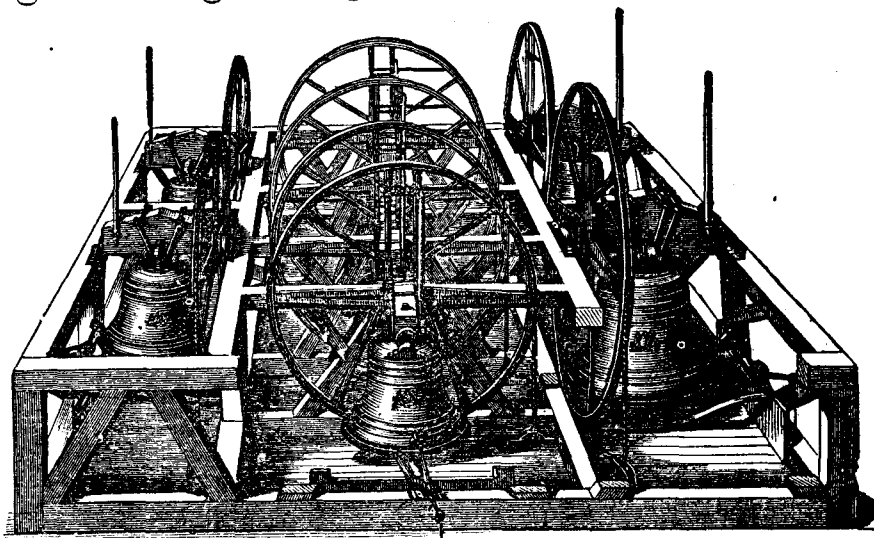
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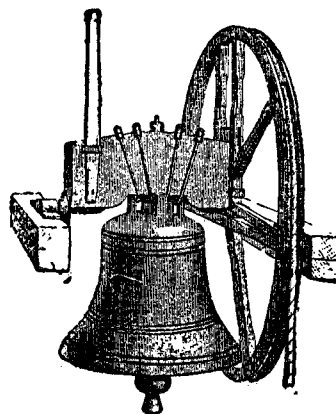
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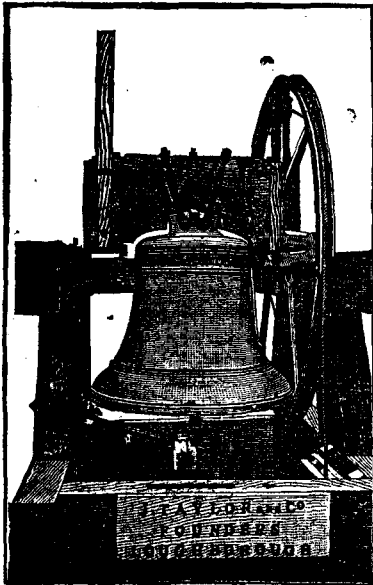
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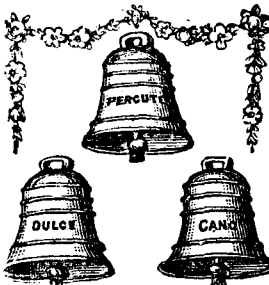
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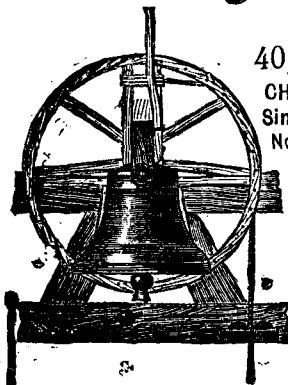
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No. 339.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1888.

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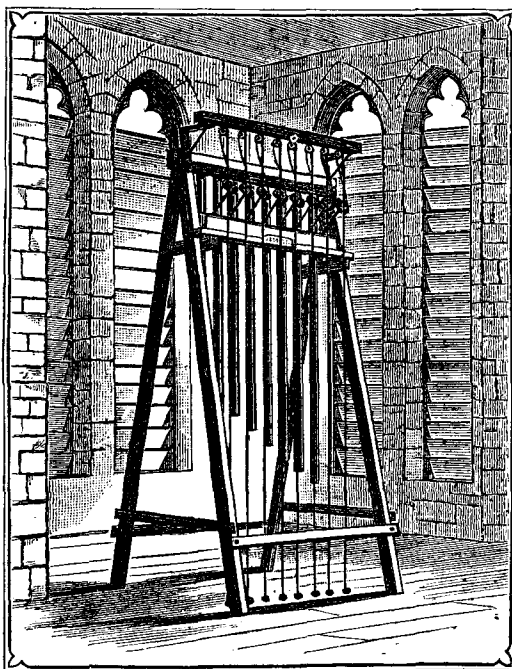
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CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.

ON Wednesday, September 19th, the town being *en fête* to celebrate the granting of a borough charter, the programme of arrangements announced that "peals would be rung on the Church bells at intervals during the day." As the St. Mary's Guild of Church Bellringers, whose services had been retained by the Committee to ring the said "peals," confine themselves to call-changes, it occurred to the Honorary Secretary for the Essex Association to attempt to get a volunteer band for something better during part, at any rate, of the proceedings. The consent of the Rector having been obtained, and the St. Mary's ringers having courteously waived their privilege of doing all the ringing in honour of the charter, the arrival of the charter and procession round the town was welcomed by a touch of Grand-sire Caters, 1349 changes, rung in 52 mins., the ringers being: W. Harvey (Widford), 1; A. J. Perkins (Romford), 2; A. Edwards (Writtle), 3; W. Rowland (Chelmsford), 4; H. F. de Lisle, Esq. (Galleywood), 5; W. Lincoln (Writtle), 6; W. Hawkes (Springfield), 7; Rev. T. Papillon (Writtle), 8; G. Newson (Hampstead), 9; J. Parmenter (Chelmsford), 10. All these, with the exception of Messrs. Newson and Perkins, reside in the immediate neighbourhood, and if only Chelmsford itself would cultivate change-ringing, Caters might often be rung upon these fine bells, now abandoned (except on rare occasions) to meaner uses. The blame for this state of things cannot all be laid upon the existing ringers. If but little encouragement is given by the authorities to change-ringing, and the performance of call-changes entitles men to regular payment and the dignity of a "Guild of Church Bell Ringers," it is only human nature that some of them should be content therewith; and till a leader arises among the clergy, or other influential parishioners, it is to be feared that ringing in the county town, upon one of the only two rings of ten in Essex, will remain at its present low ebb.

HANDBELL TUNE-RINGING CONTEST AT BELLE VUE GARDENS, MANCHESTER.

The thirty-fourth Annual Handbell Tune-Ringing Contest (open to all) took place at Belle Vue Gardens, Manchester, on Monday last, before many thousand spectators. The prizes were five in number, but of very small amounts, viz: £15, £10, £7, £5 and £3, this was the subject of much comment among the competing bands, and very great dissatisfaction was expressed thereon. The test pieces were the overture to the "Crown Diamonds" and the "Cuckoo Polka" the former of which required considerable executive skill in its performance. A period of nearly five hours was occupied in the competition, and the result as announced by the show of names and figures on boards was as follows:—Dewsbury, 1st prize; Mirfield, 2nd; Almondsbury, 3rd; Whitefield, 4th; Liversedge, 5th. This announcement was received with hooting and other marks of disapprobation, for the general opinion of musicians in the hall was that the Almondsbury band, was first and the Dewsbury band, if a prize-winner at all, was at the bottom of the list. However, the decision of the judges being final, the vast audience gave vent to its rage and disappointment by refusing to listen to the extra piece which is always played by the winning band, the consequence was a poor performance of the "Cuckoo Polka" amid a storm of yells and hooting. We quite agree with "Free Lance" of last week, that the judge's decision should be received with respect, but I must say in the same words as the *Manchester Guardian* used with regard to the Brass Band Contest, viz.: that the judgment was inexplicable.

M.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

ST. ALPHEGE, GREENWICH.—Until further notice, meetings of the Society for the transaction of business are held after ringing on the first Tuesday in each month, in the vestry-room of this church, by kind permission of the Vicar and churchwardens.

FREDK. W. THORNTON, Secretary.

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WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, September 22nd, a ringing meeting, which was well attended by members from Birmingham, Belbroughton, Brierley Hill, Clent, Cradley, Dudley, Hagley, Kidderminster, Netherton, Old Hill, Stourbridge, and Mr. R. Cartwright, of Wombourn, was held at Clent. St. John's, Hagley, was visited, where a touch of Bob Major was rung, conducted by Mr. R. Cartwright. A walk through the beautiful park (the seat of Lord Lyttleton), brought them to the noted Clent Hills, which have become a great resort for pleasure seekers, and also for invalids, the air being considered very pure. Arriving at "Fair View," a splendid tea awaited them, which was very much enjoyed by all those who partook of the same. A kind invitation by the Rev. F. R. Lawson, vicar of Clent (to the party to visit his gardens, and which would have been a treat for all) had to be abandoned, owing to the shades of evening coming on so soon. Ringing was freely indulged in by the members, each one expressing themselves highly satisfied with the meeting. The following 720's were rung at St. Leonard's, Clent. A 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 25 mins. C. Barrell, 1; H. Mason, 2; J. Smith, 3; J. Meredith, 4; J. Barber, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. *J. Meredith, 1; T. Salter, 2; H. Mason, 3; G. H. Pagett, 4; C. Boughton (conductor), 5; J. Crane, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. H. Morris, 1; W. Huxley, 2; J. Smith, 3; *S. Spittle, 4; *R. Cartwright, 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6. And 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Huxley, 1; H. Mason, 2; J. Smith, 3; H. Morris, 4; J. Barber, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. H. Martin hails from Belbroughton, Hartshorne from Brierley Hill, Spittle from Dudley, Cartwright from Wombourn, Barrett and Pagett from Stourbridge, Salter and Crane from Kidderminster, Mason from Old Hill, Meredith from Cradley, Boughton, Barber, Huxley, and Smith, from Clent, and Morris from Hagley. *First 720's in the method.

RINGERS' EXCURSION.

ON Thursday, September 20th, the ringers of St. Nicholas, Guildford (members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild) made their Annual Excursion, being met by friends from Godalming, Farnham and Basingstoke—Messrs. Manfield, Barnett and White. They first visited Woking Church, where they rang some 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles and a plain course of Grandsire Minor. They then proceeded to Walton-on-Thames, and rang several touches of Grandsire Triples on the heavy ring of eight in that tower, among others a 504: J. Jones, 1; W. Groves, 2; H. White (conductor) 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; F. Bennett, 5; G. Barnett, 6; G. Manfield, 7; C. W. Miller, 8; and 168 by J. Heathorn, 1; H. White, 2; J. Jones, 3; E. Bromham (Walton) 4; F. Bennett (conductor), 5; G. Manfield, 6; W. Groves, 7; F. W. J. Rees, 8. Next a charming walk to Weybridge. The bells are a light ring of eight, and their tone was much admired. A start was made for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, and all went well till 670 changes had been rung, when the tenor rope came into collision with the 7th man's neck. Another attempt was more successful, and the 720 was accomplished in 27 mins. J. Heathorn, 1; H. White, 2; G. Manfield, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; F. Bennett (conductor), 5; W. Groves, 6. Two covers were rung by Messrs. Colburn & Morgan. The proceedings ended with 360 Grandsire Doubles, and the ringers returned home, having spent a very enjoyable day. They desire through the "THE BELL NEWS" to give their thanks to the rectors and ringers of Woking, Walton and Weybridge, for the use of the bells, and the kind welcome they received.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting will be held at York, on Saturday, October 6th. Divine Service at the Minster at 4.30, with special sermon by the Very Rev. the Dean. Tea at 6 and business meeting at 6.45. Members desirous of having tea provided for them are requested to send word to Mr. W. H. Howard, 43, Trinity Lane, York, on or before October 1st. Tea tickets, 6d. each, in accordance with the resolution of the Association. Further particulars will be given in the circulars.

A VOICE FROM THE ANTIPODES.

WE have received the following extract from the Hobart (Tasmania) *Mercury*, from Mr. Tregear, the Hon. Secretary of the Hobart society of ringers. In his letter to us he says "that as a great many copies of 'THE BELL NEWS' come to Hobart and other towns in the colony, the readers would like to read the following from it." It is with pleasure therefore that we yield to his request:—

BELLS AND BELLRINGING.

It is probable that persons who are accustomed to the sound of church and chiming bells never have taken the trouble, and in some cases not had the opportunity to find out how or when they first came into general use. This being so there can be no doubt that an article conveying a little general information on the subject will prove acceptable to many of our readers, and may, we trust, do something towards increasing the interest already taken in bell-ringing by a few, and thus lead to a more liberal appreciation of the efforts of the ringers. It will not, of course, be expected that within the space available in a newspaper we can give a full and elaborate history of bells, but we trust a short account of them as known in the past and at present, so far as our own peal is concerned, will be thought sufficient.

First, as to the composition of bells. They are, as one would naturally suppose, made of bell metal, but herein lies one of the greatest difficulties connected with their manufacture. The composition of bell metal consists of copper and tin fused together, but opinions differ as to the proportions of these two metals, and in different foundries the proportions vary, and are regarded as trade secrets. Some allow 4 parts of copper to 1 of tin, and others 3 to 1. The latter proportion may be taken as the average one, but old records show that in the reign of Henry III. of England it was as low as 2 to 1, and small bronze bells discovered in the palace of Nimrod were found to contain 10 parts of copper to 1 of tin. Handbells are often made of brass, antimony alloyed with tin, German silver, real silver, and gold. Bells have also been made of steel, but the tone of these, although almost equal in fineness to those made of the best bell metal, are deficient in length through having less vibration. Glass bells give an extremely fine sound, but the substance of which they are composed is too brittle to stand the continued hammering of the clapper. In early days it was customary to add silver to the copper and tin, with the object of sweetening the tone, but this has been found a popular error. The quality of a bell depends not only in its composition, but also on its size and shape, a matter which requires experience, taste, and skill on the part of the founder. The following is an approximate scale which may be taken as coming nearest perfection:—"Taking the thickness of the sound-bow or brim—a bell should measure in diameter at the mouth, 15 brims; in height to the shoulder, 12 brims; and in width at the shoulders, 7½ brims, or half the width at the mouth." The smaller the bell the higher the pitch, and to give the pure chord of ground tone (key note) in a peal of four bells, the diameters require to be as 30, 24, 20, 15, and the weight as 80, 41, 24, 10.

From a remote antiquity, cymbals and handbells were used in religious ceremonies, but the introduction of bells into Christian Churches is usually ascribed to Paulinus, Bishop of Nola, in Campania (A.D. 400). It is inferred that they were first made in Campania, from the name given to them—*campanæ*, hence *campanile*, the bell tower. They were generally brought into use in churches in the sixth century, being introduced into France in 550, and a little more than a century later (680) Benedict, Abbott of Wearmouth, England, brought one from Italy for his church. They were not made of a large size until the fifteenth century, although in the eleventh there was a bell cast and presented by a king to the Church of Orleans which weighed 2,600lbs. A bell cast in Paris in the year 1400 weighed 15,000 lbs., and another in 1472 weighed 25,000lbs. In 1501 the famous bell of Rouen was cast, and weighed 36,364lbs., but the largest bell in the world is the Great Bell or Monarch of Moscow, cast in 1734, over 21ft. in height and diameter and weighing 193 tons. A fire in 1737 caused the bell to fall, and the shock broke a piece out of it, but since 1837 it has formed the dome of a chapel made by excavating the space below it. Another large Moscow

bell, cast in 1819, weighs 80 tons; the great bell at Pekin 53½ tons; a bell cast for the New Palace Westminster (but cracked), 14 tons; another cast for the Roman Catholic Cathedral at Montreal, 13½ tons; Great Peter (York), 13½ tons; Great Tom (Lincoln) 5½ tons; great bell of St. Paul's 5 1-10th tons.

Bells at one time acquired a kind of sacred character, they were founded with religious ceremonies, christened with a complete baptismal service, etc., and in many countries this practice is still observed. They were rung to terrify evil spirits and to dispel storms, as there was a mysterious belief in the virtue of their sound. They are still used for convoking congregations, but the custom of tolling for the dead is fast becoming obsolete.

The first regular peal of bells known to history seem to have been a peal of five, which, about the year 1456, was sent by Pope Calixtus III. to King's College, Cambridge, where they remained until about 1750, the largest peal in the Kingdom, the tenor weighing 57cwt. About the beginning of the sixteenth century eight bells were hung in a few churches, but towards the close of the same century the number was increased to 10, and soon after to 12. Some time during 1631 the system of ringing in changes or regular peals was invented, but it was not until several years had elapsed that peals were rung without a single. Eight bells, which form an octave, or diatonic scale, make the most perfect peals. The number of changes which may be rung on a peal of bells increases enormously with the number of bells, thus—Four bells allow 24 changes, which may be rung in the space of one minute; eight bells admit of 40,320 changes, which would occupy one day and four hours; 12 bells give 479,001,600 changes, for which the space of 37 years 355 days would be required. In this way it has been calculated that to ring the full changes upon a peal of 24 bells at the rate of two strokes to a second, the time occupied would be one hundred and seventeen thousand billions of years.

Campanology—as the art of ringing is called—is an ingenious art, and to use the words of an old ringer, "as an athletic exercise or amusement there are few of so noble a nature, so conducive to health, and employing so many facilities, both mental and corporeal." Time and persevering assiduity may perfect a set of men and qualify them to ring the most intricate peals, but special ingenuity and leisure is required to attempt the boundless variety which are described in books on change-ringing. A visit to the belfry at Trinity Church, Hobart, which may be arranged for by interviewing the master ringer, will demonstrate to the satisfaction of anyone what healthful and strengthgiving exercise bell-ringing is, and moreover the visitor will see that not only is it exercise for the physical but for the mental powers also. Each ringer has to keep his mind fixed upon his task in order to sound his bell at the right moment, and thus keep that perfection of time which is necessary to produce a really musical chime. The work is by no means easy until one gets thoroughly used to it, and absence for a time means stiffness after a return to it for a little while. The thanks of a community are certainly due to any body of men who undertake the task of learning to ring the bells, and by diligent practice attain a proficiency which renders their music joyous, merry, and ever welcome to the ears of the citizen.

It is with pleasure we draw attention to our own peal of bells at Trinity Church, and trust that all who hear them will take greater interest after reading the short history of them which we give below. No small amount of trouble has been taken to collate the facts which follow, and it may be that one or two little details are missing, but if so, they are likely to be brought to light by the publicity now given.

During the year 1144 the Reverend Philip Palmer, who held the office of rural dean, and was perhaps better known as Dean Palmer, went to England for the purpose of collecting money to build what is now Holy Trinity Church. His mission was attended with great success, and amongst others who gave substantial subscriptions to the fund, were Her Majesty Queen Victoria, her mother the Duchess of Kent, and the Earl of St. Germans. Dean Palmer, finding that he had collected more than enough to pay for the construction of the church, decided to apply the surplus to the purchase of a peal of bells. The surplus, however, was not sufficient for the purpose, but upon his (Dean Palmer's) return to the colony, the late Mr. William Champion took the matter up, and called a meeting, at which it was decided to open a subscription list to defray the residue

of the cost, Mr. Champion himself heading the list with a very substantial sum. Indeed, we find in the obituary notice of this gentleman, which appears in *The Mercury* of September 26, 1871, the following sentence:—"Although he never mentioned the matter himself we happen to be aware that the Trinity bells which chime so sweetly over the city on gala days owe to his liberality something like £125, that sum having been contributed by Mr. Champion towards the expenses of their suspension, and never repaid to this day." Two days after the above-mentioned date *The Mercury*, in referring to Mr. Champion's funeral, wrote:—"Before and after the funeral service the Trinity bells tolled a muffled peal, and then the fine old man was silently left in his resting place." There is no authentic record of the cost of the bells, but they must have totalled over £700 for purchase, freight, and fixing. At the present time a similar peal would cost very nearly the same, as the selling price in England is £475. The bells, eight in number, are considered the best in the colonies next to the Ballarat peal. After they were hung in 1847, a bell-ringers' association was formed, and the bells were heard chiming week in and out for a number of years. Mr. C. B. Hardinge was the master ringer for many years, and after his resignation Mr. Bryant Webb took the mastership, but a few years ago the association collapsed, mainly on account of the dangerous state of the frame-work on which the bells are hung. They were silent for about two years, but an association was formed, and subscription lists started to pay the cost of repairing the frame. Mr. J. R. Meech was entrusted with the work, and he faithfully fulfilled his contract, the amount of which was about £70. A good deal of this was met by private subscription, but there still remains a balance of £26 to be paid. There is a good deal of work to do in cleaning and oiling the bearings, &c., and as the total weight of the bells is $3\frac{1}{2}$ tons (tenor alone weighing half a ton), it can be imagined that the friction on the ropes, wheels, &c., renders it necessary that great care should be taken of them. The duties of caretaker are performed by Mr. D. Scholes in a satisfactory manner. The master ringer is Mr. Edwin J. Rogers, and the assistant master ringer Mr. H. L. D'Emden. The other ringers are Messrs. A. F. and E. F. Lovett, C. Pender, F. Milson, A. Johnson, and V. D. Tregear. There are also two or three recruits, but as stated above, it is some time before they can take a place in a squad. These gentlemen and their confreres have been practising assiduously for some time past, and so ready are they always to ring the chimes on any important occasion, in addition to filling the air with sweet sounds one night each week, that they fully deserve the support of every citizen, and we trust that ere long the debt owing upon the bells will be wiped off, if only as a complement to the ringers and the president (Rev. G. W. Shoobridge), who takes a lively interest in the association.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Baldock on Saturday, October 13th. The tower will be open for ringing from 3 p.m. and at 5 o'clock. A tea will be provided at the "George and Dragon" Hotel, after which a meeting will be held for general business, and also to consider the new rules drawn up by the officers, and any amendments to the same. Railway tickets at cheap fares will be issued by the Great Northern Railway to members, by their informing the Secretary not later than Wednesday, October 10th, of the stations from which they propose to travel, and on production of their receipt for the current subscription at the Booking Office.

St. Albans, September 25th. E. P. DEBENHAM, Hon. Sec.

The peal of Stedman Triples rung at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, on Thursday, September 20th, an account of which appears in its proper place, was the rooth peal in which Mr. A. Wakley has taken part. Of these ten were peals of Grandsire Triples, twenty of Stedman Triples, twenty-two of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, twelve of Kent Treble Bob Major, twenty-three of Superlative Surprise Major, seven of Cambridge Surprise Major, two of New Cumberland Surprise Major, one of London Surprise Major, and one each of Stedman Caters, Kent Treble Bob Royal, and Duffield Royal.

MATRICATION (London) Jan. 1889. An experienced Tutor prepares Pupils for this and other Examinations. Help by correspondence. For terms (moderate) address F. C. S., office of this paper.

SUFFOLK RINGERS IN LANCASHIRE.

On Monday, September 24th, six members of the St. Mary-le-tower Society, Ipswich, with Mr. Hayward from Framlingham, and Mr. Ward from Woodbridge, availed themselves of the opportunity of a cheap excursion to Manchester by the Great Eastern Railway, the train leaving Ipswich at 12.5 a.m. on Monday morning, and proceeding by Bury St. Edmunds, Newmarket, Ely, Lincoln, and Sheffield, and on through the beautiful hills of Cheshire, to the city of Manchester, arriving there about 8.30 a.m. Resuscitating the inner man, the visitors afterwards inspected the various public buildings, including the Cathedral and the magnificent town-hall, greatly admiring the fine ring of bells thereto belonging, as the chimes played the "Last Rose of Summer." The sound of these bells created a longing desire within them to have the opportunity some day of ringing, as well as listening to them. In this frame of mind they wended their way to the Bell Vue Gardens, where at 3 o'clock in the large hall, they had the pleasure of hearing and seeing the handbell contest, an account of which will be found elsewhere. A walk round the gardens being had, a return was made to the Cathedral, where a peal had been arranged by the members of the Cathedral society. This peal was successfully rang in 3 hrs. 44 mins., and the visitors regret there was no time left for a social hour with their friends at Manchester, for they were only just in time to catch the train at 11.25 p.m., arriving safely home at 8.20 a.m. on Tuesday morning. They heartily thank the Cathedral authorities for permission given to ring, and Mr. A. E. Wreaks and other members of the Cathedral society for making arrangements.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING of the year will be held at Nottingham on Saturday, October 13th, and the following towers will be open for ringing from 2 p.m., viz., St. Mary's (ten bells), St. Peter's (eight bells), and All Saints' (eight bells). Committee Meeting in St. Mary's schools at 5 o'clock. Tea and subsequent General Meeting at 5.30. Tickets 1s. 6d. each.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

5, St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent.

BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The members of the above Society will hold their next quarterly meeting at the "Swan" Hotel, Edmund Street, Birmingham, on Monday, October 1st, at 8 p.m., when most important business will be brought forward.

W. BROOK, Sec.

KING'S SUTTON TENOR.

In connection with the weight and diameter of this bell "Grandsire Bob" says: "I beg to thank Mr. Jerram for his kind information concerning King's Sutton Bells. Since that reached me, I have written to the parish clerk of that town, who informs me that the diameter of their tenor is 42 (forty-two) inches, so that it will weigh probably about 15 cwt."

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CLAPHAM (Beds).—On Saturday, September 22nd, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire and Bob Doubles (1888 changes) in 1 hr. 10 mins. H. Sharpe, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; F. Sharpe, 3; T. Lane, 4; F. Smith (conductor), 5.

STALEYBRIDGE (Cheshire).—On Sunday evening, September 23rd, for Divine Service at Holy Trinity, 672 of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Lawton, 1; H. Shaw, 2; J. Green Hardy, 3; E. Schofield, 4; J. Shaw, 5; W. Fawcett, 6; B. Dodson, 7; J. S. Wilde (conductor), 8. Messrs. Hardy hails from Huddersfield, Dodson from Birstall, Shaw and Wilde from Hyde; the rest are of the local company.

ON MATCHES.

NOT ringing matches, my readers. Though I do not share in the general wholesale condemnation of such bouts, I have no desire to say anything about them. My Matches are quite of another sort. I am going to have a gossip upon that very useful, though small article of domestic economy—the “match,” or, if you will, the “lucifer match.” But this qualifying adjective would be out of place in what I have to say. “Lucifer,” so I learnt at school, was another cognomen for the arch-tempter of mankind. Whoever applied the term to the household match evidently had the terrors of sulphur and brimstone before him. And no wonder; for a generation ago the household match certainly gave one a powerful idea of the potency of these ingredients.

Many of the readers of this journal do not recollect the somewhat primitive appliances of flint, steel, and tinder, for the purpose of “getting a light. I can just remember them, and can call to mind the temper-trying attempts, in the small hours of a winter’s morning, to procure a light by the aid of such implements, and the satisfaction displayed when after several minutes’ intense energy and perseverance the end in view was attained. Those who have lived long enough to remember such times, must also recollect the successful experiments of Dr. Congreve, which resulted in the time-honored tinder-box and its accompaniments being abandoned for ever. Congreve it was, I believe, who first invented a match that should produce a light when friction was applied to it. And though this seems to be the forerunner of the present “match,” yet from the improvements made in these later years, the invention of Congreve seems to have very little affinity with the article in use at the present day.

From little causes great effects arise. This is exemplified in the highest degree in connection with the little article now being dealt with. From the improper use of the match what disasters have arisen, and what loss of life has taken place. No doubt it was these results of the extreme carelessness in keeping the ordinary match that induced the chemists of the greatest match manufacturers in Europe—Messrs. BRYANT and MAY—to adopt some plan to render innocuous their careless handling, and to neutralise or in fact prevent any such calamity as loss of life in the future. If this could be effected at all, the above-named firm were the ones to effect it. And in fact we see that among their many wonderful and ingenious improvements in the means of “getting a light,” none is more wonderful than their renowned “safety match,” which it is impossible to ignite only under special circumstances.

A match manufactory is certainly one of the features of the present century, and especially that of the firm we have just mentioned. The Fairfield Works, as the factory is called, may reasonably claim to be the principal of the kind in Europe. They are situate in the Fairfield Road, Bow, London, within a stone’s throw, in fact, of that church known to my readers as “Bow-in-the-road.” The buildings cover about ten acres of ground, and their appearance both from interior and exterior surveys, may safely be said to be handsome, clean, and elaborate. Every workshop and store within the building is exceedingly well-built, and rendered fireproof. The most perfect ventilation is employed, the outlets of the various air-shafts are covered with moveable contrivances to regulate the admission of the air, according to the season of the year or atmospherical change, and other well-considered sanitary arrangements, with the roomy condition of the workshops, accounts to a very great extent for the healthy condition and appearance of the many workpeople of both sexes employed therein. This statement will be thought somewhat remarkable, perhaps, while having

in view the popular error that the employes of a match factory are unhealthy and short-lived. The very reverse is the actual fact. When the trade was in its infancy, no doubt there was some ground for the supposition. The discoveries, however, which have been made in chemical science, and the introduction of elaborate machinery, has proved that the match factory in question is a much healthier spot than many places where even articles of food are prepared.

The manufacture of matches is a most interesting process, and I cannot resist the temptation of giving the following account of such processes which is taken from the *Royal Album of Arts and Industries* :—

A portion of the timber used by Messrs. Bryant and May is cut into splints in Canada, and sent over to this country ready for converting into matches; but the greater portion of the pine-wood is sawn and cut at their own saw-mills and box-works on Bow Common. No timber is cut or stored at the Fairfield Works, where the inflammable components are made and used. The wood is sawn into blocks to fit the splint-cutting machine, which consists of a guillotine knife and a set of lancets. When this wood is cut into splints it is tied into bundles, and thoroughly dried by being left in a heated chamber for a considerable time. The dried bundles of splints are then sent to Fairfield, where they pass through one of the prettiest automatic machines we have seen. The splints are filled into frames by this machine, and afterwards dipped into melted paraffin wax. They are then passed on to another hand, who strikes the splints in the frame, with a weight to drive the ends of the splints into a uniform position for dipping. Each splint is double the length of an ordinary match. The two ends are dipped in the composition, and, by another ingenious machine, the made matches are released and the splints or double matches are transferred to a girl, who picks up the right quantity to fill a couple of boxes; the bundle is first cut in two, and the matches are rapidly put into the boxes and passed on to the packing department, to be made up into parcels of one dozen. These parcels are packed in cases made to contain the required quantities of boxes of matches.

THE SAFETY MATCH.—The great reputation which this Firm enjoys is chiefly due to the introduction of the celebrated Safety Match, which was patented by Mr. Bryant, who had the monopoly of the manufacture of this speciality until the patent expired. So important an invention could not fail to meet with the speedy recognition of the public. Who has forgotten the suffocating sulphur match, which made the act of lighting gas or candles a positive torture? The substitution of other and inoffensive compounds for sulphur was an innovation and a boon to the public, but that improvement was quite eclipsed by the invention of the safety match. Many of us can recollect the accounts which frequently appeared in the newspapers of children who were burnt to death through playing with lucifer matches. As a match was a necessity of civilisation, and produced at a price within the reach of the poorest of mankind, it is not surprising that mischievous children possessed themselves of the match-boxes whenever they had an opportunity of gratifying their curiosity. The matches were frequently left in accessible places, and the Coroner’s Courts bore testimony to the dangers attending the unrestrained distribution of lucifer matches. Bryant and May’s Patent Safety Match effected a complete revolution in the trade. They produced a match which could not by any possible means be lighted by rubbing it over sandpaper or any other roughened surface; only upon the sides of its own box could the match be ignited. Fires have been caused by accidentally treading upon the ordinary match. No amount of stamping will light a safety match. To prevent accidents to children who are intelligent enough to know that the matches must be rubbed upon the sides of the box in order to produce fire, it is only necessary to keep the matches in one place and the boxes in another. The patent safety match was for some time the subject of controversy amongst the curious and scientific men, but it did all that the inventor claimed for it, and careful parents, and those having the care of large premises and valuable collections of treasures, soon adopted it, and refused to allow the use of any other kind of match. At the present time Bryant and May’s safety matches may be purchased retail at about sevenpence halfpenny per dozen boxes. They are also made up in various kinds of fancy boxes, with a reserve stock of prepared paper, so that these superior boxes can be refilled from time to time from the ordinary wooden boxes. It would be difficult to find a spot on the earth inhabited by a civilised race where Bryant and May’s safety match is unknown.

The manufacture of Wax Vestas at Fairfield Works is an important branch of the business. The cotton yarn is wound upon drums and passed through a bath of melted stearine, etc. The taper, after being waxed, is wound upon a huge cylindrical frame. Each length of taper

measures 3,000 yards of taper, or 100 lengths of 3,000 yards each. The wax taper is cut by a very pretty and valuable machine into the requisite lengths. The match bodies so cut off are transferred to frames constructed of the required depth. They are then dipped into the igniting compound, and treated in exactly the same way as ordinary matches. After the dipping process they are dried, sorted, and packed in boxes of various sizes, patterns, and capacity. While we were inspecting the making of wax vestas, we noticed a number of girls filling small round fancy boxes, unlike anything we had seen in the shops of this country. These boxes were for shipment to the Fiji Islands. The Polynesian has cast aside his rude fire-drill for Bryant and May's wax-matches—a sure sign of his adoption of the customs of civilised races. Possibly the Fijian of to-day would as soon think of using the primitive fire-drill as of making a meal of a neighbouring islander. The cases used for packing the matches for the export trade are made up by Messrs. Bryant and May. In one enormous store-room we saw thousands of cases ready for shipment, each case containing several grosses of boxes of matches. There are other store-rooms at Fairfield Works, filled with thousands of reams of paper and great quantities of printed labels, etc. At the saw-mills and box-factory they make the boxes for the matches. We were shown here several other wonderful machines, many processes in the various manufactures conducted at this branch being performed by a single machine in an astonishingly short space of time. In addition to the extensive manufacture of matches, was vestas, and vesuvians, Bryant and May do a large business in those pretty tea-canisters, biscuit-tins, and fancy tin boxes of all kinds which one cannot help noticing in every grocer's window; these are constructed at Reading, many of them out of one piece of metal. The patterns are most artistic, indeed, they are almost too good for such low-priced articles. If the canisters and boxes were scarce and high-priced, they would be valued more than they are. English people, unfortunately, seldom judge a thing from an artistic standpoint. The first question usually asked is, "How much did it cost?" and, if the article is perfectly useless, and ugly into the bargain, it is highly valued if it cost a good round sum. Many of the designs printed upon the tin boxes by Messrs. Bryant and May's patent process are copied from rare works of art, and thus the poorest individual can adorn his cottage with articles which would, in the days of our grandfathers, have been deemed worthy of a place on the sideboards of the well-to-do.

This account of the process of manufacture of the match of to-day, brief though it is, is to the purpose. The invention of the safety-match is one that will especially commend itself to the readers of this paper, many of whom have immense interests committed to their charge as custodians of our churches, with all their interior properties (if the word may be allowed) and arrangements. This safety-match is also the proper article for use in the belfry, and a stock of them could be very easily kept in a suitable place in the ringing-chamber. Bryant and May manufacture very handsome metallic boxes to hold their safety matches, which are admirably adapted for this purpose. These boxes, or brackets, hold a good store of matches, and their appearance is neat and attractive. The tower of a church generally contains in some part or other "furniture" of some kind belonging to the Church; in fact, and with sorrow be it said, that this part of the sacred edifice is frequently used as a receptacle for the collection of what may be designated as useless lumber, the lower part being used as a storage-room for fuel. How necessary it is then that care should be observed, where such a collection of heterogeneous materials is allowed to coagulate. A thoughtless official may, and in fact frequently does, take an ordinary naked match, and igniting it within the walls of the building, thoughtlessly drops the ash close to where the light has been obtained, and there leaves it regardless of consequences. What a powerful element of danger this negligence begets is well known. Neither are the bell-chambers of our churches, be in what order they may, kept free from the admission of inflammable ingredients, and yet how seldom is this danger considered? The invention of the safety-match, however, enables us to make light of the danger. If Church authorities laid down a hard and fast rule that none but approved safety matches, such as those referred to above, should under severe penalties, be admitted into the buildings under their charge, the conditions of safety would be greater, and in time no doubt the premiums of insurance would be lessened.

I have spoken of the match as a valuable and in fact

indispensable article of domestic economy; I have also quoted an interesting description of the manufacture of the article, and pointedly alluded to the principal "works" in the continent of Europe where their manufacture is carried on. A reference to the latter would at the present time be somewhat incomplete if, the recent commotion among the workpeople at that factory did not have a passing remark. "The strike at Bryant and May's" was a theme a few weeks ago which some organs in the press made a deal of. But the "strike," such as it was, ended more rapidly than the out-door agitators bargained for. The verbose mock-philanthropists who endeavoured to make a name for themselves out of this movement were put to confusion at the readiness with which the representatives of Bryant and May listened to the complaints of their workpeople, and adjusted, with a rapidity worthy of imitation in such cases, any cause for uneasiness that was supposed to exist. I say "supposed" advisedly, because the majority of these so-called differences between employers and employed vanished immediately they came to be reasoned out by the parties themselves; while the small concessions asked for were granted with alacrity directly the arguments in their favour were pushed to a logical conclusion. It would be out of place here to go into the pros and cons of the affair, but this may be said, that the foolish remarks which have been circulated from time to time about the "poor match-maker" are without rhyme or reason, or the least shadow of veracity. Those who doubt this should pay the factory a visit. There they would see as healthy a body of workpeople of both sexes as can be seen anywhere, and what is more, contented with their lot. Sympathy is misplaced upon them, they need it not, and maudlin philanthropy—the stock in trade of the street demagogue—is put to shame by a survey of the condition of the match-making lasses employed by Bryant and May.

CALIBAN.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The second annual six-bell competition held in connection with the above Association took place on Saturday last at St. Matthew's, Hayfield, Derbyshire, when the Association cup was competed for (according to the rules of the Association) and other prizes, given by the Hayfield ringers and friends. The general conditions were that every competitor must have been a member of the Association six months; each company to ring a 720 of Minor; and the cup must be won three times before it becomes their own property. Until this latter condition is realised the company winning has the honour of holding it for twelve months, when it must again be competed for. It is worthy of notice that although the competitors were at liberty to ring any method they choose, they all rung Oxford Treble Bob. As was announced in "THE BELL NEWS," the draw for order of ringing took place at the Royal Hotel at two o'clock, with the following result: Saddleworth (limited), Saddleworth (holders) Chapel-en-le-Frith, Hyde, Royal George, and Mossley. A plain course was allowed each company before commencing. At 2.30 the first company ascended the tower, the others following on without loss of time. A very large number of ringers from various parts were present to listen to the ringing, which was of an excellent character, especially the ringing done by the companies gaining the prizes. Much excitement was manifested at the close, on account of the four prize-winners running so close together, and a large number of people assembled to hear the judges announce their decision from the balcony of the Royal Hotel, which was as follows: 1st prize—the Association cup and six sterling scarf pins the shape of a bell, Royal George; 2nd prize, Saddleworth United; 3rd prize, Saddleworth; 4th prize, Mossley. The judges were Mr. J. Green Hardy, of Huddersfield, and Mr. B. Dodson, of Birstall, and their decision gave general satisfaction. The committee of the Association desire to publicly thank the Vicar of Hayfield for placing the bells of St. Matthew's at their disposal, and the Hayfield ringers and their friends for their generous subscriptions and hearty co-operation, and also the courteous judges.

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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 arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1888.

WE heartily commend to our readers this week the words of our correspondent, "Free Lance," respecting the work which is before us during the now opening "working season." Without a doubt we have, as he well observes, much to do in every direction before we cease our efforts for the good of the Exercise. From whatever point of

view we look at our position, we cannot fail to see how lamentably we are yet "found wanting." It will be well, therefore, for us to act upon our contributor's advice; take stock, so to speak, and when we find—as we most certainly shall—that there is so much good work to be done, "so much ground to encompass," it is our bounden duty to set ourselves resolutely to work and endeavour to heal our breaches. There is one phase of this question which our correspondent has not touched upon, but which we are quite certain that he is perfectly alive to, and that is the great need of more education among our members. No man is likely to "rise to the situation" until he is educated up to it; and we should act foolishly were we to try to shut our eyes to the fact that we have great need of "the Schoolmaster abroad" among us. Whether we look at ourselves from a scientific, a religious, or a social standpoint, the same gaunt fact will stare us in the face that there is a great lack of that education which is absolutely necessary to raise us to the position which we desire to hold in the Church and State. Like everything else, we must move with the times, and keep pace with the march of improvement which is going on continually around us. The question next arises—How are we to set about this work of educating our backward brethren? By shewing the ringers of stoney, call-changes, and such-like inartistic performances, the great benefit of being able to ring proper scientific methods; by urging the careless, the lukewarm, and the openly antagonistic, to "mend their ways," come into our Associations, and shaking off their supineness and antagonism, while helping on the work of progress be at the same time most effectively helping themselves. There are, in fact, as many different modes by which we may help forward our lagging friends, as there are differences of circumstances; thus if every ringer who is anxious for the good of his craft, takes care to seize each opportunity of doing good work when it arises to his hand, and—like a clever workman—turns it out in a finished manner, we can have no hesitation whatever in predicting the ultimate result.

Another mode of helping this on, we venture to submit, should not be forgotten. The press is undoubtedly a powerful educational force, and that power shews unmistakable signs of strengthening as time goes on. Without laying ourselves open to the charge of being egotistical, we dare to assert that, so far as the Exercise is concerned, "THE BELL NEWS" has played no unimportant part in the struggle for improvement which has been going on amongst us of recent years. And shall we not be speaking with a strict regard to the truth if we say that no small amount of that improved state of things which we now see is due in a more or less degree to this paper? We therefore feel that we are acting in the best interests of the Exercise when we ask for the increased support of the ringing world. The judicious distribution of copies here and there among those we seek to improve, or who are still outside our organised ranks, could not fail to act like seed planted in many places, which will bring forth fruit

in due season. It is not from motives of personal aggrandisement that we plead, but for the good of that art and work for which alone this journal exists, and in which work the greater our success the more extended will be our means of usefulness.

The Metropolis.

PIMLICO.—THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Thursday, September 20, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

WILLIAM BARON, Senr. .. Treble.	JOHN W. MANSFIELD .. 6.
WILLIAM LALLY 2.	WILLIAM W. THORNE .. 7.
WILLIAM HOVERD 3.	ALBERT E. CHURCH .. 8.
WILLIAM JONES 4.	HENRY SWAIN 9.
CHAS. E. MALIM, Esq. .. 5.	GEORGE CHESTERMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN COX and Conducted by W. BARON.

The above is the first peal on the bells since they were rehung by the late G. R. Banks, and also the first since 1862, or just over twenty-six years ago, and it is worthy of notice that it was rung on the thirty-fourth anniversary of the battle of the Alma, in which two of the performers in the above peal took part, viz.: Messrs. Hoverd and Jones. The ringers wish to thank Mr. G. Longhurst, steeple-keeper, for having everything in readiness for them.

WESTMINSTER.—THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 22, 1888, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, ROCHESTER ROW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM W. THORNE* .. Treble.	*ALBERT E. CHURCH .. 5.
CHARLES HAMMOND* .. 2.	*WILLIAM H. JUDD .. 6.
HENRY A. BARNETT .. 3.	*GEORGE WILD 7.
JOSEPH BARRY* 4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, of Birmingham, and Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

*First peal of Grandsire Major.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, September 22, 1888, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE "KING'S HEAD," WINCHESTER STREET, SOUTHWARK,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

Size 15 in C.

HENRY R. NEWTON .. 1-2.	GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN 5-6.
CHALLIS F. WINNY .. 3-4.	JOHN M. HAYES 7-8.
JOHN N. OXBORROW 9-10	

Composed by JOHN BRADLEY and Conducted by JOHN M. HAYES.

This is Mr. Oxborrow's first peal of Grandsire Caters, and also the second peal in the method upon handbells rung in the Metropolis. Umpires—Mr. William Baron, of the Royal Cumberland Society; Mr. George Mash, and Mr. H. Gardiner (Gloucestershire), of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

The Provinces.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 15, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

THOMAS SHORT Treble.	JOHN BROWN 5.
WILLIAM LAWRENCE* .. 2.	Rev. F. E. ROBINSON .. 6.
WILLIAM ADKINS 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
ALBERT KIMBREY 4.	HARRY FRUIN Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal.

BIRMINGHAM.

On Wednesday, September 19, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT ST. CHAD'S (R.C.) CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

WILLIAM SANIGAR Treble.	JAMES JONES 5.
THOMAS HORTON 2.	JOHN T. PERRY 6.
WILLIAM BROOK 3.	ALBERT HACKLEY 7.
JOHN CARTER 4.	JOHN HOLLIER Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

It was arranged for a peal of Stedman Triples, but owing to one of the company being ill and unable to attend, by the kindness of Mr. Sanigar the above peal was rung.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, September 19, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. Treble.	HERBERT BAKER 5.
NATHAN J. PITSTOW .. 2.	Rev. F. E. ROBINSON .. 6.
ERNEST PITSTOW 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
Rev. F. J. O. HELMORE .. 4.	HARRY FRUIN Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, September 20, 1888, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. in D.

AMOS CRESSER Treble.	SAMSON BURTON 6.
W. T. BILLINGHURST .. 2.	H. W. ABBOTT 7.
JOS. HARDY 3.	*F. A. UNDERWOOD .. 8.
CHAS. SMITH 4.	J. W. TAYLOR JUN., .. 9.
SAMUEL SMITH 5.	E. WIGHTMAN Tenor.

Composed by R. WILLIAMS, of Liverpool, and Conducted by J. W. TAYLOR, JUN., Esq.

Messrs. Burton and Abbott hail from Nottingham. *First peal with a bob bell.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, September 20, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

HARRY FRUIN Treble.	THOMAS SHORT 5.
WILLIAM BASTON 2.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 6.
ERNEST PITSTOW 3.	Rev. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
Rev. F. J. O. HELMORE .. 4.	HERBERT BAKER Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, September 20, 1888, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

Tenor 26 cwt.

JOHN AUSTIN Treble.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 5.
WILLIAM J. SMITH* .. 2.	GEORGE ROBINSON 6.
LEONARD BULLOCK* .. 3.	WILLIAM WAKLEY 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	HARRY WAKLEY Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

*First peal in the method.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO. Printers, Exeter.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Friday, September 21, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088
CHANGES.

ERNEST PITSTOW Treble.	HARRY FRUIN 5.
NATHAN J. PITSTOW 2.	THOMAS SHORT 6.
HERBERT BAKER 3.	Rev. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by
JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.
WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 22, 1888, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt. 25 lbs.

WILLIAM CHESHIRE* .. Treble.	JOHN GOODMAN 5.
EDWARD GOODREDS 2.	*SAMUEL JESSON 6.
HARRY MILLS 3.	GEORGE HUGHES 7.
WILLIAM PARDOE 4.	WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. Tenor.

Composed by GEORGE HAYWARD, of Bromsgrove, and Conducted by
GEORGE HUGHES.

This peal contains the 5th eighteen times wrong, and the 6th eighteen wrong and right. W. Cheshire hails from Cossey, Goodman from Dudley, the rest belong to the local company. *First peal in the method; first peal with a bob bell in the method.

APPLETON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 22, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5035 CHANGES.

FREDERICK WHITE .. Treble.	NATHAN J. PITSTOW .. 6.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 2.	Rev. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
THOMAS SHORT 3.	ERNEST PITSTOW 8.
HARRY FRUIN 4.	GEORGE HOLIFIELD 9.
BENJAMIN BARRATT 5.	WILLIAM BENNETT Tenor

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

The above peal was rung on the erection of the peal board recording the three long peals rang in the above tower, viz., 10,080 of Double Norwich, 12,041 of Stedman Caters, and 13,247 of Grandshire Caters.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—WARNHAM
BRANCH.

On Saturday, September 22, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLACE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

GEORGE WOODMAN .. Treble.	HARRY COOK 5.
WILLIAM SHORT 2.	HENRY BURSTOW 6.
THOMAS ANDREWS 3.	HENRY H. CHANDLER .. 7.
WALTER CHARMAN 4.	THOMAS HOGSFLESH .. Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, and Conducted by
HENRY H. CHANDLER.

This is the first peal in the method by all the band, also by the Sussex County Association.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—WARNHAM
BRANCH.

On Monday, September 24, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY-PLEASURE TRIPLES,
5040 CHANGES.

JESSE GARMAN .. Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT 5.
WALTER CHARMAN 2.	HENRY BURSTOW 6.
THOMAS ANDREWS 3.	HENRY H. CHANDLER .. 7.
HARRY COOK 4.	GEORGE CHARMAN Tenor.

Composed by WALTER CHARMAN, and Conducted by
HENRY H. CHANDLER.

This peal was rung to commemorate the birthday of Mr. W. Charnan, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

MANCHESTER.

On Monday, September 24, 1888, in Three Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

ROBERT HAYWARD* .. Treble.	WILLIAM WARD 6.
CHARLES MEE 2.	JAMES MOTTS 7.
EDGAR PEMBERTON 3.	HARRY CHAPMAN* 8.
WILLIAM P. GARRETT .. 4.	JOHN EACHUS 9.
WILLIAM MOTTS 5.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE .. Tenor.

Composed by the late W. HARRISON, and Conducted by
JAMES MOTTS.

R. Hayward hails from Framlingham, Ward from Woodbridge, Suffolk, Chapman from Bedford, Eachus belongs to the Cathedral society, and the rest are of the St. Mary-le-Tower society, Ipswich. *First peal of Royal.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH, AND
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, September 26, 1888, in Two Hours Twenty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE "HALBERT INN," NORTHGATE STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 size in C.

WILLIAM MOTTS 1-2.	JAMES MOTTS 5-6.
CHARLES MEE 3-4.	ARTHUR R. ALDHAM .. 7-8.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by
A. R. ALDHAM.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

STAVELEY (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, September 23rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, eight members of the above Association rang a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 15 mins. A. Worthington, 1; W. Price, 2; S. Smedley, 3; H. Mottershall, 4; S. Price, 5; W. Worthington, 6; J. Harris (conductor), 7; H. Madin, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. W. Price hails from Eckington, the rest are of the local company.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHPORT (Lancashire).—On Thursday, September 20th, at Christ Church, a date touch of Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. L. Tyldesley, 1; Jos. Rimmer, 2; J. Rimmer, 3; C. J. Butterworth, 4; R. Hill, 5; L. Newton, 6; J. W. Rimmer, 7; D. E. Rimmer (conductor), 8. Messrs. Butterworth and Newton hails from Durham.

HINGHAM.—On Monday, September 17th, the St. Peter Mancroft society, Norwich, paid a visit to the above place, and rang at St. Andrew's a date touch of Bob Major (1886 changes), in 1 hr. 9 mins. J. Fiddament, 1; H. Houchin, 2; F. H. Knights, jun., 3; T. Smith, 4; J. Smith, 5; E. Francis (composer and conductor), 6; F. Knights, 7; J. Skinner, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

WEDNESBURY (Staffordshire).—On Monday, September 24th, on the occasion of the opening of the fine new peal of eight bells at St. Paul's church, Wood Green, by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, ringers from the surrounding district succeeded in ringing a date touch of Stedman Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. F. Halls-worth, 1; J. Tinsley, 2; J. Carter (conductor), 3; S. Reeves, 4; W. R. Small, 5; J. T. Perry, 6; W. Smith, 7; C. Price, 8. Tenor 17 cwt. F. Halls-worth hails from Walsall, Tinsley and Smith from Darlaston, Carter and Perry from Birmingham, Reeves and Price from West Bromwich, and W. R. Small from Tipton.

Miscellaneous.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, September 16th, at the parish church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. M. Shilvock, 1; W. Boughton, 2; J. Smith, 3; *H. Morris, 4; W. Huxley, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, September 17th, 720 of Kent Treble

Bob. M. Shilcock, 1; G. Workman, 2; J. Smith, 3; H. Morris, 4; T. Barber, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method with a bob bell.

HAGLEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, September 2nd, at the parish church, a 720 each of Grandsire and Plain Bob Minor, in honour of the twentieth birthday of F. Molineux. F. Molineux, 1; T. Barber, 2; J. Smith, 3; H. Morris, 4; J. Barber, 5; W. Short (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, September 9th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. H. Morris, 1; W. Short, 2; J. Smith, 3; T. Barber, 4; *W. F. Hartshorne, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, September 16th, 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24½ mins., in honour of the twenty-first birthday of J. Smith. J. Davis, 1; J. Smith, 2; T. Lees, 3; H. Morris, 4; W. Bradley, 5; W. Short (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method; and the first 720 in the method on the bells.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Tuesday, September 18th, for practice at All Saints' church, four 120's of Grandsire Doubles, with 6-7 and the tenor covering, each called differently. *S. V. Salisbury, 1; *A. R. Ward, 2; W. Jennings, 3; *W. E. Ward, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; A. Ward, 6; O. Coombes, 7; J. Norris, 8. *First attempt at Doubles.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Saturday, September 22nd, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, an attempt was made by eight members of the above Guild for a peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans' composition), but was unfortunately lost through a change-course after ringing fifty-five courses in 2 hrs. 40 mins. J. Hewett, 1; J. W. Whiting, 2; G. Grafham, 3; F. White, 4; F. Hill, 5; E. Jordan, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; J. Staples, 8. This was attempted as a birthday peal for Mr. Whiting, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns, saying that if they had not succeeded in ringing the peal, they had a good long practice.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MIDHURST (Sussex).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Sunday, September 16th, at the house of Mr. Williams, 720 of Bob Minor in 20½ mins. W. Court, 1; W. Selby, 2; G. Williams (conductor), 3-4; Mrs. G. Williams, 5-6. And on Monday, September 17th, at the rooms of Mr. W. H. George, 252 of Stedman, and 168 of Grandsire Triples. W. H. George, 1-2; W. Court, 3; Rev. J. Lodes-Cotter, 4; G. Williams (conductor), 5-6; W. Selby, 7-8. Also on Thursday, September 20th, at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. T. Ellis, 1; W. Court, 2; C. Tribe, 3; J. Lee, 4; W. Selby, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, September 18th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; I. Hills, 2; F. Sharpe, 3; F. Smith, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; F. Hull (first 720 with a bob bell), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Toll, 1; I. Hills, 2; E. Sharpe (first 720 in the method), 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; F. Smith, 6. And on Sunday, September 23rd, being the Harvest Festival, for Early Service, 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). W. Bettles (first 720 of Minor), 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; F. Sharpe, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; F. Keech, 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). F. Hull, 1; I. Hills, 2; F. Sharpe (first 720 in the method), 3; F. Smith (first 720 in the method), 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (thirty bobs and two singles). W. Bettles, 1; I. Hills, 2; F. Sharpe, 3; F. Smith, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). C. W. Clarke, 1; J. N. Frossell, 2; W. Allen, 3; F. Smith, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). F. Sharpe (first 720 in the method), 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; F. Smith, 3; W. Allen, 4; J. N. Frossell, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Grandsire, and 120 of Bob Doubles. W. Bettles, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; F. Sharpe (conductor), 3; F. Smith, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; F. Keech, 6. Tenor 7½ cwt. in B. And on Thursday, September 20th, for practice at St. Paul's church, 518 of Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Holt's ten-part peal. W. Bettles, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; F. Sharpe, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; F. Smith, 5; F. Keech, 6; I. Hills, 7; F. Hull, 8. Also 503 in the same method. J. Spencer, 1; F. Smith, 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; F. Keech, 4; I. Hills, 5; W. G. Biggs, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; F. Sharpe, 8. And on Sunday evening, September 23rd, for Divine Service, 672 of Grandsire Triples, with all the 5-6's and the 5-6-7's. J. Spencer, 1; F. Smith, 2; W. Allen, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; J. N. Frossell, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Bettles, 8. Also 336 in the same method. W. Bettles, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; F. Sharpe, 3; W. Allen, 4; F. Smith, 5; I. Hills, 6; J. N. Frossell (conductor), 7; J. Spencer, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday morning, September 23rd, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, 120 of Stedman Doubles. T. Newman, 1; G. Essex, 2; H. Smith, 3; J. Hands, 4; E. Munday, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, 360 of Plain Bob Minor. T. Newman, 1; F. Simmonds, 2; J. Hands, 3; H. Smith, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; G. Essex (conductor), 6. And after evening service, an attempt was made for a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, which was lost owing to a mis-call. H. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; J. Hands, 3; H. Smith, 4; E. Munday, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And 120 of Grandsire Doubles, two Reading ringers taking part.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ROCHESTER.—On Sunday evening, September 23rd, for Divine Service at St. Margaret's church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. H. Greaves, 1; J. Raynor, 2; J. E. Tulett, 3; J. O. Sullivan, 4; A. Osborne, 5; W. Baker (conductor), 6. H. Greaves hails from London.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Sunday, September 16th, at the church of SS. Mary and Eadburgh, for Divine Service in the afternoon, 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). F. Hodgkin (Aldington), 1; H. Cheeseman (Stowting), 2; J. Andrews (Lyminge), 3; A. Tanton (Lyminge), 4; C. Laker (Lyminge), 5; P. Hodgkin (Aldington, conductor), 6. This is P. Hodgkin's 720 on the tenor, the tenors varying from seven to twenty-five cwt. And after service, 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). F. Hodgkin, 1; J. Andrews, 2; C. Laker, 3; A. Tanton, 4; H. Cheeseman, 5; P. Hodgkin (conductor), 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

BOUGHTON, NEAR FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, September 23rd, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 720 of Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 24 mins., with the bells half-muffled, as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. G. Lucas, who had held the office of parish clerk for over twenty years. W. W. Boulden, 1; E. Foreman, 2; W. Hope, 3; C. Willshire, 4; F. Harris, 5; H. Pearce (conductor), 6. And on Monday, September 24th, for practice, 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-eight bobs and eighteen singles), in 25 mins. W. W. Boulden (conductor), 1; W. Hope, 2; G. A. Ransom, 3; R. Castle, 4; F. Harris, 5; S. Snelling, 6. H. Pearce hails from Maidstone, Willshire from Quex Park, Foreman from Herne Hill, S. Snelling from Sittingbourne; the others belong to the local company.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, September 23rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, 419 of Oxford Bob Triples. F. W. Cook, 1; J. Vickers, 2; J. W. Warren, 3; H. Hollingworth (conductor), 4; G. C. Tunnicliff, 5; G. A. Fish, 6; T. Hollingworth, 7; J. R. Wood, 8. And on Monday, September 24th, being the anniversary of the first peal on the bells, it was intended to attempt a peal of Oxford, but as this was found impossible owing to the illness of the conductor, an attempt was made for a quarter-peal, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 1000 changes in 35 mins. F. W. Cook, 1; J. Vickers, 2; J. W. Warren, 3; G. C. Tunnicliff, 4; H. Hollingworth (conductor), 5; G. A. Fish, 6; T. Hollingworth, 7; J. R. Wood, 8.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, September 16th, for Divine Service, 720 of Violet Treble Bob. F. Sanders, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Moses, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, September 25th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. *J. Poplett, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Sanders, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. And 360 of Plain Bob. J. Robinson, 1; W. Sadler, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Moses, 4; F. Sanders, 5; R. Arnold (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

ARELEY KINGS (Worcestershire).—On Monday, September 24th, for practice at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-six singles), in 23½ mins. J. Tylor, 1; J. Fowles, 2; T. Griffiths, 3; W. Martin, 4; J. Reynolds, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—On Sunday, September 23rd, at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles). T. R. Jackson (conductor), 1; T. Townson, 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. Watson, 5; J. Burrows, 6.

GIGGLESWICK.—On Wednesday, September 19th, at the church of St. Alkald, 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-two singles). M. Knowles, 1; W. C. Hardacre (conductor), 2; J. Parker, 3; S. James, 4; W. Fell, 5; J. Morphet, 6. Time 27 mins. Hardacre hails from Settle, the rest are local men.

HYDE (Cheshire).—On Sunday morning, September 23rd, for Divine Service at St. George's church, 384 of Kent Treble Bob Major.

J. Shaw, 1; J. Green Hardy (Huddersfield), 2; H. Rostron, 3; W. Slater, 4; S. Bennett, 5; T. Wilde, 6; B. Dodson (Birstall), 7; J. S. Wilde (conductor), 8.

LAVENHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, September 23rd, at the parish church, 1200 of Bob Major. S. Slater (conductor), 1; J. Lee, 2; R. Mingay, 3; J. Moore, 4; W. P. Gridley, 5; G. Maxim (Foxearth), 6; A. Symonds, 7; W. Moore, 8.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, August 19th, being Hospital Sunday, for Divine Service at the parish church, 1008 of Bob Major. J. Slater, 1; A. Ambrose, 2; W. P. Gridley, 3; R. Mingay, 4; O. Garwood, 5; A. Symonds (Lavenham, conductor), 6; G. Maxim (Cavendish), 7; W. Moore (Lavenham), 8. And on Sunday evening, September 16th, for Divine Service, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Ambrose, 1; S. Slater, 2; R. Mingay, 3; J. Bird, 4; W. Gridley, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6.

LOWICK (Northants).—On Monday, August 29th, for practice at St. Peter's church, four 6-scores of Stedman Doubles, each called differently. R. Dunkley, 1; E. Curtis, 2; W. Fox, 3; B. Meadows, 4; C. Swan, 5. Also on Sunday, September 16th, a 6-score each of Canterbury, Grandsire, and Bob Doubles. R. Dunkley, 1; G. Guess, 2; C. Swan, 3; E. Curtis, 4; G. March (conductor), 5.

NORTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, September 23rd, at the church of St. James, for evening service, six of the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Oates, 1; G. Butcher, 2; J. Goucher, 3; H. Ward, 4; J. Atkin (conductor), 5; J. Allen, 6. And on Tuesday evening, September 25th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles), in 27 mins. each, standing as before, with J. Allen (conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, September 23rd, which is usually called Painswick Feast, or Ringers' Sunday, about thirty ringers met from different branches, and rang at the parish church at intervals in various methods during the day, and for early service at 8 a.m. The local company also rang 504 of Grandsire Triples. A. Trigg, 1; A. Gwinnett, 2; W. Ryland, 3; D. Marment, 4; E. King, 5; J. Everatt, 6; W. Hale (conductor), 7; J. Powell, 8. Also for Divine Service at 10.30, five of the local band and three Gloucester Youths rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. H. L. James, 1; S. Romans, 2; W. Ryland, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; W. Hale (conductor), 7; A. Trigg, 8. And for Divine Service at 3 p.m., two courses of Grandsire Cinques. H. G. Gardner, 1; E. King, 2; H. L. James, 3; S. Romans, 4; D. Aston, 5; A. A. Waite, 6; R. J. Wilkins, 7; W. Hale, 8; W. Sevier, 9; G. Miles, 10; R. Barratt, 11; A. Trigg, 12. Also 168 of Grandsire Triples (twelve calls), conducted by W. Hale. And for Divine Service at 6.30, 336 of Grandsire Triples. H. L. James (conductor), 1; T. Brown, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale, 4; J. Wager, 5; R. Brunsdon, 6; H. Mitchell, 7; A. Trigg, 8. Also 504 of Grandsire Caters. H. G. Gardner, 1; B. Etheridge, 2; E. King, 3; T. Brown, 4; J. Nash, 5; W. Hale, 6; G. Latham (conductor), 7; G. Miles, 8; F. Stephens, 9; T. Wright, 10. And a course of Caters. Touches of Bob Major and Stedman were attempted, but came to grief.

ROWLEY REGIS.—On Monday, September 24th, for practice at St. Giles's church, 700 of Grandsire Triples. J. Oakley (conductor) S. Mills, 2; J. Bate, 3; H. Bate, 4; H. Bennett, 5; R. Baker, 6; B. Lowe, 7; B. Oakley, 8. This is the first 500 of Triples ever rung by a local band.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, September 15th, at the parish church, 840 of Bob Triples. B. Gough, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; W. Cheshire, 3; J. Goodman, 4; S. Jesson, 5; G. Hughes, 6; A. Hill (conductor), 7; H. Mills, 8. Also 350 of Grandsire Triples. J. Goodman, 1; W. Cheshire, 2; W. Horton, 3; H. Mills, 4; A. Hill (conductor), 5; B. Gough, 6; S. Jesson, 7; G. Hughes, 8. And on Monday, September 17th, 720 of Bob Minor in 28 mins. E. Goodreds, 1; W. Cheshire, 2; B. Gough, 3; S. Jesson, 4; G. Hughes (conductor), 5; W. Pardoe, 6. *First 720 in the method. Messrs. Cheshire, Gough, and Horton, hail from Coseley; Goodman from Dudley; the rest are part of the local company.

UPPER CLAPTON (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, September 23rd, at the church of St. Matthew, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 41 mins. T. Page, 1; F. Rumens, 2; G. J. Smith, 3; G. Page, 4; C. Beech, 5; W. B. Manning (conductor), 6; R. J. Turner, 7; C. Davidson, 8.

WHITCHURCH (Salop).—On Tuesday evening, September 25th, at the parish church, seven members of the local company, assisted by Mr. Ralph Sutton, of Wrenbury, attempted Holt's ten-part peal, but after ringing 3780 changes in 2 hrs. 20 mins., a change-course occurred and "stand" was called. R. Sutton, 1; G. Wright, J. Gibson, 3; F. Ryder, 4; R. T. Holding, 5; G. Woodhall (conductor), 6; T. Barron, 7; W. Barron, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. This was Mr. Sutton's first attempt for a peal.

FROME, SOMERSETSHIRE.—A RINGER'S WEDDING.

On Saturday morning last, a very interesting marriage was solemnized at the parish church of St. John the Baptist, Frome, by the Rev. F. Vinning, M.A. (senior curate), between Mr. William Brewer and Miss Emily Moore, both of Frome. Owing to the bridegroom's various connections with the church and its kindred societies, great interest was manifested in this happy event. Numerous small groups of people assembled in the churchyard, to await the arrival of the happy couple, and to gain a "peep" ere they entered the sacred edifice. The college boys, who assist in forming the church choir, also determined to display a feature of interest in the marriage festivities, so took possession of the ringing chamber and chimed the bells for some time previous to the time appointed for the arrival of the wedding party, and thus forestalling the ringers who rang during the day as a mark of esteem to their brother string. The service was a choral one with choir and organ, and consisted of two hymns and a special exhortation, in addition to the ordinary marriage service. It is needless to state that the happy couple has the best wishes of all who know them, also of the writer, who trusts that the new duty and responsibility Mr. Brewer has undertaken, will be one of life-long happiness, and that his happy union may not fall short of the prophetic "three score and ten," or "four-score years," and that he will continue his allegiance to the Frome Guild of ringers, and thus strengthen the indefatigable efforts of the captain (Mr. John Rebbeck) to establish a guild of change-ringers for this grand old parish church. G.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Loughton on Saturday, October 6th. The tower of St. John the Baptist (eight bells), will be open to members during the afternoon. Chigwell tower (five bells), two miles distant, will also be open. Tea (price 6d. each to members), at the "King's Head," immediately after the business meeting, which will be held at 4.30 p.m. Loughton station, on the Epping and Ongar line, may be reached by frequent trains from Fenchurch Street or Liverpool Street, and from stations on the North London Railway. Return tickets available for the day only will be issued by the G.E.R., at one fare and a quarter to members who inform the Secretary before Wednesday, October 3rd, from what station they intend to travel. Writtle, Chelmsford. T. L. PAPILLON, Hon. Sec.

MEETING OF THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AT YORK, OCTOBER 6th, 1888.

NOTICE.—As the Leeds parish church company intend to take advantage of the reduced fares offered by the railway company for parties of ten and upwards, any friends intending to go to the above meeting, who would like to join them, may do so by sending their names to me not later than Friday, October 5th. Train leaves North Eastern Station, Leeds, at 2.0 p.m., arriving at York, at 2.50. Friends intending to go will oblige by being at the station not later than 1.55, when I will meet them close by the Postal Pillar Box on the platform. Fare 2s. 8d.

49, Green Mount Street,
Beeston Hill, Leeds.

H. W. NEEDHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, AND THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the members of both these societies, for the consideration of important business, will be held at the "Nelson's Cabin," Bull Ring, on Tuesday evening, October 9th. Chair to be taken at 8.

A. THOMAS, Secretary of the St. Martin's Society,
W. H. GODDEN, Secretary of the Holt Society.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

The next meeting will be held at the parish church, Burton-on-Trent, on Saturday, October 6th. Members to assemble in the town at 2.30 p.m. J. R. KEBLE, Hon. Sec.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN CARTER, Birmingham.

9600.

2 3 4 5 6 1 5

4 5 6 3 2 s -

6 5 2 3 4 - -

2 6 4 5 3 - -

4 2 3 6 5 - -

3 4 5 2 6 - -

5 4 6 2 3 - -

6 4 3 2 5 - -

3 6 5 4 2 - -

5 1 3 2 6 4 - -

2 5 4 3 6 - -

4 3 6 5 2 s -

6 3 2 5 4 - -

2 6 4 3 5 - -

4 2 5 6 3 - -

5 4 3 2 6 - -

3 4 6 2 5 - -

6 3 5 4 2 - -

5 6 2 3 4 - -

2 5 4 6 3 - -

4 2 3 5 6 - -

Five times repeated.

Single for a bob at 16th course of the third and sixth parts. This peal contains the 120 course-ends.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By A. SYKES, Huddersfield.

5240.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

6 2 5 3 4 2 1 2

6 5 3 2 4 1 2

2 3 5 6 4 2 2

6 2 3 4 5 2 2 2

5 4 3 2 6 1 1 1

2 6 4 3 5 1 2 2

6 3 4 2 5 2 2

3 2 6 5 4 2 2

5 3 2 4 6 2 2 2

2 3 4 5 6 2 1

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5001.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, Liverpool.

2 3 1 4 5 6

*5 1 2 3 4 6

2 1 5 6 4 3 5 16

2 1 3 5 4 6 16

2 1 6 3 4 5 16

6 1 2 5 4 3 5 16

6 1 3 2 4 5 16

6 1 5 3 4 2 16

5 1 6 2 4 3 5 16

5 1 3 6 4 2 16

3 1 5 2 4 6 5 16

3 1 6 5 4 2 16

3 1 2 6 4 5 16

The last eleven courses three times repeated, except first course call 4, 5, 16, which brings up the following part-ends:

6 1 4 5 3 2

5 1 3 2 6 4

2 1 6 4 5 3

Round by bobs at 4, 10, 12, 16.

*Produced by bobs at 1, 2, 8, 11, 14, 16, 18, 23.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, Liverpool.

5002.

2 3 1 4 5 6

*2 1 6 3 4 5

2 1 5 6 4 3 19

5 1 2 3 4 6 6 19

5 1 6 2 4 3 19

6 1 5 3 4 2 6 19

6 1 2 5 4 3 19

2 1 3 4 6 5 5 19

3 1 2 5 6 4 6 19

3 1 4 2 6 5 19

3 1 5 4 6 2 19

5 1 3 2 6 4 6 19

5 1 4 3 6 2 19

4 1 2 6 5 3 5 19

2 1 4 3 5 6 6 19

2 1 6 4 5 3 19

6 1 2 3 5 4 6 19

6 1 4 2 5 3 19

4 1 6 3 5 2 6 19

5 1 2 6 4 3 85 19

2 1 5 3 4 6 6 19

2 1 6 5 4 3 19

6 1 2 3 4 5 6 19

6 1 5 2 4 3 19

6 1 3 5 4 2 19

3 1 2 4 6 5 5 19

2 1 3 5 6 4 6 19

2 1 4 3 6 5 19

2 1 5 4 6 3 19

5 1 2 3 6 4 6 19

5 1 4 2 6 3 19

4 1 3 6 5 2 5 19

4 1 2 3 5 6 19

2 1 4 6 5 3 6 19

2 1 3 4 5 6 19

3 1 2 6 5 4 6 19

3 1 4 2 5 6 19

† 3 1 6 4 5 2 1 19

3 1 2 4 5 6 1 68

*Produced by bobs at 2, 5, 6, 8, 10, 16, 17, 18, 20. This peal has the 4th, 5th and 6th each eighteen times in 5ths place. By omitting the bob at 1 in course marked † and calling the last course as follows: 1, 3, 6, 9, 13s, 16, a peal of 5007 is obtained.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, Liverpool.

5007.

2 3 1 4 5 6

*5 1 2 3 4 6

5 1 6 2 4 3 16

6 1 5 3 4 2 5 16

6 1 2 5 4 3 16

2 1 6 3 4 5 5 16

2 1 5 6 4 3 16

2 1 3 5 4 6 16

3 1 2 6 4 5 5 16

3 1 5 2 4 6 16

3 1 6 5 4 2 16

6 1 3 2 4 5 5 16

These eleven courses three times repeated, except first course call 4 16, which brings up the following part-ends:

2 1 4 5 6 3

5 1 6 3 2 4

3 1 2 4 5 6

*Produced by bobs at 1, 2, 7, 11, 14, 18, 23.

Round by bobs at 1, 4, 9, 16, 18.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, Liverpool.

5009.

2 3 1 4 5 6

*2 1 6 3 4 5

2 1 5 6 4 3 19

5 1 2 3 4 6 6 19

4 1 2 6 5 3 5 6 19

4 1 3 2 5 6 19

3 1 4 6 5 2 6 19

3 1 2 4 5 6 19

3 1 6 2 5 4 19

6 1 3 4 5 2 6 19

6 1 2 3 5 4 19

6 1 4 2 5 3 19

5 1 4 3 6 2 5 6 19

5 1 2 4 6 3 19

5 1 3 2 6 4 19

3 1 5 4 6 2 6 19

3 1 2 5 6 4 19

3 1 4 2 6 5 19

4 1 3 5 6 2 6 19

4 1 2 3 6 5 19

6 1 5 2 4 3 58 19

5 1 6 3 4 2 6 19

5 1 2 6 4 3 19

4 1 2 3 5 6 5 6 19

4 1 6 2 5 3 19

4 1 3 6 5 2 19

3 1 4 2 5 6 6 19

3 1 6 4 5 2 19

6 1 3 2 5 4 6 19

6 1 4 2 5 2 19

6 1 2 4 5 2 19

5 1 2 3 6 4 5 6 19

5 1 4 2 6 3 19

5 1 3 4 6 2 19

3 1 5 2 6 4 6 19

3 1 4 5 6 2 19

4 1 3 2 6 5 6 19

4 1 5 3 6 2 19

*Produced by bobs at 2, 5, 6, 8, 10, 16, 17, 18, 20. Round by the following bobs: 2, 5, 6, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By JOHN BRADLEY, College Youths.

5057.

2 3 4 5 6

* Bobs at 2, 3, 6 5 3 2 4 *

7, 10, 11. 3 5 4 2 6 8 9

5 4 3 2 6 7 8

3 4 6 2 5 8 9

6 4 5 2 3 8 9

4 5 6 2 3 7 8

5 6 4 2 3 7 8

4 6 3 2 5 8 9

3 6 5 2 4 8 9

2 6 4 3 5 8 in 2 and 7 8

4 6 5 3 2 8 9

6 5 4 3 2 7 8

4 5 2 3 6 8 9

2 5 6 3 4 8 9

5 6 2 3 4 7 8

6 2 5 3 4 7 8

5 2 4 3 6 8 9

4 2 6 3 5 8 9

The last nine courses three times repeated produce—

2 5 4 6 3

4 2 5 6 3 9 in 3

Round as usual.

First rung upon handbells on Saturday, September 22nd, conducted by John M. Hayes.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Look to the items; the totals will take care of themselves."

The days are now shortening fast, and as a natural consequence, evenings are lengthening. With this diminishing length of sunlight, our work will commence once more in right good earnest. We have evidence of this fact in the numerous notices of Association Meetings which appear in last Saturday's issue. These notices are also indicative of another fact, namely, that our brethren throughout the country are thoroughly alive to their duties. While this sign of renewed activity is without alloy, very pleasing, it will not be time wasted if we spend a few moments in the consideration of the question—How shall we spend the coming months with the best advantage to the Exercise generally? Shall we content ourselves with jogging along in the old humdrum fashion, thinking of victories already achieved, and successes already accomplished; or shall we not rather brace ourselves once more to the work, and be determined that the progress of the future shall not merely equal but exceed that of the past? We are yet far from our goal; our work is in reality but little beyond its initial stages; we have therefore much—very much—to accomplish before we can "fold our arms in repose over the breast of contentment."

In the first place let us ask ourselves—How do we stand? Scientifically, although we may refer with pride to the very many meritorious achievements recorded in the past, have we not at the same time almost numberless failing places amongst us? Do we not see around us even yet too many instances of lethargy; too many cases if not of downright opposition to progress, at any rate of unwillingness on the part of our brethren to improve themselves? In how many places do we yet see the local companies still wasting their time Sunday after Sunday with performing selections of Stoney, or perhaps a few call changes, and never meeting for practice in order to rise to something better? And, further than this, how often do we yet find companies of change-ringers contenting themselves with ringing week by week the same method which they have rung for years, without so much as an effort to break out of the old rut, and in the interests of themselves and the science meet during the week to practice some other system, and endeavour to improve their striking. We have thus, from a scientific point of view, "much ground to encompass."

Then as to our position as ringers of the Church? Can it be said that we have accomplished all our desires in this direction? Far from it. Although we have, happily, raised ourselves considerably during the last ten years, we are yet a long way off where we ought to be. Our recognition as church workers is not of that universal character which we desire, and which is legitimately our due. While too many of our clergy fail to see our work in its proper light, and do not give us that encouragement which we contend they ought to, it must also be said that far too many ringers do not themselves rise to their proper positions, and act as co-partners in the work of the church. It is no use blinking this fact; that if ringers will not themselves "rise to the situation," they will look in vain for any efforts on the part of the clergy to pitchfork them into it. Nor can our clergy be blamed for this: take them as a rule, I believe we shall always find them ready to help their ringers when they show a desire to help themselves and take their proper part in the offices of the church. But the initiative in this matter must come from the ringers themselves. There is much work for us, therefore, in this direction.

We come now to our organisations. Successful as we have been in the past, is there one amongst us who will dare to assert that we are not sadly lacking even in this respect? Numerically strong though our County and Diocesan Associations are have they gathered within their ranks as yet even a majority of the ringers of the country? They may—generally speaking—have got the best men, scientifically and otherwise, that I do not question; but have they absorbed the main rank and file, as

they ought to have? I fear not. This is a point, then, well worthy of our attention; this is an effort to which we should direct our energies, so that outsiders may be brought in, and we may all join together in prosecuting our good work of raising the Exercise in every way possible.

With these facts before us, let us, I say, enter upon our winter campaign with redoubled energy, and a determination to leave no stone unturned which will conduce to a better state of things in the future. By this means, when the summer holiday season once more draws upon us, and we relax our efforts for a time in order to get that rest which is necessary, we shall be able to look back with pleasure, and reflect that not only have we done our best, but that our efforts for good have been amply rewarded, as without doubt such would be the case.

It is to be hoped that the attempt now being made to restore the ring at Peterborough Cathedral to its original complement of ten will meet with every success. Seeing that the expense of the frames has been already provided for, surely it should require no great effort to raise the £400 needed for the bells. The restoration of this magnificent edifice will be sadly incomplete if it does not include this augmentation. But I have faith in the liberality of the Churchmen of this diocese, and look with confident anticipation for a notice that the work of replacing the lost five bells has been placed in the hands of one of our great founders.

I was sorry to read that the attempted peal of London Surprise came to grief after over one half of it had been rung, with "a clean smash up." Better luck next time.

But if the Midland Counties' Association were unfortunate in this instance, they certainly show to some advantage last week with their peals—four, and each in a different method. Perhaps the visit of the Revs. F. E. Robinson and C. D. P. Davies had something to do with it.

It appears that after all, there is some modicum of truth in the story of the "aristocratic" ringers of the great city. The story related by Mr. Jerram had quite escaped my recollection; if the ringers of that peal were not "real lords," at any rate they appear to have been sufficiently endowed with this world's goods to have been able to drive home in their own carriages. We ringers of to-day, unfortunately, have to content ourselves with trams and cheap 'busses; too often "shanks' pony" is our only available mode of getting to our domiciles. But what matters a long walk, when a good ring has been at the end of it? I remember an old ringer (since dead) of rather eccentric habits, who set off one Sunday morning, walked eight miles to a neighbouring town and rung for morning service; he then journeyed nine miles to another town and rung in the afternoon, after which he set off to see some ringing friends of his at another place twelve miles distant, and after spending the evening with them, returned to his home, six miles away. That was something like a Sunday's journey, and no mistake!

I have of late taken up more space than hitherto in my notes, but the approach of the cold season tells me I shall have to draw in a little. One or two other matters I wanted to allude to, but must defer them.

FREE LANCE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

In accordance with the result of the vote taken at the last annual meeting, the next annual meeting will be held at Bolton, on Saturday, October 13th, 1888. Further particulars later.

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

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Ditto with white or yellow letters . . . 1 10 0
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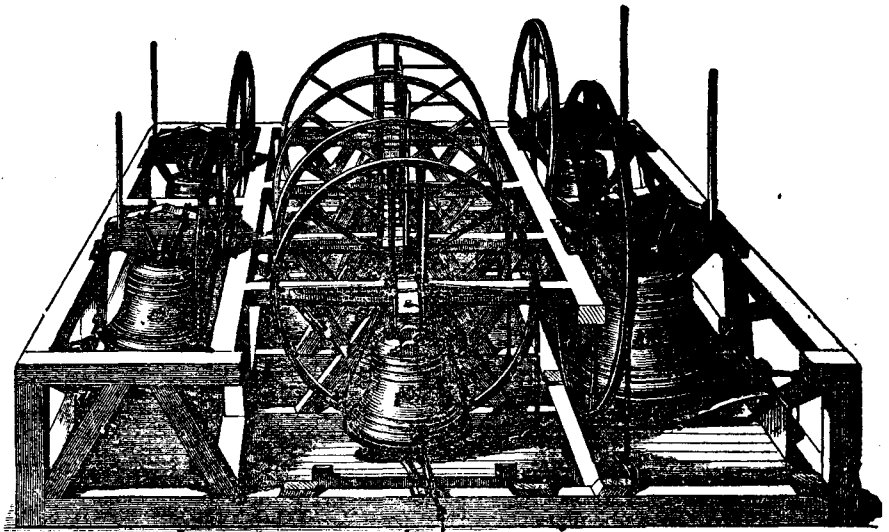
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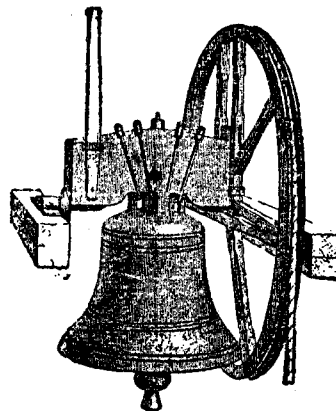
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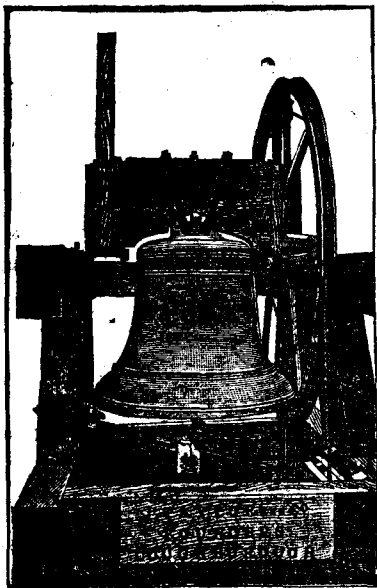
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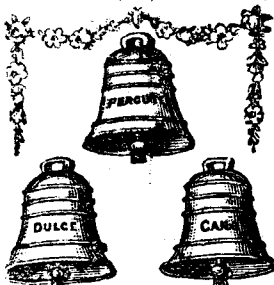
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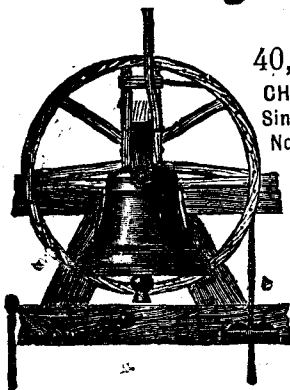
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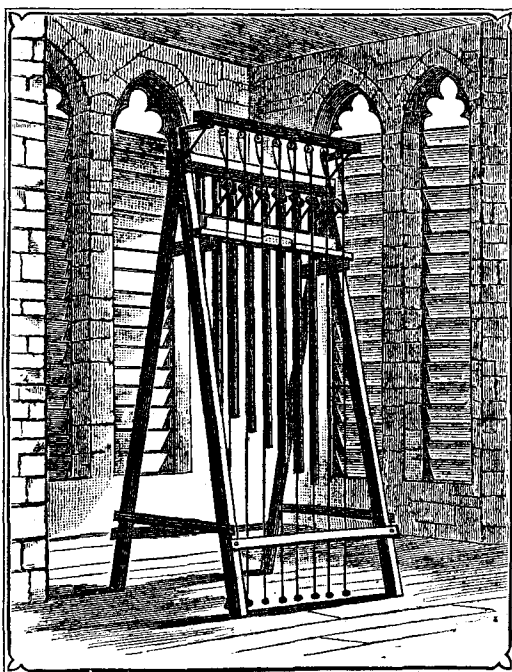
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HARVEST THANKSGIVING AT MAGOR, MONMOUTH.

Thursday, September 27th, will long be remembered in the quiet country parish of Magor, Monmouthshire, whose massive old Priory church hard by the railway station is so well known to travellers between Bristol and Cardiff on the South Wales section of the Great Western Railway. The Vicar, the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Hon. Sec. to the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, assisted by his energetic wardens, has, amongst manifold other improvements to the church, lately procured a good serviceable quarter striking steeple clock, upon which rested a small deficit. The occasion of this years Harvest Festival was thought a good opportunity to endeavour to wipe this out, and so a committee was formed to organise some afternoon amusements in a field adjacent to the village, in addition to the ordinary religious services in the Priory church. The Magor ringers ushered in the day with repetitions of the plain course, and soon after the 8 a.m. celebration, four of the St. Michael's Gloucester Juniors, accompanied by Mr. Johnson Hern, of Newnham, and Mr. T. Brown, of Elmore, arrived, on the invitation of the Vicar, and soon the old five bells with the recently added treble, to make six, were hard into a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. T. Brown, 1; F. E. Hart, 2; S. E. Romans, 3; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 4; Johnson Hern, 5; W. Sevier, 6. At the 11 a.m. service the Rev. E. V. Collins, Vicar of Caldicot, preached, and there were a number of local clergy in the long procession of white robed choristers. After service a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung. W. Sevier, 1; F. E. Hart, 2; S. E. Romans, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; J. E. Hern, 5; T. Brown (conductor), 6. The sports commenced at 2 p.m. to the strains of the Caerlon band and the bells combined, and between eight and nine hundred persons passed into the field. In the tower a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor led off the afternoon's work. T. Brown, 1; F. E. Hart, 2; S. E. Romans, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; J. E. Hern, 5; W. Sevier (conductor), 6. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. T. Brown, 1; F. E. Hart, 2; J. E. Hern, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; Thomas James, 5; W. Sevier, 6. The above was Mr. T. James' first 6-score, and he is a member of the local band.

Whilst some six or seven hundred were being "tea'd" in a big tent, the Gloucestershire friends rang several courses of Grandsire Triples and Caters, tunes, etc. on the Vicar's set of handbells, presented to him by the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association some few years ago, and which greatly delighted those presented.

For the evening service at 7 o'clock several six-scores were rung. The church was packed long before the hour fixed for evensong, and after filling all the gangways the churchwardens had to send a large crowd outside away. The processional hymn in consequence could not be sung up the church as is customary here. Six clergy followed the choir of fifty-four strong. The prayers were intoned by the Vicar; the first lesson was read by the Rev. John Singleton, Vicar of Yarnscombe, and the second by the Rev. E. V. Collins, and an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. Reginald Horton, Vicar of Dymock, Gloucestershire, from the words "Render unto God the things that be God's."

The Gloucestershire men greatly enjoyed their day's outing, particularly as it was a pleasure to find the "go" of the renovated ring of bells, so easy. They desire to thank the Vicar and churchwardens of Magor for their hospitality to them on this occasion.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Baldock to-day, Saturday, October 13th. The tower will be open for ringing from 3 p.m. and at 5 o'clock. A tea will be provided at the "George and Dragon" Hotel, after which a meeting will be held for general business, and also to consider the new rules drawn up by the officers, and any amendments to the same. Railway tickets at cheap fares will be issued by the Great Northern Railway to members, by their informing the Secretary not later than Wednesday, October 10th, of the stations from which they propose to travel, and on production of their receipt for the current subscription at the Booking Office.

St. Albans, September 25th. E. P. DEBENHAM, Hon. Sec.

ST. PAUL'S, WEDNESBURY.

The progress made in the improvements to St. Paul's Church during recent years, is creditable alike to the Vicar (the Rev. G. Tuthill), and parishioners. Some three years ago, by the bequest of Mrs. Richards, a peal of bells was presented to the Church, and for the first time on Monday week, they were rung under very favourable circumstances. The bells have been hung in the belfry, erected at the expense of Messrs. Elwell, by Mr. Taylor, of Loughborough, at a cost of about £600. After a service in the church, at which the Rev. G. Tuthill officiated, some merry peals were rung on the bells by eight sets of ringers. A luncheon was served in a marquee erected in a field near to the churchyard, at which there was a large attendance of the parishioners. The Rev. G. Tuthill presided, and amongst those present were the Mayor (Alderman R. Williams), Councillors A. Clews and E. Butler, the Rev. R. B. Stoney (Mayor's Chaplain), Rev. W. H. Horton, the Misses Handley, Mr. J. Handley, Mr. and Mrs. Job Edwards, Mr. John Knowles, Mr. B. C. Knowles, Mr. G. R. Knowles, Mr. I. Aston, Mr. and Mrs. R. Newson, Mr. A. Tonks, Mr. Taylor, Mr. T. Pritchard, Mr. D. Tonks, Mr. W. H. Turner, Mr. A. F. Brookes, Mr. E. Wilson, Superintendent J. Holland, &c., &c.

A number of speeches were made by several of the company, Mr. Alden proposing the health of Mr. Taylor, of Loughborough, the bell founder, and bearing testimony to the excellent manner in which he had carried out the work.

Mr. Taylor responded, and gave a number of hints to the bell ringers for their guidance in future ringing.

Mr. E. Wilson in a neat and appropriate speech presented "The teams." Their festivities that day had excited curiosity far and wide, even in authorities perhaps more important than themselves, for the bell ringers of the neighbouring towns were amongst them, and their functions had been well discharged. (Hear, hear). Their suburban church could now be regarded as complete, and for the first time the inhabitants of Wood Green had had the opportunity and privilege that day of hearing some of that music nearest heaven. (Hear, hear).

Mr. Small acknowledged the toast, dwelling upon the position and work of bell ringers, remarking that their position was now better than it had ever been, and was regarded as an office in the Church. (Hear, hear).

The Wednesbury company raised the bells, and started with a touch of Grandsire Triples, under the conductorship of Mr. T. Foster, but were unable to finish. Two courses of Treble Bob Major was given by a mixed band, under the conductorship of Mr. J. W. Taylor, the bell founder. A date touch of Stedman Triples, containing 1888 changes, was rang in 1 hr. 7 mins.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, October 13th, at Holy Trinity Church, Bolton, service in the church at 3.30 p.m. Preacher, Rev. Charles Heath, M.A., Vicar of Walkden. Tea will be provided in the schools at 5 p.m. Tickets 1s. each, may be purchased from any member of the committee, and they trust that any member who intends to be present will acquaint his own local secretary before Tuesday, October 9th, in order that proper arrangements may be made. Ringers not members of the Association will be heartily welcomed. Ringing will take place at the various churches through the kindness of the authorities. The secretary will be in attendance at the schools to take subscriptions previous to the services. Any other information required may be had from the undersigned.

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

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held at King's Norton, on Saturday, October 20th. By kind permission the Tower will be open for ringing at 4 o'clock, after which a meeting will be held. All members and friends are earnestly invited.

Park Road, Harborne.

E. PARKER.

GAMBLING AND BETTING.

This week has seen the meeting of the Church Congress in the city of Manchester. The subjects for treatment by those assembled are many and varied, though unfortunately none of them have the remotest connection with bells or ringing. A paper read by the Dean of Rochester (Dr. Hole) on the above subject, is however one that we have thought it proper to re-produce it, as the subject is of much greater importance than a mere cursory glance at the above title indicates. The Dean commences thus:—

I. When I travelled, not long ago, with a number of betting men, and one of them looked up from his newspaper, in which I saw afterwards a programme of the Church Congress to be held at Manchester, and when he inquired angrily, "What can a parson"—he prefixed an epithet which seemed to me to be appropriate only to a clergyman who had cut himself in the act of shaving—"what can a sanguinary person know about gambling and betting? What can 'e know about an 'oss?"—I had no time to apply to the question, because the train was just stopping at a station, and the inquirer left it for the race-course.

My answer would have been that, in this matter, we parsons have a very large and sad experience. If, in our "salad days, when we were green in judgment," at college, and in society, we ourselves escaped without harm, we can all of us remember instances in which the evil spirit of gambling and betting not only separated many friends, long and happy attachments broken for ever on the night when one lost to the other more than he knew how to pay, but far worse than this, we have in sorrowful remembrance many companions and contemporaries, of whom it might have truly been said, when they "went upon the turf," that it had been better for them had they gone under it—noblemen, gentlemen, men of honour and integrity, but gradually contaminated by the atmosphere in which they moved, first dupes and then deceivers.

And ever since those days, in our intercourse with all grades of society, with all sorts and conditions of men, we, whose vocation it is to warn against the temptations and fascinations of sin, to expose its delusions, and to oppose its power; we, who are distressed to hear so often the history of human weakness, of human sorrow and shame; we, who are permitted to rejoice so often when we minister to minds diseased the only true consolation and cure; we, always and everywhere, are witnesses of the disastrous injury, temporal and spiritual, the misery and disgrace, which are wrought by gambling and betting.

Wherefore, when I am asked what the parson knows of these things, I reply that we speak that which we know, and testify that we have seen when we affirm—

1. That gambling and betting are directly opposed to the teaching of Divine revelation, of the law and the Gospel alike; and that they prevent a man from fulfilling the gracious purpose for which God made and redeemed him.

2. That being accompanied, as a rule with rare exceptions, by other vices—extravagance, sensual indulgence, (1) and idleness, they detract from our national honour, our industrial prosperity, and our domestic happiness.

3. That the excuses made are contemptible, and that—

4. It is the duty of all Christians, patriots, and philanthropists, to denounce this evil, and to unite in prayerful, thoughtful, practical efforts to suppress and to expel it.

II. First, then, I maintain that gambling and betting are directly opposed to those revelations of the Divine will by which we are taught our duty to God and to each other.

It has been said that men may gamble and bet without breaking any one of the Ten Commandments; but the author of this statement would be hopelessly perplexed to illustrate it by an example. We shall find, on the contrary, if we go through the Decalogue, referring to our experience, and remembering the public records, that these habits are fraught with special temptations to transgress them, one all all.

Consider those of the first Table, which command our entire obedience to Him Who has declared Himself to be "a jealous God," and Who says to every one of us, "My son, give Me thine heart, and set up no idol there. Reverence My name, and when thou hast done thy six days of work—for this is My immutable

law, 'In the sweat of thy face shall thou eat bread,'—then keep the seventh as a day of holy rest, and delight thyself in the Lord."

Is there not proof, as abundant as it is sad, that the fascinations and excitements of habitual gambling and betting lure men's hearts from this holy allegiance and absorb them in things of the earth, earthly. May not the prophet's words be applied to them that they are "mad upon their idols"—idols of silver and of gold?

Do they keep the door of their lips? Is the tongue, given to us for prayer and praise, for wise and merciful words, the best member that they have? or is it an unruly evil, loving to speak all words that may do hurt? Is it used as by those who believe that He will come to be their Judge, Who has said, "By thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." "Swear not at all."

"Six days shalt thou labour." What labour, what honest, manly work, honourable to themselves or beneficial to their fellowmen, is done by those who gamble and bet? Do they keep the Christian Sabbath, the Lord's Day, holy? Is the betting-book exchanged for the Bible? Are the cards and dice put away? Would the men who run horses for the Prix de Paris, who go to see or bet upon the race, have any scruples as to the Prix de Manchester or the Prix de Sandown taking place on the Sunday, if others made no objection?

III. Passing on to the second Table of the law, to those Commandments which teach us our duty to our neighbour, to the Fifth Commandment, "Honour thy father and thy mother," I appeal to your own observation, it may be to your painful experience, how many sons have been led to disobedience, to that spirit of discontent in which the prodigal said to his father, Give me my portion of goods; how much enmity, privation and disgrace has been brought into homes, where there had been only love and plenty and fair fame, by those first temptations to gamble and to bet? And these vices seem almost always to induce a selfishness which eliminates the purer affections. Some few years ago a gentleman, going through the work-house at Sheffield, was greatly surprised to see among the inmates an old woman he had known in a comfortable home of her own. He expressed his sorrowful astonishment to the master, and added, "I know for a fact that one of her sons is earning at this time between £4 and £5 a week." On this information the master sought and found the man referred to, and when he remonstrated with him this was the reply he received, "If you had lost £40 on that cursed handicap last week, you'd not be so fierce about paying for other folks."

But our righteous indignation gives place to far more powerful emotions, and the spirit within us is oppressed and awed, as we repeat the words, "Thou shalt do no murder," and think of the number of those broken hearts, in which life has not only been embittered, enfeebled, and gradually crushed out by fierce excitements, by terrible anxieties, and by actual want; but in an agony of wild despair has been ended here by those who could no longer endure it. How often have we read in our newspapers (there were two instances last year in the same month), "Suicide of a betting man." Frith's picture of the youth with the pistol in his hand is no mere sensational fancy. The number of deaths at Monte Carlo may have been exaggerated, but there were two, if not three, when I was in the neighbourhood not many years ago. Of one case I had full particulars. The purser of a Russian man-of-war, anchored in the bay of Villa Franca, came ashore and went to the gambling-room at Monte Carlo. At first he won, then he lost, staked a large sum belonging to the ship, lost that, and destroyed himself. More recently, seeing in one of the most reliable provincial newspapers, that there had been fifteen suicides within six months, I wrote to the editor, whom I knew personally, and asked him kindly to send me proof of the information. He wrote immediately to his correspondent, a Frenchman resident at Nice, and received from him and forwarded to me minute details of the last four miserable deaths. A young officer in the gendarmerie, having lost 12,000f., shot himself in the grounds of the gaming-house, first in the throat and then in the head; a man of sixty-five, having, after many days of play, lost all he had, 55,000f., hung himself in one of the kiosques of the garden; a lady, the mother of a family, also lost all, and threw herself from the fourth story of an hotel in which she lodged; and a

Captain Wolff, of the Prussian infantry, shot himself in his bedroom. The four sous which they found in his purse dispelled all doubt as to the impulse of this ruined man. Nevertheless ladies and gentlemen go from Cannes and elsewhere to this Aceldama and stake their Napoleons, "just for the fun of the thing," side by side with those who may recover their *rouleaux*, but never again their reputation; and it was well said by an old man to a youth, boasting in a railway carriage that he had been to Monte Carlo and brought back thirty napoleons, "You don't know, sir, whose money you have won; your thirty pieces may have belonged to a suicide, and so be the price of blood."

On Commandment VII., "Thou shalt not commit adultery," I will only say that it has been publicly affirmed, the writer giving as his authority the police employed in the neighbourhood of St. John's-wood, on racecourses, and elsewhere, that a large proportion of "kept women," as they are called, are supported by those who gamble and bet, and that a majority of the most important cases brought into the divorce court have a similar association.

Repeating Commandment VIII., "Thou shalt not steal," I think you will endorse my conviction, that the gambler who cheats and the betting man who bets on a certainty are mere robbers, although the professional thieves would hardly condescend to recognise them as worthy of enrolment in their society, seeing that they have neither the courage of the burglar nor the adroit activity of the prig. These fifth rate petty larceners are not many nor dangerous, as they are soon found out and relegated to the mixed company of card-sharpers, thimble-riggers, and welsers, and other uncertificated poachers who hover around the outskirts of the great preserves; but there are numerous sportsmen, having licenses to kill game within the covert, who have no scruples about shooting a hen-pheasant in a tree or a hare on her seat, if they are sure that nobody will see. I mean that there are many men who gamble and bet who will take every advantage, short of actual dishonesty, to over-reach others. So far from being condemned they are lauded and envied for their ingenuity, and that which the severe moralist might denounce as a conspiracy to defraud is not seldom designated as "a good thing," and the good men who arrange this little game and complete it—I beg pardon, "bring it off," "pull it through,"—are admired by those whom they have not "let in" as wise and happy in their deed. We inferior mortals, who cannot raise our appreciations to these sublime heights of sagacity, are apt to appreciate, as dullards do, and to make some such comments as that of the negro speaking of a brother black—"I shall not call 'im a tief, but if I were a chicken and saw that darkie a loafing round, I'd roost 'igh—dat's all."

(To be continued.)

AN UNRULY CHORISTER.

At the end of a vestry meeting at St. Sepulchre's Church, Holborn, on Thursday, Mr. S. G. Lidstone requested the chairman to explain how it was that there was no service in the church the previous Sunday morning. Mr. Herbert said that three weeks ago the vicar (the Rev. James Jackson) received a letter from the curate-in-charge (the Rev. Kennedy Bell), stating that the writer had received from one of the choir boys an insult which no apology could wipe out. The churchwardens consented to withhold the boy from the choir on the following Sunday if the curate would undertake to specify a particular charge. A week later the curate sent a letter which amounted to this—that the writer had no personal feeling against the boy, but complained that his general conduct was bad. The boy was withheld from the choir for another Sunday, so that the churchwardens might have the opportunity of considering the matter. The vicar refused to take the responsibility upon himself of sending the boy out of the choir, and left the matter in the hands of the churchwardens. After consideration the churchwardens resolved to reinstate the boy in the choir, a specific charge not having been made against him. On Sunday week Mr. Bell told the churchwardens that he should refuse to officiate unless the boy was put out of the choir. He (the chairman) had therefore to take upon himself the responsibility of dismissing the congregation. In the evening, at the request of the vicar, the boy agreed not to go into the choir; so that there was no repetition of the unpleasantness. Since then the churchwardens had put themselves into communication with the Bishop, who wrote:—

Gentlemen,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th. The same post has also brought me a letter from Mr. Bell. Mr. Bell was wrong in refusing to officiate; but his claim to control the choir and to say who should sing in the choir and who should not was a valid claim, and could only be set aside by the vicar himself. I have written to him to point out his error, which I have no doubt he will not repeat. But I hope you will be good enough to see that no one sings in the choir without his leave when he is conducting the service.

Mr. S. G. Lidstone then moved that the vicar be respectfully requested to desire Mr. Kennedy Bell to resign. He remarked that the disgraceful occurrence which took place in the church was the outcome of the wretched state of affairs which had existed in the church for a considerable time. Two years ago their worthy and respected vicar unfortunately met with an accident which had prevented him ever since attending the church services. The senior curate (the Rev. T. Pugh) was entirely past work, and the church was in charge of the other curate, Mr. Kennedy Bell. In any other denomination there would be power to punish such a failure in duty. He had thought there was such a power in the Church of England before he was undeceived by this unhappy occurrence. Mr. Simpson seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. Mr. J. C. Crump moved a resolution asking the Bishop to investigate the matter, and make such arrangements as he may think fit to further the unity of the parish and the spiritual welfare of the parishioners. Mr. W. H. Woodhill seconded the resolution, which was also passed.

It seems to us that the "unity of the parish" would not have been disturbed had the churchwardens meted out some punishment, if only a reprimand, to the offender. Clergymen, "if they be but curates," are entitled to respect from precocious choristers.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROCHDALE BRANCH.

A Meeting was held at St. Alban's church on Saturday, September 22nd, the object in view being to form a branch of the above Association in this district. Previous to the meeting, touches were brought round in the following methods: Grand-sire Triples, Grandsire Major, and Stedman Triples. An adjournment was then made to the schools, and Mr. A. E. Wreaks was voted to the chair, when he read a letter from the Committee, who submitted the name of the Rochdale branch to the members, so that they might not clash with the Rochdale and District Association, whose district is a radius of ten miles round Rochdale. A discussion followed on the name of the branch, when it was unanimously carried to accept the name submitted to the meeting, the objects of the branch being to get new members, and also meetings at different churches at the members' convenience, and trying to get out of the old Grand-sire groove, and learn new methods.

Mr. F. Birtwistle was elected Hon. Secretary. The district will include Radcliffe, Bury, Heywood, Rochdale, Milnrow, Newhey, Moorside, and Oldham. The district contains eleven peals of eight and one of twelve, surely enough if every member will do his duty to get a good support for the Association. A vote of thanks was given to the Vicar and wardens for the use of the bells and schools, and to Mr. Wreaks for presiding.

Mr. WREAKS thanked the members for their vote, and assured them it gave him great pleasure to do his best for the Association. Moorside church was named for the next meeting of the Association, if permission could be obtained, on Saturday, October 27th.

FRANK BIRTWISTLE, Sec.

42, Tweedale Street, Rochdale.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting will be held at Aldington, on Monday, October 22nd. Those who wish to attend are requested to communicate with the Secretary. Mersham (about three miles) will probably be visited. Allowance 2s. and 1s. 6d., which will be paid up to 1 p.m. at Aldington.

R. B. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN, Hon. Sec.

Wrinsted Court, Lenham, Kent.

RINGING WITHOUT ROPE-SIGHT.

In "THE BELL NEWS" for March, 1885 there was an interesting paper on ringing copied from an old book called "The School of Recreation." In 1701, it appears, the young change-ringer was taught first to distinguish the notes of a peal of bells, imitating them with the voice, and, if necessary, getting the help of a singing master. He was then to ring by ear and eye, the ear giving him the order of the bells in the last change, and the eye finding the rope which he must follow in the next. This is much the same thing as pricking changes upon paper, and seems a good plan for ringing five or six bells slowly, as was then the fashion. But the ear is not so quick or sure as the eye, and, for one reason or another, rope-sight has come to be the ringers' principal guide. However, I have nothing to say on this point, though I should like to make some remarks upon another system of a different kind.

A change-ringer has to know the course of his bell, and must be able to pick out from the maze of moving ropes the one which he has to follow. Now, the bell which precedes him in each change is not there by chance, and if there is any easy rule for knowing which it must be, it is worth while to learn it. A ringer who can say beforehand in what order the other bells should pass him has a valuable aid to weak rope-sight, he can ring on steadily when others are blundering, he can practise a new method by his own fireside, and if there are only five or six bells in the tower which he frequents, he can hang up his hat and coat to represent extra ropes, and drill himself in a course of Triples with lashed clapper. But it is hardly necessary to enlarge upon the advantages of the system if it can be learnt without much trouble. A well-known ringer once said to me that the plan was easy enough, but was of no use for other methods. This is true so far as it goes, but a new method always requires some study, and in those methods in which the treble has a plain hunt one has only to observe the variations which occur at the treble leads. The rule in Stedman Doubles is not so obvious, and I have doubted whether it is worth while to attempt to learn it. I have, however, solved the problem to my own satisfaction, and I should like to give an outline of it for the benefit of any one who may feel inclined to work it out for himself.

The figures in the margin represent the work of treble in the plain course of Stedman Doubles according to an old system which I have explained elsewhere. The short lines (—) are for leads, and the figures left and right represent the bells followed at handstroke and backstroke respectively. Letters a, b, c, d, ought perhaps to be used instead of figures, to shew that the rule is true for any bell, but it is not usual to ring by algebra. When the peal begins treble is leaving a *quick six*. It will be observed that the first pair of bells, 2, 3, are taken again in the dodging behind as shewn by the brackets, and the second pair, 4, 5, in the slow course, in a manner which is easily remembered. In fact, they occur at hand or backstroke exclusively several times in succession. So much being premised, the other bells are easily found. There are some other points to be noticed, but they need not be mentioned here. All that is required is a little practice with pencil and paper, which should at least furnish an agreeable diversion for winter evenings.

C. PEARSON.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

ST. ALPHEGE, GREENWICH.—Until further notice, meetings of the Society for the transaction of business are held after ringing on the first Tuesday in each month, in the vestry-room of this church, by kind permission of the Vicar and churchwardens.

FREDK. W. THORNTON, Secretary.

106, King George Street, Greenwich.

WANTED by a Change Ringer, aged 22 Years, a Situation as Gardener, Single-handed Place preferred. Good character. Can ring the principal Methods. Apply T. Stedman, Capel, near Dorking, Surrey.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at Houghton Conquest on Saturday, September 29th. There was only a small attendance of members, owing probably to the fact that there is no railway station within some miles, and those who came had to face some distance by road. The Church is a fine one, and exceedingly well-cared for. In the tower is a ring of six bells, tenor about 14 cwt, cast at the Whitechapel Foundry in 1840. A short time ago they were overhauled and put into good order, and the going is now all that can be desired.

A contingent from Bedford drove up soon after half-past three and were met in the churchyard by the Rev. S. P. Jones (Curate), and Rev. W. W. C. Baker (Secretary). No time was lost in getting to work, and the bells were raised in peal.

Then followed a 720 Bob Minor with nine bobs and six singles by the following: F. Sharpe 1; F. Smith 2; F. Keech 3; Rev. W. W. C. Baker 4; I. Hills 5. C. W. Clarke (conductor) 6.

Also a 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor with nine bobs. C. Pass 1; F. Smith 2; I. Hills 3; Rev. W. W. C. Baker 4; C. W. Clarke 5; W. G. Biggs (conductor) 6. During the ringing the Rev. E. W. Bowling, Rector of the parish, came into the belfry and welcomed the members of the association.

Then followed a 720 Oxford Bob Minor: 30 bobs and 2 singles. W. G. Biggs 1; F. Sharpe 2; F. Keech 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor) 4; F. Smith 5; I. Hills 6. An adjournment was now made for tea, after which a 720 Grandsire Minor was brought round with 38 bobs and 22 singles. C. Pass 1; F. Sharpe 2; F. Smith 3; I. Hills 4; C. W. Clarke 5; W. G. Biggs (conductor) 6. Then followed two 120's of Grandsire Doubles in which four of the local ringers took part, this being their first essay in half-pull ringing. It is to be hoped that a branch of the association will soon be formed here—change-ringing actively prosecuted. Those present wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Rector for kindly placing the bells at their disposal, and the ringers for having everything in readiness. It was resolved to meet at Leighton Buzzard for the next quarterly meeting if permission be granted.

ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

On Saturday afternoon, September 8th, the members of this society paid a visit to the little town of Thornbury. Starting from Bristol at 2.40, a very pleasant drive by brake of about ten miles through Gloucestershire was much enjoyed. Thornbury was reached at 4.10., and Mr. Frank Howell, who had all things in readiness for a pull, welcomed the party upon their first visit to this place. The Rev. E. H. Rogers (Curate of St. James' Bristol), then put in an appearance, having come over from Bath with a party of the British Association. Upon arriving in the belfry a 504 of Stedman Triples was rung. The party then adjourned to the "Swan Hotel," where tea was partaken. An attempt at a date touch of Bob Major was decided on, but previous to starting for it a touch of Grandsire Triples was rung, then a ramble through the gardens of Thornbury Castle. An attempt at a date touch was then made, but unfortunately came to grief after a few courses had been rung. A couple of courses of Grandsire Major with Mr. Frank Howell brought a very pleasant half-holiday to a close. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar for allowing them the use of the bells, and Mr. Howell for the arrangements he made for them.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Loughton to-day, Saturday, October 6th. The tower of St. John the Baptist (eight bells), will be open to members during the afternoon. Chigwell tower (five bells), two miles distant, will also be open. Tea (price 6d. each to members), at the "King's Head," immediately after the business meeting, which will be held at 4.30 p.m. Loughton station, on the Epping and Ongar line, may be reached by frequent trains from Fenchurch Street or Liverpool Street, and from stations on the North London Railway.

Writtle, Chelmsford.

T. L. PAPILLON, Hon. Sec.

ERRATUM.—In the peal of Grandsire Major rung at St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, on Saturday, September 22nd., and recorded in following issue of "BELL NEWS." George C. Hammond rung the second, and not Charles Hammond as stated.

ST. NICHOLAS SOCIETY, GREAT YARMOUTH.

On Saturday, September 22nd, the members of the above Society had their first annual outing, the place selected being Redenhall. The party, which numbered twelve, including the Rev. James F. Hastings, left the Southtown Station for Harleston at 8 o'clock a.m. On the journey the handbells were brought into requisition, and as the train steamed into the different stations the sound of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples soon brought a company of smiling faces to the carriage door, and all seemed to be interested in watching the bells passing up and down. At 9.50 we steamed into Harleston, and were soon on the road to Redenhall, where we found Captain Moore waiting our arrival with everything in readiness. The Captain having pointed out to his visitors the several features of interest connected with the church and belfry, the ropes were taken hold of by the Yarmouth band, and a well struck touch of Grandsire Triples was brought round, also some Oxford Treble Bob, in which Captain Moore and Mr. Prime took part. Time was up to catch the train for Bungay, having reached here safely, the secretary soon found out Mr. Adams, who soon had all ready, whilst the company dropped into the hotel opposite the church, for dinner, to which ample justice was done. Having rang some touches of Triples and Major, another move was made for Beccles where is a peal of ten, tenor 28 cwt. Again welcomed by our friends who were waiting our arrival, but who had unfortunately forgotten to grease the bells, the result was that every body got uncomfortably hot in pulling the back bells especially. However, all spent a very enjoyable day, and we heartily thank one and all for the kind manner in which they received us throughout, and hope soon to have the pleasure of seeing some of them at Yarmouth, where they know there is a grand peal of ten in good going order.

RINGERS' OUTING.

On Sunday September 22nd, Messrs J. H. Hardcastle, J. Broadley, H. Raistrick, James Angus, J. Hardcastle, Jun., and S. Clark, of the Bradford Parish Church Company, accompanied by M. G. Titterton, of St. James' Bolton, Mr. Fred London, of Shipley, and Mr. Jesse Naylor, had their annual outing. Journeying by an early train to Sowerby, they rang for morning service a touch of Grandsire Triples; service being over they were entertained to dinner by Mr. D. Culpan, after which they once more set the bells going to the tune of Kent Treble Bob. This touch having been successfully brought round, a move was made down the hill, the visitors having the pleasure of an interview with the veteran Mr. Sottanstill, who looked much better than might have been expected. They reached Halifax about four o'clock, and after partaking of tea, proceeded to the tower of the Parish Church, where they rang a touch of Grandsire on the light eight, and afterwards a service peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal. They wish to thank their brother strings of Sowerby and Halifax, and also Mr. Culpan, for the kind arrangements made for their comfort during their brief stay.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1888.

	Jan. to July.	Aug.	Total.
Ancient Society of College Youths ...	50	3	53
Midland Counties Association ...	40	4	44
Sussex County Association ...	38	2	40
Oxford Diocesan Guild ...	31	6	37
Essex Association ...	28	6	34
Lancashire Association ...	31	1	32
Norwich Diocesan Association ...	20	3	23
Yorkshire Association ...	19	2	21
Surrey Association ...	16	1	17
Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association	15	0	15
United Counties' Association ...	15	0	15
Kent County Association ...	12	1	13
Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford	11	2	13
Society of Royal Cumberland Youths	8	5	13
St. James' Society, London ...	12	0	12
Salisbury Diocesan Guild ...	11	1	12
The Holt Society ...	9	1	10
Worcester and adjoining Districts Association ...	8	1	9

Hertford College Youths ...	6	1	7
Winchester Diocesan Guild ...	6	0	6
Liverpool Youths' Society ...	4	0	4
Hertford Association ...	2	2	4
All Hallows' Society, Tottenham ...	3	0	3
Waterloo Society, London ...	3	0	3
St. Martin's Society, Birmingham ...	2	1	3
Devonshire Guild ...	2	1	3
Birmingham Amalgamated Society ...	2	0	2
Eastern Counties Guild ...	1	0	1
Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiconal Association ...	1	0	1
Durham and Newcastle Association ...	1	0	1
Bath and Keynsham Deaconries Association ...	1	0	1
Chester Diocesan Guild ...	1	0	1
Bedford Association ...	1	0	1
North Lincoln Association ...	0	1	1
Independent Societies ...	62	3	65
Less peals entered under two Associations	472	48	520
	41	8	49
Totals ...	431	40	471

The above peals were rung in the following methods: New Cumberland Surprise Major, 1; Cambridge Surprise Major, 8; Superlative Surprise Major, 9; Double Oxford Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 13; Stedman Cinques, 2; Stedman Caters, 19; Stedman Triples, 32; Duffield Royal, 4; Treble Bob Maximus, 1; Treble Bob Royal, 9; Treble Bob Major, 73; Prince Albert Major, 1; Violet Major, 1; Grandsire Caters, 28; Grandsire Major, 1; Grandsire Triples, 180; Grandsire Doubles (5040) 12; Court Bob Triples, 2; Oxford Bob Triples, 5; Union Triples, 6; Bob Maximus, 1; Bob Royal, 1; Bob Major, 22; Bob Triples, 15; Bob Doubles (5040), 1; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1; Canterbury Pleasure Triples, 1; in seven Minor Methods on six bells, 15; in 14 Minor Methods on six bells (10,080) 1; in 1 ditto 2; in 14 Methods on five bells, 2; in six ditto, 1. Total 471. Quickest 5000 upon church bells, 2 hours and 27 minutes. The above mentioned 65 peals by Independent Societies were rung in the following Counties: Lancashire, 23; Cheshire, 5; Yorkshire, 5; Suffolk, 4; Gloucestershire, 4; Staffordshire, 3; Warwickshire, 2; Kent, 3; Berkshire, 2; Surrey, 2; Northamptonshire, 2; also Devonshire, Middlesex, Huntingdonshire, Bedfordshire, Norfolk, Derbyshire, Wiltshire, Worcestershire, Essex and Sussex one each.

Number of Peals rung in	1887.	1888.
January ...	50	52
February ...	76	72
March ...	65	60
April ...	62	98
May ...	57	53
June ...	38	57
July ...	14	39
August ...	20	40
	382	471

Brighton. Increase on the eight months ... 89.
GEO. F. ATTREE.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held, by the kind permission of the Rector, at Beddington, on Monday, October 15th, when the tower will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening.

The tea will be at the Plough Inn at 6.30 p.m. All who intend to be present at tea are requested to signify their intention to Mr. Trappitt, Church Lane, Beddington, near Croydon, not later than Friday, October 12th, in order that provision may be made for them. The ordinary business meeting will take place after tea.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon Sec.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co. Printers, Exeter.

NOW READY,

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"DUFFIELD,"*A Musical Method for 8, 10, and twelve bells;*

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1888.

A letter this week among our correspondence will strike the reader as being something out of the common. Certainly it is not often that a secretary of a junior society—a designation which is applicable to the "Copley Youths"—publishes with such aptness and non-reticence its history and constitution, and what it labors to effect. In this case we venture to believe that the letter will do an incalculable amount of good. The work of this society seems to be systematically carried out; the plan of operations, as sketched in the letter of MR. HARDCASTLE, jun.—by the way evidently a worthy son of a worthy

father—is one to be imitated with great profit and advantage. The objects in view and the manner of attaining them are so described that it is difficult to select one for particular commendation. Societies about being established, or others who have under consideration the revision of their constitution, will do well to take a leaf from the book of the "Copley Scholars."

It is unfortunately too true that the ringers of many parishes throughout the country are without the least means of organisation whatever. We mean "local" organisation, for those whom we are now referring to cannot by any means be got to join a County or Diocesan Association. They meet only when they have a mind to, or when a fee is to be earned, in which latter case they are generally prompt in their appearance, and punctual to the minute. For a regular periodical meeting they have no liking. They are entirely indifferent to the progress of the Exercise; reading no journal of the Art, they are practically uninterested in its history, the relations of famous ringing achievements are to them stale, flat, and unprofitable. It is pleasing to know that such bands as these are fast giving place to others who take a pride in having the affairs of the belfry conducted with some degree of regularity, in other words, of having a properly-constituted society with necessary regulations and approved formalities. Whoever sets his hand to such an improvement is sure, sooner or later, to reap the reward of his perseverance. And we would impress, with all the power we are capable, upon young ringers the great necessity of a good organization. The ringers of every town and village should be organized societies, governed by laws of a simple though effective description. When these have become universal, we may "rest and be thankful." There is very little trouble needed to effect such a result even in the remotest village, and the incumbent would in most cases help forward the movement. Those who desire to so benefit themselves and the Art, cannot do better than shape their endeavours after the manner of the "Copley Scholars."

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting will be held at Newcastle on Monday, October 29th. As soon as the arrangements are completed circulars will be issued to the members.

*Stockton-on-Tees.***G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.****THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.**

All members of this Society, and particularly the officers for the past year, are respectfully requested to attend the next meeting on Monday, October 15th, for the discussion and transaction of important business.

GEORGE C. HAMMOND, Hon. Sec. pro tem.**THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

The Annual Meeting will be held at York, to-day, Saturday, October 6th. Divine Service at the Minster at 4.30, with special sermon by the Very Rev. the Dean. Tea at 6 and business meeting at 6.45.

The Metropolis.

STRATFORD-LE-BOW, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Thursday, September 27, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM CECIL Treble.	RICHARD J. TURNER .. 5.
WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 2.	HENRY SPRINGALL .. 6.
ARTHUR CUTMORE .. 3.	YORK GREEN .. 7.
SAMUEL E. JOYCE .. 4.	THOMAS BAKER .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY SPRINGHALL.

Mr. W. W. Gifford hails from Salisbury.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

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

On Saturday, September 29, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

THOMAS WOOD* Treble.	HENRY NUNN .. 5.
YORK GREEN 2.	SAMUEL HAYES .. 6.
HARVEY REEVES .. 3.	ALFRED ESTALL .. 7.
JOHN CARMICHAEL .. 4.	RICHARD ELLIOTT .. Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED ESTALL.

*First peal.

The above band tender their hearty thanks to the Vicar for allowing them to ring the peal upon so short a notice.

OLD BATTERSEA, SURREY.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, September 29, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven and $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

A. SWETMAN Treble.	W. W. THORNE .. 5.
W. BARON, JUN. .. 2.	W. BARON .. 6.
H. SWAIN 3.	G. WILD .. 7.
S. BAKER 4.	A. E. CHURCH .. Tenor.

Conducted by W. BARON.

Rung previous to the Harvest Festival, and is the quickest peal on the bells.

PIMLICO.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE
YOUTHS.

On Sunday, September 30, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. G. T. McLAUGHLIN,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Size 15 in C.

WILLIAM E. TYDEMAN 1-2.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 5-6.
CHARLES F. WINNY 3-4.	GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN .. 7-8.

Conducted by C. F. WINNY.

W. E. Tydeman and W. W. Gifford hail from Salisbury. Umpire—Mr. J. N. Orborrow.

WESTMINSTER.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE
YOUTHS.

On Monday, October 1, 1888, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE ROCHESTER ARMS, ROCHESTER ROW,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Size 15 in C.

HENRY R. NEWTON 1-2.	*WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 5-6.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 3-4.	JOHN M. HAYES .. 7-8.
GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN 9-10.	

Composed by the late JOHN COX, and Conducted by
JOHN M. HAYES.

W. E. Tydeman and W. W. Gifford hail from Salisbury. Umpire—Mr. W. H. Judd. *First peal of Grandsire Caters on handbells.

The Provinces.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 29, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

JOHN HOPWOOD Treble.	SAMUEL WOOD .. 5.
SAMUEL TAYLOR* .. 2.	†JOHN HARRISON .. 6.
WILLIAM JAKEMAN .. 3.	SHEPHERD ANDREW .. 7.
JAMES WOOD 4.	GEORGE LONGDEN .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE LONGDEN.

*First peal in the method on the tower bells; †first peal in the method.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

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

On Saturday, September 29, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in D.

HENRY LEWIS Treble.	JOHN C. MITCHELL .. 6.
ALFRED BARNES .. 2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 7.
EDMUND HOLIFIELD .. 3.	WALTER BATTLE .. 8.
GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. 4.	THOMAS WALLER .. 9.
HERBERT BAKER .. 5.	E. PERCY DEBENHAM .. Tenor.
	ARTHUR HULL ..

Composed by J. REEVES, and Conducted by
GEORGE WILLIAM CARTMEL.

The above was rung as a compliment to the conductor on his birthday; also on the occasion of the erection of a tablet recording the first peal of Stedman Triples rung in the city. Messrs. Baker and Holifield belong to Hertford.

PRESTBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION,
AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.

On Tuesday, October 2, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S ONE-PART.

Tenor 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. in F#.

HENRY L. JAMES Treble.	GEORGE L. BRUNSDON .. 5.
FRANCIS E. HART .. 2.	SYDNEY E. ROMANS .. 6.
WILLIAM J. SEVIER .. 3.	RICHARD BRUNSDON .. 7.
RAYMOND J. WILKINS .. 4.	ERNEST E. BEWICK .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM J. SEVIER.

The ringers wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also the local company for getting all things ready.

Date Touches.

THE ST. JAMES SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

BRISTOL.—On Tuesday evening, September 11th, at the church of All Saints, seven members of the above society, with Mr. Alfred York, rang a date touch of Stedman Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. A. Howell, 1; G. Pymm, 2; W. Paddock, 3; W. W. Porch, 4; A. York, 5; A. Pearce, 6; H. Porch (conductor), 7; F. Gooding, 8. Composed by A. B. Carpenter, Esq.

MERSHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, September 29th, at the parish church, a date touch of Bob Major (1888 changes). E. Ruck, sen. (conductor), 1; G. Finn, sen., 2; H. Joy, 3; D. Paine, 4; G. Paine, 5; E. Ruck, jun., 6; F. Finn, 7; G. Finn, 8. This touch was rang in honour to the secretary of the band (H. Jay), who is about to leave for Sussex, and they all wish him success.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, September 30th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, a date touch of Stedman Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 5 mins. H. Mills, 1; G. Hughes, 2; W. R. Small, 3; R. Cartwright, 4; W. Pardoe, 5; S. Jesson, 6; J.

Carter (conductor), 7; B. Gough, 8. Composed by A. B. Carpenter. Esq. And after service, a date touch of Bob Major (1888 changes) in 1 hr. 7 mins. B. Gough, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; H. Mills, 3; W. Pardoe, 4; J. Carter, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. R. Small, 8. R. Cartwright hails from Wombourn, Carter from Birmingham, and Gough from Coseley; the rest belong to the local company.

Miscellaneous.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MILTON NEXT GRAVESEND.—On Friday, September 21st, for the Harvest Festival at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor. J. Harding, 1; F. Hayes, 2; H. Davis, 3; J. Brown, 4; W. Martin, 5; A. Cornford (first 720 as conductor), 6.

ROCHESTER.—On Sunday evening, September 30th, for Divine Service at St. Margaret's church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. Raynor, 1; J. Tulett (conductor), 2; G. Chantler, 3; A. Ring, 4; J. P. Kidd, 5; W. Baker, 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MIDHURST (Sussex).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Thursday, September 27th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. Mrs. Williams, 1; Rev. J. L. Cother, 2; W. H. George, 3-4; G. Williams (conductor), 5-6; W. Selby, 7-8. And 168 of Stedman Triples by the same band. Longest touch by all except the conductor. And on Sunday morning, September 30th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). T. Ellis, 1; W. Court, 2; G. Baker, 3; J. Lee, 4; *W. Selby (conductor), 5; G. Williams, 6. *First 720 as conductor. †Hails from Arundel. In the afternoon, on handbells, 252 of Grandsire Triples. Mrs. Williams, 1; G. Baker, 2; W. H. George, 3-4; G. Williams (conductor), 5-6; W. Selby, 7-8. And 168 of Stedman Triples, by the same band. W. H. George, 1-2; W. Selby, 3; G. Baker, 4; G. Williams (conductor), 5-6; Mrs. Williams, 7-8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, September 25th, for practice at the parish church, 720 of Violet Treble Bob Minor. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. This is the first practice for ten weeks, owing to the members working overtime. On Sunday, September 30th, the Harvest Festival was held at the above church, and a 720 of Plain Bob Minor was rung at 7.15 a.m. Also for Divine Service, an attempt was made for a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, but came to grief after ringing half of it. And 120 of Stedman Doubles. Also for Divine Service in the evening, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. And after service, 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor. The following took part in the above:—Rev. G. F. Coleridge, T. Newman, J. Hands, G. Essex, E. Munday, H. Smith, H. Simmonds, and F. Simmonds, conducted by T. Newman, and E. Munday. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Thursday, September 27th, at St. Michael's church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 26 mins. T. Watson, 1; W. Hammond, 2; F. Rudkin, 3; F. L. Bumstead, 4; C. H. Howard, 5; S. Hammond (conductor), 6. Also 240 of Plain Bob. J. Savill, 1; S. Hammond, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; F. L. Bumstead, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. J. Savill hails from Rayne.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Saturday evening, September 29th, after service at St. Edward's church, 1050 of Grandsire Triples. L. Copsey, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; A. S. Barrell, 3; M. L. Myhill, 4; E. Barnett (conductor), 5; A. J. Perkins, 6; W. Nash, 7; S. James, 8. The above is taken from Shipway's five-part peal. Also on handbells a touch of Grandsire Triples. S. James, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; E. Barnett (conductor), 3-4; A. J. Perkins, 5-6; W. Nash, 7-8. And on Sunday morning, September 30th, for Divine Service, 504 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. L. Copsey, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; G. Roughton, 3; M. L. Myhill, 4; W. Pye, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6; W. Nash, 7; S. James, 8.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Wednesday, September 19th, at the parish church, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2500 changes, it came to grief, owing to a shift-course. W. Emery, 1; H. F. de Lisle, Esq., 2; A. Edwards, 3; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 4; W. Hawkes, 5; A. Tarbun, 6; G. Newson, 7; W. Lincoln, 8.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Monday, October 1st, at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. S. Jesson, 1; *W. Horton, 2; B. Gough, 3; H. Mills, 4; E. Goodreds, 5; †W. R. Small

(conductor), 6. *First 720; †first 720 as conductor. Messrs. Horton and Gough hail from Coseley, the rest belong to the local company.

HAGLEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday afternoon, September 23rd, after Divine Service at the parish church, 532 of Grandsire Triples. F. Wright, 1; J. Smith, 2; H. Morris, 3; C. Boughton, 4; *W. Bradley, 5; W. Short, 6; H. Martin (conductor), 7; J. Davies, 8. *Longest touch of Triples. And on Tuesday, September 25th, 1008 of Grandsire Triples. F. Molineux, 1; H. Martin (conductor), 2; H. Morris, 3; J. Smith, 4; T. Lees, 5; C. Boughton, 6; W. Short, 7; J. Davies, 8. Also on Sunday, September 30th, 1512 of Grandsire Triples. F. Molineux, 1; H. Martin (conductor), 2; H. Morris, 3; J. Smith, 4; T. Lees, 5; C. Boughton, 6; W. Short, 7; F. Wright, 8. Longest touch of Triples by all excepting T. Lees and H. Martin.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DURHAM.—On Monday evening, October 1st, at St. Oswald's church for practice, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. T. Wheatley (first 720 in the method), 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; J. E. Avery, 3; C. Bradford, 4; W. Prince, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6. Also an attempt for a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, but it unfortunately came to grief after ringing over 600 changes. C. Bradford, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; J. E. Avery, 3; W. Prince, 4; C. J. Butterworth, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6.

BARKING ROAD.—On Wednesday, September 26th, after the Harvest Thanksgiving Service, 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 23 mins. *W. Brown, 1; A. E. Wright, 2; A. White, 3; W. H. Dallimore, 4; †J. P. Bradley, 5; †H. Randall (conductor), 6. All the above are members of the Essex Association, with the exception of W. Brown. *First 720; †hails from West Ham; the rest are local men.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, September 16th, for Divine Service, 600 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. S. Sargent, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; F. L. Bumpstead, 4; S. Hammond (conductor), 5; C. Bearman, 6. Also on Sunday morning, September 30th, being the Harvest Festival, for Divine Service, 360 of Bob Minor. A. Spurge, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; J. Hayes, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. And for afternoon service, 600 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. A. Spurge, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Radley, 3; S. Sargent, 4; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 5; E. Radley, 6.

CARLISLE.—On Tuesday, October 2nd, for practice at St. Stephen's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 30 mins. G. Little, 1; F. Gibson (conductor), 2; J. Jefferson, 3; D. Harding, 4; R. Burrows, 5; L. W. Jennings, 6; W. Gregson, 7.

CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH.—On Tuesday, September 25th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 120 Violet. W. Hibbert, 1; W. Jowl, 2; G. Hibbert (conductor), 3; A. Rangle, 4; G. Ford, 5; T. Brocklehurst, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. Rangle and Brocklehurst hail from Hayfield; the rest are of the local company.

IPSWICH (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, September 26th, at the church of St. Mary-le-Tower, for practice, three courses of Stedman Cinques. W. L. Catchpole, 1; R. H. Brundle, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; R. Hawes, 4; T. Steward, 5; J. Motts, 6; C. Saul, 7; H. Howell, 8; W. P. Garrett, 9; S. Tillett, 10; A. R. Aldham, 11; W. Motts, 12. Also 900 Double Norwich Court Bob Royal. F. Tillett, 1; W. P. Garrett, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; W. Motts, 4; J. Motts, 5; H. Howell, 6; R. Hawes, 7; W. L. Catchpole, 8; R. H. Brundle, 9; A. R. Aldham, 10. Tenor 32 cwt. in C#.

GRIMSBY (Lincolnshire).—On Friday evening, September 28th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. C. H. Jessop, 1; A. Shepherd, 2; A. Bramall, 3; W. H. Heyhoe, 4; G. Weldon, 5; D. Seamer (conductor), 6; J. Lamb, 7; H. Wood, 8. This is the first 720 of Grandsire Minor on the bells, and the first by the band. On Monday, October 1st, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. H. Fuller, 1; A. Shepherd, 2; A. Bramall, 3; W. H. Heyhoe, 4; G. Weldon, 5; D. Seamer (conductor), 6; J. Lamb, 7; H. Wood, 8. Two covers.

MERSHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, September 22nd, for practice at the parish church, 1008 of Bob Major, with the tenors parted. E. Ruck, sen. (conductor), 1; G. Finn, sen., 2; H. Jay, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; G. Paine, 5; E. Ruck, jun., 6; F. Finn, 7; G. Finn, jun., 8.

MOSSLEY (Lancashire).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Monday, October 1st, at the meeting house, Stamford Street, on handbells, retained in hand, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. *John Greaves (age 15), 1; J. Turner, 2; J. L. Buckley (conductor), 3; J. J. Brierley, 4; J. H. Shaw, 5; J. Holden, 6. *First 720.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, September 27th, at parish church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. R. Round

1; W. Micklewright, sen., 2; J. Townsend, 3; A. Beddal, 4; W. Micklewright, jun. (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. And on Saturday, September 29th, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 27 mins. J. Prestidge, 1; W. Micklewright, sen., 2; J. Townsend, 3; S. Spittle, 4; W. Micklewright, jun. (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Also 360 of College Single. W. Micklewright, sen., 1; R. Round, 2; J. Townsend, 3; S. Spittle, 4; W. Micklewright, jun. (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. W. Micklewright hail from Stafford, and is his first 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. Micklewright jun. and Spittle hail from Dudley, Beddal from Brierley Hill; the rest belong to the local company.

OLDSWINFORD (Worcestershire).—On Wednesday, September 19th, at St. Michael's church, 720 of Bob Minor in 26½ mins. A. Orford, 1; C. Daniels, 2; H. Harris (conductor), 3; W. A. Pugh, 4; J. Meredith, 5; G. H. Pagett, 6. Also on Sunday, September 23rd, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. J. Pagett, 1; J. Smith, 2; H. Harris, 3; H. Morris, 4; J. Barber, 5; W. Short (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

PENDLETON (near Manchester).—Recently, at St. Thomas' church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob was rung. J. Gratrix (Manchester), 1; H. Chapman (Bedford), 2; J. Hardman (Pendleton), 3; A. Rangely (conductor, Hayfield), 4; G. Ford (Chapel-en-le-Frith), 5; T. Brocklehurst (Hayfield), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

SHEFFIELD.—On Sunday evening, September 30th, at All Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. H. Bower (longest touch), 1; J. Rowley, 2; F. Rippon, 3; C. Bower, 4; W. Gardiner, 5; J. Rew (conductor), 6; W. Smithson, 7; M. Fitzclarke, 8.

STOUBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, September 22nd, at the church of St. Thomas, three courses of Grandsire Triples. C. Barrett, 1; J. Smith, 2; J. Barber, 3; W. Short, 4; H. Morris, 5; G. H. Pagett, 6; H. Harris, 7; J. Crump, 8. Also 252 of Grandsire Triples. J. Pagett, 1; J. Smith, 2; J. Barber, 3; W. Short, 4; H. Morris, 5; W. A. Pugh, 6; H. Harris (conductor), 7; J. Crump, 8. And on Monday, September 24th, for practice, 240 of Bob Minor. W. Orford, 1; G. H. Pagett, 2; W. A. Pugh, 3; C. Barrett, 4; A. Orford, 5; H. Harris (conductor), 6; J. Crump, 7; G. Griffin, 8. Also 252 of Bob Triples. *W. Orford, 1; H. Harris, 2; W. A. Pugh, 3; J. Pagett, 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; *A. Orford, 6; C. Barrett, 7; J. Crump, 8. *First touch in the method. Messrs. Smith, Barber, Short, and Morris, hail from Hagley and Clent, and the Messrs. Orford and Griffin from Oldswinford. And on Sunday evening, September 30th, for Divine Service, 420 of Bob Triples. J. Pagett, 1; H. Woodhall, 2; C. Barrett, 3; R. Beasley, 4; H. Harris, 5; A. Orford, 6; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 7; P. Beaseley, 8. After service, 504 of Bob Triples. J. Pagett, 1; H. Woodhall, 2; H. Morris, 3; C. Barrett, 4; B. Beaseley, 5; A. Orford, 6; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 7; H. Harris, 8. And on Monday evening, October 1st, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 55 mins. 1. Guest, 1; J. Pagett, 2; W. A. Pugh, 3; C. Barrett, 4; H. Harris, 5; A. Orford, 6; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 7; J. Crump, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. Messrs. Beaseley and Woodhall hail from Cradley, and J. Guest from Brierley Hill; the rest are of the local company.

TWESBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, September 30th, for Divine Service in the evening, 1008 Stedman Triples. C. W. Dyson, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hale, 4; E. Wallis, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Hampton, 8.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, September 30th, at St. Martin's church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, for Divine Service in the morning, 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. R. Small, 1; W. Pardoe, 2; B. Gough, 3; H. Mills, 4; E. Goodreds, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6; G. Hughes, 7; W. Reynolds, 8.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, September 30th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-eight bobs and eighteen singles), in 26 mins. J. King, 1; J. Priest, 2; W. Smith, 3; G. Cornell, 4; J. Marks, 5; E. Barnett (conductor), 6. After service another 720 in the same method (twenty-six bobs and two singles), the band standing as before.

WILLENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, September 23rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, by the St. Giles society, 672 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to Mrs. H. H. Walker, of this town. W. Trubshaw, 1; S. Pitt, 2; B. Hodson, 3; J. Appleby, 4; S. Dace, 5; W. Johnson, 6; E. Wollason, 7; A. Keble, 8. Also after evening service, 1008 of Grandsire Triples, composed by H. Johnson, of Birmingham, assisted by D. Chapman, of Walsall, who rang the second. And for practice, on Tuesday, September 25th, 840 of Grandsire Triples. The above was the first touch by all the band.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, September 30th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 Violet Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. G. Byde, 1; C. Byde, 2; R. Moss, 3; J. Cooley, 4; A.

Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, October 2nd, for practice, 360 Double Oxford Bob Minor. R. Motts, 2; C. Byde, 3; the remainder as before.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Saturday, September 29th, at St. Peter's church, an attempt was made to ring a date touch of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing three courses past the half way, it came to grief, owing to the bad go of the tenor, the tenor man being unable to go on any further. J. Goodman, 1; B. Dalton, 2; S. Bunn, 3; D. Bruce, 4; W. Pardoe, 5; R. Schofield (conductor), 6; J. Davenport, 7; J. Pardoe, 8. The above touch was composed by E. Nicholls, of the St. Peter's company. Messrs. Goodman, Bunn, Bruce, Schofield, and Davenport, hail from Sedgley, Dalton from Tettenhall, W. Pardoe from Tipton, and J. Pardoe belongs to Wolverhampton.

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 SOCIETY OF COPLEY SCHOLARS, BRADFORD.

SIR,—In reply to "Free Lance," while thanking him for his good wishes, have much pleasure in complying with his request for some information as to the above society. About twelve months ago Mr. Copley commenced a special practice on Friday evenings for the young ringers in Bradford and district. These practices proved so successful and satisfactory that it was proposed a few months ago to form ourselves into a society for the purpose of carrying on the work in a systematic manner. Several meetings were held, the project being taken up heartily, and on June 15th last we adopted a code of rules and gave the Society the name of "Copley Scholars," out of respect to our teacher. We have at the present time thirty members who are connected with the five towers of the district, containing one peal of ten, three peals of eight, and one peal of six. We meet every Friday evening at each of these towers in turn as arranged by the committee (formed of one representative from each tower in union) a list of the fixtures being posted in each belfry. That is in brief our history and constitution, the principle we work upon is that of self-help. When a young man wishes to become a ringer he specifies which tower he desires to connect himself with. Our members at that branch then undertake the duty of training him until he can ring his bell in rounds. As soon as he is able to do that to the satisfaction of the captain he is then proposed a member of this Society, and receives a card of membership and copy of rules, and joins in the Friday evening practices. At these practices we work upon the plan of the more advanced members helping forward the recruits, and as each one progresses he in turn takes his part likewise in helping on the new beginners. It is in fact a mutual improvement society in every sense of the term. We have found many advantages from our plan of operations; one is that any person desirous of learning to ring has every facility for so doing, and by reason of our not interfering with the practices of each company he is thus enabled to have two ringing nights a week. It also secures a continuity of practice, and through our plan of visiting each tower in turn, the members get accustomed to the "go" of all the rings in the district, besides being better able to ring with each other in mixed companies. There are many other advantages which I might mention were it necessary, but I trust I have stated sufficient to show that our Society is formed upon a good basis for promoting the art of change-ringing. We have every reason to be satisfied with the results so far, and look forward in future to even greater ones. I believe there are many districts where our plan might be adopted with advantage, and should anyone desire further information respecting our rules and mode of carrying on our work, I shall be most happy to furnish them with it.

JOE HARDCASTLE, JUN., Hon. Sec.

43, Bright Street, Bradford, October 1st, 1888.

A REASONABLE DOUBT.

SIR,—I notice the report in your issue of the 22nd inst., of the trial of some recently introduced tubes at Warminster, which are designated "bells." It has been a question in my mind for some time past, if these instruments can be truly called bells? and if by sounding one of such instruments can be a fit interpretation and exposition of the words of direction given in the preface of our Prayer Book: "the Curate that ministereth shall cause a bell to be tolled thereunto a convenient time before he begin, that the people may come to hear God's word, and to pray with him."? I wonder if the use of tubes is legal, even setting aside truth and conformity to ancient and common practice? be they ever so soft, musical, and pretty?

VERITAS.

September 24th, 1888.

BASILDON CHURCH BELLS, BERKS.

In a belfry near Reading, the tenor of the above peal of four was the subject of discussion after the usual practice on a recent evening, one of the village ringers being of opinion that it rang as heavy as St. Mary's, (Reading) tenor, viz. 28 cwt.

Being in the neighbourhood of the village a few days ago, the writer took the opportunity of taking the note of each bell, as a quarter to four was chimed from the peal. The church is dedicated to St. Bartholomew, and is supposed to have been built in the reign of Edward II., it contains handsome monuments to Sir Francis Sykes, and family, formerly resident here. It was near this place that in excavating for the G.W.R. some beautiful Roman tessellated pavement was found near the surface, and on an elevated spot near the river Thames, several coins of Vespasian in good preservation with domestic utensils, several human skeletons, and a Roman sword. The Inscriptions on the bells are given below:—

Treble (C).—Mears and Stainbank founders 1876.

Second (B).—Mears and Stainbank founders 1876,

Third (A).—ISAACK MATHEWE —

FRANCES RIGGS C (a device) W.

H (a device) K 1665

Fourth (G).—THE LADI LITCOT GAVE THIS

(not exceeds) BELL — HK 1621

10 cwt. IN TRVE DESIER TO DO WELL.

W. L.

HOW TWO RINGERS SPENT A PLEASANT HOLIDAY.

Messrs. C. J. Butterworth and Lancelot Newton, of the Durham and Newcastle Association, having agreed to have a fortnight's holiday together, they arranged it so that a portion of the time should be spent with their ringing friends. Having written to Mr. F. Birtwistle, of Rochdale, that gentleman was not long in setting the machinery in motion. We left Durham station at 8.0 a.m. on Saturday, September 8th, and booked to Rochdale, from which place we made our way to Heywood, where a peal of Grandsire Triples had been arranged. This peal came off successfully, and as it was Mr. Newton's first attempt for a peal, the result was very satisfactory. Afterwards Mr. Millett, senior, a local ringer, prevailed upon us to go and have tea with him, when he invited us to the Conservative Club, in the smoke-room of which we had a pleasant chat. As the evening was getting late we bid him adieu and made again for Rochdale, our then destination. The following morning we attended service at St. James's, and in the afternoon we went to Healey and rang a touch of Plain Bob Minor for service; in the evening we visited the Parish Church and for service rang a touch of Grandsire Triples.

On the Monday morning we were astir pretty early, as by 6.30 the iron horse was speeding on its way to Blackpool, that favourite resort for Lancashire people. The following day found us amongst our Oldham friends, and as per arrangement, we met at Milnrow at 6.30 in the evening and brought Mr. Thurstans' five part peal of Grandsire Triples to a successful issue. Wednesday we spent at the Agricultural Show, and on Thursday we had a ramble over the hills, and as per arrangement turned up at 6.30 in the evening at St. Alban's Church, when Mr. Wreaks conducted us through our first peal of Bob Major, neither of us having attempted to ring the method on light bells before. Our hands were now beginning to feel a little tender so we did not press for any more peals to be arranged for that week, but took ourselves off to Manchester to see the Australian Cricketers at Old Trafford; Saturday we spent in a convivial manner with our friends. Sunday morning found us at All Saints, Hamer, where we went through a 720 of Grandsire Minor for service; in the afternoon (we had arranged to have the afternoon with Messrs. F. Birtwistle and George Hoyle), we took the tram to Oldham, then walked on to Ashton, inspected the fine new tower which is now almost completed at the Parish Church, then made for St. Peter's where thanks to our friends, Mr. S. Wood had got the company together a little earlier than usual. We then went through our first touch (672) of Kent Treble Bob Major, then sat down and watched our companions and local ringers ring a few courses of Stedman Triples.

It hardly requires me to speak upon the merits of the Ashton men, for there are no ringers in the universe, I should think, who are not acquainted with them by repute at any rate. It only

requires one visit to prove that we probationers have something to go through before we are proficient in the art of change-ringing. Mr. Geo. Longden took us in tow after we left the church, and we visited the meeting-house and saw the silver pewter presented to the Ashton Ringers in 1786, and I should say that the young blood intend to keep up that stamina, in the manner they handled the handbells is anything to go by. On the Monday following we had a night's practice at Hamer, when we rang a touch of Plain Bob, and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor; on the Tuesday we made our way to Bacup and spent the practice night with the Christ Church Company, and enjoyed touches of Oxford Treble Bob Minor and College Single; on the Wednesday we spent a pleasant day in Manchester, visiting those popular grounds—Belle Vue Gardens.

Thursday morning saw us early astir again, and on our way to Southport, a pretty town on the Lancashire Coast, where Mr. Hill, the local steeple-keeper, had six men to meet us at Christ Church in the evening, when we made an attempt for a peal of Bob Major, but unfortunately the second rope broke, and as there was not time to make a fresh start a well-struck Date Touch was brought round in the same method in 1 hr. 7 min.

Our time being now limited we did not arrange for any more ringing; we got safely back to Durham on Saturday the 22nd, having spent a very happy fortnight, and we beg, Mr. Editor, through you to tender our sincere thanks to the secretary and various members of the Lancashire Association who did their best to make our visit to their district a very pleasant one, and one to be ever remembered.

C. J. B.

CHEPSTOW CHURCH BELLS.

For some time past it has been known that the bells of the parish church of St. Mary have been in a bad, not to say dangerous, condition. The peal, which consists of eight bells, was cast by William Evans, of Chepstow, some 150 years ago, but the constant striking of the clappers in one place has worn the bells thin on those particular places, and render them liable to crack at any moment. Consequently the vicar some couple of weeks ago ordered that they should not be rung for service until something had been done to them. The bearings and spindles of the bells are also very much worn. A specialist from Messrs. Warner, of the famous Cripplegate foundry, inspected the bells and stated that they required to be quarter-turned, and that the estimated cost of putting them into a proper condition would be about £105. On Tuesday night a meeting of parishioners was held in the church school-room, when a committee was appointed to carry out the scheme of restoration, and subscriptions to the amount of some £56 were promised.—*Local Paper.*

FROME, SOMERSETSHIRE—THE CURFEW.

As usual during the winter months here, the Curfew began on Monday evening last at 8 o'clock. This old custom of ringing the Curfew was revived by the late venerable vicar, the Rev. W. J. E. Bennett, M.A., the 7th bell of the Parish Church being used for that purpose. It is to be hoped the younger members connected with the Guild of Ringers at St. John's will take the advice of "Free Lance" of last week as being particularly applicable to them, and make every effort for advancement in change-ringing, and thus acquit themselves as worthy members of the exercise, and a credit to their church, captain, and Guild, which latter now rests with them, seeing that everything has been done for their convenience, viz.:—the renovation of the frame work, and general machinery of the bells; and their (the ringers) reinstatement in the original ringing chamber, and by the possession of a set of handbells. Surely ere long "BELL NEWS" ought to contain an account of a touch (other than stoney) being performed by them. G.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

The next meeting will be held at the parish church, Burton-on-Trent, to-day, Saturday, October 6th. Members to assemble in the town at 2.30 p.m.

J. R. KEBLE, *Hon. Sec.*

INTERESTING RESTORATION AT MONMOUTH.

Soon after the date of the founding of the ancient Norman Church of St. Thomas, Monmouth (A.D. 1039) a cross was erected on the same lines in the adjacent square of St. Thomas, as may be clearly seen by the formation of the old base. The cross originally stood in the centre of St. Thomas' Square, and there is a very sad history in connection with it, and which, happily, was the last example of a most cruel and barbarous custom. On the first day of April, 1764, a young woman, only 18 years of age, was condemned at the Monmouth Assizes to be burnt to death for poisoning her mistress, and the dreadful sentence was carried out close to St. Thomas' Cross. Mr. Crompton Roberts, a local gentleman whose many deeds of charity has endeared him to men of all shades of opinion in Monmouth, has had in view for some years past the restoration of the cross, and he has now succeeded in having it restored. Mr. W. Simmonds, a local builder, was consulted as to the foundation and fixing, etc., and plans were drawn by Mr. F. A. Powell, Architect, Monmouth, on the lines of St. Thomas' Church and vestry. The ancient base, which is about 2 ft. 6 inches square, has been elevated by three steps, the bottom one being 10 ft. 3 in. square. From the centre of the old base springs a very fine panelled shaft, surmounted by suitable continuations in keeping with the base. The shaft is the work of Mr. Wall, of Newport, Monmouthshire. Mr. Crompton Roberts, with his usual generosity, defrays the whole of the expense. Eight years ago the same gentleman restored the church itself, where can now be seen a very fine Norman arch in stone that is a great attraction to tourists. Previous to the restoration at the Church the above arch, which is over the front door, was in Roman cement, which was taken down and replaced in brown sandstone.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, AND THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the members of both these societies, for the consideration of important business, will be held at the "Nelson's Cabin," Bull Ring, on Tuesday evening, October 9th. Chair to be taken at 8.

A. THOMAS, *Secretary of the St. Martin's Society*,
W. H. GODDEN, *Secretary of the Holt Society*.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Brighton branch at St. Paul's, Brighton.—On Sunday, September 2nd, 1008 of Grandsire Triples. P. Allfrey, 1; C. Blackman, 2; W. Allfrey, 3; G. Hill, 4; W. Palmer, 5; *T. Stepney, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; J. Salmon, 8. *Longest length. C. Blackman hails from Arundel. Also on Sunday, September 23rd, 504 of Grandsire Triples. H. Eves, 1; P. Allfrey, 2; *—Ramm, 3; J. Salmon, 4; W. Allfrey, 5; G. Biggerstaff, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; G. Murray, 8. *First 504.

By the Brighton branch at St. Nicholas, Brighton.—On Sunday, September 16th, 742 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. J. C. Mitchell, 1; J. Searle, 2; G. W. Cartmel, 3; C. Tyler, 4; W. Palmer, 5; J. Fox, 6; *F. G. Newman (conductor), 7; E. Butler, 8. *Hails from London. Also 518 of Grandsire Triples in 17 mins. J. Neves, 1; J. C. Mitchell, 2; G. W. Cartmel, 3; J. Searle, 4; H. Boniface, 5; J. Fox, 6; W. Palmer, 7; C. Tyler, 8. Conducted by J. C. Mitchell.

By the Brighton branch at St. Peter's, Brighton.—On Sunday, September 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 43 mins. G. F. Attree, 1; G. Thwaites (conductor), 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; E. C. Merritt, 4; G. Smart, 5; T. Lewis, 6; G. A. King, 7; J. Mockett, 8. Also 518 of Grandsire Triples in 17 mins. J. Jay, 1; G. F. Attree (conductor), 2; E. C. Merritt, 3; G. A. King, 4; H. Cornwall, 5; J. E. Worsell, 6; A. A. Fuller, 7; G. Thwaites, 8. The above quarter-peal is taken from Holt's Original. E. C. Merritt hails from Bournemouth, G. Smart from Steyning, and Lewis from Eastbourne.

By the Angmering branch at Angmering.—On Saturday, September 29th, 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Parsons, 1; H. Evans (Goring), 2; C. Clear, 3; G. Baker (Arundel), 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Bob Minor (twelve singles). E. Parsons, C. Clear, 2; G. Baker, 3; H. Evans, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. G. F. ATTREE, } *Hon. Secs.*
J. E. WORSSELL, }

ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.

On Thursday evening, September 20th, a meeting of this company was held in the tower of the parish church, for the purpose of unveiling a tablet to commemorate the first peal of the company rung at Upton St. Leonard's, on the 30th of June last. Proceedings began with a touch of 447 Grandsire Triples, S. E. Romans, 1; F. E. Hart, 2; R. Brunson, 3; F. E. Ward, (Cheltenham, conductor), 4; G. L. Brunson, 5; H. L. James, 6; R. A. Barrett, 7; E. E. Bewick, 8.

The RECTOR, the Rev. G. JAMES, then said, that it was with great pleasure that he was there, to commemorate perhaps the most auspicious event in the career of the society. He felt sure that the members of the society felt highly honoured by the presence of the Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, who had come to unveil the tablet. He was sure that no one was more proud of the success of the young society (founded September 6th, 1887) than he was, and no doubt there were feelings of pride in the minds of those eight young men whose names were to occupy so conspicuous a place in the tower; He wished the society success in their efforts, and asked Mr. Ward in the name of the members to unveil the tablet.

Mr. WARD in reply said that he wished to thank the members of the St. Michael's Juniors for asking him to come and officiate on that occasion. It was always a pleasure to him to be amongst members of the Exercise with whom he had spent some of the happiest hours in his life. He hoped that this first peal was the first of a series of peals, not in this particular method only, and also that they would be rung as true as this one. He then unveiled the tablet, which is a brass plate mounted on oak, and bears the following inscription:—

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—St. Michael's Junior's rang at Upton St. Leonard's, June 30th, 1888, in 3 hrs. 2 mins. their first peal, viz.:—Holt's ten-peal of Grandsire Triples, (5040). H. L. James, 1; F. E. Hart, 2; R. Brunson, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; W. J. Senior, 5; S. E. Romans, 6; R. A. Barrett, 7; E. E. Bewick, 8; Conducted by W. J. Sevier.

A 420 of Stedman Triples was then rung. H. L. James, 1; E. E. Hart, 2; G. Brunson, 3; R. F. Wilkins, 4; F. E. Ward, 5; R. Brunson, 6; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 7; E. E. Bewick, 8. And a course of Bob Major, W. J. Sevier, 1; F. E. Hart, 2; H. L. James, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; R. Brunson, 5; S. E. Romans, 6; F. E. Ward, 7; R. A. Barrett, 8. Also two 168 Grandsire Triples, H. J. Brawn, 1; E. B. James, 2; F. E. Hart, 3; A. Roberts, 4; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 5; H. Mitchell, 6; W. J. Sevier, 7; F. E. Ward, 8; and S. E. Romans, (conductor), 1; F. E. Hart, 2; H. L. James, 3; C. Jones, 4; R. J. Wilkins, 5; H. Mitchell, 6; R. A. Barrett, 7; W. J. Sevier, 8. The members then separated after spending a very pleasant evening.

On Friday 21st, eight members visited Longney, and attempted a peal there, but unfortunately, owing in a great measure to the sallies being too low, it came to grief, a touch of about 1500 Grandsire Triples was however brought round, A. Roberts, 1; H. L. James, 2; F. E. Hart, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; W. J. Sevier, 5; G. L. Brunson, 6; S. E. Romans, 7; E. E. Bewick, 8. Tenor 16½-cwt.

PRIMROSE LEAGUE OUTING: BRIGHTON.—On Monday week, the Wardens and Secretary of the Coningsby Habitation of the Primrose League had a pleasant day at Arthur's Seat, White Hill, the country residence of Mr. Claude Long, Ruling Councillor of the Habitation. On arriving at the grounds they were met by Mr. and Miss Long, the hon. secretary of the Dames Habitation, who gave them a hearty welcome. After a substantial repast had been partaken of, the party, accompanied by Mr. Long, visited the various places. During the afternoon Miss Long formerly started and named the bells of a handsome turret clock, which Mr. Long has just had erected. The three bells were named as follows:—1st quarter, Hartington; 2nd quarter, Balfour; and hour, Salisbury. Tea was then provided, after which Mr. Long was presented with an illuminated address, signed by the Wardens and Secretary, in which they expressed their appreciation of the Services that he and Miss Long had rendered to the Habitation and Conservative cause. Mr. Long suitably replied. The party arrived in Brighton about nine o'clock.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Call a Spade a Spade."

In writing my notes last week, I did not anticipate such an apt and speedy commentary on my remarks with respect to the work before us, as is given in the account of the ringing at Chelmsford on September 19th. Here in this county town is a ring of ten—one of the only two rings of that number in the county, the ringers of which dignify themselves by the name of a Guild of church bellringers. And what is the nature of their performances? Stoney and call-changes! Were it not for the account published last Saturday, would it have been believed that in a place like Chelmsford, with many and good ringers residing in the immediate neighbourhood, such a state of things was in existence? I disagree with the writer of the paragraph in question when he says that "the blame for this state of things cannot be laid upon the existing ringers." They are just the individuals who are to blame. If there is any blame to be attached to any one else, it is certainly to the church authorities for granting a salary to men for such a performance on their bells. But that does not afford one extenuating circumstance in favour of the ringers themselves. They style themselves a Guild of Church Bellringers, and although they have a fine peal of bells at their disposal, make no attempt to rise above the gutter of rounds and call-changes! What would be thought of a town's brass band which contented itself with practising the scales: or who would think of styling a man an organist who never did anything more than run down the octave on the keyboard? And yet this Chelmsford "Guild" by their action (or rather inaction) place them in a similar position. Who then is to be blamed for this? I cannot for the life of me understand how any but the ringers themselves. If the authorities, for the want of something better, are content to pay a stipend for such performances, I say, more the pity; and the mere fact of this payment is all the more discreditable to those who receive it, inasmuch as they do not appear to make any attempt to fully deserve it, and yet they style themselves a "Guild of Church Bellringers."

* * * *

Surely the Essex Association will not rest content with such a state of affairs in their midst; but now that attention has been called to it, will (as I remarked last week) "leave no stone unturned that will conduce to a better state of things in the future." It is of no use attempting to throw the blame—or any portion of it—on the church authorities; it is the ringers themselves who are culpable, and it is them and them only who should commence the work of reformation. In the absence of any "leader among the clergy or other influential parishioners," the County Association should bring their influence to bear upon the ringers, and endeavour to make them not in name only but in very deed a "Guild of Church Bellringers."

* * * *

It is quite a relief to turn from this subject to the more pleasant task of reviewing last week's list of peals, nearly every item of which is of a more or less noteworthy character. Last week I referred to the activity of our friends in the Midland Counties; this week the Oxford Guild is to the fore with its creditable total of five, which are in as many different methods. I imagine the respected master and instructor of that Guild will have enjoyed their rest on the evening of Saturday, the 22nd ult., after their experiences of that week. Grandsire Triples on the previous Saturday, Stedman Triples on

Wednesday, Double Norwich on Thursday, Superlative on Friday, and Stedman Caters on Saturday, will surely have been a sufficiency for one week.

* * * *

Another interesting item in this list is Mr. A. Wakley's "Century Peal." These 100th peals are certainly becoming of more frequent occurrence as time goes on, but they do not from that fact lose any of their creditable features.

* * * *

Our friends of the College Youths have not allowed their first peal of Grandsire Caters on handbells to remain long "in silent solitude," but have within a month succeeded in placing another to their credit. It does not speak much for the handbell-ringing proclivities of the "Ancients" of former days when the first two peals of Caters rung by the members in the metropolis have both been accomplished after 250 years of the Society's existence. But "better late than ever," and if our predecessors have been negligent in this matter, these two peals show, at any rate, that the spirit of progress is abroad.

* * * *

The Ipswich men, too, have shown commendable energy in ringing a 5088 of Kent Treble Bob Major the second day after their visit to, and peal of Royal at Manchester.

* * * *

I notice that the Yorkshire Association purposes holding its Annual Meeting at York, on Saturday, the 6th. If my business arrangements will permit, I shall endeavour to pay one more visit to that "county of broad acres," and be present at the proceedings, in which case I will give you the benefit of my observations next week.

FREE LANCE.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY, DERBY.

On Saturday, September 29th, seven members of St. Andrew's Society paid a visit to Birmingham. On our arrival we were met by Messrs. Carter and Jones. After refreshing the innerman we made the best of our way to Perry Bar, where arrangements had been made by the above gentlemen for a peal. After raising the bells, which are in splendid going order, a start was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, which ultimately came to grief owing to a change-course. We then made way for Birmingham again, and after viewing some of the beautiful buildings and places of interest, we parted with our Birmingham friends hoping this would not be the last time of seeing them. We wish, therefore, to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Carter and Mr. Jones for so kindly placing themselves at our disposal; to the vicar for the use of the bells, and also to Mr. Smith for having everything in readiness for us. A. E. T.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING of the year will be held at Nottingham to-day, Saturday, October 13th, and the following towers will be open for ringing from 2 p.m., viz., St. Mary's (ten bells), St. Peter's (eight bells), and All Saints' (eight bells). Committee Meeting in St. Mary's schools at 5 o'clock. Tea and subsequent General Meeting at 5.30. Tickets 1s. 6d. each.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

5, St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent.

The Very Rev. Dr. Goulburn, Dean of Norwich, is about to resign the decanal stall of that cathedral. The Dean is the President of the Norwich Diocesan Association.

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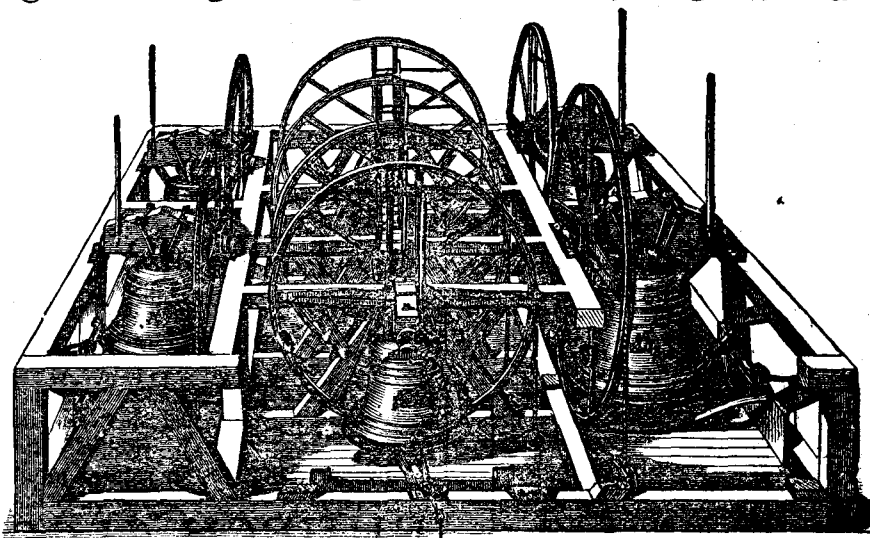
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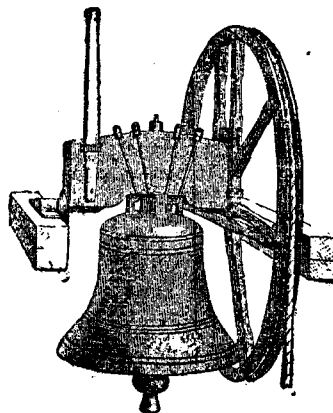
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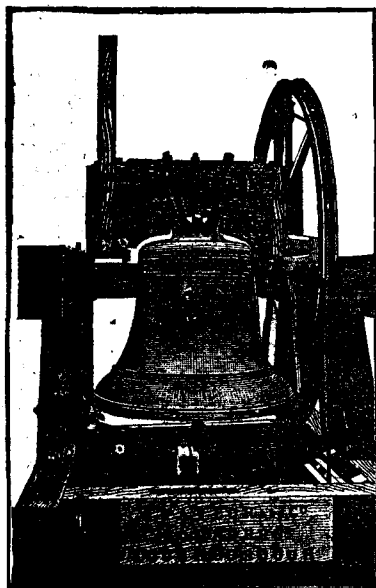
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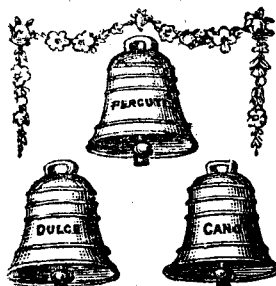
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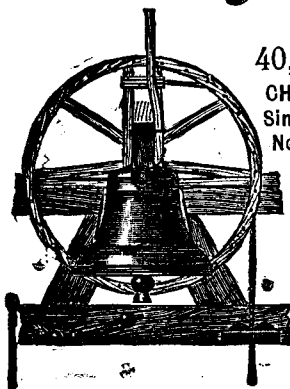
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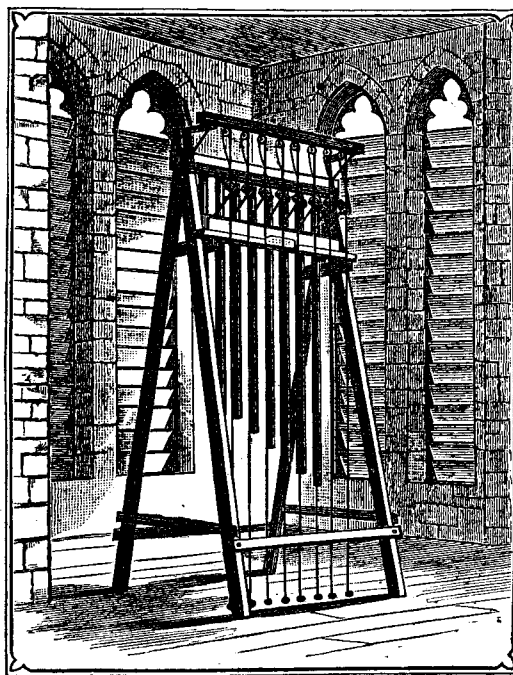
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THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ANNUAL MEETING AT YORK.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held on Saturday last, October 6th, at York. Special trains were run from various parts of the county, the result being a very large influx of members and visitors into the ancient city. Every practicable arrangement for the comfort and convenience of the visiting members had been made by the York branch, and particularly by its esteemed president, Mr. W. H. Howard. The grand ring of twelve at the Minster, the ring of eight at St. Martin's, Coney Street, and those of six at SS. Philip and James', Clifton, and St. Mary's Bishophill were placed at the disposal of the members throughout the day, which privilege was extensively made use of. At half-past four the annual service was held in the choir of the Minster, which was full choral, and—particularly the alto solo, "O rest in the Lord," and following chorus—evidently made a deep impression upon the large congregation assembled. After the singing of evensong, the hymn commencing—

"Ye servants of the Lord"

followed, during the singing of which the Very Rev. the Dean, A. P. Purey-Cust, D.D., ascended the pulpit, and delivered a most interesting and practical address on the subject of bell-ringing, concluding with an earnest exhortation to those present to keep pace with the improvement which was going on throughout the Church in every way. Efforts are being made to obtain a verbatim report of this address, in which case we shall have the pleasure of reproducing it for the benefit of our readers.

Service over, the members adjourned to the St. Michael-le-Belfrey Schoolrooms, Stonegate, and to the number of 200 sat down to an excellent meat tea, the Very Rev. the Dean, and the Rev. F. Lawrence being amongst the party. An excellently-struck course of Grandsire Caters was rung at the conclusion of the tea, by the Hull members, and the business meeting followed, Mr. William Snowdon, President, occupying the chair, when, as the Dean was compelled to leave owing to another engagement,

Mr. W. SNOWDON proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Dr. Purey-Cust for the kind arrangements he had made with respect to the special service, and more particularly for the excellent and practical address he had given them, the words of which he felt sure would have a good effect, and be long borne in mind by those who had been privileged to be present.

Mr. W. H. HOWARD briefly seconded the motion, which was carried with acclamation.

THE VERY REV. THE DEAN OF YORK, in replying, after expressing his gratification at the vote, said he was always anxious to see every part of the Church thoroughly efficient. Looking back on his thirty years' experience as a clergyman, he could not help being struck with the very great improvement which had taken place all round during that period. Every branch of Church work was now in a far higher and nobler position than when he first entered the Ministry. The Church was now thoroughly alive to its work, and where once was slothfulness and neglect was now vigour and a thorough appreciation of duties and responsibilities. In no portion of the Church had this improvement been more manifested than in connection with ringers and ringing. He had himself often noticed this change for the better, and rejoiced at it. Although he could not speak from practical knowledge, he was convinced that change-ringing was a remarkable science. It was always a pleasure to him to hear the bells ring, whether in joyful tones or in the solemn cadence of a muffled peal; they spoke out, as it were, the feelings of the time—of joy or sorrow. He therefore assured the members of his readiness to give whatever assistance he could to them and their work, and hoped at no distant day to be able once more to welcome them to their grand old city.

THE REV. F. LAWRENCE also replied in a humorous manner, convulsing the assembly with his remarks.

The rev. gentlemen then left the room amid hearty cheers.

Mr. W. SNOWDON read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were unanimously adopted, after which Mr. C. Jackson

(Hull) moved, and Mr. J. W. Stickney (Hull) seconded the adoption of the Committee's report, which was carried unanimously. Among other matters this report stated—

It is with considerable pleasure that the Committee, in presenting this the Thirteenth Annual Report, find themselves in a position to congratulate the members on the steady progress the Association makes, and on the solid basis on which its finances are gradually being built up, the value of which is now becoming conspicuously apparent.

The three General Meetings have each assisted in showing the good spirit in which the members continue to work together. That at Head-Quarters, Bradford—the annual—was attended by large numbers, notwithstanding a drenching rain, many of those present having left their homes sixty miles away in order once again to meet their brother ringers, no other attractions of any sort being down on the day's programme. The February Meeting was purposely arranged by the Committee in a district in which the Association is not up to its usual strength, and with the best results, as members have been gained thereby—this without laying stress on the pleasant outing and the hearty welcome received by those attending. At the June Meeting, in addition to the interest attaching to a visit to an historical town, the Association had the satisfaction of gaining, as Hon. Members, both the Rev. the Vicar and his Churchwarden, and this side by side with an exceedingly kind reception arranged by the local branch. Such Hon. Members as these greatly help the Association, inasmuch as their interest must necessarily gather round and encourage the local members. Keeping this in mind, the Committee trust that a New Rule, proposed at Pontefract, will be unanimously carried at the York Meeting—with reference to presenting our Annual Reports to such Hon. Members who are clergymen, whose churches are provided with rings of bells.

Referring to what was said in last year's report, as to the issue of an engraving of the memorial window, the Committee, acting for the whole Exercise, regret that they are only able to report slow progress. This has been caused by the great blow the Association received when Mr. Tuke—the esteemed Hon. Treasurer, and one of the Hon. Secs. of the Memorial Fund—left England to take up a residence abroad. The work-retarding severity of this loss was the more keen on account of the respected Hon. Sec. of the Association—on whose shoulders great additional Association work has been necessarily thrown—being now the only Hon. Sec. left of the Memorial Fund. The drawing of the window is, however, completed, and a special effort will now be made to get copies issued to the numerous subscribers, and this, together with a balance-sheet giving all financial details.

The total number of members as shown in last year's report was 545—made up of 22 honorary, 476 ringing, and 47 non-resident members. During the year 3 honorary and 66 ringing members have been elected; but 13 others have not renewed their Subscriptions. As the names of two new members were inadvertently entered twice in the receipt books of last year—see the last four names entered under CHESTERFIELD, 1886-7—the number of new members affecting this year's balance sheet has been reduced by two to rectify the error.

During the year three members have been transferred to the non-resident list, but as two non-resident members have recommenced paying, so as to qualify for life members, the number of non-resident members is increased by one only. We have lost four members by death. The numbers carried into the now opening year are therefore 25 honorary, 522 ringing, and 48 non-resident members, making a total of 595 members on the Association's books.

During the year 37 peals have been rung at 23 churches. Although in point of numbers this is a considerable falling off compared with last year, it will be found upon examination that it has been mainly brought about by fewer peals of Kent Treble Bob Major having been rung. This is satisfactory so far, as it shows that those engaged in peal ringing have expended their energies in keeping up the expanded list of methods now practised by the Association.

The Sheffield centre has added Double Norwich Court Bob Major to the list, whilst Calverley has added another Treble Bob variation by their performance of a peal of Prince Albert Major. These two peals, and also one of Grandsire Cinques by the Sheffield members, take their places in our tabulated lists as the first under their respective heads.

First peals by members of the Association have been rung at St. Thomas's, Duffield; Holy Trinity, Low Moor; the Parish Church, Halifax; St. Mark's, Glodwick, Oldham; the Parish Church, Skipton; and at the New Church, Peel, Isle of Man.

The ring at Skipton has lately been increased from six to eight, and a ring of eight is now now hung at the Parish Church, Settle. It is pleasing to be able to report the ringers at these two churches amongst our new members.

The Committee regret having to call attention to the fact that the composition of the peal of Grandsire Triples rung at Hull, on July 7th, 1884, No. 285, has since turned out to be false.

The balance-sheet, which had been duly audited and signed

by the Rev. F. W. Sandford and Mr. A. C. Fearnley, the duly elected auditors, shewed that on capital account the Association had invested in the Leeds Corporation Stock £100, and in the Building Society £64. 11s. 2d., which with £2. 8s. 4d. interest, made a total of £166. 19s. 6d. The yearly account shewed (including £13. 3s. 9d. advanced by the Hon. Sec.) receipts £43 13s. 7½d., and the expenditure a like amount (including £14 17s. 5d. repaid the Hon. Sec.) On reading this balance-sheet, the President explained the items of cash advanced by and repaid to the Hon. Sec., stating that through Mr. Whitaker's kindness in thus advancing the money, considerable inconvenience was avoided in going through the necessary formula in drawing money out of the Building Society. The Association had not been able to bank any money during the past year owing to the necessity of obtaining a new supply of certificates, which had caused an outlay of £12. 8s. 4d., but which, under ordinary circumstances, would be a sufficient supply for four or five years to come; the succeeding years thus gaining the advantage of it.

On the motion of Mr. A. C. Fearnley, seconded by Mr. Robert Long (York), the balance-sheet was unanimously adopted.

THE PRESIDENT next read out a proposed addition to rule 2 (of which due notice had been given), to the effect that any clergyman being a honorary member who had a ring of bells in his tower should have the annual report sent to him free of charge; also a motion in confirmation of one agreed to some years ago, stating that all members partaking of tea at any of the general meetings should contribute sixpence towards the cost thereof. Both were unanimously adopted.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, the officers retiring being Mr. Geo. Bolland, Vice-President; Mr. B. T. Copley, Steward; Mr. W. Stainthorpe, Treasurer; and Messrs. John McKell, F. London, and J. Broadley, Committeemen. There was no opposition to the re-election of Messrs. Bolland, Copley, and Stainthorpe, while for the Committee four were nominated. The counting up of the voting papers shewed the result to be: J. McKell, 217; J. Broadley, 191; F. London, 183; T. Lockwood, 93. The first three (who were the retiring members) were therefore declared duly elected.

Mr. SNOWDON then called over the officers' roll, when it was found that with but three exceptions all were present. One cause of absence, he stated, was owing to train arrangements, another was through sickness in the family, while the third—that of Mr. C. H. Hattersley—was by reason of the sad event of the death of his wife on the previous day. He was sure that every member would warmly sympathise with Mr. Hattersley in his sad bereavement, a sentiment which evoked a hearty response from those present.

There being no invitation for the place where to hold the next meeting, it was left in the hands of the committee, as per rule.

Mr. B. T. COPLEY (Bradford) then proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the Very Rev. the Dean of York, and the Vicars of the three other parishes, for the use of their bells during the day; as well as for the use of the schoolroom for the tea and meeting.

Mr. J. T. HOLLIS (Wakefield) seconded the motion, which was carried with applause.

Mr. W. HABBISHAW (Rothwell) proposed, and Mr. J. HODGSON (York) seconded a vote of thanks to the officers for their services during the past year, which was unanimously agreed to, after which

Mr. W. WHITAKER (Hon. Sec.) proposed, and Mr. W. STAINTHORPE (Hon. Treasurer) seconded that the warmest thanks of the members be given to the York branch, and particularly to Mr. W. H. Howard, for their kind arrangements, also to the ladies who had presided at tea. This was carried amid loud applause, and after Mr. Howard had suitably replied, a vote of thanks to the president concluded the proceedings.

A move was then made to the various towers, and ringing kept up until the time of departure, this bringing to a close a very successful meeting.

Death.

On Tuesday, October 2nd, HANNAH ELIZABETH, the affectionate wife of CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY (of the Napier Works, Sheffield), in her 35th year. Interred at Ecclesall Church, Sheffield, October 5th; deeply regretted.

DEDICATION AND OPENING OF THE NEW BELLS AT SWANAGE, DORSET.

On Thursday afternoon, September 27th, Swanage was *en fête* to witness the ceremony of the dedication of the four new bells, presented by Mr. George Burt, ex-Sheriff of London, in memory of his late wife. The important improvements in connection with the tower are, practically speaking, completed, and a splendid ring of eight bells, tenor 20 cwt., are now ready for use. The work was decided upon at the last Easter Vestry, when Mr. Burt accepted the office of Churchwarden for the express purpose of superintending the undertaking during his year of office, and to which he has devoted much time and attention. The bell frame is constructed of oak, resting upon wrought iron girders, bedded on stone corbels. The four new bells, so generously given by Mr. Burt, have been cast by the well-known firm of Messrs. Taylor and Son, Loughborough. The four old bells (one of which has been recast), have been turned round so as to provide fresh places for the clappers to strike on. A new chiming apparatus has also been fixed. The four old wooden louvre windows have been reconstructed of stone, and a new floor, 3 ft. 6 in. above the old one, has been laid to the ringing chamber. The floor beneath the bells has been filled in with sand and sawdust to deaden the sound in the tower, and the ceiling under matchboarded. The ringing chamber is neatly matchboarded, and a new staircase has been provided.

At 11 a.m. the belfry was thrown open to the public till 2.30 p.m., and during that time a continual stream of people were going up and down the Belfry, all appearing to be well-satisfied with the work, and speaking in highest terms of Mr. Burt's gift to the parish. The dedication service was held at 3 p.m. The procession entered the church in the following order, the choir singing hymn 397 (*A. and M.*) churchwardens, choir, Lord Bishop of Salisbury, Rev. S. Flood Jones (preceptor of Westminster Abbey), Rev. Canon Bankes (Rural Dean), Rev. T. A. Gurney (Rector), Rev. O. L. Mansell (Church Knowle), Rev. Lester Leste (Langton Matravers), Rev. Gordon Stokes (Bournemouth), Rev. O. A. Hodgson (East Stoke), Rev. A. N. C. Storrs (Curate). After Psalm 31 had been chanted by the choir, the keys of the tower were presented to the Bishop by the Churchwarden. Then the Bishop, turning to the congregation, offered prayer and petition, immediately after which the bells rang a short touch of Grandsire Triples, the congregation remaining kneeling. The service of the day was then proceeded with in the usual order. The Lord Bishop, who preached, selected for his text Psalm cxlv. 4 and 5. Having spoken to the congregation of the praise due from us to God, he referred to church bells being like the voices of the past, reminding us even more than the walls in which we were assembled (the aspect of which changed from time to time), of the Divine principles and worship which our forefathers had left to our generation to carry on. The bells hung above us out of sight, yet they seemed to speak almost like angels' voices. They changed in tone but very little, and spoke to us with the same clearness as they spoke to our fathers; and so they went on calling together generation after generation of the faithful in the same manner and for the same purposes.

At the conclusion of the service the ringers from St. Peter's, Bournemouth, assisted by Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun. and Mr. Wm. Tyler, from Loughborough, and Mr. T. Blackburne and Mr. C. A. Clements, Salisbury, rang a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, under the conductorship of Mr. Thos. Blackburne, and standing as follows:—Alfred Grist, 1 (Bournemouth); Charles A. Clements, 2 (Salisbury); Harry T. Vivash, 3 (Bournemouth); William Tyler, 4 (Loughborough); Henry A. Garrett, 5 (Bournemouth); Thomas Blackburne, 6 (Salisbury); J. W. Taylor, jun., 7 (Loughborough); Tom Belvin, 8 (Bournemouth.) Great interest was evinced during the ringing by the parishioners assembling in the vicinity of the tower, and listening to it. Later on, through the kindness of the rector, churchwardens and friends, the ringers, choir, and others, were invited to a sumptuous supper at the National School, which was nicely decorated with flowers. During the meal the chair was occupied by the rector (Rev. T. A. Gurney), and the vice-chair by Mr. H. W. White, after which amid continued cheering, Mr. George Burt, the donor of the bells, took the chair for the rest of the evening. The usual toasts were

dispensed with, the speeches having reference mainly to the occasion. The chairman first called on the ringers for a touch on the handbells, which was rung by Messrs. Taylor, Tyler, Blackburn and Clements, and loudly applauded. He then went on to say that they were always glad to welcome friends from Bournemouth. There was a time when it would take as long to get to Bournemouth as it did now to London, but times were altered, forty minutes now on water would bring Bournemouth and Swanage together. He thanked his Bournemouth friends very warmly for coming over to assist and also for throwing their belfry open on Saturday afternoons during the past summer for the Swanage men to practice on Seage's silent apparatus, and he hoped that at some future time Swanage would be as good in that respect as Bournemouth had been (applause).

Mr. H. A. Garrett, hon. sec. of the St. Peter's, Bournemouth, ringers, responded. He said that when their band heard that Swanage was to have a peal of bells, they thought as they had every appliance at St. Peter's to teach a young band, they would do well to come over occasionally and practice on Seage's apparatus, so that when their new bells were ready for ringing they would be in a position to ring them fairly well. He was glad to find that the young band had improved, and could now ring rounds well. He begged to thank their Swanage friends most heartily for the kindness shown them on that occasion. He hoped they would stick to change-ringing, for it was an art, and he would suggest that their Swanage friends should have an instructor in that art. The Salisbury Guild (in whose diocese they were), had an instructor, and he had no doubt that his services could be obtained for a month or so on very reasonable terms. They had had a beautiful peal of bells opened that day, and one that they might well be proud of; yet if they liked to come over at any time to Bournemouth they would receive a hearty welcome.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Garrett for his suggestion and said they would take it up, and show their friends at Bournemouth what they could do. He spoke briefly on his present of the bells, and said he had been told that the Swanage bells if properly used would be second to none in the county. He hoped the ringers would take up change-ringing in earnest and stick to it. The bells were of no advantage if not properly used, and if they were not used he would wish they had not been put there. Mr. Taylor had told him that handbells were a good help in learning the art, and he had no doubt Mr. Taylor would bring him in a nice little bill for what he had already done, but if the Swanage ringers would promise to use them he would give them a set of handbells. (Loud applause.) Mr. Blackburn had also just told him that it would take about a month to learn with an instructor, and he would ask the rector to write to the Salisbury Guild and make some enquiries. Young men, continued Mr. Burt, instead of idling about the streets, there is a nice belfry you can go up into, and with a little tuition it won't be long before we shall have our Bournemouth friends saying, Hallo! Give your minds to it and let us have some good bell-ringing, such as will be second to none. Allow me, on behalf of our ringers, to thank Mr. Garrett, who wrote to us for you to come over and use their silent apparatus, and saying that when ours were up they would come over and help us. Stick to it; let's have happy faces; the more we have of that the longer we shall live, and the happier we shall be. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. Rose (foreman of the Swanage ringers), thanked Mr. Burt on their behalf for his generous gift of a set of handbells. They would endeavour to use them to good advantage, and hoped soon to be able to do some change-ringing. He should like to thank Mr. Grist, and the other ringers at Bournemouth for their kindness in having the tower open and ready for them, and for their time and assistance on each of the Saturdays they had been over.

The Rector said they should always look upon the Bournemouth ringers as their friends in need. It was just the thing the Swanage men wanted, and he hoped it would establish a lasting friendship between the two bands of ringers. Shortly after this Mr. Burt wished all a very good night, and on leaving he was cheered with "three times three" most heartily. The Swanage choir sang several glees during the evening.

The Swanage and Bournemouth ringers expressed their thanks to the Weymouth and Bournemouth Steampacket Company (Messrs. Cosens and Co.) for their kindness in conveying them, free of cost, on each occasion of their trip, across and *vice versa*. After this the party broke up, apparently well-pleased with the doings of the day, and the next morning the ringers were again in the tower at 5.30 a.m., and some good touches of Grandsire Triples were rung previous to the starting of the boat at 9 a.m.

Tuesday, the 2nd October, being Mr. George Burt's birthday, the Bournemouth ringers again went over in the evening to ring in honour of the event, when several touches of Grandsire Triples was rung. An attempt was made for a peal, but after ringing 2,200 changes, it came to grief. They were assisted by Messrs. Blackburn, Wise and Lawrence, from Salisbury. After the ringing a sumptuous dinner was provided at the Anchor Hotel, at the expense of Mr. George Burt. Mr. Rose, (foreman of the Swanage ringers) occupied the chair, and Mr. H. Hardy (Mr. Burt's representative) the vice-chair. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts having been indulged in, the chairman gave the toast of the evening—viz., that of Mr. George Burt, which was received with musical honours and "three times three." Mr. Hardy responded, and the remainder of the evening was spent in harmony, songs being rendered by Messrs. Meachen, Toms, Garrett, Lawrence and Rose.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 6th, the Farnham (Surrey) band succeeded (with the assistance of Mr. G. Williams), in ringing their first peal of Grandsire Triples, particulars of which will be found in the peal column. Mr. Barnett, their respected captain, kindly stood out for G. Lindoff (R.E.), who has been practising with the Farnham men, while laying at Aldershot, and with whose assistance they rang their first quarter-peal a month ago.

After the peal the ringers were entertained to supper by Mr. Barnett, and after partaking of the good things provided for them, the handbells were brought out, and a course each of Grandsire Triples and Major, rang by Mrs. Williams, 1-2; G. Lindoff, 3-4; G. Williams, 5-6; G. H. Barnett, 7-8. A touch of Bob Minor was also brought round double-handed, and a very pleasant evening was spent. On Sunday, the 7th, for Divine service in the morning, 447 Grandsire Triples. R. Le Clercq, 1; H. Garfath, 2; G. H. Barnett, 3; G. Williams (conductor), 4; J. Hawkes, 5; C. Fry, 6; *A. Clapshaw, 7; T. Spreadborough, 8. Also 630 in the same method, A. White, 4; G. Williams (conductor), 7; the rest as before. *Longest touch with a bob bell.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

NOTICE.—The Annual Dinner of this Society, to celebrate its 251st Anniversary, will take place on Saturday, the 3rd November, 1888, at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, S.E. The chair will be taken at 7 o'clock p.m. prompt. Tickets 3s. 6d. each, can be obtained of the Dinner Committee, viz.:—Mr. Samuel E. Joyce, *Master*; Mr. James Pettit, *Treasurer*; Mr. Edgar E. Clark and Mr. Henry Springall, *Stewards*; Mr. Richard T. Woodley, *Secretary*; and Messrs. G. Mash, sen.; G. T. McLaughlin; C. F. Winny and W. Tyack. Members residing in the country when making their application for tickets, should remit the amount by "blank" postal orders. Further particulars will be announced as to the various towers to be opened on that day. The secretary has to request, that until further notice, all communications should be addressed—The Secretary, Ancient Society of College Youths, King's Head, Winchester Street, Borough Market, S.E.

RICHARD T. WOODLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The next General Quarterly Meeting will be held at Market Rasen and Claxby, on Saturday, October 20th. Tea will be provided at the Aston Arms Inn, Market Rasen, at 5 o'clock, tickets 1s. each. Members of other Associations intending to be present are requested to signify the same to Mr. J. Hackney, 4, Milk Street, Market Rasen, by Wednesday next.

15, Knight Street, Lincoln.

J. W. WATSON, *Hon. Sec.*

HOLY TRINITY, OLD HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

An appointment has been made to this living, which has been vacant for over ten months, and the Rev. Edward Brewer, formerly of St. Thomas', Hemingford Road, Barnsbury, was inducted into his new living on Friday, September 28th. The induction was performed by the Archdeacon of the diocese (Worcester), who delivered an address upon the mutual duties of the vicar and his congregation. Six of the band of ringers met to ring for the service, which was at 4 p.m.; they failed in a 720 Grandsire before service, but secured a 720 Kent Treble Bob afterwards in 29 mins. W. Green, 1; C. W. Bassano, 2; H. Mason, 3; H. Cartwright, 4; W. Bird, 5; A. H. Bassano (conductor), 6.

On the following evening Mr. Brewer came into the belfry to see the practice, and a 720 Oxford Single Bob was brought round in 30 mins. A. E. Parsons, 1; H. Cartwright, 2; J. Palmer, 3; C. W. Bassano, 4; H. Mason, 5; A. H. Bassano (conductor), 6. The rev. gentleman is not a change-ringer, but is setting an example to those who do not consider the belfry or the ringers as part of the church. He was heartily welcomed, and a hope was expressed that he would continue to manifest an interest in the doings of his ringers, and would often cheer them on by his presence. Sunday, September 30th, being Mr. Brewer's first officiation as vicar, the bells were set going well before service, and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was secured in 48 mins. A. E. Parsons, 1; J. Palmer, 2; H. Cartwright, 3; R. Bird, 4; W. Bird, 5; C. W. Bassano, 6; A. H. Bassano (conductor), 7; W. Green, 8. For evening service 864 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 35 mins. J. Palmer, 1; R. Bird, 2; A. E. Parsons, 3; C. W. Bassano, 4; H. Cartwright, 5; W. Green, 6; H. Mason, 7; A. H. Bassano (conductor), 8. After the services, courses and touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob were rung. On the following Sunday, October 7th, 546 Union Triples, and 527 Grandsire Major were brought round. Thus the Old Hill ringers tried to show their warmest welcome to their new vicar, and they look forward to having his sympathy and interest to encourage them in their efforts, and to spur them on to fresh attempts. Let "Free Lance," and our other brethren, rejoice in another "tower-going parson," as being another step in the direction of unity and co-operation between the clergy and those who are generally ready to be their most devoted servants, when treated as belonging to the church, I mean the ringers. B.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting will be held to-day, Saturday, Oct. 13th, at Holy Trinity Church, Bolton, service in the church at 3.30 p.m. Preacher, Rev. Charles Heath, M.A., Vicar of Walkden. Tea will be provided in the schools at 5 p.m. Tickets 1s. each, may be purchased from any member of the committee, and they trust that any member who intends to be present will acquaint his own local secretary before Tuesday, October 9th, in order that proper arrangements may be made. Ringers not members of the Association will be heartily welcomed. Ringing will take place at the various churches through the kindness of the authorities. The secretary will be in attendance at the schools to take subscriptions previous to the services. Any other information required may be had from the undersigned.

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

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Baldock to-day, Saturday, October 13th. The tower will be open for ringing from 3 p.m. and at 5 o'clock. A tea will be provided at the "George and Dragon" Hotel, after which a meeting will be held for general business, and also to consider the new rules drawn up by the officers, and any amendments to the same. Railway tickets at cheap fares will be issued by the Great Northern Railway to members, by their informing the Secretary not later than Wednesday, October 10th, of the stations from which they propose to travel, and on production of their receipt for the current subscription at the Booking Office.

St. Albans, September 25th. E. P. DEBENHAM, Hon. Sec.

BRENTWOOD.—OPENING OF THE BELLS.

On Wednesday, August 3rd, the new ring of eight by Mears and Stainback, in St. Thomas' Church, were rung for the first time by a band of the Essex Association, selected by the Hon. Secretary at the invitation of the vicar and churchwardens of Brentwood. The bells have been in position for about a year, but it was not considered wise to ring them till the masonry of the new tower had become settled, and hitherto they have only been chimed. The party assembled in the ringing-chamber, tastefully decorated for the occasion by Mr. Baker, the steeple-keeper, soon after 2 p.m., and a touch of about 300 Grandsire Triples was first rung by R. Sewell, 1; W. Rowland, 2; G. C. Scowen, 3; W. Gifford, 4; H. Randall, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon (Hon. Sec. of the Essex Association), 6; F. Pitstow, 7; Rev. H. A. Cockey (tenor.) At 3 p.m. the following band started for a peal of Treble Bob Major:—Rev. H. A. Cockey (late hon. sec. E.A.C.R.), 1; W. Rowland (Chelmsford), 2; A. J. Perkins (Romford), 3; W. Hawkes (Springfield), 4; H. Randall (West Ham), 5; E. Barnett (Wanstead), 6; G. Newson (Hampstead formerly of Romford), 7; F. Pitstow (Saffron Walden), tenor; conductor, G. Newson. The band had rung 4224 changes in excellent style in 2 hrs. 39 mins., when a message came that a gentleman in the neighbourhood was dying, and that they must stop at once. There was no help for it, but it was a great disappointment to lose a good peal so near the end, through no fault of their own. The bells are of very fine tone, and their go all that could be wished, tenor 19½ cwt. in E flat. The band were afterwards entertained at dinner by the authorities; the vicar presiding, Mr. C. Wallis, parish churchwarden, in the vice-chair. They hope at no distant date to be allowed the opportunity of securing the first peal on this fine new ring, of which one of them writes, "I consider it the finest new ring of eight that I have ever heard, as near perfection as possible."

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—DISTRICT MEETING AT LOUGHTON.

A District Meeting of the Essex Association was held on Saturday, October 6th, at Loughton, where there is a good ring of eight, the tenor, however, goes stiffly, and some of the ropes want renewing. The business meeting was held at 4.30 p.m. in a room near the church, kindly placed at the disposal of the Association by the rector, the Rev. J. Whitaker Maitland; about 38 members being present. It was resolved on the motion of Mr. S. Hayes that in future no footnotes should be appended to the record of peals in the annual report, or in the peal-book. The provisional election of Messrs. F. W. Chapman, G. Dempsey, C. Honeybell, J. Carmichael, W. Weatherstone and G. Griffin, were confirmed, and the following were elected members—Honorary: D. W. J. Mason, Sudbury; Ringing members: Messrs. J. Campin, W. Cross, and M. Silvester, Sudbury. Tea was served afterwards at the King's Head, the Rev. T. L. Papillon, Hon. Sec., presiding, in the unavoidable absence of the rector, who had intended to be present. Touches in various methods were rung during the afternoon and evening, most of those present getting the opportunity of a pull.

The young band of change-ringers at Loughton, under the direction of Mr. W. Lebbon, have made good progress, and persevered under difficulties which might well have discouraged them; the tower on Sundays and on all special occasions being in the possession of an established set of call-change and round ringers, who bar the way as far as they can to those who are able and willing to make a better use of the bells.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting will be held at Aldington, on Monday, October 22nd. Those who wish to attend are requested to communicate with the Secretary. Mersham (about three miles) will probably be visited. Allowance 2s. and 1s. 6d., which will be paid up to 1 p.m. at Aldington.

R. B. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN, Hon. Sec.
Winsted Court, Lenham, Kent.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO. Printers, Exeter.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By HENRY DAINS, *Royal Cumberlands.*

5056.

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

In this peal the 6th is retained home its extent at nine course-ends, and the 2nd never there at a course-end. It was rung by this Society at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, on August 4th, 1888, conducted by George Newson.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

5007.

2 3 1 4 5 6

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

*Produced by bobs at 2, 6s, 8, 10, 16, 17, 18, 20. The last eighteen courses repeated, with single instead of bob at 5 in first course produces 514362. Round as follows: 2, 7, 13s, 15, 16. The peal has the 5th and 6th each eighteen times in 5ths place.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield.*

5240.

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

Repeated.

Bobs before are 6ths place.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5038.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

2 3 1 4 5 6

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

These eleven courses three times repeated, except first course call 4 16, which brings up—

2 1 4 6 3 5

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

*Produced by bobs at 2, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16. Round by bobs at 2, 4, 8, 9, 10, 13.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

5013.

2 3 1 4 5 6

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

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

Round as follows: 1, 3, 6, 9, 13s, 16. This peal has the 5th and 6th each twenty-two times behind the 9th.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By YORK GREEN, *College Youths.*

5056.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

This peal has the 6th the extent wrong and right at six course-ends; the 5th eighteen times wrong and twenty-two times right at five course-ends; it has also eighteen 8-5-7's, eighteen 8-6-7's, and twenty 8-6's.

A QUARTER-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By HERBERT HAIGH, *Retford, Notts.*

1260.

2 3 4 5 6 7

2	5	3	7	4	6
-	6	7	2	4	5
6	4	7	3	2	5
-	5	3	6	2	4
5	2	3	7	6	4
5	7	2	4	3	6
-	6	4	5	3	7
-	2	3	6	7	4
2	7	3	5	6	4
2	5	7	4	3	6
2	4	5	6	7	3
2	6	4	3	5	7
-	7	3	2	5	6
7	5	3	4	2	6
7	4	5	6	3	2
7	6	4	2	5	3
7	2	6	3	4	5
-	5	3	7	4	2

Four times repeated.

AN EARTHQUAKE DOOR.—Light is admitted into Japanese rooms, not by glass windows, but by a kind of wooden gratings, over which a white paper is pasted on the outside. This paper diffuses the sunlight about the room very pleasantly, but it is not proof against rain; in rainy weather, therefore, the shutters have to be put up which are used to close the verandah and house in the night time, and which are the only doors in a Japanese house that is thought necessary to furnish with a bolt. As the putting up and taking down of these shutters is a matter demanding some time, it is usual to have a small door made in them, which is called "the earth-quake door," to provide means of quick escape in case of emergency.—From "Cassell's Family Magazine" for October.

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

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

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

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving 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.

[R. BINNS.—Three Shillings.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1888.

We have this week once more the pleasure of giving to our readers a report of the Annual Meeting of the Yorkshire Association. That event is, we doubt not, looked forward to with interest by our readers both in and out of that great country. As one of the principal pioneers in the work of organisation, its welfare cannot be observed otherwise than with feelings of peculiar regard. It is with much gratification, therefore, that we are enabled to report its continued success. With a total of 595 members, and a sum of £166 in the bank, there can be no fear of any instability in its structure. And when we take into account that the qualification for membership is the ringing of a 720 or a covering of not less than 1260, we can easily comprehend the powerfulness of the organization of this county from a ringing point of view. This Association does not—like some of its contemporaries—admit probationers or any but qualified change-ringers into its ranks, save as honorary members. Taking off, therefore, its twenty-five honorary or non-ringing members, we have a total of 570 members who have proved their right to the title of change-ringers by the qualifications aforementioned. Although in all probability it may be quite true that the Yorkshire Association has not yet embraced anything like the full number of change-ringers in the County, yet that total is in itself one to be regarded by all of us with pleasurable feelings, from a scientific standpoint. Its peal-ringing performances are certainly less numerous this year than previously, but, as the report remarks, "although in point of numbers there is a considerable falling off compared with last year, it will be found upon examination that it has been mainly brought about by fewer peals of Kent Treble Bob Major having been rung. This is satisfactory so far, as it shows that those engaged in peal-ringing have expended their energies in keeping up the expanded list of methods now practised by the Association." Another feature of the report also is (if possible) more than satisfactory, namely, the financial position of the Association. It is no small matter to be able to show a balance of £166 in the bank. Although, through their rule which causes subscriptions

to cease after ten years' membership, the income will naturally become more curtailed than would otherwise have been the case, yet doubtless the continued admission of new members, and the subscriptions of those who have not completed their stipulated term of membership, will be sufficient, with the interest on the money invested, to defray all working expenses for the time being. The future of this Association, then, seems from a financial point of view, assured, and it is most devoutly to be hoped that in the years to come success will attend it both socially, scientifically and financially, so that it may be in the future as it has been in the past, a model for other societies, and a stronghold in the work of progression.

The Metropolis.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

(THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, FULHAM.)

On Saturday, October 6, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5184 CHANGES.

JOHN G. GREEN† Treble.	JAMES W. DRIVER 6.
EDWIN HORREX 2.	JOHN W. KELLEY 7.
JAMES NICHOLLS, JUN.* .. 3.	HARRY KENTEN† 8.
CHARLES PORTER† 4.	CHALLIS F. WINNY 9.
FRED W. KELLEY 5.	SAMUEL HOW Tenor.

Composed by the REV. F. H. FISHER, Vicar of Fulham, and Conducted by JOHN W. KELLEY.

†First peal of Caters. *First peal with a bob bell. This is the first peal of Caters as conductor by John W. Kelley. The above was rung on the occasion of the birthday of the Vicar of Fulham, and the company take this opportunity of wishing him many happy returns of the day.

The Provinces.

WOOD GREEN, WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.
 SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Wednesday, October 3, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FIVE-PART.

Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

JOHN CARTER Treble.	WILLIAM R. SMALL 5.
SAMUEL REEVES 2.	WILLIAM SMITH 6.
WILLIAM WALKER 3.	JOHN ASTBURY 7.
JOHN TINSLEY 4.	CHARLES PRICE Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

This peal, which contains 240 bobs and ten singles, was rung at the first attempt, and is the first peal rung on the bells.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

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

On Tuesday, October 9, 1888, in Three Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 32 cwt. in C♯.

JAMES MOTTS Treble.	*CHARLES SILLITOE 7.
ROBERT HAWES 2.	WILLIAM MOTTS 8.
ISAAC SAMUEL ALEXANDER .. 3.	WILLIAM P. GARRETT .. 9.
WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. 4.	*WILLIAM WARD 10.
ALBERT EDWARD DURRANT .. 5.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE .. 11.
CHARLES MEE 6.	FREDERICK TILLET .. Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by J. MOTTS.

*First peal on twelve bells. Mr. C. Sillitoe hails from Sudbury; W. Ward from Ufford, and the rest belong to the local society. The above was rung to celebrate the twenty-first birthday of F. Tillett.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, October 3, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION, Tenor 21 cwt.

JAMES H. RIDYARD Treble.	JAMES BARRATT 5.
GEORGE LEE 2.	THOMAS DERBYSHIRE .. 6.
JOSEPH RIDYARD 3.	FREDERIC DERBYSHIRE .. 7.
JOHN WELSBY 4.	RICHARD RIDYARD Tenor.

Composed by JAMES S. WILDE, of Hyde, Cheshire, and
Conducted by RICHARD RIDYARD.

James Barratt hails from Eccles.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, October 5, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

J. SMITH* Treble.	F. A. UNDERWOOD 6.
W. T. BILLINGHURST .. 2.	*E. W. CARTWRIGHT 7.
C. SMITH 3.	W. BIRKINSHAW 8.
A. CRESSER 4.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 9.
W. A. TYLER 5.	R. LANE Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by
JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN.

*First peal.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—CRAWLEY
BRANCH.

On Saturday, October 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 13½ cwt.

GEORGE WICKENS Treble.	WILLIAM COLLISON 5.
FREDERICK WICKENS .. 2.	FREDERICK PRICE 6.
EDWARD DEWEY 3.	MARCUS HEFFER 7.
BENJAMIN KING 4.	EDWARD PEARCE Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

The above peal was rung on the anniversary of the opening of the bells.

ARUNDEL, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE ARUNDEL AND BRIGHTON BRANCHES.)

On Saturday, October 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

W. CHALLEN* Treble.	G. BALCHIN 5.
F. LUXFORD† 2.	A. A. FULLER 6.
E. EDE* 3.	J. REILLY 7.
C. BLACKMAN 4.	*H. TWIGG Tenor.

Conducted by F. LUXFORD.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. Messrs. Fuller and Reilly hail from
Brighton, the rest belong to the local branch.

FARNHAM, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 6, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 21 cwt.

ALFRED LE CLERCQ* .. Treble.	*JAMES HAWKES 5.
GEORGE WILLIAMS 2.	*CHARLES FRY 6.
HENRY GARFATH* 3.	GABRIEL LINDOFF (R.E.) .. 7.
ALFRED WHITE 4.	*TURVIL SPREADBOROUGH .. Tenor.

Conducted by G. WILLIAMS.

*First peal. G. Williams hail from Fareham, and G. Lindoff from Aldershot.

QUORNDON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt. in Fg.

E. W. CARTWRIGHT .. Treble.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 5.
J. HARDY 2.	W. A. TYLER 6.
A. CRESSER 3.	W. BURKINSHAW 7.
J. W. TAYLOR, SEN. .. 4.	R. LANE Tenor.

Conducted by W. A. TYLER.

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Saturday, October 6, 1888, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

ELIJAH CRUMP .. Treble.	*A. H. BASSANO 6.
C. W. BASSANO* 2.	G. HAYWARD 7.
A. E. PARSONS* 3.	OLIVER JAMES 8.
WILLIAM JAMES 4.	ALFRED MOORE 9.
H. MASON 5.	.. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by G. HAYWARD.

*First peal of Caters. A. H. Bassano, C. W. Bassano, A. E. Parsons, and H.
Mason, are from Old Hill, and Alfred Moore from Hanbury.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

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

On Saturday, October 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. CARTMEL,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

JOHN C. MITCHELL 1-2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 5-6.
GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. 3-4.	E. P. DEBENHAM 7-8.

Composed and Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

Umpire—Mr. R. M. Pratt. The above are also members of the Herts, Essex, and
Sussex Associations. The bells were kindly lent by Mr. Lewis for the occasion.

ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, October 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 25½ cwt.

JOHN PRESCOTT .. Treble.	GEORGE PRESCOTT 5.
EDWARD PRESCOTT 2.	WILLIAM BENTHAM 6.
JOSEPH PRESCOTT 3.	EDWARD ARROWSMITH .. 7.
EDMUND PRESCOTT 4.	EDWARD BENTHAM Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH PRESCOTT.

John Prescott and George Prescott hail from Ormskirk, Edward Prescott and E.
Arrowsmith from Leigh, Edmund Prescott and Joseph Prescott from Hindley, E.
Bentham from Wigan, and W. Bentham from Aughton.

Date Touches.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MOTTRAM (Cheshire).—On Saturday, September 29th, at the parish
church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes). J.
Matrix (Manchester), 1; W. Harrop (Glossop), 2; W. Marsden
(Whitfield), 3; E. Haigh (Whitfield), 4; J. Maloney (Glossop), 5; S.
Knott (Glossop), jun., 6; J. S. Wilde (Hyde), 7; J. Pye, jun.
(Glossop), 8. Composed and conducted by S. Knott, jun.WILLENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, September 29th, at
the parish church, seven of the St. Giles' society, assisted by Mr.
D. Chapman, of Walsall, rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples (8888
changes), in 1 hr. 12 mins., with the bells muffled, as a mark of
respect to Mrs. H. H. Walker, of this town. W. Trubshaw, 1; D.
Chapman, 2; B. Hodson, 3; J. Appleby, 4; S. Dace, 5; J. Adams,
6; W. Johnson (conductor), 7; N. Kibble, 8. Composed by E.
Nickolls, of Wolverhampton, and was rung at the first attempt.

DARLSTON.—On Sunday evening, September 30th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a mixed band rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 11 mins. J. Gough, 1; H. Malborn, 2; W. Cooper, 3; S. Slater, 4; J. Tinsley, 5; S. Atkins, 6; J. Fullwood (composer and conductor), 7; W. Smith, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Messrs. Cooper and Slater hail from All Saints', West Bromwich, Atkins from Willenhall, Malborn and Fullwood late of the parish company, Wednesbury; the rest belong to the local company.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

STRATFORD-LE-BOW (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, October 7th, at St. Mary's church, 1152 of Kent Treble Bob Major. R. Turner, 1; L. Green, 2; S. Hayes, 3; A. Cutmore, 4; J. Bradley, 5; H. Springall, 6; Y. Green, 7; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 8.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

TERRINGTON (Norfolk).—On Tuesday evening, October 2nd, at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Mallett, 1; Dr. Secombe, 2; R. Howling, 3; Jno. Green (conductor), 4; Jno. Herring, 5; F. Easton, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday morning, October 2nd, at the parish church, at half-past eight, on the occasion of the marriage of Miss Amy Cooper, eldest surviving daughter of the late Mr. Lewis Cooper, of Caversham, to Mr. W. F. Haslam, youngest son of the late Mr. James Haslam, of Reading, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung, after which the bells were fired. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also for practice in the evening, 720 of College Single. F. Simmonds, 1; H. Simmonds, 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; E. Menday, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And 120 of Stedman Doubles. T. Newman, 1; F. Simmonds, 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; H. Smith, 4; E. Menday, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. The bells were then lowered in peal. On Sunday morning, October 7th, for Divine Service, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; G. Essex, 3; E. Menday, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And for Divine Service in the evening, 360 of Plain Bob Minor. F. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; G. Essex, 3; H. Smith, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; E. Menday (conductor), 6. And after Service 240 of Stedman Doubles. T. Newman, 1; J. Hands, 2; G. Essex, 3; H. Smith, 4; E. Menday, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

OXFORD.—Recently at the church of St. Peter's-in-the-East, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. P. A. Hind, 1; C. Tolley, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; A. E. Hind (conductor), 4; W. Jeffery, 5; W. Finch, 6.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Sunday evening, September 16th, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, Boyne Hill, 1050 of Grandsire Triples, as a farewell touch for H. Evers. H. Gilding, 1; H. Evers, 2; J. W. Wilkins (conductor), 3; F. Bissley, 4; R. Smith, 5; E. Rogers, 6; Edward Rogers, 7; J. Woolford, 8. Also on Saturday, September 22nd, a start was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 1 hr. 27 mins., it came to grief. H. Gilding, 1; H. Rogers, 2; J. W. Wilkins (conductor), 3; F. Bissley, 4; A. Auskins, 5; S. Quintin, 6; E. Rogers, 7; J. Woolford, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Thursday, October 4th, for practice at All Saints' church, 700 of Grandsire Triples in 27 mins. A. R. Ward, 1; O. Coombes, 2; W. Jennings, 3; W. Ward, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; J. Norris, 6; E. Hatcher, 7; A. Ward, 8. This is the first 720 by all the band. Also three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 4, 6, 8, covering. J. Norris, 1; O. Coombes, 2; A. R. Ward, 3; A. Ward, 4; W. Jennings, 5; S. V. Salisbury, 6; H. Jennings (conductor), 7; A. Williams, 8.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MARKET RASEN.—On Feast Sunday, September 30th, at the parish church, at 7 o'clock in the morning, the members of St. Thomas's society rang a few touches. And for evening service, 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. T. Steels, 1; S. Marshall, 2; J. Hackney, 3; H. Gadd, 4; M. W. Ashton (conductor), 5; H. Burkitt, 6.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, September 30th, at the parish church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, for Divine Service, 500 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. E. Crump, 1;

A. J. Gwinnett, 2; G. Hayward (conductor), 3; T. Allbutt, 4; W. Rea, 5; W. James, 6; O. James, 7; J. Parry, 8. Also 168 in the same method. Rev. A. S. B. Wrey, 1; A. J. Gwinnett (conductor), 2; G. Hayward, 3; T. Allbutt, 4; W. James, 5; W. Rea, 6; O. James, 7; J. Parry, 8. And 210 of Grandsire Triples. E. Crump, 1; A. J. Gwinnett, 2; G. Hayward, 3; W. James, 4; T. Allbutt, 5; O. James, 6; W. Rea (conductor), 7; J. Parry, 8. A. J. Gwinnett hails from Painswick, Gloucestershire.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGTON (Kent).—On Friday, October 5th, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 28 mins. J. Prebble, 1; J. Andrews, 2; C. Laker, 3; E. Potter, 4; F. Slingsby, 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, September 30th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Violet Treble Bob Minor in 28½ mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Merton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; W. Baddeley, 5; J. Wood (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—On Sunday afternoon, October 7th, for Divine Service at St. Edward's church, 503 of Grandsire Triples. L. Copsey, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; G. Roughton, 3; M. L. Myhill, 4; W. Pye, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6; W. Nash, 7; S. James, 8. On Sunday next, October 14th, being the Harvest Festival at the above church, the bells will be rung as follows: 10 o'clock, and after Morning Service, 2.15 and 5.45. Any friends who can possibly attend, will be welcomed by the local band.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

RADCLIFFE (Lancashire).—On Sunday, October 6th, at the parish church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 504 of Grandsire Triples, for Early Celebration. W. Hutton, 1; J. Morris (conductor), 2; F. Rudman, 3; A. Barrett, 4; A. Hardman, 5; J. Hardman, 6; W. Fielding, 7; W. Turner, 8. And for Morning Service, 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Hutton, 1; J. Gratrix, 2; J. Morris, 3; A. Barrett (conductor), 4; A. Hardman, 5; J. Hardman, 6; F. Morris, 7; W. Fielding, 8. Also for afternoon service 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Hutton, 1; J. Gratrix, 2; F. Rudman, 3; A. Barrett (conductor), 4; A. Hardman, 5; J. Hardman, 6; W. Fielding, 7; W. Turner, 8. And for evening service, an attempt was made for the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2450 changes in 1 hr. 20 mins., "stand" had to be called, as the service was just commencing. W. Hutton, 1; J. Morris (conductor), 2; J. Gratrix, 3; A. Barrett, 4; A. Hardman, 5; E. Bishop, 6; F. Morris, 7; W. Fielding, 8. Also after evening service 336 of Bob Major. W. Hutton, 1; J. Gratrix, 2; F. Rudman, 3; A. Barrett, 4; A. Hardman, 5; J. Morris, 6; W. Fielding, 7; E. Bishop (conductor), 8. J. Gratrix hails from Manchester, and E. Bishop from Bury.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, October 8th, at St. John's church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. *J. Pattison, 1; *G. Atkinson, 2; R. S. Story, 3; F. E. Dawe (London), 4; W. Story, 5; F. Lees (conductor), 6. *First 720. Also 672 of Bob Major, with C. L. Routledge and H. Fergusson; and a touch of Treble Bob Major, being the first in the method by J. Pattison and G. Atkinson. It was intended to ring a peal of Bob Major, but turned up one short. Tenor 12½ cwt.

ARELEY KINGS (Worcestershire).—On Monday, October 8th, for practice at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), in 24 mins. T. Elcox, 1; W. Martin, 2; T. Fowles, 3; T. Griffiths, 4; J. Reynolds, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6.

BILLINGSHURST (Sussex).—On Sunday, October 7th, at the parish church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 720 of Oxford Single Bob. P. Wood, 1; W. Short, 2; T. Andrews, 3; W. Chantler, 4; T. Voice, 5; H. Chandler, 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob. P. Wood, 1; W. Short, 2; T. Andrews, 3; W. Chantler, 4; J. Chandler, 5; H. Chandler (conductor), 6. Messrs. Chandler, Short, and Andrews hail from Warnham, the rest are of the local band.

BOUGHTON, NEAR FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, October 7th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). E. Geere, 1; W. Hope, 2; H. Foreman, 3; R. Castle, 4; F. T. Harris, 5; G. A. Ransom (conductor), 6. E. Geere hails from Selling, and H. Foreman from Herne Hill.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Sunday afternoon, October 7th, for Divine Service at the church of St. John the Baptist, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). H. C. Haley (conductor), 1; *A. Arnold,

2; *R. Pearson, 3; S. Fisk, 4; T. Verrall, 5; W. States, 6; A. Bruce, 7; W. Hill, 8. *First quarter-peal. Also in the evening, 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. J. Chambers, 1; A. Arnold, 2; A. H. Martin, 3; S. Fisk, 4; A. Bruce, 5; W. States (conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; T. Miller, 8.

FOLKESTONE (Kent).—On Tuesday evening, October 2nd, at the parish church, 840 of Grandsire Triples. A. Tanton (Lyminge), 1; H. Cheeseman (Stowing), 2; J. Fisher, 3; E. Tucker, 4; H. Coucher, 5; S. Barker (conductor), 6; F. Slingsby, 7; G. Miller, 8.

KILLMARSH (Derbyshire).—On Monday, October 8th, at the church of St. Giles, 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. G. Burnham, 1; T. Bettison, 2; G. Jackson, 3; S. Norwood, 4; C. Severn (conductor), 5; J. Severn, 6. This is the first 720 by the local band, who are all young beginners.

LYE (Worcestershire).—On Friday, October 5th, at the parish church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor (twenty-six singles and sixteen bobs), in 25 mins. *T. Brooks, 1; A. J. Folkes (conductor), 2; W. Taylor, 3; J. Davies, 4; G. A. Hatton, 5; H. Wooldridge, 6. *First 720. Tenor 3½ cwt. [Will our correspondent kindly send direct in future, and not to the publisher.—Ed.]

STAVELEY (Derbyshire).—On Monday evening, October 1st, the local company rang for practice at the parish church, 1232 of Bob Major, in 49 mins. S. Palmer, 1; A. Worthington, 2; S. Smedley, 3; H. Mottershall, 4; S. Price, 5; W. Worthington (conductor), 6; J. Harris, 7; H. Madin, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Sunday evening, October 7th, at the Cathedral, for Divine Service, by the Cathedral society, 1008 of Stedman Triples. E. J. Mitchell, 1; T. Grant, 2; G. W. Cartmel, 3; R. M. Pratt, 4; J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 5; E. A. Hulks, 6; W. Battle, 7; H. L. Waddington, 8.

WILLESDEN.—On Sunday evening, September 30th, after Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 24 mins. R. Kilby, 1; J. Nixon, 2; N. Alderman, 3; T. Titchener (conductor), 4; A. Tennant, 5; A. Pittam, 6. Also 720 of Plain Bob. R. Kilby, 1; J. Nixon, 2; A. Tennant, 3; A. Pittam, 4; N. Alderman (conductor), 5; T. Titchener, 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."

RINGING MATTERS AT CHELMSFORD.

SIR,—While agreeing in the main with "Free Lance's" strictures on the Chelmsford ringers, I may point out that he has slightly misrepresented the writer of the paragraph in your issue of September 30, by omitting the word "all" from the sentence quoted by him; which should run: "The blame for this state of things cannot all be laid upon the existing ringers." The writer, I take it, meant—not that no blame attaches to the ringers, but—that a share of blame is due to the system and the authorities who sanction it. As a matter of fact, a minority among the Chelmsford ringers are dissatisfied with and ashamed of the present condition of things; but at present I fear they can do little to amend it.

The Essex Association has done what it can by encouragement, by rebuke, and by example. Two years ago, it arranged and partly paid for the services of an instructor, which produced little result, owing to the irregular attendance of his pupils. Its annual meeting is held at Chelmsford, and the ringers of the neighbourhood occasionally arrange to meet for change-ringing in the Chelmsford tower, to show what can be done on the bells. And I myself, as Secretary to the Association, have said, both privately to the authorities of St. Mary's, and publicly in the local newspapers, all that I can venture to say without appearing to interfere in the affairs of my neighbours. If "Free Lance" can suggest any other course open to us, I shall be glad to hear it; for it is not pleasant to be obliged to confess that hitherto we have completely failed. The spirit of passive resistance is too strong for us. *Writtle, Chelmsford.*

T. L. PAPILLON.

THE EXTENT OF DUFFIELD MAJOR.

SIR,—Those of your readers who have perused my pamphlet on "The Duffield Method" will recollect that the extent on eight bells (8640) is not obtained without the use of singles, but that it is remarked (p. 68) that there is no apparent arithmetical reason against the accomplishment of the same result by bobs only. It is with great pleasure that I am now able, in justification of this statement, to present a truly splendid composition by the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer

containing the whole 180 courses. This peal is on the same lines as Mr. Bulwer's extent of Royal and Maximus (No. 40), which latter, however, will not run true in Major. The present composition, which is appended, will answer equally for eight, ten, or twelve bells, and has the further merit of more regular calling. Its author may claim the credit, not only of a most valuable addition to the method, but of producing a peal which has required study as closely reasoned and as exhaustive as has been expended on any branch of the science. As those who possess "The Duffield Method" will probably cut out the peal and insert it in the pamphlet, I take the opportunity of giving a list of such errata of importance as have up to the present come to my notice.

A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

THE EXTENT OF DUFFIELD MAJOR (8640).

1	2	3	4	5	6	I	B	O	F
5	6	2	4	3	1	-	-	-	-
5	1	2	4	6	3	-	-	-	-
2	1	4	5	6	3	-	-	-	-
6	4	5	2	1	3	-	-	-	-
1	6	5	2	4	3	-	-	-	-
4	5	2	1	6	3	-	-	-	-
6	2	1	4	5	3	-	-	-	-
5	6	1	4	2	3	-	-	-	-
2	5	1	4	6	3	-	-	-	-
1	5	4	2	6	3	-	-	-	-
2	4	5	1	6	3	-	-	-	-
6	5	1	2	4	3	-	-	-	-
4	6	1	2	5	3	-	-	-	-
5	4	1	2	6	3	-	-	-	-
1	3	2	5	4	6	-	-	-	-
4	1	2	5	3	6	-	-	-	-
3	4	2	5	1	6	-	-	-	-
1	6	2	5	3	4	-	-	-	-
1	4	2	5	6	3	-	-	-	-
5	2	4	1	6	3	-	-	-	-
6	3	1	5	4	2	-	-	-	-
4	2	1	5	6	3	-	-	-	-
1	2	5	4	6	3	-	-	-	-
6	4	2	1	5	3	-	-	-	-
5	3	2	1	6	4	-	-	-	-
6	2	1	5	3	4	-	-	-	-
3	6	1	5	2	4	-	-	-	-
2	4	1	5	3	6	-	-	-	-
3	2	1	5	4	6	-	-	-	-
4	3	1	5	2	6	-	-	-	-
2	1	3	5	4	6	-	-	-	-
4	2	3	5	1	6	-	-	-	-
1	4	3	5	2	6	-	-	-	-
2	3	4	5	1	6	-	-	-	-
1	2	4	5	3	6	-	-	-	-
3	1	4	5	2	6	-	-	-	-

Four times repeated. H. EARLE BULWER, September 1888.

If the last course of the third part be called I. B., the bells will come round at the part-end, and the peal be reduced to 5184.

LIST OF ERRATA.

- Page 34, line 19, for 215634 is true, read 215364 is true.
 " 56 heading of peal No. 3, for I O B, read I B O.
 " 70, omit the O bob mark that appears between the courses 563412 and 324561.
 " 107, line 19, for when, read before.
 " " 20, " has been, read is.
 " " 21, " after, read before.

A WARNING.—Mr. R. Guest, Secretary of the St. Mark's (Glodwick, Oldham) Society, writes to caution members of ringing societies against a military-looking young man, about 5 ft. 8 in. in height, with light complexion, whom he has every reason to believe an impostor. This person gives his name as "J. Manning," and the statement of Mr. Guest leaves no room for doubt that our Glodwick brethren have been victimised by him. A person answering in every detail to the foregoing description, called at our office about this time last year.

MATRICULATION (London) Jan. 1889. An experienced Tutor prepares Pupils for this and other Examinations. Help by correspondence. For terms (moderate) address F. C. S. office of this paper.

"GAMBLING AND BETTING."

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE CHURCH CONGRESS AT MANCHESTER,
BY THE DEAN OF ROCHESTER.

[Continued from page 350].

If gambling and betting are not actual peculations they most assuredly suggest and induce them. I have made inquiries and read reports from governors and chaplains of prisons, some of which I have personally visited, the last at Chatham, one of the largest in the kingdom, and these officers are unanimous in their declarations that an infinite number of prisoners, convicted for the first time of false entries, forgeries, and actual theft, have attributed their guilt to the results of gambling and betting.

Of Commandment IX., "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour," in its connection with gambling and betting, it may suffice to recall the evidence given on a recent notable occasion, and in several similar trials, by the betting fraternity. The variegated testimony, upon oath, of these witnesses, confuses the mind of the reader. He is perplexed, for example, in the last case brought into court, to know whether the person chiefly concerned is "a good jockey who would not, or a bad jockey who could not win;" and he is yet more bewildered to understand how, in either case, he had accumulated (as it was reported) the sum of £150,000.

Nor will you ask for arguments as regards commandment X., "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house . . . nor anything that is his," to prove the very simple fact that if there were none to covet their neighbour's silver and gold, his bank-notes, cheques, or I.O.U.'s, there would be none to gamble or to bet.

But religion is no mere code of prohibitory and penal laws. It teaches us not only to fear and to despise that which God has forbidden, but to find our happiness in doing that which He has commanded, and in loving one another, even as He has loved us. If, under the older covenant, men were not only warned to escape from the curses of Ebal, but to enjoy the "blessings" of Gerizim; if they were commanded by the Levitical law not to defraud but to love their neighbours, not only to eschew evil but to do good, how much more persuasively are we invited by the Gospel, how much more powerfully are we impelled by the Spirit of Christ to that charity which worketh no ill to its neighbour, but rejoices to provide things honest in the sight of all men and to do them good.

IV. Wherefore it is manifestly false to say that they who habitually gamble and bet, break no commandments; and they have far more consistent and plausible arguments who decline to be tested by Christian principles, because they do not believe them.

Then they assert that so long as they do not transgress the laws of the State they have a right to do what they will with their own. We have no king but Cæsar. But "no man liveth to himself," and though you may leave out religion, there are moral, political, social, and domestic obligations from which none are free. You cannot do wrong to yourself without doing wrong to others. You must help to hinder them. You make harmony, or you mar it, like a false note in an organ. Legally, no doubt, every man has a perfect right to lose his money or to waste it, to fool himself to the top of his bent, to reduce himself to that detestable condition of idiotic imbecility which Hogarth has drawn so wonderfully in the last scene of the "Rake's Progress;" but he can never have any right to do wrong to others, to injure those dependent upon him, those who have claims upon him, which none dispute. I remember hearing from my father at Doncaster, and just before the St. Leger was run, he heard the representative of an ancient and honorable family, a large landed proprietor in a midland county, exclaim, "Now it's"—I will not name the estate, but say, "Now it's home or no home." A few minutes after he had lost all hope of retrieving his property; it was sold to a stranger; and to this day his descendants have suffered in exile and poverty the result of his selfish folly. And this is only a sample from the bulk. How many of these grand mansions have been sold and let and mortgaged because their owners would gamble and bet! I saw recently one of the most extensive and ornate of these edifices. The roof and large portions of the floors had fallen in, the doors and windows were gone, and the rank weeds were growing where tapers gleamed and music breathed, and beauty led the ball. And all this desolation and ruin because the owner had gambled and betted. At the same time we may not forget that in all classes of society as well as in the highest, the same injustice, as cruel though not so notorious, the same misery and degradation, though the area of suffering is not so large, are inflicted by gambling and betting in the professions and trades and among those working men, who lose a week's wage on a race, whose wives come to them on a Saturday night and say "There's no more tick to be had, and the children are crying in their fireless rooms for food."

In brief, these vices seem, wherever they prevail, to induce more swiftly and hopelessly than any others hard, reckless, cruel selfishness. The selfishness of a miser is contemptible, but it is laudable generosity in comparison with his who wastes that which is not his

own. There's an old story of a very rich man in this neighbourhood who, when he was invited to act as churchwarden, took some little time to consider the matter, and then informed the petitioners that "he had made up his mind that if ever he did ote for note he thought he should do it for sen." I pity that gentleman, but I abhor the gambler.

V. It is an argument very commonly urged for racing that it greatly improves the breed of horses. We need not discuss the question whether it would not be possible equally to improve the breed of horses by trial, by selection of the fittest. I never heard that Lord Ellesmere raced those magnificent, stallion cart-horses which I have seen at Worsley, and which would require jockies of twenty stone weight to steer; but, accepting the statement, and giving all honour to those men who have acted upon it—such men as the late Lord Derby, the Duke of Westminster, Lord Falmouth, the Duke of Portland, and others—I would ask how many of those who bet upon races ever think of improving the breed of horses? They improve him! Why he's infinitely the more noble, a thousand times the more beautiful animal. I have loved him ever since I rode a rocking-horse, and I could have told that fellow-traveller to whom I have referred, and who asked what can parsons know about horses, of many who, like myself, had tested their wonderful power and pluck over the clays of "the Rufford," the walls of "the Heythrop," the huge fences and green pastures of "the Quorn." What's the horse to him but a machine for making money? There is not a single point of resemblance between them, unless it be black legs!

I know, of course, that there are scores of highly educated, honourable noblemen and gentlemen, distinguished for their public services, dutiful and blameless in their private life (as those whom I have just named), who regard racing as a pleasant recreation and a manly sport, who never gamble, and bet little, if they bet at all. *O, si sic omnes!* for, if all were so, the racecourse might be a place of healthful enjoyment and of genial intercourse; and I, for one, should rejoice to hear of working men going there by thousands on their holidays; but until they can go without seeing that which they should not see, and hearing that which they should not hear, the impudence of the harlot, the disgusting degradations of drunkenness, the profane oath and filthy conversation, the attempts to rob and to cheat—until then, all who have the true welfare of those working men at heart must bid them, in God's name, to keep away.

I would not abolish racing, but I would have far more done than is done to abolish rogues—to expel those who despoil and disgrace humanity—men who, having in many instances abilities which would have made them prosperous and useful, concentrate their mental faculties on "morning tips," "to-day's betting in London," "latest scratchings," and "midnight odds," and who seem to think that the faculty of speech has been bestowed upon them that they may scream and yell therewith, "I'll lay 5 to one bar 1," or "10 to 1 bar 2."

They have but one subject of thought and conversation. John Leech told me that he travelled more than 100 miles with two members of the fraternity, who had just come from the racecourse, and that one of them repeated the same observation to the other, with slight variations and a profusion of profane embellishments, Leech thought about fourteen times! The remark was this, "As soon as ever that 'oss came into the paddock I says to Bob, U.P." Then, after a brief silence, or after he had smoked or slumbered, he would resume his story, "As soon as ever he come into the paddock I know'd they'd got him." Only once did he enlarge his reminiscences so far as to repeat the rejoinder of his friend. "And Bob said" (and it is pretty evident from Robert's language that he belonged to our County Palantine of time-honoured Lancaster—I say *our*, for I am a Lancashire lad) "and Bob said, 'He's welly bossened.'"

He's a poor creature, wherever you find him, the man who does nothing but gamble and bet—whether he's playing cards in his club on a lovely summer's afternoon, or shooting dove-cote pigeons out of a trap for money, or whether he's trying to overreach his juniors (often a little more than boys) in the taproom of a public-house, of which in too many instances the landlord is a professional betting-man.

The epitaph on the clumsy maid-of-all-work might be repeated upon the man who is all *play*—"Nihil tetigit quod non fregit." She broke everything she touched. He has spoiled racing, and he is trying to spoil boating, and football, and cricket. Oh, for the good old times, when the nearest approach to gambling upon the close-mown turf was grand old Fuller Pilch giving some friend a sovereign, to be repaid a shilling for every run he got!

VI.—And now, if gambling and betting are thus degrading and disastrous, "of all habits the vilest," as Ruskin writes, "because they unite nearly every condition of folly and of vice," and so far from exaggerating, I have purposely abstained from several details, with which, like he who drew Priam's curtain in the dead of night, and told him half his Troy was burnt, or like the Fat Boy, when he gave notice, "I'm going to make your blood run cold," I might have produced sensational excitement; if I have spoken facts, which you can not only endorse but amplify, is it not our duty as Christians, as

patriots, and citizens, to denounce these evils and to unite in prayerful thoughtful, practical efforts to expose and to expel them?

These attempts should be made in no intolerant or disdainful spirit, but with that charity which hopeth and endureth all things, though it be repelled with insult. While we enforce vigorously and impartially those wise and just laws which the State has enacted for the protection of the weak, and for the punishment of his assailants, and ask such further powers from Parliament as may seem to be required, we must rely far more on moral than on legal restraint, far more upon conviction than coercion; far more upon kindness than severity, far more upon patience than anger, for progress and for victory. Indeed, these gamblers, though they may despise and even curse our compassion, are of all men most to be pitied. Though they seem to be so free from care, to come into no misfortune like other folk, so lusty and strong, so boisterous in the jocund glee—even in laughter the heart is sorrowful, and the end of that mirth is heaviness. No men verify more signally the prophetic warnings, "Be sure your sin will find you out." "The gods are just, and of our pleasant vices make whips to scourge us." We clergy know how inevitably the time comes to these men, as to all who have persistently done despite to the spirit of grace, when they must think and suffer and "loathe themselves for the evil they committed." What men are so exposed as these to disappointments and reverses, to the sadness and the sickness which attend inseparably upon wild excitement and excess?

VII. It seems to me, concluding, that there are two primary and indispensable elements of success in a crusade against gambling and betting, example and sympathy. The beacons of war must be kindled on the mountains. The officers must lead the attack. "Noblesse oblige," and the English poet has well translated the Latin "*Nobilitas sola est atque unica virtus*," " 'Tis noble only to be good." It seems to me that a true nobleman, a true gentleman, should not condescend to take money from one whom he despises, money which has been obtained he knows not how, the loss of which may have caused ruin and disgrace. It seems to me that no true nobleman, no true gentleman, should pay large sums of money and have nothing to show for it, money which he might have relieved want and encouraged industry, might have gained the blessing of him that was ready to perish, and caused the widow's heart to sing for joy.

Cæsar, like his wife, should be above suspicion, but if he fraternises with the suspected the world will say, "*Noscitur a sociis*," "Birds of a feather flock together." The legislator must be the last man to suggest the accusation that there is one law for the rich and another for the poor, that you may gamble and bet as you please at the club, but not in the public house, that you may play for hundreds, but certainly not for half-crowns. A magistrate must not by any inconsistency provoke the sarcastic smile or wink behind his back of the policeman who receives his instructions. Tall men should brush their hats. If the public clocks of the town-hall, the infirmary, and the church (representing the three professions of law, physic, and divinity) go wrong, where shall the citizen set his watch? Then I would appeal to that mighty Hercules, the common sense (*consensus*) of public opinion, not to abolish, but to ablate the Augean stables; to Jupiter Tonans, the Thunderer, the press, not to advertise "tips" nor even "morals," to ignore the "odds," to allay the irritation of midnight "scratchings," and not to obstruct the pavement with a crowd of loafers waiting to know whether they have lost or won their money instead of honestly earning it; to Mars and Neptune, the military and naval magnates, to discourage gambling and betting among their subalterns; to Mercurius, the chief speakers, not only to denounce these vices in Parliament, from pulpit and platform, but to demonstrate to their hearers the more excellent ways of honourable and useful employment. I would entreat Vulcan, all who have power in the factory and at the forge, to come down upon this evil, like Nasmyth's hammer upon a nest of rotten eggs; and I would beseech Venus, our fair English damsels and dames, to withdraw their presence from the shooting of doves at Hurlingham and the plucking of pigeons at Monte Carlo.

VIII. We want more sympathy and less selfishness. We want union of hearts as well of union of trades. We want co-operation, which means something more than "Divi." We want more mutual respect and less mutual recrimination, more talk face to face and less behind each other's backs. Then we shall find that we have all of us our temptations and difficulties, and may combine in overcoming them. We should follow the example of the elder Wilberforce—"I have always tried," he said, "to see some good in my fellow-men, and have never failed but twice." When we see others in error let us remember the wise words of a Kempis, "If thou canst not make thyself to be what thou dost desire, how dost thou expect another to be exactly to thy mind?"

If gambling and betting are so injurious, the question which we have to answer to-night is, What are we doing, what are we going to do, to repress them? Hypocrites and cowards only cry, "How foolish they have been; they'll be drowned; they'll be burned—how I wish I could help them, but nothing can be done." Brave men man the lifeboat, and go up the ladder through the smoke. It's all very well, as far as

it goes, to tell a poor fellow that you are sorry he is starving, but it is far more "gradeley" to send him a leg of mutton. We all deplore epidemic disease, but wise men and kind men not only send the doctor and the nurse, but they look to the drains, that they may prevent as well as cure. They go to the springs that they may purify the whole stream, instead of filtering it by the pint. A drunkard said to a philanthropist reproving him, "Come and live in our court, and you'll soon be glad of the whisky." So with gambling and betting. While there is no excuse for those who have healthful homes and occupations and amusements, the plea may certainly be urged by those who have them not; nay, in too many cases have but a small share in those free gifts which are meant for all—fresh air, pure water, and clear light. "We do not profess to be admirers of gambling and betting, we are not blind to the harm they do, but what do you propose in their place?" I am a gardener, and I know that if plants have not a good soil, light and air, they will quickly be infested by grubs, mealy-bugs, aphids, and all manner of flies. So with men; if they have not healthy homes, honest occupation, or social amusement, they will be attacked by parasites, by companions who will induce them to drink, to gamble and to bet.

When Sir Francis Crossley presented a public park to the people of Halifax, he said—"I attribute our prosperity in this place mainly to the simple fact that when we first went through the gates of the great mill yonder, my mother said, 'If the Lord bless us in this place, the poor shall taste of it.'" And how could they taste of it more sweetly than in peaceful rest, amid things pleasant to the eye, where there were no temptations to sin.

Yes, I am sure that Christianity alone can express us with a sense of these obligations and bring us the power to fulfil them. Religion alone can enable us to convince others, as we are ourselves convinced, that gambling and betting are degradations of the redeemed and regenerate man, vile abuses of those gifts and energies which were given us for nobler ends, and miserable failures to find happiness, where, sooner or later, there is but sorrow and shame.

Alas! this curse had never come to us had we but been true children of the Church—of the mother who taught us, as soon as we were able to learn, "*not to covet and desire other men's goods*," but to learn and labour truly, to get our own living, and to do our duty in that state of life to which it shall please God to call us."

WARNER'S MEMORIAL TABLETS AND MEDIEVAL BRASSES.—Messrs. John Warner and Sons, of the Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, have just introduced some very effective Memorial Tablets in cast brass and other metals, in appropriate designs, for tombs, records of charity and benevolence, and other every-day purposes. This practical invention takes various forms, many of them unique, among which may be mentioned tablets of approved shape to take the place of the old, cumbersome, and perishable tombstone; medallions in any form or character; coats of arms of public bodies; records of public events; in fact their uses are many and varied. They are made, as we have just stated, in any conceivable design, and with every description of lettering. When the hideousness of many of the now existing records comes to be noticed, these inventions of the above firm will be most refreshing to the antiquarian and ecclesiologist, and their harmony, combined with their simplicity, will please the most capricious eye. The same firm have also devoted their attention to the manufacture of Iron and Brass Work, comprising every item of Ecclesiastical Art, so far as metals are concerned. This branch of Church work has been supposed to be only trustworthy in the hands of a few firms who have affected an exclusive knowledge of the manufacture of such articles. But that idea is now exploded; the Ecclesiastical Art-work of Messrs. Warner and Sons has demolished it altogether.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held, by the kind permission of the Rector, at Beddington, on Monday, October 15th, when the tower will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening.

The tea will be at the Plough Inn at 6.30 p.m. All who intend to be present at tea are requested to signify their intention to Mr. Trappitt, Church Lane, Beddington, near Croydon, not later than Friday, October 12th, in order that provision may be made for them. The ordinary business meeting will take place after tea.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

TO be Sold. A set of Handbells. In good repair, 3 octaves in chromatic scale) 37 in number. C. 22 size largest bell. No reasonable offer refused. Apply R. Binns, 20, Mint, Low Moor Side, Holbeck, Leeds.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Be thankful for small mercies."

I am obliged to Mr. Hardcastle, jun. for his prompt and satisfactory response to my enquiry for more information respecting the Society of which he is Secretary. There are many points in his letter which I would like to dilate upon, but as you, Mr. Editor, have so well treated it in your leading article, I feel compelled—on the score of occupying too much of your valuable space—to pass over this interesting matter for the present. One thing, however, I must say, that I do think this young Society well worthy the support of the older members of the district in which it exists—a support which I have no doubt it receives—and is worthy of being copied in many places, a step which could not fail to be followed with advantage. May the "Scholars'" anticipations with respect to its future results be abundantly realised; and their work be rewarded with increased numbers, good ringing, and continued efficiency of organisation.

No doubt, in the same issue of this journal in which these lines appear, we shall be favoured with a report of the proceedings at the Annual Meeting of the Yorkshire Association. As I mentioned last week, I determined if possible to be present on that occasion, and happily my determination was rewarded with success, for after a long journey (one which would have been wearisome too, had I not been fortunate enough in getting into the company of some rather lively co-passengers to the North), about four o'clock I was stepping over the Lendal bridge in company with my Yorkshire friend, on the way to the Minster. Arriving in front of the two magnificent western towers (the bells being "chimed round" for service) instead of meeting the crowd of ringers which I had expected, the space seemed almost deserted. "Where are the ringers?" I asked. "Oh, you'll see them presently," replied my friend, with a smile. So after one more look at the towers, we passed along and entered by the south transept. I then found that my friend was right, for I *did* "see them presently," the transepts and nave seemed literally swarming, as they trod lightly and reverently by, preparatory to taking their places in the choir. There was no mistake about one thing; these Yorkshiremen are proud of their noble Minster; one could see it in their very faces; and I thought to myself as I watched them—surely the would-be despoiler of the Church will find more than a match for himself in the persons of such as these. But my ruminations were cut short by a whispered hint that it was time for us to be taking our places, so passing along the Lady Chapel we entered by a side opening into the spacious choir, with its splendid carving, surrounded by ancient and beautifully-stained windows of gigantic proportions. Then as the choristers entered through the rood screen, and there stood up a congregation which seemed to fill every portion of the vast place, my heart warmed at the thought that this once-despised bell-ringing had so well asserted itself as to bring together such an assembly in the grand old Mother Church of the North of England.

But I must not tarry. The service was worthy of the occasion; and the address which followed from the lips of the Dean, was in the best possible taste. Without any attempt at eloquence or "flowery rhetoric," the preacher placed before his hearers plain facts with regard to the position and work of the Church now and thirty years ago; and as he dealt with the particular object which had brought them together, he warmed to his subject; and his concluding exhortation to them as ringers to let their improvement in the science be commensurate

with their increased diligence to their duties, will not, I imagine be readily forgotten by those present, or be barren of good results.

Like all our public functions, this occasion would have been incomplete without a "feed"; so on leaving the Minster, led by my friend and guide, I was soon dodging round corners and narrow antiquated streets till we arrived at a narrow passage, at the further end of which I found myself in a brightly-lit school-room well filled with persons evidently bent on the enjoyment of a good tea. Grace having been said by the Dean, we were not long in satisfying ourselves with the many good things provided. Up to this time I had nothing but commendation on the proceedings, but no sooner was tea over than there came an interregnum of what seemed to me of inordinate length between the tea and the business meeting. What with moving of plates, crockery-ware, tables, etc., every one seemed suddenly to be in everyone else's way for the time being, and the result was naturally that a large number left the place, and as far as I could see did not return to take part in the business meeting which followed. This unsatisfactory feature of our gatherings I have noticed many times before, and if any of our friends could bring forward a solution of the difficulty, how to combine the eating and the business with as little disturbance as possible, they would positively confer a great benefit on the Exercise.

Anyway, when business was commenced, there was no lack of system and energy about it; that was certainly one redeeming feature; and I was, I admit, surprised to see the amount of work done in so short a time. These hard-headed Yorkshiremen seem to go at high pressure in everything; and the result was that, after all, the business meeting was thoroughly efficient for the purpose. Then, to make my story short, I would just say that ten o'clock saw me on my road back home, well satisfied, taking things altogether, with my last visit to Yorkshire. There need be no fear that the Association which can proudly boast of the late Jasper Snowdon as its first President will ever lose the position which it holds in the ringing world; and as I travelled behind the "iron horse" homewards, I felt gratified that I had been privileged once more to mix among a body of men who are without doubt a credit to the Exercise, and in whose hands the work of progress will never, I am convinced, be allowed to flag.

I feel sure that I shall be but echoing the sentiments of us all when I tender most heartily my sincere condolence with our mutual friend, Mr. C. H. Hattersley, in his bereavement on the loss of his dear wife. As I once before observed, no one but those who have actually experienced such a loss can comprehend fully its depth. It will be, however, I think, some comfort to Mr. Hattersley to know that in his time of sorrow he has the heartfelt sympathy both of those who know him personally, and those who, less fortunate—know him only by repute. May I therefore tender to him on behalf of the Exercise our warmest sympathies, and assure him that though we may not give expression to our thoughts in a tangible fashion, our hearts are nevertheless joining with him in his great grief.

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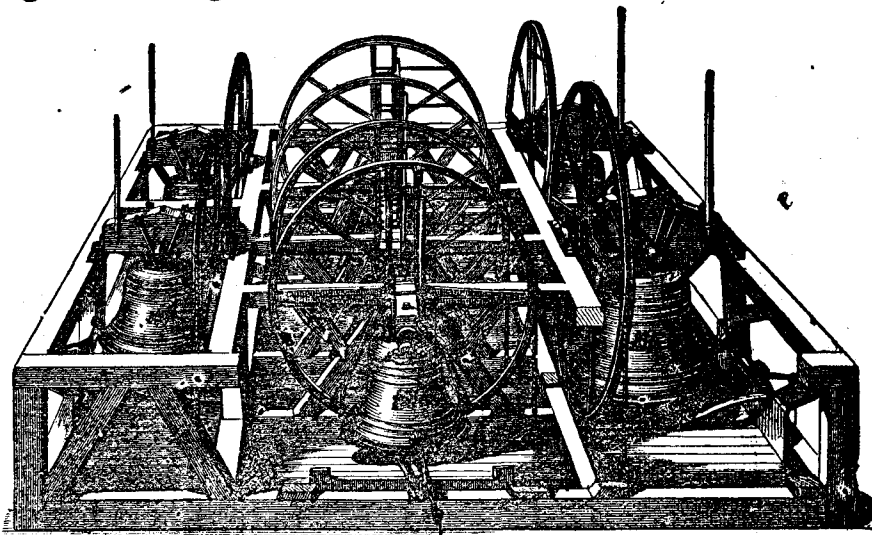
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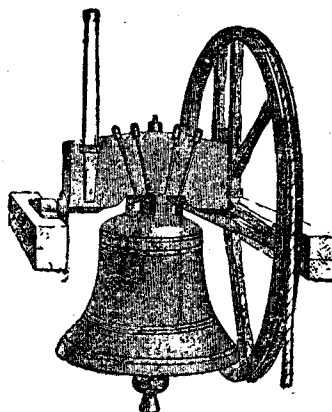
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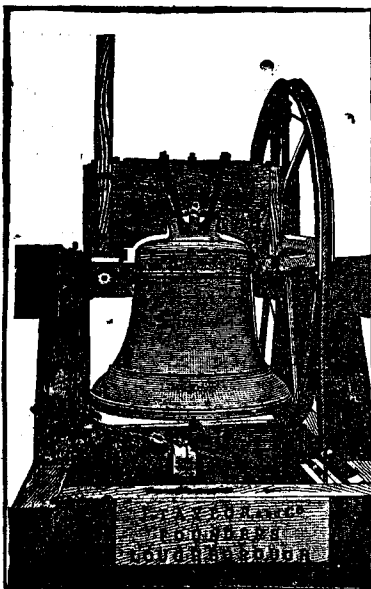
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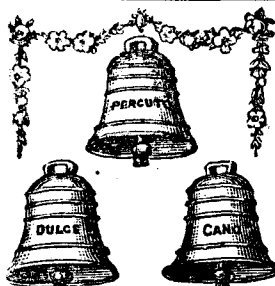
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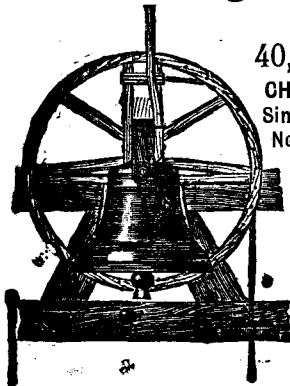
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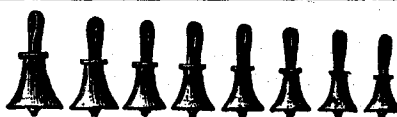
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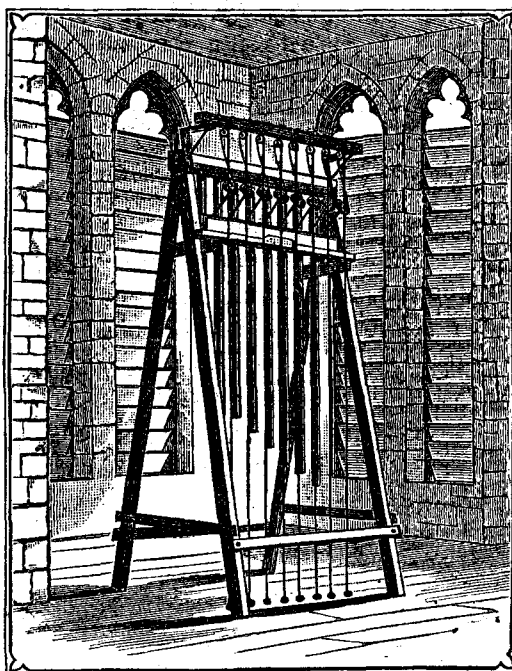
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THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ANNUAL MEETING IN BOLTON.

Bellringers from all parts of the county assembled in Bolton on Saturday, on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Lancashire Association of Change Ringers, representatives to the number of about 150 being present from Manchester, Liverpool, Southport, Ashton, Bolton and district, Eccles, Heywood, Hyde, Milnrow, Newhey, Pendlebury, Prestwich, Radcliffe, Rochdale, Stalybridge, Walkden, Worsley, Bacup, Whitefield, Newchurch, Ramsbottom, and Waterfoot. The various belfries in the town were visited and some splendid ringing indulged in, and then the whole of the ringers assembled in Holy Trinity Church, where the Rev. Charles Heath, M.A., Vicar of Walkden, delivered a most appropriate sermon, dwelling upon the importance of the duties of the bellringers, and urging upon them the necessity of leading a life outside the belfry consistent with the Christian work in which they were engaged inside the various church towers abounding in the county palatine. At the close of the discourse, which was warmly appreciated, tea was served in the adjoining schools, the church choir and a number of friends waiting upon the visitors. Afterwards the business meeting of the Association was held. There was a large attendance, including a few ladies, and the Vicar of the parish presided by virtue of his office as President of the Association, being supported by the Rev. S. T. Williamson, M.A., his Curate; the Rev. H. J. Elsee, Curate of St. Andrew's Manchester; Mr. A. E. Holme, M.A., of Manchester, vice-president of the Association; and Mr. Joel Redford, the secretary. Several of the ringers present from different towns entertained the company with a clever imitation of the church bells on the handbells.

The Rev. CHARLES LOWE, M.A., said that as President of their Association it afforded him the greatest pleasure to welcome them to that schoolroom again; also to see so many of the Lancashire church bell-ringers in the adjoining sanctuary that afternoon. On their next visit to Bolton he should take care that the clergy of the town and district had a special invitation to join them in the afternoon service, believing that the ringers would be heartily glad to meet their clergy and the clergy to meet their ringers on such an occasion. A pressing invitation should also be extended to the congregation to attend, and he hoped it would be largely responded to. He said this because he felt it was important the bell-ringers should feel that they were members of a great body corporate. They were really a corporation among themselves. Throughout England, he took it, there were something like 50,000 bell-ringers; but whilst they were of themselves a great corporation, numerically they were still very small in comparison with the great corporate body of the church. He wanted to see the ringers closely united to them, for the ringers were undoubtedly engaged in God's work and strove to do it to His honour and glory. Therefore he maintained that the clergy should visit the belfries a great deal more than they did, the ringers being deserving of every support and encouragement in their important work. After these few preliminary observations he went on to say that it gave him great pleasure to congratulate them upon the satisfactory nature of the year's report. Financially they were sound, and numerically they had a substantial gain to show. He was certain an association of this kind was calculated to do and was doing a vast amount of good. It drew them, brother Christians and fellow workers, together in kindly and loving intercourse and enabled them to work in that spirit of harmony and unselfishness which ought to characterise all branches of Christian work. He had felt it a very great pleasure and privilege to have their confidence as President of their Association; but really the post had been almost a sinecure, though if called upon he should have been glad to have done far more than he had. With all sincerity he urged them to try and realise more and more that they were engaged in a serious and solemn work and a work of the utmost importance. It does one's heart good to hear the bells resounding through the parish, putting joy and gladness into the souls of those who realised the call aright. Sometimes, too, they rang forth the note of warning and condemnation to those who were about to mis-spend the Day of Rest in drives or excursions, totally forgetful at the outset, it might be of the Divine injunction "Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it Holy." Thus while they

cheered and encouraged the true child of God, the bells reminded the Sabbath desecrator of his duty, and the serious responsibilities he was taking upon himself in neglecting the Divine command.

Mr. JOEL REDFORD, the secretary, read the Committee's report, as follows:—"During the past year we may congratulate ourselves as being the most successful during the existence of the Association. Four honorary and 74 ringing members have been elected. Our numbers are now 43 of the former and 277 of the latter. We notice the satisfactory progress of the working of the Association in the Northern Division of the county; all the ringers of the Parish Church, Lancaster, and Dalton-in-Furness have been admitted. In the North-East Division matters are now assuming that which the officers have long desired, viz., the enrolment of new members. Two more branches have been formed out of the ranks of the Association, viz., the Manchester Branch and the Rochdale Branch. Thirty-nine peals of 5000 changes and upwards have been rung in various methods; 43 peals of 720's have also been rung. The balance in the hands of the Treasurer is £17 7s. 1d., which amount would have been considerably more but for the apathy of some members, who by not complying with Rule 4 have been struck off, but the Society is more than compensated by the increase of new members. Though greater activity has been shown during the year by the enrolling of new members, we would impress on the members generally the necessity of furthering the work of the Association in the many districts which have not been hitherto reached. We would also commend to the large districts the advantages of the formation of branches, which are being worked with great success." Suitable reference was made to the demise of Mr. Thomas Morris, a ringer of over 30 years' standing in Bolton. The report was unanimously adopted.

The Rev. CHARLES LOWE, was again proposed as the President, the mover remarking that no clergymen in Lancashire took a deeper interest in the Association. An amendment was proposed that the Rev. H. J. Elsee, a ringing member, be elected; but that gentleman intimated that having been in Lancashire a very short time only he did not feel justified in allowing his name to be put before the meeting.

THE CHAIRMAN said he should be pleased to give way, thinking that changes might be beneficial; but the meeting appeared to be highly pleased with Mr. Lowe's valuable services, and he was unanimsously re-elected amid applause. He said he was obliged to them for their kindness and confidence. He was not a "full" ringer, but for nine of the ten years he was at Kersley Moor, he rang the people to church daily. His services were entirely at their disposal, and he would do all he could to further their interests.

MR. JOEL REDFORD was re-appointed secretary by the unanimous vote of the meeting, the highest appreciation being expressed for Mr. Redford's diligent labours for the welfare of the Association.

MR. H. W. JACKSON, another Boltonian, was unanimously re-appointed treasurer; Messrs. Davies and Booth (Liverpool), auditors; and Messrs. Wood (Ashton), Nutter (Ramsbottom), Horrocks (Church), and Aspinwall (Liverpool) members of the committee.

A goodly number of new members were elected, including the whole of the ringers at St. Saviour's Church, Bolton.

By a majority of thirty-four to twenty-six, Bacup was selected as the town for next year's meeting, in preference to Manchester.

Heartly thanks were tendered for the use of the belfries in the town, to the Rev. Charles Heath for his sermon, for the excellent tea provided, and to the Chairman for his services.

The proceedings then terminated, several peals being afterwards rung from St. George's, the Parish, St. Saviour's, and the Holy Trinity belfries.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held at King's Norton, to-day, Saturday, October 20th. By kind permission the Tower will be open for ringing at 4 o'clock, after which a meeting will be held. All members and friends are earnestly invited.

E. PARKER.

Park Road, Harborne.

CHURCH CONSECRATION AT UPPER HELMSLEY.

THE village church at Upper Helmsley, near Stamford Bridge, which has just been rebuilt upon its old foundations of the 10th century, was reopened on Thursday, October 11th, by his Grace the Archbishop of York. The entire cost of reconstruction has been defrayed by Mrs. Anna Maria Herbert, wife of Colonel Herbert, of The Hall, Upper Helmsley. The style of architecture, which produces a pleasing effect, is in harmony with that of the Norman period. As a church rebuilt and furnished in memory of relatives of the benefactress, Mrs. Herbert has given three new bells, cast by Warner, of London, and hung by Mallaby and Sons, of Masham. The bells bear the inscription "Pro Deo, Pro Regina, et Patria, 1887," and are a memento of the erection of the new church and also of the Jubilee year of Her Majesty's reign. Much credit is due to the architect, Mr. Martin W. Lewis (of the firm of Messrs. William Lewis and Son, of York), upon the result of the work as a faithful reproduction of the characteristics of a Norman church. The former edifice was of brick, and stood also upon the old foundations. It was built by Mrs. Jane Wilmer, of Upper Helmsley, an ancestress of Mrs. Herbert, and its erection is recorded upon a brass tablet within the church. The date of the first church is nowhere more positively certified than in the stones of its foundations and other stones found figured with ancient scroll work. In "Lawton's Collectio" Over or Upper Helmsley, with its church of St. Peter, is given as being "an ancient rectory, formerly belonging to the patronage of the Mowbrays, and was given by Roger de Mowbray to the Hospital of St. Leonard, York, and at the Dissolution the patronage came to the Crown." The whole exterior of the new church is of Brecon Hill stone, and the interior masonry is of Ancaster stone, with Norman enrichments. The roof is of Westmoreland slates. The interior roofing, wood-fittings, and seats are pitch-pine. The floor is laid with marble mosaic, in keeping with the date of the building, the tracery and figuring of the mosaic being richer at the east end. The pulpit is in whitest Ancaster stone, circular and massive, corresponding fitly with the font, which is supposed to have been in use in the original church of the tenth century. The Communion rails, furniture of the retable, lectern, book-rests, and lamps are all in brass. The new edifice will comfortably accommodate about 100 worshippers, though considerably over that number assembled at the special service on Thursday afternoon. The procession of clergy and prominent lay residents of the district who walked in procession to the already crowded edifice at three o'clock, included, besides the Archbishop, Archdeacon Yeoman, Canon Randolph, the Rev. Sir George and Lady Cox, Revs. H. Puxley, G. F. Horner (the rector of the parish), F. Salmon, C. W. Trotter, A. C. Craig, A. Hughes, W. Gell, H. Willoughby, J. Farrar, R. Surtees, Colonel and Mrs. Herbert, Sir James and Lady Walker, Mr. George and Mr. E. Herbert, and Captain and Mrs. Key, York. The service, vocal and devotional, was appropriate to the occasion.

The Archbishop of York preceded his sermon by remarking that it was usually his lot in opening a new church, or a church that had been restored, to announce that after much struggling they had been able to carry out the work by means of the contributions of kind friends, and that there remained a debt of £200 or £300 for the congregation assembled to help to pay off. There was this consolation, however, that those debts were always paid. In the present instance he had no invitation of the kind he had mentioned to make to them, for that beautiful temple was the free gift of one whose name he need not indicate, who loved the people of the parish, and who identified her interest with theirs. The blessing which that free gift might be to the parish could scarcely be estimated. He had pleasure in accepting the valuable gift in the name of our Blessed Lord, for whose glory it had been provided, and he welcomed the people of the parish into their new house of prayer, hoping that it might be a blessing to them and to generations yet unborn.

His Grace's text was St. John, xvii. 19. In the course of his sermon, he said that far more work in the form of christian charity, the outcome of love for souls, was being done now as in any past time. All the loving acts, such as the gift of that church, were connected with the principle upon which they were represented in the text as sanctifying themselves for the sake of

others. The amount expended upon that church might have been expended upon a picture or a yacht; but in choosing to bestow upon the parish a new church, the benevolent donor assisted in preserving the spirit of Christian charity. The sanctification of one's self for the good of others was more and more necessary in every department of life. For instance, let them consider the practice of betting, in which thousands indulged, especially in Yorkshire. The stimulus to bet was something very charming to the human mind, or betting would not be so general. Because there could not be found ten to resist the temptation, betting became the practice of a thousand. A man said to himself, "Surely it does not matter if I bet a shilling or sixpence; so here goes!" But suppose they found among betting people all manner of dishonesty, and that it led to great crime, to prison, and to damnation, there lay the serious aspect of the question. The risk of a shilling or sixpence made no essential difference to a man, but it made all the difference in the world whether he did that which, so far as his example was concerned, might ruin others. All the arguments of the clergy against betting would be vain until a few men would sanctify themselves and do the right thing for the sake of their brethren. One man who would oppose betting might face a thousand who were for the practice, so strong would his cause be. The same principle applied to the observance of Sunday, which was a great safeguard of religion in this country. Some men might ask, "Is it not rather superstitious to depend on one particular day in the week?" But were Sunday taken away how could the clergy reach men? They would be too much involved in their own affairs to be dealt with by the Church. Again, it was sometimes asked, "Why not open museums on Sundays?" The few librarians and other officials who take care of these places would have to work, but they must give way to the general good." But, after all, did the working classes want this concession? They had never said so. He had been assured at the Church Congress that working people did not desire to give up their Sundays to museums or occupations of that kind.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 2nd, eight members of the St. Michael's Junior Society, Gloucester, journeyed to Prestbury to attempt Mr. J. J. Parker's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, which was successfully brought round in 2 hrs. 50 mins., and was duly recorded in its proper place. On leaving the tower they were met by F. E. Ward, Esq., Master of the above Association, in company of Mr. Davies, churchwarden, who congratulated them on the excellent striking throughout the peal. Mr. Ward, with his usual courtesy, invited them to his house, where, after refreshments had been disposed of, the handbells were brought into requisition, and courses of Grandsire Triples, Major, Caters, Cinques, and Maximus rung. F. E. Hart, 1-2; S. E. Romans, 3-4; F. E. Ward, 5-6; H. L. James, 7-8; R. J. Wilkins, 9-10; W. J. Sevier, 11-12. Finding the time was drawing short they wended their way to the station, and arrived at Gloucester at 12.10, highly delighted with their first trip to Prestbury. They wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank their Prestbury friends for getting everything ready.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION—ROCHDALE BRANCH.

A Meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Thomas's church, Moorside, near Oldham, on Saturday, October 27th. Meeting in the Schoolroom at 4.30. Ringers residing in the Oldham district are earnestly requested to attend. All ringers will be made welcome. F. BIRTWISTLE, Hon. Sec.

42, Tweedale Street, Rochdale.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The next General Quarterly Meeting will be held at Market Rasen and Claxby, on Saturday, October 20th. Tea will be provided at the Aston Arms Inn, Market Rasen, at 5 o'clock, tickets 1s. each. Members of other Associations intending to be present are requested to signify the same to Mr. J. Hackney, 4, Milk Street, Market Rasen, by Wednesday next.

15, Knight Street, Lincoln.

J. W. WATSON, Hon. Sec.

THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, the quarterly meeting of the East Lincolnshire Society took place at Croft, but owing to the late harvest there was not a very large meeting. Divine service was held in the parish church at 12.30, the sermon being preached by the Rev. D. J. White, Vicar of Burgh, who impressed upon ringers how they should respect the office to which they were appointed. Having traced the ringers in olden times up to the present, the preacher observed that there was a marked improvement which was attributed to the formation of the different Associations, such as they were celebrating that day.

Dinner was provided by host Morley, of the "Angel" hotel, Wainfleet, in a very creditable manner. The Rev. H. J. Cheales presided, supported by the Rev. F. Besant, Mr. H. Harrison, and several ringers and friends. After dinner, the president called upon the secretary (Mr. Mason) to read the minutes of the last meeting, and this having been done,

The Rev. H. J. CHEALES said that at the last meeting held at Kilton it was unanimously resolved to present a timepiece to Mr. Mason for his services as secretary. He was very glad to say they were able to fulfil their intention that day. A very elegant timepiece was then placed upon the table amid cheers. In presenting it to Mr. Mason, the rev. chairman remarked that he hoped Mr. Mason would like it, and also long live to use it. It is a special design cast in the shape of a bell beautifully ornamented. Round the mouth were the words in Latin: "Our Father, which art in heaven. The Lord be with you; and with thy spirit." Upon the crown was engraved the following: "Presented by members of the East Lincolnshire Change Ringers' Association to their excellent secretary, E. Mason, July 14th, 1888."

A 720 of Bob Minor was rung at Croft by J. Seymour, 1; E. Mason, 2; Rev. H. J. Cheales, 3; G. Clarke, 4; H. Daulton (conductor), 5; A. O. Barber, 6. The company then drove to Wainfleet St. Mary's, but being some little time in getting the conveyances up, only 360 was rung, two having to catch the train at Thorpe.

Friskney was then visited, where tea was provided at the rectory; after which several 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles were rung by T. Rogers, G. Clark, Rev. H. J. Cheales, E. Mason, and A. O. Barber.

COLLEGE YOUTHS' VISIT TO COGGESHALL, ESSEX.

On Saturday last, six members of this Society from Ipswich, and two from London, visited this place as arranged, to meet the expressed wish of Mr. E. Carter to attempt a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major on these bells, the day chosen being a very auspicious one, as it happened to be the coming of age of one of the leading inhabitants of the place, O. B. Hanbury, Esq., of Holfield Grange, Coggeshall. Starting from Ipswich about half-past one, we reached Kelvedon just before three o'clock, having picked up at Colchester the big fat man who left the rest of the party looking rather disconsolate on the Ipswich platform, when they were apparently left behind, having to travel on by the second section of the 1.35 train. After a smart walk of three miles we were suddenly half-rounded by a "bob" being called loudly from the other side of the street by the well-known voice of one who don't often figure as a bob-caller. Having refreshed the bearings with grease, and the inner man with the necessary lining, we were soon in the tower ready to begin. "Go" being called at 4.52, and at 8.4 a first-class peal was completed, and the applause given as soon as the door was open, was a proof that others were as satisfied as ourselves. We soon found our way back to the Woolpack Inn, where to our great surprise an excellent meat tea had been provided at the expense of the vicar and churchwardens, to which ample justice was done. After thanking those present for their kind reception, we were obliged to make a hasty retreat to the station, arriving safely home shortly before midnight, thoroughly pleased with the visit. The company beg through the medium of this paper to thank the vicar and churchwardens for so readily granting their permission to ring, and for the provision made, and also thank the steeple-keeper (Mr. Nicholls), and the rest of the Coggeshall company for the manner in which they tried their best to make our visit a pleasant one. A.

THE EXTENT OF DUFFIELD MAJOR.

BY THE REV. H. EARLE BULWER.

It may be interesting to students of the "Duffield Method" to know that the extent of Duffield published in your last number may be safely varied in the following manner:—

1 2 3 4 5 6 1 B O F

4 6 2 1 3 5 - -

Take the 19th course of original and proceed to the

28th—2 5 4 1 3 6 - -

4 2 5 1 3 6 - -

5 4 2 1 3 6 - -

2 6 4 1 5 3 - -

Take the 2nd course of original and proceed to the

15th—3 5 4 2 1 6 - -

4 3 5 2 1 6 - -

5 4 3 2 1 6 - -

2 3 4 5 1 6 - -

4 2 3 5 1 6 - -

3 4 2 5 1 6 - -

5 2 4 3 1 6 - -

4 5 2 3 1 6 - -

2 4 5 3 1 6 - -

Four times repeated.

This variation has two advantages over the original. (1) The sixth place bells are better arranged, and there is one less of them in each part. (2) Of the two courses in the original, having three consecutive calls, one disappears. On the other hand, the variation cannot, like the original, be brought round true in a few changes over the 5000.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, KIDDERMINSTER.

It is worthy of notice that the peal rung by this Society, and which which will be found in its proper place, was a well-struck peal throughout, and reflects great credit on the performers, Mr. Crane especially, for the able manner in which he piloted the seventh through. It is also remarkable as being the first peal rung by a Kidderminster band since the year 1765, when a peal, the first and only one recorded, was rung. The inscription on the peal-board in the tower is as follows:—

"On Monday, August 29th, 1765, was rung in this tower in three hours and fourteen minutes, the complete peal of Grand-sire Tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, by the following persons: Thos. Webb, treble; Frank Rook, 2; John Preen, 3; Willm. Pugh, 4; Thos. Little, 5; Andw. Peak, 6; Jos. Bradley, 7; Benjamin Horn and Edward Lewis, tenor."

There is no mention made in the above of either composer or conductor, so it seems very uncertain what peal it was, or whether it was a true peal at all, as no one at the present time can give any information regarding it or the performers. It may possibly have been the peal without a single (?) composed by the late Stephen Hill, of this town, living as he did about that time, but if so one would have thought he would have rung in it or called it. From this time change-ringing seems to have entirely died out, and call-changes were rung till within four years ago. About the year 1884 a society was formed mainly by the instrumentality of Mr. Edward F. Strange, for the study of change-ringing, with Mr. Crane as conductor, who has been the mainstay throughout. We were a long time getting through the first stages, but now we have a good band of about twelve members, and hope to do something better in the future. H. W.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

ST. ALPHEGE, GREENWICH.—Until further notice, meetings of the Society for the transaction of business are held after ringing on the first Tuesday in each month, in the vestry-room of this church, by kind permission of the Vicar and churchwardens.

FREDK. W. THORNTON, Secretary.

106, King George Street, Greenwich.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1888.

	Jan. to Aug.	Sept. T.
Ancient Society of College Youths	53	6 59
Midland Counties' Association... ..	44	6 50
Sussex County Association	40	6 46
Oxford Diocesan Guild	37	7 44
Lancashire Association	32	3 35
Essex Association	34	1 35
Norwich Diocesan Guild	23	0 23
Yorkshire Association... ..	21	1 22
Surrey Association	17	0 17
Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association	15	1 16
United Counties' Association	15	0 15
Society of Royal Cumberland Youths	13	2 15
St. James' Society, London	12	2 14
Kent County Association... ..	13	1 14
Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford	13	0 13
Salisbury Diocesan Guild	12	0 12
The Holt Society... ..	10	0 10
Worcester and adjoining Districts Association	9	1 10
Hertford College Youths	7	0 7
Winchester Diocesan Guild	6	0 6
Hertford Association	4	1 5
Liverpool Youths... ..	4	0 4
Society of Trinity Youths	4	0 4
All Hallows' Society, Tottenham	3	0 3
Waterloo Society, London	3	0 3
St. Martin's Society, Birmingham	3	0 3
Devonshire Guild... ..	3	0 3
Birmingham Amalgamated Society... ..	2	1 3
Eastern Counties Guild	1	0 1
Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal Association	1	0 1
Durham and Newcastle Association	1	0 1
Bath and Keynsham Deaneries Association... ..	1	0 1
Chester Diocesan Guild	1	0 1
Bedford Association	1	0 1
North Lincolnshire Association	1	0 1
Independent Societies	61	5 66
Less peals entered under two Associations	49	2 51

TOTAL 471 42 513

The above peals were rung in the following methods. New Cumberland Surprise, 1; Cambridge Surprise Major, 8; Superlative Surprise Major, 10; Double Oxford Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 14; Stedman Cinques, 2; Stedman Caters, 22; Stedman Triples, 36; Duffield Doyal, 4; Duffield Major, 1; Treble Bob Maximus, 1; Treble Bob Royal, 10; Treble Bob Major, 77; Prince Albert Major, 1; Violet Major, 1; Grandsire Caters, 33; Grandsire Major, 2; Grandsire Triples, 191; Grandsire Doubles (5040), 12; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1; Canterbury Pleasure Triples, 2; Court Bob Triples, 2; Oxford Bob Triples, 6; Union Triples, 7; Bob Maximus, 1; Bob Royal, 1; Bob Major, 25; Bob Triples, 18; Bob Doubles (5040), 1; Place Triples, 1, in Seven Minor Methods on six bells, 15; in fourteen Minor Methods on six bells (10080), 1; in one ditto, 2; in fourteen Methods on five bells, 2; in six ditto, 1; Total 513. Quickest 5040 on church bells, 2 hrs. 27 mins.

Number of peals rung in	1887.	1888.
January	50	52
February	76	72
March	65	60
April	62	98
May	57	53
June	38	57
July	14	39
August... ..	20	40
September	41	42
	423	513

Increase on the nine months, 90.

Brighton.

GEO. F. ATTREE.

MATRICATION (London) Jan. 1889. An experienced Tutor prepares Pupils for this and other Examinations. Help by correspondence. For terms (moderate) address F. C. S. office of this paper.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—CAPEL BRANCH.

On Monday, October the 8th, six members of the above guild visited Esher, in Surrey, it having been arranged to attempt a 5000 in seven Minor methods of Treble Bob, but unfortunately on arriving at Esher, we were informed that the bells could not be rung on account of the serious illness of Dr. Guthrie, whose house adjoins the churchyard. The rector telegraphed to Capel, as early as he could to stop the proposed visit, but the party were nearly half-way on their journey by the time the telegram reached Capel. After finding we could not ring at Esher, we left our steed at Esher, and walked to Thames Ditton, a distance of nearly three miles, and finding the vicar of Ditton, who readily gave permission for us to ring for a hour on the Ditton bells, we soon set off to find Mr. T. Wells, one of the Ditton ringers, who accompanied us to the church, and after raising the bells a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was brought round in 26 mins. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; M. Jenkins, 4; T. Stedman, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 720 College Pleasure. J. Akehurst, 1; T. Stedman, 2; R. Jordan, 3; M. Jenkins, 4; D. Jordan, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. And 120 Grandsire Doubles. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; T. Wells, 3; E. Jordan, 4; D. Jordan, 5; T. Stedman, 6. The ringers wish through these columns to thank Mr. Wells for his kind attendance, also the vicar for the use of the bells. J.

PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

The 96th birthday of the veteran ringer, Giles Mansfield, the oldest ringer living at the present time, was celebrated on Monday, October 15th, by the Stroud and Painswick Societies. The Painswick Society rang at 1 p.m. a touch of Grandsire Triples, containing 1344 changes, in fifty-three mins. A. Trigg, 2; D. Marment, 2; W. Ryland, 3; E. King, 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; W. Hale (conductor), 7; T. Wright, 8. In the evening at the Parish Church, Stroud, a touch of 1344 changes was rung by the following. A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; C. King, 3; N. King, 4; G. Latham, 5; J. Everatt, 6; W. Hale (conductor), 7; F. Stephens, 8. Afterwards the house of the veteran was visited, and several courses of Minor and Triples were rang round his bed. He is perfectly conscious, and talks of the intricacies of ringing as well as though he meant to ring again. He is very feeble in body and cannot hold the bells this year. He is still dependent on the parish allowance, and a kind friend that may call and see him.

PRESTBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Saturday, September 13th, the local band inaugurated the peal boards recording the "clerical" peal, which was rung on the occasion of the re-opening of the bells at this church two years since; and the first peal by the local band, which was rung in February, 1887, by an attempt at another peal, the same ringers as before taking the ropes, but unfortunately without success in this case, as a change-course occurred after an hour and three quarter's ringing. The peal attempted was Holt's Original, and the band stood as follows: D. Davis, 1; G. H. Phillott, 2; F. E. Ward, 3; T. Steel, 4; F. Musty, 5; W. T. Pates (conductor), 6; T. Davis, 7; T. Compton, 8. The boards are of a very handsome design, and surmount the photographs of the respective bands. The ringers finished up the evening as usual.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting will be held at Newcastle on Monday, October 29th. The bells at the disposal of the members will be the peals of eight at All Saints, St. John's, and St. Stephen's. Divine Service at St. John's church at 2 p.m. Dinner, followed by the business meeting, at the "Crown and Mitre," Grey Street, at 3 p.m. Members intending to dine are requested to give a week's notice to the Secretary.

Stockton-on-Tees.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

WANTED by a Change Ringer, aged 22 Years, a Situation as Gardener, Single-handed Place preferred. Good character. Can ring the principal Methods. Apply T. Stedman, Capel, near Dorking, Surrey.

RINGERS' FEAST AT TWYFORD, HANTS.

On Monday, October 8th, the 131st anniversary of the Ringers' Feast, in connection with St. Mary's Church, was duly carried out with the usual honours to the memory of the late William Davies, Esq., who left a sum of money, producing a guinea a year, in order that the ringers of Twyford might continue to celebrate the same after his death. Mr. Davies, whose tablet in the church records the fact that he was of a benevolent disposition, also showed his benevolence by presenting to the church of Twyford, at the same time, a fine peal of six bells.

Several peals of Grandsire Doubles and Minor were rung at intervals during the day, until 7 o'clock p.m., when the ringers adjourned as usual to the residence of Mr. Thomas Carter (an old and much respected ringer of fifty years' standing), and with their friends sat down to an excellent hot dinner.

The Rev. C. Buston, well-known as a great enthusiast in campanology, again presided over a very large company, Mr. T. Carter, occupying the vice-chair. Ample justice having been done to the tempting viands set before them, the chairman proposed the "Health of the Queen and Royal Family," which was loyally received. Mr. Shenton was then called upon to propose the toast of the evening, viz., "The Ringers of Twyford," which was heartily drunk with musical honours. Other toasts, including the "Chairman," "Parish Clerk," "Visitors," &c. were also drunk and responded to, and the rest of the evening was devoted to harmony, some capital songs and recitations being given. A very enjoyable evening was brought to a close, by all singing, "Auld Lang Syne."

BRADFIELD, BERKS.

On Wednesday, October 3rd, the ring of six bells at this parish church, which has lately been re-hung by Mr. Harry Stokes of Exeter, were rung for the first time by the Caversham band, this being also the service of thanksgiving for the ingathering of the harvest. The ringers arrived by brake at six o'clock, and the bells were soon set going, a 720 and a few touches being rung in good style. The church, which was very nicely decorated for the occasion, was well filled by a large congregation, and an eloquent sermon was preached by the Rector, the Rev. A. Standidge. As the choir (parish and college united) was leaving the sacred building the ringers ascended the tower which was soon full of parishioners, and rang another 720 of Minor, and lowered the bells in peal. After being congratulated on the fine striking by several present, they were taken to the Rectory, where a good supper was waiting for them. After a course or two of the good things provided, a peal of handbells was brought into requisition, and a few tunes, touches of Minor and Triples were rung, which greatly delighted the Rector and family. Mr. Newman having explained the meaning of a bob, etc., congratulated the Rector on the "go" of the bells, the ringers saying they had never handled bells to go so well before. The Rector thanked them for assisting him in opening the bells, and hoped at no distant date they would come and ring the first peal. It need hardly be said that this invitation was at once accepted, and will shortly be attempted. The ringers were T. Newman, G. Essex, H. Smith, J. Hands, E. Menday, and H. Simmonds, conducted by T. Newman.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.

The peal of six at the parish church has recently been augmented to eight, by the addition of two trebles. The following is the particulars of the work done: Four of the bells have been necessarily removed and rehung, and a new oak frame for two bells placed above the others. A complete set of new sallie rollers, also new iron guides, which are a great improvement to the handling of the ropes. There is a new chiming apparatus, so that one man can chime all the bells.

On Thursday evening, October 4th, four of the Writtle band, and four of the Widford band, met to try the bells, when a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Shipway, was rung in 45 mins. W. Emery, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; J. Everard, 4; W. Lincoln (conductor), 5; A. Edwards, 6; A. Tarbun, 7; W. J. Piper, 8. Also 168 in the same method, with Mr. Gray at the tenor; and a course of Bob Major. The new bells are the munificent gift of A. Pryor, Esq.

THE TEWKESBURY ABBEY SOCIETY.

On Thursday, October 4th, the members of this Society had their annual outing, Nottingham being the place selected. The party, ten in number, joined the train at Ashchurch at 7.50 a.m., this being an excursion from Bristol. On the arrival of the train at Nottingham about 11.20 they were met by some ringing friends of that place, and in less than five minutes it became known that the same train had brought up some ringing friends from Bristol, Mr. James Hinton being one of the party, and after some refreshments a move was made to St. Peter's church, where a 504 of Stedman Triples was rung. C. W. Dyson, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Hampton, 8. A short touch of Grandsire Triples was rung by a mixed band. After dinner a move was made to All Saints' church, and a touch of 504 Union Triples rung. R. H. Witherington, 1; C. W. Dyson, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; S. Cleal, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Hampton, 8. Also 168 Stedman Triples, and a 210 Grandsire Triples, the latter by a mixed band. Later in the evening a meeting was arranged for at St. Peter's, to give those an opportunity of meeting whose business compelled them to be away during the day, and a 168 Stedman Triples was rung, and a short touch of Treble Bob Major was attempted. As time would not allow of a try again a move was made to the station, and in a short time they were homeward bound, arriving at Ashchurch about 11 p.m., where a conveyance was in waiting. The party arrived safely at Tewkesbury, every one having thoroughly enjoyed the day's outing. The company wish to thank the Rectors and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and also those brother-ringers who assisted in making their day's outing such an enjoyable one.

ST. MARY'S, WARWICK.

On Friday evening, October 12th, a meeting was held in the belfry of St. Mary's, Warwick, to promote the organization of a company which has lately been formed to learn change-ringing. The vicar was elected president, and the churchwardens, vice-presidents, an honorary secretary, and an instructor, were also elected. A code of rules was drawn up, mainly taken from those suggested by the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. This is the first company that has been formed for change-ringing at this church, which contains a peal of ten (tenor 28 cwt. in D), and it is hoped that now a foundation has been laid for a change-ringing company here, it will be heartily carried on.

We trust that the progress of this new society will be sufficient to remove the reproach which has hitherto been cast upon the ancient town of Warwick, with reference to bell-ringing. No one will rejoice more than ourselves to hear of quick and satisfactory progress at Old St. Mary's, Warwick.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.

A Quarterly Meeting of the above branch was held at Gawsforth, on Saturday, October 13th, when members attended from Alderly, Bollington, Gawsforth, and Macclesfield. The church bells were set going to the tune of Plain Bob and Grandsire, but only short touches could be rung owing to the tenors going so bad. About 5 o'clock saw twenty-two seated down to tea in a room close to the church, and it hardly needs to be said that full justice was done to the good things provided by Mr. C. Postles, one of the Gawsforth men, all being in good trim after a walk to such a picturesque place, and a pull on the bells. Previous to commencing tea a hymn was sung by all, at the request of the Rector, the Rev. J. T. Penrose, who is an honorary member. After tea the usual meeting was held, the Rector in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and Prestbury was selected as the next place of meeting.

The Rector, on rising, gave all a hearty welcome, and said he hoped next time they came to Gawsforth he should have a new peal of bells for them ring upon; and after some well-chosen remarks and good advice to the ringers, Mr. Matthews gave some sketches of ringers and ringing in the olden times. After about half an hour's conversation together, a vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector, and thus ended an enjoyable gathering.

OUR CHRISTMAS NUMBER,

NOW IN PREPARATION,

WILL CONTAIN

A PORTRAIT

Of a well-known Change-Ringer, with short Biographical Sketch, and other interesting characteristics.

Further particulars will be announced in due course.

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1888.

The Metropolis.

WESTMINSTER, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, October 13, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM BARON, SEN. 1. Treble.	WALTER PARTINGTON 6.
WILLIAM LALLY 2.	HENRY L. PARTINGTON 7.
WILLIAM JONES 3.	GEORGE WILD 8.
WILLIAM W. THORNE 4.	ALBERT E. CHURCH 9.
CHARLES E. MALIM, ESQ. 5.	GEORGE CHESTERMAN Tenor.

Composed by the late W. SHIPWAY, and Conducted by W. BARON.

*First peal of Caters. †First peal of Caters with a bob bell. The above peal was rung as a birthday peal for its conductor, his brother strings wishing him many happy returns; and also on the eleventh anniversary of the long peal of Grandsire Caters rung at the above church, in which the late Dr. F. A. Knipe took part.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, October 13, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 21 cwt.

JOHN G. GREEN Treble.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM 5.
RICHARD T. WOODLEY 2.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN 6.
JOHN N. OXBORROW 3.	CHALLIS F. WINNY 7.
JAMES W. DRIVER 4.	SAMUEL HOW Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, October 13, 1888, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN'S-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5002 CHANGES;

Tenor 33 cwt in D.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	HARRY RANDALL 7.
BENJAMIN FOSKETT 2.	EDWARD CHAPMAN 8.
JOHN ROGERS 3.	HENRY SWAIN 9.
HENRY DAINS 4.	FREDERICK PITSTOW 10.
THOMAS TITCHENER 5.	JOHN SMITH 11.
ARTHUR JACOB 6.	JOHN MANSFIELD Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

The composition, which is a high-class musical one, is now rung for the first time, and will appear in the columns devoted for that purpose in due course. This is the debut in a peal of Stedman Cinques by Messrs. Foskett, Titchener, Jacob, Chapman, Pitstow, and Smith. F. Pitstow hails from Saffron Walden, J. Smith from Kingston-on-Thames and it is the Conductor's first successful attempt to conduct a peal of Stedman on twelve bells. St. Martin's belfry has just been redecorated, and it is a model of neatness and cleanliness, and does credit to the steeplekeeper, Mr. J. Mansfield.

The Provinces.

YORK.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 9, 1888, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN, CONEY STREET,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 15 cwt in F#.

J. CUNDALL* Treble.	W. MORRELL 5.
T. HODGSON 2.	J. THOMPSON 6.
A. C. FEARLEY* 3.	W. H. HOWARD 7.
T. HAIGH* 4.	G. BREED Tenor.

Composed by the late H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by G. BREED.

*First peal. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and the Churchwardens for the use of the bells. First peal as Conductor.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY.

On Wednesday, October 10, 1888, in Two Hours Fifty-Six and Half Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 30 cwt.

J. BENNETT Treble.	HARRY ADAMS 5.
HARRY WILLIAMS 2.	THOMAS SALTER 6.
GEORGE SALTER 3.	JOHN CRANE 7.
JOHN BENNETT, JUN. 4.	THOMAS WALTERS Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY WILLIAMS.

The above was rung at the first attempt.

WOODSTOCK, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 11, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

HARRY JUDGE* Treble.	HAROLD HUMFREY 5.
EDGAR HUMFREY† 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 6.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK 3.	HARRY FRUIN 7.
DR. A. B. CARPENTER 4.	JAMES FRANKLIN Tenor.

Conducted by EDGAR HUMFREY.

*First peal. First peal as conductor.

The above peal was rung on the Anniversary of the re-opening of the church.

A man and woman named Murphy were recently charged at Horsham with stealing some spirits and cigars from the "Fox and Hounds Inn," and it was stated that, on their being searched, some communion plate, bent and broken, and two surplices were found in their possession. They were remanded.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, October 12, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5049 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt in D.

AMOS CRESSER Treble.	RICHARD LANE 6.
WILLIAM T. BILLINGHURST 2.	JOSEPH HARDY 7.
FRANCIS E. DAWE 3.	CHARLES SMITH 8.
JOHN W. TAYLOR, ESQ. SEN. 4.	WILLIAM A. TYLER .. 9.
JOHN W. TAYLOR, ESQ. JUN. 5.	EDWARD WIGHTMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SENR., of Birmingham, and
Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE, of London.

SHIPLEY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 13, 1888, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

J. HALDCASTLE, JUN. .. Treble.	*H. FOSTER 5.
H. RAISTRICK 2.	J. S. CLARKE 6.
J. MCKELL 3.	J. MCGOUN 7.
W. WHITAKER 4.	F. LONDON 8.

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL and Conducted by F. LONDON.

This peal has the 6th nine times wrong and twelve times right in 5-6, also nine course-ends at home. *First peal. Messrs. Haldcastle and Raistrick hail from Bradford, McKell and Whitaker from Gargrave, Foster from Bingley, and McGoun from Keighley; the rest belong to Shipley.

RIPPENDEN, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, October 13, 1888, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5472 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qrs.

H. WILKINSON Treble.	A. SYKES 5.
A. CROSSLAND* 2.	C. CRAVEN 6.
G. DENBIGH* 3.	B. SHAW 7.
G. W. SCHOFIELD 4.	F. SCHOFIELD Tenor.

Composed by B. SHAW, and Conducted by F. SCHOFIELD.

*First peal.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—WARNHAM BRANCH.

On Saturday, October 13, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

SHIPWAY'S FIVE-PART.

GEORGE WOODMAN Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT 5.
WALTER CHARMAN 2.	HENRY H. CHANDLER .. 6.
THOMAS ANDREWS 3.	HENRY BURSTOW 7.
HARRY COOK 4.	THOMAS HOGSFLESH .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY BURSTOW.

This peal contains five 5th's-place bobs, instead of singles.

PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 13, 1888, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S THREE-PART. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

FRANCIS E. HART Treble.	ALFRED A. WAITE 5.
WILLIAM HALE 2.	HENRY MITCHELL 6.
GARIBALDI MILES 3.	WILLIAM J. SEVIER 7.
DANIEL J. ASTON 4.	HENRY G. GARDENER .. Tenor.

Conducted by H. G. GARDENER.

HEENE, WORTHING, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 13, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART. Tenor 10½ cwt.

BENJAMIN BASSETT* .. Treble.	GEORGE A. KING 5.
JOHN JAY, SENR. 2.	HARRY WESTON 6.
JOHN REILLY† 3.	JAMES SEARLE 7.
ARTHUR A. FULLER 4.	EDWARD BUTLER Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN REILLY.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. Mr. Bassett belongs to the local company, and the rest from Brighton.

COGGESHALL, ESSEX.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 13, 1888, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,

5040 CHANGES. Tenor 21 cwt.

WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. Treble.	ROBT. H. BRUNDLE 5.
WILLIAM MOTTS 2.	EZRA CARTER 6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER 3.	EDWIN HORREX 7.
JAMES MOTTS 4.	EDGAR PEMBERTON Tenor.

Composed by W. ROYLE, and Conducted by W. L. CATCHPOLE.

First peal in the method on the bells. For further particulars see paragraph in this paper.

DARLSTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, October 13, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 20 cwt. in F.

EDWARD UNITT Treble.	JOHN GOUGH 5.
WILLIAM COOPER 2.	SAM. ATKINS 6.
WILLIAM SMITH 3.	JOSEPH FULLWOOD 7.
SIMON SLATER 4.	TITUS LOW Tenor.

Conducted by SAM. ATKINS.

The above was rung at the first attempt, with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to William Tinsley, who was a ringier at the above place for thirty years. Messrs. Unitt, Gough, and Low, were elected members in the belfry before starting for the peal. Messrs. Cooper and Slater hail from All Saints', West Bromwich, Fullwood from Hill Top; the rest belong to Darlston.

WREXHAM, DENBIGHSHIRE.

On Monday, October 15, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

ROBERT JONES Treble.	SERG. G. TAYLOR 6.
R. W. EVANS 2.	JAMES MOULTON 7.
ALFRED LEA* 3.	THOMAS NEWELL 8.
JOSEPH WILLIAMS 4.	EDWARD ROWLAND 9.
JOHN ELLIS 5.	JAMES KENDRICK Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES MOULTON.

*First peal with a bob bell. J. Moulton hails from Chester, Sergeant Taylor from Birmingham.

WRAXALL, SOMERSET.

On Wednesday, October 17, 1888, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 17 cwt 2 qrs. in F.

JAMES HARVEY* Treble.	*SAMUEL PHILLIPS 5.
CHARLES BURDEN* 2.	JAMES HINTON 6.
GEORGE COLSTON* 3.	WILLIAM EMERY 7.
FREDERICK ELLES* 4.	*WILLIAM COLSTON Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES HINTON.

*First peal. First peal on the bells. Mr. Harvey belongs to the local company, the others to Bristol.

SALISBURY, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, October 15, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

ALFRED GRIST Treble.	SYDNEY LAWRENCE 5.
HENRY D. ADAMS 2.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 6.
ARTHUR W. BARKUS 3.	THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 7.
CHARLES A. CLEMENTS .. 4.	ALFRED P. GODDARD .. Tenor.

Conducted by T. BLACKBOURN.

Mr. Grist hails from Bournemouth, and this is his first peal.

HEMPSTEAD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, October 15, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHIN,

FORTY-TWO SIX-SCORES OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES.

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

H. E. BEWICK Treble.	W. T. PEGLER 4.
W. DADGE 2.	G. TAYLOR 5.
A. SMART 3.	A. PEGLER Tenor.

Conducted by W. T. PEGLER.

*First 5040. A. Smart hails from Gloucester, the rest belong to the local company.

SALISBURY, WILTS.

On Wednesday, October 17, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S COMPOSITION.

Tenor 15 cwt.

SYDNEY LAWRENCE Treble.	ARTHUR W. BARKUS 5.
HENRY D. ADAMS 2.	THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 6.
WALTER S. WISE 3.	EDWARD CHAPMAN 7.
ALFRED P. GODDARD .. 4.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. Tenor.

Conducted by W. W. GIFFORD.

*First peal in the method. Mr. Chapman hails from London, and this is his first peal in his native county.

Date Touches.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WEST BROMWICH.—On Sunday morning, October 7th, being the Harvest Festival at All Saints' church, for Divine Service, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 3 mins. T. Danks, 1; S. Smith, 2; E. Woodhall, 3; G. Griffiths, 4; J. Fullwood, 5; W. Cooper (conductor), 6; S. Slater, 7; E. Cashmore, 8. Composed by J. Carter. And for evening service 1008 of Grandsire Triples. J. Cooper, 1; S. Smith, 2; C. Timms, 3; G. Griffiths, 4; E. Woodhall, 5; S. Slater, 6; W. Cooper (conductor), 7; E. Cashmore, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

FOXEARTH (Essex).—On Tuesday, October 9th, on the occasion of the Harvest Home Festival being held in the village, the following met in the morning at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, and rang a date touch of Kent-Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 5 mins. S. Slater (Glemsford), 1; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury, conductor), 2; R. Mingay (Foxearth), 3; F. Wells (Glemsford), 4; W. P. Gridley (Foxearth), 5; O. Garwood (Glemsford), 6; G. Maxim (Cavendish), 7; N. Hawkins (Belchamp Walter), 8. Composed by D. Prentice, of Ipswich. Various touches were rung during the day, including a 560 of Bob Major. S. Slater (conductor), 1; J. Lee, 2; R. Mingay, 3; F. Wells, 4; H. Duce (Long Melford), 5; N. Hawkins, 6; G. Maxim, 7; O. Garwood, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD, AND THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

DORKING (Surrey).—On Monday, October 15th, at the parish church, a date touch of 1888 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 12 mins. E. Dodd, 1; R. Arnold, 2; W. Boxall (composer), 3; F. Arnold, 4; M. Boxall, jun. (conductor), 5; W. Sadler, 6; H. Boxall, sen., 7; C. Dudley, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

EMBERTON (Beds).—On Saturday, September 29th, at All Saints' church, the local company rang a date touch (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins., in the following methods; four 120's of Bob Doubles, and eleven 120's and eighty changes of Grandsire Doubles, and eight changes of Bob Singles. Also on Sunday, September 30th, being the Harvest Festival, six 6-scores in the early morning, and ten 6-scores for morning and evening service, each called differently. *C. Line, 1; S. Sharp, 2; *W. Wright, 3; *W. Mynard, 4; *H. Booth, 5. *Members of the Bedfordshire Association. Tenor 9 cwt. in G.

Miscellaneous.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL.—On Friday, October 5th, for the Harvest Festival at St. James's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 43 mins. R. Chaffer, 1; J. F. Mallaby, 2; J. Pollard, 3; W. Verity, 4; H. Jenkins, 5; J. Dixey, 6; C. Jackson (conductor), 7; J. Dale, 8.

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

HAMER.—On Thursday, October 4th, for practice at All Saints' church, 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. J. Hartley, 1; J. Holt, 2; E. Shepherd (first 720), 3; R. Whittles, 4; T. Stott, 5; J. Crossley (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, October 7th, at St. Mary's church, 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. G. Cornell, 1; H. Nunn, jun., 2; L. Green, 3; T. Wood, 4; J. Nunn (conductor), 5; J. Marks, 6.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Monday, October 8th, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. J. King (first quarter-peal), 1; H. Bright, 2; J. Nunn, 3; J. Gobbett, 4; E. Barnett (conductor), 5; G. Cornell, 6; E. E. Richards, 7; W. Bedwell, 8.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Tuesday, October 9th, at Christ Church, 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. J. King (conductor), 1; F. A. Nunn (first 720 inside), 2; L. Green, 3; E. Barnett, 4; G. Cornell, 5; J. Marks, 6.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday morning, October 14th, being the Harvest Festival at St. Edward's church, for Divine Service, 504 of Grandsire Triples. L. Copsey, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; W. Nash, 3; M. L. Myhill, 4; W. Pye, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6; A. B. Goody (first touch with a bob bell), 7; S. James, 8. Also after evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), taken from Holt's Original, in 53 mins. G. Garnett, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; W. Nash, 3; M. L. Myhill, 4; W. Pye, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6; A. Porter, 7; S. James, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

DEAL (Kent).—On Saturday, October 13th, the first anniversary of the opening of the bells at St. Leonard's church, the local company rang six 6-scores of Bob Doubles, in 27 mins. S. Mockett (conductor), 1; H. Denne, 2; W. Moat, 3; G. Denne, 4; F. Capp, 5; S. Parker, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt. in G.

DOVER (Kent).—On Thursday, October 11th, the Deal company paid a visit to St. James' church, Dover, and rang several 6-scores of Bob Doubles. S. Mockett (conductor), 1; H. Denne, 2; W. Moat, 3; G. Denne, 4; F. Capp, 5; S. Parker, 6. And another 120. S. Mockett, 1; H. Denne, 2; H. Castle, 3; E. Potter, 4; F. Capp, 5; W. Wright, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. Messrs. Potter and Wright belong to Dover.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday evening, October 14th, for Divine Service at St. Margaret's church, 720 of Bob Minor in 28 mins. J. Warding, 1; J. Tulett, 2; W. Baker, 3; J. Raynor, 4; J. Kidd, 5; A. Cornford (conductor), 6. Messrs. Warding and Cornford hail from Swanscombe.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—On Tuesday evening, October 2nd, at St. Cuthbert's church, 720 of Bob Minor, in 30 mins. J. W. Forster, 1; *J. T. Dobson, 2; T. H. Surtess, 3; W. Oliver, 4; A. Nichol, 5; F. Barron (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. Tenor 14 cwt. Messrs. Nichol and Dobson hail from Blackhill. The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Thomas Bell, who for many years had been a ringer at the above church. The deceased passed away on September 20th, after a very short illness, amidst the lamentations of all who knew him, and especially the local ringers, amongst whom his memory will long live.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Wednesday, October 3rd, H. E. T. Glover, Esq., formerly a member of the Stockton Society, but now resident in Florida, U.S.A., visited Stockton, when a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; R. Burrows (Middlesbrough), 2; H. E. T. Glover, 3; E. Edwardson, 4; T. W. Waller, 5; T. Stephenson, 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. E. Edwardson, 1; R. Burrows (first 720 of Oxford), 2; H. E. T. Glover, 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Stephenson (conductor), 5; G. J. Clarkson, 6. On Sunday, October 7th, 720 Worcester Surprise. J. Clarkson, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; W. Stephenson, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; W. Newton, 5; T. Stephenson, 6. Also 720 London Surprise. J. Clarkson, 1; G. J. Clarkson, 2; W. Stephenson, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; T. Stephenson (conductor), 5; W. Newton, 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, October 9th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob Minor. Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 1; F. Simmonds, 2; J. Richardson, 3; H. Smith, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; E. Menday (conductor), 6. Also 360 College Single. H. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; G. Essex, 3; J. Richardson, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, October 14th, for Divine Service, 720 Single Court. H. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; J. Hands, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And after evening service 360 College Single. H. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; J. Hands, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt. This is the first 720 of Single Court by all. J. Richardson hails from Beenham.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Sunday, September 23rd, for evening service, 360 Grandsire Minor. O. Gregory, 1; A. Gregory, 2; J. Gardener, 3; G. Gregory, 4; A. Bunce, 5; F. May, 6. On Monday, September 24th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Gregory, 1; J. Gardener, 2; C. Page, 3; A. Gregory, 4; A. Bunce, 5; F. May, 6. On Sunday, September 30th, after morning service, 360 Grandsire Minor. O. Gregory, 1; A. Gregory, 2; C. Page, 3; G. Gregory, 4; A. Bunce, 5; F. May, 6. On Saturday, October 6th, for practice, 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Gregory, 1; H. Smith, 2; A. Gregory, 3; A. Bunce, 4; C. Page, 5; F. May, 6. On Sunday, October 7th, 240 Grandsire Doubles. E. Gregory, 1; O. Gregory, 2; A. Gregory, 3; G. Gregory, 4; F. May, 5; A. Bunce, 6. On Sunday, October 14th for matins, 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Gregory, 1; J. Gardener, 2; A. Bunce, 3; C. Page, 4; A. Gregory, 5; F. May, 6. And for evening service 360 Grandsire Doubles. T. Gregory, 1; O. Gregory, 2; C. Page, 3; G. Gregory, 4; F. May (conductor), 5; A. Kent, 6.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday morning, October 14th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 28 mins. S. Sargent, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; C. Bearman, 4; E. Carter (conductor), 5; E. Horrex, 6. And for afternoon service, 720 of Double Court Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). S. Sargent, 1; W. Moore, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; F. Rudkin, 4; E. Carter (conductor), 5; E. Horrex, 6. Tenor 19 cwt. Messrs. Carter and Horrex hail from London; Hammond and Rudkin from Braintree; the rest are of the local company.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday evening, August 21st, at the parish church, five members of the local band, assisted by Mr. H. Roberts, of Gloucester, rang for practice a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. H. Roberts (first 720), 1; H. Mitchell, 2; J. Yeates, 3; G. Miles, 4; H. Barnes, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday evening, September 11th, by the local band, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 27 mins. H. Barnes, 1; A. A. Waite (conductor), 2; D. J. Aston, 3; J. Yeates, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; H. G. Gardener, 6. And on Sunday morning, September 30th, being the Harvest Festival, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 27 mins. H. G. Gardener, 1; A. A. Waite, 2; G. Miles, 3; J. Yeates, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; W. J. Sevier, 6. Also a six-score of Stedman Doubles, conducted by A. A. Waite; and three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by H. Mitchell, standing as above.

APPLETON (Berks).—On Friday, October 12th, three courses (672 changes) of Superlative Surprise Major. F. White, 1; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 2; H. Fruin, 3; W. Bennett, 4; J. Avery, 5; J. W. Washbrook, 6; G. Holifield, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8. And five courses (1120 changes) in the same method. F. White, 1; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 2; H. Fruin, 3; W. Bennett, 4; J. Avery, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6; G. Holifield, 7; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 8.

ARELEY KINGS (Worcestershire).—On Sunday evening, October 14th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 24 mins. T. Elcox, 1; T. Griffiths, 2; T. Fowles, 3; J. Reynolds, 4; W. Martin, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6. Also on Monday evening, October 15th, 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). T. Fowles, 1; T. Elcox, 2; W. Martin, 3; J. Reynolds, 4; T. Griffiths, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6. *First 720 with a bob bell.

BEDDINGTON (Surrey).—On Sunday, October 7th, at St. Mary's church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, for morning service, 521 Grandsire Caters. J. Harding, 1; J. Branch, 2; C. Martin, 3; J. Plowman, 4; E. Bennett (conductor), 5; C. Gordon, 6; J. Trappitt, 7; G. Welling, 8; C. Bance, 9; J. Hartley, 10. For the evening service, 555 Stedman Caters. E. Bennett (conductor), 1; J. Branch, 2; G. Welling, 3; J. Plowman, 4; W. Burkin, 5; J. Trappitt, 6; J. Fayers, 7; C. Bance, 8; C. Gordon, 9; J. Harding, 10. After service 360 Kent Treble Bob Royal. C. Martin, 1; E. Bennett, 2; J. Branch, 3; J. Plowman, 4; H. Martin, 5; G. Welling, 6; C. Bance, 7; J. Fayers, 8; J. Trappitt, 9; C. Gordon, 10.

BOUGHTON (near Faversham).—On Monday, October 15th, for practice at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. G. Ransom, 1; H. Foreman, 2; E. Foreman, 3; R. Castle, 4; W. Hope, 5; F. T. Harris (conductor), 6. Messrs. Foreman hail from Herne Hill; the rest belong to the local company.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Sunday evening, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley, 6. Also on Sunday evening, October 7th, for Divine Service, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and 240 of Plain Bob Minor. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; E. Coleman (Tibenhams), 6.

CHESTER.—On Thursday evening, October 4th, in St. Michael's belfry, on handbells, retained in hand; 1008 Grandsire Triples; from Reeves's Variation. Walter Cross, 1-2; James Moulton (conductor), 3-4; Alfred Cross, 5-6; William Povey, 7-8. On Sunday evening, October 7th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. Charles Price, 1; Wm. Povey, 2; Alfred Cross, 3; Walter Cross, 4; Joseph Griffiths, 5; James Moulton (conductor), 6. On Tuesday evening, October 9th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Kent Treble Bob, and 720 Grandsire Minor. Wm. Povey, 1; Charles Price, 2; Alfred Cross, 3; Walter Cross, 4; Joseph Griffiths, 5; James Moulton (conductor), 6.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Wednesday, September 26th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). A. Arnold, 1; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 2; T. Verrall, 3; H. C. Haley, 4; H. Brooker, 5; W. States (conductor), 6; A. Bruce, 7; W. Hill, 8.

DEVONPORT (Devon).—On Saturday, October 6th, for practice at the Dockyard chapel, 238 and 504 of Grandsire Triples. T. Bampton, 1; G. Broderick, 2; E. Hendy, 3; J. Steed, 4; W. Condy, 5; W. Pine, 6; A. Richards (conductor), 7; T. Murch, 8. Also 336 in the same method, with E. Cross (conductor) at the treble, the rest as before. On Saturday, October 13th, 1092 in the same method. E. Cross, 1; G. Broderick, 2; E. Hendy, 3; W. Marsh (conductor), 4; A. Richards, 5; W. Pine, 6; J. Steed, 7; P. Manning, 8.

HATFIELD (Herts).—On Tuesday, October 2nd, for practice, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. Hollingsworth, 3; J. Richardson, 4; W. Powers, 5; H. Rowel, 6; A. Shepherd (conductor), 7; G. Smith, 8. On Tuesday, October, 11th, for practice, 1008 Grandsire Triples. J. Hollingsworth, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Richardson, 4; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 5; H. Rowe, 6; T. Gathard, 7; J. Kentish, 8. Also 252 in the same method. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. Rowe, 5; A. Shepherd (conductor), 6; T. Gathard, 7; G. Smith, 8. On Thursday, October 11th, at the church of St. Etheldreda, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 720 Grandsire Minor was rung for evening service, in 27 mins., with 7-8 as covers. J. Kentish, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; J. Richardson, 5; H. Rowe (conductor), 6; G. Smith, 7; W. Valentine, 8. After service 360 in the same method. J. Rumney, 1; J. Kentish, 2; F. Stocks, 3; the rest as before. On Sunday, October 14th, for evening service, 574 Grandsire Triples. J. Kentish, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. Channer, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; W. Powers, 5; H. Rowe, 6; A. Shepherd, 7; G. Smith, 8.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, October 14th, at St. Mary's church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 27 mins. L. Swift (first 720), 1; W. Dixon, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; A. Howell, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; G. Griffin, 6. And for evening service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 27 mins. E. King, 1; W. Dixon, 2; J. Hannington, 3; A. Howell, 4; T. Card, 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6. Also after service a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. T. Card (first 720 in the method), 1; G. B. Lucas, 2; J. Hannington,

(conductor), 3; A. Howell (first 720 in the method), 4; T. Scarlett, 5; E. Chapman, 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. G. Griffin, 1; T. Card (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; E. Chapman, 3; J. Hannington, 4; T. Scarlett (conductor), 5; G. B. Lucas, 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs), in 27 mins. W. Dixon, 1; J. Hannington, 2; T. Card, 3; A. Howell, 4; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 5; G. Griffin, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Sunday, October 7th, after evening service 504 Grandsire Triples, in 23 mins. J. Bennett, 1; G. Salter, 2; T. Salter (conductor), 3; J. Bennett, 4; H. Smith, 5; J. Leach, 6; J. Crane, 7; T. Walters, 8.

LONDON.—On Thursday, September 20th, at St. Stephen's church, Westminster, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 49 mins. A. Ellis, 1; W. J. Gohns, 2; S. J. Reed, 3; H. S. Ellis, 4; J. Willshire, 5; E. Horrex, 6; J. M. Hayes, 7; H. R. Newton, 8. *First quarter-peal; †first quarter-peal with a bob bell.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Wednesday, October 10th, at the parish church, being the Harvest Festival, the local company rang 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Adler, 1; G. Winter, 2; T. Lingard, 3; J. Clarke, 4; T. W. Chapman, 5; T. Bates, 6; H. Horwood (conductor), 7; A. Palmer, 8. This is the longest touch by the above company in this method. Also several courses of Grandsire Minor. A. Palmer, 1; T. Lingard, 2; H. Horwood, 3; G. Winter, 4; T. Bates, 5; J. Clarke, 6.

OLD WINDSOR (Berks).—On Monday, October 15th, at St. Peter's church, 240 Grandsire Doubles. —Tindell (conductor), 1; J. Bartholomew, 2; J. Poplett, 3; W. Ralph, 4; J. Gutridge, 5; G. Williams, 6. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles. J. Poplett, 1; J. Bartholomew, 2. —Gosling (conductor), 3; —Tindell, 4; J. Gutridge, 5; —Webb, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

SALISBURY.—On Sunday, September 23rd (Hospital Sunday), at St. Thomas's church, 1260 of Grandsire Triples. W. S. Wise, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; W. E. Tydeman, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; C. Gaisford, 8. And on Saturday, October 13th, at St. Martin's church, 2520 of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 28 mins. A. Grist (Bournemouth), 1; W. J. Reince, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; H. D. Adams, 8. Also on Sunday, October 14th, for Divine Service, 1260 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. A. Grist, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 5; C. A. Clements, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; W. Tryhorn, 8.

STOKE PRIOR (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, October 14th, at St. Michael's church, for Morning Service, several touches of Grandsire Doubles. O. Stanworth, 1; J. Thompson, 2; W. Lewis, 3; G. Lucas, 4; J. Mason, 5; H. Thompson, 6. And for evening service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 23 mins. G. Lucas, 1; J. Thompson, 2; G. Hayward, 3; H. Thompson, 4; J. Mason, 5; A. Moore, 6.

WHITCHURCH (Salop).—On Monday evening, October 8th, seven members of the local society assisted by C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., of Bristol, rang at the parish church 504 of Grandsire Triples. E. Langford, 1; G. Wright, 2; F. Ryder, 3; G. Woodhall (conductor), 4; J. Gibson, 5; C. E. D. Boutflower, 6; T. Barron, 7; W. Barron, 8. Also 252 of Stedman Triples. C. E. D. Boutflower, 1; J. Gibson, 2; G. Wright, 3; F. Ryder, 4; R. T. Holding, 5; G. Woodhall (conductor), 6; T. Barron, 7; W. Barron, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in Eb.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, September 30th, at St. Mary's church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. F. A. Nunn, 1; H. Nunn, jun., 2; H. Nunn, sen., 3; J. Nunn, 4; H. Scarlett, 5; A. S. Barrell (conductor), 6.

"THE WORLD OF ADVENTURE" is the title of a new serial work the first part of which is published by Messrs. Cassell and Company this month. It contains a graphic narrative of the brave and daring deeds done in the present day and in past centuries, and is illustrated with several hundred engravings from original drawings.

In view of the Bunyan Bicentenary, Messrs. Cassell and Company will issue a New and Cheaper Edition of their Illustrated "BUNYAN'S PILGRIM'S PROGRESS" and "HOLY WAR." A new life of Bunyan has been prepared for this popular edition by the Rev. John Brown, D.D., Minister of Bunyan Meeting, Bedford.

MISS FLORENCE WARDEN contributes to the New Volume of "CASSELL'S SATURDAY JOURNAL" commencing with the number published on September 26th) a New Serial Story of North Country Life, entitled "St. Cuthbert's Tower." Among other Special Features of the New Volume may be mentioned a New Serial Story of New York Life, by David Graham Adeie, and a series of "True Tales of London Streets" which will narrate interesting and exciting episodes connected with various streets and houses in the Metropolis.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Arundel Branch at Arundel.—On Monday, October 8th, 336 of Grandsire Triples. W. Trigg, 1; S. Long, 2; C. Blackburn, 3; W. Challen, 4; G. Balchin (conductor), 5; F. Luxford, 6; E. Ede, 7; C. Haylor, 8. Also 560 Grandsire Triples, in 17½ mins. G. Treagus, 1; C. Blackburn (conductor), 2; W. Challen, 3; F. Luxford, 4; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 5; E. Ede, 6; G. Balchin, 7; C. Haylor, 8; Sunday, October 7th, a 518 of Grandsire Triples in 18 mins. W. Challen, 1; T. Reilly, 2; E. Ede, 3; H. Haggate, 4; F. Luxford (conductor), 5; G. Balchin, 6; C. Blackburn, 7; O. Evershed, 8.

By the Brighton Branch at St. Peter's, Brighton.—On Sunday, October 7th, a quarter peal (1260) of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins. G. F. Attree (conductor), 1; G. Thwaites, 2; E. C. Merritt, 3; J. Jay, 4; A. A. Fuller, 5; G. A. King, 6; J. E. Worsell, 7; A. Emery (first quarter peal), 8. Also a 504 of Grandsire Triples in 18 mins. D. Ross, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; E. C. Merritt, 3; J. E. Worsell, 4; J. Jay, 5; G. Thwaites (conductor), 6; A. A. Fuller, 7; J. Batts, 8; (J. Batts hails from Mithurst.) And a 504 of Grandsire Triples in 17 mins. P. Allfrey, 1; G. A. King, 2; A. A. Fuller, 3; E. C. Merritt, 4; G. Thwaites, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Searle, 7; E. Butler, 8; On Sunday, October 14, a quarterpeal (1260) of Stedman Triples in 43 mins. J. Reilly, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; J. Jay, 3; G. Thwaites, 4; G. A. King, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; J. Mockett, 8.

By the Balcombe Branch at Balcombe.—(Being Harvest Thanksgiving the following was rang before and after the services).—On Sunday October 7th, a 600 of Oxford Single Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Bourne, 2; J. Gasson, 3; G. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Bourne, 2; H. Meads, 3; G. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Streeter, 2; J. Gasson, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Keut Treble Bob. C. Gasson, 1; R. Streeter, 2; E. Streeter, jun., 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6.

By the Crawley Branch at Crawley Church.—On Sunday, September 23rd, being Harvest Thanksgiving, for the morning service, a 714 of Grandsire Triples in 25 mins. W. Parsons, 1; F. Rice, 2; W. Wadey, 3; J. Newnham (conductor), 4; W. Collison, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; H. Burstow, 7; E. Pearce, 8. On Sunday, September 23rd, a 420 of Court Bob Triples, in 18 mins. A. Ellis, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Wadey, 3; B. King, 4; F. Rice, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; W. Collison, 8. On Sunday, September 23rd, a 840 of Grandsire Triples in 20 mins. A. Ellis, 1; J. Newnham, 2; E. Davey, 3; W. Wadey, 4; F. Rice, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; H. Burstow, 7; W. Collison, 8. On Sunday, September 23rd, a 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major. A. Ellis, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Wadey, 3; B. King, 4; W. Collison, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; H. Burstow, 7; F. Wickens (conductor), 8. On Sunday, September 23rd, for evening service, a 1260 of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins. A. Ellis, 1; J. Newnham, 2; E. Dewey, 3; F. Rice, 4; W. Wadey, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; H. Burstow, 7; W. Collison, 8. On Tuesday, October 2nd, a 1260 of Canterbury Pleasure Triples in 44 mins. E. Dewey, 1; G. Wickens, 2; F. Rice, 3; A. Ellis, 4; W. Collison, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; F. Wickens (conductor), 7; E. Pearce, 8.

By the Steyning Branch at Steyning.—On Sunday, September 23rd, a half-peal (2520 changes), being a 720 each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Single Bob and a 360 of College Single. J. Matthews, 1; T. Searle, 2; C. Tyler, 3; G. Gatland, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; G. Smart (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."

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—In the account of the opening of the bells at Swanage on September 27th, a mistake appears, a half-peal (complete) was not rung. A peal was attempted, but was unfortunately lost after ringing beyond the half-way.

THOMAS BLACKBURN.

A new church at Upper Helmsley, Yorkshire, has just been completed. It is built upon its old foundations of the tenth century, and the entire reconstruction has been defrayed by Mrs. A. M. Herbert, wife of Colonel Herbert. The new church is Norman in style, and three bells have been placed in the tower as a memento of the Queen's Jubilee, and of the re-building of the church.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

NOTICE.—The Annual Dinner of this Society, to celebrate its 251st Anniversary, will take place on Saturday, the 3rd November, 1888, at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, S.E. The chair will be taken at 7 o'clock p.m. prompt. Tickets 3s. 6d. each, can be obtained of the Dinner Committee, viz.:—Mr. Samuel E. Joyce, *Master*; Mr. James Pettit, *Treasurer*; Mr. Edgar E. Clark and Mr. Henry Springall, *Stewards*; Mr. Richard T. Woodley, *Secretary*; and Messrs. G. Mash, sen.; G. T. McLaughlin; C. F. Winny and W. Tyack. Members residing in the country when making their application for tickets, should remit the amount by "blank" postal orders. Further particulars will be announced as to the various towers to be opened on that day. The secretary has to request, that until further notice, all communications should be addressed—The Secretary, Ancient Society of College Youths, King's Head, Winchester Street, Borough Market, S.E.

RICHARD T. WOODLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

In sending the first two of the following peals I should like to add to my previous remarks, by stating that Holt's peal and the following are the only six-part peals that are to be had with two singles, and the 7th, or any one bell, always called before. In spite of there being the result of a complete investigation of a table with the 7th always called before, the second peal is almost the same as Holt's, so much so, that it contains 120 of Holt's bob leads, with this difference, all the 7-5's are in the first half, and all 5-7's in the second half, but the first peal contains sixty new bobs. I have heard on one or two occasions that Holt's peal is objectionable on account of the plain lead singles, and I regret that these peals contain the same features, but if we depart from the plan of having the second half exactly the reverse of the first, the thing can be obtained with bob part-ends, and still retain the 5, 6, 7, fixed. Not considering the plan admirable, I have not given either peal in this form, for the simple reason that no doubt there are good irregular six-part peals to be had, such peals coming under the enquiry for three-part peals, of which there are several hundred problems not been included in my investigation.

5040.		5040.	
234567	235476	234567	235476
672453 2	572364 3	672453 2	572364 3
346572 1	725364 4	256734 3	435672 1
723654 2	327456 5	472356 1	724563 2
357246 3	643527 1	254763 3	357624 1
573246 4	276354 2	372654 1	573624 4
625473 1	372465 5	673425 5	245367 2
576234 3	653247 2	546273 1	732645 1
345627 2	476325 2	675432 3	637524 5
273564 2	534276 1	326547 2	456237 1
452673 1	475362 3	753426 1	374625 2
274536 3	234675 1	537426 4	423756 3
652374 1	752463 2	375426 4	674523 1
746235 2	637245 2	643275 1	426735 3
357624 2	456723 2	376452 3	574326 1
243765 2	374256 1	243576 1	745326 4
572643 1	453762 3	372465 3	457326 4
245736 3	274653 1	653247 2	634257 1
672345 1	532467 2	726453 1	576423 2
456237 2	675243 2	427365 5	625734 3
374625 2	546732 3	534627 1	476325 1
673542 5	275346 1	275463 2	374562 5
426357 2	752346 4	752463 4	253674 1
734526 1	247563 3	347652 1	372546 3
537642 5	632754 2	523764 2	653472 1
375642 4	476532 1	475623 1	376524 3
342567	425376	423567	345276

Each part to be twice repeated, with a plain-lead single at the end of the third and sixth parts.

The next peal is upon quite a different plan to any that has yet appeared. It has no bell fixed, and yet the 2, 3, 4, do their old familiar work. Every bell is called before twenty times, and the peal has this peculiar feature, if the calling of the second

half is taken first we get Queens and Tittums for part ends. I thought at first that this plan was going to open up a wide field, but it has turned out quite the reverse; like the plan with the 7th always called before there is only one peal to be had with 120 calls, but no peal with 150 or 180, although in both cases the thing will come in six separate parts. I hope I shall not be trespassing too much in asking you to give a three-part touch on much the same lines as the famous touch by Mr. Thompson; the missing leads can be inserted at two after the first bob in the touch as given, giving to my mind a peal with more suitable part-ends. Each bell is called before twenty times, and there are fifteen less calls than in Mr. Thompson's peal.

Having exhausted a number of plans which I shall ask you to kindly allow me to explain shortly when I have completed my investigation of six-part peals, at which time I hope to touch upon several points of the utmost importance.

5040.		4998.	
234567	235476	234567	235476
532746 5	432657 5	672453 2	762435 3
465273 2	324657 4	726453 4	357246 2
734526 2	763524 1	657234 3	623457 1
657234 1	247356 2	736542 3	426735 5
736542 3	632547 1	257436 1	574326 1
537264 5	536724 5	452673 5	375642 5
645723 2	475236 1	364752 1	263475 1
450723 4	274653 5	643752 4	462537 5
374256 1	672345 5	526374 2	754362 1
273645 5	376524 5	325467 5	467523 3
562473 1	453276 1	743625 1	724635 3
465327 5	254637 5	647532 5	437256 3
364752 5	762354 1	256347 1	564723 2
763245 5	627354 4	352764 5	435476 2
527463 1	546732 2	753426 5	432657 5
425376 5	745263 5	457632 5	634725 5
634745 1	567432 3	654273 5	256473 2
256473 2	245367 1	546273 4	342756 1
342756 1	672534 2	735624 2	423756 4
423756 4	346257 2	247563 2	

Each part twice repeated, and a bob-single at the end of 3rd and 6th parts.

Farnham Royal.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association was held at Baldock on Saturday, October 13th, when there were present: Mr. Leonard Proctor, President; Mr. E. P. Debenham, Hon. Secretary; Messrs. H. Baker (Hertford), G. W. Cartmel, J. C. Mitchell, H. Brewer, and J. W. Brewer (St. Albans), S. Page, John Kitchener, Joseph Kitchener, C. Sharnbrook, W. Smith, N. Warner, and J. Warner (Bennington), W. Allen, A. Squires, and F. Furt (Hitchin), Robert Jackson, G. Spicer, J. Cawdell, T. Webb, W. Bidwell, and J. Smith (Baldock), and H. Rowe and J. Hollingsworth (Hatfield). During the afternoon and evening, touches of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, and Stedman and Grandsire Triples, were rung on the church bells, and Stedman Triples, Grandsire Caters, and Grandsire Triples, on handbells. At 5 o'clock the members sat down to an excellent tea at the "George and Dragon" Hotel, after which a business meeting was held under the chairmanship of Mr. Proctor. The provisional elections of Messrs. T. Waller, A. Hull, E. Hull, and R. M. Pratt, of St. Albans, and Mr. G. Cornell, of Wanstead, as members, were confirmed, and Mr J. Hollingsworth was elected a new member. The fresh set of rules prepared by the Officers was read over and discussed, and was adopted by the members. On the proposition of Mr. Baker, seconded by Mr. Allen, the next District Meeting was arranged to be at Hertford in the month of February. Votes of thanks to the President and Secretary for their services closed the business. The thanks of the members are due to the Rector, the Rev. W. J. Skilton, for granting the use of the tower, and also to Mr. Jackson for seeing that everything was in readiness.

Twice repeated. For 5040 these leads 635427, 746235, 527346 to be inserted at two after the first bob; with a plain lead single and bob-single. J. J. PARKER.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Many hands make light work."

There was, in sooth, no lack of interesting reading in last Saturday's paper. As I expected, we were favored by "your own correspondent" with a good account of the Yorkshire Association's meeting at York, and having been present, can testify as to the correctness of its details. I am glad to learn that it is intended to publish the Dean's sermon, for large as the congregation was, it deserved an even greater publicity than the walls of the Minster afforded.

* * * * *

It is to be hoped that the aspirations of the generous donor of the new bells at Swanage will be abundantly realised. This ex-sheriff of London must be a real good Englishman, and I like the tone of his remarks immensely. "He hoped the ringers would take up change-ringing in earnest and stick to it. The bells were of no advantage if not properly used, and if they were not used he would wish they had not been put there." This advice he followed up in a practical manner by the promise of a gift of a set of handbells. The Swanage men will be ungrateful indeed if they do not bestir themselves, and endeavour to fulfil the desire of their generous friend Mr. Burt. I have every confidence that they will do so, at the same time not forgetting his genial remark—"Let's have happy faces; the more we have of that the longer we shall live, and the happier we shall be." Here is good sound wisdom in a nutshell for you. Let us all act upon it.

* * * * *

I am truly pleased to read the account of the induction of another "tower-going parson" at Old Hill. While congratulating Mr. Bassano and his companions on their happy acquisition in the person of their new Vicar, I hope I shall not be deemed presumptuous, or "taking too much on myself," if I venture to advise them in the strongest manner possible to reciprocate their good parson's intentions in every way. Let them shew their Vicar that their work as ringers does not begin and end in the belfry, but that they are in very deed a body of Church workers and Church defenders; and that in his manifold duties as Vicar of the parish he will find in them a backbone of assistance. Thus while he is by his influence helping on the work of ringing, our brethren will, on the other hand, be shewing him that his ringers are in reality valuable church officials, and in the midst of it all, the Church will be the gainer thereby.

* * * * *

I cannot help condoling with our Essex friends on their "hard lines" with reference to the peal on the opening of the bells at Brentwood. But cases of sickness and death must always be treated with consideration, and no doubt under favourable circumstances the peal will be "pulled off" at no distant date, with additional credit to the performers.

* * * * *

It is with much pleasure that I accept the disclaimer of our esteemed friend, the Rev. T. L. Papillon, with reference to my note regarding the state of ringing matters at Chelmsford, and am glad to know that there is a redeeming feature present in that band in the existence of a minority "dissatisfied with and ashamed of the present condition of things." The vicar of Writtle says he would be glad of any suggestion how to overcome the difficulty. Of course he, knowing all the circumstances of the case better than your humble servant, a stranger to the locality, can possibly do, should be best able to judge. But if

there is only a minority desirous of a better state of things, I cannot understand this confession of complete failure. I may be deemed over-sanguine, but the fact is, I never lose heart if there are but two or three in a company desirous of learning and improving themselves in the science. Why not take the willing one by the hand, or in other words (if I might use them without profanity), separate the sheep from the goats, help them on to better things, and by that way, if you cannot persuade the others to pull themselves out of the gutter, endeavour to shame them either out of it, or out of the places in the tower which they at present usurp? Thus this thing, like water, will assuredly level itself, and the best will ultimately be found at the top. Patience and perseverance are capable of accomplishing many things, and surely the good church-people of Chelmsford are not so dead to all musical feelings that they will go on for an indefinite period supporting such a state of affairs as is now existing if there is a sign of better things to take the place of it. If there is a portion of that band desirous of improving themselves and the art in their district, what is there to prevent them following the example of their Loughton brethren, who we are told have "made good progress and persevered under difficulties which might well have discouraged them." This devoted band appear to have had not only passive but active opposition to face, and if they can overcome that, why not the sensible few at Chelmsford? In my own ringing career, I have experienced both forms of opposition, but have almost invariably found that by steadily but surely plodding along these obstacles have one by one faded away. At the same time, I by no means shut my eyes to the fact that if these difficulties are to be surmounted, that can only be done by means of constant and hard work. If the minority at Chelmsford will make no efforts of themselves then I can quite understand Mr. Papillon's failure. Otherwise I cannot. Therefore, with all deference to Mr. Papillon and the Essex Association, I do think that by combined effort on the part of this minority and the County Association, this deplorable state of things might be altered. What may be impossible for one section to accomplish alone, might be comparatively easy work with both combined. "The bells are up; try again."

* * * * *

Reports of Birthday Peals are always pleasant reading, even if they do in such a forcible manner remind one of the rapid flight of time. But when a birthday is so celebrated with a peal composed by the person in whose honour it is rung, the event is more than ordinarily gratifying. Such is the case with the peal of Caters rung at Fulham, the respected vicar of All Saints' being the individual so honoured. May the good wishes of the ringers be amply realized, and they be long favoured to have amongst them a vicar who has proved himself such a genial brother-string.

* * * * *

My brother College Youths, I am glad to see, keep "pegging away" with their peals on hand-bells. This time it is one of Bob Major, a favourite method with me. Perhaps it is thus a favourite because it was the first I learnt. I only wish I could have been present at St. Albans to have heard it, but being many miles away in the north on that day, of course I was "otherwise engaged." I am glad to compliment my brother Ancients on its accomplishment, all the same. FREE LANCE.

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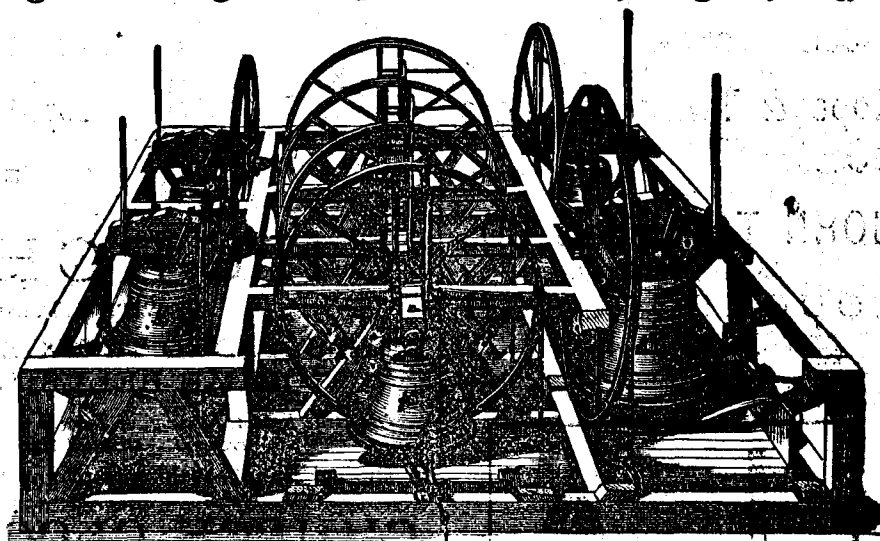
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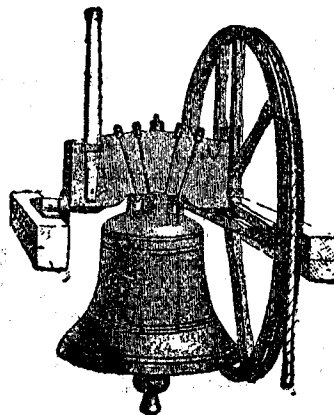
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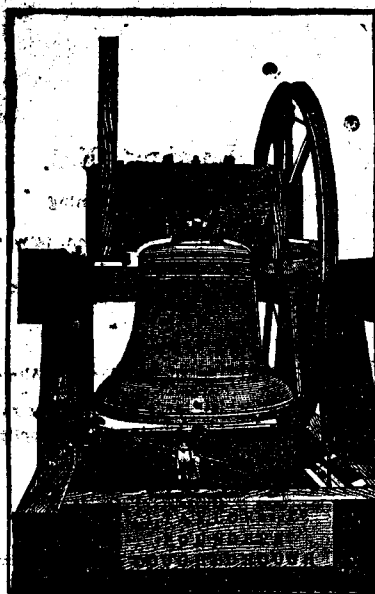
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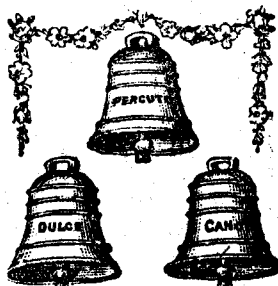
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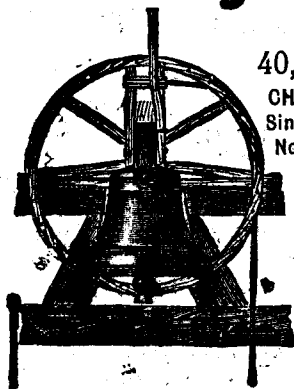
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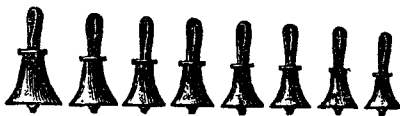
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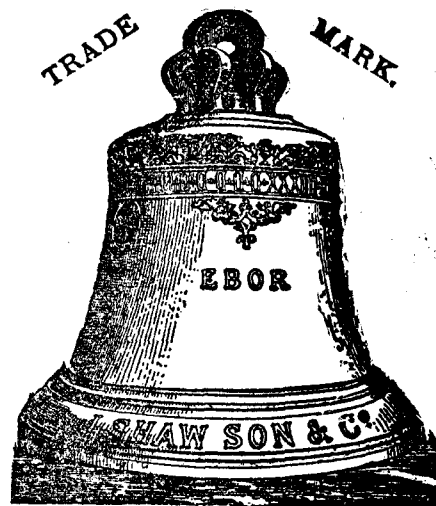
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ST. CROSS CHURCH AND BELLS.

The successful restoration of the tower of St. Cross Church, near Bungay, Suffolk, has just been completed in memory of the late Canon Smith, the former rector, and re-opening services held, when the Archdeacon of Suffolk, Dr. Woolley, was the preacher.

The tower dates from the early part of the 15th century, and is a plain, but excellent, specimen of a Suffolk tower of the time. A moulded arch, with carved capitals, into the nave, has been opened up by the restoration, a modern ringing floor originally cutting it in two and blocking the western window. The tower is 16-ft. 6-in. square, attains an altitude of 58-ft., and is placed centrally with the nave at the west end.

The restoration work includes a general repair of the walls and parapet and renewal of the stonework to the belfry windows, a large portion of which was missing, a new roof in oak covered with lead, the old timber of which was so far decayed as to be beyond repair. New oak louvres are inserted in the belfry windows, and the peal of five bells, which were in a dilapidated state, and quite unfit for ringing, has been thoroughly restored with new oak girders 12-in. by 12-in., and entire new frame of the best English oak. The bells are quarter-turned and hung on the latest improvements for change-ringing, the go of the bells being all that could be desired. Ringing before service consisted of six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, ringers stationed as follows: A. Bowell (Ipswich), 1; S. Bird (All Saints), 2; H. Bowell (Ipswich, conductor), 3; W. Aldous (St. Cross), 4; Captain Moore (Redenhall), 5. Tenor 12 cwt. in G. sharp. After service six 6-scores of Old Doubles was also rang with the Rev. — Hopper, of Starston after which all were entertained to tea at the rectory.

The new reredos and altar table are the gift of Mrs. John Mackie, of Tiggleston, Wakefield, sister of the late rector, Canon Smith. It is constructed in the best English oak, and rests upon a polished Devonshire marble slab, with sub-base in yellow magnesian limestone, and occupies the space between the jambs of the east window. Four of the seven spaces into which it is divided are occupied by figures of the four evangelists, set in niches, with carved and crocketed canopies, and resting on pedals emblematically carved. Flanking the figures on either side are buttresses, with moulded set-offs and crocketed finials, terminated at the level of the bottom of the cornice. Of the three remaining compartments, the centre has a canopy with canted sides finished as four centred arches, with pinnacles between, and crocketed with carved spandrils and tracery in two orders. The two others have centred heads richly traceried, crocketed, and finished at the apices by an angel, with partly extended wings, playing a musical instrument. The space between the buttresses and above the canopied niches is enriched with diaper work. The cornice is deep, richly moulded, and in three stages—the lower stage is carved with angels with elevated wings, playing instruments of music, the next stage is carved with the vine leaf, emblematical of our Saviour, and the third stage has a cresting of strawberry leaf of uncommon design, with paterae cut out of a deep hollow below. The style is 14th century. The communion table has open tracery work to the front, and generally harmonises in detail with the reredos.

About £2000 has now been spent on the church, a large portion of which has been contributed by the late Canon Smith and his relatives, and the whole of the work has been executed from the designs of Mr. Bisshopp and under that gentleman's supervision.

The present rector, the Rev. W. Morley Smith, is a nephew of the late Canon Smith, and he has devoted himself with the utmost energy to carrying out the reredos and the restoration of the tower. Both of these matters had the approval of the late Canon Smith; indeed plans and designs were drawn up for them before his death.

WHITCHURCH, OXON.

Through the kindness and consideration of the Rector, the Rev. Canon Slatter, great improvements have been made in this steeple during the last month. The ropes of the treble, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th till lately hung down in a perfect line in the centre of the ringing-chamber, and in a very awkward position with regard to the case of the clock, the ringer of the 3rd bell having to stand with his back to the tenor, thus making Minor ringing rather unpleasant. A large and heavy stage for the purpose of winding the clock has been removed, and made adjustable in a simple manner, the ropes of 2, 3, and 4 are brought down on the opposite side of the wheels, close to the north side of the chamber (which was impossible whilst the stage remained in its old position), this now gives as nearly a circle as possible, and each man has a good sight of the ropes. The general go of the bells have been much improved, wheels, bearings, and framework all tightened up and repaired, the panel-work of the ringing chamber picked out in two colours, the whole looking bright and comfortable. The work has been carried out by Mr. Lawrence, builder, of the village, and one of the ringers.

On Tuesday evening, several short touches of Grandsire Minor were rung, so that the members of the local company might make a trial of the ropes in their new position. They stood thus: J. Nicholls, 1; Wm. Pocock, 2; Wm. Lawrence (conductor), 3; C. Pocock, 4; A. C. West, 5; E. Bushnell, 6.

This ring of six are just a semitone higher than those of Pangbourne, across the river Thames, the Pangbourne peal being by far the finest tone. With the exception of the treble, there is not a maiden bell in the peal, whereas their Berkshire neighbours are clear castings from the foundry of Abraham Rudhall. The inscriptions on the Whitchurch bells are as follows:—

Treble.—John Warner, Founder, London.

2nd.—I AS SECOND WILL RING.

3rd.—I AS THIRD WILL RING.

4th.—I AS FORTH WILL SOUND.

5th.—As Tenor hum them round. L. W, T. F. 1658. This bell recast, A.D. 1858. Rev. Edward Moore, M.A., Rector. G. Mears. Founder, London.

6th.—Mears & Stainbank, Founders, London. LAUS DEO. D.D. E. J. BLYTH, 1878.

There are also inscriptions on the Pangbourne bells, but they have no particular interest.

The square brick tower of Pangbourne is all that now remains of the old building, the church being rebuilt about twenty years ago. In the south and western walls of the tower are several curiously-cut initials and dates in the long bricks near the angle. Near the organ, in a peculiar massive canopy, are a couple of well-carved stone figures of man and wife, somewhat similar to the celebrated effigies of Knights, at Aldworth, Berks. Some time ago this monument was in a very dilapidated state, but has been carefully restored by Mr. B. Warner, stonemason, of Pangbourne. The inscription on the monument is as follows:—Vnder part of this monu^t lieth ye bodie of Sr. Iohn Davis K^t. who was received ye hon^r. of Knighthood and Bannerett at ye taking of Cales in SPain in ye reigne of Q.Æliz. He died May ye 14 1625 in ye 63 yeare of his age.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 13th, an ordinary meeting of the above Association was held at Market Deeping. Ringing commenced at 9 o'clock a.m., and was kept up with great spirit until 9 p.m. During the day touches in five and six-bell methods was rang. At 1 p.m. dinner was served at the "George" Inn, presided over by G. Shillaker, Esq., who became an honorary member. After dinner the business of the Association was transacted, when several new members were elected, and Peterborough was selected as the next place of meeting. About thirty members rang during the day, and congratulated the Society on so successful a meeting, also the Deeping company for having the belfry in such good order. The Sunday before being Harvest Festival the belfry was decorated with a miniature stack of corn, and corn and fruit hung around the walls.

CHURCH CONGRESS NOTES.

The following Notes on the Church Congress, from a correspondent of the *Guardian*, will be read with interest:—

All seem to agree in thinking the Manchester Church Congress to have been a more than usually interesting one, and in many ways more successful than any preceding Congress. It began auspiciously. Not for hundreds of years, it is said, has there been such a procession through the streets of clergy, including forty bishops. The crowds lining the route were evidently greatly interested, and were eager to know where they all came from. The number of Bishops from foreign parts was a striking witness that the Anglican communion was no mere insular Church. If the twenty-eight Congress banners had been carried in the procession it would have been a still more imposing sight. It was to be regretted that college caps were not *de rigueur*; soft wide-a-wakes and surplices looked somewhat incongruous. The omission of any welcome from the Nonconformists has been commented upon. To my mind it is a distinct gain. There is something unreal about the part of a Congress, and the Congress of 1888 has been very real.

It has been truly said that nothing succeeds like success, and undoubtedly the enormous number of tickets disposed of (4,500 full members, 300 day tickets, 400 evening tickets, and 22,000 given to working men) increased the interest of outsiders. The natural perversity of human nature makes us often desire more to attend a meeting for which it is very difficult to obtain a ticket, or even with a ticket to obtain admission except at a very early hour. This was the case with many young men in business, little given as a rule, to attending meetings of any kind. Indeed, the numbers have made a profound impression on the whole neighbourhood and increased the respect of many outsiders for the church.

Those who have never been mixed up with the preparation for a Congress will hardly be able to realise the endless trouble and fatigue it involves. The committees and secretaries, but especially the latter, deserve the hearty thanks of the thousand who reaped the benefit of their unwearying labours during many months. No trouble was spared, from the choice of speakers and subjects down to the smallest detail, for the comfort of the strangers. To give an instance, every lodging on all sides of the town was carefully visited before it was put down on the list "recommended by the committee."

The Bishop (a very exceptionally able president), with keen foresight, appointed some of the busiest men of the diocese as secretaries, knowing that the work was more likely to be systematic than if the clergy with most leisure had been chosen. It is said that the Manchester Subjects Committee met and settled matters much earlier than is usually the case. Nevertheless, they might with advantage have met earlier still. It is quite true they had a greater number of interesting speakers than usual, but there was a good sprinkling of very dull ones. This is easily to be accounted for by the difficulty of filling up places as good speakers refuse. It is a well-known fact in these days that capable men are often engaged (even to preach a single sermon) at least a year beforehand, and why should any but picked men address such a huge assembly of Churchpeople? Far better reduce the number of speakers and increase the time for open discussion than invite a dull man because there is no one better to be had. Nor do people as a rule care in the least to hear papers read when the writers are unable to be present. Most of us would prefer to read them in the newspapers, in order that the meeting may be shorter or that there may be more time for open debate. I should like to suggest that the Cardiff committee be formed immediately, before the enthusiasm about the Manchester Congress has subsided, and that thoroughly capable men be invited at once. It would be easy enough to apportion their subjects later.

It is not rather a mistake to ask a man to speak on any subject upon which he has already addressed former Congresses? Canon Body is a great favourite, and can always secure a good audience, but I heard many express their disappointment at the subject of his address, for "they had so often heard what he had to say on 'Women's Work'." Nor do the speakers seem unaffected by it. "Sisterhoods" was very inadequately dealt with, and certainly it was not that the

Manchester people did not want information on the subject, or that the general public had lost their interest in it. The papers on women's work at the second Congress held at Oxford were infinitely superior to those lately read at Manchester. As far as I know, Mr. Cleaver (of St. Peter's Sisterhood, Kilburn), Mr. Russell (formerly chaplain to the Sisters of Bethany), both excellent speakers, have never read a paper on this subject. An address from either of them, or others with a similar experience, would come with greater freshness, from the fact that the Congress has not yet heard what they have to say on this particular subject, and those who know nothing of the work of Sisterhoods will learn more from one who will not have the drawback of feeling he is repeating himself. We cannot in the nature of things have constantly fresh subjects, but it is always interesting to hear the views of different men upon the old ones. For the same reason it is to be regretted that Mr. Hoare is invariably asked to speak at the devotional meeting—yet this is the general rule of a Church Congress. Still the Manchester Committee were wonderfully fortunate, on the whole, in securing men and subjects new to the Congress. Another point to be considered is the tendency with many people who have often spoken on the same subjects to think careful preparation unnecessary; yet this is essential in religious questions, if the highest good is to be gained.

One plan I noticed for the first time at Manchester, which other Congresses would do well to note, was the appointment of gentlemen as stewards, who at each meeting helped to find people seats. Many inconsiderate people caused the greatest annoyance to those at the back of the hall by coming in or going out during the middle of an address, instead of waiting until it was time for the next speaker. Indeed, many remarks were made as to the lack of courtesy on the part of some of the clergy, and more than one was heard to say that there would not be found in any assembly of laymen so many men who ignored those unwritten laws of society which require some slight acknowledgement as they pass a lady, or a brother clergyman offers them a seat. It is too much to expect them to give up a seat to a woman which they have earned by an hour's patient waiting, but the unselfishness of the laymen, who it was noticed frequently did so, was all the more appreciated. Of course, there are numerous exceptions on the part of the clergy, but frequent criticisms of this sort were made by all ranks, and they must have some foundation. Nor are questions of precedence enough considered. Men are to be seen on the platform at every Congress who have no right to be there when clergymen of higher position and longer service have to scramble for a seat. These little matters cannot be disregarded without rubbing people up the wrong way unnecessarily, whether it be at a Church Congress, a procession in Church, or some social meeting.

The interest of the working men has been very great throughout, and I hear that the Congress has formed the constant topic of conversation in train and tram. One working man was heard to say "there would be no difficulty in getting men to church if the clergy would advertise interesting subjects like the Congress did, or put them on a blackboard outside the church;" and others said they thought it would be a good plan if the clergy were asked to choose working men who could speak, and send in their names as willing to take part in the discussion, many being too shy to do so without a little persuasion. Already some of them talk of fixing their annual holiday during Congress week, so much has their interest been excited. The Free-trade Hall, holding 5,000—crowded every evening except on Thursday, when it was to be regretted Gambling and Betting or Temperance was not the subject and Co-operation and Competition in a smaller hall—was a never-to-be-forgotten sight: the enthusiasm of the audience in welcoming any one they appreciated must have inspired that speaker to do his best. The singing of well-known hymns by thousands of men, and the saying of the Lord's Prayer, seemed to have impressed the working people very much, many of whom rarely go outside their own village.

It was easy enough to find out which of the speakers they liked, although no one received quite the same ovation as Mr. Balfour, the audience rising to their feet and waving their handkerchiefs in the wildest enthusiasm. This, however, was partly, though not wholly, as a recognition of the

work he has done in the country. The Bishop of Ripon's was the best address to working men, and not only eloquent, but full of deep and sustained thought—a proof that working men can be thoroughly interested though tales and jokes be conspicuous by their absence. No one will deny that a speaker with a keen sense of humour is most useful at a Congress, all I maintain is that no speech should be without some serious point worth remembering. One that is all froth may be very witty and heartily cheered, but a grand opportunity is wasted. Friday's meeting was also a most enthusiastic one; the audience being dead against the opening of libraries or museums, therefore, Mr. Lebas's clear and concise statement of the question from his point of view did not obtain the applause it must have received from an audience who sympathised with his views. The Cardiff committee, in arranging for the working men's meetings, will do well not to issue more tickets than the Congress Hall will hold, and give strict instructions they are not intended for the clergy. Complaints have been made in Manchester that any should have been given except to working men, but as they were not to be bought except with a Congress ticket, surely it was wise to give some to clerks and others, who rarely, if ever, attend a meeting of the kind—a class we should make just as great an effort to get hold.

I think it is very common for Congress hospitality to benefit entertainers and entertained intellectually or spiritually. Anyhow, an interest is often created in the meetings with the most unlikely people. For this reason—and also because many clergy and Church workers would otherwise be unable to go—it would be a pity to see any considerable check placed upon Churchpeople sending in their names for Congress hospitality. It cannot, however, be too distinctly laid down that no one but readers and speakers have a right to expect hospitality. This indeed is a little too much, and yet I hear the secretaries have had the most indignant complaints that hospitality has not been promptly found for the additional thousands who flocked to Manchester. Nor is this all. At some Congresses people are not satisfied "with the situation of the house" where they are to be entertained by strangers free of expense, and at Wolverhampton some one was aggrieved that he was to go to a Dissenter. I would suggest to the Cardiff Committee that they ask for references in every case, which need not necessarily be always referred to; also it would simplify matters if it were understood that it would be no breach of etiquette to invite any clergyman to the Congress even though unknown personally to the would-be host. It should be a point of honour for no one to apply for hospitality merely as an opportunity to get a cheap holiday. They should, at least, be thoroughly interested in Church questions, and attend most of the meetings. In some cases, I know country clergy who have little intercourse with their fellows find the Congress refreshes them mentally for the whole year, and the good of it is extended far and wide, for they give a *resume* of the papers to their parishioners.

The meeting on Thursday morning, on "The Adaptation of the Prayer-book to Modern Needs," was in the Congress-hall, and crowded to excess. There must have been about 5,000 present. It was most refreshing to see the enthusiasm so unmistakably manifested by this magnificent audience for the maintenance of the old Creeds. It was a gauge of public opinion, for those who wish to tamper with the Prayer-book could have no doubt that English Churchpeople as represented at the Congress would have nothing of the kind, but wished it preserved intact; although the speakers who suggested elasticity in its use were enthusiastically applauded. Archdeacon Norris's paper on the Catechism was excellent, and the Rev. F. Slater carried the audience with him when he said the best way of adapting the Prayer-book to modern needs was to use it *loyally*, and pleaded for daily service as an act of obedience and intercession; also that the people might know the clergy were often on their knees. Mr. Foxley, who thought even the Apostles' Creed might be revised, so exasperated the audience, that he could not obtain a hearing at last, and had to sit down.

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THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Beddington, by the kind permission of the Rector, on Monday, October 15th. Ringers began to assemble soon after four, and were met by the Rector, the Rev. Canon Bridges, who accompanied them to the ringing-chamber. Among those present at this time were Squire Procter, the Rev. E. W. Carpenter, vicar of Bobbing, and Mr. Rees, of Guildford, who were very soon joined by ringers from all parts of the county. Tea was served at the "Plough" Inn at 6.30 p.m., and forty-seven members sat down and made a good meal. The Rector had most kindly sent a liberal supply of grapes and peaches from his hot-houses, which not only beautified the tables, but also subsequently gratified the palates of those present.

At the business meeting which followed, eight new members were elected, including Squire Procter, of Benington. The Rev. E. D. L. Harvey gave notice of his intention to propose an alteration of the existing Rule III. at the next Quarterly Meeting. The next District Meeting was arranged to be held at Newington, and the next Quarterly Meeting at Kingston-on-Thames.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The Second Quarterly Meeting of the year was held in St. Mary's Schools, Nottingham, on Saturday, October 13th, immediately after tea. Thirty members of the Association were present, and the President took the chair. The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed and signed, the President, in referring to the performances of the Association, stated that sixteen peals had been rung during the quarter, and congratulated the Loughborough branch on their success and the great support given by them to the Association. Leicester was fixed upon for the next quarterly meeting, and January 19th, 1889, was the date suggested for it to take place. A hearty vote of thanks was given to the clergy and churchwardens for the use of the bells that day, which brought the meeting to a close.

Correspondence.

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

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

AN APPEAL.

SIR,—I shall be glad if you will allow me, through the medium of your paper, to bring to the notice of all brother-ringers the case of Mr. William Doran, of West Ham, a well-known ringer in London and the surrounding district, who has not been able to do scarce anything this year, and being still unable to work, and as the bad weather is approaching, his medical man does not think there is much chance of his recovery this winter. He has a wife and family to support, and we are sure that those who know him will afford to him their sympathy under the circumstances. I can assure our benevolent readers that their kind assistance will not be thrown away in the case of William Doran. He is a member of the Royal Cumberland Youths, and the St. James Societies, also of the Essex Association, and has figured in various performances on eight, ten, and twelve bells. Should any of our friends feel disposed to assist him, it will be gratefully acknowledged in "THE BELL NEWS." Mr. Doran's address is 9, Major Road, Stratford New Town, Essex. I shall also be glad to acknowledge any sums sent to me.

24, St. Mary's Road, Plaistow.

HARRY RANDALL.

TO be Sold. A set of Handbells. In good repair, 3 octaves in chromatic scale 37 in number. C. 22 size largest bell. No reasonable offer refused. Apply R. Binns, 20, Mint, Low Moor Side, Holbeck, Leeds.

HOLY TRINITY, OLD HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, October 20th, the ringers of this church chartered a brake and drove to Hagley (Worcestershire), to try the ring of eight in the church of St. John the Baptist, which is prettily situated in the grounds of Hagley Hall, the residence of Lord Lytton. On the way they passed the vicar, the Rev. W. C. Gibbs, who gave instructions about the key, light, and cordially wished them success. In raising the bells it was noticed that the three top bells are nearly inaudible through being on a higher flat. It had been agreed upon to attempt the first Peal of Treble Bob here,—and with tolerable audacity, as the longest touch hitherto had been 864,—for the home peal were considered too heavy, and accordingly after two false starts (before the band had become accustomed to the trebles), a peal of Mr. Hattersley's was commenced and ran smoothly, with few exceptions, till the last course, when the conductor called the bob W. late, through not hearing the Treble, and the peal was lost after ringing 3 hours and 7 minutes. Yes, my friend, I know you would not have let it go at the eleventh hour—and—fifty—minutes like that, but please consider the newness of band and conductor to it, and the proportionate nervousness and excitement, and excuse their not "working it" round. The ringers stood as follows:—J. Palmer, 1; H. Mason, 2; R. Bird, 3; W. Bird, 4; C. W. Bassano, 5; A. E. Parsons, 6; W. Green, 7; A. H. Bassano, (conductor) 8. After lowering the bells the unsuccessful team managed to enjoy the brilliant moonlight drive, and reached home after midnight with the fixed determination to attempt the same peal on the following Monday. At nineteen minutes before 7 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 22, the bells of Holy Trinity, Old Hill, went off into changes; the band standing as in the peal columns this week, and at ten o'clock that most welcome of course ends, in which the numbers are consecutive, the treble being first and tenor last, came up. The striking was very satisfactory, considering that the tenor is about 24 cwt, and her ringer only "eleven stone odd," and much credit is due to the rest of the band for the cool way in which they helped each other at anxious moments, for, as we well know, the conductor does not know much about coursing orders, and had his hands full enough with the large bell. The rejoicing, as you may suppose, was considerable in spite of the "worn-outness" at the finish, and proposals for a peal supper were carried *nem. con.*, since it had not been thought possible for so light a team to pull through 5000 Treble Bob on the Old Hill metal. The peal was the first in the method by all, and also on these bells.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association was held at Aldington, on Monday, October 22nd, and was attended by members from Ashford, Boughton-under-Blean, Brabourne, Elmstead, Hernhill, Horsmonden and Mersham. Mr. E. Hyder, captain of the Aldington band, received the visitors at the church, and they were also provided with refreshments by the hospitality of the Rector, the Rev. G. J. Blomfield. An enjoyable day was spent, Mersham being visited in the afternoon, where the Rector entertained the ringers at tea. A committee meeting was held at Aldington, and the two next meetings were fixed to be held at Swanscombe and Elham. Canterbury was voted the best place for the annual general meeting next year, but this is subject to a further expression of opinion on the part of the bands not represented at Aldington. This the Secretary will be glad to receive, and if necessary he will call a committee meeting early in next year to decide the point.

England is pre-eminently the land of bells. For centuries past they have been a power and an attraction, and probably at no period in our history have so many peals been set up as during the last two years. There are in this county of Lancaster alone upwards of 120 peals. This week the parish church of St. Peter, Woolton, has added another peal to the long list, the tenor weighing one ton. The new clock and Cambridge chimes were started recently, and the bells rang out their first peal. The fine elevation of the church tower increases the charm and importance of the bells, as their fine musical sounds sweep across the wooded country for miles round.—*Liverpool Courier.*

HARDWYCKE, NORTHANTS.

The single bell hanging in the tower of the Church of St. Leonard in this little village is of considerable interest from an antiquarian point of view. Mr. North, in "Church Bells of Northamptonshire," classes it amongst the few remaining "ancient" bells of the county. It is inscribed, "Sum Rosa Pulsata Mundi Katerina Vocata," in well formed "black letter," relieved by the trade mark or sign of the maker, William Underhill. Like most very old bells it is not dated, but the character of the lettering and inscription clearly show that it was cast previous to the Reformation. Its diameter is 36 in., weight about 8 cwt. Until the year 1795 there were two bells. At that time one was sold to raise funds to take down the South aisle of the church, since rebuilt. The bell-frame and fittings are all sadly decayed; in fact the bell cannot be rung in a legitimate way, but is simply tolled by means of a rope tied to the clapper. This is a dangerous practice, likely to crack it, and not at all calculated to bring out the full and very musical tone of this valuable old bell. One would like to see it fitted with new wheel, &c., and "raised" and rung in regular ringers' fashion.

On the West wall of the tower is a tablet relating to the gift of a clock. It reads as follows: "To the glory of God. The Clock in this Church was presented by Ellen Sharman, in loving Memory of her beloved Father and Mother, William Binpoun and Frances Sharman, who await their glorious resurrection when time shall be no more. February 3rd, 1887."

PEEL, ISLE OF MAN.

A very large clock and set of carillon machinery has just been erected at the new church here by John Smith and Sons, of the Midland Clock Works, Derby. The Cambridge quarters are chimed upon four bells, the hours struck upon the largest bell, and the carillon machine plays seven tunes upon eight bells, one tune for each day of the week. The clock is of the very finest construction in every way, and has been carried out by the makers to the designs of Lord Grimthorpe. It has a double three-legged gravity escapement and compensated pendulum. All the wheels are of gun metal, with new teeth cut from the solid. Special apparatus is provided to keep the clock going while the weights are wound up. The weights are carried by steel wire ropes. The clock and chimes will doubtless be a great boon to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, for it is the most complete clock and chimes in the Isle of Man.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting will be held at Newcastle on Monday, October 29th. The bells of All Saints', St. John's and St. Stephen's, will be at the disposal of the ringers during the day. Divine Service will be held in St. John's church at two o'clock, which all members present at the meeting are respectfully requested to attend. Preacher—Rev. A. S. Wardroper, Vicar of All Saints. At three o'clock dinner will be provided at the "Crown and Mitre," Grey Street. After dinner the Annual Meeting will be held for the election of officers and other business. Dinner tickets 1s. to members, 2s. 6d. to non-members. The Committee will meet at St. John's vestry at 12.45 p.m.

G. J. CLARKSON, *Hon. Sec.*

NOTE.—By operation of Rule VII. all names will be struck off the list of members in every case where the subscription has been due for two years.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION—ROCHDALE BRANCH.

A Meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Thomas's church, Moorside, near Oldham, on Saturday, October 27th. Meeting in the Schoolroom at 4.30. Ringers residing in the Oldham district are earnestly requested to attend. All ringers will be made welcome.

F. BIRTWISTLE, *Hon. Sec.*

42, Tweedale Street, Rochdale.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—William Pollard and Co. Printers, Exeter.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

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

6048.

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

This peal contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th their full extent in 5-6. If bobs at home are omitted in the 5th, 6th, 7th, 17th, 18th, and 19th courses, the peal will be reduced to 5152 changes, containing the 4th and 6th their full extent in 5-6.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield*.

5120.

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

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By W. F. HARTSHORNE, *Brierley Hill*.

6720.

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

Five times repeated. Single for bob at end of 3rd and 6th parts.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By GEORGE HAYWARD, *Bromsgrove*.

6030.

2 3 4 5 6

5 3 6 2 4 9 in 2 and 8 9

6 5 3 2 4 7 in and out at 3
 2 5 3 6 4 single first lead
 3 2 5 6 4 9 in 3
 5 3 2 6 4 9 in 3
 3 6 2 5 4 8 in 3
 2 3 6 5 4 9 in 3
 4 5 3 2 6 8 in 2
 3 4 5 2 6 9 in 3
 5 3 4 2 6 9 in 3
 4 2 3 5 6 8 in 3 s

The last ten courses five times repeated; 8 in 2 instead of 7 in and out at 3, bob for a single third and sixth part-ends produces 23456978. Round by calling the 7th and 2nd in the hunt. This peal contains the 5th, and 6th each eighteen courses behind the 9th, and the 6th its extent at home. By omitting the last part the course-end 32456978 is brought up. By calling the 9th, 7th, 8th, 4th and 2nd into the hunt you have a peal of 5040. The 5040 was rung for the first time at Bromsgrove, on October 6th, conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By G. HUGHES, *Tipton*.

5376.

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

Five times repeated. Single at the end of the third and 6th parts. This peal contains the fifth twelve times wrong, and the sixth eighteen times wrong and right.

A DATE TOUCH OF BOB MAJOR.

By W. F. HARTSHORNE, *Brierley Hill*.

1888.

2 3 4 5 6 W B M H

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

Repeated.

Mr. J. McKell, of Gargrave, Yorks., writes:—"Will you kindly allow me through your columns to ask if any reader can oblige me with a copy of *Church Bells* which contains the portrait of Mr. C. A. W. Troyte, with extracts of a paper on 'Bells and Bell-ringing' read by him at the Exeter Church Congress some years ago. Or the date of issue of the above would oblige."

A 720 OF GRANDSIRE MINOR.

By RICHARD POTTER, *Retford*.

720.

2 3 4 5 6

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

Repeated.

This 720 contains thirty bobs and thirty singles. By omitting the singles where marked * a 720 with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles is obtained.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool*.

5001.

2 3 4 5 6

4 1 2 3 6 5*
 4 1 5 2 6 3 16
 5 1 4 3 6 2 5 16
 5 1 2 4 6 3 16
 2 1 5 3 6 4 5 16
 2 1 4 5 6 3 16
 2 1 3 4 6 5 16
 3 1 2 5 6 4 5 16
 3 1 4 2 6 5 16
 3 1 5 4 6 2 16
 5 1 3 2 6 4 5 16

These eleven courses three times repeated, except first course call 4, 16, which brings up the following part-ends:—

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

2 1 5 4 3 6 4 16

Round by bobs at 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12, 14, 17.
 *Produced by bobs at 1, 2, 7, 11, 14, 16, 18, 23.

A correspondent asks:—"What will be the weight of a tenor to a peal of eight bells that would occupy five hours and forty minutes to ring 5040 changes. What would be the probable weight of clapper and diameter of wheel."

OUR CHRISTMAS NUMBER,

NOW IN PREPARATION,

WILL CONTAIN

A PORTRAIT

Of a well-known Change-Ringer, with short Biographical Sketch, and other interesting characteristics.

Further particulars will be announced in due course.

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

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1888.

Some of our friends have been much exercised of late by the special pleading of an individual who evidently holds to the belief that there is more got by scheming than by hard work. This person has apparently adopted an itinerant progress throughout the country, and traded, successfully it would seem, upon the good nature of those with whom he came into contact. The letter from Mr. GUEST, of Oldham, which we published in brief, has been followed by others breathing threatenings and slaughter against the deceptive mendicant. This gentleman's operations will no doubt impair the chances of the *bona fide* necessitous who may seek relief upon the road from their ringing brethren. The practice of giving help to persons travelling is certainly one not to be commended, if a better way can be found. Where the assistance of the benevolent is needed, it seems best to make such necessity public, as in the case which will be found in a letter from a correspondent in this number. Here we have the means of enquiry into the merits of the case upon the spot, the person for whom pecuniary help is asked is well known, and the names of those acting on his behalf is ample surety that the case is a genuine one.

With respect to this appeal on behalf of WILLIAM DORAN, we happen to know it to be a most deserving case. A long illness, of a character which gives practically no hope of ultimate recovery, is depressing in the extreme. But this is not the only drawback. The savings of weeks or even years soon become exhausted, and debt is sure to be incurred, thereby adding liabilities at a time when their liquidation becomes more and more difficult and disheartening.

We hope this appeal on behalf of a very good old Norfolk ringer will not be made in vain. As we go to press, our friend Mr. HENRY DAINS, the Hon. Secretary

of the Royal Cumberland Society, informs us that he will also be glad to receive any sums to aid his necessitous confrere. Mr. DAINS' address is 147, Barnsbury Road, Islington, N.

The Metropolis.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, October 22, 1888, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5009 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in E flat.

CHALLIS F. WINNY Treble.	HENRY R. NEWTON 6.
THOMAS MILLER 2.	*JAMES W. DRIVER 7.
EDWIN HORREX 3.	*REV. H. A. COCKEY 8.
DR. A. B. CARPENTER 4.	JOHN M. HAYES 9.
EZRA CARTER 5.	SAMUEL HOW Tenor.

Composed by H. W. HALEY, and Conducted by JOHN M. HAYES.

*First peal in the method. Mr. Miller hails from Birmingham.

WOOLWICH, KENT.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 20, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

HENRY BRIGHT Treble.	YORK GREEN 5.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 2.	SAMUEL HAYES 6.
HENRY R. NEWTON 3.	*REV. HERBERT A. COCKEY .. 7.
WILLIAM BEDWELL 4.	JOHN M. HAYES Tenor.

Composed by YORK GREEN, and Conducted by JOHN M. HAYES.

The figures of this peal appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" for October 13th, 1888, and is now rung for the first time. Instead of 2M, 2H, in the fifteenth course, read 2M, 1B, 2H. Mr. Bright is in his 80th year. *First peal in the method.

The Provinces.

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, October 18, 1888, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GREGORY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

CHARLES SILLITOE Treble.	PERCY C. S. SCOTT 5.
WILLIAM HOWELL 2.	WALTER GRIGGS 6.
GEORGE SAMUEL BROWN† .. 3.	HARRY HARPER 7.
ARTHUR SCOTT 4.	RICHARD T. WOODLEY .. Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM HARRISON, and Conducted by CHARLES SILLITOE.

This peal was arranged for Mr. Woodley, who hails from London and visited Sudbury for the purpose of ringing it. Percy Scott hails from Long Melford. The calling will be found in Snowdon's "Treatise" Part II. †First peal in the method.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, October 19, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

A. CRESSER Treble.	W. A. TYLER 6.
C. SMITH 2.	J. HARDY 7.
R. LANE 3.	W. T. BILLINGHURST .. 8.
J. W. TAYLOR, SEN. 4.	HERBERT BAKER 9.
S. SMITH 5.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. Mr. Baker hails from Hertford, and it is his first peal of Treble Bob Royal.

HATFIELD, HERTS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND
THE HERTS AND ESSEX ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, October 20, 1888, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ETHELDREDA,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 28 cwt. in Eb.

JOHN C. MITCHELL Treble.	WALTER BATTLE 5.
GEORGE W. CARTMEL 2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 6.
FRANK FURR 3.	WILLIAM ALLEN 7.
E. P. DEBENHAM 4.	JOHN KENTISM Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAM CARTMEL.

Messrs. Allen and Furr (Hitchin), and John Kentish (Hatfield), were elected members of the Essex Association previous to starting for the peal; the last-named was also proposed as a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and this is his first peal.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(DUFFIELD BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, October 17, 1888, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD MAJOR, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

JOHN HOWE Treble.	GEORGE HINGLEY 5.
SAMUEL JOHNSON 2.	HENRY MIDGLEY 6.
WILLIAM HICKLING 3.	HERBERT BAKER 7.
EVAN MORETON 4.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is without singles, and has the 6th at home at all but two course-ends.

CAPEL, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, October 17, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES, IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS
UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:

COLLEGE EXERCISE, COLLEGE PLEASURE, SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE, CAMBRIDGE
SURPRISE, VIOLET, OXFORD, AND KENT.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

JOHN AKEHURST Treble.	MARK JENKINS 4.
ROBERT JORDAN 2.	THOMAS M. STEDMAN .. 5.
EDWIN JORDAN 3.	DAVID JORDAN Tenor.

Conducted by EDWIN JORDAN.

The above was rung to commemorate the conductor's birthday, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

MIDHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(MIDHURST BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, October 17, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE AND DENIS,

5040 CHANGES UPON SIX BELLS;

BEING SEVEN 720'S OF BOB MINOR, EACH CALLED DIFFERENTLY.

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

THOMAS ELLIS Treble.	GEORGE BATTS 4.
WILLIAM COURT 2.	WILLIAM SELBY 5.
CHARLES TRIBE 3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Messrs. Jones and Willis have just completed and fixed at St. Gile's, Cripplegate, a wrought-iron choir screen, an elaborately carved altar-table, and super-altar in oak and ebony, also clergy-desk and seats from the designs of Mr. Hammond.

BURFORD, (OXON).

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, October 19, 1888, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 21 cwt.

H. SHAYLER* Treble.	T. E. GLANVILLE 5.
W. HALL* 2.	F. E. WARD 6.
D. FRANCIS 3.	W. LARGE 7.
H. BOND, JUN. 4.	W. LAUNCHBURY Tenor.

Conducted by F. E. WARD, Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

Mr. Ward hails from Cheltenham; all the others belong to the local band. *First peal

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 20, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART (REVERSED).

Tenor 17 cwt.

LEONARD W. COPSEY* .. Treble.	EDWIN BARNETT 5.
WALTER PEGRUM* 2.	ACKLAND J. PERKINS .. 6.
JOHN GOBBETT 3.	WILLIAM NASH 7.
MARK L. MYHILL* 4.	*GEORGE GARNETT Tenor.

Conducted by ACKLAND J. PERKINS.

*First peal. Mr. G. Garnett was elected a member of the Association previous to starting for the peal. See paragraph.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, October 10, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5024 CHANGES.

HAROLD HUMFREY Treble.	HARRY FRUIN 5.
FREDERICK FIELD 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 6.
CHARLES TRINDER 3.	THOMAS SHORT 7.
DR. A. B. CARPENTER .. 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, has the 6th twenty-two times in 6th's place, and the 4th and 5th each twelve times; the 2nd and 3rd never there. Dr. A. B. Carpenter belongs to Croydon, and this is his first peal in the method.

BELGRAVE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 20, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qts. 14 lbs. in F.

A. CRESSER Treble.	R. LANE 5.
A. MILLIS 2.	W. A. TYLER 6.
J. BUTTERY 3.	H. BAKER 7.
J. W. TAYLOR, SENR. .. 4.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. Tenor.

Composed by JOSEPH TEBBS, and Conducted by

JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUNR.

Messrs. Millis and Buttery hail from Leicester, Baker from Hertford, the rest from Loughborough. This is the first peal on the bells, for the use of which the ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Wednesday, October 17, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 30 cwt. in D.

J. BENNETT Treble.	*HARRY SMITH 5.
TOM BENNETT* 2.	†JOHN CRANE 6.
GEORGE SALTER 3.	R. E. GROVE 7.
HARRY WILLIAMS 4.	*JOHN LEACH Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN CRANE.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor.

**WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
AND THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, KIDDERMINSTER.**

On Wednesday, October 24, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 30 cwt in D.

GEORGE SALTER.. .. Treble.	JOHN CRANE 5.
JOHN BENNETT 3.	RICHARD E. GROVE.. .. 6.
HARRY ADAMS 3.	HARRY WILLIAMS 7.
TOM BENNETT 4.	THOMAS WALTERS Tenor.

Conducted by R. E. GROVE.

The above is the first time this peal has been rung by the Association, and is also the quickest peal on the bells.

SKIPTON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 20, 1888, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

F. ANDERSON Treble.	W. MASON 5.
J. BOOTHMAN 2.	W. WELLOCK 6.
J. W. STIRK 3.	W. BILLOWS 7.
S. WATSON* 4.	W. D. HILLARY Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL MARSH, and Conducted by W. BILLOWS.

*First peal.

This peal has the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent in 6th's place; the 2nd never there at a course-end; the 5th and 6th each nine time in 5th's. The three middle bells are their extent together in 4-5-6 and 2-3 their extent together before, and is thought to be the first 5024 in fourteen courses having these properties, and is rung for the first time. Appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" September 15th, 1888.

ANGMERING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE ANGMERING AND STEYNING BRANCHES).

On Sunday, October 21, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES UPON SIX BELLS;

BEING SEVEN 720'S OF BOB MINOR.

Tenor 12 cwt.

E. PARSONS* Treble.	C. CHAMBERS 4.
C. CLEAR* 2.	*F. FINCH 5.
C. HILLS 3.	G. SMART Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE SMART.

First 5040 on the bells. *First peal. Messrs. Smart and Chambers hail from Steyning, the rest belong to the local branch.

ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.—THE ORMSKIRK SOCIETY.

On Monday, October 22, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

JOHN PRESCOTT Treble.	JAMES SHOLICAR 5.
CHARLES SHARPLES 2.	WILLIAM BENTHAM 6.
WILLIAM B. LLOYD 3.	GEORGE PRESCOTT 7.
WILLIAM ELLIS 4.	PETER H. HARVEY.. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES SHOLICAR.

OLD HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Monday, October 22, 1888, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 23½ cwt.

JOE PALMER Treble.	WILLIAM GREEN 5.
CHARLES W. BASSANO 2.	HARRY MASON.. .. 6.
RICHARD BIRD 3.	WILLIAM BIRD 7.
ALBERT E. PARSONS 4.	ALFRED H. BASSANO Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by A. H. BASSANO.

First peal of Treble Bob by all, and on these bells. The calling of the above, which is a three-part peal, is taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of July 12th, 1884.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

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

On Saturday, October 20, 1888, in Three Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 32 cwt.

WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. Treble.	ROBT. H. BRUNDLE.. .. 7.
WILLIAM MOTTS 2.	*EZRA CARTER 8.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER.. .. 3.	*RICH'D. T. WOODLEY .. 9.
JAMES MOTTS 4.	WILLIAM P. GARRETT .. 10.
ALBERT E. DURRANT .. 5.	EDWARD REEVE 11.
ROBERT HAWES 6.	SAMUEL TILLET Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES, and Conducted by W. L. CATCHPOLE.

*First peal on twelve bells. Messrs. Carter and Woodley hail from London, the rest belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower society.

ERITH, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, October 23, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

WILLIAM ISAAC REEVES .. Treble.	FREDERICK W. THORNTON 5.
WILLIAM BEDWELL 2.	EDWARD E. RICHARDS .. 6.
GEORGE CONYARD 3.	FREDERICK J. FRENCH .. 7.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 4.	JOHN GARARD Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WM. THORNTON, Secretary of the Society.

The above is the quickest peal on the bells, and was rung in honour of the 48th birthday of Mr. Wm. Weatherstone, Master of the society. It is also his 80th peal.

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BOLTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, October 13th, at Holy Trinity church, on the occasion of the annual meeting of the above Association, the Southport company rang a date touch of Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. L. Whitmore, 1; Joseph Rimmer, 2; J. Rimmer, 3; B. Tungate, 4; R. Hill, 5; J. W. Rimmer, 6; W. Baldwin, 7; D. E. Rimmer (conductor), 8. Composed by H. J. Tucker.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MIDHURST (Sussex).—On Saturday, October 13th, at the parish church, a date touch of Bob Minor in 1 hr. 2 mins. T. Elliss, 1; W. Court, 2; C. Tribe, 3; G. Batts, 4; W. Selby, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. This was the longest touch by all except the conductor. And on Sunday morning, October 14th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 23 mins. C. Tribe, 1; W. Court, 2; G. Batts, 3; H. Lee, 4; W. Selby, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6.

Miscellaneous.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MARKET RASEN (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday evening, October 11th, for practice at the parish church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26½ mins. *R. Tomlinson, 1; S. Marshall, 2; J. Hackney, 3; †T. Steels, 4; H. Gadd, 5; H. Burkitt (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, October 14th, for Divine Service, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. *J. Ingham, 1; G. Marshall, 2; J. Hackney, 3; T. Steels, 4; H. Gadd (conductor), 5; H. Burkitt, 6. Also on Monday evening, October 15th, for practice, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. R. Tomlinson, 1; H. Gadd, 2; J. Hackney, 3; T. Steels, 4; G. Marshall, 5; H. Burkitt (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. *First 720. †First 720 with a bob bell.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

LEWISHAM (Kent).—On Thursday, October 18th, for Harvest Thanksgiving Service at St. Mary's church, 560 Grandsire Triples

Charles E. Freeman, 1; William Weatherstone, 2; Edward E. Richards, 3; Thomas Taylor, 4; William Bedwell, 5; Frederick W. Thornton, 6; Abraham G. Freeman (conductor), 7; Samuel Gibbs, 8. Also 684 in the same method. John Crowder, 1; Edward E. Richards, 2; Thomas G. Deal, 3; William Weatherstone, 4; Frederick W. Thornton, 5; Rev. Herbert A. Cockey, 6; Abraham G. Freeman (conductor), 7; Charles E. Freeman, 8. After service, 336 Grandsire Triples. Charles E. Freeman, 1; William Pead, 2; John Crowder, 3; Thomas G. Deal, 4; Rev. Herbert A. Cockey, 5; Edward E. Richards, 6; Frederick W. Thornton (conductor), 7; Abraham G. Freeman, 8. Also two courses of Bob Major. John Crowder, 1; William Weatherstone, 2; Rev. Herbert A. Cockey, 3; Thomas Taylor, 4; William Bedwell (conductor), 5; Edward C. Richards, 6; Frederick W. Thornton (longest touch in the method), 7; Abraham G. Freeman, 8.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Tuesday, October 16th, at St. Mary's church, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. Henry Bright, 1; W. J. Reeve, 2; William Weatherstone (conductor), 3; James C. Harvey, 4; William Bedwell, 5; W. Atkins, 6; Edward E. Richards, 7; Rev. Herbert A. Cockey, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, September 30th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. J. Worthington, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; J. Williamson, 3; A. Potter, 4; Jas. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. And on Monday evening, October 8th, five of the Tyldesley company paid a visit to the above place, and with the assistance of Mr. J. Welsby, of Worsley, rang a 720 of Bob Minor in twenty-one mins. J. Aldred (conductor), 1; I. Eckersley, 2; R. Aldred, 3; G. Heaton, 4; J. Welsby, 5; C. Oakes, 6. Also on Saturday evening, October 13th, being the Harvest Festival, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung by the Tyldesley company in 23 mins. J. Aldred (conductor), 1; J. Eckersley, 2; R. Aldred, 3; W. Gerrerd, 4; G. Heaton, 5; C. Oakes, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, October 14th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (twelve bobs). A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; Z. Lord (conductor), 6. And on Sunday afternoon, October 21st, for special service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). A. L. Hardman, 1; W. Smith, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; Z. Lord (conductor), 6. Also for evening service, a 720 of College Single. A. L. Hardman (conductor), 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; Z. Lord, 6.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOMBOURN.—On Sunday, October 14th, at 8 a.m., 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. G. Little, 1; H. Deans, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; W. R. Small, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. For morning service, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins., standing as above, and for evening service, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 24 mins., J. E. Claridge ringing the 4th. W. R. Small hails from Tipton.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Saturday, October 13th, at the parish church, an attempt was made for Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2800 changes in 1 hr. 36 mins., the bells were brought round on account of the stranding of a rope. J. Bennett, 1; G. Salter, 2; H. Adams, 3; J. Crane, 4; J. Bennett, jun., 5; R. E. Grove (conductor), 6; H. Williams, 7; T. Walters, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DURHAM.—On Monday evening, October 15th, at St. Oswald's church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. C. Bradford, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; J. E. Avery, 3; W. Prince, 4; C. J. Butterworth, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by Messrs. Bradford, Craggs, Avery, and Prince. And on Monday, Oct. 22, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. *W. Liddell, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; †W. G. Newton, 3; C. Bradford, 4; W. Prince, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6. *First 720. †First 720 with a bob bell.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—On Tuesday evening, October 23rd, at the church of St. Cuthbert, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. T. Wheatley, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; W. G. Newton, 3; W. Prince, 4; T. Swinburn, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6. Also a course of Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Brown, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; J. E. Avery, 3; W. Prince, 4; J. Swinburn, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6. Messrs. Wheatley, Craggs, Newton, Prince, Avery, and Newton, hail from Durham, the rest belong to the local company.

DARLINGTON (St. John's Church).—On Thursday evening, October 18th, for the Harvest Festival, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. W. Patton, 1; J. Little, 2; H. S. Taylor, 3; J. Temple, 4; W. D. Lister, 5; R. Moncaster (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. in G. J. Temple hails from Hurworth-on-Tees.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GLOUCESTER.—Handbell Ringing.—At the vestry of St. Michael, on Wednesday, October 10th, one course each of Grandsire Minor, Triples, Major, Caters, Royal, Cinques, and Maximus. A. Roberts, 1-2; D. J. Aston, 3-4; R. J. Wilkins, 5-6; H. L. James, 7-8; S. E. Romans, 9-10; F. E. Hart, 11-12. And a course of Duffield Major. R. A. Barrett, 1; S. E. Romans, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; A. Roberts, 4; R. J. Wilkins, 5; F. E. Hart, 6; H. L. James, 7-8. First course of Duffield by all.

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, October 20th, at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor. F. Allen, 1; J. E. Hern, 2; H. Grindon, 3; J. H. Brawn, 4; W. Gleed, 5; T. Hart (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 28 mins. H. Grindon, 1; J. Gleed, 2; J. E. Hern, 3; J. H. Brawn (Huntley), 4; W. Gleed, 5; T. Hart, 6.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

WALPOLE (Norfolk).—On Thursday, October 4th, at St. Peter's church by the local company, 720 of London Single in 26 mins. R. Grimes, 1; W. Day (conductor), 2; H. Hill, 3; H. Allen, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; W. Wright, 6. Also on Sunday, October 7th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs), in 26 mins. J. Brett, 1; R. Grimes (conductor), 2; H. Hill, 3; H. Allen, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; W. Wright, 6. And on Thursday, October 11th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (fifteen bobs), in 26 mins. R. Grimes, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; H. Allen, 4; J. T. Secombe, Esq., J.P., 5; W. Wright, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. The above was rung as a farewell touch to Mr. R. Grimes, who is leaving the county for Lancashire. Mr. Grimes has been very instrumental in getting the company up to the efficiency they have acquired.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LEICESTER.—On Saturday, October 15th, at St. Margaret's church, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Caters, but after ringing six courses a mishap occurred, which brought the peal to grief, and time not permitting for another start, the last part of one of Mr. Johnson's peals (1259 changes), was rung in 52 mins. J. Jarvis, 1; J. Needham, 2; *W. J. Smith, 3; *J. Austin, 4; *W. Canner, 5; *L. Bullock, 6; T. Wilson, 7; A. Millis (conductor), 8; *J. Jagger, 9; W. Biddles, 10. J. Buttery rang the tenor in the attempt. *Longest length in the method. After falling the bells in peal, an adjournment was made to the house of Mr. Cooper, where several touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples and some courses of Grandsire Caters and Cinques were rung on the handbells. Messrs. Austin, Smith, Bullock and Jagger, belong to Burton-on-Trent, and Canner to Ashby-de-la-Zouch. The visitors wish to thank their Leicester friends for their kindly welcome, and for having everything in readiness.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxford).—On Tuesday evening, October 16th, for practice, a 720 of Single Court. F. Simmonds, 1; *Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; J. Hands, 3; E. Menday, 4; *H. Simmonds, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method with a bob bell. Also 120 of Grandsire Doubles. C. Kidby, 1; J. Hands, 2; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 3; E. Menday, 4; T. Newman (conductor), 5; H. Simmonds, 6. And on Sunday morning, October 21st, for Divine Service, 120 of Grandsire Doubles, and three courses of Plain Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; G. Essex, 3; H. Smith, 4; T. Newman, 5; E. Menday, 6. Also for evening service, 360 of Single Court. F. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; T. Newman, 6. And after evening service, a plain course of Violet Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Oxford Treble Bob. H. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; J. Hands, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, October 2nd, for practice at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). F. Hull, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; F. Sharp, 3; F. Smith, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). F. Sharp, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; F. Smith, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; F. Keech, 6. And on Tuesday, October 9th, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. W. Clarke, 1; I. Hills, 2; F. Sharp, 3; L. Bell (Sharnbrook), 4; W.

Allen, 5; F. Smith (first 720 as conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs). I. Hills, 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Sharp (first 720 in the method with a bob bell), 3; W. Allen, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, October 16th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). S. J. Cullip, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; F. Smith, 3; I. Hills, 4; W. Hall, 5; F. Sharp (first 720 in the method), 6. Also on Thursday, October 11th, at St. Paul's church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 504 of Grandsire Triples, composed by N. J. Pistow. F. Hull, 1; W. Hall, 2; F. Smith, 3; F. Keech, 4; C. Pass, 5; W. Allen, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; W. Bettles, 8. And after service, 882 of Grandsire Triples, composed by W. Lincoln. F. Sharp, 1; F. Smith, 2; W. Allen, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; C. Pass, 6; I. Hills, 7; F. Keech, 8. Also on Sunday, October 14th, 504 of Grandsire Triples, composed by H. J. Tucker. F. Hull, 1; C. Pass, 2; F. Keech, 3; J. N. Frossell, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; W. Allen, 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Bettles, 8. And on Sunday, October 21st, 464 of Bob Major. F. Sharp, 1; F. Smith, 2; S. J. Cullip, 4; I. Hills, 5; W. Allen, 6; J. N. Frossell, 7; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 8. Also two touches of Grandsire Triples, in which Messrs. Bettles, Hall, Hull, and Spencer took part.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Sunday, October 14th, for afternoon service at St. James's church, 360 of Grandsire Minor (eighteen bobs). A. Ingram, 1; F. Sharp, 2; F. Smith, 3; C. R. Howard, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; H. King, 6.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On Saturday, October 13th, at St. Owen's church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). J. Spencer, 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Sharp, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; C. R. Howard (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). F. Hull, 1; F. Smith, 2; H. Kings, 3; H. Clifton (first 720 in the method), 4; I. Hills, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (forty bobs and two singles). T. Lane (first 720), 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Sharp, 3; H. Clifton (first 720 in the method), 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; C. R. Howard, 6. Also two 120's of Grandsire Doubles. W. Bettles, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; C. R. Howard (conductor), 3; F. Sharp, 4; J. Spencer, 5; H. Sharp, 6.

CLAPHAM (Beds).—On Saturday, October 20th, at the parish church, three 120's of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. J. Dickens (Sharnbrook), 1; F. Smith, 2; I. Hills, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; F. Sharp (conductor), 5. Also some 120's of Grandsire and Bob Doubles, in which Messrs. Lane, Cockings, and H. Sharp took part.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BAGSHOT (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, October 6th, for Divine service at St. Anne's church, two 6-scores each of Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles. And in the evening, 360 of Plain Bob Minor. A. Harding, 1; H. Stapleton, 2; E. Angell (London), 3; F. Francis, 4; T. Gould, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. Also on Monday evening, October 7th, a 720 Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). W. Stevens (first 720 in the method), 1; H. Stapleton, 2; F. Francis, 3; O. Harding (first 720 in the method), 4; T. Gould, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, October 20th, two 6-scores Grandsire Doubles. A. Harding, 1; H. Stapleton, 2; W. Stevens, 3; F. Francis, 4; T. Gould (conductor), 5; W. Varndell, 6. Also 120 Bob Minor (two singles); and 360 Bob Minor (four bobs and two singles). A. Harding, 1; F. Francis, 2; W. Stevens (first 360 Minor with a bob bell), 3; H. Stapleton, 4; T. Gould, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, October 22nd, a 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). W. Stevens, 1; H. Stapleton, 2; F. Francis, 3; O. Harding, 4; T. Gould, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. And 240 Grandsire Doubles. H. Stephenson, 1; F. Francis, 2; W. Stevens, 3; O. Harding, 4; T. Gould (conductor), 5; W. Varndell, 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH (Leicestershire).—Recently, at the church of St. Helen, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins. W. Liggins, 1; H. Canner, 2; T. Jacques, 3; J. Hopkins, 4; W. Owen, 5; J. H. Dunmore, 6; W. Canner (conductor), 7; G. Thornley, 8.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Thursday, October 11th, 720 of Grandsire Minor. *J. Ballard, 1; *W. Bulpitt, 2; *T. Curtis, 3; F. Bennett, 4; H. White (conductor), 5-6. *First 720. And on Friday, October 12th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 23 mins. J. Ballard, 1; F. Bennett, 2; W. Bulpitt, 3; T. Curtis, 4; H. White (conductor), 5-6. Also 180 of Bob Minor by the same band. And on Saturday, October 13th, 120 of Bob Doubles, and 360 of Bob Minor. J. Ballard, 1; T. Curtis, 2; F. Bennett, 3; W. Bulpitt, 4; H. White (conductor), 5-6.

BEDDINGTON (Surrey).—On Thursday, October 18th, for practice at the parish church, 435 of Stedman Caters. E. Bennett (conductor), 1; G. Russell, 2; J. Trappitt, 3; C. Bance, 4; A. H. Martin, 5; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 6; J. Fayers, 7; C. Wellin, 8; C. Gordon, 9; J. Hartley, 10. And 168 of Grandsire Triples. J. Plowman (conductor), 1; J. Fayers, 2; A. H. Martin, 3; J. Hartley, 4; C. Wellin, 5; J. Harding, 6; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 7; J. Trappitt, 8.

BENHILTON (Surrey).—On Thursday, October 11th, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, about 580 Kent Treble Bob Minor, 240 Plain Bob Minor, and some Grandsire Doubles were rung. On Sunday, October 14th, 360 Plain Bob Minor was rung for evening service. J. Lambert, 1; E. Trendell, 2; G. King, 3; T. Gaiger, 4; H. Bryant, 5; J. Trendell (conductor), 6. After service 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 29 mins. G. King, 1; E. Trendell, 2; T. Gaiger, 3; James Trendell, 4; H. Bryant, 5; J. Trendell (conductor), 6. Tenor 10½ cwt.

BICKLEIGH (Devon).—On Wednesday, October 17th, on the occasion of the Harvest Thanksgiving, and also the opening of a new clock fixed in the parish church tower, the gift of the Right Hon. Sir Massey Lopes, the above branch of the Devonshire Guild rang several 120's of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. E. Taylor (conductor), 1; J. Willcocks, 2; J. Ham, 3; C. F. Collom, 4; W. G. Halls, 5; H. Coles and W. Giles, 6. [Will our correspondent send his address so that the papers he requires may be sent to him.]

BUCKLAND (Surrey).—On Wednesday, October 10th, at the parish church, 360 of Grandsire Doubles. G. Hewett, 1; F. Arnold, 2; F. Sanders, 3; W. Sadler, 4; R. Arnold (conductor), 5. And 120 of Bob Doubles. G. Hewett, 1; W. Sadler, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Sanders, 4; R. Arnold (conductor), 5. Also 120 of Grandsire Doubles. G. Hewett, 1; W. Sadler, 2; F. Arnold, 3; J. Robinson, 4; R. Arnold (conductor), 5. G. Hewett hails from Hythe.

BUNWELL, NORFOLK.—On Sunday 14th, after Divine service at St. Michael's Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). J. Fox, 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; R. Hutton, 3; J. Cullam, 4; R. Ackins, 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Fox, 1; A. Dunnett, 2; J. Hilling, 3; J. Cullam, 4; R. Ackins, 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, October 16th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, for practice, a 514 of Oxford Bob Triples. H. C. Haley (conductor), 1; H. Dudley, 2; G. Russell, 3; A. H. Martin, 4; I. A. B. Carpenter, 5; W. States, 6; A. Bruce, 7; W. Hill, 8. Also 84 in the same method. H. C. Haley, 1; G. Russell, 2; W. J. Chambers, 3; Dr. A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 4; H. Brooker, 5; A. Bruce, 6; T. Verrall, 7; A. Collins, 8.

FRIESTON (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, October 7th, for evening service, being the Harvest Festival, six scores of Grandsire Doubles, Bob Doubles, London Doubles. T. Rogers, O. A. Barber, E. Mason, J. Sharp, S. Steeper,

FOLKESTONE (Kent).—On Tuesday evening, October 9th, at the parish church, 672 of Grandsire Triples. G. Millen, 1; J. Andrews, 2; J. Fisher, 3; A. Tanton, 4; H. Croucher, 5; S. Barker (conductor), 6; F. Slingsby, 7; R. Hadlow, 8. Messrs. Andrews and Tanton hail from Lyminge.

HANLEY CASTLE (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, October 9th, for Harvest Thanksgiving Service at the parish church, 1260 changes of Grandsire Doubles, with extremes, each 6-score called differently, in 47 mins. H. Willis, 1; A. Pitt, 2; W. Tarling, 3; R. G. Knowles (conductor), 4; A. Aspey, 5; W. Turner, 6.

LICHFIELD (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, October 14th at S. Michael's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. F. Sedgwick, 1; H. Meacham, 2; F. J. Cope (conductor), 3; A. Whitby, 4; J. Barber, 6; W. Fearneyhough, 6. And at S. Mary's, after evening service, on the occasion of Harvest Thanksgiving, a touch of 336 Grandsire Triples. E. Gallimore, 1; A. Greenwood, 2; H. Meacham, 3; J. Barber, 4; A. Whitby, 5; F. J. Cope (conductor), 6; W. Fearneyhough, 7; W. Gilbert, 8. J. Barber hails from Stourbridge.

MILTON, NEAR GRAVESEND.—Recently at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. J. Allen, 1; J. Answell (Cobham), 2; W. H. Royston, 3; B. Spinner, 4; H. D. Davis, 5; F. Hayes (conductor), 6.

SANDIACRE (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, October 14th, for Divine Service at the parish church, the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Doubles in 27 mins. S. Follows, 1; R. T. Parkins, 2; H. W. Wilde, 3; J. Hall, 4; J. Bonsall, 5; M. Stevenson, 6. First 720 by all. Tenor 19 cwt.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Wednesday evening, October 17th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor (ten singles, eighteen Bobs). H. Symonds, 1; W. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; J. Moore, 4; H. Smith, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. Composed by F. Gilbert. Also on Saturday evening, October 20th, a 720 in the same method (twenty-two singles), composed by the late Thomas Hurry, of Norwich. H. Symonds, 1; H. Smith, 2; J. Moore, 3; A. Hollocks, 4; W. Hollocks, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt.

SETTLE (Yorks).—On Tuesday, October 16th, for practice at the church of the Holy Ascension, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples in 50 mins. J. H. Greenwood, 1; J. W. Stephens, 2; W. Middleton, 3; W. G. Hardacre (conductor), 4; H. Ingham, 5; T. Calkeld, 6; C. E. Bygrave, 7; W. Slinger, 8. This is the first quarter-peal by any of the company.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Sunday afternoon, October 21st, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, 305 of Grandsire Caters. A. Hull, 1; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 2; E. Hull, 3; J. W. Brewer, 4; J. C. Mitchell, 5; H. Brewer, 6; G. W. Cartmel, 7; W. H. L. Buckingham, 8; T. Waller, 9; T. Conley, 10. And for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. H. Brewer, 1; J. W. Brewer, 2; E. Hull, 3; W. H. Buckingham, 4; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; T. Waller, 7; T. Conley, 8. And on Tuesday, October 23rd, for practice at the Cathedral, 500 of Grandsire Triples. T. Long, 1; R. A. Fowler, 2; T. Grant, 3; R. M. Pratt, 4; J. C. Mitchell, 5; E. A. Hulks, 6; W. Battle (conductor), 7; H. L. Waddington, 8.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Monday, October 15th, the following members of the local company met for practice at St. Peter's church, and rang on the back six a 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs six singles). W. Howell, 1; *W. B. Ramson, Esq., 2; *G. S. Brown, 3; A. Scott, 4; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 5; H. Harper, 6. *First 720. Also a touch of Stedman Triples, 756 changes. W. Cross, 1; W. Howell, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; W. Griggs, 4; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 5; A. Scott, 6; H. Harper, 7; H. Brackett, 8. On Friday, October 19th, the local company with Mr. R. T. Woodley, of London, met at the above church, and rang a touch of Bob Major, 720 changes. W. Cross, 1; F. Tolliday, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; W. B. Ransom, Esq., 4; H. Harper, 5; A. Scott, 6; G. Sillitoe (conductor), 7; R. T. Woodley, 8. This is Woodley's first touch in this method. Also a touch of Stedman Triples in 756 changes. R. T. Woodley, 1; W. Howell, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; W. Griggs, 4; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 5; A. Scott, 6; H. Harper, 7; J. Campin, 8. On Sunday, October 21st, the usual Harvest Thanksgiving services were held in St. Gregory's and St. Peter's churches. For morning service at St. Gregory's, a 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung, and for afternoon service, a 504 of Stedman Triples by C. Sillitoe (conductor), 1; J. Campin, 2; G. Brown, 3; W. Howell, 4; W. Cross, 5; A. Scott, 6; H. Harper, 7; H. Brackett, 8. At St. Peter's for evening service, a 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Tolliday, 1; M. Silvester, 2; R. Mingay (Foxearth), 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; W. Griggs, 5; A. Scott, 6; S. Slater (Glemsford), 7; H. Harper, 8. Also after service, a 704 of Kent Treble Bob. G. Maxim (Foxearth), 1; W. Howell, 2; S. Brown, 3; R. Mingay (Foxearth), 4; W. Griggs, 5; A. Scott, 6; O. Garwood (Glemsford), 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. Tenor 23 cwt. in Eb.

TIBENHAM, NORFOLK.—On Wednesday, October 10th, at the parish church, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Manser, sen., (conductor), 1; J. Coleman, 2; J. Hilling, 3; J. Jackson, 4; E. Coleman, 5; J. Hinchley, 6. Messrs. Hilling and Hinchley hail from Bunwell. Tenor 21 cwt.

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, October 9th, for practice, 360 Bob Doubles. H. Grindon (conductor), 1; J. H. Brawn, 2; G. Pincott, 3; F. Trigg, 4; T. Hart, 5; F. Allen, 6. And 720 Grandsire Minor was attempted, but it came to grief after ringing 660 changes, owing to the 3rd rope breaking. H. Ancill, 1; J. Gleed, 2; H. Grindon, 3; J. H. Brawn, 4; T. Hart (conductor), 5; W. Gleed, 6. Also several six scores of Grandsire Doubles, in which Messrs. Hatch and James took part. On Sunday, October 14th, being the Harvest Festival, 600 Grandsire Minor. H. Grindon, 1; J. E. Hern (conductor), 2; W. Gleed, 3; J. H. Brawn, 4; F. Trigg, 5; T. Hart, 6. Also 360 Bob Doubles. H. Grindon, 1; J. Gleed, 2; G. Pincott, 3; J. H. Brawn, 4; T. Hart (conductor), 5; T. Allen, 6. Also after service fifteen 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. G. Pincott, 1; R. Gardner, 2; J. Stephens, 3; J. H. Brawn (conductor), 4; H. Gough, 5; E. Harris, 6.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, October 14th, for evening service, at Christ Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Smith, 1; J. Priest, 2; J. Nunn, 3; J. Marks, 4; G. Cornell, 5; E. Barnett (conductor), 6. Also after service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 26 mins. J. King, 1; E. Barnett, 2; H. Nunn, jun., 3; J. Marks, 4; J. Nunn (conductor), 5; A. H. Gardom, 6.

WYMINGTON, BEDFORDSHIRE.

Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held in this Church on Thursday, October 11th, and on Sunday last. On Thursday the preacher was the Rev. Cannon Haddock, who took as his text, Psalm civ. 13, and spoke of the many advantages connected with country life, even to the children who were able to drink in the fresh air and sunshine during the harvest time, while many thousands of those dwelling in the confined courts and alleys of our great towns had never seen an ear of corn. On Sunday there was Holy Communion at 3.30, and at the 10.30 service the Rector preached from Proverbs xxv. 13, and at 3 p.m. the Rev. F. H. Bolingbrook, Rector of Bletsoe, from St. John xii. 24. The singing was very hearty, under Mr. F. Woollard's direction. On Thursday the service was read by the Rev. Prebendary Mason, Vicar of Christ Church, Birmingham, and the lessons by the Vicar of Irchester and the Vicar of Poddington. The offertories were very good, and were equally divided between the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and the Additional Curates' Society. The decorations were, as usual, very tasteful and appropriate. The mellow tones of the bells added their share to the joyful celebration, though the labour of ringing is so great that lovers of campanology would do well to help towards their being re-hung, when they would be much more effective. Were Wymington Church restored, the strengthening of the tower and belfry would, no doubt, be one of the earliest portions of this much-needed work.

ROCHDALE, LANCASHIRE.

At Christ Church, on Tuesday morning, October 16th, on the occasion of the marriage of Rev. B. Minnitt, M.A., of Preston, late curate at this parish, and youngest son of the late Vicar, to Miss Cookson, eldest daughter of the Vicar of Marton, Blackpool, at Merton, the local company rang a touch of 1080 changes in several Minor methods, being the longest touch by them on the bells. Ringers: W. Lord, 1; J. W. Howarth, 2; J. T. Bartle, 3; J. Lord, 4; A. A. Stott, 5; J. Stott (conductor), 6. Several other touches, with some call changes and firing, were also rung at intervals during the day till nearly 7 o'clock in the evening, in which brother ringers T. Stott and E. Buckley, took part. The company wish through the medium of this valuable paper to publicly thank the rev. gentleman for the handsome gift he forwarded them in the shape of a £5 note, and to wish them both every happiness and prosperity in their new sphere of life.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ESTABLISHED 1637.

The 251st Anniversary Dinner will take place at the "Bridge House" hotel, London Bridge, S.E., on Saturday, November 3rd, 1888, at 7 o'clock punctual. The following towers will be open for ringing: St. Michael's, Cornhill, 4 o'clock to 5; St. Saviour's, Southwark, 5 o'clock to 6.30. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, may be obtained up till Wednesday, October 31st, of the dinner committee: Mr. G. Mash, 20, Little Essex Street, Southwark; Mr. S. E. Joyce, 33, Finch Street, Mile End; Mr. J. Pettit, 3, St. Thomas's Place, Hackney; Mr. G. T. McLaughlin, 48, Westmoreland Street, Pimlico, S.W.; Mr. C. F. Winny, 27, Tadema Road, Chelsea, S.W.; and Messrs. W. Tyack, H. Springhall, E. E. Clarke, and R. T. Woodley. All friends will be heartily welcomed.

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The above Association will hold a Quarterly Meeting at St. Mark's church, Glodwick, on Saturday, November 17th. Bells ready about 2.30; Meeting at 4.30, to be held in the School room.

SUTTON COLDFIELD (Warwickshire).—On Sunday evening, October 14th, for Divine service at the parish church, eight members of the local society rang six courses of Stedman Triples four bobs and two singles, in 19 mins. T. Matthews, 1; C. Dicker, 2; A. Bradshaw, 3; G. Roberts, 4; A. Woodcroft, 5; H. Wilkins, 6; W. Alsopp (conductor), 7; C. Huckle, 8.

NEW PEAL OF BELLS AT WOOLTON CHURCH.

A new peal of bells which has just been hung at Woolton Parish Church was rung for the first time on Wednesday, October 17th, and as the church has never previously had a peal the matter created in the village considerable interest, flags being hoisted on many of the buildings. The peal, which has been erected by public subscription, cost £700, and has been cast by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. The tenor bell of the Woolton peal weighs nearly one ton, the diameter across the mouth being three feet eleven and half inches, and the note E. The total weight of the eight bells is about four tons, but this is the net weight of bell metal, and does not include clappers or fittings of any kind. A great specialty is the improved cast iron A framework. This has been adopted at Woolton, and has proved a great success.

Each bell has a firm bearing, as it were, on the crossbars of the A's, the tops or points of the A's being steadied by strong oak beams, and the bottoms or feet firmly bedded and bolted upon another strong oak framework. This constitutes the bellframe proper. Furthermore, instead of the bellframe standing on a boarded floor, a plan which is frequently but injudiciously adopted, it is placed immediately upon four strong oak beams, which stretch across the tower, and are firmly cemented in the wall at each end. These beams are further supported by a massive iron girder placed transversely underneath them. The floor is about three feet below the beams, thus enabling the steeple keeper to conveniently get about underneath the bells when they need attention in the way of screwing up the bolts, looking to the clappers, &c. In addition, all the bells are fitted with Messrs. Taylor's improved clappers, which are held by bolts passing through the headstocks. This is a much safer plan and more convenient than that in which the clappers are hung to iron staples cast in the crown of the bells. The gudgeons or pivots are turned, and fitted into planed and bored cast iron bedplates, whereby they are prevented from getting out of truth, which latter was so liable to be the case in the old plan when the pivots were bedded into the wood.

The peal was opened with a touch of Stedman Triples, and throughout the afternoon and evening touches of Stedman, Grandsire, Treble Bob, and Plain Bob, were rung under the conductorship of Robert Williams, the ringers being members of the Liverpool Cathedral Society. A local society of ringers has been formed at Woolton for the purpose of manipulating the new peal, Mr. R. Williams being instructor. The fine tone of the bells makes the effects at a distance very striking. The church tower has also been furnished with a clock, which cost £146. Cambridge chimes have been added at a cost of £90.

On Sunday morning and evening, October 21st, before and after service, the bells were rung, the ringers being entertained to dinner and tea, by the kindness of the Churchwardens, Messrs. Mather and Rimmer.—*Liverpool Paper*.

"The Lancashire Association of change-ringers" held their their annual meeting at Bolton on Saturday. Was there ever such impudent and flagrant presumption? Where were the police? The gathering was attended by about three hundred persons who boldly avowed that they were old hands at ringing the changes, and yet they were allowed to meet and separate without molestation. What next? Shall we have congresses of base coin manufacturers, or burglars at which papers shall be read by the most expert exponents of these nefarious arts? Considering that change ringers have an association, why should not housebreakers apply to Parliament for a charter of incorporation? Strange to say, the Bolton meeting was attended by clergymen, the church bells were rung, and sermons appropriate to the occasion were preached. All this is very improving, but why was so questionable a gathering countenanced by the church? Ah! we have it now. It was not an assemblage of the class of persons who are accustomed to diddle shopkeepers by "ringing the changes" on the coins they tender, but of church bell ringers, which of course, makes all the difference. Really these ambiguous names and phrases are very misleading.—*Local Paper*.

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NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The October General Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held on Saturday last, the 20th instant, at Market Rasen and Claxby, and there was a good attendance. During the afternoon the visitors were conveyed from Market Rasen to Claxby (a pretty village about four miles distant, situated at the foot of the Wolds) at the kind invitation of the Rev. Canon Andrews, where a few very pleasant hours were spent. Several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung by different bands. After partaking of some refreshments on the rectory lawn, and listening to a well-tapped course of Bob Major on handbells by Mr. T. J. Mallaby, of Hull, the party returned to Market Rasen, where an excellent spread had been provided at the "Aston Arms" hotel, and to which ample justice was done. Immediately the tables were cleared the business meeting commenced, the chair being ably filled by the Rev. Canon Andrews, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Association. Letters were read from the Dean of Lincoln and others regretting their inability to be present.

The Chairman, in the course of an encouraging speech, welcomed the Association, and congratulated the members on their last year's report. An animated discussion then took place as to the advisability of holding fewer business meetings, and providing refreshments for ringing members at such meetings, but it was eventually decided that the matter should stand over until the next annual meeting.

Ten new members were elected. The next meeting was fixed to be held at Gainsborough in January next. Votes of thanks were accorded to the clergy and churchwardens for the use of their bells, and to the chairman for presiding, which brought to a close one of the most successful meetings of the Association.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—MIDHURST BRANCH.

As will be seen in the peal column, the above branch have accomplished their first peal. Round ringing and call-changes were the only things done on these bells until about a year ago, when a well-known change-ringer, Mr. G. Williams, came to reside in the immediate neighbourhood, and soon made his appearance in the belfry, and after explaining the benefits of belonging to an Association, the above branch was proposed into the Sussex County Association, and obtained the services of the above-named gentleman as the Association instructor. A new peal of handbells was quickly purchased of Mr. G. Welsh, of Southwark, London, and armed with a copy of Snowden's "Rope-Sight," with four evenings a week for practice, they were soon enabled to get through a 120 of Bob Doubles on the church bells. After this a 720 of Bob Minor was accomplished. On Saturday, October 13th, an attempt was made for a date touch, and as will be seen in the touch column, was brought round successfully in 1 hr. and 2 mins. Elated with this success they determined to start for a peal on the following Wednesday, which was successfully brought round, the striking being good throughout. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Minor have also been rung on the handbells. They are now anxious for some kind friend or friends to come forward and add two more bells to the present six already there. Then the branch would soon add to the Association its full share of peals. A peal board is to be erected in the belfry to record this the first peal ever rung on the bells, which were cast by Lester and Pack in 1763.

THE ROMFORD PEAL.

The above peal, which had been intended to have been rung open, was rung half-muffled in consequence of the death of an old inhabitant and late churchwarden at St. Edward's church. During the rehanging, &c., of the church bells a band of youngsters was organised by Mr. A. J. Perkins, and under his instruction have learnt half-pull ringing, thus the 1st, 2nd, and 4th men, aged respectively 16, 16, 17, have rung their first peal. Great credit, however, is due both to the conductor of the lads as well, the latter of whom could not up to the early part of the present year ring a bell in rounds. Mr. G. Garnett rung the tenor instead of S. James, owing to illness. M.L.M.

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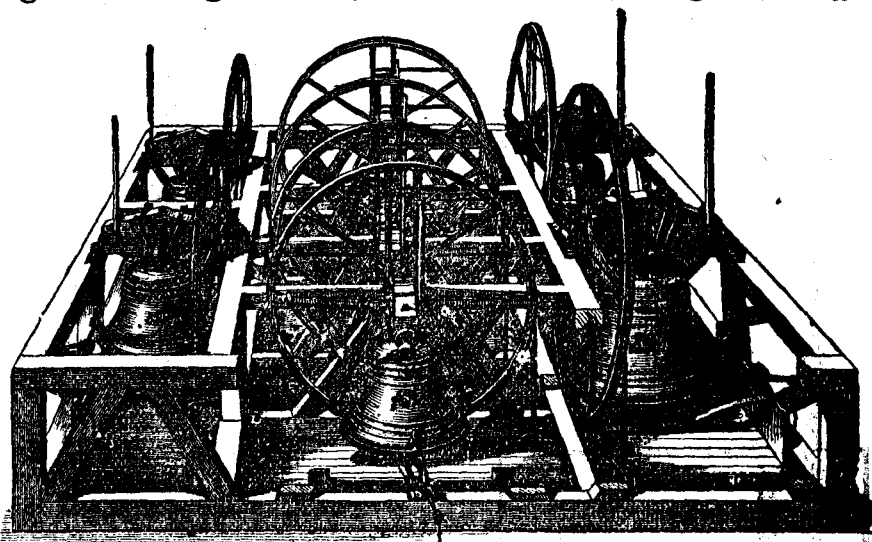
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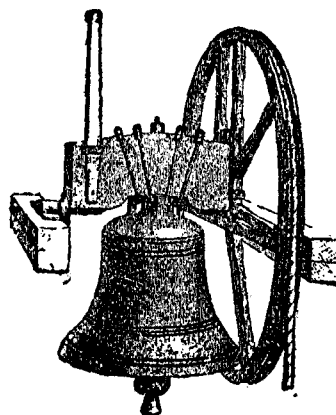
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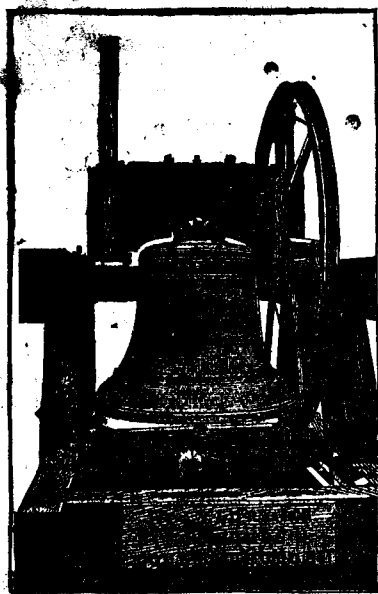
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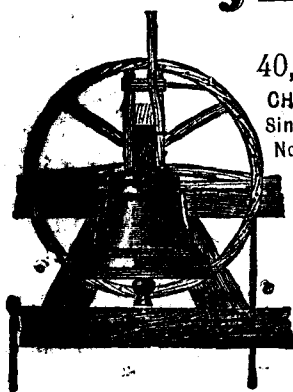
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No. 344.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1888.

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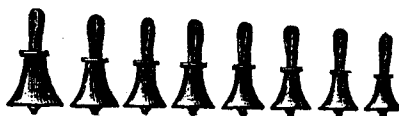
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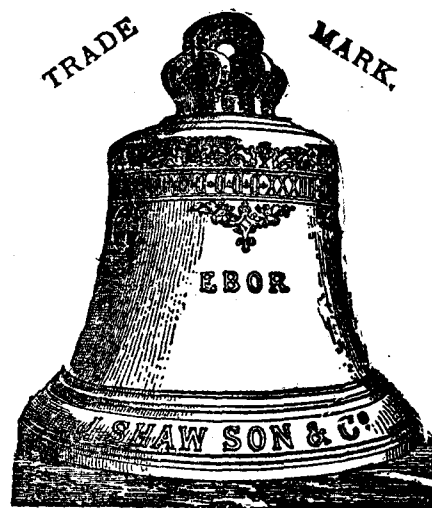
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HOLY TRINITY, OLD, HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Friday, October 26th, the ringers of this church had their annual outing, and as it had been unavoidably postponed through the summer, it was decided that the day should be given to ringing. Warwick was selected, as Mr. Washbrook had offered to secure the use of the bells and conduct a peal, and at 8 o'clock the band accompanied by their Vicar, the Rev. E. Brewer, started by train. Mr. Washbrook was on the platform on their arrival, and a move was at once made to St. Mary's church, where there are ten fine bells, tenor 28 cwt. The bells were raised and inspected, and a course of Caters was rung that the band might get the sight of the extra two ropes, as several of them had never heard ten bells before. A message was now brought that the bells were to be stopped, but it fortunately turned out to be a misunderstanding, as the St. Mary's Amateur ringers had very kindly consented to forego their practice on the previous evening, owing to only two ringing times a week being allowed. This point was just settled when the Rev. F. E. Robinson arrived, and without delay the bells were set going in the last 5000 of the long Grandsire Caters peal rung at Appleton. After a bad start it was commenced again, and was brought round about 3 p.m., this being the first peal on these bells (on record) since 1869, when a band from St. Martin's, Birmingham, rang a peal of Stedman Caters. The go of the bells was excellent, and the only thing left to be desired is the addition of two trebles, which would make this a very fine ring. After a late and much-needed refreshment some of the band, with the Rev. F. E. Robinson and Mr. Washbrook, proceeded to the eight-bell tower of St. Nicholas, and after an attempt or two to adjust the sound of the bells, 1008 Double Norwich was rung. C. W. Bassano, 1; A. E. Parsons, 2; H. Mason, 3; W. Bird, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; A. H. Bassano, 6; H. Cartwright, 7; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 8. Afterwards the eight-bell tower of All Saints was visited, and a 336 of Grandsire Triples was brought round. The ring is by Taylor, and will be a nice one when the sound is deadened by an extra floor; there is an eager band of learners here, who are making rapid progress under the tuition of Mr. Washbrook. After tea it was time to return to the station, and a journey home, enlivened with singing terminated a pleasant day. The Holy Trinity ringers wish to express their thanks to the respective vicars for the use of the bells, and to Mr. Washbrook and the Rev. F. E. Robinson for their trouble and kindness to the visitors.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—MEETING AT CREWE.

A meeting of ringers was held on Saturday, October 20th, at Crewe, where there was a good attendance of members from Christ Church, Crewe, Nantwich, Acton, Wrenbury, Marbury, Audlem, Barthomley, Wrenbury, and Warrington. There were also present the Rev. Canon Blackburn, of Warrington, the Rev. Canon Atkinson, of Audlem, the Rev. F. G. Blackburn, of Nantwich, the Rev. Norwood of Wrenbury, and Mr. H. A. Heywood, of Caldby Manor, Birkenhead, the general Secretary of the Association. The ringers from the above towers had the opportunity of showing their skill as change-ringers, and some merry touches were rung during the afternoon by the members at the above churches. The meeting was held at 5 p.m. in the Specification Room of the Mechanics Institution, where a very substantial tea was provided by the new Vicar of Christ Church, the Rev. G. Howson, M. A., of Overton, Flintshire, who has just been inducted into the new living, vacant by the resignation of the Rev. J. Nadin. About sixty-one ringers sat down to tea, which was done ample justice to. After tea speeches were delivered by the above clergymen, and it was proposed by Mr. H. Green, of Crewe, and seconded by Mr. Thomas of Wrenbury, to form a district to belong to the Chester Guild, of which district the Rev. G. Howson was unanimously elected chairman, and Mr. W. H. Boardman, Secretary. The Rev. gentleman was heartily welcomed by the members of the church, and a hope was expressed, that they would have his sympathy and interest to encourage them in their efforts, and that he would continue to manifest an interest in the doings of his ringers, and that he would cheer them on by his presence and kindness. The Rev. gentleman who is a ringer, is now taking an active

part in the art of change-ringing, and has shown by his generosity and kindness that he is heart and soul in it, and it is hoped that by his presence amongst them it will be another step in the direction of unity and good will between him and the ringers, and those who are generally ready to be their most devoted and obedient servants, when they are treated as being members and belonging to the Church. Our correspondent adds: We rejoice at having the rev. gentleman as our Vicar, and hope that he may have health and strength to continue in his good work of providing for the needy, by which he is making and justly entitled to, a good name among the poorer classes of W. H. B.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROCHDALE BRANCH.

A meeting of the above branch was held at St. Thomas's church, Moorside, near Oldham, on Saturday, October 27th. About twenty members were present from Oldham, Moorside, Bacup, Heywood, and Rochdale. The Vicar said he hoped the visitors would give them a good ring, it being the old folk's tea party in the schools near. Touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major, and also a 576 of Kent Treble Bob was rung. The next meeting is to be held at St. Thomas's church, Leesfield, near Oldham. Six new members were elected. Mr. Hoyle explained the objects of the members in forming the above branch, which has proved such a success, as it is for the advancement of the members in the district. Votes of thanks were given to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and also to the chairman, Mr. John Harrison, for presiding. After the meeting a well-struck touch of Grandsire Triples was rung at the meeting house by the following: Samuel Stott, 1-2; Fred Crosland, 3-4; James Priestley, 5-6; E. B. Shaw, 7-8. Also a 504 was attempted with Mr. Harrison, 7-8, the rest as before, but it unfortunately came to grief. A course of Caters was also successfully rung, which brought a pleasant meeting to a close.

AUGMENTATION OF CHRIST CHURCH (EASTBOURNE) BELLS.

The bells of this church, which originally consisted of only three down to the year 1883, when three new bells were added, have now been further augmented by the addition of a new treble and tenor. The work was entrusted to Messrs. Warner, of London (who have supplied all the bells) and they have succeeded in making a capital splice. The alteration of the old bells to make room for the new, has been a decided improvement with regard to the ropes, which now fall in a splendid circle. Further improvements are to be made in the ringing chamber, the churchwardens having kindly promised to put in a new ceiling, etc. When these are completed it will be one of the neatest in the county. The bells were first rung on Sunday, October 28th, for the eight o'clock celebration. For afternoon service a well-struck 1008 of Grandsire Triples was rung in 37 mins. On Monday, October 29th, an attempt was made for a peal of Oxford Bob Triples, but it unfortunately came to grief after ringing two hours and twelve minutes. This was rather disappointing, but the ringers are in no way disheartened, but intend shortly to make another attempt. The band stood as follows: R. Howse, 1; G. Howse, 2; H. Colbran, 3; P. Peters, 4; F. Harding (conductor), 5; J. Sharp, 6; T. Smith, 7; H. Knight, 8.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at Kings Norton, Worcestershire, on Saturday, October 20th. During the afternoon several touches were rung, after which the business part of the meeting was held at the "Bell" inn, Mr. C. Carmell taking the chair. There were several new members elected. The next meeting being the annual meeting it was decided to hold it at Birmingham. A hearty vote of thanks was given to the Vicar for kindly granting them the use of the bells, which brought the meeting to a close.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co. Printers, Exeter.

Obituary.

WILLIAM HARGRAVES.

On Saturday, October 20th, at 111, Stretford Road, Hulme, Manchester, of consumption, William John Hargraves, in his 38th year, lately a member of the St. Philip's and the Holy Trinity Societies, Hulme. Of an extremely genial and kindly nature, he was well-known and very popular in the belfries of Manchester and the surrounding district, being an enthusiastic change-ringer up to two years ago, when, on account of failing health, a voyage to New Zealand was determined upon. He returned in June this year, without, unfortunately, having obtained any benefit. His performances of 5000 and upwards are not many, but he will be better remembered for his eagerness to devote time and attention to the advancement of learners in the art of change-ringing. He was interred at the Ardwick Cemetery on October 23rd, and muffled touches were rung the same evening on the bells of St. Philip's and Holy Trinity churches.

ANCIENT ADVERTISEMENTS.

The following are taken from *Crossgrove's Gazette* of the year 1710. The kindness of a Norwich gentleman has enabled us to insert them.

"This is to inform the Publick that Charles Newman, Bell-founder of this City, has ever since January last been at Swaffham, in Norfolk, a casting of Bells, where he has had the good success of casting a Compleat Peal of 6 Bells for the parish of Snetsham, and another Peal of 5 Bells for the Parish of Castleacre, and 3 to make up 5 for the Parish of Hilborough, which are now a Hanging up, besides others to the Number of 29 since January last; but now is returned Home to his Office in Norwich, where he is ready to serve any Parish that has the like Occasion to new cast broken Bells, or design to make any alteration in their Rings, and he will perform the said work as well as any Pretender to that Art in England, and with as much expedition as can be desired.

"This is also to inform the Hotpressers of this City that have their Boxes out of Order, That they may have them new cast to Perfection, he having had better success in that Business than any that ever yet took them in hand to do. Likewise any sort of Brasses either for wind or water-mills, or any other Engines, are new cast by the said Thomas Newman, at his new erected office without Bear Street gates."

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"At Snetsham, in Norfolk, is a compleat Ring of Six New Bells all cast by Mr. Thom. Newman, Bellfounder of this City; who is also Casting a Peal of five for Castleacre and others that he hath taken to the Number of Fourteen."

TILEHURST, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, October 31st, eight members of the above guild (Reading Branch), started for Taylor's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, which came to grief through a mishap. As the time would not permit to ring the whole peal the members decided to start for half the peal, which was successfully rang in 1 hr. 30 mins., by the following members: H. Goodyer, 1; W. Holloway, 2; G. F. Tarrant, 3; W. Gosletine, 4; W. Johnson, 5; W. Newell (conductor), 6; J. Potter, 7; T. Harvey, 8.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR MR. DORAN.

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Mr. H. Hopkins, London	0	2	6
J. E. Worsell, Brighton	0	5	0
H. Swain, London	0	2	0
W. H. Dallimore, West Ham	0	2	0
W. Smith, West Ham	0	1	0

CHURCH FINANCE.

The following letter on this subject appears in the *Guardian*:—Sir,—Mr. Thomas Hughes I think it was who told us at the Manchester Congress that we ought to teach the people the truth; the Church Defence lecturers, one of whom I had in my little parish the other day, have done an immense amount of good by teaching the people the truth as to the origin of the Church and her endowments; and, further than this, people ought to be taught the truth about the incomes of the Bishops and clergy, and if they are to understand thus neither Bishops nor clergy should be credited with what they do not receive.

We had a meeting in Manchester to consider the extension of the Episcopate. Only one speaker, who is, I hear, a Canon denied that more Bishops were urgently needed, but more than one objected to the large nominal salaries of Bishops. He was answered by Canon Venables, who pointed out the heavy calls on the Episcopal purse; but I am sure he was not convinced. People never do understand for long that what is called an income of £500 or £5,000 is really something much less. Then, why call it so?

I am speaking now of new bishoprics. It was proposed that they should be £3,000, and it was said that as they would not have such large houses to keep up, or such large dioceses to travel over, they could manage with that. Well, we will assume this to be enough, on the word of the proposer, Mr. Spottiswoode, and now I can only guess as to how much or little of this sum the Bishop would have for his own private expenses. But of this I am certain, that when an appeal is to be made to raise money to found a new bishopric, that, and that only, should be called his income. Suppose the Bishop has to pay £150 to a private secretary, £300 for travelling expenses, and that he helps good works in his diocese to the amount of £600. He has left £1,950 for his private use. No doubt this is really much over the mark, but let it stand so. Why not ask for an endowment of £2,000 for the bishopric, with £150 for a private secretary, and £300 for travelling? There is only £2,450 in all, and every one who was asked to give would see how much was for the Bishop's personal use.

But how about the £600 put down as distributed in the diocese in good works—is that to be lost? By no means! Let there be a Bishop's fund, collected on one Sunday in the year in every church under his control, and increased by the gifts of the wealthy laity, and let the Bishop have absolute control over this, distributing it where it is in his judgment most needed. Such funds are not even now unknown.

I have put down actual figures because they are more easy to deal with; but, however wrong the details may be, that does not affect the principle for which I contended at the Manchester Congress, and contend now, that in the future the necessary official expenses of Bishops should be provided for by allowances, and not in their nominal income. We cannot afford to do anything that shall make it easy for people to be deceived as to the riches of the Church. A Judge has allowances; why not a Bishop?

SAMUEL HOBSON.

THE NEST OF THE QUAIL.—The Quail does not spend much time or trouble in constructing a nest, but contents itself by scraping out a small hollow in the ground, and placing therein a few bits of hay, straw, dried grass and stalks. The number of eggs laid is about ten, but nests are occasionally found containing a larger number. The colour of the eggs is yellowish-white, or greenish, blotched and speckled with brown; they measure a little more than an inch in length, and not quite an inch in breadth. Wheat fields, or patches of clover and grass, are the places usually selected for nesting in. The young birds are able to follow the old birds very soon after they are hatched, and feed upon grain, seeds, insects, and small tender leaves. The flight of the Quail is straight and rapid. Generally the birds keep very close to the ground, and after being fired at or alarmed once, show great reluctance to take wing a second time. They are very fond of frequenting stubble fields, and many are killed by the sportsmen when in search of partridges.—From "*Familiar Wild Birds*" for October.

CHURCH ENDOWMENT.

At the York Conference, CANON MACHELL, who took the subject of glebe lands, approved of the Act which sanctioned the alienation of such lands. In the greater number of cases, however, he recommended some organisation whereby the Church could retain its connection with the land, while the clergy were relieved from the management of the soil and the necessity of pressing for an uncertain income from their own parishioners.

Mr. W. R. FAWCETT (Stainton) in a paper on Tithe Redemption criticised Lord Salisbury's Bill of last year. He held that the minimum term of purchase should be twenty-two and a half years, though twenty-five years would be better in the case of small tithes.

The REV. H. E. MADDOCK, who read a paper on the subject of tithes, proposed the following resolutions:—

"That this conference expresses its general approval of Lord Salisbury's Tithe Rent-Charge Bills, and desires to urge upon her Majesty's Ministers the extreme importance, in the interests of the Church, of their being passed into law during the present session;" and

"That this conference is of opinion that the gradual transition from a septennial to a triennial valuation of the tithe rent-charge is equitable and expedient."

The REV. H. LOWTHER CLARKE, in seconding the resolution read a paper on "The Maintenance of Curates." There were two ways in which the maintenance of curates might be improved—firstly by creating more vacancies in benefices; and, secondly, by establishing the unbeneficed clergy in a more permanent and less precarious and anomalous position. They were rapidly approaching the end in restoring churches; let, then, the needs of the ministry be pleaded with the same zeal as had been shown in renovating buildings.

Mr. J. NEWTON (Easingwold) having expressed a hope that Lord Salisbury's Bill would be passed this year, the REV. T. W. TREVOR spoke on the other side. He was afraid that Parliament was much more likely to accept the principle of the Bill and accept the small details to which they (the clergy) objected, and the effect of their resolution, if adopted, would be that they would be giving approval to a policy that was objectionable to them. Every one approved of the first Bill of Lord Salisbury, which imposed on the landlord the payment of tithe. That was the boon that the proposed legislation would confer. But what was the price to be paid for this boon? The price was a considerable diminution of their incomes. A sum of £1,145,775 would be transferred from the tithe owners to the tithe-payers. With regard to the redemption of tithe, he did not think this was the proper time to deal with it.

The REV. T. F. SCRIVEN, having had much experience of the tithe, advised that at almost any sacrifice they should convert their tithe into something else. Speaking on the maintenance of curates, he considered the best plan was to encourage the idea of clergy pensions—pensions as a matter of right to all clergymen who might no longer at a certain age be equal to their duties. He suggested also that when a man came up for ordination he should, among other requirements, be requested to find a certain amount for the purchase of a deferred annuity.

The PRESIDENT—Do you ask me that as a question? If so, I would say that it would be quite impossible to supply the dioceses on those terms.

The REV. J. N. WORSFOLD said they were threatened with what the Church had often suffered from—legislation by panic. He regarded Lord Salisbury's idea as being perfectly friendly, but while he would adopt the first Bill he would oppose the second.

The REV. G. B. HAYDON considered it would be a great mistake for the Church and for the clergy if they were to sell the glebe lands. As to the maintenance of curates, there were two sorts of curates; there was the vicar's curate and the people's

curate. He said nothing about the former, but in regard to the latter he would say, teach the people that they needed curates and they would maintain them.

The PRESIDENT, in closing the discussion, said this question was one for the clergy themselves. There was a scheme which had been drawn up by a very able man, to which no reference had been made. Under that scheme there was to be no compulsion to redeem, except for sums of £2 and less, and any one who would contract with the Ecclesiastical Commissioners would receive from them, on their responsibility, a fixed annuity instead of the tithe. After a certain number of half-yearly payments—the term would be long—the tithe, according to the scale paid, would have entirely redeemed itself, and if the process was universally adopted the result would be, according to the calculation made, a considerable profit, which ought to go to those who paid for it, and the titheowners would have that profit. That was a scheme which it would be good for the clergy to consider, and probably adopt. There was another point which had not been given the value it ought to have. It was proposed to transfer the tithe from the occupiers to the landowners, and it had always been assumed that one great gentleman living on his estate would pay the tithe for the whole, and that the clergy would not have to deal with the small people. But there were parishes in this country where that did not apply. There were parishes in Lancashire where both owners and occupiers run into hundreds, and in these instances they would have to deal not with a fixed landowner, but with several hundreds of landowners who were not residents at all; and the clergy would probably be willing to consider the position in which they would be placed in such instances by parting with the power of distraint for the county court process. Another consideration was the expense they were put to at present in collecting tithe. An argument was founded upon the gross diminution of tithe to the amount of £1,145,755; but if they took the loss from distraints, the cost of tithe dinners, and the amount spent in agency, they would be disposed to say that the diminution was not so great as it appeared; and if it gave a clergyman a prospect of enjoying in peace without further diminution he would perhaps be disposed to incur it. He thought the clergy required to give more consideration to the matter, and he should like to know that the question had been discussed in every rural deanery Chapter, and that they should use their right of petition if deemed desirable. But he did think that at present there had not been sufficient preparation to decide upon the question.

In order to give conference as much time as possible to consider the question the voting was deferred to a later period of the day. Afterwards MR. H. E. MADDOCK, asked leave to withdraw his two resolutions, and submitted the following:—

"That the conference recognises in the two Bills of Lord Salisbury an important effort to remove the difficulties of the Tithes Acts, and recommends the clergy and others to observe and to aid as far as possible by an expression of opinion such parts of the proposed measures as shall be found to tend a fair and peaceful settlement of the tithe question."

ARCHDEACON BLUNT having seconded the resolution, it was unanimously adopted.

Discussions also took place on "Wholesome and Unwholesome Literature" and "Betting and Gambling," and the conference was closed by devotional meditation.

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 SUGGESTION.

SIR,—From time to time you open your columns to appeals for help for brethren of the Art who have fallen into misfortune. In connection with this subject it has struck me whether it would not be possible to found a Ringers' Benefit Society for the whole country, I, for one, would gladly become an Honorary Member, and so doubtless would many others. Would not this, too, be a very practical and substantial solution of the much-vexed question of the National Association?

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

Ringmer, Lewes, 30th October, 1888.

COAL.

[FROM THE *Guardian*.]

We have narrowly escaped a great calamity. A coal famine at the beginning of winter fully deserves that name; and it seemed likely last week that this would be brought about by a universal strike of colliers. Thirty thousand men were actually on strike; and notices had been given which would soon bring up the number to fifty thousand. Their claim was an advance of wages by ten per cent., and it was a claim which was in a fair way of becoming universal throughout the northern and midland coalfields. If it had been persistently urged on the one side, and persistently refused on the other, there would have been no alternative but for the collieries to stand idle while the strike continued, and for coal consumers to subsist on the limited stock already in hand, at whatever price the coal-owners, under such circumstances, could afford to sell it. The result would be that it would answer to import coals from Belgium and France, so that it would become a profitable speculation literally to carry coals to Newcastle. Such an inversion of the natural order of things has happily been averted by the timely concession of the coal-owners. So many of them have yielded to the demands of the men, that it is not likely that those who still hold out will be able to persist in their refusal. In Lancashire, Nottinghamshire, and Leicestershire the full ten per cent. has been generally granted. In Yorkshire the contest is still going on. In twenty-six pits, employing more than 10,000 men, the advance has been given; but in sixty-two collieries, employing about 30,000 men, who are consequently either on strike or under notice of strike, it has been refused. A few days will show whether, when the solidarity of the owners has been so greatly impaired, this refusal can be maintained. The southern districts do not seem as yet to have been affected by the contest. Perhaps this is due to better working arrangements. In South Wales they have a sliding scale by which wages are adjusted to prices. Under this the men will be entitled to an advance of 5 per cent. in January; and they appear much to their credit, to be satisfied with this prospective benefit. It is the first advance which they have had for five years; but that seems to be conclusive proof that the demand for coal during all that time has not been sufficient to warrant an advance. It may be that the sliding scale has secured for them higher wages than their comrades in the north have received during the slack time, so that they may really be placed on equal terms with the others by a small rise. In the Forest of Dean the 5 per cent. advance will take place at an earlier date—namely the 1st of November.

The effect of this will of course, be a rise in the price of coal. In London it has already risen 4s. a ton since July, and will probably continue to rise. If the owners pay higher wages to the men they will have to recoup themselves, wholly or partially from the consumers; unless, indeed, the increased demand is so great as to compensate for the smaller profit on each individual transaction. But the rise will, in any case, be compared with that which would have taken place if the great strike had gone forward and there had been a veritable famine of coal. And the rise of price will be still less felt if any means can be contrived for compelling the middleman to bear his share in the diminution of profit. Many coal-owners already give great facilities to the consumer for dealing direct with the pit. Every addition to the price of coal will set more persons on considering how this may be effected, so that the coal merchant may in time come in for a share of the discipline which, through the intervention of the "stores" system, has overtaken, or is overtaking the butcher, baker, grocer, and chemist. The tendency of the increased pressure of modern life is to squeeze out the middleman altogether.

The history of strikes is commonly a history of failure. After weeks or months of misery and sem-starvation, the men usually succumb and accept the terms which they might have had without all this suffering. The defence alleged for them is that they are prophylactic. The particular strike may fail to gain its end, but the fear of a strike is a potent engine to delay a reduction or accelerate an advance of wages. That this fear may be operative, it is necessary that from time to time a strike should actually occur. Whether it succeeds or fails, it has done its part if it keeps this apprehension alive. But it more often fails

than succeeds. What are the circumstances that have secured the success in so many places of this particular strike? The success is an evidence that the strike was in some degree well founded. There is to some extent a revival of trade, especially of the iron and steel trade, which, more than all others, is dependent on coal. If this means an increase of profit to the masters, it is only fair that the men should have their share in it. That it does mean, if it continues, an increase of profits is certain. But it is by no means so certain that it means an immediate increase. The owners have in many instances accepted contracts on the basis of lower wages, which may turn into a loss if they have to be fulfilled when wages have become higher. All arrangements made on the former scale have to be re-adjusted to suit the latter, and this takes time. Not till this has been done can the owners profit by the revival of trade. Moreover, the effects of a depression of trade do not generally fall so heavily on the men as on the masters. The former have been earning wages all the time, though on a reduced scale; the latter say that they have often been working at a loss. They claim the right accordingly of enjoying a larger share of the improved profits until this loss has been recovered. They hold, therefore, that they are not bound to increase the wages of the men until the improvement in trade has continued some time longer. But they know at the same time that a quarrel with their men would crush their prospects just as they are beginning to brighten, and rather than incur that risk they are willing to surrender some part of what they hold to be their right. What the men have gained by their threatened strike is therefore an advance of wages some weeks earlier than it would otherwise have taken place. What they would have lost if the strike had actually occurred on the large scale, and for the long duration which seemed at one time possible, is beyond the power of calculation. If it had frightened trade into other channels their loss would have been far more terrible than that of the coal-owners. These latter could in many cases have lived on their capital, or employed it elsewhere: the men would have had no alternative but to starve for lack of work. But they risked their stake against that of the owners, and, as it happens, they have won. They showed themselves to be ready for the last resort of war, and the threat was found to be sufficient. But war, even on the bloodless field of commerce, is so frightful a calamity that it can scarcely be compensated by a rise of 10 per cent. in wages. That the workman should get his fair share of the profits of trade is a result that we should all desire. But then he ought also to take a fair share in its losses. It ought not to be impossible to secure this reasonable participation in its vicissitudes by methods less barbarous than a strike. An agreement to submit to arbitration or a sliding scale such as seems to have been established in South Wales are alternatives that offer at least a fair promise of success.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ESTABLISHED 1637.

The 251st Anniversary Dinner will take place at the Bridge House Hotel, London, S.E. to-day (Saturday). The chair will be taken at 7 o'clock prompt. Tickets 3s. 6d. each. The following towers will be open for ringing: St. Michael's, Cornhill, 4 o'clock to 5; and St. Saviour's, Southwark, 5 o'clock to 6.30. Tickets can still be obtained of the Dinner Committee, viz.: Mr. S. E. Joyce, 33, Finch Street, Mile End; Mr. J. Pettit, 3, St. Thomas's Place, Hackney; Mr. G. T. McLaughlin, 48, Westmoreland Street, Pimlico; Mr. G. Mash, senior, 20, Essex Street, Southwark; Mr. C. F. Winny, 27, Tadema Road, Chelsea; Mr. R. T. Woodley, 46, Lillington Street, Pimlico; or, of Messrs. W. Tyack, H. Springall, or E. E. Clark. All friends will be heartily welcomed.

TO be Sold. A set of Handbells. In good repair, 3 octaves in chromatic scale 37 in number. C. 22 size largest bell. No reasonable offer refused. Apply R. Biatts, 20, Mint, Low Moor Side, Holbeck, Leeds.

WANTED TO PURCHASE. A Set of Eight, Ten, or Twelve Second-hand Hand Bells. Apply, stating Price and Particulars to J. W. Watson, 16, Knight Street, Lincoln.

TITHE AGITATION.

The following resolutions were passed at the meeting of the clergy of Norfolk, held on the 20th inst., Archdeacon Perowne in the chair:—

"1. That this meeting regards with satisfaction the Bill entitled 'An Act to amend Section 80 of the Tithe Rent-charge Act, 1836,' and earnestly hopes that that bill, in which it has passed the House of Lords, will become law in the approaching session of Parliament."

"2. That this meeting approves generally of the principles of the Tithe Rent-charge Recovery and Variation Bill, and earnestly desires prompt legislation on the subject."

"3. That, in the opinion of this meeting, the Bill requires amendment as regards 'procedure' for the recovery of tithe rent-charge."

"4. That the special attention of the Government be called to the fact that in the Bill the word 'produce' ought to be substituted for the words 'net profit.'"

"5. That, in the opinion of this meeting, the Bill urgently requires amendment by the introduction of some method of gradual transition from the septennial to the triennial valuation."

"6. That this meeting desires not to separate without expressing its admiration of the way in which the tenant farmers of Norfolk have kept up their payments of tithe rent-charge during a period of very trying agricultural depression."

The Rev. S. Hooke, rector of Clopton, Woodbridge, has again intimated his intention of remitting five per cent. of the tithe rent-charge.

On Thursday the mountainous district around Helcyn and Cilcain, Flintshire (where disturbances have occurred before), was visited by Mr. Stevens, on behalf of the Clergy Defence Association. He was protected by five police-constables, commanded by a sergeant four emergency men armed with batons, and two appraisers. At three farms the tithes were paid, but at Fron Farm a crowd gathered, bearing an effigy of the rector, around which danced and blew horns, and then burnt it. At Grachin Farm they Mr. Blackwell was hooted for paying £2 due from him. At the next farm Mrs. Jones had chained up her gate, but after some conversation she paid what was due. Mr. Hughes, the next farmer, had stuck up triumphal flags on the top of the stack in his yard and an effigy of the vicar. The crowd says the *Daily News*, having thoroughly enjoyed the fun, the tenant farmer paid his arrears.

SEVENOAKS, KENT.

On Monday last the mortal remains of Arthur James Fowler, formerly a member of the Sevenoaks band of Ringers, was interred in the cemetery at St. Nicholas' Church, Sevenoaks. The deceased joined the old band at the age of sixteen, and up to three years ago was a promising young change-ringer, but ill-health failed him, and after being in one of the London hospitals for over twelve months was brought home incurable. He recovered for a time, and followed his employment, and the present band having been formed (the old band having broken up), he expressed a wish to join them which was accepted by the new captain, but the Rector, Rev. T. S. Curtis, who knew the nature of his complaint would not allow him to join them. He took great interest in the new band and their ringing, and joined them at supper on their opening night. He again failed about three weeks ago, and gradually got worse, and on Wednesday, October 17th, quietly passed away to rest respected by all who knew him at the early age of 21. The remains were borne to the grave by four of the single members of the band, four of the married ones acting as pall-bearers. The coffin was covered by wreaths and crosses sent by sorrowing friends, and was preceded by the staff of the *Sevenoaks Chronicle*, by whom he was employed. The Rector met them at the Church gates and conducted the service, at the conclusion of which the members retired to the belfry, where a muffled peal was rung with some of his favourite changes. May he rest in peace.

W. A.

It is not probable the consecration of Canon Jayne, Bishop-designate of Chester, will be made before the beginning of next year, and that at present no date can be fixed for it.

INCREASE OF THE EPISCOPATE.

At the Church Conference for the Diocese of York, the Archbishop said:—The need of further Episcopal help in the diocese of York was obvious. Some time ago a suggestion was made to him by the Lord Chancellor that he should promote a scheme for procuring a Bishop of Beverley, to which place he has strong family ties, as well as great interest in its beautiful minster. For this purpose Lord Grimthorpe had offered £3000 in Beverley Waterworks stock, a security which, though its value is now small, would rise gradually to a considerable amount. The scheme which shaped itself to his (the Archbishop's) mind was that as soon as a fund should offer even a moderate income a Suffragan should be appointed in the usual way to assist the Archbishop; and that when the sum should increase so as to give hopes of a bishopric being founded after the manner of Wakefield or Southwell, application should be made to the Legislature for that purpose. The example of Wakefield has shown that to collect for many years for a new see without making any use of the proceeds of the money until a certain large sum should be raised was somewhat wasteful. Between the date of Lord Cross's Act and the appointment of the Bishop of Wakefield in the present year several years had passed. It was, of course, needless to observe that the nomination of the Archbishop of a Suffragan to assist him temporarily could only extend to the term of his own tenure of office. Figures were supposed to be a dry study, but this hardly applied to the remark, that exclusive of some gifts that might be counted upon, the sums he had mentioned amounted to well-nigh the interest of £1,000,000. About the same might be said of the sum annually given by the deanery of Sheffield alone for Church purposes, and if any one wanted a gauge of the liberality that prevailed in the Church at this moment, he advised him to look into the *Diocesan Calendar* at the large amount raised for Church purposes there tabulated in connection with the different archdeaconries.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN CONFERENCE.

The sittings of this conference closed on October 31st with a discussion on clerical incomes, in the course of which Dr. Stubbs, the President, made some observations on the augmentation of the incomes of the poorer clergy. The subject was introduced by Mr. Glenn, who suggested that a sort of voluntary tax should be levied on clergymen with incomes of £300 a year and over. Mr. Williams (Birkenhead) ridiculed this proposal, saying that they should rather level up instead of levelling down, and that the burden should fall on the laity. The Bishop said that Mr. Glenn had gone on the principle adopted by some of their Socialist friends, that all men and all clergy should be equal. The most elementary principles had been overlooked by the very persons who were most ready to lay down the law for them in discussing this question at the recent Church Congress. A man who knew his powers and tried to use them deserved to be placed in the position worthy of those powers. These things rather sickened one of all discussions, and if it had not been that he really thought Mr. Glenn did deserve to have some consideration shown to him he would not have allowed it to be placed on the agenda. The same thing applied in other walks of life. In a lawyer's office one clerk could write better than another, and one man could understand Blackstone better than other. Why should all clergymen be put down at £300 a year, irrespective of their powers and opportunities? He could not really speak with any coolness or calmness on this question. He had been a clergyman for many years, and he did not know that in any one year his clerical income had met his clerical expenditure. During all those years he worked to support himself and family with his pen, and it was purely owing to the success which he had had in writing that he had been recognised as he had been, and placed in the position which he was now. He did not think those things ought to be left out of sight. There were hundreds, if not thousands, of clergymen who had to do the same thing now. He thought they must excuse the warmth with which he had spoken but he really did think he could expand it very largely by what he knew of the existing Bishops of the present day.

OUR CHRISTMAS NUMBER,

NOW IN PREPARATION,

WILL CONTAIN

A PORTRAIT

Of a well-known Change-Ringer, with short Biographical Sketch.

The number will contain Two Stories :—

"A MERRY PEAL,"

By the Author of "The Belle of Belsham."

AND

"THE CHURCHWARDEN."

By the Author of "The First Peal."

Further particulars will be announced in due course.

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

One copy, 12 months 6s. 6d.

" 6 " 3s. 3d.

" 3 " 1s. 8d.

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1888.

The Provinces.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, October 24, 1888, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. in E♭

WILLIAM GRIMES Treble.	WILLIAM G. CRICKMER .. 50
ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN, SEN. 2.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, SEN. 6.
STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. 3.	DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. 7.
GEORGE WIGHTMAN 4.	GEORGE ROWE Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, and Conducted by DAVID G. WIGHTMAN.

This is the first peal in the method by all and also on this bells. Messrs. Wightman hail from Cretingham; Crickmer from Earl Soham; the rest belong to Debenham.

MILLAND, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(MIDHURST BRANCH.)

On Thursday, October 25, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES UPON SIX BELLS;

BEING SEVEN 720'S OF BOB MINOR, EACH CALLED DIFFERENTLY.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS ELLIS Treble.	GEORGE BATTS 4.
WILLIAM COURT 2.	WILLIAM SELBY 5.
CHARLES TRIBE 3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This is the first peal on the bells, and the above members thank the Vicar for the use of bells, and for everything being in readiness.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS,
AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, October 25, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

WILLIAM NASH Treble.	*EDWIN BARNETT 5.
HUGH SCARLETT* 2.	*GEORGE CORNELL 6.
ARTHUR H. GARDON* 3.	*JAMES PRIEST 7.
ALFRED PORTER 4.	*WILLIAM LEBBON Tenor.

Composed by JOHN R. PRITCHARD, and Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT.

The above was rung to commemorate the 25th birthday of Mr. James Priest, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns.

COLE-ORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(ASHBY DE-LA-ZOUCH PARISH CHURCH SOCIETY).

On Thursday, October 25, 1888, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM LIGGINS Treble.	*WILLIAM OWEN 5.
HERBERT CANNER 2.	J. H. DUNMORE 6.
THOMAS JACQUES 3.	†WALTER CANNER 7.
JAMES HOPKIN 4.	JOSEPH CURTIS Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER CANNER.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. It was intended to ring the peal at St. Helen's Church, Ashby De-la-Zouch, on the second anniversary of the Society, but owing to illness near the church this was found impossible. The ringers wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to thank the Rector, the Rev. H. B. Beaumont, for so kindly placing the bells at their disposal.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Opening Peal.

On Friday, October 26, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

JOHN DAINS Treble.	*ALFRED TARBUN 5.
ARTHUR EDWARDS 2.	WILLIAM LINCOLN 6.
WILLIAM HAWKES 3.	EDWARD SCOTCHER 7.
HARVEY REEVES 4.	WILLIAM J. PIPER Tenor.

Conducted by HARVEY REEVES.

*First peal.

These bells have recently been augmented from six to eight, by Mears and St. inbank, and this is the first peal rung upon them.

WARWICK.

On Friday, October 26, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;
Tenor 28 cwt in D.

HARRY MASON .. .. .Treble.	HARRY CARTWRIGHT .. 6.
CHARLES W. BASSANO* .. 2.	*ALFRED H. BASSANO .. 7.
WILLIAM BIRD .. .. .3.	*REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 8.
ALBERT E. PARSONS .. 4.	*JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 9.
WILLIAM GREEN .. .. .5.	RICHARD BIRD .. .. .Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

This is the last part of the long peal rung at Appleton, and is the first peal on record on these bells since 1869. All but Mr. Robinson and Mr. Washbrook are from Old Hill, and this is the first peal of Caters, and the first attempt, by 3rd, 5th, 6th, and 10th.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, October 26, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5129 CHANGES;
Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

AMOS CRESSER .. .. .Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 6.
J. HARDY .. .. .2.	E. W. CARTWRIGHT .. 7.
A. MILLIS .. .. .3.	F. A. UNDERWOOD .. 8.
W. A. TYLER .. .. .4.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN... .. 9.
S. SMITH .. .. .5.	E. WIGHTMAN .. .. .Tenor.

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD, and Conducted by
J. W. TAYLOR, JUN.

The following sixteen peals have been rung on these bells since they were opened on October 28th, 1887:—Two peals of Treble Bob Royal, six of Stedman Caters, six of Grandsire Caters, one of Treble Bob Major, and one of Grandsire Triples.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND
THE HERTS AND ESSEX ASSOCIATIONS, AND
THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, October 27, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 21 cwt. in D.

ARTHUR HULL .. .. .Treble.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.. 5.
E. P. DEBENHAM 2.	GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. 6.
ALFRED BARNES 3.	THOMAS WALLER 7.
JOHN C. MITCHELL 4.	HERBERT BAKER .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

Rung in honour of the birthday of Mr. T. Waller. Mr. H. Baker hails from Hertford.

WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, AND THE
ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.

On Saturday, October 27, 1888, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 27 cwt.

FREDERICK MEE .. .. .Treble.	ALBERT E. DURRANT .. 5.
CHARLES MEE .. .. .2.	WILLIAM P. GARRETT .. 6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER .. 3.	WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. 7.
WILLIAM MOTTS .. .. .4.	JAMES MOTTS .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by C. MEE.

ROTHWELL, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 27, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

J. G. VERITY* .. .. .Treble.	ALF. CHAPMAN 5.
JOE HAIGH .. .. .2.	WM. ABBISHAW 6.
AS. HAIGH .. .. .3.	*STEPHEN STACEY 7.
JNO. CHAPMAN .. .. .4.	†J. M. CHADWICK .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by J. M. CHADWICK.

NEWCHURCH, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE
BRANCH.

On Saturday, October 27, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN BOLTON* .. .. .Treble.	JAMES B. TAYLOR 5.
JOHN CURTISS .. .. .2.	*JAMES E. WHITTAKER .. 6.
GEORGE LORD .. .. .3.	JAMES THOS. STOTT .. 7.
JAMES ASHWORTH 4.	WALTER WHITTAKER .. .Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BOLTON.

*First peal. Messrs. Bolton, Ashworth, J. E. and W. Whittaker, belong to St. James's, Waterfoot, Curtiss to Bolton, Lord, Taylor, and Stott to the local company.

STREATHAM, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, October 29, 1888, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE IMMANUEL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

SAMUEL GREENWOOL* ..Treble.	*ALFRED H. MARTIN .. 5.
EDGAR BENNETT 2.	JOSEPH FAYERS 6.
CHARLES BANCE 3.	JAMES TRAPPITT 7.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER .. 4.	CHARLES GORDON .. .. .Tenor.

Composed by J. PLATT, and Conducted by EDGAR BENNETT.

*First peal of Major.

Date Touches.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

PERRY BARR.—On Sunday morning, October 21st, for Divine Service at St. John's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 58 mins. W. Carte, 1; W. Long, 2; W. E. Smith, 3; T. Reynolds, 4; G. Smith, 5; H. Brown, 6; J. Buffery (conductor), 7; C. Williams, 8. Composed by H. Johnson, sen., of Birmingham.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

NETHERTON.—On Saturday, October 27th, at the parish church, a date touch (1888 changes), being 440 of Plain Bob, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, and 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 1 hr. 16 mins. E. Hampton, 1; S. Spittle, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Mrs. W. Prestidge, mother of one of the local ringers. Tenor 12½ cwt. Also on Sunday morning, October 28th, being the Harvest Festival, 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26½ mins. E. Hampton, 1; B. Townsend, 2; J. Townsend, 3; W. Prestidge, 4; R. Round, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. And for evening service, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. B. Townsend, 1; R. Round, 2; J. Townsend, 3; W. Prestidge, 4; J. Smith, 5; W. Micklewright (conductor), 6.

DISS (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, October 16th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Oxford Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 15 mins. W. Ireland (conductor), 1; J. W. Driver, 2; E. Broome, 3; W. Salter, 4; C. Webster, 5; E. Hayward, 6; A. Hart, 7; J. Souter, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. Mr. J. Driver hails from All Saints', Fulham, and was on a visit to his native village.

SELLY OAK.—On Saturday, October 13th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 5 mins. G. Hale, 1; A. Cole, 2; J. Nix, 3; E. Boylin, 4; T. Lewis, 5; J. T. Perry (conductor), 6; E. Bryant, 7; J. Dowler, 8. Composed by John Carter.

ARUNDEL.—On Monday evening, October 29th, for practice at the parish church of the Holy Trinity, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 4 mins. W. Twigg, 1; G. Balchin, 2; W. Challen, 3; F. Luxford, 4; O. Evershed, 5; E. Ede, 6; C. Blackman (conductor), 7; C. Hayler, 8.

Miscellaneous.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PAISWICK (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday evening, October 21st, for Divine Service at the parish church, 714 of Grandsire Triples. T. Wright, 1; D. Marment, 2; W. Ryland, 3; H. G. Gardner, 4; J. Wager, 5; W. Hale (conductor), 6; G. Smith, 7; J. Powell, 8. Also a 350. And on Monday evening, October 22nd, the local company rang 1260 of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; W. Ryland, 3; E. King, 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; W. Hale (conductor), 7; J. Powell, 8. Also 448 in the same method, with C. West, 4; which was his longest touch. H. G. Gardner hails from Gloucester.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

WALPOLE (Norfolk).—On Thursday, October 18th, at St. Peter's church, on the occasion of the seventy-first birthday of the Rector, the Rev. P. S. Bagge, a generous supporter of the Guild, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was rung. Dr. Seccombe, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Hill, jun. (conductor), 3; H. Allen, 4; W. Wright, 5. Tenor 13 cwt. And on Thursday evening, October 25th, 720 of Grandsire Minor. H. Merrishaw, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Hill, jun. (conductor), 3; W. Brett, 5; Dr. Seccombe, 6. Also 360 of London Single by the same company, conducted by W. Day.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, October 22nd, at St. John's church, an attempt for a peal of Bob Major had to be abandoned after ringing 3376 changes, owing to the conductor omitting a call. W. Egglestone, 1; F. Lees, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; G. Atkinson, 4; J. Pattison, 5; R. S. Story, 6; Z. Scott, 7; W. Story (conductor), 8. Tenor 12½ cwt.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BUCKNALL.—On Sunday evening, October 21st, at St. Mary's church, for evening service, and also being the Harvest Festival, 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. *G. Hobbs, 1; *C. A. Oliver, 2; J. Wood, 3; C. Burgess, 4; *R. Eyre, 5; †W. Twigg (conductor), 6. *First 720. †First 720 as conductor. J. Wood hails from Norton, the others are local men.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, October 23rd, at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Wood, 1; W. Twigg, 2; *J. Eyre, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; W. Baddeley, 5; E. Glover (conductor), 6. Messrs. Twigg and Eyre hail from Bucknall. *First 720 with a bob bell.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

CHELMSFORD.—On Monday, October 22nd, for practice at St. Mary's Church, 828 and 334 of Grandsire Caters. *R. C. Burrell, 1; *J. Dains, 2; W. Rowland, 3; A. Edwards, 4; *W. J. Piper, 5; *A. Tarbun, 6; W. Hawkes, 7; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 8; W. Lincoln (conductor), 9; J. Parmenter, 10. Tenor 22½ cwt. *Longest touch of Caters. Messrs. Burrell, Rowland, and Parmenter belong to the Chelmsford company, and Mr. Hawkes to Springfield; the rest are from Widford and Writtle. And on Saturday evening, October 28th, being the occasion on which two peal boards were erected to record the 5000 Treble Bob Royal, and the 5021 Grandsire Caters rung here, touches were rung in the following methods:—Stedman Caters, Grandsire Caters, and Treble Bob Royal. Previous to the above, the ringers partook of a capital tea, for which they thank the Hon. Sec. Also after the ringing a capital supper was provided by A. H. Gardom, Esq., for which the ringers tender their thanks to that gentleman for his liberality.

WIDFORD.—On Friday, October 19th, for practice, 720 of Plain Bob Major. W. Emery, 1; A. Tarbun, 2; *A. Shuttleworth, 3; J. Dains, 4; A. Edwards, 5; W. Hawkes, 6; W. J. Piper, 7; W. Lincoln (conductor), 8. *Longest touch in the method. Also two 168's of Grandsire Triples. The Widford company being now reduced to four members, friends are welcome on Friday evenings, and on Sundays before service. And on Sunday morning, October 28th, for service, 718 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung. T. Scarlett, 1; A. Fussell, 2; W. Rowland, 3; W. Hawkes, 4; A. J. Perkins, 5; J. Smith, 6; A. Jacob, 7; G. Newson (conductor), 8. Also 168 Stedman Triples (being the first touch in this method on the bells) in which Mr. Malin took part.

WRITTLE.—On Wednesday, October 17th, for practice, at the parish church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor (four bobs and fourteen singles), in 24 mins. W. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; F. Radley, 3; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 4; A. Edwards, 5; W. Lincoln (conductor), 6. On Sunday, October 21st, for evening service, a quarter-peal (1260

changes) of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins. W. Emery, 1; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 2; W. Hawkes, 3; A. Tarbun, 4; W. J. Piper, 5; A. Edwards, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; C. J. Dennison, 8. Tenor 18½ cwt. And on Sunday afternoon, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, (1260 changes), was rung in 42 mins. A. J. Perkins (conductor), 1; C. E. Malin, 2; A. Fussell, 3; T. Scarlett, 4; J. Smith, 5; G. Newson, 6; A. Jacob, 7; W. Lincoln, 8. Also 672 of Grandsire Triples in which the Rev. T. L. Papillon took part, conducted by G. Newson.

GALLEYWOOD.—On Sunday morning, October 28th, three courses of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung with the tenors apart. A. Jacob, 1; A. Fussell, 2; W. Rowland, 3; G. Newson (conductor), 4; W. Hawkes, 5; T. Scarlett, 6; A. J. Perkins, 7; J. Smith, 8. Also 252 Stedman Triples, in which Mr. Malin took part.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday morning, October 28th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 720 of Cambridge Surprise. T. Watson, 1; S. Hammond, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; F. L. Bumstead, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. And for evening service, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; *W. Moore, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; F. L. Bumstead, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. Also 120 of Bob Minor, with *F. Radley, 1; the rest as before. *Hail from Bocking.

ROMFORD.—Handbell Ringing.—On Monday evening, October 29th, 503 of Grandsire Triples. S. James, 1; M. L. Myhill, 2; W. Nash, 3-4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5-6; W. Pegrum, 7-8.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Thursday, October 18th, at St. Stephen's Church, Westminster, 742 of Grandsire Triples. J. M. Hayes, 1; W. J. Gohns, 2; C. F. Winny, 3; J. Pryor, 4; W. Carter, 5; A. F. Ingerfield, 6; H. S. Ellis, 7; H. R. Newton (conductor), 8. Also on Sunday evening, 21st, for Divine Service, 742 of Grandsire Triples. H. R. Newton (conductor), 1; W. Carter, 2; S. J. Reed, 3; J. Pryor, 4; E. Duff, 5; J. M. Hayes, 6; W. H. George, 7; A. F. Ingerfield, 8.

LAMBETH (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, 28th, for Divine Service, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 43 mins. S. J. Reed, 1; H. R. Newton (conductor), 2; J. Pryor, 3; W. Carter, 4; W. E. Garrard, 5; H. S. Ellis, 6; W. J. Cockerell, 7; A. F. Ingerfield, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Monday, October 22nd, at St. Martin's Church, at 8 o'clock in the morning, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). F. Hodgkin, 1; E. Hyder, (aged 76), 2; W. H. Lambert, 3; F. J. Lambert, 4; P. Hodgkin, (conductor), 5; W. Post sen., 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Grinstead, 1; P. Hodgkin, 2; R. Annesley, 3; F. J. Lambert, 4; T. Hooker (conductor), 5; W. Post sen., 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). T. Lambert, 1; G. Hooker, 2; W. H. Lambert, 3; F. J. Lambert, 4; P. Hodgkin (conductor), 5; W. Post sen., 6. Also 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor with (nine bobs) in 28 mins. C. Slingsby, 1; P. Hodgkin, 2; G. Paine, 3; F. Wanstall, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post sen., 6. And 720 of Bob Minor with (nine bobs and six singles). Rev. E. W. Carpenter, 1; H. Foreman, 2; G. A. Ransom, 3; E. E. Foreman, 4; P. Hodgkin (conductor), 5; W. Post sen., 6. The Messrs Lambert hail from Horsmonden; The brothers Foreman from Herne Hill; Ransom from Boughton-under-Blean; Grinstead, Annesley, and T. Hooker, from Elmsted; Paine, Mersham, and Rev. E. W. Carpenter, from Bobbing. Tenor 14 cwt in G.

ELTHAM (Kent).—On Wednesday evening, October 17th, the Folkestone band visited the above place and with two of the Lyminge band, rang at the parish church, a 1008 of Grandsire Triples. J. Andrews, 1; F. Finn, 2; J. Fisher, 3; A. Tanton, 4; H. Croucher, 5; S. Barker (conductor), 6; F. Kingsby, 7; G. Millen, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BLETCHINGLEY (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, October 21st, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. G. Brown, 1; J. Bashford, 2; F. Smith, 3; W. Mayne, 4; J. Bashford, jun. (conductor), 5; L. Killick, 6; T. Boniface, 7; A. Wallis, 8.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WORCESTER.—On Thursday, October 25th, for practice at St. Helen's church, the first part of Reeves's Variation peal of Grandsire Triples (560 changes). — Horton (first attempt in the method), 1; H. B. Kingsford, 2; N. Wale, 3; W. Powell, 4; W. Pudge, 5; L. Longney (conductor), 6; W. Page, 7; T. Malim, 8.

ENVILLE.—On Sunday, October 28th, at the parish church of St. Mary, a quarter-peal of Plain Bob Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. J. Pagett, 1; L. Griffiths, 2; H. Harris, 3; T. Lees, 4; C. Barrett, 5; W. H. Hartshorne (composer and conductor), 6; H. Hartshorne, 7; J. Crump, 8. Messrs. Pagett, Harris, Barratt, and Crump, hail from Stourbridge; Lees from Oldswinford; the rest from Brierley Hill.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Thursday, October 25th, at St. Paul's church, an attempt was made for a peal of 5088 London Surprise Major, but it unfortunately ended in a failure when only 320 changes remained to be rung. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin (conductor), 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; T. Holmes, 7; W. Wakley, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—BRADFIELD DEANERY BRANCH.

THEALE.—On Saturday, October 27th, being the annual festival of the above branch at this place, a 720 of Court Bob Minor was rung at the parish church, in 23 mins. H. Hatto, 1; A. Richardson, 2; J. Hands, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; J. Hatto, 5; J. Richardson (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor in 25 mins. A. E. Reeves, 1; H. Hatto, 2; A. Richardson, 3; T. Bidmead, 4; J. Hatto, 5; J. Richardson (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Single Oxford Bob. G. Webb, 1; A. Richardson, 2; A. E. Reeves, 3; H. Hatto, 4; J. Hatto, 5; J. Richardson, 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Hatto, 1; A. Richardson, 2; W. Lawrence, 3; H. Hatto, 4; J. Hands, 5; J. Richardson (conductor), 6. And various touches of Grandsire Minor and Doubles were rung by different parties. This is A. E. Reeves's first 720 of Court Bob and Double Oxford. J. Hands hails from Caversham, A. E. Reeves from Reading, W. Lawrence from Whitchurch, and the rest from Beenhaim.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRANDESTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, October 27th, at the parish church, for practice, a 720 of London Surprise, and 120 each of Coventry, and Cambridge Surprise. S. Wightman, 1; A. S. Wightman, 2; W. G. Crickmer, 3; G. Wightman, 4; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 5; S. Wightman, sen., 6.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, October 24th, at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 28 mins. P. C. S. Scott (conductor), 1; A. Ambrose, 2; H. Duce, 3; O. Garwood, 4; J. Bird, 5; S. Slater, 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Sunday morning, October 21st, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Gregory, 1; J. Gardner, 2; F. Money, 3; A. Bunce, 4; A. Gregory, 5; F. May, 6. And on Sunday morning, October 28th, for Divine Service, 240 of Grandsire Doubles. T. Gregory, 1; O. Gregory, 2; F. May, 3; G. Gregory, 4; C. Page, 5; A. Bunce, 6. Also for afternoon service, 240 of Grandsire Minor. O. Gregory, 1; A. Gregory, 2; C. Page, 3; G. Gregory, 4; A. Bunce, 5; F. May, 6. And for evening service, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Gregory, 1; H. Smith, 2; F. Money, 3; C. Page, 4; A. Bunce, 5; F. May (conductor), 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Thursday, October 25th, at St. Peter's church, 550 of Grandsire Triples. H. Sherley, 1; G. Grahham, 2; D. J. Jeffery, 3; C. Privett, 4; J. Staples, 5; F. Staples, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; G. Passingham, 8.

ARUNDEL.—On Monday evening, October 22nd, at the parish church of the Holy Trinity, 504 of Grandsire Triples. S. Long, 1; F. Luxford (conductor), 2; W. Challen, 3; C. Blackman, 4; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 5; G. Balchin, 6; E. Ede, 7; A. Mills, 8. Also on Monday evening, October 29th, for practice, 350 in the same method. G. Treagus, 1; F. Luxford, 2; W. Challen, 3; C. Blackman, 4; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 5; E. Ede, 6; G. Balchin, 7; W. Twigg, 8.

BATHEASTON (Somerset).—Handbell Ringing.—Recently at the house of Mr. B. Carter, several courses of Grandsire Triples. T. Radford, 1-2; T. Carter, 3-4; R. Carter, 5-6; B. Carter, 7-8. Also a course of Grandsire Major. T. Radford, 1-2; T. Carter, 3-4; R. Carter, 5-6; B. Carter, sen., 7-8. T. Radford hails from Taunton.

BLECHINGLEY (Surrey).—On Thursday, October 26th, for practice at the parish church, 504 of Stedman Triples. W. Hawkins (conductor), 1; J. Bashford, 2; F. Smith, 3; M. Mayne, 4; J. Bashford, junr., 5; J. Tidey, 6; T. Boniface, 7; J. Balcombe, 8. This is the first 504 of Stedman Triples rung by the local company.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, October 23rd, for practice at St. Mary's church, 720 of Bob Minor. F. Radley, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; C. H. Howard, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Tuesday evening, October 23rd, for practice, at the parish church, 720 of Violet in 24 mins. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; G. Holloway, 3; J. Gasson, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Oxford Bob. — Eagles, 1; J. Gasson, 2; W. Haynes, 3; E. Jordan, 4; D. Jordan, 5; T. Stedman (conductor), 6. And 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Akehurst, 1; G. Holloway, 2; W. Haynes, 3; T. Stedman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, October 26th, 720 of Wells Surprise. M. Jenkins, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; A. Mills, 4; T. Stedman, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And 720 of Oxford. T. Stedman, 1; R. Jordan, 2; W. Haynes, 3; E. Jordan, 4; A. Mills, 5; D. Jordan, 6. Also on Sunday, October 28th, 720 of London Surprise, and 240 of New London Pleasure. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; M. Jenkins, 4; T. Stedman, 5; D. Jordan, 6. Mr. Eagles hails from Ockley, G. Holloway from Rusper, J. Gasson from Balcombe, and W. Hynes from Ewhurst; the rest are local men.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, October 23rd, for practice at the church of St. John the Baptist, 336 of Oxford Bob Triples. H. C. Haley (conductor), 1; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 2; G. Russell, 3; W. States, 4; H. Brooker, 5; A. Bruce, 6; T. Verrall, 7; W. Hills, 8. And 252 of Stedman Triples. G. Russell (conductor), 1; H. C. Haley, 2; E. Bennett, 3; A. H. Martin, 4; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 5; W. States, 6; A. Bruce, 7; F. Collins, 8. Also 68 of Stedman Triples. G. Russell, 1; H. C. Haley, 2; E. Bennett (conductor), 3; A. H. Martin, 4; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 5; T. Verrall, 6; A. Bruce, 7; W. Hills, 8. And on Monday, October 29th, for practice at St. Peter's church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Burt, 1; A. Arnold, 2; R. E. Pearson, 3; W. C. Palmer, 4; W. States, 5; H. Brooker (conductor), 6; A. Bance, 7; W. Collins, 8. *First 500. Also on Tuesday, October 30th, at the parish church of St. John the Baptist, 500 of Grandsire Triples. H. C. Haley (conductor), 1; A. Arnold, 2; R. E. Pearson, 3; H. Brooker, 4; T. Verrall, 5; W. States, 6; F. G. Hermon, 7; A. E. Collins, 8. And 490 Oxford Bob Triples. H. Dudley, 1; W. States, 2; H. C. Haley, 3; Dr. A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 4; H. Brooker, 5; A. Bruce, 6; T. Verrall, 7; A. E. Collins, 8. *First 500.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, October 27th, at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles in 25 mins. W. Cook (first 720), 1; A. Haigh, 2; M. Warwick, 3; J. Baker, 4; W. Haigh (first 720), 5; G. Lindoff (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. Also on Sunday, October 28th, 360 of Grandsire Minor by the same band, A. Haigh (conductor). The above is the first 720 on the bells since they were rehung.

GLADWICK (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, October 21st, for Divine Service at St. Mark's church, 574 of Grandsire Triples. R. Guest, 1; G. Dunkerley, 2; J. Whittaker, 3; J. Gratix (Manchester), 4; C. Dronfield, 5; G. H. Beever (conductor), 6; J. Siddall, 7; W. Rhodes, 8. Tenor 8½ cwt.

HALESOWEN (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, October 20th, several members of the Hagley and Clent companies paid a visit to the above place, and were kindly met by the local company. A start was made with 504 of Grandsire Triples, after which "go" was called for a course of Kent Treble Bob Major. H. Morris, 1; T. Barber, 2; J. Smith, 3; H. Raybould, 4; W. Short, 5; E. Hackett, 6; R. Eaton, 7; H. Martin, 8. And another course, with J. Smith, 2; T. Lees, 3; C. Boughton, 7. This is the first touch of Treble Bob Major by all except H. Martin. Messrs. Raybould, Hackett, and Eaton, belong to the local company.

HATFIELD (Herts).—On Tuesday, October 16th, for practice, at the parish church, 336 of Grandsire Triples. T. Stocks, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. Kentish, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; J. Richardson, 5; H. Rowe, 6; T. Gathard (conductor), 7; W. Valentine, 8. Also on Sunday, October 21st, for evening service, 672 of Grandsire Triples. J. Kentish, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. Channer, 3; W. Powers, 4; J. Richardson, 5; H. Rowe, 6; A. Shepherd (conductor), 7; G. Smith, 8. And on Tuesday morning, October 23rd, being the birthday of Viscount Cranborne, 700 of Grandsire Triples. J. Kentish, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; J. Richardson, 5; H. Rowe, 6; A. Shepherd (conductor), 7; W. Valentine, 8. Also at 1 o'clock, 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. Kenney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. Kentish, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; W. Powers, 5; H. Rowe (conductor), 6; A. Shepherd, 7;

G. Smith, 8. And in the evening an attempt was made to ring Thurstans' five-part peal, but came to grief after ringing 1600 changes, in one hr. J. Kentish, 1; A. Shepherd (conductor), 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; J. Richardson, 5; H. Rowe, 6; T. Gathard, 7; T. Stocks, 8.

HUNTLEY (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday, October 24th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), in 40 mins. H. Hatch, 1; W. Williams, 2; J. H. Brawn (conductor), 3; C. Turner, 4; J. Dobbins, 5; F. Marshall, 6. The above was rung in honour of the marriage of Miss Probyn to the Earl of Lisburne.

LOWICK, (Northants).—On Monday, September 24th, for practice at St. Peter's church, 120 of St. Simon's Doubles. E. Dunkley, 1; C. Swan (conductor), 2; W. Fox, 3; E. Curtis, 4; G. March, 5. Also a six-score of Bob Doubles. G. March, 1; E. Dunkley (conductor), 2; W. Fox, 3; E. Curtis, 4; C. Swan, 5. And two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and a six-score of Stedman Doubles. E. Dunkley, 1; G. March, 2; W. Fox, 3; E. Curtis, 4; C. Swan (conductor), 5. And on handbells, retained in hand, at the house of Mr. C. Swan, a six-score of Grandsire, Canterbury, and Bob Doubles. H. Chapman, 1; C. Swan, 2; E. Dunkley, 3-4; G. March (conductor), 5-6. Also a six-score of Grandsire Doubles. H. Chapman, 1; C. Swan, 2-3; E. Dunkley (conductor), 4-5. And on Thursday, October 25th, to commemorate the nineteenth birthday of Mr. W. Guess, a six-score each of Bob, Canterbury and St. Simon's Doubles. E. Dunkley, 1; G. G^o s (conductor), 2; W. Fox, 3; C. Swan, 4; G. March, 5. Also two n-scores Grandsire Doubles. E. Curtis, 1; G. March, 2; E. Dunkley, 3; W. Fox, 4; G. Guess (conductor), 5. And a six-score of Stedman Doubles. E. Curtis (conductor), 1; G. March, 2; E. Dunkley, 3; C. Swan, 4; W. Fox, 5.

LONGNEY (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday evening, October 13th, at the church of St. Laurence, 600 of Grandsire Doubles, with extremes, each six-score called differently. W. Ellis, 1; R. Ellis, 2; T. Harmer, 3; W. Ward, 4; R. Prosser, 5; H. Merrett, 6. The above was rung on the occasion of the erection of a peal board to record the peal rung here in May last, it being fifty-five years since a peal was rung on these bells, in which local men took part.

PULFORD (Cheshire).—On Monday evening, October 29th, at the parish church, the local company rang 720 of Oxford Bob. S. Jones, 1; J. Mercer, 2; G. Jones (first 720 in the method), 3; A. Matthews, 4; J. Morgan (conductor), 5; G. Jones, 6. Also 720 of Bob Minor. A. Rowlands (first 720), 1; A. Matthews, 2; G. Jones, 3; J. Mercer, 4; J. Morgan, 5; G. Jones (conductor), 6.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Sunday, October 21st, being the Harvest Festival at the parish church, for evening service, several touches of Grandsire and Oxford Bob Triples, also 504 of Stedman Triples. G. H. Croucher, 1; F. T. Hoad (conductor), 2; F. Linter, 3; E. Moses, 4; W. Argent, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Webb, 7; J. Howard, 8. And on Monday, October 22nd, for practice, 517 of Oxford Bob Triples. E. Dewey, 1; F. Linter, 2; G. H. Croucher, 3; J. Burkin (Nutfield), 4; E. Kenward, 5; E. Moses (conductor), 6; W. Argent, 7; G. Barnes, 8.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—On Monday, October 15th, at the parish church for practice, 720 of College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Bailey, 1; W. Hall (conductor), 2; G. Burton, 3; C. West, 4; J. Martin, 5; F. Clayton, 6. Also on Monday, October 22nd, for practice, 360 of College Little. J. Bailey, 1; G. Heath, 2; W. Lewis, 3; C. West, 4; G. Burton, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. And 324 of London Single. J. Bailey, 1; W. Hall, 2; G. Heath, 3; C. Green, 4; C. West (conductor), 5; G. Burton, 6. Also 240 of Oxford Bob. J. Bailey, 1; G. Burton, 2; W. Hall, 3; G. Heath, 4; C. Green, 5; C. West, 6.

THIRSK.—On Monday evening, October 29th, at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. W. Martin, 1; G. Wright, 2; G. Neesam, 3; R. Boddy, 4; H. Brown, 5; J. Wrightson (conductor), 6; H. Wright, 7. *First 720 in the method.

TIDENHAM, near CHEPSTOW (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday, October 18th, for the Harvest Thanksgiving Services held in the parish church of St. Mary, a six-score of Grandsire Doubles. G. Watkins, 1; H. Smith, 2; T. Cecil, 3; J. Williams (conductor), 4; J. Morley, 5; T. Clutterbuck, 6. G. Watkins and J. Morley hail from Chepstow, the rest belong to the local company.

WOOLTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, October 22nd, at the church of St. Peter, the members of the society rang for the first time, having been in training seven weeks. H. Richardson, 1; P. Leather, jun., 2; J. Edwards, 3; G. Hyslop, 4; R. Leather, 5; C. Collins, 6; T. Ray, 7; R. Diggle, 8. Also for evening service. R. Roughley, 4; P. Ball, 6; the rest standing as before. The society number thirteen members, all subscribers to "THE BELL NEWS."

UPPER PENN (Staffordshire).—At the conclusion of the Harvest Festival services on Sunday evening, a mixed band of ringers from Wolverhampton and Sedgley, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. J. Harper, 1; W. Mills, 2; E. Nicholls, 3; D. Bruce, 4; J. Fowler, 5; R. Scofield (conductor), 6.

WORCESTER.—On Monday, October 29th, at the church of St. Nicholas, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 30 mins. J. Clements, 1; H. B. Kingsford, 2; W. Page, 3; H. Pheasant, 4; J. Reynolds, 5; H. Wilks (conductor), 6. Also ten six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. J. Hales, 1; B. Hill, 2; R. Passey, 3; J. Clements, 4; H. B. Kingsford (conductor), 5; B. Dykes, 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Brighton Branch at St. Peters.—On Sunday, October 28, a quarter-peal (1260 changes of Grandsire Triples), in 38 mins. D. Ross, 1; G. Thwaites (conductor), 2; E. C. Merritt, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; G. King, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; H. Cornwall, 7; J. Mockett, 8. Also on Monday, October 29, 504 changes of Stedman Triples, in 18 mins. J. Searle (conductor), 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; J. Reilly, 3; *E. C. Merritt, 4; G. A. King, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Jay, 7; †H. Tugwell, 8. *First 504 of Stedman. †First 504.

By the Brighton Branch at St. Nicholas, Brighton.—On Sunday, October 28, a 336 changes of Grandsire Triples. James Reeves, 1; J. Searle (conductor), 2; *W. Short, 3; C. Tyler, 4; W. Palmer, 5; J. Fox, 6; *H. Chandler, 7; *G. Woodman (conductor), 8. *Hails from Warnham.

By the Steyning Branch at Steyning.—On Sunday, October 14, 720 changes of Kent Treble Bob. J. Smart, 1; F. Morris, 2; T. Searle, 3; C. Chambers, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also 720 changes of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Smart, 1; F. Morris, 2; T. Searle, 3; C. Chambers, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also 720 changes of Oxford Single Bob. J. Matthews, 1; G. Gatland, 2; T. Searle, 3; C. Chambers, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, October 21, 720 changes of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Smart, 1; T. Searle, 2; G. Gatland, 3; F. Morris, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6.

LORD BACON'S FALL.—Bacon, who has placed his name high on the scroll of immortality by his genius, was destined, like Lucifer, to become more notorious by his fall than by his standing. Brilliant as were his powers, superb as were his accomplishments, he had not hesitated to trail his finest qualities through the mire of Courts and corruption, in the eager quest of worldly distinction. He had risen, perhaps, more by his base flatteries, and his calumnious envy of his contemporaries, than by his abilities; and he had continued, whilst rising, to make enemies on all sides. The king and the Duke of Buckingham had both conceived a deep dislike to him. James hated all men of genius with the jealousy of a pendant, and was only rendered tolerant of Bacon by his abject adulation, and his services in carrying out relentlessly the fiat of prerogative. The Lords hated him for his upstart vanity and ostentation, and the Commons for his desertion of the public cause for that of the despotic king.—From "Cassell's Illustrated History of England" for October.

THE STATUE OF ST. PETER.—On the right side of the nave of St. Peter's is the celebrated bronze statue of St. Peter, whose extended foot has been kissed by generations of worshippers until it is worn out of shape. It is asserted by antiquarians, and others, that this is a statue of Jupiter adapted to its present purpose, the symbolical being placed in one hand and a halo over the head. One thinks of the joke of Dean Swift, that the only difference between the ancient and the modern city was that the one was the worship of Jupiter and the other the worship of Jew Peter. It is curious how the Roman Catholic Church has always had the knack of adapting what it finds to its own purpose;—this statue, for example, is only a transformed statue of Jupiter, executed in the worst days of paganism; the Column of the Immaculate Conception was an unfinished column of an amphitheatre, and lay for centuries in neglect, till Pius IX. found a use for it, to commemorate a dogma; and the very chair of St. Peter has carvings on the back representing the labours of Hercules, and an inscription in Arabic proclaiming that "there is but one God, and Mohammed is his prophet!"—From "Cities of the World" for October.

A CORRECTION.—In the peal of Caters at Bromsgrove, reported in "THE BELL NEWS" of October 13th, the last four ringers should run: G. Hayward, 7; W. Read, 8; Oliver James, 9; A. Moore, 10.

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Church News.

The Bishop-Coadjutor of Antigua left England on Thursday on his return to his diocese, accompanied by his wife and daughter.

The Bishop of the Church of England in Japan has appointed his brother, the Rev. S. Bickersteth, vicar of All Saints', Belvedere, Kent, to be one of his commissaries.

Mr. John Walker, of Cheltenham, has given £5,000 to endow a canonry in Gloucester Cathedral, to be permanently associated with the offices of diocesan missionary, and to form a memorial of the late Mr. Gambier Parry.

The report that the Bishop of Southwell is less well is incorrect, being doubtless due to his lordship having said at the diocesan conference that his doctor only allows him now to undertake such work as does not involve his being out in the evening, and on condition of his leaving England directly after the Advent ordination. Bishop Ridding quite hopes to return after the spring months as strong as ever.

The east window of Temple Ewell Church, Kent, has just received some stained glass in memory of the late Mrs. Hobson. The large centre piece of tracery contains a representation of our Lord sitting on the rainbow, surrounded by the Evangelists. Beneath this, on either side, is an angel in adoration. The large central light has the Resurrection. The glass was executed by Messrs. Ward and Hughes, of Soho Square. The window is an offering by many poor, in grateful remembrance, as well as the rich.

The annual summary of British contributions to the fund of foreign missionary societies, just completed by Canon Scott Robertson, shows that, for the year 1887, the sum of £1,228,750 was voluntarily given by various religious bodies in the British Isles. Of this total the sum of £461,236, was given to the Church of England societies; £187,080 to joint societies of of Churchmen and Nonconformists; £367,115 to Nonconformist societies in England and Wales; 202,940 to Scotch and Irish Presbyterian societies; and £10,420 to Roman Catholic societies.

At the Harvest Festival on Tuesday week, the Bishop of Lichfield unveiled the east and south window in the chancel of Christ Church, Graily, which have been filled with stained glass by the liberality of Mr. and Mrs. Ward, of Rodbaston. They have also had the chancel itself panelled with oak. On either side is fixed a long canvas tablet, framed in oak picked out with gold, each containing the pictures of three of the Old Testament prophets, looking eastward towards the Crucified, and holding scrolls inscribed with passages from their prophecies. On the north side are Job, Hosea, and Jonah; on the south side, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Zechariah.

On Monday week the Bishop of Salisbury consecrated about five acres and a half of additional burial ground at the Salisbury Cemetery. On the arrival of the Bishop the petition of consecration was presented by Mr. Blake, chairman of the Salisbury Burial Board, and a procession perambulated the new portion of the cemetery, Bishop Wordsworth being preceded by his pastoral staff. The hymn "A few more years shall roll" having been sung, the ground was blessed, and on returning to a marquee the remainder of the service was said, and the sentence of consecration was read by Archdeacon Sanctuary and signed by the Bishop.

In distributing at Sion College, on Saturday last, the prizes to the successful students at the examinations held by the Rochester Diocesan Board of Education, the Bishop of Rochester said that what they wanted for the voluntary schools was justice—that is, that the board schools should be worked in such a manner as not to destroy those voluntary schools. They wanted the voluntary schools to be worked side by side with the others, and not to be pushed out of the field of education by large sums of money. This appeal for justice would, he said, be appreciated when it was seen how the public expenses would be increased if the voluntary schools were closed.

On Sunday last, the parish church of Millbrook, Bedfordshire, was in a state of wreck, through a portion of the walls and roof having fallen in a day or two previously. The chancel remains intact, and the Holy Communion was celebrated there, but the ordinary services had to be held in the parish-room. One of the octagon-shaped pillars separating the nave from the aisles had given way at the foundation, which consisted chiefly of sand, during some excavations for a new heating apparatus. A number of the old oaken pews were smashed, and the font, which was a very ancient relic, was broken into fragments; but three marble busts, standing on pedestals close by, being those of Lord and Lady Holland and Lady Ann Fox, who were formerly connected with the parish, were untouched.

Mr. Edward Young, J.P., late of Thornleigh, Richmond Hill, Bournemouth, whose personal estate amounted to £100,000, bequeathed by his will £100 each to the Church Missionary Society, the Church Pastoral Aid Society, the Bible Society, and the Liverpool Scripture-Reader's Society. Mr. William Adam, of 3, Tenterden Street, Hanover Square, whose personal estate amounted to £29,000, bequeathed £500 each to St. George's Hospital, King's College Hospital, the Middlesex Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital, and Charing Cross Hospital; £600 to the Hospital for Incurables at Putney; £400 to the Association for the General Welfare of the Blind; £300 each to the Hospital for Epilepsy and Paralysis, St. Thomas's Hospital, the Hospital for the Diseases of the Throat, the Infirmary at Forfar, and the Brompton Cancer Hospital; £200 to St. John's Episcopal Church (Forfar).

An application was made in the London Consistory Court on Thursday last for a faculty authorising some alterations in the church of All Saints, Edmonton, which dates from about the year 1450. The proposals are to take down the gallery and substitute for it an aisle on the south side for holding 200 persons, to rearrange the seats in the body of the church, and also rearrange the chancel. The vicar, the Rev. Robert Stewart, stated the alterations would not interfere with any graves. Let into the wall in the south aisle there is an old monument to the memory of "John Kerton, Esquire," who died in 1471; and this will be moved to a corresponding place in the new wall. The alterations have, it appears, been approved by the vestry. The Chancellor, Dr. Tristram, granted a faculty to authorise the alterations with a special proviso for the protection of existing monuments.

The parish church of St. Merryn, on the main road between Padstow and the famous Bedruthan steps, on the north coast of Cornwall, was re-opened on Tuesday week by the Archdeacon of Cornwall, after having undergone a thorough restoration. This church was for many years in a very dilapidated condition. Nearly all of the old windows were destroyed, and iron and wood sash windows substituted in their place. The architect, however, discovered several portions of the tracery of the original windows in the vicarage garden and elsewhere, and these have all been replaced in the church, and have served as models for the new windows. The east window was a wretched three-light one, placed there about twenty-five years ago. This has been removed to the south transept, and a striking five-light window substituted. The seats of the chancel and nave consisted of very lofty square deal pews, but the architect discovered four very interesting specimens of old oak bench ends of early fifteenth-century character, each with different types of traced panels. These have been preserved and again used, and have formed the type for the oak benches which have now been erected. The lower parts of the chancel and parclose screens were also discovered in their proper positions, and these have been preserved. The choir stalls are of elaborately carved oak. The chancel floor is of Roman and granite mosaic. The altar itself is unique of its kind in the county. The central panel of the front is rough marble, 5ft. by 2 ft., with an inlaid cross of jaune de var marble, and outside this are panels of Irish green marble, with a moulding between Sicilian marble, the whole being encased in an oak gilded mould. The reredos is of gilded oak, and contains panels representing the Crucifixion, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and St. John. The east end of the south has been utilized for a side chapel, and a neat little altar, made from the old oak of the church, has been placed there.

THE POPE AND THE GERMAN EMPEROR.

A special correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* gives an account of a private audience granted him by the Pope on Monday week. Shortly after eleven o'clock he was conducted to the presence of his Holiness, whom he found in a small, somewhat dimly lighted room, at a right angle to the ante-chamber leading out of the Throne-room:—

"At the further end of this apartment, enthroned on a dais raised a few inches above the ground, sat Pope Leo XIII., his white robes and mozzetta and palid complexion cast into high relief by the dark crimson hue of the hangings covering the walls. On either side of the throne were ranged three chairs, to one of which—that nearest to him on his right hand—he motioned me after I had made the customary salutation. Then addressing me by my name, he said, 'I have been told that you represent a great and influential English journal, and that you wished to be received by the Pope. Your request, as you see, has been granted. What do you desire to learn from me? Ask, and I will tell you what I can.' Upon my observing that the state of his Holiness's health was a subject of deep interest to many millions of my fellow-countrymen, the Pope quickly rejoined, 'You may tell the English Catholics that I am well considering my advanced age and the multiplicity of my occupations. Yes, my health is really good, though I have had a good deal to trouble me of late, and have also worked very hard.'"

The correspondent then inquired as to a history of Rome in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries in connection with the Papacy, on which his Holiness was reported to be engaged. The Pope knew of no such work:—

"My time has been too fully occupied with the discharge of my duties as head of the Church to permit me to undertake a literary enterprise of such magnitude. Some time ago I instructed one of my most intelligent prelates—a very learned and industrious man—to write a history of the Roman Episcopate, not dealing, of course, with any century in particular, but with all the successive periods of the Episcopate, from its commencement down to present times. That history is written and finished, but by him, not by me."

The correspondent then speaking of the German Emperor's visit, the Pope replied:

"I cannot say that we are either satisfied or dissatisfied with the Emperor's visit. That he came to Rome was not at our request; nor was his object in coming favourable to us, but rather to those who are against us—to those who, for ten years past, have practically compelled me to restrict myself to this palace, from which I cannot issue. My dignity forbids me to do so. This young man, having acceded to the German throne, has been making a round of visits to European Courts; to St. Petersburg, Copenhagen, Vienna, and finally to Rome, where his presence was calculated to strengthen our adversaries and consolidate their position, not to benefit us. He came to see me; it was an act of courtesy, and I was glad to receive him. I had much to say to him; but just as I was beginning my discourse he interrupted me by calling in his brother, in order to present him to me. After that, I had no further opportunity of speaking privately with him. I did not find that the young Emperor resembled his late father, whom I personally knew and liked, and with whom I have conversed for more than an hour at a stretch. He was a wise and good Prince, very well read (*molto istruito*), intelligent, and large-minded. His manners were perfect. What he said was always full of good sense and kindness."

"With regard to our *modus vivendi* with Germany, in many respects I have good reason to be satisfied. From the German Government I have obtained many valuable concessions. Bismarck is a reasonable man; he can be convinced, and I have found him willing to accede to just requests. His son, too, who had a long audience of me on the evening of the 17th, seems very sensible and earnest. With our Episcopacy and clergy in Germany all is going smoothly and satisfactorily. The vacant offices has been properly filled up with the accord of Church and State alike, and to the contentment of both. Of our religious orders which had been expelled from Germany, three have been authorised to return to their spheres of duty—the Franciscans, Dominicans, and Benedictines. We are in negotiation about the withdrawal of the prohibitions affecting our educational orders; but there is great difficulty. The

German Government desires to keep in its own hands the exclusive instruction of Catholic children. To this I cannot consent. The teaching rights of the Church must be recognised, and their exercise must be duly authorised by the State. With less than this I may not be satisfied; and, as you know, when the Pope is dissatisfied the Catholics are discontented. In the German Empire there are fifteen millions of Catholics, whose wishes and feelings must be respected, it being the interest of their temporal rulers to keep them contented. When civil authority is righteously exercised it is always supported by the Church. As the head of the Church I cannot countenance injustice done to those who are committed to my care, and whom I am bound to protect and defend."

The correspondent adds that the conversation lasted twenty minutes, his Holiness being fully aware of his interlocutor's purpose, and no restriction whatsoever being imposed as to the publication of anything:—

"In manner, as well as appearance, the reigning Pontiff offers a striking and in more than one respect advantageous contrast to his immediate predecessor, Pius IX., of whom, during his long Pontificate, I twice had audience. The late Pope, when I knew him, was a vigorous old man of burly presence and jovial manner, liking to question rather than to be questioned, and displaying a marked predilection for '*le petit mot pour rire*'—of his own saying, of course, for what layman would dare to make jokes or even say 'good things' to a Pope? That Leo XIII. is one of the most amiable as well as intellectual of living potentates no one who has seen him smile and heard him speak can doubt. But consciousness of power and strength of will are no less manifest in the glance of his bright eye and the tone of his clear voice than his geniality of temperament."

At the Pope's reception of some Neapolitan pilgrims on Wednesday he delivered a long speech, in which, after reiterating former condemnations of the Italian Government, and stating that the hatred of all the foes of the Papal see was concentrated in Rome, he said:—

"In this city they do not hesitate to confirm [by new insults even on solemn occasions the usurpations and violence which are within the remembrance of the whole world, degrading Rome to the simple position of the capital of a kingdom while God predestined it to be the see of the Vicar of Christ, and it shall ever remain the capital of the Catholic world."

The Pope concluded by expressing his perfect faith in the triumph of his cause, but appealed to the pilgrims to support it. It has, however, been explained by the *Osservatore* that the above complaints were not meant to refer to the Emperor William.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held in St. Martin's Schoolroom, Tipton, on Saturday, November 17th, 1888, at 5 o'clock prompt. The Rev. A. A. Cory, Vicar, will preside. The tower and bells will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Members to take this as sufficient notice, should they receive no other.

JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

37, Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

NOTICE.—The Annual Meeting of this Society for the election of officers, and to transact other important business will take place at Head-quarters, on Tuesday next, the 6th inst. at 8.15 p.m., when Members are requested to attend. All communications respecting the business of the Society can now be made to the Secretary direct. RICHARD T. WOODLEY, Hon. Sec. 40, Lillington Street, Pimlico, S.W.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

The next Ringing Meeting of the above Branch will take place on Saturday, November 10th, at the parish church, Newchurch. Bells ready at 2.30; meeting in the School at 6.30.

J. T. STOTT, Local Sec.

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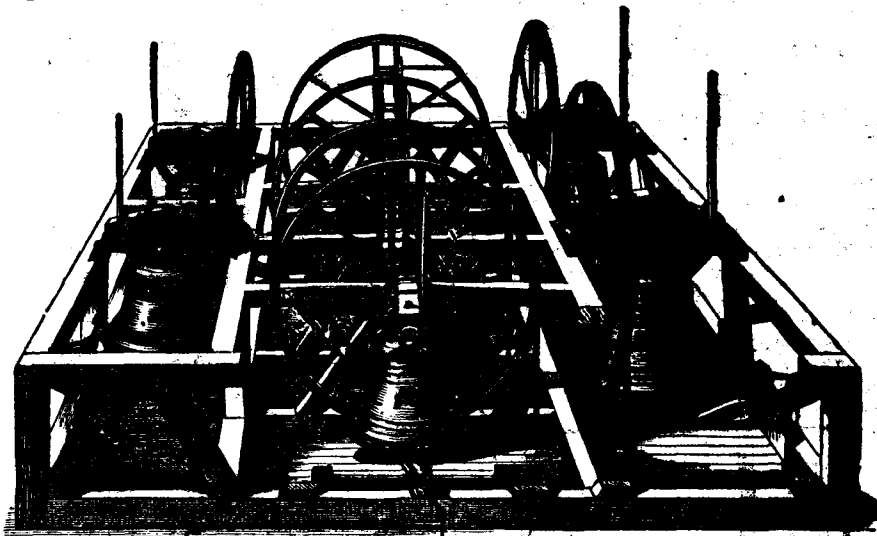
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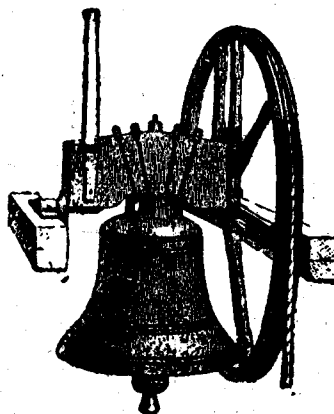
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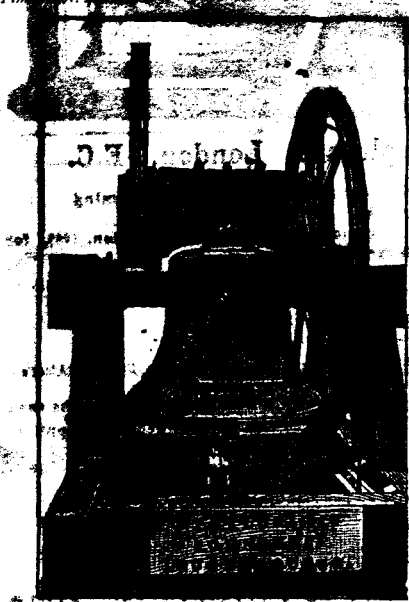
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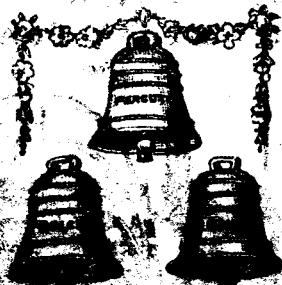
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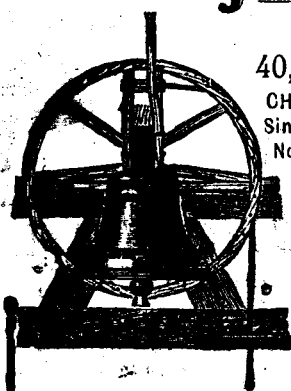
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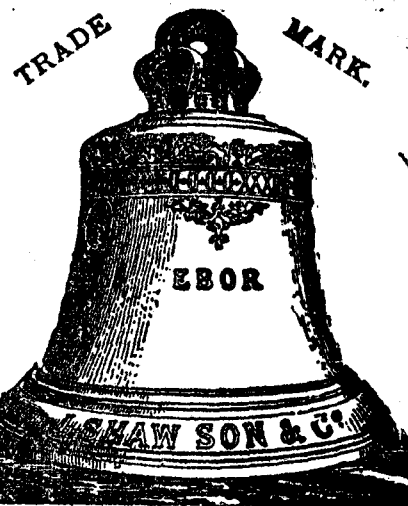
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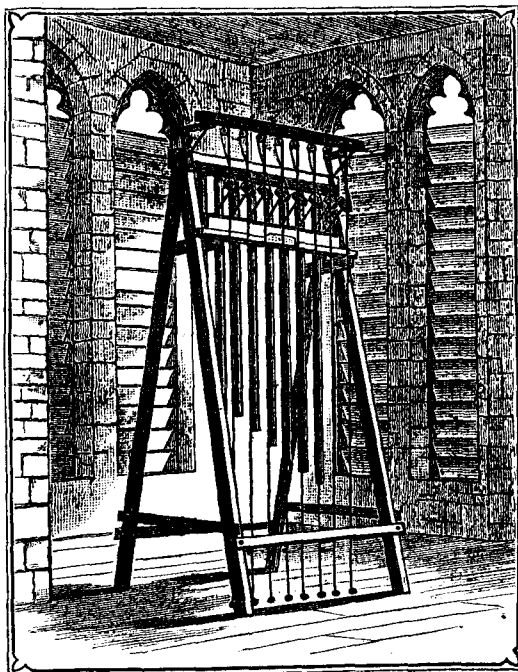
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THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

This Society assembled at Lynn, on Saturday, October 27th, for its Quarterly meeting. There were present nine members of the Spalding branch of the Society, with the Rev. Canon Moore, president, the Rev. J. M. Coates, Secretary, and Mr. R. Mackman, captain; four from Pinchbeck, with Mr. G. Sadd, captain; five Walpole, Mr. H. Hill, captain; five Terrington, Dr. Seccombe, captain; and nine Lynn, Mr. G. Holland, captain. During the day the men rang touches of Bob Major, with 8th and tenor covering, and of Grandsire Triples, upon St. Margaret's bells; and 360 Bob Minor, London Single, Oxford Treble Bob, Bob Minor, and Grandsire Doubles at St. Nicholas. Several touches of Oxford Treble Bob Major and Bob Major were rung on the handbells, conducted by Mr. E. Lockwood. The visitors also inspected the various places of public interest in the town, and the whole of the local arrangements were ably carried out under the direction of Mr. G. Holland. At two o'clock the members of the Guild, together with a few friends, in all about forty, assembled at the ringers' well-known old house of call, "The Three Pigeons," St. James's Street, where host Borley served them with an excellent hot dinner. The room was decorated with flags and appropriate mottoes, and the tables with cut flowers. The Rev. Canon Moore presided, and was supported by the Rev. J. M. Coates, Dr. Seccombe, Messrs. E. M. Beloe, C. H. Ayre, W. G. Cross, R. Mackman, G. Holland, etc.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the toast of "The Church and Queen," said he was sure they would accept it as of the first importance that afternoon. The people of this country had now a Church which was esteemed and beloved. It had recovered from that state of lethargy which overswept it some fifty years ago, and since then nothing, according to his estimate, had advanced in proportion to the Church. In every respect he believed she was superior now to what she was fifty years ago. In proof, he not only pointed to her buildings, but to the fact that she had at heart what those buildings indicated. Bell-ringing by companies of men like those whom he saw present was one proof of the advance which was being made by the Church, and if she progressed in bell-ringing and in her buildings, they had no right to suppose that she was behind in other matters. He believed that in every respect the Church was advancing more than the times, and he trusted that at least she would always maintain the position she now held. With regard to the Queen, no doubt they were all familiar with her great virtues. The people of this kingdom had never enjoyed such a period of happiness and prosperity as during the fifty years that Her Majesty had occupied the throne of England. He trusted that she would long continue to reign over us, and that her successors might be as prosperous as she had been. He asked all present to drink heartily to the old toast of "The Church and the Queen." In former times, scarcely was there a public meeting when this toast did not rank first on the list, and he trusted that the members of that Association would never live to see it passed over.

DR. SECCOMBE said they had very little time for swinging animated clappers, because they wanted to get to the iron clappers and to swing them. There was one toast which he would propose and which he was sure every one present would accept with the greatest heartiness, it was the health of the father of that Guild, Mr. Lockwood. Some of them knew how long he had been one of the foremost ringers of this town. He represented many generations and he was the oldest amongst them that day. Mr. Lockwood was now eighty years of age, and it was not long ago that he took part in some ringing in which he (Dr. Seccombe) did his share, at St. Margaret's and St. Nicholas. The toast was drunk with "three times three."

MR. LOCKWOOD, in returning thanks, said he had been a ringer at St. Margaret's for forty-eight years. When he commenced there was a very good company; he regretted to say it was different now. He remembered assisting to ring a dumb peal upon the occasion of the death of the Duke of Wellington. They rang 1852 changes, according to the date of the year, and the touch was performed in eighty-three minutes, the age of the Iron Duke. Upon that occasion Mr. W. Hamerton conducted. He also assisted in ringing dumb peals for Lord George Bentinck, Lord Jocelyn, and the Prince Consort. There were only two or three ringers now living who were with him when the

peal was rung for the Duke. He had not been well for some time, but his doctor had given him leave to spend a few hours with them that day, and he was pleased to have the opportunity. Last Christmas he took in hand the training of some young men for St. Nicholas' chapel bells, but since then the company had been considerably interfered with by removals, some having gone to America. They had lost half-a-dozen young men, and it was very hard to get others to fill their places. He could not do much more than he had done, but as long as he lived he would always do his best.

MR. R. MACKMAN said he had been asked to propose a resolution which perhaps might be surprising to many. It was this:

"That the members of the Eastern Counties' Guild of Change-Ringers, assembled at King's Lynn, desire most respectfully to offer their patron, the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Lincoln, an expression of their sympathy with him under the vexatious persecution to which he has been subjected with respect to his manner of conducting Divine Service. Also their hope and belief that the spirit of intolerance which has been manifested of late is not widely prevalent among intelligent working men."

MR. W. G. CROSS said he had pleasure in seconding the proposition. The more they knew of the Lord Bishop of Lincoln the more they would regard him as a hard-working Christian gentleman. If a clergyman in his diocese was in difficulties the Bishop looked well after him and did his utmost to assist him out of his trouble. He was sorry that the prosecution was being proceeded with, and trusted that in the end an amicable settlement would be arrived at.

DR. SECCOMBE, in supporting the proposition, said they were met together as a company of Church workers. He thought they had a right to come forward and take their part in any subject which dealt with the interests of the Church. He could not allow a resolution like that which had been introduced to the meeting to pass over without his making a few remarks, and in doing so he would only state certain facts which would commend themselves to any one who had his senses about him. He regretted to say that he was living in a district where things relating to the Church were dead. If they wanted to see a healthy Church in his locality he hardly knew which way to look. He could assure the meeting that hardly a Sunday passed without the infliction of a pang, when he noticed the way in which the Church existed in this diocese. If they only crossed the river Nene and went into the adjoining county of Lincoln, they would at once see a difference. In his locality dissent was all alive, and it was not surprising that it should be so. He was a thorough Churchman, and his interests were bound up with the Church. Were they to allow her to remain dead? No. They had to thank God for the great enthusiasm which had been infused into the Church in various parts of the country, and especially in the diocese of Lincoln, during the last fifty years. Before the selection of the present Bishop, the diocese was controlled by the able, learned and pious Bishop Wordsworth, who prepared the work which was now being carried out by the present prelate of that see. The Bishop of Lincoln was a working man first—not a dummy, but a true prelate in every sense of the title—a Christian man and a Christian gentleman. Upon one occasion when a convict was under sentence of death in the castle at Lincoln, the poor fellow sought the ministrations of some clergyman, and what did the Bishop do? Did he send a delegate? No; he went himself, ministered to the man, administered to him the Holy Communion, and continued with him until the death sentence was carried out. He (Dr. Seccombe) did not know of another instance where a Bishop of the Church of England had ministered to an ordinary man under the sentence of death. It might be that there were some, but he was not aware of them. It shewed what sort of man the Bishop of Lincoln was. Wherever he went he manifested a kindly disposition towards all classes—the working man, the peer and the squire. That was the kind of man required to rule the Church. They wanted a man who was in sympathy with the people and who felt that the Church was the first interest of the day. There was no man in the church of England who would be more opposed to setting the law in motion against any of his clergy than the Bishop of Lincoln, unless it were in a case of moral delinquency. In any case of disputed opinion, his lordship would certainly be the last to move the law.

There were connected with the Church of England a class of men who called themselves its members, and who, unless they could have everything their own way, would do their best to create disorder. Many years ago he heard two men arguing in Salisbury about the difference between Roman Catholics and Methodists. The Romanist contended that his church never could do wrong, and the Methodist argued that his never did. He did not know whether the Church of England could go wrong or not; at any rate there was a class of people who professed to be her members, who contended that, like the Holy Father of Rome, they are infallible, and that it was their duty to put everything right. He did not like to be trampled underfoot by such people. The Bishop of Lincoln had expressed his determination to go on in his own way—in a way which, after much consideration, he evidently thought to be best. But there was a certain class of people who would interfere with him and other church-workers, and unless they could have their own way they would do their best to pull the Church to pieces. The resolution was one of sympathy with the Bishop of Lincoln, the patron of their society, and he trusted that all who belonged to the Church of England would stand up for that noble man as long as he lived.

The CHAIRMAN said he had had interviews with the Bishop of Lincoln, and could speak of him as a thorough man, a thorough Christian and a thorough bishop.

Dr. SECCOMBE proposed a vote of thanks to the vicar and churchwardens of St. Margaret's and St. Nicholas' for their kindness in allowing the bells to be used by the ringers that day. Their gratitude was also due to the venerable chairman for presiding over their meeting.

The CHAIRMAN seconded the vote of thanks to the vicar and churchwardens, and said it was gratifying to see the nice order in which the bells were kept.

Mr. BELOE returned thanks on behalf of the churchwardens, and expressed his regret that Mr. Burkitt was not present with them that day. He thought he ought to have been there. They had a nice peal of bells at St. Margaret's, which, by the liberality of Mr. Burkitt, had recently been made up to 10. St. Nicholas' had also a very good peal, and these had been placed there during his (Mr. Beloe's) wardenship and taken care of by Sir Lewis Jarvis and himself.

The CHAIRMAN having acknowledged the compliment paid him, the meeting ended, and the members of the guild repaired to St. Margaret's belfry, and there indulged in more change-ringing. The visitors left Lynn by the evening trains, well pleased with their excursion.

ST. PAUL'S HANDBELL RINGERS, CANTERBURY.

At a special meeting of the above body, held on Friday, November 2nd, it was decided to re-organise the same, and the following gentlemen consented to accept the various offices assigned to them: Rev. L. G. Goodwin, President; Mr. R. Goodbourn, Conductor; Mr. Geo. H. Bowden, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer. It is hoped that this band will be able to accomplish and record in these columns some of the intrigues of change-ringing, for which reason it is revived and hoped strengthened by new and young members. Several touches were attempted during the evening, and two 120's of Grandsire Doubles were successfully brought round.

GETTING READY FOR WINTER.—The return to health of muscle, mind, and nerve, after a summer holiday that has not been judiciously spent, must also be gradual, if one would not find the winter rapidly approaching, and feel himself but ill able to face its storms and changeableness. So I advise that, on a return to work, you—at some very calm moment, early in the morning, perhaps, before you have turned out of bed—quietly think of the labours that are before you in the coming busy months, and consider how you may most easily get through them. Make some plan, adopt a system of spending the day, especially the leisure hours thereof. Do not be in the least degree excited about your state or condition, although you may not feel as strong as you could wish. Health is sure to come if you keep calm.—*A Family Doctor, in Cassell's Family Magazine* for November.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Brighton Branch at St. Paul's.—On Sunday, October 7th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. H. Eves, 1; P. Allfrey, 2; G. Biggarstaff, 3; G. Hill, 4; F. Hill, 5; T. Stepney, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; W. Allfrey, 8. Also two 350's in the same method. Also on Thursday, October 11th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. H. Eves, 1; W. Allfrey (conductor), 2; P. Allfrey, 3; G. Biggarstaff, 4; G. Hill, 5; T. Stepney, 6; A. Bennett, 7; J. Salmon, 8. Also on Sunday, October 14th, a 448 by the same band. Also on Sunday, October 21st, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. H. Eves, 1; G. Biggarstaff, 2; H. Bann, 3; G. Hill, 4; F. Hill, 5; T. Stepney, 6; W. Allfrey, 7; J. Salmon, 8. Also on Thursday, October 25th, a 350 of Grandsire Triples. H. Eves, 1; P. Allfrey, 2; H. Rann, 3; G. Hill, 4; E. C. Merritt, 5; G. Biggarstaff, 6; J. Salmon, 7; W. Allfrey (conductor), 8. Also on Thursday, November 1st, a quarter-peal 1260 of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. †J. Hollinson, 1; *H. P. Bennett, 2; *P. Allfrey, 3; G. Biggarstaff, 4; G. Hill, 5; T. Stepney, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; W. Allfrey, 8. *Hails from Eastbourne. †First quarter-peal. Also on Sunday, November 4th, a 630 of Grandsire Triples. A. Bennett, 1; P. Allfrey, 2; H. Rann, 3; G. Biggarstaff, 4; G. Hill, 5; T. Stepney, 6; W. Allfrey, 7; J. Salmon, 8. Composed and conducted by W. Allfrey. Also a 504 of Grandsire Triples. H. Eves, 1; P. Allfrey, 2; H. Rann, 3; A. Bennett, 4; H. Hill, 5; G. Biggarstaff, 6; W. Allfrey (conductor), 7; J. Salmon, 8.

By the Brighton Branch at St. Peters.—On Sunday, November 4th, a 504 of Stedman Triples in 18 mins. G. A. King, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; W. Allfrey, 3; E. C. Merritt, 4; *J. Searle, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; J. Mockett, 8. Also for evening service a 742 of Grandsire Triples. G. F. Attree (conductor), 1; E. C. Merritt, 2; J. Jay, 3; *J. Taylor, 4; G. *A. King, 5; G. Thwaites, 6; H. Weston, 7; J. Mockett, 8. *Hails from Horley.

Correspondence.

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

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

AN EXCELLENT PROPOSAL.

SIR,—I see in last week's number of "THE BELL NEWS," a letter by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, touching on an idea, which, I for one have a long time been waiting for. I speak as the mouthpiece of the many ringers in the district of Oxford, who almost all agree as to the necessity of such an institution as this gentleman proposes. It would, as he says, solve the question of the National Association, mooted some time since. Why should we be without a Benefit Society? With the thousands of ringers in the country, I should think it would very soon become a strong institution. Here is the Oxford Guild alone with nigh upon 1000 members, and many are the ringers therein who would gladly avail themselves of the opportunity to belong to a benefit society of change-ringers. Let us pull together and make some effort to start such an institution, and I am sure the various gentlemen of our Exercise will, like Mr. Davies, do their best to help such a brotherly scheme into existence. J. W. WASHBROOK.

SALISBURY, WILTS.

The marriage of Mr. E. H. Hulse, M.P., for the Borough of Salisbury, with Miss Edith M. W. Lawson, was celebrated at Beaconsfield, on the 1st inst. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Canon Cholmeley assisted by the Lord Bishop of Salisbury, and Hon. and Rev. Canon Gordon. The following ringing was done in Salisbury in honour of the wedding: the bells of St. Thomas', St. Edmund's, and St. Martin's Churches rang at intervals during the day, in honour of the wedding. At St. Martin's. A date touch of 1888 Bob Major, in 1 hr. 10 mins. H. D. Adams, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; W. S. Wise, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6; A. W. Barkus, 7; T. Blackburn, 8. At St. Thomas'. 546 of Grandsire Triples. J. Short, 1; J. R. Jerram, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; W. S. Wise, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; A. P. Goddard, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Also a 546 of Grandsire Triples. W. J. Price, 1; T. Blackburn (conductor), 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; F. Rigden, 5; C. A. Clements, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; C. Gaisford, 8.

WANTED TO PURCHASE. A Set of Eight, Ten, or Twelve Second-hand Hand Bells. Apply, stating Price and Particulars to J. W. Watson, 15, Knight Street, Lincoln.

HINDLIP, WORCESTERSHIRE

Special services were held at Hindlip Church, recently, on the occasion of the re-opening of the sacred edifice which has been closed since Easter for the purpose of restoration and enlargement. The work, which has cost several thousand pounds, has been carried out by the Dowager Lady Hindlip and her sons and daughters as a memorial to the late Lord Hindlip, who was for many years a worshipper in the church. The deceased nobleman always took a deep interest in the sacred edifice, which was originally built in the fifteenth century. Through his liberality it was thoroughly restored in 1864, and a transeptal chapel added on the south side for the accommodation of the family. Some splendid stained glass windows were also presented by his lordship. The additions and alterations just completed have been of such extensive character, and executed with such excellent taste that it is almost a new and certainly a very beautiful little church that was re-opened recently. Of the old building the only important part left standing is the fifteenth century tower. The extension has been designed to harmonise with the decorated style of the old church. It has comprised a new chancel, new south aisle to the chancel, and a new vestry, and organ chamber combined. The new chancel, it should be stated, is intended to be a memorial of the late Mrs. J. S. Chesshire, wife of the rector. The extension is in Bromsgrove stone, the material of the old building. The roofs are of oak, panelled and with carved bosses at the intersections of the ribs, and covered with tiles. The floors of the church are of marble mosaic, that in the sanctuary being composed of marble tiles supplied by Messrs. de Grelle, of London. The steps to the chancel and to the aisle are of Devonshire marble of four kinds. The nave benches and the choir are of English oak. The south aisle of the chancel is separated from the latter by an arcade of two arches filled in with finely carved oak screens. On the north side of the chancel there are two similar arches into which a few organ has been fitted, the handsome case which encloses the instrument, being designed to harmonise with the screens on the opposite side. On the choir stalls are placed brass desks of very good workmanship, supplied by Singer and Sons, of Frome, who also supplied the brass standards for the altar rail. The chancel screen is a very fine specimen of Italian marble work. Each side is divided into five bays, and the panels are filled in with onyx. Mr. Henry Martin, of Cheltenham, has executed all the sculptor's work, and also supplied the marble steps and the chancel screen. A very handsome altar cloth with ornaments has been provided. The tower is to be provided with a peal of eight bells and chiming apparatus complete. The church is lighted by gas furnished from the private gas works at Hindlip Hall. The heating is by a hot water medium pressure small bore pipe apparatus, supplied by Mr. Stainton, of Liverpool. The church will now contain seats for 138 persons, being forty more than before enlargement. Mr. Lewis Shepherd, of Worcester, has been the architect, and Mr. Collins of Tewkesbury, the builder.

In addition to the chancel already mentioned, the church contains special memorials of the late Mrs. Chesshire. The font, which is of Norman design, has been restored by her children and placed on a marble mosaic base, bearing the inscription, "The promise is unto you and your children." The reredos, the subject illustrated in which is the Last Supper has been restored and improved by the addition of a canopy and carved panels. This work was undertaken by Mrs. Swindell and Mrs. Pargeter, sisters of Mrs. Chesshire. Mr. Chesshire has placed a stained glass window, dedicated to the memory of his wife, in the south aisle. It is called "The Holy Women Window," and the illustration give examples of different female virtues—piety and humility, the active and contemplative life, the power of prayer, and the reward of faith and hope. There are five lights in the window. In the tracery is St. Ann teaching the Virgin. In the dexter light is Elizabeth the priest's wife meeting the Virgin: and on the other side Anna, an example of prayer. Below there is an illustration of the active and contemplative life in the figures of Martha and Mary; and the recognition of our Lord in Paradise illustrated by the meeting of Mary Magdalene and the Saviour in the garden. Appropriate texts are introduced at the top "Her children shall rise up and call her blessed," beneath the first two subjects "Blessed are the Pure in Heart, for they shall see God," connecting the other two illus-

trations, "His servants shall serve Him and they shall see His Face," and at the base "The heart of her husband does safely trust in her." In the chancel are two new stained glass windows dedicated by the Hindlip family to the memory of Mrs. Chesshire. The subjects of the illustrations are taken from the first and last verses of Cardinal Newman's hymns, "Lead kindly Light," In the first window on the left hand side of the altar, there is a representation of pilgrims walking through the desert led by the light of God's presence, priests bearing the ark, the symbol of His presence. In the second window are angels announcing the return of the Lord bringing the saints with Him. Two brass tablets described with the first and last verses of the hymn respectively, are placed one under each window.

At the opening service there were present: the Bishop of Worcester, the Dean of Worcester, Dr. Gott, the Ven. Archdeacon Lea, the Rev. J. Canon Claughton, the Rev. S. Chesshire, the rector of Hindlip, the Rev. Canon W. W. Douglas, the Revs. Dr. Quilter, J. L. Chesshire, A. S. Porter, T. G. Cutler, T. Littleton Wheeler, E. J. Houghton, S. G. Collier, and J. Amphlett. The congregation included the Dowager Lady Hindlip, and members of her family. A beautifully printed book of the service was presented to each person present. The Ven. Archdeacon Lea and the Dean read the lessons, the Rector said the prayers, and the sermon was preached by the Bishop. The hymns were, "We love the place O God," "The Church's one foundation," and "Lift the strain of high thanksgiving." Mr. Goldsmith (a pupil of Mr. C. H. Lloyd, of Christ Church, Oxford), the newly appointed organist of the church, presided at the organ. In future the musical portion of the services will be greatly improved, and the new choir includes several Worcester vocalists whose services have been secured through the agency of Mr. E. J. Spark, and who will attend at Hindlip each Sunday. It is understood that the additional expenses in connection with the services will be defrayed by the Hindlip family.

At the close of the morning services a large number of guests were entertained at luncheon at Hindlip Hall. There were present, in addition to the Dowager Lady Hindlip, Colonel the Hon. W. H. Allsopp, M.P., and Mrs. Allsopp, the Hon. G. S. Allsopp, M.P., the Hon. Percy Allsopp, M.P., the Hon. H. T. Allsopp, the Hon. F. E. Allsopp, the Hon. Mrs. Walker, the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Haywood, the Hon. Mrs. O'Keever, Miss O'Keever, Miss Norbury, Mrs. Oliver, Miss Higginson, Mrs. Philpott, Mrs. Gott, Mrs. Claughton, Sir D. and Lady Galton, Miss Galton, Mrs. Douglas, Mrs. Sale, Mr. and Mrs. Ames, Mr. Spark, Miss Chesshire, Mr. R. S. P. Chesshire, Miss L. M. Chesshire, Mrs. Gillott, Mr. and Mrs. Swindell, Mrs. Pargeter, Miss Pargeter, Mrs. Castle, Miss Castle, Mr. N. Castle, Mrs. Quilter, Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Hughes, Colonel and Mrs. Stallard, Mr. and Mrs. Sheppard, Mr. and Mrs. Winfield, Miss Amphlett, Mr. Woodhouse, Mr. W. Haynes, Mr. Lewis Sheppard, Mr. Gerrard, Mr. Barker, Mr. Masen, Mr. and Mrs. Rich, Miss Topping, and Mr. Wheeler.

There was a crowded congregation at the evening service. The prayers were read by the rector, and the Rev. E. J. Houghton read the lesson. There was no sermon. The psalms were rendered to chants by C. H. Lloyd. The processional hymn was "Onward Christian Soldiers," sung to Sullivan's well known tune; and after the third collect the hymn "Ten thousand times ten thousand," was sung. At the close of the service a selection of music was rendered by the organist and the choir, the vocal portions including Meadelssohn's "If with all your hearts" sung by Mr. R. Bradley, and "O Lord God of Abraham," sung by Mr. Pedley, both now permanent members of the choir.

AN UNSELFISH CITY ARAB.—Lord Ashley (afterwards the Earl of Shaftesbury, once told the House of Commons a touching story of the hardships of the "gutter children." He knew a boy, he said, who spent the greater part of his nights throughout the bitter winter in 1847 inside the iron roller in Regent's Park! Every evening this lad used to climb over the railings, and creep into the curious shelter which he had found from the biting blast. And then Lord Ashley went on to show how kind the very poorest are to one another.—From "Little Folks" Magazine for November.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co. Printers, Exeter.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS celebrated their 251st Anniversary at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, on Saturday evening, November 3rd. A first-class dinner was provided, and the complete arrangements made and carried out under the guidance of the Dinner Committee, was a credit to everyone concerned, no stone having been left unturned to make the comfort of those present perfect. It is to be hoped that the revival of the custom of holding the anniversary in such a manner will upon future occasions be still further better supported, and that the event may not be allowed to lapse. Mr. Woodley, the energetic Secretary, was well supported by the whole of the officers in giving a hearty welcome, and watching the comfort of all, and it is an undoubted fact that the success of the gathering is due to the hearty way in which the whole of the officers worked together. Members of the society, in fact any ringer who can possibly do so, should not, upon a future occasion, fail to attend if he desires to lose the opportunity of spending a delightful pleasant evening in the company of a genial body of ringers. The company present included Mr. S. E. Joyce (chairman), Master; Messrs. G. T. McLaughlin (vice-chairman), J. Pettit (Treasurer), R. T. Woodley (Secretary), G. Mash, sen., G. Mash, jun., R. Mash, W. Cooter, H. Springall (Junior Steward), F. E. Dawe, J. R. Haworth, —. Murphy, T. Coxhead, W. E. Garrard, J. W. Driver, H. Langdon, J. M. Hayes, C. F. Winny, E. Duff, W. Tyack, W. D. Smith, Lewis Green, A. S. Barrell, —. Cartwright, —. Harvey (St. James'), Bermondsey, G. Smith, Mead and Mumford (Ilford), C. Blackman (Arundel), B. Keeble (Essex Association), Romford, Messrs. Ludlow, Adams, and Trubb, and Messrs. H. S. Thomas, W. Baron, W. D. Porter, and H. A. Hopkins (Royal Cumberland Youths), etc.

Ample justice having been done to the excellent bill of fare provided,

The MASTER, who upon rising to commence the toast list was loudly applauded, said that in every company of Englishman the first toast to be honoured was that of the Queen. On the present occasion, they would add to the toast of Her Majesty, that of the rest of the Royal Family. As ringers, they were all loyal subjects, and he was sure that no words were necessary for the toast to be fully honoured by them all.

The toast having been duly pledged, and a verse of the National Anthem sang,

The VICE-CHAIRMAN, who gave "Prosperity to the Ancient Society of College Youths," said this was a toast which had been entrusted to him, and one which he was not sure that he could do justice to. He considered it a great honour for the toast to be put into his hand for proposing, and to be so well supported by some of the oldest members of the society. They as ringers were all members of some society, and whatever society it might be, they should endeavour to respect it. They should not only do so toward their own particular society, but they should respect other societies, as he was pleased to know the Ancient Society of College Youths was respected. Prosperity to the College Youths was a toast which he had pleasure in proposing, a pleasure which was increased by the fact that he was enabled to couple with the toast the name of Mr. J. R. Haworth, who he believed was the oldest living member of the society.

A stirring recitation by Mr. F. E. Dawe (who happens to be an enthusiastic auxiliary fireman), entitled "The Fireman's Wedding."

Mr. HAWORTH said he was pleased to be among them again, and to be able to respond to the toast. This was the 251st anniversary of the society, the 250th or fifteenth Jubilee having been celebrated last year. As to the society, everyone knew that it was known throughout the ringing world, and promoted sociability and geniality among all ringers. He rang his first peal in 1844, and another in 1884, so he supposed he was getting on. He was very pleased to be called upon to acknowledge the toast, and trusted that prosperity would not only attend the College Youths, but all ringing societies.

Song—"Dream of the Albert Hall."—The Chairman.

Mr. W. D. SMITH in proposing the Officers of the Society and the Dinner Committee, said whenever he had had the pleasure of meeting the officers of the society, he had found them very active in conducting the business of the society, and so far as he had observed, had given entire satisfaction. The arrange-

ments for the dinner could not have been carried out without considerable trouble, and the great credit was due to the Committee. With the toast he would couple the name of Mr. Woodley, the energetic Hon. Sec. of the Society.

Song—"Eads in red."—Mr. Porter.

Mr. WOODLEY, in responding, said he considered that there were other members of the society present, that could have better responded to that which might justly be termed the toast of the evening. As he had however been entrusted to respond on behalf of the society, he could but do his best. No doubt some of those present would like to know what the society had done during the past twelve months. It might be thought by some that they had not done anything very particular. Well they had rung peals up to the present Tuesday evening to the tune of seventy-three, and during the year elected fifty-nine members, which he believed on Tuesday would be increased by an additional five. As to the finances, he was not in a position to say exactly what they were before next Tuesday, but he could assure them that such were in a flourishing condition. As to the officers of the society, as their mouthpiece it was a pleasure for him to say that they had been well supported by the worthy Master, and he might also add by the stewards. With respect to the Dinner Committee, it so happened that he was away just at the time when he should have been at home. It would however be satisfactory to learn that the dinner arrangements had all been carried out in a manner which met with the approval of those present. He would thank them one and all, and the toast of the officers and also for the Dinner Committee, as he knew that all would be gratified.

Mr. F. E. DAWE said it was suggested that as he sometimes went "steeple-chasing," that he should propose "The Provincial Members." It was no doubt easier to travel about now than it was a few years back, for the railways give us much greater facilities for doing so. He was not however the only one that went about, for their Hon. Sec. had been doing something in that line, and had been away. Yet strange to say they did not manage to be in the same districts. He had rung in 460 towers, and had, as a matter of course, met some of the best and worst of the ringers. The majority ring very well, but he preferred the abilities of the London men, being more at home among them. He had rung in all the noted "hot beds" of Stedman and Treble Bob, with peals that were faultless from first to last, all of which he was proud of. He was bound to say that at the greater number of places visited, north, east, south and west, he had received the greatest kindness and attention, from many of the country ringers, who seemed never to grow weary of doing their "level best" to oblige a visitor—no matter who he was, so long as he was able to ring and behave himself reasonably. In return he was quite certain that the London men were equally energetic in attending to the wants and wishes of those who honoured them from time to time with a "look up," but as everyone knew perfectly well, although there were so many towers in and about the metropolis, it was a matter of the greatest difficulty possible to obtain the use of the bells for peal ringing, owing to so many business premises, hospitals, etc., being in close proximity. Intending visitors should give as much notice as they could to the Secretary, but if it were possible to arrange so that they came in two's and three's instead of one's, and as near as possible about the same time, it would be much better, for at present it existed very nearly forty-eight weeks out of the fifty-two. People often after a banquet, or similar occasions, said what they did not mean, but all he was saying he did mean. He was glad (although he had hopes of seeing more) to see so many there, and pleased to be amongst them and trusted to be present at many more such meetings, and to see the same faces with additional ones. Many of his grandest achievements and happiest hours had been spent amongst ringers.

The toast was acknowledged by Messrs. Mead and Mumford, of Ilford, and Mr. Blackman, of Arundel.

Handbell Performance—a course of Grandsire Cinques. W. Baron, 1-2; G. T. McLaughlin, 3-4; W. Cooter, 5-6; H. Hopkins, 7-8; C. F. Winny, 9-10; R. T. Woodley, 11-12.

Mr. WOODLEY, who proposed "The London and Provincial Ringing Societies," said there were many other ringing societies in existence. Whenever members of the Ancient Society of College Youths met them, they were received with great

cordiality. There is one society which might be termed an opposition one, and known as the Cumberland Youths. They were good ringers and good fellows. There was one present in the room—he referred to Mr. Thomas, of Battersea—who was a jolly good fellow and a good ringer, and one who won respect from all he met.

Mr. THOMAS, in responding, said he was very pleased to think that his name had been associated with the toast of that of other societies. If at any time any of the members could give the company at Battersea a visit, they would be welcomed. He wished to thank the Committee for the kind invitation to be present at the dinner; he had thoroughly enjoyed himself, and trusted that upon any occasion when they had a social gathering or meeting at which they could admit visitors, they would not forget to send him an invite.

The MASTER, in proposing "The Clergy," said they found the clergy at all times ready and willing to do whatever they could for the society in granting the use of towers, or otherwise, and the society was thus much indebted to them.

Mr. COOTER, in proposing "The Press," referred to his early ringing career, when it was the custom to record performances in *Bell's Life*, that was provided that no great racing event or the science of fists going on, if so, ringing did not find a corner. At the present day they had a journal which devoted its columns to ringing, and one which gave them part of its pages. This was a great change, for thus it was that ringing performances were sent wherever the English tongue was spoken.

A very sensational recitation was next given by Mr. F. E. DAWE, entitled "In the Signal Box."

Mr. B. KEEBLE (Romford), whose name was coupled with the toast, in responding, referred to the springing up of Associations and Guilds, some of which, as in the case of the Essex Association had been brought into existence through members of the society. The time appeared to have arrived when the Exercise was deserving of a journal, and he trusted the day was not far distant when there would be sufficient ringing information to fill double the number of pages which "THE BELL NEWS" now had, and that the Exercise would come forward with the determination to support it.

The Proprietors of the Bridge House Hotel, proposed by the Vice-Chairman, concluded the list. In addition to the names mentioned above, songs were sung by Messrs. W. D. Smith, G. Smith, Woodley, McLaughlin, Tyack, Hopkins, Murphy, and Duff, etc.

During the afternoon four courses of Stedman Caters were rung at St. Michael's, Cornhill. J. Pettit (conductor), 1; E. Horrex, 2; G. T. McLaughlin, 3; J. Barry, 4; C. F. Winny, 5; H. Springall, 6; A. S. Barrell, 7; S. E. Joyce, 8; R. T. Woodley, 9; H. Alford, 10. At the meeting-house previous to the dinner, a course of Grandsire Caters was rung. J. W. Driver, 1-2; S. E. Joyce, 3-4; G. T. McLaughlin, 5-6; C. F. Winny, 7-8; R. T. Woodley, 9-10.

PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

The above society have been presented by Mr. A. Estcourt, of Gloucester, with a peal of thirteen handbells in case, all complete, in recognition of their perseverance in again being able to ring a peal, entirely composed of local men, which was rang in March last. They were rang for the first time on Monday, November 5th, when some Triples and Doubles were rang, and tunes, which gave great satisfaction. All the ringers are extremely pleased with the present, as they did not possess a peal, and their heartiest thanks were given to Mr. Estcourt, son of the late William Estcourt, for his great kindness to them, trusting to again soon be able to achieve another peal to show their gratitude for his kindness. The form of presentation and date is inscribed on the tenor bell.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

The next Ringing Meeting of the above Branch will take place on Saturday, November 10th, at the parish church, Newchurch. Bells ready at 2.30; meeting in the School at 6.30.

J. T. STOTT, Local Sec.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

The annual meeting of this Society was held last Tuesday evening, November 6th, when the following officers were elected for 1888-9, viz:—Mr. Francis E. Dawe, Master; Mr. James Pettit (re-elected), Treasurer; Mr. Henry Springall, Senior Steward; Mr. Arthur S. Barrell, Junior Steward; Mr. Richard T. Woodley (re-elected), Hon. Secretary; Messrs. W. Smith, and F. G. Newman, Auditors.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—As the "Peal Committee" of the society are preparing for the booking of peals for the previous twelve months, conductors of peals rung in the country are requested to forward at once to head-quarters their copies of same, with the necessary fees, and at the latest by the first meeting next year, viz., January 1st, 1889, R. T. WOODLEY, Hon. Sec.

40, Lillington Street, Pimlico, S.W.

EARDISLEY, HEREFORDSHIRE.

The tower of the above church has been amalgamated with the Hereford Guild of bell ringers. It contains a peal of five bells, which were cast by Rudhall, at Gloucester, in 1708. Tenor 9 cwt. The rector, the rev. C. S. Palmer, is an hon. member, and a company of about sixteen young men have joined the movement in favour of change-ringing. A set of handbells for the use of this company was kindly purchased by the rector, who will probably increase the tower bells to six, early in the coming year. Previous to the instructor's visit, this company only rang rounds, their first steps in the method commenced on the 18th October.

THE HORNSEY GUILD.

On Wednesday, October 31st, at the parish church, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. W. Mosley, to Miss E. Aylem, of Ashfield House, Hornsey, the following members rang several 120's of Grandsire Doubles and two 720's of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 and 27½ mins respectively. L. Swift, 1; J. Ward (first 720 on a bob bell), 2; W. Dixon, 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; G. Griffin, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt. These are the first 720's accomplished by the above Guild. Great credit is due to the captain, Mr. George Griffin for the able manner in which he has conducted the business of the Guild since its formation, also for his kindness and amiability to all members and visitors.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR MR. DORAN.

	£	s.	d.
E. F. Cole, Esq., London	1	0	0
Dr. A. B. Carpenter, Croydon	0	10	0
Mr. H. Hopkins, London	0	2	6
J. E. Worsell, Brighton	0	5	0
H. Swain, London	0	2	0
W. H. Dallimore, West Ham	0	2	0
W. Smith, West Ham	0	1	0
Rev. H. A. Cockey	0	5	0
W. Hawkes, Springfield	0	2	0
J. R. Haworth, London	0	2	6
Collected at Brentwood	0	2	0

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held in St. Martin's Schoolroom, Tipton, on Saturday, November 17th, 1888, at 5 o'clock prompt. The Rev. A. A. Cory, Vicar, will preside. The tower and bells will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Members to take this as sufficient notice, should they receive no other.

JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

37, Sinms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

TO be Sold. A set of Handbells. In good repair, 3 octaves in chromatic scale 37 in number. C. 22 size largest bell. No reasonable offer refused. Apply R. Bains, 20, Mint, Low Moor Side, Holbeck, Leeds.

OUR CHRISTMAS NUMBER,

NOW IN PREPARATION,

WILL CONTAIN

A PORTRAIT

Of a well-known Change-Ringer, with short Biographical Sketch.

The number will contain Two Stories :—

"A MERRY PEAL,"

By the Author of "The Belle of Belsham."

AND

"THE CHURCHWARDEN."

By the Author of "The First Peal."

Further particulars will be announced in due course.

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

One copy, 12 months 6s. 6d.

" 6 " 3s. 3d.

" 3 " 1s. 8d.

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1888.

The Provinces.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, October 31, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION (INVERTED).

THOMAS SHORT Treble.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 5.
WILLIAM ADKINS 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 6.
J. WAGHORN, JUN. 3.	HARRY FRUIN 7.
EDWARD ALDWORTH 4.	HARRY HYDE Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

[Mr. Waghorn belongs to Tottenham, and this is his first peal of Stedman.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, November 1, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5083

CHANGES.

Tenor 26 cwt.

GEORGE ROBINSON Treble.	EDWARD I. STONE 5.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	HARRY WAKLEY 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by J. GRIFFIN.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

WILLIAM ADKINS* Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
HAROLD HUMFREY 2.	THOMAS SHORT 6.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW 3.	HARRY FRUIN 7.
J. WAGHORN, JUN.* 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

*Their first peal in the method.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 3, 1888, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS THE MARTYR,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

HARRY RANDALL Treble.	JAMES PRIEST 5.
WILLIAM ROWLAND 2.	REV. H. A. COCKEY .. 6.
ACKLAND J. PERKINS 3.	GEORGE NEWSON 7.
WILLIAM HAWKES 4.	FREDERICK PITSTOW .. Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS, and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

This peal has the 6th extent home at nine, and 5th extent home at five course-ends, and is now rung for the first time. First peal on the Bells, and first in the method by J. Priest, who rang in the place of Mr. E. Barnett, owing to domestic affliction in that gentleman's family.

DURSLEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 3, 1888, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PENNING'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

ALFRED TRIGG Treble.	JAMES NASH 5.
FRANCIS E. WARD 2.	CHARLES KING 6.
W. RYLAND 3.	FREDK. STEPHENS 7.
WILLIAM HALE 4.	THOS. WRIGHT Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS E. WARD, Master of the Association.

The first peal on record on the bells.

BOLTON, BRADFORD, YORKS.

THE SOCIETY OF COPLEY SCHOLARS, AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN SUGDEN* Treble.	B. T. COPLEY 5.
JAMES COTTERELL* 2.	*J. H. CUNDALL 6.
JAMES MAWSON† 3.	FRED LONDON 7.
GEORGE TITTERINGTON .. 4.	SAM PALFRAMAN Tenor.

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL, and Conducted by F. LONDON.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. This peal, which is the first by the society, was rung on the tenth anniversary of the opening of the bells.

WEST BROMWICH.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, November 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS',

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BIDDLESTONE'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

JOSIAH COOPER* Treble.	EDWIN CASHMORE 5.
SIDNEY SMITH 2.	SIMEON SLATER 6.
EDWARD WOODHALL 3.	WILLIAM A. COOPER 7.
GEORGE GRIFFITHS† 4.	CHARLES COTTRELL Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM A. COOPER.

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

MANCHESTER.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 3, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

A. EDWARD WREAKS .. Treble.	HENRY CHAPMAN 6.
GEORGE E. TURNER 2.	FRANK BIRTWISTLE 7.
JAMES GRATIX 3.	EDWARD CASH 8.
JOSEPH GRIMSHAW 4.	ERNEST BISHOP 9.
JAMES BARRATT 5.	JOHN EACHUS Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and Conducted by JOHN EACHUS.

First peal in the method for Messrs. Grimshaw, Chapman, Birtwistle, and Bishop.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, November 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

ROBERT HART Treble.	PETER BAXTER 5.
EDMUND PRESCOTT 2.	JOHN WHITEHEAD 6.
WALTER GORTON 3.	EDWARD ARROWSMITH 7.
JOSEPH PRESCOTT 4.	SAMUEL HAYES Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH PRESCOTT.

Messrs. Hart, Gorton, and Whitehead, hail from Bolton, J. and E. Prescott from Hindley, Baxter, Arrowsmith, and Hayes, from Leigh.

WHITFIELD, GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 5, 1888, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOSEPH MARSDEN .. Treble.	ELI GARSIDE 5.
WILLIAM MARSDEN 2.	HENRY COOPER 6.
THOMAS JACKSON 3.	JOSEPH MALONEY 7.
EDWARD HAIGH 4.	JOHN LAWTON Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, and Conducted by EDWARD HAIGH.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(BURTON BRANCH).

On Monday, November 5, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

WILLIAM ORME Treble.	JOHN WALKER 5.
WILLIAM J. SMITH* 2.	PETO MEADOWS 6.
JOHN JAGGAR 3.	LEONARD BULLOCK 7.
JAMES HICKLIN 4.	JOHN CARVELL Tenor.

Composed by J. J. PARKER, and Conducted by W. J. SMITH.

This peal is taken from "THE BELL NEWS," of June 23rd, 1888, page 179, the second peal there given. It is the quickest peal on the Bells. *First peal as conductor. Peto Meadows, who is now working at Burton-on-Trent, belongs to Wood-bridge, Suffolk.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, November 5, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. Treble.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 5.
WILLIAM ADKINS 2.	SAMUEL PHILLIP 6.
H. F. DELISLE, ESQ. .. 3.	THOMAS SHORT 7.
EDWARD ALDWORTH 4.	HARRY FRUIN Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

Mr. Phillips belongs to Bristol, and it is his first peal of Stedman.

CARSHALTON.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 5, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

CHARLES BANCE .. Treble.	†ALFRED H. MARTIN .. 5.
EDGAR BENNETT 2.	*JOHN HARDING 6.
JOSEPH FAYERS 3.	CHARLES GORDON 7.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER .. 4.	GEORGE WELLING Tenor.

Composed by J. BARKER, and Conducted by DR. A. B. CARPENTER.

This peal is given in "Rope-Sight," Third Edition, page 104. *First peal. †First peal of Bob Major.

EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE.

The Conference assembled on Wednesday last, under the auspices of the National Society, to consider the report of the Royal Commission on Education, resumed and concluded its business at the Society's Rooms, Broad Sanctuary, Westminster, the Archbishop of Canterbury occupying the chair. Amongst those supporting his Grace upon the platform were the Dean of Chester, Lord Norton, Lord Addington, Sir F. Sandford, and Canon Gregory.

LORD NORTON moved, and the Dean of Chester seconded—
"That the recommendations of the Commission for the amendment of the existing law relating to the transfer of voluntary schools to School Boards be approved."

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

The Dean of Chester moved, and Canon Machre seconded:—
"That this Conference, while generally supporting the recommendations of the Commission with regard to school staff and pupil-teachers, desires especially to affirm the importance of the value of untrained teachers not being altogether excluded from the profession. The minimum staff required by the code should be considerably raised; head-teachers should teach and not only supervise; the pupil-teacher system should be upheld; pupil-teachers should be allowed more time during school hours for their own studies, and the instruction received from the head-teacher should be supplemented by central-class teaching in the compulsory and additional subjects. Extra Government grants should be given for this purpose. With regard to the mode of paying the salaries of teachers, the Conference is of opinion that it should be left a matter of arrangement between the managers and teachers, but that it is desirable that the salaries of the teachers should not be to any great extent dependent on the grant."

*** Correspondents who both this week and last have not received replies to their communications through the post, are informed that the reason for delay is the dangerous illness of the Editor of this paper. He was compelled to take to his bed last Sunday week, from which he has not yet risen, only for a very brief interval. His illness will no doubt keep him in bed another fortnight at least, and correspondents will we hope wait a little longer, at any rate till he is convalescent, when their inquiries shall be attended to.

Date Touches.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Tuesday, October 20th, at the parish church, by the local company, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 12 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; J. Smith, 8.

LIGHTCLIFFE (Yorks).—On Tuesday evening, October 30th, at St. Matthew's church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. W. Reeds, 1; H. Kershaw, 2; G. H. C. Copping, 3; J. S. Ambler, 4; T. Parker, 5; C. E. Stewart, 6; A. F. Nicholl, 7; S. W. Stewart (conductor), 8. Composed by A. Sykes, of Huddersfield. Tenor 19½ cwt. Messrs. Reeds and Kershaw belong to the local company, the others belong to the All Souls' company, Halifax.

Miscellaneous.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

NEWBURY (Berks).—On Sunday morning, October 28th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 224 and 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. Powers, 1; C. Swain, 2; G. Batt, 3; D. Geater (conductor), 4; S. Quintin, 5; T. C. Couch, 6; J. Hussey, 7; J. Target, 8. Also for evening service, 504 and 336 of Grandsire Triples, standing as before, with the exception of R. Sawyer, 8.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday morning, November 4th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Monday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also after Divine Service in the evening, a 360 of Plain Bob. T. Newman, 1; E. Menday (conductor), 2; F. Simmonds, 3; H. Smith, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; J. Hands, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

KENNINGHALL (Norfolk).—On Sunday, October 7th, at the church of St. Mary, a 720 of Bob Major. J. Woods, jun., 1; A. G. Williams, 2; G. Edwards, 3; W. Nudds, 4; W. Nudds, jun., 5; W. Ringer, 6; J. Woods, 7; J. Mordey (conductor), 8. The above was rung on the occasion of the new vicar reading himself in. Also on Sunday, October 14th, being the Harvest Thanksgiving service, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Woods, jun., 1; G. Edwards, 2; J. Woods, 3; W. Ringer, 4; F. Eagling, 5; J. Mordey (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, 1008 of Bob Major, with the bells muffled, as a last tribute of respect to Mr. James Youngs, a native of the above place. J. Woods, jun., 1; A. G. Williams, 2; G. Edwards, 3; W. Nudds, 4; W. Nudds, jun., 5; W. Ringer, 6; J. Wood, 7; J. Mordey (conductor), 8. Mr. Youngs left several years ago, and went to reside in Norwich, and joined the St. Peter Mancroft Society. He took part in three 5000's at Kenninghall. Also on Sunday 28th, 1008 of Bob Major. C. Everett, 1; A. G. Williams, 2; G. Edwards, 3; W. Nudds, 4; W. Nudds, jun., 5; J. Woods, 6; F. Eagling, 7; J. Mordey (conductor), 8.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BLESTOE (Beds).—Recently, at the parish church, five members of the Sharnbrook Company paid a visit to this place, and rang two six-scores of Bob Doubles, and three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. J. Dickens, E. Coleman, L. Bell, E. Page, and A. J. Barcock. The above was rung as a compliment to Mr. Frederick Haines, the parish clerk, it being his fiftieth year as a ringer.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Sunday October 28th, at St. James's Church, for divine service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs) in 23 mins. W. Allen, 1; C. West, 2; C. R. Howard, 3; H. King, 4; W. A. Hall (Rushden), 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt in G.

SHARNBROOK (Beds).—On Saturday, October 27th, for practice, at the parish church, a 360 of Oxford Bob Minor. J. Dickens, 1; E. Page, 2; E. Coleman, 3; L. Bell, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; A. J. Barcock, 6. Also 120 of Grandsire Doubles. J. Dickens, 1; E. Page, 2; E. Coleman, 3; L. Bell, 4; A. J. Barcock (conductor), 5; C. W. Clarke, 6. And on Saturday, November 3rd, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Dickens, 1; L. Bell, 2; E. Coleman, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; E. Page, 5; A. J. Barcock (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all except C. W. Clarke. Also a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Dickens, 1; A. J. Barcock, 2; E. Coleman, 3; L. Bell, 4; E. Page, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. C. W. Clarke hails from Bedford, the remainder are of the local company.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, October 22nd, for practice, at the church of St. Mary, a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Spencer, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; F. Smith, (first 720 in this method), 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; F. Sharp, (first 720 in this method), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Spencer, 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Sharp, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, October 31st, a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; F. Smith, (first 720 in the method), 2; F. Sharp (first 720 in the method), 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. Hall, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-six singles). J. Spencer, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; F. Sharpe, 3; F. Smith, 4; W. Hall, 5; W. Allen, 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). F. Smith, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; F. Sharp, 3; W. Allen, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. And at St. Paul's Church, on Sunday, October 28th, for morning service, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. F. Hull, 1; F. Sharpe, 2; *C. Line (first touch with a bob bell), 3; F. Smith, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; F. Keech, 6; I. Hills 7; J. Spencer 8. Also 224 Bob Major. F. Hull, 1; F. Smith, 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; C. West, 4; W. A. Hall (Rushden), 5; W. Allen, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; I. Hills, 8. And a 336 of Grandsire Triples. W. Bettles, 1; F. Smith, 2; C. West, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; W. A. Hall, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Allen, 8. Also a 350. H. Clifton, 1; F. Smith, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; W. Allen, 4; C. West, 5; I. Hills, 6; W. A. Hall (conductor), 7; F. Sharp, 8. Also on Tuesday, October 30th, for practice, the following touches was rung 336 and 224 of Bob Major, 350 and 518 of Grandsire Triples, and 224 of Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Allen, W. Bettles, F. Hull, C. W. Clarke, J. Spencer, F. Smith, F. Sharp, C. Pass, I. Hills, and J. N. Frossell. And on Sunday, November 4th, for morning service, a 448 of Bob Major. W. Bettles, 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Sharp, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; W. Allen, 5; C. Pass, 6; I. Hills, 7; J. N. Frossell, 8. Also for evening service, a 688 of Bob Major. W. Bettles, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; F. Keech, 3; F. Smith, 4; W. Allen, 5; C. Pass, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 8. *Hails from Sherrington, Bucks.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TENTERDEN (Kent).—On Monday, October 29th, at the parish church, for practice, 532 of Grandsire Triples, and 168 of Stedman Triples. R. Edwards, 1; G. Cramp, 2; H. G. Rummery, 3; A. Hinds, 4; J. Sharp, 5; A. E. Nunn (conductor), 6; G. Neve, 7; H. Holdstock, 8.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday morning, October 28th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor. J. Harding, 1; L. Digweed, 2; W. Jackson, 3; A. Cornford, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. And on Sunday evening, November 4th, for Divine Service, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. L. Digweed, 1; W. Martin, 2; G. Hayes (conductor), 3; J. Broom, 4; W. Harper, 5; G. Martin, 6.

ROCHESTER.—On Tuesday evening, October 30th, at St. Margaret's Church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Chandler, 1; E. Raynor, 2; A. Ring, 3; J. Raynor, 4; *J. P. Kidd (conductor), 5; W. Baker, 6. *First 720 as conductor.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

HAGLEY.—On Tuesday, October 16th, at the Parish Church, a 720 of Plain Bob. J. Davies, 1; J. Smith, 2; T. Lees, 3; W. Short, 4; *W. Bradley, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, October 18th, for the Harvest Thanksgiving Service, 532 of Grandsire Triples. F. Molineux, 1; T. Barber, 2; J. Smith, 3; H. Morris, 4; T. Lees, 5; C. Boughton, 6; H. Martin (conductor), 7; F. Wright, 8. And after service a 168, with F. Wright, 1; and W. Short, 6. Also on Sunday morning, October 21st, at a continuation of the above services, 120 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Morris, 1; J. Smith, 2; *T. Lees, 3; T. Barber, 4; W. Short, 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6. On Saturday, October 27th, an attempt was made to ring the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, when after ringing within one treble lead of the finish, it came to grief through a mistake in the middle dodge. F. Molineux, 1; H. Martin (conductor), 2; H. Morris, 3; J. Smith, 4; T. Lees, 5; T. Barber, 6; W. Short, 7; J. Barber, 8. *First 120 in the method.

CLENT.—On Monday, October 22nd, at the parish church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. M. Shilvoek, 1; G. Workman, 2; J. Smith, 3; *H. Morris, 4; W. Huxley, 5; C. Boughton, 6. *First 720 with a bob bell in the method.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LANCASTER.—On Tuesday, October 30th, at the parish church, 2520 of Grandsire Triples. R. S. Hirst (conductor), 1; R. Butler, 2; C. S. A. Cushing, 3; T. J. Parker, 4; H. Wilcock, 5; R. Holliday, 6; W. Jackson, 7; R. Suart, 8. The above was rung in commemoration of Mr. C. S. A. Cushing, who is leaving this town for Barrow-in-Furness.

BACUP.—On Sunday evening, October 4th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 720 of Bob Minor (eight bobs and two singles), with the bells muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mrs. Harris, of the above place. A. White, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; J. Smith (Rawtenstall), 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, November 4th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Duke of York Treble Bob Minor in 24 mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Wood (conductor), 4; J. W. Brough, 5; W. Baddeley, 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILDHALL.

BAGSHOT (Surrey).—On Thursday evening, October 27th, at St. Anne's Church, 720 Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). F. Frances, 1; H. Stapleton, 2; W. Stevens (first 720 with a bob bell), 3; O. Harding, 4; T. Gould, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. And on Monday, October 31, 720 Bob Minor (six bobs and six singles). W. Stevens, 1; F. Francis, 2; T. Gould, 3; O. Harding, 4; H. Stapleton, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday evening, November 1st, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). W. Stevens, 1; T. Gould, 2; F. Francis, 3; O. Harding, 4; H. Stapleton, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. And on handbells, 120 of Stedman Doubles. H. Stapleton, 1; T. Gould, 2; W. Stevens, 3 (first 120 Stedman); O. Harding, 4; E. Spooner (conductor), 5-6. Also on Saturday evening, November 3rd, 120 of Grandsire Doubles. A. Harding, 1; H. Stapleton, 2; F. Francis (conductor), 3; O. Harding, 4; T. Gould, 5; W. Varndell, 6. Also 240 of Stedman Doubles. H. Stapleton, 1; T. Gould, 2; F. Francis, 3; O. Harding, 4; E. Spooner (conductor), 5; W. Varndell, 6. And 720 of Bob Minor (four bobs and 84 singles). A. Harding, 1; T. Gould, 2; F. Francis, 3; O. Harding, 4; H. Stapleton, 5; C. Spooner (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday morning, November 4th, for divine service, 720 Bob Minor (six bobs and six singles). A. Harding, H. Stapleton, F. Francis, 3; O. Harding, 4; T. Gould, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. And in the evening for service, 603 of Grandsire Doubles. A. Harding, 1; F. Francis, 2; E. Spooner, 3; H. Stapleton, 4; T. Gould (conductor), 5; R. Weeks, 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Saturday, November 3rd, at the church of St. Michael's a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire Triples in 41½ mins. *G. Gasson, 1; *F. Bennett, 2; *T. Curtis, 3; F. W. J. Rees, Esq., 4; J. Staples, 5; H. White (conductor), 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; *T. Wheeler, 8. *First quarter-peal. Also a 504. G. Gasson, 1; F. W. J. Rees, Esq., 2; T. Curtis, 3; F. Bennett (conductor), 4; J. Staples, 5; J. W. Whiting, 7; T. Wheeler, 8. J. Staples hails from Havant. J. W. Whiting from Fareham. F. W. Rees, Esq., and F. Bennett from Guildford; the rest belong to the local band.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Sunday morning, November 4th, for divine service, at St. Mary's Church, 504 and 112 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb (conductor), 1; J. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; R. Jackson, 5; A. Squires, 6; R. Jackson, 7; G. Gentle, 8. And for divine service in the evening, 518 and 168 in the same method with J. Phillips (conductor), 4; the rest standing the same as in the morning. A. Squires hails from Hitchin.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—St. John's Church, on Monday, the 5th inst. 672 of Grandsire Triples. J. Weddell, 1; F. Lees, 2; W. Egglestone, 3; E. Wallis (conductor), 4; J. Simm, 5; S. Power, 6; W. Story, 7; R. J. Robson, 8. Also 1008 in the same method. R. S. Storey, 5; R. Simm, 8. Tenor 12½ cwt. The above was rung in honour of H.R.H. The Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne, who visited the city on the above date.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Tuesday evening, November 6th, at St. Saviour's Church, Southwark, S.E. for practice twelve members of the above Society rang a touch of 768 Treble Bob Maximus in 40 mins. J. Petit, 1; W. Cooter, 2; S. Joyce, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; H. Springall, 5; W. Tanner, 6; W. Greenleaf, 7; R. French, 8; W. D. Smith, 9; E. Horrex, 10; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 11; J. G. Newman, 12. Tenor 52 cwt. in B.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Monday, October 15th, a few friends of the late Mr. James Youngs, one of St. Peter Mancroft society, met at St. Michael's church, and rang with the bells deeply muffled, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley, 6. Also 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Fox (Tacetonstone), 1; R. Hutton, 2; J. Hilling, 3; J. Cullon (Fundenhall), 4; R. Ackins (Fundenhall), 5; J.

Hinchley (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, October 20th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Smith, sen., 1; R. Hutton (conductor), 2; J. Hinchley, 3; G. Smith, jun., 4; A. Dunnett, 5; J. Hilling, 6. Also 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Hinchley (conductor), 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; R. Hutton, 6.

CAERLEON (Mon).—On Sunday, November 4th, for evening service at the parish church, a 1260 of Grandsire Triples in 41 mins. *L. Jones, 1; F. A. Weston, 2; W. H. Arnold, 3; H. Shearn, 4; L. Stafford, 5; *J. Jones, 6; E. Davies (conductor), 7; H. Evans, 8. Tenor 7½ cwt. in B. *First quarter-peal. L. Jones hails from Carmarthen.

COGGESHALL (Essex).—On Monday evening, October 29, for practice at St. Peter's church, on the back six, 720 of Double Court Bob Minor, in 27 mins. R. Potter, 1; W. Dyer, 2; James Nicholls, 3; D. Elliott, 4; W. Nicholls, 5; J. Sadler (conductor), 6. The above was rung in honour of D. Elliott's 62nd birthday.

CHESTER.—On Thursday evening, November 1st, for practice at St. Michael's church, two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Povey, 1; H. Gibson, 2; A. Cross, 3; W. Cross, 4; J. Griffith, 5; J. Moulton (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday evening, November 4th, for Divine Service, two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Percy, 1; H. Gibson, 2; C. Price, 3; A. Cross, 4; J. Moulton (conductor), 5; J. Griffith, 6.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, November 6th, at the parish church of St. John the Baptist for practice 504 of Grandsire Triples. Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 1; G. Russell (conductor), 2; A. Arnold, 3; S. Fisk, 4; T. Verrall, 5; *C. H. Kitching, 6; A. Bruce, 7; A. E. Collins, 8. *First 500. Also 210 Oxford Bob Triples. H. Dudley, 1; W. J. Chambers, 2; *R. E. Pearson, 3; W. States, 4; H. Brooker, 5; Dr. A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; H. F. Hermon, 8. *First touch in the method with a bob bell.

FULHAM.—On Sunday, November 4th, for Divine Service at the Parish Church a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins. F. W. Kelley, 1; Charles Blackman, 2; *C. E. Kelley, 3; W. E. Garrard, 4; J. W. Kelley (conductor), 5; James Nicholls, jun., 6; R. T. Woodley, 7; J. G. Green, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. *First quarter-peal with a bob bell. Mr. Blackman hails from Arundel (Sussex). Also on Thursday, November 1st, All Saints' Day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), for Divine Service in 45 mins. C. E. Kelley, 1; J. W. Kelley (conductor), 2; T. E. Hughes, 3; J. W. Driver, 4; Frank Davey, 5; Harry Kenton, 6; S. Eales, 7; S. How, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. First quarter-peal with a bob bell.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, November 3rd, at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs two singles), in 25 mins. W. Cooke, 1; A. Haigh, 2; W. Evans (first 720), 3; M. Warwick (conductor), 4; W. Haigh, 5; G. Lindoff, 6. And on Sunday morning, November 4th, 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs two singles), in 25 mins. W. Preston (first 720), 1; W. Cooke (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; W. Evans, 3; J. Baker, 4; W. Haigh, 5; A. Haigh (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday evening, November 4th, 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs twenty-two singles). W. Preston, 1; G. Willshire, 2; W. Evans, 3; J. Baker, 4; W. Haigh, 5; A. Haigh (conductor), 6. G. Willshire hails from Sittingbourne.

HAGBOURNE (Berks).—On Tuesday, October 21st, at the parish church, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. John Napper to Miss E. Wakefield, both of this place, the ringers met early and rang a good touch before the ceremony, and afterwards rang 504 of Grandsire Triples. J. Pether, 1; E. Napper, 2; F. Napper, 3; D. Napper, 4; J. Napper, 5; W. Napper, 6; W. Newell (conductor), 7; A. Woodley, 8. Also several other touches were rung during the day. W. Newell hails from Reading.

LAMBETH (Surrey).—On Monday, November 6th, at St. Mary's church, being the fortnightly meeting of the St. James's Society, 349 and 461 Grandsire Triples. J. George, 1; C. F. Winny (conductor), 2; G. Wild, 3; W. W. Thorne, 4; W. Garrard, 5; W. H. George, 6; W. J. Cockerill, 7; J. Stoneman, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. J. George hails from Coventry.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, November 4th, for Divine Service at St. Stephen's Church, Westminster, a 742 of Grandsire Triples. W. Carter, 1; J. N. Oxborrow, 2; J. Pryor, 3; H. R. Newton (conductor), 4; H. S. Ellis, 5; J. M. Hayes, 6; W. H. George, 7; J. George, 8. J. George hails from Coventry.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Sunday afternoon, November 4th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 798 of Grandsire Triples, in 27 mins. J. Prescott, 1; J. Sholicar, 2; J. Pilkington, 3; W. Ellis, 4; W. Bentham, 5; W. J. Taylor, 6; G. Prescott (conductor), 7; T. Martland, 8. Composed by John Walker, of Blackburn.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Thursday evening, November 1st, at the parish church, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. W. Adler, 1; G. Winter, 2; T. Lingard, 3; T. W. Chapman (conductor), 4; J. Clarke, 5; T. Bates, 6; H. Horwood, 7; J. George, 8. Also several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. George, 1; A. Palmer, 2; G. Winter, 3; J. Clarke, 4; T. Bates, 5; J. Ballard, 6. Also several six-scores with C. B. Cooke, 1; the rest standing as before. Also on Sunday, November 4th, for evening service 180 of Plain Bob Minor. A. Palmer, 1; G. Winter, 2; J. Clarke, 3; T. W. Chapman (conductor), 4; T. Bates, 5; H. Horwood, 6. Messrs. George and Cooke hail from Rugby.

READING.—On Tuesday, October 30th, for practice, the first true touch of 504 Stedman Triples was rung by the following persons: J. F. Farrant, treble; W. Bennett, 2; W. Johnson, 3; J. Richardson, 4; E. Reeves, 5; W. Newell, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor), 7; F. Hoppood, tenor. J. Richardson hails from Eenhnam; the rest are all members of the St. Lawrence's Society.

ROCHESTER.—On Sunday evening, November 4th, for Divine Service at St. Margaret's church, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 27 mins. J. Tulett, 1; M. Warwick (R.E.), 2; J. Chantler, 3; C. Waterman, 4; W. Baker, 5; G. Lindoff (R.E., conductor), 6. C. Waterman hails from Shorne.

ROWLEY REGIS.—On Sunday, October 14th, for morning service at the church of St. Giles, 630 of Grandsire Triples. H. Bennett, 1; J. Oakley, 2; H. Bate, 3; J. Bate, 4; R. Baker, 5; S. Mills (conductor), 6; B. Lowe, 7; B. Oakley, 8. And for evening service, 420 of Grandsire Triples. H. Bennett, 1; J. Oakley, 2; H. Bate, 3; J. Bate (conductor), 4; S. Mills, 5; R. Baker, 6; B. Lowe, 7; B. Oakley, 8. Also on Thursday evening, October 18th, after Divine Service, 720 of Grandsire Minor. H. Bennett, 1; R. Baker, 2; H. Bate, 3; B. Lowe, 4; J. Oakley, 5; S. Mills (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, October 21st, after Divine Service, 420 of Grandsire Triples. D. Woodhouse, 1; S. Mills, 2; J. Bate (conductor), 3; J. Oakley, 4; H. Bennett, 5; R. Baker, 6; R. Bird, 7; B. Oakley, 8. R. Bird belongs to Old Hill. Also for practice on Tuesday evening, October 23rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins. J. Oakley, 1; R. Baker, 2; J. Bate, 3; H. Bate, 4; H. Bennett, 5; S. Mills (conductor), 6; B. Lowe, 7; B. Oakley, 8.

SALISBURY.—On Tuesday, October 30th, at St. Martin's church, 2520 of Grandsire Triples. Rev. P. H. Jackson, 1; H. D. Adams, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; T. Blackburn (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; W. M. Lush, 8. The Rev. P. H. Jackson hails from Beaminster, Dorset, and this is his first half-peal. And on Saturday, November 3rd, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. W. J. Prince, 1; A. W. Barkus, 2; S. Lawrence, 3; W. S. Wise, 4; H. D. Adams, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, October 4th, another 720 in the same method.

SALISBURY.—On Thursday, November 1st, at St. Martin's Church, in honour of the wedding of Mr. E. H. Hulse, M.P., a date touch of Bob Major, in 1 hr. 10 mins. H. D. Adams, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; W. S. Wise, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6; A. W. Barkus, 7; T. Blackburn, 8. Composed by Mr. H. J. Tucker.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, the 6th inst., at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. J. Adams (first in the method), 1; J. Waghorn, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; W. Pye English, 6.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—On Sunday evening, November 4th, after Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 43 mins. W. B. Manning (conductor), 1; T. Maynard, 2; G. Grimwade, 3; C. Beech, 4; G. Smith, 5; J. Priest, 6; A. S. Barrell, 7; W. D. Smith, 8.

GETTING READY FOR WINTER.—The return to health of muscle, mind, and nerve, after a summer holiday that has not been judiciously spent, must also be gradual, if one would not find the winter rapidly approaching, and feel himself but ill able to face its storms and changeableness. So I advise that, on a return to work, you—at some very calm moment, early in the morning, perhaps, before you have turned out of bed—quietly think of the labours that are before you in the coming busy months, and consider how you may most easily get through them. Make some plan, adopt some system of spending the day, especially the leisure hours thereof. Do not be in the least degree excited about your state or condition, although you may not feel as strong as you could wish. Health is sure to come if you keep calm. On the other hand, if you worry over matters, depend upon it that you only make matters worse.—*A Family Doctor*, in "Cassell's Family Magazine" for November.

THE RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION OF THE UPPER CLASSES.

A correspondent of the *Guardian*, writes as follows:—Sir, We are in the midst of much talk about the religious education of our elementary scholars; the question will make or mar some chances of election to the London School Board presently; it will certainly be soon again among the warmest Parliamentary debates.

But is it not time that we should give a little thought, too, to the question of the religious education of the children of the upper classes?

The present condition of religion among the young ladies and gentlemen of the world must make any one who looks at it anxious. Without reaching widely we may note the attendance at church, other than a formal once on Sunday; the observance of the remainder of that day; the level of personal morality accepted as sufficient in some society; or the books read and written for the drawing-room and the club; and the question presses, What are the causes of these things?

No doubt there are many—for instance, the loss of much teaching of sacrifice and duty as a necessity in a genteel life; but, perhaps, at the root lies not agnosticism, but a kind of semi-belief. And whence does this arise?

I believe distinctly in absence of accurate religious knowledge. Old fears of Romanism still linger unexpressed, and make parents dread teaching their children definite dogma; the loose teaching of Nonconformity and of emotional religion leads others to indifference, and so it falls out that when the time comes for the children to be intrusted to the governess no questions are asked, and no careful plans made with regard to the definite teaching of religion; the father very likely is engrossed in the duties of his profession, and the mother rightly or wrongly is much occupied in the requirements of her position, and so the governess becomes the educator; she, poor lady, driven by the press of requirements to be an expert in this and that, has worked for diplomas, and is she to be blamed if she has not found time for that science of religion for which there is no diploma?

Thus, with a shadowy hold on religious knowledge (I distinguish between knowledge and feeling), the boys leave the governess and go to school. Then the case becomes daily more hopeless, the crowd of subjects become the greater, and the attention to religion is probably less. A very good house-master, or in some splendid examples his wife, takes special care. Confirmation is generally well looked after, but what can be done in the time given for that preparation.

And so our sons go, often ill-prepared as far as definite religious conviction is concerned, to meet the temptations of the University or the town, to be sent into business and plunged into the temptations of suburban life, or to be shipped abroad in search of fortune.

If any fastness of life should supervene, where shall religion flourish?

Certainly many ladies and gentlemen know as little of the history and science of the Church as when they were in the nursery, and others know less than their servants who were brought up in the national Sunday schools.

And what are the preventions—What are we to do with the children of to-day so as to bring out a generation presently with deeper convictions?

You could not give me space for many suggestions, but have we not arrived at the time when we should make a point of asking from our governesses, our preparatory schoolmasters, and our house-masters as much attention to definite instruction in religion as they give to any other branch of education?

Further, Are we not ripe for gentry Sunday-schools wherever there are two or three such families in a parish? Pray do not let my brethren of the clergy wait for perfection before they begin these. Many of us consider that the ideal is for the children of rich and poor to attend one Sunday school; but however wise or unwise this may be we shall lose a generation if we wait for it. England has traditions which America has not, and we can ignore these in theory but not in practice. Any clergyman who perseveres with such a school knows how his level of confirmation candidate rises, and what Church-workers he educates.

THE ORIGIN OF CHURCH PROPERTY.

The following extract upon this subject from an old number of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, has been forwarded to us for insertion:—Notwithstanding all that has been written on the subject, a great misapprehension prevails on the origin and amount of Church property, in consequence of the representation of prejudiced persons. It is constantly alleged, and very generally believed, that her revenues are enormous, and that her Clergy are overpaid; charges and opinions which are untrue and erroneous, and which a plain statement of facts will sufficiently refute.

Ascending to the early institution of Christianity in our Island, we find that the Romish Associate Missionaries sought on their arrival the protection of the Heptarchal kings and that wherever they obtained this sanction, they immediately formed a settlement. A mandate from the Pope soon erected it into a diocese, and raised the Prior to the Episcopal order. They possessed but one Church, which became the Cathedral, in the precincts of which the Monks lived together as a collegiate body, and from whence they issued out to evangelize the neighbouring country. At this period the infant establishment was supported by the voluntary offerings of humble converts; and of what was thus collected one fourth was set apart for the Bishop, one for the maintenance of the Clergy, another for the poor, and another to defray the expenses of Divine Service. The conversion of one powerful Thane after another, led to the foundation of churches on their different domains, and the retention of a resident Priesthood.

Agreeably to the practice of the Jewish Church, succeeding Barons endowed the edifices which their forefathers had erected with the tenth of their income, and different Acts of Parliament confirmed what had been thus freely granted for ecclesiastical purposes. Hence it appears, that the first dioceses, in extent, bore some resemblance to the petty sovereignty; that the manorial limits became the first boundaries of the parish; and that the tithe was the surplus of the baronial revenue.

Up to the time of the Reformation, Ecclesiastical patronage seems for the most part to have continued in the hands of these noble families. The few livings in the gift of Monasteries, the Universities, and other public bodies, were either theirs in consequence of having been founded by them, or were attached to them by the bequest of private patrons. Those in the patronage of the Crown and Bishops, were in like manner by right of endowment, or were gradually acquired through lapse or forfeiture of nomination. Circumstances attending the Reformation operated a change most unfavourable to the interests of the church. The tithes of those livings attached to the religious houses were, by a rapacious monarch, at the dissolution of these establishments, alienated and conferred on his favourites. A stipendiary was appointed under the title of Vicar; he received the minor dues, while the lay Rector enjoyed the tithe.

According to a late survey, out of 10,693 Benefices in England and Wales, 5516 are Vicarages, and 5177 are Rectories. The total revenues of these two descriptions of livings are something less than three millions and a half, while the amount of impropriated tithes is rather more than a million and three-quarters. It appears, therefore, that more than half the livings underwent this spoliation, and that lay Rectors, persons no way connected with the priesthood or its duties, receive more than a moiety of the sum divided among the parochial Clergy. From the same estimate we learn that the average value of an English benefice, is £302 and of a living in the Church of Scotland, £275.

If then, such was the origin of church property, if a third of it has been thus sequestered,—and if the average stipend is so low, it is erroneous to suppose that the beneficed clergy, as a body, are overpaid, or that the burden of maintaining them falls on the community. And supposing it did, it could not then be said to fall upon one part of the community more than upon another. Estates and farms are continually changing hands, and we know that in all purchases and leaseholds the amount of tithes, as well as of taxes, is taken into the account.

But this is not the only deprivation which the English Clergy have sustained. It has been satisfactorily proved, that a great proportion even of Incumbents labour gratuitously. Almost

two-thirds of the Benefices are in the nominations of private persons, and these are usually disposed of as a species of reversionary property. The annual value of the living, the probable period of possession, and other circumstances, are all exactly calculated, and made to correspond with the interest of the purchase money. So that what these ministers receive in the form of tithes, is not the proper emolument of their office; it is but the interest of their private property laid out in a life annuity. It is the same thing if some father buys it for his son, or if some individual should purchase it for himself through a friend; in both cases the living is bought with the property, which is, or will be his own. Transactions of this nature are become so general and notorious, that their is scarcely a newspaper but what contains among its advertisements, "a next presentation to be disposed of, by public sale, or private contract." Indeed, so much business is now done in this way, that the new employment of Clerical Agent is created, and these men are usually as dextrous in setting forth all that renders the bargain desirable, "aged incumbent, excellent glebe, and sporting country," as any auctioneer. All admit that the Curates in general are not sufficiently remunerated, and that without a private fortune they could not support a respectable appearance as single men, much less bring up a family; but it would seem that the case of the above Incumbents is even harder than that of the Curates; the latter does receive £60 or £70 per annum for his services, but the former absolutely nothing.

When this system of sequestration and sale has been of such long standing, and passed through so many hands, it is as hopeless to expect that the holder of presentations should dispose of his patronage freely, as that the present lay Rector should abandon his claim to the tithes. Both may be sensible that they are in possession of what belongs to another; but as they have not acquired it by fraud, so they presume they may turn it to their own account without impeachment of their honesty. Certainly we could not expect that the tithe impropiators should be dispossessed without compensation, though in the case of Heritants it might not seem altogether out of place, if the children would, as some have nobly done, restore a part of the pelf so ill-gotten by their ancestors.

If men of character, who love the welfare of their church, reflected, they would refrain from speculations which are illegal in their nature, and mischievous in the effect. But in regard to family preferment thus disposed of, a case of greater dishonesty can hardly be produced. If a guardian runs away with the property of the helpless orphan, every bosom rises indignant at the baseness of the theft, but no one attaches the same infamy to the conduct of private patrons, who, in making this "gain of godliness," are ten thousand more times criminal. In the one case a child is destituted, but in the other the spiritual interests of thousands are left to suffer. For who does not perceive that as far as this species of patronage is concerned, we enjoy a learned and pious clergy only as family interest and personal piety happen to be united in the same individuals? For the free appointment of worthy men, the noble ancestor left provision, but his degenerate successors, in selling the living, are, not ashamed of the meanness of the robbery, nor stagger at sacrilege of the blackest description. Meritorious men may in vain look up to such persons for preferment, for what they care; the indolent or the profligate may take place of the diligent and pious; the enquiry is not which is the most deserving candidate, but which is the highest bidder. An advowson may indeed be fairly sold with the estate attached to it, but the purchaser becomes thereby possessed of the same sacred trust which the direct descendant inherited, and is bound by every moral felling to administer it aright.

But if the conduct of the vendor is thus inexcusable, the transaction must be questionable in regard to the purchasing Clergyman. It is allowed that his intention is generally honourable and disinterested. He ministers at an altar of whose offerings he does not partake; and preaches a Gospel whereof he does not live. Thus it is, that conscious of the purity of his motives in this respect, he is the less scrupulous of committing what our Ecclesiastical laws term Simony, and of subsequent perjury in disavowing it. If the oath were less explicit than it is, the subterfuge by which it is usually evaded, viz., that we did not personally pay our money for the living, could not preserve our integrity.

MIDHURST, SUSSEX.

On Saturday, October 27th, a mixed band of ringers met at the above place to attempt a peal in seven different methods on the ring of six bells at the parish church. Four of the visitors arrived at Midhurst station at 4.20. by L.B.&S.C.R., where they were met by two of the local ringers who escorted them to the fine old town, which bears an history of very ancient date. After refreshing the inner man at the coffee tavern, it not being time for the other visitor to arrive, they proceeded to the tower, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 23 mins. F. Arnold, 1; R. Arnold, 2; C. Tribe, 3; W. Sadler, 4; G. Batts, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. They were then joined by the other two men, and a start was made for the peal, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 720 each of Violet, and Oxford Treble Bob, in 43 minutes, through it being so noisy in the belfry, the ringers not being able to hear the conductor call the method that was to be proceeded with. J. W. Whiting (Fareham), 1; R. Arnold (Betchworth), 2; F. Arnold (Betchworth), 3; W. Sadler (Betchworth), 4; E. Jordan (Capel), 5; G. Williams, (Midhurst, conductor), 6. A 720 of Kent Treble Bob was then rung. J. W. Whiting, 1; G. Williams, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Jordan, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. Dr. W. H. George, 1; E. Jordan, 2; C. Tribe, 3; W. Sadler, 4; J. W. Whiting, 5; G. Batts, 6. Messrs. George, Tribe, and Batts are local men. The party then adjourned to the house of Mr. Selby, where a supper was provided for them, the Rev. J. Lodes-Cotter occupying the chair, and Dr. W. H. George, the vice-chair. The knives and forks were soon at work, and after all being well satisfied with the good things provided them, the cloth was removed, and handbells brought into requisition, and Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Caters was enjoyed in until a late hour.

Next morning, Sunday, being the Harvest Festival, the ringers were again at the Church, and rang before the Early Communion Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. C. Tribe, 1; E. Jordan, 2; J. W. Whiting, 3; F. Arnold, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also before morning service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. W. Whiting, 1; G. Williams, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Jordan, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor) 6. And before the afternoon service, 1260 changes, in 39 minutes, in four different methods, being 360 each of Violet, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and 180 of Oxford Bob, standing in the same order as before the morning service. Also before the evening service by the local band, a 720 of Bob Minor in 25 minutes. T. Ellis, 1; W. Court, 2; C. Tribe, 3; G. Batts, 4; W. Selby, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. The visitors wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank their Midhurst friends for the kind hospitality they received from them, and the way in which everything was arranged to make their visit a pleasant one, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. And also they were very pleased in the way they are getting on in change-ringing, and hope before long to hear of them enjoying themselves in ringing Treble Bob, as they have pretty well mastered Bob Minor by ringing two 720's of it.

ST. MARY'S, SLOUGH, BUCKS.

An improvement to the ring of bells of this parish church will soon be effected by the erection of a new 6th bell, in lieu of the present slightly discordant one, through the generosity of F. Charsley, Esq., who has entrusted the work to Mears and Stainbank, of London. The old bell, dated 1619, will not be destroyed but will be replaced in a suitable frame in the tower of the old parish church, where it originally came from with three others some fifty years ago, to make up a ring of six. The name of Mr. Charsley will readily be remembered in connection with the addition of two trebles, thus completing the octave, a year or two back. A few more generously inclined residents are needed in many parishes where the bells are unsatisfactory. We learn that Mr. Charsley is leaving Slough and its neighbourhood for a residence in Kent. He will certainly take with him the best wishes of the present ringers of that town, and the thanks of all ringers for generations to come.

BRADFIELD, BERKS.

On Saturday afternoon, November 3rd, the St. Peter's society, Caversham, visited the above place, and attempted a peal of 5040 changes in seven different methods, but after ringing a 720 of Violet Treble Bob, 720 of Kent Treble Bob, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, 720 of College Single, and about 350 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 1 hr. 45 mins., it came to grief, owing to the bad go of the bells, which have not been looked after as they should be, since they were rehung. The bearings were found to be very hot. H. Simmonds, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; J. Hands, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. After lowering the bells in peal, the Vicar entertained the ringers to tea at the vicarage, ample justice being done to the good things provided. The table was cleared, and a selection of tunes were played on the handbells by F. Simmonds, E. Menday, J. Liddiard, G. Essex, H. Simmonds, and T. Newman. The tunes were the "Spanish Chant," "Blue Bells of Scotland," "Crocus Polka," "Men of Harlech," and "Caller Herrin," and a course of Grandsire Triples. F. Simmonds, 1; H. Simmonds, 2; J. Hands, 3; E. Menday, 4; G. Essex, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 6; T. Newman, 7-8. The vicar and his family thanked the ringers for the way in which they amused them with the bells, which are about fifty in number. The ringers thanked the Vicar for the use of the church bells, and the way in which they were treated. They then started for home, which was reached after a ride of an hour and half in a brake, all well pleased with the half day's outing.

Obituary.

THOMAS CARTER.

On Friday, November 2nd, in the pretty churchyard of the parish of Twyford, Hants, there was laid to rest one of the oldest inhabitants of the village. Mr. Carter, who had been a ringer for nearly fifty years, was beloved and respected by all who knew him, and during the time that he was a ringer was regularly at his post in the belfry, and although through failing health has been prevented from taking an active part in the ringing for some time past, was always pleased to hear of the success of the other members and longed to be amongst them. He was in his 74th year, and his many good qualities had endeared him to a large circle of friends. The funeral service was performed by the Rev. C. Buston and the ringers who had followed the deceased to his last resting place, rang muffled touches on the bells their late brother-ringer loved so well, the ringing consisting of Grandsire Doubles, each 120 called differently. A very large number of people followed him to the grave—friends and parishioners. The bells were also rang muffled for morning service, on Sunday, as a last tribute of respect.

JAMES YOUNGS.

The death of the above ringer took place on Saturday, October 6th, after an illness of over four years, during which time he had received no less than five attacks of paralysis. His remains were interred at the Norwich Cemetery, on Thursday, October 11th, being conveyed to the grave by six brother-ringers. There were present at the grave they Rev. N. Bolingbroke, secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association, Captain A. P. Moore, Mr. J. W. Spratt, Mr. D. Hayward, of Yarmouth, and a great number of other ringers and friends. After the burial service a course of Grandsire Cinques was rung over the grave by six of the St. Peter's Society. In the evening the usual whole pull and stand was rung on the twelve of St. Peter Mancroft, also a touch of Grandsire Cinques, with the bells half-muffled, by the following members: W. Freeman, 1; J. Fiddament, 2; W. Beales, 3; P. Sadler, 4; E. Freeman, 5; J. Smith, 6; J. Spratt, 7; E. Francis, 8; F. Knights, 9; J. Skinner, 10; G. Smith, 11; Captain Moore, 12. Afterwards the age of the deceased (58) was tolled upon the large bell. Mr. Young commenced his ringing career at Kenninghall, when quite a lad, and remained one of the local company for about ten years, after which he removed to Norwich and joined the St. Peter Mancroft Society. The deceased had rung three peals—a peal of Treble Bob at Loddon, a peal of Bob Major and a peal of Treble Bob at Kenninghall.

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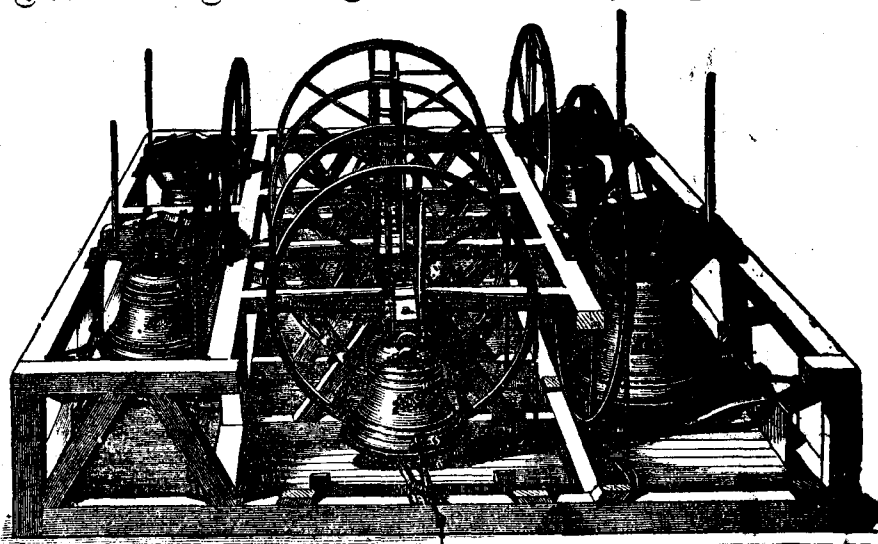
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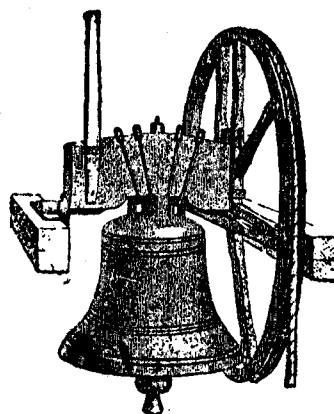
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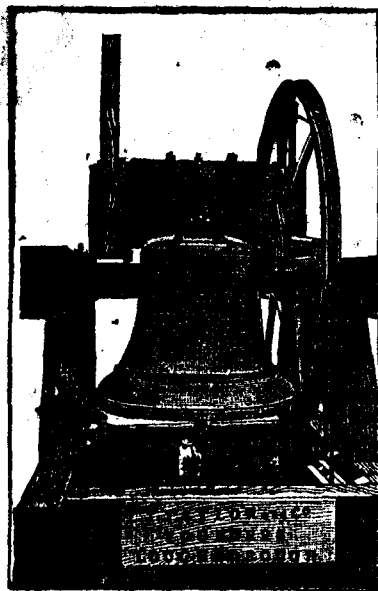
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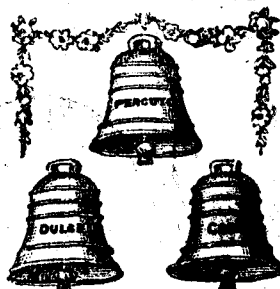
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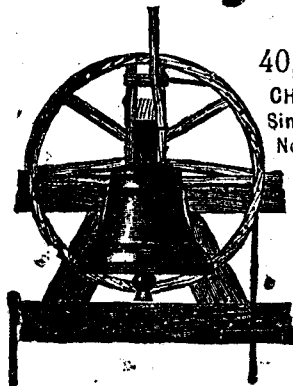
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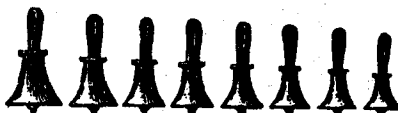
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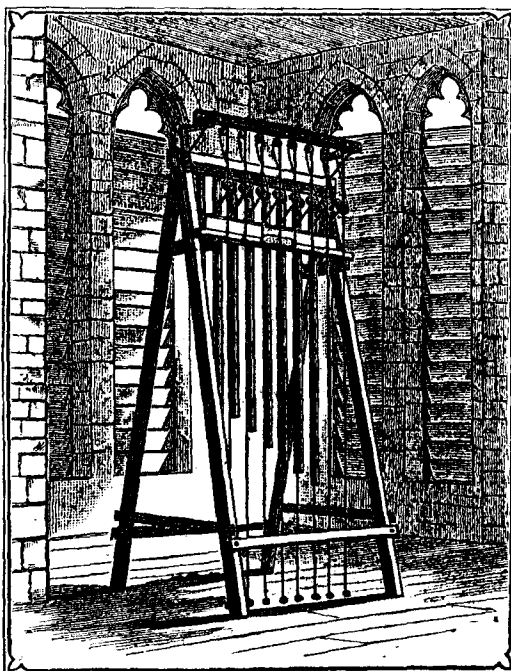
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HERTFORD.—PRESENTATION TO MR. H. BAKER.

On Saturday evening, November 3rd, the society of Hertford College Youths dined with the members of St. Andrew's Church Choir, at the Maidenhead Inn, Hertford, where Mr. Prior provided an excellent repast. The company numbered about thirty, including the Rev. Canon Wigram, in the chair; the Rev. J. H. Bloom; Mr. W. L. Randall, churchwarden; Mr. H. Baker, Mr. James Staples, Hon. Sec. of the Society; Mr. R. Jackson, organist of St. Andrew's; Mr. J. Gray, and others. Advantage was taken of the occasion to present a testimonial to Mr. Herbert Baker, who in addition to working his way up to the conductorship of the Hertford College Youths, has achieved considerable distinction as a campanologist and has made his mark in the ringers' world away from his native town, more particularly by taking part in the remarkable peals of 1888.

The testimonial presented to Mr. H. Baker consisted of a very pretty model of a church bell with all its fittings complete. The stand was of polished oak on which was fixed a plate with the inscription "Presented to Herbert Baker, October 31st, 1888, by the Hertford College Youths." The fittings of the bell, wheel, supports, stay, and slider, were of electro-silver plate, the stock of oak, and the bell itself of highly polished bell metal. Accompanying this was a splendidly written and illuminated address, the work of Mr. A. Stoddart, inscribed as follows:—

"To Mr. Herbert Baker, Conductor of the Hertford College Youths, October 31st, 1888. We have for some time past desired to mark our grateful appreciation of your unwearied services as our Conductor and we think that no more fitting opportunity could be found for the fulfilment of our object than the anniversary of your birthday, October 31st. We therefore beg your acceptance of the accompanying model bell as a token of our hearty good wishes on the occasion and especially as a sincere recognition of your skill, courtesy and patience, and an evidence of the pride we feel in having for our Conductor one who has assisted in the unsurpassed feats of the bands which performed the long peals of 1888. We are, dear sir, your faithful friends, the Rev. Canon Wigram, President; J. Staples, Hon. Sec.; W. A. Alps, W. Bennett, H. Bottrill, E. F. Crawley, M. Ellsmore, J. Cull, T. Gathard, F. George, W. Goodchild, J. Gray, E. Holifield, H. Holifield, J. Jauncey, S. Knight, H. Phillips, J. Phipps, J. Pomfret, W. L. Randall, R. Wilds, A. Wilsher.

The Rev. Canon Wigram commenced the toast list by proposing "Church and Queen" which, he said, appealed especially to ringers, who were always at their post on the anniversaries of important events connected with Her Majesty; nor was it less appropriate to the member of the church choir. The toast having been duly honoured.

Canon Wigram said it was now his duty to propose the toast of the evening and to bring before them what was not the least important part of the business. It was, in the first instance to ask them to drink to the health of their good friend, Mr. Herbert Baker, whose birthday it was. He was sure they would all join in expressing their cordial hope that Mr. Baker would live to enjoy a good many more anniversaries of his birthday. He also wished them to join with him in offering to Mr. Herbert Baker, an evidence of their respect and esteem—to ask him, as their conductor, to accept as a gift from his friends in the belfry, a testimonial which they would shortly place before him. He thought that every one of them would feel as he did that it is the misfortune of most bands to try the patience of their conductor; and he was sure they would all join with him that they had tried Mr. Baker's patience in various ways, and most of all, perhaps by "striking" in bad time; yet Mr. Baker had never failed in that kindness and courtesy which is most valuable in keeping a

band together. He asked Mr. Baker to accept the testimonial as an expression of their esteem of the manner in which he had carried out his duties as the conductor of the company. He had also been engaged in the long peals of 1888, and they felt the reflected glory that one of their party should have taken part in the long peals of this year, and that he had been chosen to take part in the attempt to ring a long peal which was to eclipse all others. Canon Wigram also mentioned that Mr. Herbert Baker had, on his 21st birthday, conducted "Holts' Original"; it would take too long to explain to the young ringers there what that meant; but he asked them to take upon trust that it is a feat of exceeding difficulty. He asked Mr. Baker to accept the testimonial as an evidence of their appreciation of him as their conductor and as an expression of their personal regard and esteem, and also as a memento of this year, 1888, in which he reflected so much credit on this Hertford band of ringers by taking part in the famous long peals of this year. Canon Wigram then formally presented the testimonial and called on Mr. J. Staples, Hon. Sec., to read the address.

Mr. H. Baker who was very heartily applauded, said he could hardly find words to express his gratitude to his brother ringers for the very handsome testimonial they had given him in acknowledgment of his efforts to further the progress of change-ringing in this town. He had been confronted with many difficulties in learning the mysteries of change-ringing but none so great as in knowing how to thank them sufficiently for that handsome gift. In tendering his sincere thanks to them and to Canon Wigram for his kind remarks, he could assure them that nothing gave him greater pleasure than to render every assistance he could towards the progress and welfare of the Hertford College Youths, of which Society he was proud to be a member; and it gave him great pleasure to know that, in acting as their conductor and in endeavouring to make himself worthy of the name he had gained their good will and respect. The gift was of all the more value coming as it did from those with whom he had spent his happiest hours, and he would always value it, not only for its intrinsic worth, but also as a united expression on the part of his brother ringers of their good will and affection towards him. He could not accept that token of their esteem without alluding to the fact that when Canon Wigram came to Hertford change-ringing was comparatively unknown and it was owing to Canon Wigram's love of the art and his untiring exertions that their Society had been re-established and brought to its present state of proficiency. Canon Wigram had alluded to the fact that he (Mr. Baker) had taken part in the long peals at Appleton, but they must not forget that Mr. Edmund Holifield, another member of their Society, shared the same honours. Mr. Baker mentioned that since February 20th, 1882, when he rang his first peal at All Saints', he had taken part in 85 peals, of which 26 had been rung this year—a sufficient proof that he is as devoted to the society as ever, and he hoped Hertford would never be deficient of a good band of ringers. He was satisfied their Society contained the right material of making good ringers. If they would take a pattern from their chairman in perseverance, the only advice he would offer was—"Never wait until you get into the belfry to learn what you ought to learn at home." Mr. Baker alluded to the valuable services rendered to the society by Mr. J. Staples, their Hon. Sec. and to another member of their society, Mr. W. L. Randall, churchwarden, to whose united efforts he believed they were largely indebted for the excellent arrangements made for that evening. In conclusion he assured them he should never forget the kind manner in which they had received him that evening and that token of their esteem would always be as dear to him as the remembrance of the subscribers individually.

Other toasts followed:—The Rev. J. H. Bloom proposed the health of "the Hertford College Youths," coupled with the name of Mr. Jas. Staples, Hon. Sec. who, in replying, mentioned that he had been Hon. Sec. for the last twelve years but the society had never been in a better position than at present. Mr. W. L. Randall proposed "Success to St. Andrew's Choir," and Mr. R. Jackson, organist, responded. The health of the Chairman was proposed by Mr. H. Baker and the Rev. Canon Wigram briefly replied. Several songs were sung during the evening, Mr. Jackson kindly playing the pianoforte accompaniments and there were selections on the handbells by the Hertford Society and by the Ware ringers.

A RINGER'S? HOMING.

Ringer's outings being a rather prominent feature of our paper, and of which lucubrations, by the bye, the present writer is under the impression that he contributed the very first specimen, being an account of the visit of three Collegians to Sheffield, Ashton-under-Lyne, and York, at August Bank Holiday of 1882, it has occurred to me that a change of theme would be, possibly, agreeable to some readers, as it is well known that change-ringers abhor monotony, vide their non-appreciation of the harmonious Stoney, as nature abhors a vacuum. Hence the heading of these few desultory remarks.

Finding myself at Marseilles, with a few days on hand, free from the calls of business, I determined to take a run home, i.e. London, that being the place of abode of three individuals who maintain a constant pull upon one end of a strong cord, the other end of which lies under the region of my watch pocket, so went to Gaze's office in the Rue Cannibiere, one of the streets of the world, with a view of getting a return ticket to London Bridge, but I found that although the English Railway companies issue return tickets from England, the French companies will not do likewise, so got a ticket for Paris, second class, cost seventy-nine francs. Left Marseilles at 11.20 p.m., and was fortunate enough to have only one companion, a Dutch gentleman, travelling from Java to Amsterdam for his holiday. Myneer and I fraternised over a bottle of wine and a cold chicken from his sack, and then made ourselves very comfortable, one upon each of the well-stuffed cushions, and had several hour's sound sleep, the train running easily. Somewhere about 7 a.m. we made an attack upon my sack, and vanquished another bottle of wine and a regiment of ham and beef sandwiches, which had been cut and done up in dainty white serviettes the night before by my kind English hostess. Arrived at Lyons about 9 or 10, unfortunately in a fog, so that not much could be seen of the remarkable junction of the two rivers, Rhone and Saone, upon which Lyons, the second city of France, as its inhabitants proudly boast, stands. However, although the rivers were hidden, I managed to get a double handful of water from a tap on the station platform, around which the travellers crowded, to sluice my face, and this elaborate toilette being complete, made a swoop upon a well-spread table in the buffet, and got through the traditional "three courses," of soup, a nice cut of roast beef with mashed potatoes, and cheese with fruit, topped off by another bottle of wine, in about nine to eleven minutes, only twenty minutes being the time of stoppage here, of which several had been taken up awaiting turn at the toilet tap. Please understand that these frequently-mentioned bottles of wine are not fine crusted, and heady old port, or fiery sherry at sixty shillings a dozen, but modest half litres, less than a pint, of light French wine, costing each about sixpence. At Lyons we were joined by an Englishman, with an Anglo-Italian wife and little girl, and some hour or two after by a venerable French priest. So now we were three pairs to pass the tedious hours ere reaching Paris. The priest and lady discussed Church and State, the Englishman and Dutchman talked travels, while I and the little girl watched the flying country, made love, quarrelled and made it up again over chocolate drops and fruit. At Dijon another stoppage of some few minutes gave opportunity to stretch our legs, and there we found everything and everybody in a great turmoil it being the day of the visit of the President of the Republic, Monsieur Carnot.

Arrived at Paris at 6 p.m., nearly nineteen hours from Marseilles, a distance, I think, of about 580 miles. Having nearly three hours to catch the train for Dieppe, I elected to walk across Paris to the other railway terminus, and never having visited the gay city before thought it very probable that I should lose my way. In this I was not disappointed, after two hour's wandering, as I could not see anything of the station I took a cab, and was put down at my bourne within ten minutes, so that my topographical instinct had not let me stray very much out of the way. Found an English hotel opposite the station door, where I got a good dinner, or supper, with a whole p—t of bt—r, the first I had seen for about eleven months, and found it much more to my taste than one of those bottles of wine before mentioned. A ticket covering the journey from Paris to London cost thirty-five francs, and about a four hour's ride with a compartment full of Englishmen, brought us alongside the steamer *Normandy* at Dieppe about 1 a.m. It was a bit rough in the

Channel, and much to my surprise I discovered myself paying tribute to Neptune, which after having traversed that potentates dominions for about eighteen years, free of toll, I felt to be rather mortifying. Landed at Newhaven about 7 a.m. and stepped out of London Bridge Station just as old St. Saviour's tenor was striking ten. I took this for a welcome home, as I supposed he had caught a glimpse of me through the louvres, but that tenor is a false old rascal, for I heard him mutter to himself after the last blow, "Ah! here, that fellow coming to pull and haul me about again, I suppose, and he never can strike." This rude remark rather cut me, so during my sojourn in England I never went near him.

Found the three individuals who pull that "strong cord" all well, so after another short railway journey out and home, stowed them all into a cab for Waterloo, thence to Winchester, reaching that cathedral city at 11.20 p.m., just forty-eight hours from Marseilles.

After two days and nights of constant travel, "Bedfordshire" had so great an attraction on Sunday morning, that I did not get a pull at the Cathedral for service as I thought of doing, but attended the afternoon service. Returned to London on Monday evening, and called on Mr. G. Mash, to remonstrate with him upon the rude remarks his tenor had made. He promised to grease his gudgeons for him, and that matter being settled I passed a very pleasant hour or two with my old friend and his family.

Tuesday, various calls of business and to see old friends in the city, took up the entire day, and a long standing engagement to dine, prevented me from taking my revenge out of Cripplegate tenor, for the insulting remarks made by his brother of Southwark.

Wednesday morning brought a fine old London particular fog, as thick as a blanket boiled in pea soup, but not too thick to prevent me from foraging out from his den behind the Bank of England, another old friend, Mr. G. Muskett, with whom I had a crack about old times and friends. Thence to Edmonton with the principal "cord-puller," to visit some old friends by the church.

Thursday morning some business calls, and in the afternoon to Walthamstow, to the printing establishment of Messrs. C. and H. Reeves, where I found our worthy and portly Editor and his sons up to their very ears in business, for as careful readers well know, "THE BELL NEWS" is printed on Thursday night. The two first-named gentlemen with pride proceeded to point out to me the wonders of the beautifully new machinery which they have not long since set up to print our paper, and a fine costly Gas Engine to work this machinery, but the description was much too abstruse for my thick skull; of course I could see a lot of beautifully polished rods and arms and wheels, and queer-shaped things, revolving and whirring about, and had to be content to take it for granted that the machinery was, and did all they said it did. Anyhow it is very fine and evidently costly machinery, but I was very sorry to hear that it was not the Exercise that kept up the circulation, but the Clergy. This is not very flattering to us ringers. We are enough to support our paper twice over, only I suppose it is so easily to borrow our friend's copy. Like the late Jasper Snowdon I never lend out my "BELL NEWS" "on principle." I purchase a copy and every ringer ought to do the same. For myself I would sooner give sixpence or a shilling a week for it than be without it: it comes to me weekly in my far away exile like the voices of old friends.

This finished my holiday. I left London Bridge (through ticket to Marseilles, £4 8s.) at 8 p.m. of Thursday, and reached Paris at 1 p.m. of Friday. Having some hours to spare, visited Notre-Dame, was much impressed by its beauty, but rather disappointed as to size. Climbed the 397 steps to top of towers for the view, and of course visited the great Bourdon bell, which was given by Louis XIV. in 1683. The dimensions as given by a very coarsely-printed card, sold by the modern Quasimodo for three pence, are diameter seven feet, height seven feet, weight 36,000 pounds, clapper 1500 pounds (which I very much doubt), thickness of sound-bow I suppose is meant one foot. Like all bells out of England, or English speaking countries, it is only swung through a small arc, and although two hundred years old has not had wear enough to necessitate "quartering." Beside it in the same tower, the south, hangs the "Great

Sebastopol Bell," of, I should judge, about forty to fifty hundred weight. Squat and ugly as to shape and very much unlike other Russian bells of my acquaintance, which are generally long in the waist. I believe I could see a number of other bells through the louvres of the north tower, but Quasimodo was too busy with a throng of visitors, showing them the regulation shows to be bothered to show a single individual his other children. This individual is, or as I think, pretends to be very deaf, which, he would have visitors to believe is caused by the huge volumes of sound he is subjected to in his official capacity. This, I take it, is one of the "properties" of the post he fills, as the original Quasimodo was notoriously deaf. However, he is by no means death to the chink of coin; a visit to his belfry of two bells costs about eighteen pence.

My train for the south left Paris at 10 p.m., but alas, on this occasion we had a full compartment, so that what little sleep was obtainable was taken perpendicular. A much slower train, too, stopping at nearly every station as far as Lyons, but amusement was derived from watching the beautiful country, with its changing vegetation as we progressed to warmer latitudes. Through Normandy it had been apple and pear orchards, south of Paris came some of the same sort of fruit, then figs, grapes in the wine country, and south of Lyons, olives. The frequent stoppages gave ample opportunities to renew acquaintance with those sixpenny flasks before mentioned, coupled with such viands as are vended at French railway stations, so that the weary traveller could beguile the long hours by refreshing the inner man.

Most, or indeed all my fellow travellers who had left Paris with me had now left, but at Lyons I was joined by a young Englishman, who was travelling to Algiers to get a warm climate for the coming winter. He proved an agreeable companion, and having some one to converse with the time passed more pleasantly, and we arrived at Marseilles at 7 p.m., twenty-one hours from Paris.

After a long night between the sheets at the Hotel-de-Marseille, I embarked about ten on Sunday morning on an Italian steamer for Naples; as we were leaving the harbour of Marseilles, there being about four hundred Italian passengers on board, most of whom were looking over the vessels sides, we passed several French fishing and pleasure boats, the occupants of which boats gave us their blessing?; and expressed a pious wish that we might sink. The relations between France and Italy being rather strained just now, these kind wishes, were, I suppose, as the Cockney youth puts it, just to show there was no illfeeling! However, a fine run of two days along the coast brought us to Naples safely, despite the Frenchmen's holy aspirations, where we were delayed an hour in getting to our berth by the passing of the large Ironclad *Re Umberto*, which had been launched at Castellamare a few days before in the presence of the monarchs of Italy and Germany, and was now being towed to the Arsenal of Naples to complete her outfit.

Vesuvius was smoking away as usual, and the Bay of Naples looked very beautiful, as it always does. A few hours spent in visiting some of the lions, and then embarked on another Italian steamer for my destination, Sicily. Fine and very pleasant weather all the way down the coast of Calabria, calling every two or three hours at some coast town, generally perched up high among the hills of this precipitous coast, a constant change of passengers, from the fair dames dressed in latest Parisian style, to the swarthy Calabrian peasant in his goat skin garments, with music and dancing on deck, and the best of good living below, brought us at midnight to my destination, where the Custom House officers or Doriane's being too sleepy to give much trouble about searching for contraband, I slipped quietly ashore in a small boat, and knocking up a sleepy hotel porter was quickly between the sheets, and so ended my "Homings."

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Notice is hereby given that two District Meetings of this Association will be held as under:—

The Eastern Division, at Alfriston, on Saturday, November 24th. The Western Division, at Heene, Worthing, on Saturday, December 1st. Full particulars will be forwarded by post in due course to all branches.

GEORGE F. ATTREE, *Hon. Sec.*
J. E. WORSSELL, *Asst. Hon. Sec.*

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY'S CONFERENCE.

(FROM THE *Guardian*).

It is to be regretted that those who were responsible for arranging the programme of last week's Educational Conference did not adopt a better method of procedure. In the first place far too many subjects were set down for a three hours' discussion. In the second place the mode in which the various subjects were presented, though admirably calculated to elicit different opinions, was not always such as to lead to regular debate and matured conclusion. This was especially unfortunate as regards the first question on the paper—the expediency of helping voluntary schools from the rates. That is a subject which excites intense interest throughout the country, and for the discussion of which a crowded and representative meeting of Churchmen had chiefly assembled. The discussion should, therefore, we think, have been ordered in the same methodical manner as is usual at the Church Congress. The initial question had better have been cast in the form of a definite resolution; the names of the selected speakers, and whether they were for or against, should have been made known beforehand to the conference; the permissible amendments or rider to the main resolution, and their movers, should have been arranged for; and when the discussion was allowed to become general, the speakers should have been limited to five minutes each. In this way the arguments on each side would have been laid more fully than they were before the meeting, the various questions raised more completely exhausted, and the ultimate conclusion seen more clearly to be the outcome of a genuine consideration of the subject. As it was, the discussion had throughout too academic a tone, and did not leave the impression of contributing very much to the formation of a sound and intelligent Church opinion on the questions at issue.

Nevertheless, though the method of discussion adopted might have been more effective, there was little doubt as to the general feeling of the meeting. However desirable it might be that voluntary schools should be aided from the rates, and however possible it might be to defend such a proposition on the grounds of justice, it seemed to be all but unanimously held that on grounds of expediency it must be given up. Many held the view which we have ourselves insisted on, that local aid must sooner or later carry with it local control, and thought it better that Church schools should sacrifice their existence than their independence; others were content simply to point out the hopelessness of expecting any political party to carry out the recommendations, upon this head, of the Majority of the Royal Commission. Mr. Nunn, of Manchester, who has convinced himself, and with good reason, that without aid from the rates, Voluntary Schools must parish in the large towns, stood almost alone in urging the meeting to take time and appoint a committee for the consideration of the subject. Other means of help, such as the increased grants which it is proposed to make to small rural schools, or any gain which may result from a better distribution of the grant as a whole, the conference was willing to accept; but of rate aid it would have none.

We think on the whole that the conference was guided by a right instinct in thus refusing to endanger the independence of voluntary schools. But we regret that those who took part in the discussion limited themselves so persistently to the actual proposal put forth by the Majority of the Commission, and did not enter upon the larger question as to the conditions, if any, upon which the Church could consent to receive aid for her schools from the rates. Whether the expenditure of school managers upon secular subjects can be clearly extinguished from that assigned to religious instruction; whether rate aid might be accepted for the former but not the latter; and whether ratepayers might not then be allowed their due share in controlling the "secular" expenditure—all these are points which might well have been raised, and points which would in all probability have been debated had the discussion been of a less desultory kind. Mr. Nunn, it is true, made an effort to raise them, but Mr. Nunn spoke when his audience were already impatient for a division, and his remarks attracted none of the attention they deserved. We cannot help thinking that the omission of such considerations had the effect of making the discussion inadequate and the conclusion premature; and this is to be regretted on two grounds,

A RINGER'S JUBILEE AT READING.

On Monday, November 12th, there assembled at the "Mitre," West Street, St. Laurence's "scruffe," the Reading handbell ringers, and Mr. W. Napper, of Hagbourne, by the invitation of Mr. W. Newell, captain of the St. Laurence's ringers, the occasion being the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the birthday of Mr. Newell, who successfully conducted his jubilee peal on Thursday, November 8th, as will be seen by referring to the peal columns. At 7.30 the company sat down to an excellent supper, served up in first-rate style, and kindly provided by the worthy captain. By 8.30 the cravings of the inner man was somewhat appeased, and then began the second part of the proceedings. Mr. Newell took the chair, Mr. Johnson the vice-chair, and Master W. Newell presided at the piano.

The CAPTAIN, in a short speech, said it gave him great pleasure to meet his brother-strings on all occasions, but more particularly that night, as it was not only his jubilee they were commemorating, but also his wedding day, as he was married on his birthday twenty-two years ago. He then handed round the loving cup to drink his health. This same cup was presented to him by the Reading Saxhorn Band on his wedding day, so it played an important part in the night's proceedings. After a few songs and a pianoforte solo,

Mr. EGBY proposed the health of Mr. Newell. He said he had not known that gentleman fifty years, yet he had known him for a long time, very near a quarter of a century, and he could testify to the indomitable courage and perseverance he displayed in advancing the art of change-ringing, more particularly when it was in its infancy in Reading. Mr. Newell had been called and really was the father of change-ringing in that town, and no little success had attended his efforts. Although it was such uphill work, he hoped he would long be spared to ring the art he loved so well, and that his ringing children would rally round him.

The Captain's health was then drank with musical honours.

Mr. JOHNSON next proposed "The Ladies."

Mr. NEWELL, replying on behalf of Mrs. Newell, said they had much to be thankful to the ladies, for he could not have entertained them there that evening but for the assistance rendered him by his wife, therefore he thought they ought to drink the health of the ladies. After the speeches some more excellent songs were indulged in, interspersed with a few glees, and the evening's entertainment was brought to a close by the whole company singing "Auld Lang Syne," followed by the National Anthem.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR MR. DORAN.

	£	s.	d.
E. F. Cole, Esq., London	...	1	0
Dr. A. B. Carpenter, Croydon	...	0	10
Mr. H. Hopkins, London	...	0	2
J. E. Worsell, Brighton	...	0	5
H. Swain, London	...	0	2
W. H. Dallimore, West Ham	...	0	2
W. Smith, West Ham	...	0	1
Rev. H. A. Cockey	...	0	5
W. Hawkes, Springfield	...	0	2
J. R. Haworth, London	...	0	2
Collected at Brentwood	...	0	2
G. Williams, Midhurst	...	0	2
J. Dains, Widford	...	0	1
W. J. Piper, Widford	...	0	6
A. Shuttleworth, Widford	...	0	6
A. Tarbun, Widford	...	0	6
L. Green, Wanstead	...	0	2
R. Turner, London	...	0	2
H. Springhall, London	...	0	1
S. Hayes, London	...	0	1
J. Smith, Kingston-on-Thames	...	0	1
J. Potter, West Ham	...	0	1
H. Randall, West Ham	...	0	2

WANTED TO PURCHASE. A Set of Eight, Ten, or Twelve Second-hand Hand Bells. Apply, stating Price and Particulars to J. W. Watson, 25, Knight Street, Linsell.

RINGERS' OUTING AT PETERCHURCH, HEREFORD.

On Saturday, October 17th, a company of Hereford ringers had an enjoyable half-day's outing to the isolated parish of Peterchurch, twelve miles from Hereford. Arrangements by Mr. W. Lewis led to the provision of a suitable vehicle, which awaited its occupants at the "Spread Eagle," punctually at 2 p.m. From here the journey commenced, Father Davies acting as foreman, during a picturesque ride behind two useful quadrupeds, while a peal of handbells, kindly lent by Mr. H. Gaines, were handled in various tunes and changes, much to the wonderment of the country Herefordians, who gazed, hard and long, at the happy and jovial looking travellers to the golden valley, rightly named from its richness of soil and fertility, wherein their destination lay.

The ancient church dedicated to St. Peter (of its early history no trace can be found) was reached at four o'clock. Here the visitors were met by Mr. T. Walters, the owner of a good peal of twelve new handbell tenor 19 size in F. by Mears and Stainbank, and Mr. Charles Garrett the generous donor of a new 2nd tower bell some few years since, in place of the old cracked one. After an examination of the church and tower and a new north porch in course of erection, the bells were raised in peal and a series of Grandsire Doubles was rang, for the interest of a few local hands. Mr. C. Garrett who in his younger days, some fifty years ago, spent most of his time in Liverpool, and has rang with and remembers some of the old Liverpool ringers, was prevailed upon to have a pull, which he did well, considering that his age is only 82.

Tea was provided at the Vicaerge at 6 o'clock. The Rev. W. F. A. Lambert, the Vicar, and Mrs Lambert very kindly received the company, and well attended to them, Mr. and Mrs. Lambert, in return being very pleased with some simple tune playing and change-ringing given by Messrs. Lewis, brothers John Davies, W. H. Fussell, A. Baskerville and J. Phillips, on the new handbells.

A little more tower ringing was next indulged in, the old bells by Rudhall, of Gloucester, tenor 10 cwt., and the 2nd by Taylor, echoing far up the valley to some well struck six-scores by Messrs. T. Hobly, John Jones, J. Davies, W. Lewis, W. H. Fussell and J. Trystram.

At the village schoolroom more handbell ringing before a larger audience was given till 8.30 p.m., when homewards was the password passed around.

The best thanks of the visitors was heartily tendered to Mr. and Mrs. Lambert, Mr. C. Garrett and T. Walters for their welcome to Peterchurch. Hopes were expressed that the parish would boast, at no distant date, of the possession of a company of change ringers.

The new year will find the Vicar and Mr. Garrett, hon. members of the Diocesan Guild, and an energetic young band, now being formed, receiving tuition from the Guild Instructor.

Notwithstanding the darkness of the return journey, it was accomplished safely, thanks to the care of the driver, who was within twelve inches of turning over the whole party into a tolerably shallow pool. However, this was averted, and the band separated in the best of humour and satisfaction, at the reasonable hour of 10.30 p.m. W.H.F.

BREDENBURY, HEREFORDSHIRE.

The company of ringers at the above church, which has a pretty little peal of six bells, have joined the Hereford Diocesan Guild of ringers, and the rector, the Rev. C. Bridges. The church, tower and bells, are by Taylor & Co. The schools, and rectory were erected by W. H. Barnaby, Esq., of Bredenbury Court, who is a life member of the Guild. Towards the latter part of October, the Guild instructor gave the ringers several lessons, and it is to be hoped they will make good progress in the art during the winter months.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROCHDALE BRANCH.

There will be a meeting of the above branch at St. Thomas' Church, Leeds, near Oldham, bells ready at 2.30. Meeting at 5 p.m. in the belfry. F. BIRTWISTLE.

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

It is now a long time since you received any account of our doings in this part of Her Majesty's dominions, but the reason our long silence is we have been waiting in the hopes of sending you the welcome news of our having got the "first peal" in the colonies, but having recently received two months (June and July) numbers of "THE BELL NEWS," and reading therein, page 204, number 328, the good wishes of your contributor, "Free Lance" for our welfare in distant parts, I thought I would drop you a line at once, peal or no peal, just to let you know that we are still in existence.

I will just give you a condensed report of our Annual Business meeting. We have an annual meeting on Easter Monday, more for the purpose of entertaining a few friends, but our meeting for the election of officers, &c. takes place in the spring of the year (our spring I mean).

The Annual Meeting of the Victorian society of bellringers was held in the belfry of St. James's church, Melbourne, on Tuesday evening, October 2nd, 1888. The report shewed that the society had done a considerable amount of ringing, over forty thousand changes having been rung during the year, including the half-peal three times, the date touch twice, and many other touches of lesser numbers, but sorrow was expressed at our not getting the full peal, although it had been attempted several times, and twice getting half-way through the ninth part (Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples), but a hope was expressed that we should be more fortunate at the next attempt.

The Balance-sheet showed a satisfactory state of affairs, the income for the year, including a balance of £6 2s. 8d. from last year, was £46 8s. 8d., and the expenditure, £33 os. 4d., leaving a balance in hand of £13 8s. 4d. The following office bearers were elected for the next twelve months: President—Mr. C. Crang; Captain and Conductor—Mr. J. Guest; Secretary—Mr. Beechey; Treasurer—Mr. Shenton.

We ring on Sundays before service twice a day; if the men are there we ring Grandsire, or go back on Grandsire Doubles, with three covering bells, or sometimes Grandsire Minor, with two bells behind. We also ring on Tuesday evenings, for practice, but I am sorry to say we are not encouraged as we ought to be, in a large wealthy place such as Melbourne is. Ours at St. James' is the only peal in Melbourne in a Protestant church, and I am afraid it is likely to be so for many years to come. We are rather disappointed that none of the English bellfounders did not send a good peal out here to our great Technical Exhibition, as an exhibit, I mean. There is not even a peal of hand-bells there as I can see.

WM. SHENTON.

351, High Street, Armadale, near Melbourne, Victoria.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held in St. Martin's Schoolroom, Tipton, to-day, Saturday, November 17th, 1888, at 5 o'clock prompt. The Rev. A. A. Cory, Vicar, will preside. The tower and bells will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Members to take this as sufficient notice, should they receive no other.

JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

37, Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MANCHESTER BRANCH.

The next ringing meeting of the above will be held at the Cathedral, Manchester, on Saturday, November 24th, ringing to commence at 4.30.

JOHN EACHUS, Sec.

ECCLES (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, November 6th, at the parish church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. T. Heald (conductor), 1; J. Barratt, 2; J. Grimshaw, 3; H. Chapman, 4; A. Eggington, 5; *J. Brooks, 6. *First 720 in the method. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. J. Brooks hails from Walkden, Heald and Chapman from Manchester, the rest belong to the local company.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1888.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Total.
Ancient Society of College Youths	72
Midland Counties Association	58
Sussex County Association	54
Oxford Diocesan Guild	48
Essex Association	43
Lancashire Association	37
Norwich Diocesan Association	28
Yorkshire Association	26
Surrey Association	18
Gloucester and Bristol Association	18
Society of Royal Cumberland Youths	18
United Counties Association	15
Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford	15
St. James' Society, London	14
Kent County Association	14
Salisbury Diocesan Guild	14
Worcester and adjoining Districts Association	12
Holt Society	10
Winchester Diocesan Guild	8
Hertford Association	8
Hertford College Youths	7
Trinity Youths	5
Liverpool Youths Society	4
All Hallows Society	3
Walterloo Society, London	3
St. Martin's Society, Birmingham	3
Devonshire Guild	3
Birmingham Amalgamated Society	3
Eastern Counties Guild	1
Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal Association	1
Durham and Newcastle Association	1
Bath and Keynsham Deaconries Association	1
Chester Diocesan Guild	1
Bedford Association	1
North Lincolnshire Association	1
Independent Societies	75
Less peals under two Associations	64
Totals	579

The above peals were rung in the following methods:—New Cumberland Surprise, 1; Cambridge Surprise Major, 8; Superlative Surprise Major, 10; Double Oxford Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 16; Stedman Cinques, 3; Stedman Caters, 24; Stedman Triples, 38; Duffield Royal, 4; Duffield Major, 2; Treble Bob Maximus, 3; Treble Bob Royal, 11; Treble Bob Major, 88; Prince Albert Major, 1; Violet Major, 1; Grandsire Caters, 41; Grandsire Major, 2; Grandsire Triples, 216; Grandsire Doubles (5040) 13; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1; Canterbury Pleasure Triples, 2; Court Bob Triples, 2; Oxford Bob Triples, 6; Union Triples, 7; Bob Maximus, 1; Bob Royal, Bob Major, 29; Bob Triples, 20; Bob Doubles (5040), 1; Place Triples, 1. In seven Minor methods on six bells, 16; in fourteen Minor methods on six bells (10080), 1; in one ditto, 3. In fourteen methods on five bells, 2; in six ditto, 5. Total, 579. Quickest 5000 on church bells, 2 hrs. 27 mins.

Number of peals rung in January	...	...	50	52
" " " February	...	...	76	72
" " " March	...	...	65	60
" " " April	...	...	62	98
" " " May	...	...	57	53
" " " June	...	...	38	57
" " " July	...	...	14	39
" " " August	...	...	20	40
" " " September	...	...	41	42
" " " October	...	...	52	66
	...	...	475	579

Increase on the ten months, 104.
Brighton.

GEO. F. ATTREE.

OUR CHRISTMAS NUMBER,

NOW IN PREPARATION,

WILL CONTAIN

A PORTRAIT

Of a well-known Change-Ringer, with short Biographical Sketch.

The number will contain Two Stories:—

"A MERRY PEAL,"

By the Author of "The Belle of Belsham."

AND

"THE CHURCHWARDEN."

By the Author of "The First Peal."

Further particulars will be announced in due course.

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

One copy, 12 months 6s. 6d.

" 6 " 3s. 3d.

" 3 " 1s. 8d.

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1888.

LAST week our columns contained a notice of a peal of London Surprise Major rung at Burton-on-Trent, and this week appears an announcement of the performance by the same talented band of the entire extent of the method, namely, 6720. This very remarkable achievement deserves special notice, for those of our readers who are posted up in past records will know that the 6048 rung at Benington in 1870 was the longest length up to the present. In September of last year, on the occasion of their first peal of London Surprise, we complimented the St. Paul's company upon having reached the top of the ladder of campanological fame. Sharing their elevated position were the bands of Norwich (1835), Woolwich (1849), and Benington. Now however, by their last performance, the Burton band may fairly claim a position hitherto unattained, that of having rung the extent of each of the three Surprise methods. Not that we presume to class a

performance in Cambridge or Superlative with one of London Surprise, for the complexity of the latter is as much in excess of that of the other two as their intricacies are beyond those of ordinary Treble Bob. As the work, however, of one company, the achievement of the three extents is a milestone in the history of the art.

It was, we believe, in 1879 that the present St. Paul's Society was formed under the leadership of the well-known Mr. WILLIAM WAKLEY. Since that date there have followed in succession peals of Grandsire, Treble Bob, Stedman, Double Norwich, Superlative, Cambridge, New Cumberland, and finally London Surprise, to the aggregate amount of over a hundred, for a single peal in a method has never found favour at Burton, the members of the band rightly judging that to ring only one was to make but poor use of laboriously acquired knowledge.

With regard to the latest performance, it is acknowledged to have been in every way worthy of its proud position, for we are informed that the striking was excellent and regular throughout, no easy matter in so intricate a method. A word too should be said in admiration of a conductor whose abilities are so brilliant as to enable him to call London Surprise from a working bell, a task, we imagine which few would care to attempt.

Most heartily, then, do we congratulate our Burton friends upon their success, and most sincerely do we express the hope that the energy which has carried the St. Paul's Society thus far will not grow fainter after victory, but will continue to burn brightly as a standing example to others of the result of unity and perseverance.

The Metropolis.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 10, 1888, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS',

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

WILLIAM BARON Treble.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 6.
JOHN C. MITCHELL 2.	HARRY WESTON 7.
GEORGE W. CARTMEL 3.	GEORGE F. ATTREE 8.
CHARLES E. MALIM 4.	HENRY A. HOPKINS 9.
JAMES SEARLE 5.	EDWARD BUTLER Tenor.

Composed by JOHN NELMS, and Conducted by WILLIAM BARON.

The above is the first peal of Caters by eight members of the above Association, also the first by Messrs. Searle, Weston, Attree, and Butler, who hail from Brighton.

SALISBURY, WILTS.

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

On Thursday, November 8, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

ARTHUR W. BARKUS .. Treble.	THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 5.
ALFRED P. GODDARD .. 2.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 6.
SYDNEY LAWRENCE .. 3.	HENRY D. ADAMS .. 7.
WALTER S. WISE .. 4.	CHARLES A. CLEMENTS .. Tenor.

Conducted by T. BLACKBOURN.

Rung in honour of the birthday of Mr. S. Lawrence

READING, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD, AND THE ST. LAWRENCE'S SOCIETY.

On Thursday, November 8, 1888, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND SINGLE VARIATION.

Tenor 24 cwt.

BENJAMIN WHITE* Treble.	WILLIAM HOLLOWAY 5.
CHARLES BENNETT* 2.	WILLIAM NEWELL 6.
JOHN F. TARRANT* 3.	WILLIAM WILLIAMS 7.
WILLIAM GOSELTINE 4.	WILLIAM JOHNSON Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM NEWELL.

*First peal. This peal was rung to commemorate the fiftieth birthday of the conductor.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

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

On Thursday, November 8, 1888, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

JAMES S. WILDE* Treble.	JAMES LEIGH 5.
HENRY HARRISON 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
ROBERT WOOLLEY 3.	THOMAS WILDE 7.
WALTER SLATER 4.	JAMES S. WILDE Tenor.

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD, and Conducted by JAMES S. WILDE.

*First peal in the method. †First peal.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, November 8, 1888, in Four Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 6720 CHANGES.

Tenor 26 cwt.

GEORGE ROBINSON Treble	EDWARD J. STONE 5.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	HARRY WAKLEY 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON, and Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(THE DUFFIELD SOCIETY).

On Thursday, November 8, 1888, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt in F.

GEORGE DAWSON Treble.	GEORGE HINGLEY 5.
SAMUEL JOHNSON 2.	ALFRED ROBINSON 6.
EVAN MORETON 3.	JOHN HOWE 7.
BENJAMIN SUGDEN 4.	WILLIAM HICKLING Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by ALFRED ROBINSON.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is No. 2. of the compositions given in the Treatise on "Duffield."

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

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

On Wednesday, November 14, 1888, in Two Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE "HALBERT INN," NORTHGATE STREET,

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

WILLIAM MOTTS 1-2.	JAMES MOTTS 5-6.
CHARLES MEE 3-4.	ROBERT H. HAYWARD 7-8.

Composed by H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

Umpire—Albert E. Durrant. R. H. Hayward hails from Framlingham, the rest belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower company, Ipswich.

SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE AND UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, November 9, 1888, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY Treble.	EDGAR BUCKLEY 5.
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE 2.	JOSEPH WOOD 6.
FRANKLIN BRIERLEY 3.	JAMES H. SHAW 7.
JAMES WRIGLEY 4.	EDWARD WOOD Tenor.

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

The above peal is now rung for the first time, and was rung in honour of the birthday of Mr. Franklin Brierley, his brother strings wishing him many happy returns.

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 10, 1888, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GREGORY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

CHARLES SILLITOE Treble.	HARRY HARPER 5.
ROBERT MINGAY 2.	JAMES CAMPIN 6.
GEORGE S. BROWN 3.	SAMUEL SLATER 7.
JOHN LEE 4.	GEORGE MAXIM Tenor.

Composed by T. LOCKWOOD, and Conducted by CHARLES SILLITOE.

The above is a one-part peal, and has the sixth five course-ends wrong, and six right. It will be found in Snowden's "Treatise of Treble Bob," part II, page 71. Messrs. Mingay, Lee, and Maxim, hail from Foxearth, Slater from Glemsford; the rest are local men.

TEWKESBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 10, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qrs. 9 lbs.

CHARLES W. DYSON Treble.	JOHN WATHEN 5.
RICHARD H. WITHERINGTON 2.	THOMAS DEVEREUX 6.
SAMUEL CLEAL 3.	JOSIAH WATHEN 7.
JOHN HALE 4.	WILLIAM HAINES Tenor.

Conducted by JOSIAH WATHEN.

This is the first peal of Stedman Triples ever rung upon these bells, and the first peal in the method by all.

WOOLTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, November 3rd, ten members of the Liverpool Cathedral Society attempted to ring a peal, but was prevented by the chiming wires throwing the ropes out of the wheel of the first and second. A 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 30 mins. T. Hammond, 1; W. Woodhead, 2; C. Williams, 3; J. Brown, 4; W. Booth, 5; J. Egerton (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. J. Egerton, 1; W. Booth (conductor), 2; C. Williams, 3; J. Brown, 4; T. Hammond, 5; R. Williams, 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 28 mins. J. Egerton, 1; E. Booth, 2; T. Hammond, 3; J. Brown, 4; W. Booth (conductor), 5; R. Williams, 6. The company hope to accomplish a peal on the bells on Saturday, November 17th. These are the first 720's on the bells. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Thursday, November 1st, before evening service, on the occasion of the Dedication Festival of All Saints Church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; A. Edwards, 3; F. Radley, 4; R. Wood, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; C. J. Dennison, 8. And after service, a quarter-peal (1260 changes), in the same method, in 42 mins. The first time that a quarter-peal has been rung by a band composed entirely of Writtle men. Also on Sunday, November 3rd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. W. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; A. Edwards, 3; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 4; W. J. Piper, 5; A. Tarbun, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; C. J. Dennison, 8.

The Provinces.**ARUNDEL, SUSSEX.****THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

(THE ARUNDEL AND WARNHAM BRANCHES).

*On Saturday, November 10, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,***AT THE PARISH CHURCH,****A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;****HOLT'S SIX-PART.****Tenor 14½ cwt.**

G. BALCHIN..	.. .. Treble.	W. SHORT ..	.. .. 5.
F. LUXFORD..	.. .. 2.	E. EDE ..	.. .. 6.
W. CHALLEN*	.. .. 3.	C. BLACKMAN ..	.. .. 7.
T. ANDREWS..	.. .. 4.	†A. MILLS ..	.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES BLACKMAN.

*First peal with a bob bell. †First peal. Messrs. Andrews and Short hail from Warnham, the rest belong to the local branch. The above peal was rung in honour of the election of C. Bartlett, Esq. (a member of the local branch of the above Association), as Mayor of Arundel.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

(THE CHRIST CHURCH, EASTBOURNE, BRANCH).

*On Monday, November 12, 1888, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,***AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST,****A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;****Tenor 9 cwt.**

R. HOWSE* ..	.. .. Treble.	F. H. HARDING ..	.. .. 5.
G. H. HOWSE ..	.. .. 2.	†J. SHARP ..	.. .. 6.
H. COLBRAN ..	.. .. 3.	T. M. SMITH ..	.. .. 7.
P. PETERS† ..	.. .. 4.	†J. LUXFORD ..	.. .. Tenor

Conducted by F. H. HARDING.

The above is the first peal of Triples on the bells, which have been augmented from a peal of six. *First peal. †First peal on eight bells.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.**THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Saturday, November 11, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,***AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,****5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;***Being a 720 each of the following:*

VIOLET TREBLE BOB, KENT TREBLE BOB, OXFORD TREBLE BOB,
COLLEGE SINGLE, CANTERBURY PLEASURE, OXFORD BOB,
AND PLAIN BOB.

Tenor 17 cwt.

HARRY SIMMONDS*	.. .. Treble.	GEORGE ESSEX ..	.. .. 4.
REV. G. F. COLERIDGE ..	.. .. 2.	JOSEPH HANDS ..	.. .. 5.
ERNEST MENDAY ..	.. .. 3.	THOMAS NEWMAN ..	.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS NEWMAN.

*First peal. The above was rung to commemorate the birthday of the Rev. G. F. Coleridge, and also on the occasion of the consecration of the new church of St. John the Baptist at Lower Caversham, which took place on Thursday, November 8th, by the Right Rev. Bishop Mitchinson, D.D., acting under Commission from the Lord Bishop of Oxford. The peal was well struck throughout, and the quickest on the bells.

ECCLES, LANCASHIRE.**THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

(MANCHESTER BRANCH).

*On Monday, November 12, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,***AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,****A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;****IN THE KENT VARIATION.****Tenor 13½ cwt.**

FRED. DERBYSHIRE ..	.. .. Treble.	JOSIAH ROGERS ..	.. .. 5.
JAMES BARRATT ..	.. .. 2.	THOMAS DERBYSHIRE ..	.. .. 6.
JOSEPH RIDYARD ..	.. .. 3.	JOHN EACHUS ..	.. .. 7.
HARRY CHAPMAN ..	.. .. 4.	RICHARD RIDYARD ..	.. .. Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD, and Conducted by RICHARD RIDYARD.

The above was rung on the birthday of Messrs. Barratt and Chapman, who were congratulated after the peal.

CAPEL, SURREY.**THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Monday, November 12, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,***AT THE PARISH CHURCH,****5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;***Being 720 each of the following:*

VIOLET, OXFORD, KENT TREBLE BOB, GRANDSIRE MINOR, COLLEGE
SINGLE, PLAIN BOB, AND OXFORD BOB.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

JOHN AKEHURST ..	.. .. Treble.	THOMAS M. STEDMAN ..	.. .. 4.
RALPH ARNOLD*	.. .. 2.	WALTER SADLER ..	.. .. 5.
FRANK ARNOLD*	.. .. 3.	EDWIN JORDAN ..	.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by E. JORDAN.

*First 5040. The above was rung on the birthday of Mr. J. Akehurst, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day. Messrs. Arnold and Sadler hail from Betchworth.

Date Touches.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

WALDRON, (Sussex).—On Wednesday, November 7th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1888 changes), in 1 hr. and 5 mins. J. Burgess, 1; H. Ades, 2; J. Beal, 3; A. Reed, 4; B. Hobbs (conductor), 5; E. Unstead, 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, November 10th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1881 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. G. Chantler, 1; A. Haigh, 2; A. Ring, 3; C. Waterman, 4; W. Baker, 5; M. Warwick, 6; G. Lindoff (conductor), 7; W. Haigh, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. The above belong to the Rochester and Gillingham District.

FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Friday, November 9th (Mayor's Day), at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 11 mins. J. King, 1; A. Biggs, 2; A. Foreman, 2; J. Barnard, 4; C. L. Graham, 5; W. Wood (conductor), 6; C. Couchman, 7; J. Smith, 8. J. King is a member of the Essex Association, and hails from Wanstead, A. Foreman from Canterbury; the rest belong to the local band.

RIPON (Yorks).—On Friday, November 9th, at the Cathedral, being the Prince of Wales' birthday, a date touch of Stedman Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 12 mins. A. H. Clark, 1; W. Pick, 2; G. Ingleby, 3; A. Pratt, 4; A. Ingleby, 5; J. Flower, 6; T. Clark (conductor), 7; H. Rumbold, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E. The above touch was taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of February 16th last, and was composed by Dr. A. B. Carpenter, Secretary of the Surrey Association.

Miscellaneous.**THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**

ROMFORD.—Handbell Ringing.—On Monday evening, November 12th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. M. L. Myhill, 1-2; W. Nash, 3-4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5-6; W. Pegrum, 7-8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP.—On Sunday morning, September 2nd, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. A. L. Hardman (conductor), 1; Z. Lord, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith, 6. And in the evening, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs). A. L. Hardman (conductor), 1; A. White, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; J. Smith (Rawtenstall), 5; W. Smith, 6. Also on Sunday morning, September 16th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. Z. Lord (conductor), J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith, 6. And on Sunday morning, September 30th, 720 of Plain Bob. W. Ormerod, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; Z. Lord, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday afternoon, November 11th, 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob. A. L. Hardman, 1; Z. Lord, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

EAST RETFORD.—On Friday, November 9th, being Lord Mayor's day, the Retford Society met at the church of St. Swithin's, for the purpose of celebrating the event of the newly-elected Mayor, J. H. Hewitt, Esq., and rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. G. Skelton, 1; J. Briggs, 2; W. Ripling, 3; W. Drake (conductor), 4; N. G. Hunt, 5; J. W. Clark, 6; S. Hunt, 7; H. Haigh, 8. Tenor 25½ cwt.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—Handbell Ringing.—On Friday, November 9th, at the "Goose and Gridiron," St. Paul's churchyard, 811 of Grandsire Triples. A. R. Aldham, 1-2; C. F. Winny (conductor), 3-4; J. M. Hayes, 5-6; E. Horrex, 7-8. Also 461 of Grandsire Triples, and a course of Stedman Triples. G. T. McLaughlin, 1-2; A. R. Aldham, 3-4; C. F. Winny (conductor), 5-6; W. Greenleaf, 7-8. Mr. Aldham hails from Barwell, Leicestershire. And on Sunday, November 11th, at the church of St. Dunstan, Stepney, for evening service, 1349 of Grandsire Caters in 53 mins. W. Tanner, 1; *C. Kelton, 2; W. Cecil, 3; S. Joyce, 4; *Y. Green, 5; R. Turner, 6; H. Springall (conductor), 7; E. Hall, 8; S. Hayes, 9; *T. Baker, 10. *Longest touch in the method. Also on Monday evening, November 11th, for practice at the church of St. Mary-atte-Bow, 1008 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. W. Cecil, 1; L. Green, 2; H. Randall, 3; Y. Green, 4; W. Manning, 5; H. Springall (conductor), 6; R. Turner, 7; S. Hayes, 8. Longest touch in the method by all.

THE ST. JAMES SOCIETY, LONDON.

ST. ALBANS.—Handbell Ringing.—On Friday, November 2nd, at the office of the *Herts Standard*, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. C. Mitchell, 1-2; G. W. Cartmel, 3-4; E. P. Debenham, 5-6. Conducted by John C. Mitchell.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

HEREFORD.—On Wednesday, October 17th, at the Cathedral, on the front six, ten six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 52 mins. T. Hobly, 1; W. H. Fussell (conductor) 2; J. Jones, 3; W. Lewis, 4; J. Davies, 5; R. Powell, 6. Followed by two courses of Grandsire Triples, on the back eight. Tenor 42½ cwt, with J. Phillips and T. Phillips at the 3rd and 7th, and J. Trystam at the tenor.

CLUN (Shropshire).—On Saturday, November 3rd, at the workshop of Mr. Roberts, senr., on handbells retained in hand, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 22½ mins. T. Richard, 1; W. H. Fussell (conductor) 2; W. Roberts, 3; J. Lunn, 4; J. Roberts, 5; J. G. Buchanan, Esq., 6. The Clun men form a very promising company of change-ringers, but the tower bells are so much out of order, that they cannot get practice on the ropes without walking four or five miles to a neighbouring peal of six.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Saturday, October 27th, at St. James's church, 720 of Oxford Bob (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). A. Ingram, 1; C. West, 2; W. Hall (conductor), 3; H. King, 5; I. Hills, 6. And on Sunday morning, October 28th, for Divine Service, 360 of London Single. *A. Ingram, 1; *H. King, 2; W. Hall, 3; *H. Clifton, 4; C. West (conductor), 5; *C. R. Howard, 6. *First in the method. Also for Divine Service in the afternoon, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. W. Allen, 1; C. West, 2; C. R. Howard, 3; H. King, 4; W. Hall, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. W. Hall hails from Raunds, Northants. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

LICHFIELD.—On Friday, November 9th, being Lord Mayor's day, at St. Mary's church 504 and other touches of Grandsire Triples were rung during the day. F. J. Cope (conductor), 1; H. Kings, 2; A. Whitby, 3; A. Greenwood, 4; J. Key, 5; H. Measham, 6; W. Fearneyhough, 7; E. Gallimore, 8. The ringer of the second bell has rang in the cities and Counties of Gloucester, Hereford, Worcester, Stafford, Warwick, Derby, and Yorkshire, at fifty-three different churches, and is a well-wisher to the Exercise, and is now in his seventy-first year.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DURHAM.—On Monday evening, November 12th, at St. Oswald's church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. C. Bradford, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; J. E. Avery, 3; W. Prince, 4; C. J. Butterworth (conductor), 5; L. Newton, 6. Also on Sunday evening, November 4th, for Divine Service, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. *W. Liddle, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; W. G. Newton, 3; J. E. Avery, 4; W. Prince, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HERTFORD.—On Thursday, November 8th, at St. Andrew's church, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Purkiss Ginn, with Miss Saide Garratt, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. F. G. Crawley, 1; W. L. Randall, 2; H. Phillips, 3; S. Knight (conductor), 4; M. Ellsmore, 5; W. Bennett, 6; J. G. Crawley, 7; J. Cull, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

STAPLEHURST.—On Monday, November 5th, at the church of All Saints, 576 of Bob Major. W. Walter, 1; W. E. Pope, 2; C. Walter, 3; H. G. Pope, 4; W. Pope, 5; J. G. Tillmon, 6; E. Pope, 7; T. Daynes (conductor), 8. Also 420 of Grandsire Triples. W. Collinson, 1; W. Pope, 2; C. Walter, 3; H. G. Pope, 4; W. E. Pope, 5; T. Daynes, 6; E. Pope (conductor), 7; T. G. Colvin, 8. And on Sunday, November 11th, 252 of Stedman Triples. W. Walter, W. Collinson, 2; J. G. Tillmon, 3; W. E. Pope, 4; H. G. Pope, 5; W. Pope, 6; E. Pope (conductor), 7; T. G. Colvin, 8.

BOUGHTON NEAR FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Monday, November 5th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles), in 27 mins. H. Foreman, 1; J. Burch, 2; E. E. Foreman, 3; F. T. Harris, 4; G. A. Ransom (conductor), 5; W. Hope, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Sunday, October 28th, for Divine Service, at All Saints' Church, 167 of Grandsire Triples. H. Gilding, 1; F. Biggs, 2; R. Biggs, 3; F. Bissley, 4; R. Smith, 5; Edward Rogers (conductor), 6; E. Rogers, 7; J. Woolford, 8. Also on Thursday, November 1st, being All Saints Day, and the Dedication Festival of the parish church, after evening service, 1204 of Grandsire Triples. H. Gilding, 1; A. Hoskins, 2; J. W. Wilkins, 3; H. Rogers, 4; F. Bissley, 5; Edward Rogers (conductor), 6; E. Rogers, 7; J. Woolford, 8. And on Saturday, November 3rd, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 1 hr. 16 mins. it came to grief through a mis-call, the band standing as above except S. Quintin, 5; conducted by J. W. Wilkins.

HUGHENDEN (Bucks).—On Saturday, November 10th, for practice, at the parish church, 336 of Grandsire Triples. F. G. Biggs, 1; W. Hussey (conductor), 2; R. Biggs, 3; F. L. Free, 4; H. Stratford, 5; J. Evans, 6; W. Goodchild, 7; H. Boreham, 8. Also 280 in the same method. F. Biggs, 1; W. Hussey (conductor), 2; R. Biggs, 3; F. L. Free, 4; F. G. Biggs, 5; H. Stratford, 6; G. Bunce, 7; W. Goodchild, 8.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Tuesday, November 6th, for practice at the parish church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. R. Arnold, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Sanders, 4; E. Moses, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. And 360 of College Single. J. Robinson, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Moses, 4; R. Arnold, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. E. Moses, 1; W. Sadler, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Sanders, 4; R. Arnold, 5; J. Bax, 6.

BISHOPS STORTFORD.—On Thursday, November 1st, at the parish church, 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major. W. T. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; C. Prior, 3; W. Watts, 4; F. W. Chapman, 5; G. Prior, 6; H. Prior, 7; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 8. Also 462 of Bob Triples. G. Prior, 1; C. Prior, 2; W. Watts, 3; W. Prior, 4; H. Prior, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6; P. Springham, 7; T. Newman, 8. The above touches were rung as an introduction to the young members, who are forming a new society at the above place, under the able instruction of Mr. H. Tucker. And on Thursday, November 8th, 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen singles and three bobs). T. Newman, 1; G. Prior, 2; F. W. Chapman, 3; H. Prior (conductor), 4; P. Springham, 5; H. J. Tucker (composer), 6. Also 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). T. Newman, 1; H. J. Tucker, 2; G. Prior, 3; F. W. Chapman, 4; P. Springham, 5; H. Prior, 6.

BLACKHILL (Durham).—On Friday, October 19th, at St. Mary's church, 720 of College Single in 30 mins. †W. Foster (conductor), 1; *J. T. Dobson, 2; †F. Barron, 3; †T. H. Surtees, 4; †W. Oliver, 5; *A. Nichols, 6. Tenor 22 cwt. †Hail from Shotley Bridge; *First 720 in the method, and members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association. Also on Saturday, November 10th, 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 30 mins. †R. Moore, 1; *J. Moore, jun., 2; J. T. Dobson, 3; B. King, 4; A. Nichols (conductor), 5; J. Moore, 6. †First 720; *First 720 with a bob bell.

LANCASTER.—On Tuesday, November 6th, at the parish church, the first half of Reeves's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 34 mins. R. Hirst (conductor), 1; W. Clayton, 2; R. Walker, 3; T. J. Parker, 4; G. Wian, 5; R. Holliday, 6; W. Jackson, 7; R. Smart, 8.

CARSHALTON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, November 13th, at the parish church, the All Saints' society assisted by Messrs. J. and A. J. Plowman, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Holder, 1; A. J. Plowman, 2; E. Matthews, 3; C. E. Buckingham, 4; J. Harding, 5; E. Hollands, 6; J. Plowman (conductor), 7; W. Bromsgrove, 8. Longest touch with a bob bell by A. J. Plowman, and first quarter-peal by Messrs. Holder, Matthews, Buckingham, Hollands, and Bromsgrove.

EXETER.—Recently at the church of St. Sidwell's, 518 of Grandsire Triples. B. Mundy, 1; C. Carter, 2; S. Binfield, 3; F. Shepherd (conductor), 4; W. Stocker, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd, 7; J. Bastin, 8. Also a 518. T. Mudge, 1; F. Shepherd, 2; S. Binfield, 3; W. Stocker, 4; C. Carter, 5; E. Shepherd (conductor), 6; J. Moss, 7; J. Bastin, 8. And a 336. T. Mudge, 1; B. Mundy, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; S. Binfield, 4; C. Carter, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd (conductor), 7; J. Bastin, 8. Also a 238. T. Mudge, 1; C. Carter, 2; S. Binfield (conductor), 3; F. Shepherd, 4; W. Stocker, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd, 7; B. Mundy, 8. And a 210. B. Mundy, 1; C. Carter, 2; S. Binfield, 3; F. Shepherd, 4; W. Stocker, 5; E. Shepherd, 6; J. Moss (conductor), 7; J. Bastin, 8. Also 1050 of Grandsire Triples, in 37 mins. T. Mudge, 1; C. Carter, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; S. Binfield, 4; W. Stocker, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd, 7; B. Mundy, 8.

LICHFIELD (Staffordshire).—On Friday, November 9th, at S. Mary's church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. F. J. Cope (conductor), 1; J. Key, 2; T. W. Udell, 3; A. Greenwood, 4; A. Whitby, 5; H. Measham, 6; W. Fearneyhough, 7; E. Gallimore, 8. And on Sunday, evening, November 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. E. Gallimore, 1; H. Measham, 2; T. W. Udell, 3; A. Greenwood, 4; A. Whitby, 5; F. J. Cope (conductor), 6; W. Fearneyhough, 7; A. G. Gallimore, 8. Tenor 19½ cwt in E. Mr. Udell hails from Slough, Bucks.

LLANGOLLEN (North Wales).—On Sunday, November 11th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 350 of Grandsire Triples. J. Evans, 1; T. Williams, 2; D. Evans, 3; J. Davies, 4; J. W. Davies (conductor), 5; R. Horspool, 6; T. Davies, 7; R. Maxwell, 8. The above company had the misfortune to lose (through their leaving the neighbourhood), two of the ringers on the eve of starting for a peal. They are now working up the second and tenor ringers, and the above is their longest touch.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, October 13th, at the parish church, with the bells muffled, on the occasion of the funeral of the late Mr. John Driver, touches of Bob Minor were rung. C. Bobby, 1; A. Ambrose, 2; J. Bird, 3; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury), 4; W. Cross (Sudbury), 5; S. Slater, 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. P. C. S. Scott, 1; R. Mingay (Foxearth), 2; H. Duce, 3; J. Bird, 4; W. Gridley (Foxearth), 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6.

MOSSLEY (Lancashire).—Handbell Ringing.—On Friday, November 9th, by the Mossley Amateur Society, at the house of Mr. R. Greaves, Stamford Street, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins. J. Greaves (aged 15), 1; *F. Rhodes (aged 14), 2; *A. W. Holden, 3; H. Mayall, 4; T. B. Dicken, 5; J. Holden (conductor), 6. *First 720. The average age of the ringers of the first four bells is sixteen years.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, October 28th, at the church of St. Thomas, for Divine Service, 504 of Bob Triples. J. Pagett, 1; T. Lees, 2; H. Morris, 3; W. A. Pugh, 4; C. Barratt, 5; G. H. Pagett, 6; H. Harris (conductor), 7; P. Beasley, 8. Also on Sunday, November 11th, for Morning Service, 720 of Bob Minor, with 6-8 behind in 30 mins. C. Barrett, 1; G. H. Pagett, 2; W. A. Pugh, 3; J. Pagett, 4; A. Orford, 5; J. Bird, 6; H. Harris (conductor), 7; P. Beasley, 8.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Sunday, November 11th, the members of the local company with Mr. H. C. Howard, of Braintree, met at St. Peter's church, and rang for Morning Service a touch of Bob Minor. M. Silvester, 1; H. C. Howard, 2; W. Cross, 3; J. Campin, 4; H. Harper, 5; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 6. Also for afternoon service at St. Gregory's, 1024 of Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Tolliday, 1; J. Campin, 2; S. C. Brown, 3; M. Silvester, 4; W. Cross, 5; H. C. Howard, 6; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 7; H. Harper, 8. This is Mr. Howard's longest touch in any method. And for evening Service at St. Peter's church, 640 of Kent Treble Bob. F. Tolliday, 1; H. Harper, 2; S. C. Brown, 3; J. Campin, 4; H. C. Howard, 5; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 6; W. Griggs, 7; A. Scott, 8. Also after service, a touch of Stedman Triples. C. Sillitoe (conductor), 1; M. Silvester, 2; S. Brown, 3; J. Campin, 4; W. Griggs, 5; A. Scott, 6; H. Harper, 7; H. Brackett, 8. Tenor 23 cwt.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co. Printers, Exeter.

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 CHURCH BELLS OF DUCKLINGTON, OXON.

SIR,—Would you allow me through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to bring to the notice of all brother-strings interested in the restoration of church bells, the dilapidated state of the church bells of Ducklington, Oxon. These bells are in almost an unringable condition, and the parish being poor, the amount required for their restoration cannot be raised without help from friends. Myself having learnt to ring on these bells feel a deep interest in their restoration. The ringers are very energetic, but their only drawback is the sad condition of the bells, which cannot be rung with safety. Should any of our ringing friends care to assist us in their restoration, the smallest donations will be most thankfully received and acknowledged by

Norfolk Hotel, Brighton,

W. J. FISHER.

The following sums have already been received or promised:

	£	s.	d.
The Ven. The Archdeacon of Oxford	1 0 0
Canon Bright, Oxford	0 10 0
The Rev. F. E. Robinson, Drayton	0 10 0
The Rev. C. G. P. Davies, Ringmer	0 2 0
Mr. T. Holford, Oxford	0 2 0
Mr. W. J. Holford, London	0 1 0
Mr. G. A. King, Brighton	0 1 0
A few Ladies	0 9 0

PROPOSED RINGERS' PROVIDENT FUND.

SIR,—With regard to my proposal in your columns a fortnight ago—a proposal which was warmly taken up by Mr. Washbrook, and will I trust find many supporters—allow me to disclaim all originality in connection with it. Mr. Bulwer tells me that he suggested the idea at the time of Mr. Snowdon's death, but that the subject then dropped. My apologies are therefore due to Mr. Bulwer for publishing as new a "peal" of which he was the composer. Hoping to see other subscribers contributing their counsel in your columns,

CHAS. D. P. DAVIES,

THE CHURCH BELLS OF RYE (SUSSEX.)

SIR,—I should be extremely pleased for any information concerning the church bells of that interesting old Cinque Port Town, Rye. As a schoolboy, some twenty years ago, I remember its fine old church with its fine old clock taken from the Spanish Armada, the pendulum of said old time keeper swinging across the chancel arch in full view of the congregation. In a book recently published giving a history of the Cinque Ports, by Montague Burrows, it is stated that in the fourteenth century (1378), the French attacked Rye, and amongst other plunder took away the church bells. But the Rye men in conjunction with Winchelsea made a return raid on the French coast and brought their bells back in triumph. It would be interesting I think to know if any of these bells are in existence. Perhaps some members of the Sussex Association will give me the desired information. It is worthy of note that one never sees anything in "THE BELL NEWS" respecting ringing matters at Rye, Winchelsea and Hastings.

GRANDSIRE BOB.

P.S.—Whilst writing may I also ask for correct weights and diameters of the tenor bells at Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, and St. Margaret's Church, Leicester. The Melton Mowbray tenor is said to be 35 cwt. in "North's Church Bells of Leicester," but Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough, gives its weight as 26 cwt. in a list published by them in 1870. Which is correct?

The Bishop of Auckland intends to leave England on December 1st, on his return to New Zealand, by the *Tainui*, from Plymouth. He will be accompanied by Mrs. Cowie and their three younger children. The Bishop's Commissaries in England are the Rev. A. R. Tomlinson, rector of St. Michael's Penkevel, and Canon Skelton, Hickling Rectory, Melton Mowbray.

The Bishop of Lichfield intimates that in future, or at least during his episcopate, his house will be designated as "Bishop-stowe" instead of the "Palace." The house overlooks the "Stowe Pool," by the side of which St. Chad took his "stand" when he began his work as Bishop of Lichfield.

TO be Sold. A set of Handbells. In good repair, 3 octaves in chromatic scale 37 in number. C. 22 size largest bell. No reasonable offer refused. Apply K. Binns, 20, Mint, Low Moor Side, Holbeck, Leeds.

Church News.

The Lambeth Conference Encyclical Letter was read in many of the cources in the diocese of Lichfield on Sunday week by the Bishop's desire.

The Vicarage of Great Staughton, vacant by the death of the Rev. H. Bristow Wilson, has been offered by St. John's College, Oxford, to the Rev. T. W. Gibson, secretary of the Clergy Orphan Corporation, and has been accepted by him.

At a meeting of the clergy of the archdeaconry of Macclesfield at Bowden on Thursday, the Rev. Edward Royds, rector of Brereton-cum-Smethwick, was re-elected a Commissioner under the Pluralities Acts Amendment Act, 1885, for the archdeaconry for the ensuing three years.

At a meeting of the beneficed clergy of the archdeaconry of Cornwall, at Bishop Phillpott's Library, Truro, on November 6th, to elect a beneficed clergyman of the archdeaconry as a Commissioner for three years under the Pluralities Act Amendment Act, the Rev. A. A. Vawdrey, Rural Dean of Kirrier and vicar of St. Sithney, was unanimously re-elected.

At Lechlade Church, on All Saints' Day, were dedicated three handsome chancel screens of carved oak. They were the gift of Mrs. Robbins, late of Clay Hill House, Lechlade, in memory of her husband, and were designed by Mr. F. S. Walker, diocesan architect, Gloucester.

While the Rev. W. H. Iggulden, Warden of Browne's Hospital, Stamford, was preaching on Sunday afternoon in little Casterton Church, near Stamford, he was seized with a fit of apoplexy. He was removed to the rectory, and died within four hours without recovering consciousness.

Another recent death is that of the Rev. Henry Beckwith, rector of Eaton Constantine, Salop. The deceased gentleman, who was born in 1806, graduated at Jesus College, Cambridge, and was ordained in 1830. In 1832 he was preferred by the Duke of Cleveland to the living of Eaton Constantine, which he has held ever since.

Two stained-glass windows and a memorial brass tablet have been placed in Lancaster parish church, as a memorial to the late Mr. J. Piers Chmberlain Starkie. The work was designed and executed by Warrington and Co., Fitzroy Square.

Two stained-glass windows have recently been placed in the chancel of the parish church of Brent Knoll, Somerset, by the vicar, Archdeacon Fitzgerald. In the upper compartment of the window on the south side is represented the Virgin and Child, after a drawing by Martin Schon, and in the lower part is a half-length representation of the Madonna and Infant. The inscription below is:—"In memory of Sarah Anne Fitzgerald, aged 21 years, and Sarah Anne, her infant daughter, buried together at Fledborough, Notts, February 13, 1841." In the upper part of the window on the north side is represented the figure of St. Theresa, holding the cross in one hand and the aced heart in the other. In the lower part, St. Ann teaching the Virgin to reae is represented.

A remarkably sudden death took place on Tuesday fortnight, at the Chester Diocesan Conference, in the person of the Rev. James Campbell Home, M.A., late Scholar of Clare, and for more than forty years Vicar of Rawcliffe, Lancashire. Mr. Home, who was held in the greatest affection among his parishioners, had only just resigned, and with his family had come to reside at Chester, where on Tuesday morning, walking hurriedly to the conference, he suddenly fell forward, and expired a few moments only after his entrance into the assembly. Dr. Roberts attributed his death to heart disease. The deceased gentleman, who was born at Malta in 1816, was a son of Captain David Home (35th Regiment) a nephew of John Home, author "of Douglas." He took his degree at Clare in 1840, and was ordained the same year. He was buried on Friday week in the churchyard of his old parish, amid the lamentation of relatives, parishioners, and clergy of the deanery who had come to pay this tribute to one whose kind hearted character and virtuous life are alike worthy of respect and of imitation. The deceased leaves a widow and four daughters.

The All Saints' festival has been celebrated this year with much earnest enthusiasm and many features of interest at St. Matthias's, Stoke Newington, where, notwithstanding the passing away of so many of the early workers, there lingers much of the original fervour and zeal which marked the first founders of the church. The first movement of the little band, headed by the late Mr. R. Brett and Mr. R. Foster, was made on All Saints' Day, 1849, when a school-room, previously licensed by the Bishop, was opened for Divine Service. It was felt that no surer way of securing solid and permanent Church work could be devised than that of establishing good Church day-schools, and, until a permanent church could be erected, of gathering in the people to a humbler building for worship. This year, in addition to the ordinary services, the dedications of a coloured window, by Messrs. Clayton and Bell, in loving memory of Ernest Kempster, the elder son of Dr. Monk, the Musical editor of "Hymns Ancient and Modern," and organist of St. Matthias's for more than thirty years, formed an impressive and beautiful incident; and a large congregation assembled to testify their sympathy with it. After the sermon at the high celebration, preached by the Rev. A. Wentworth Bennett, assistant curate of St. Matthias's, who had in past years been a choir boy with Mr. Monk, the clergy, headed by the sacristans, proceeded to the south chancel aisle, where a short service of dedication, drawn up by one of the Bishops, formerly a chorister of St. Matthias's, was used. The window consists of two lights, and is on the right-hand side of the organ chamber. The figure of David, as the sweet Psalmist, stands in one compartment, and our Lord is represented as the Good Shepherd in the other, whilst in the trefoil at the top there are crossed palm branches with "Attollite portas" inscribed in reference to a service held at St. Matthias's on Palm Sunday. On the following Thursday, the octave, at a friendly gathering of parishioners and congregation a presentation was made to Mr. T. A. Scott, the late head master of the boys' school, in recognition of his long and devoted service of thirty-nine years. Mr. Scott was one of the first workers and worshippers at St. Matthias's, having been appointed by the vicar and Mr. Brett. The Rev. F. Caudwell, the Bishops of Marlborough and Bedford, and others addressed the meeting. Mr. Scott could never be tempted away from St. Matthias's, though he might have gained considerably by listening to offers from other schools. During the octave sermons were preached by the vicar, the Revs. E. Ibbotson, Canon Lester, A. Wentworth Bennett, A. Ingleby, and the Bishop of Marlborough.

An itinerant Mission was held from October 27th to November 4th in the rural deanery of Brecon, Part III., the Missioners being Rev. J. P. A. Bowers, Diocesan Missioner for the diocese of Gloucester and Bristol, Rev. L. E. Peter, of Uplands, Stroud, Rev. T. J. Bowen of Llangattock, and E. T. Jones, of Whitchurch. Though the weather was in every way unpropitious, being exceedingly wet, and the nights unusually dark, large congregations assembled at the different centres, and were deeply impressed, many following the Missioners from place to place, and coming long distances through drenching rain, and along dark and muddy country lanes and pathways, which had been rendered almost impassable.

The opening of St. Saviour's, Roath, took place on the 30th ult. It has been built to supply the need of a large district in the parish of Roath St. German, Cardiff, which has sprung up very rapidly in the course of the last four years. Hitherto the services have been held in a temporary iron church and school chapel, which lately have been all too small for the accommodation required. The services on the opening day began with a celebration of the Holy Communion at 8 a.m., the Bishop of Llandaff being the celebrant. The consecration service took place at eleven, when more than fifty of the clergy of the diocese were present. The sermon was preached by Canon Mason, his subject being the Vision of Isaiah, described in Isaiah vi. Immediately after the service a public luncheon was held in the school, the chair being taken by the Rev. J. E. Dawson (curate in-charge). Among the speakers were the Bishop of Llandaff, the Dean of Manchester, the Archdeacon of Monmouth, the Revs. F. J. Beale, R. J. Ives (vicar of the parish), Lord Tredegar, Sir A. Mackworth, Dr. Sheen. In the evening there was evensong at 7.30, and a sermon was preached by the Dean of Manchester on St. Matthew xxi. 13.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Onward! be our watchword."

To quote the old familiar greeting of the pantomime clown when he puts in a re-appearance, "Here we are again!" Pressure of business cares and duties have compelled me—much against my wish—to suspend my weekly remarks during the last three weeks, but now that I am once more "on the job," I hope to have no more breaks yet awhile.

* * * * *

It is with very great regret that, on my resumption, I have to refer to the serious illness of our Editor. In any concern—and particularly in a newspaper office—the temporary deprivation of the chief while on a bed of sickness is a serious matter, and throws a large amount of extra work and responsibility upon the junior members of the staff. In our own case, while complimenting the subordinate officials of "THE BELL NEWS" on the manner in which they have met and tidied over their difficulties so far, I believe I shall be expressing the feelings of many besides myself when I give utterance to the earnest hope that he to whom we owe our weekly paper will soon be not only convalescent, but at his post once more in renewed health.

* * * * *

Our esteemed friend, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, has "opened the ball on a subject which has been brought to my notice several times; one which I think is deserving the serious consideration of the Exercise. This idea of forming a properly constituted Benefit Society in connection with our fraternity is without doubt, in the abstract, a very commendable one; but at the same time, while abstract propositions are very well to be argued about and voted upon *pro* and *con* in a debating society, a suggestion like this, so thoroughly practical, must be dealt with in a different manner if it is to be worked out into a useful existence. That is to say, the mere agreeing with the proposition is in itself comparatively a small matter. We may easily declare that we do or not agree with it, but the doing that contributes nothing towards the accomplishment or the failure of such a scheme. What we really have to consider are the details and the difficulties which would have to be surmounted. In short—to vary an old saying—we must look to the items and the totals will take care of themselves.

* * * * *

Well, let us suppose, for argument's sake, that there is a consensus of opinion in favour of this proposal, what follows? In the first place, there is the question of receipts, which involves the amount of contributions to be paid, and also the manner of collecting this into one common fund, together with its proper investment. After that comes the problem (or, I should rather say, the series of problems) as to the expenditure. What are to be the benefits disbursed by this Society? Is it to relieve cases of distress, to afford payment to its members in case of sickness, or to make grants to the widows and orphans of members on their decease? The first point might be easily dealt with; the second would prove more difficult to work out, as all those who—like myself—belong to large and powerful friendly societies, will see at a glance. To give any stated amount per week during sickness would in addition to creating a vast amount of work on some one necessitate a subscription of not less than sixpence or eightpence per week to put it on a fairly-sound financial basis. Then if the third point alone was the object of the Society, it would require to be constituted somewhat on the plan of the many "death briefs" which are in existence throughout the country; but that, like the first, would be no very serious matter in itself.

After that comes the very essential question of management. And here comes the stiffest problem of all. How is the Society to be constituted and worked? We are not like a body of men located in one particular quarter; we are scattered about in small numbers here and there; which circumstance will of itself naturally tend to render this problem all the more difficult of solution. We should require, of course, a governing body of some sort, to manage the business. How is that to be formed? If one member lived in London, another at Newcastle, another at Manchester, and so on, it is obvious that their meetings would of necessity be "few and far between," if only on the score of expense.

* * * * *

It will be thus apparent to even a merely superficial observer that the problems to be solved and the difficulties to be surmounted, in bringing such a scheme into working order are neither few nor insignificant. My object in thus bringing these points to the front is by no means with the aim of "throwing cold water upon the scheme," far from it; my only purpose is that in dealing with the matter, we may look the whole thing in the face, and not content ourselves with merely considering it on a sort of general basis, without giving a thought as to how it is to assume tangible form.

* * * * *

By way of bringing about some practical result, I would suggest that Mr. Davies should draw up a rough plan on the lines of his suggestion; so as, in fact, to give us something "to peg at." It is always easier to come to an understanding with something definite before us, than it is if we are, as it were, fighting a shadow. Meanwhile, I would assure Mr. Davies of my hearty concurrence; and if I can be of service in the evolution of his scheme, it will afford me much pleasure.

* * * * *

I cannot close my remarks without congratulating my brother "Ancients" on their very successful anniversary celebration, and expressing the pleasure I have felt on reading the account of it. Next to joining in a fraternal gathering is the hearing or reading an account of it. My share in the happy meeting is of course the latter, but nevertheless I seemed to be amongst my brothers as I read the account, and particularly the various little speeches, breathing as they did all of them such pride in the Society, such hope for its future, and such expressions of good-will. If this spirit is constantly manifested along with an earnest desire for good ringing, and progress in the art, there can be no doubt that the future of the College Youths will be far in advance of its past history, brilliant though it has been. "May its shadow never grow less."

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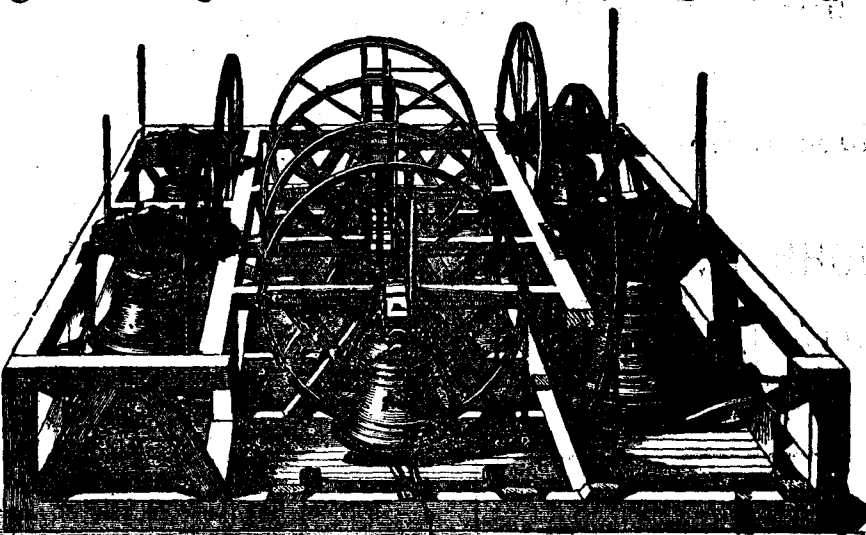
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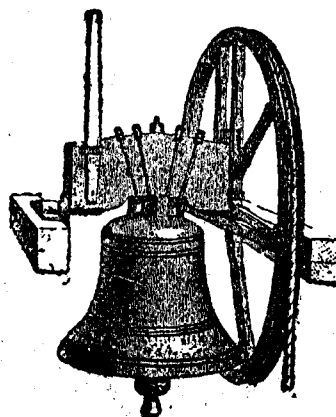
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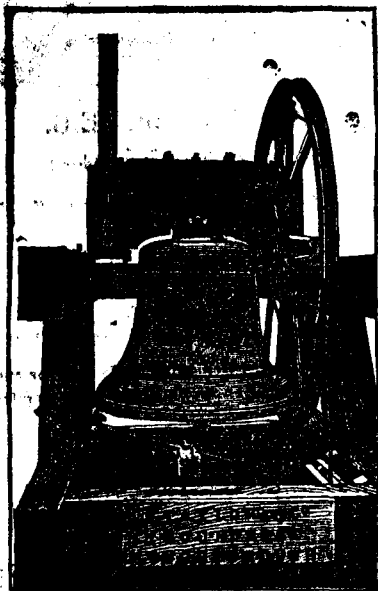
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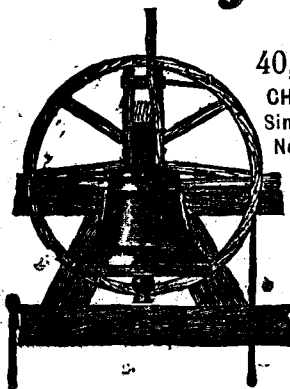
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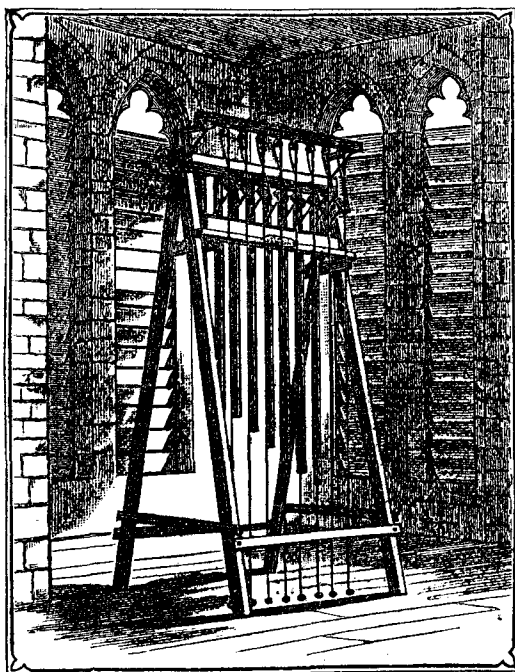
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ANOTHER WEEK'S RINGING IN HERTFORDSHIRE.

Readers of "THE BELL NEWS" will doubtless remember an account of "Eight peals rung in six days" in February last, and it will no doubt be interesting to many who read of a few details in connection with a similar week: the difference being "six peals in five days," which are recorded in the usual manner upon another page.

The week's ringing was organized as on previous occasions by the Rev. Canon Wigram, rector of St. Andrew's, Hertford, to whom great praise is due for bringing together such a distinguished company of ringers.

The visitors included the Rev. F. E. Robinson (Drayton Berks, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), A. P. Heywood Esq. (President of the Midland Counties Association), the Rev. C. D. P. Davies (Ringmer, Sussex), the Rev. G. F. Coleridge (Caversham, Berks), the Rev. H. A. Cockey (Greenwich), Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun. (Loughborough), and Mr. J. W. Washbrook (Oxford). The six peals recorded were two of Stedman Triples, and one each of Stedman Caters, Double Norwich, Superlative, and Cambridge Surprise. It was intended as far as practicable two start for two peals a day, it will therefore only be fair to mention the failures as well as successes.

Operations commenced in the evening of Monday, November 12th, at All Saints, Hertford, where a 5035 of Stedman Caters was rung in first-class style.

Tuesday was set apart for a visit to the Squire, at Bennington, and was looked forward to by all as *the day* of the week, and so it proved to be.

Cambridge Surprise was to be the method, and a start was made for a peal soon after 11 o'clock, but although the ringing was good two attempts proved failures. After luncheon a slight alteration in the band was deemed necessary, and an excellent peal was then rung in 3 hours 1 minute. Being then too late for another peal, the rest of the evening was spent in practising Superlative, and Double Norwich.

Wednesday was looked upon as a hard days work, it having been arranged to visit Baldock and Hitchin, both being heavy peals of eight.

The party met at Baldock about 10 a.m., having picked up Mr. Heywood on the way, who had been the guest of L. Proctor, Esq., at Benington, the Squire himself also came to listen. The church was made for without delay, and before 2 o'clock a peal of Double Norwich had been rung, being the first peal of Major on the bells. On descending from the tower the ringers were met by the worthy Vicar, who had kindly had luncheon provided: this having been partaken of somewhat hurriedly, the party were soon *en route* for Hitchin, and by 4.30 Stedman Triples was under weigh. This peal was accomplished in 3 hrs. 14 mins., being the first in the method on the bells.

On Thursday a visit was paid to Braughing, and with the aid of three from Benington, a band was made up for Superlative, but after an hour and a quarter's beautiful ringing, the peal suddenly collapsed. A second start, however was at once made, and an excellent peal was rung in 3 hrs. 10 mins. It had been arranged to attempt a peal of Double Norwich at Hertford the same evening, but unfortunately the failure in the morning had placed the party in rather an awkward position, for there was no train home until late, and a service prevented another attempt being made at Braughing, so they had to be satisfied with one peal.

Friday was perhaps the most disappointing day of all. St. Albans was the place chosen to visit; the Cathedral for Stedman, and St. Peter's for Treble Bob Royal. After nearly half the peal had been rung at the Cathedral, it was found impossible to go on, as the tenor had suddenly become unringable.

The same band then went to St. Peter's, and again started for Stedman Triples, accomplishing the peal in 3 hrs. 16 mins. the tenor here also going very badly. On Saturday, those of the visitors who still remained, with several ringers from Hertford, proceeded to Waltham Abbey, for a last attempt at Double Norwich, but one or two being quite new to the method it was quickly abandoned.

The visitors having expressed themselves highly delighted with their week's ringing, and thanking the Rev. Canon Wigram for his kind hospitality, then dispersed to their several destinations.

H. B.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Monday evening, November 12th, the ringers of All Saints parish church, West Bromwich, were entertained to supper at the Vicarage by the Vicar, the Rev. M. M. Connor. It has been the custom for some years past for the Vicar to give the ringers a summer outing, but this year, owing to the bad weather and other things over which they had no control, the trip did not take place, so he gave the ringers a supper instead. Eighteen sat down, including the Vicar, the assistant clergy, the Rev. J. Whiteley, and Rev. C. J. Swain, also Mr. W. R. Small and Mr. W. H. Godden, who had been invited as a guest, and the local ringers. A letter of apology was read from Mr. R. Cartwright, who was unable to be present. Full justice was done to the good things provided, and the cloth having been removed,

The Vicar said how pleased he was to meet the ringers and to see amongst them Mr. Small and Mr. Godden, and hoped such meetings would tend to bind them still closer together, and further the cause of ringing. He said he believed he had got a good band of ringers, who performed their duties regularly, not merely for the sake of ringing, but as a branch of church work. He then called on the Secretary to bring on the business which had partly brought them together that evening. A box having been brought in and placed on the table, Mr. Woodhall unlocked it and displayed to view a set of handbells, which had been purchased for the use of the ringers by voluntary subscriptions which he had collected. Each bell is engraved as follows: "1888, West Bromwich Parish Church."

In handing the bells to the Vicar (in the absence of the churchwardens), he said he had pleasure in presenting them to the churchwardens to become the property of the church for the use of the ringers at all times. The Vicar thanked him for the valuable gift, and said he hoped they would be the means of more progress being made, and good friendship existing between the ringers.

A move was then made, and everyone was eager to try the bells. Courses were rung by Messrs. Reeves, Small, Cashmore, and Cooper, and several others present tried their hands but did not get on very well. All were loud in their praise of the bells, which are a very highly-finished set, and do credit to the maker, Mr. J. Barwell, of Great Hampton Street, Birmingham. Our correspondent adds: I cannot close this report without thanking the donors for their liberality in enabling us to procure such a splendid set of bells, and also the Vicar for his continued kindness to the ringers.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

Members of St. Andrews, Plymouth branch of the above Guild visited Maker in Cornwall, on Tuesday, November 20th. The six bells were raised in peal, and six 120's of Grandsire Doubles, called differently, were rung, conducted by Mr. Taylor. Tenor 13 cwt. J. Peard, 1; Taylor, 2; Ellis, 3; Batchelor, 4; Widdicombe, 5; Screech, 6. Some call-changes were also rung, in which Messrs. W. Peard and J. Mallett, of Plymouth, and Mr. Legg of the local band took part. It was found that the bells go very well in changes, although they require some pulling at starting to rise in peal. The visitors observed with regret that a new chiming apparatus has been fixed. Few towers are free from this miserable invention.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co. Printers, Exeter.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Ringers was held in Newcastle on Monday, October 29th. There were present members from Darlington, Durham, Chester-le-Street, Benfieldside, Consett, Heighington, Jarrow, Newcastle, North Shields, South Shields, Stockton, and Winlaton. During the morning the bells of St. John's, and All Saints, were rung by the Visitors, and in the evening a well-struck touch of Grandsire Triples was rung at St. Stephen's, the peal of six at St. Andrew's, and eight at the Cathedral, not being in a fit condition for practice, was not visited. At 2 o'clock Divine Service was held in St. John's Church, at which a sermon was addressed to the assembled ringers by the Rev. A. S. Wardroper, Vicar of All Saints. This was followed by the Annual Dinner and meeting at the "Crown and Mitre," Grey Street. The Rev. A. S. Wardroper, presided, and was supported by Mr. R. Story, President of the Association Mr. W. G. Routledge, Newcastle; Messrs. Thos. Hudson and R. Donkin, churchwardens of Bishop Wearmouth; and Mr. G. J. Clarkson, Hon. Sec. of the Association. The rev. chairman read letters from the Bishop of Newcastle, the Vicar of Newcastle, Canon Lloyd; Canon Blunt and the Rev. T. Bennett, regretting their inability to attend, and then gave the toast of the Church and Queen; the president then gave the Bishops and Clergy of the two dioceses. The rev. chairman in responding referred to the intended restoration of All Saints Church, when he hoped to welcome a large number of ringers. The Secretary's Report referred to the unsatisfactory condition of affairs in Newcastle, where there is not a single church which can claim as part of its organization an efficient society of change-ringers. Mr. Story in replying to the toast of "The President" said if there was not so much spirit in Newcastle for bell-ringing as they would like there were numerous signs that in the surrounding district the art was in a progressive condition. As to the state of the bells in Newcastle, he hoped after the exercise of a little more patience the necessary improvements would be effected. The officers for the ensuing year were then re-elected as follows: Mr. R. S. Story, president; Mr. F. Lees, Newcastle, and Mr. T. Clark, Ripon, vice-presidents; Mr. G. J. Clarkson, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer. At the meeting of the General Committee it was decided after a long discussion to add several names to the sub-committee, and to devote a portion of the funds to the promotion of peal-ringing, and it was decided to hold the February meeting at Hurworth, and the Whit-Monday meeting at Morpeth, the Annual Meeting going to Durham. Several new members were elected including the whole band at Lanchester, and the Rev. S. E. Pennecfather, Vicar of Jesmond, who expects shortly to have a peal of eight in his own church. Since the meeting letters have been received by the secretary from the Vicar of Newburn, expressing a wish to join the Association, and from Lord Boyne enclosing a donation of £5 to the Association, and expressing a wish that the members will attend the inauguration of the peal of eight bells now being erected in Brancepeth Church.

At St. John's Church a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. *W. C. Bennet, Winlaton, 1; H. S. Taylor, Darlington, 2; J. E. Avery, Durham, 3; W. H. Craggs, Durham, 4; W. Eggleston, Newcastle, 5; L. Newton, Durham (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. R. J. Robson, Newcastle, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; J. Pattison, Winlaton, 3; W. C. Bennett, 4; C. J. Butterworth, 5; J. Swinburn, Chester-le-Street (conductor), 6. Also 560 Bob Major. F. Lees, Newcastle, 1; C. L. Routledge, Newcastle (conductor), 2; W. C. Bennett, 3; C. J. Butterworth, 4; J. Pattison, 5; F. Harrison, Jarrow, 6; L. Scott, Winlaton 7; W. Story, Newcastle, 8. Also 572 of Bob Major. H. S. Taylor, 1; G. T. Ross, Winlaton, 2; J. Moffitt, South Shields, 3; G. Atkinson, Winlaton, 4; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 5; *J. E. Avery, 6; J. Pattison, 7; W. C. Bennett, 8. Also a touch of Bob Triples for the first time for W. H. Craggs, H. S. Taylor and J. E. Avery. Also a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. A. Brown, Chester-le-Street; J. Pattison, 2; G. J. Ross, 3; *C. S. Routledge, 4; J. E. Avery (conductor), 5; *W. Sheraton, Chester-le-Street, 6. *First in the method. At St. Stephen's, 574 of Grandsire Triples. J. W. Forster, Benfieldside, 1; L. Newton, 2; G. J. Clarkson, Stockton, 3; F. Lees, 4; E. Wallis, Newcastle, 5; C. J. Butterworth (conductor), 6; F. Harrison, 7; E. W. Pyle, Newcastle, 8.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CLUN (Salop).—On Monday evening, November 5th, in honour of the birthday of the Right Hon. the Earl of Powis, who is a life member of the above Guild, the local ringers met to ring the parish tower bells, but after several attempts at rounds this was abandoned, and Grandsire Doubles was struck with the clappers in hand, each ringer standing beside his bell, which was mouth upwards. Afterwards, in the ringing room, a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung on handbells, in 22 mins. J. Davis, 1; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 2; W. Roberts, 3; J. Roberts, 4; W. Mead (Whitby), 5; J. G. Buchanan, Esq., 6. On Friday evening, November 9th, for practice, at the house of Mr. Roberts, on handbells, the local company had their third lesson in Triples, and completed a fairly well-struck touch of 368 changes.

CLUNBURY.—On Monday, November 12th, at the church of St. Swithin's by permission of the Vicar, the Clun Ringers were enabled to have a good tower bell practice. Owing to the badly going state of their own bells they cannot get "rope experience" without a journey of four or five miles.

THORNBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Thursday, November 1st, for the wedding of Miss Wilkins, daughter of Mr. C. H. Wilkins, draper, of this town, several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung. An attempt was made to ring Holt's Original, but failed through two bells changing course, after over 1680 changes had been well struck, in 1 hr. and 5 mins. W. Davies, 1; C. Eddington, 2; J. Davis, 3; F. Symes, 4; J. Hinton (conductor), 5; T. Allsopp, 6; F. Howell, 7; J. Phillips, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in E sharp. Messrs. J. Davis and Hinton, hail from Bristol. The local band hope to again attempt it at no distant date, as the bells have been well overhauled, and the bell cage well braced together with through bolts, and go very smooth and steady. The local band regret being hampered from making much progress, owing to loosing their members who leave the town for employment. As the bells are now thoroughly pealable, the vicar and his ringers will be pleased to welcome any band who should feel disposed to pay Thornbury a visit, and attempt a peal.

RINGERS SUPPER AT BEDFORD.

On Tuesday evening, November 13th, the Rev. and Mrs. Lambert Woodward very kindly invited the regular staff of ringers at St. Paul's, to the vicarage to partake of supper with them. After the good things provided were disposed of, a very pleasant and enjoyable evening was spent in social conversation interspersed with change-ringing upon handbells, and a very humorous and laughable reading by the vicar, a song by Mr. J. Spencer, brought the evening to a close. A hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Hills to the vicar and Mrs. Woodward for their kind and generous hospitality, seconded by Mr. Daizley. The vicar responded in a few well chosen and kind words. Our correspondent adds; I think an effort will be made to augment the present peal of eight to ten by adding two trebles. I.H.

ST. MICHAEL'S, COVENTRY.

The Coventry Times publishes a suggested design for a new bell-tower to be added to the west end of St. Michael's Church. Some time back it was discovered that the decay of the stonework had weakened the famous steeple to such an extent that it was no longer fitted to hold the bells. It is now proposed to build at the other side of the west end a new tower, repeating the design up to a certain height, but omitting one stage of the tower and the whole spire. It is suggested that with the addition of a western porch between the towers St. Michael's Church would then have a west front worthy of cathedral rank. Without discussing all the points raised by the proposal, we do not think that the idea of making a stunted copy of the present tower would commend itself to the original architect if he could be consulted, or to the experts of the present day.—Guardian.

TO be Sold. A set of Handbells. In good repair, 3 octaves in chromatic scale 37 in number. C. 22 size largest bell. No reasonable offer refused. Apply R. Binns, 20, Mint, Low Moor Side, Holbeck, Leeds.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR MR. DORAN.

	£	s.	d.
E. F. Cole, Esq., London	1	0	0
Dr. A. B. Carpenter, Croydon	0	10	0
Mr. H. Hopkins, London	0	2	6
J. E. Worsell, Brighton	0	5	0
H. Swain, London	0	2	0
W. H. Dallimore, West Ham	0	2	0
W. Smith, West Ham	0	1	0
Rev. H. A. Cockey	0	5	0
W. Hawkes, Springfield	0	2	0
J. R. Haworth, London	0	2	6
Collected at Brentwood	0	2	0
G. Williams, Midhurst	0	2	0
J. Dains, Widford	0	1	0
W. J. Piper, Widford	0	0	6
A. Shuttleworth, Widford	0	0	6
A. Tarbun, Widford	0	0	6
L. Green, Wanstead	0	2	6
R. Turner, London	0	2	0
H. Springhall, London	0	1	0
S. Hayes, London	0	1	0
J. Smith, Kingston-on-Thames	0	1	0
J. Potter, West Ham	0	1	0
H. Randall, West Ham	0	2	0
C. E. Malin, Esq., London	0	10	6
H. Dains, London	0	2	6
A Friend, per W. B.	0	2	6
C. Hopkins, Walthamstow	0	2	6
West Ham Company, per H. Randall	0	10	0
R. T. Woodley, London	0	1	0
J. Nunn, Walthamstow	0	1	0
A. Jacob, London	0	1	0

PRESTON, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, November 17th, the marriage of Mr. W. Hollocks, of Preston, to Miss Ann Bullett, of Hessest, Suffolk, took place at the above-named church. His brother ringers met in the evening and rung a 720 of Treble Bob in honour of his marriage. H. Symonds, 1; H. Smith, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; Jno. Moore, 4; W. Snell, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. Afterwards the band visited the "Six Bells" and partook of some refreshments, and drank the health of the bride and bridegroom, wishing them long life and happiness.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Notice is hereby given that two District Meetings of this Association will be held as under:—

The Eastern Division, at Alfriston, on Saturday, November 24th. The Western Division, at Heene, Worthing, on Saturday, December 1st. Full particulars will be forwarded by post in due course to all branches. GEORGE F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.
J. E. WORSSELL, Asst. Hon. Sec.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

NOTICE.—Members are requested to attend the next meeting at St. Saviour's, on Tuesday, December 4th, 1888, to discuss an important question. RICHARD T. WOODLEY, Hon. Sec.
40, Lillington Street, Pimlico, S.W.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MANCHESTER BRANCH.

The next ringing meeting of the above will be held at the Cathedral, Manchester, on Saturday, November 24th, ringing to commence at 4.30. JOHN EACHUS, Sec.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROCHDALE BRANCH.

There will be a meeting of the above branch at St. Thomas' Church, Leeds, near Oldham, bells ready at 2.30. Meeting at 5 p.m. in the belfry. F. BIRTWISTEE.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL.

A Bill has been drafted for making "further provision respecting the Chapter and revenues of the cathedral church of Manchester, and for other purposes," which is to be introduced in the House of Lords by Lord Egerton of Tatton at an early date, and is under consideration by the clergy directly interested. It amends the Act of 1850, by which a rectory was annexed to each canonry, and provides that the rectories and parishes of St. Philip, Salford; St. George, Hulme; St. Andrew, Manchester; and St. Matthew, Manchester, shall on the next vacancy, cease to be so annexed. The future Canons, besides their spiritual duties at the cathedral are to perform such duties in giving higher religious instruction in the diocese as the Bishop shall from time to time approve, and shall not be absent from the diocese more than eighty days in each year except by leave of the Bishop. The residences of the Dean and Bishop are not in future to be provided by the Ecclesiastical Commission, but on the next avoidance are to be let or sold and the proceeds devoted to the revenues of the Dean and Chapter. After the next vacancy in the deanery, the income is to be £1500 (as now), besides £500 in consideration of his being charged with the cure of souls. The income of the Canons is to be £1000 (now £600 besides rectory), but they must not hold any benefice or other ecclesiastical preferment. Each chaplain or Minor Canon is to have £250, and £850 yearly in addition to sums that might be lawfully expended under the old Act, is to be devoted to salaries of singing men or education of choir boys or in otherwise promoting the efficiency of the choir. After the payment of these sums and the reservation of the sums spent on the necessary repairs of such parts of the cathedral as the Deans and Canons are now liable to repair, "and all such other necessary and proper expenditure as may lawfully devolve on the said Dean and Canons," the residue is to be paid to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. Whenever such clear residue exceeds £20,000 in any one year the Dean and Canons may retain the surplus and expend it as follows:—(1) Not exceeding £1000 for the repair of the nave and such portions as they are now liable to repair; (2) an equal increase of the incomes of the chaplains or Minor Canons, not exceeding £100; (3) not exceeding £50 in increasing the stipend of the organist. It is further provided that any of the present Canons may resign his canonry and the benefice annexed, and be appointed Canon subject to the provisions aforesaid.

The following peals arrived too late for insertion in their proper place.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, November 17, 1888, in 3 Hours 7 Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 14 cwt.

EDWARD WOODHALL.. ..Treble.	THOMAS HORTON 5.
SAMUEL REEVES 2.	SIDNEY SMITH.. .. 6.
JAMES HALL 3.	WILLIAM COOPER 7.
REUBEN HALL 4.	JOSIAH HARFORD .. ..Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Ven. J. H. Iles, Archdeacon of Stafford, who had been President of the above Society since its commencement, and who was buried at Lichfield on the above date. J. Harford's first peal whose age is 17 years

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, November 18, 1888, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

GEORGE RAPLEY .. ..Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT 5.
CHARLES BLACKMAN* 2.	HENRY BURSTOW 6.
GEORGE CHARMAN 3.	HENRY H. CHANDLER 7.
THOMAS ANDREWS 4.	GEORGE TWIGG.. ..Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, and Conducted by HENRY H. CHANDLER.

*First peal in the method. Messrs. Blackman and Twigg hails from Arundel. It was intended to have rung a peal of Oxford Bob also on Sunday, but one of the ringers was called away.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, a quarterly meeting of this Association was held in St. Martin's School-room, Tipton, between forty and fifty members being present from Areley Kings, Bromsgrove, Brierly Hill, Birmingham, Coseley, Cradley, Dudley, Hanbury, Hale-owen, Netherton, Old Hill, Stoulton, Stourbridge, Tipton, etc. In the unavoidable absence of the Rev. A. A. Cory, Vicar, through the death of the Archdeacon Iles, the chair was occupied by the Rev. H. N. Eales, senior curate, and supported by the Rev. R. H. O. Bankes, junior curate. The rev. chairman in opening the proceedings, said he had been instructed by the vicar to give the members of the Association a hearty welcome on this their first visit to Tipton, and hoped it would not be the last that would take place at his centre. As far as he (the chairman) was concerned in ringing he thought it a manly exercise, and one which he should very much like to take up if he had more time. He had made a beginning and hoped to have a little more of it in the future. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the usual business of the Association was transacted. Several new members, Hon. and performing were added to the list.

In the course of the miscellaneous business, the Hon. Sec. spoke of the advantages he thought might be derived by all Associations and Guilds taking up the suggestion of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies in "THE BELL NEWS" of November 3rd, and so handled by Mr. Washbrook November 10th, on forming a Benefit Society for ringers. He did not wish to offer any suggestion as to the form it should take, but ventured to say such a society might be worked with little expense, and so become a good financial success. If the various associations would take the matter up at their next meeting and appoint delegates from each call a meeting as central as possible, and there discuss the question as to the form it should take, the society would no doubt soon have an actual being. Several members also spoke of the benefits that such a society would bring with it, and all present heartily concurred in the remarks that had been made, and hoped ere long to see some steps taken in that direction. Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for the use of the School-room, tower and bells, and to the Rev. H. N. Eales for presiding. The chairman and the Rev. R. H. O. Bankes suitably responded, and the meeting terminated.

During the afternoon and evening the following touches were brought round on the tower bells: a 576 and 336 of Plain Bob Major, two 216's of Stedman Triples, 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major, and 720 of Grandsire Minor. A pleasant evening was spent at the "Court House" Inn, where courses of Grandsire Triples, Major, Caters and Cinques were gone through on the handbells.

ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH, SNAITH, YORKS.

ON September 20th, a meeting was called in the belfry chamber to consider the question of forming an Association of ringers and handbell ringers for the parish. Up to this date there have been only six officially paid ringers, who have made use of the handbells provided by the parish. It was therefore thought desirable to extend the body of ringers. The Rev. E. S. Fox, Vicar, was appointed President, and the Churchwardens, Vice-Presidents; Treasurer—Mr. G. Holmes; Secretary—Mr. E. Donkin. There are now ten members in regular practice, and the Association prospers. The Secretary would be glad to receive copies from other Associations or Guilds, as the members are anxious to be in touch with their brethren in the craft.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Members who have not yet paid their subscriptions, are particularly requested to do so by December 1st, to ensure their names not appearing in italics in the report for the year, which will be issued as early as possible in January next. The Report for 1887 (48 pages) is given gratis to all who pay up their subscriptions, to the respective local Secretaries.

BRENTWOOD ESSEX.

On Saturday, November 17th, a band of four ringers from Romford, three from Writtle, and one from Chelmsford, met at Brentwood to attempt a peal of Grandsire Triples on the new bells of St. Thomas' Church, the first peal on which was rung by a band of the Essex Association on November 3rd. The peal selected was Hollis's Five-part; which after one failure in twenty minutes time, was fairly set going about 4.45. p.m. After about two hours and a half the tenor man was seen to be in difficulties; but encouraged by the others, he stuck to it manfully for another half hour and was then obliged to give in. When about 4800 changes had been rung and a quarter of an hour more, would have finished the peal. The ringers of the fifth, sixth, and seventh had also had as much as they could manage; and all the bells seemed to go stiffly. The ringing was rather rough, owing to the difficulty of striking the heavy bells properly; but it had gone without a hitch or shift of any kind, and the peal would have been a creditable one under the circumstances. The bells are a very fine peal, but will want much care and attention for a little while. The band was as follows: R. C. Burrell (Chelmsford), 1; W. Pegrum (Romford), 2; W. Nash (Romford), 3; A. J. Perkins (Romford), 4; A. Edwards (Writtle), 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon (Writtle), 6; W. Lincoln (Writtle), 7; S. James (Romford), 8. Conductor, A. J. Perkins.

Before leaving, the ringers by invitation of the Rev. T. L. Papillon, partook of an excellent and most welcome meat tea at The "Yorkshire Grey" Inn: The Rev. B. H. Wolley, the newly appointed curate, and Mr. Baker the steeple-keeper of St. Thomas' Church being also of the party.

WITHAM-ON-THE-HILL.

On Sunday, 11th November, 1888, a very pleasant gathering of ringers took place at Witham-on-the-Hill, Lincolnshire, the following brother strings, besides their Witham friends, being present: J. Stow, J. Rollinson, W. Wadsley and J. Alford, from Morton, W. Hudson from Bourn, G. H. Hollis and G. Hollis, jun. from Market Deeping, and T. Hollis from Wakefield. During the day, including ringing for service, a 720 Bob Minor was rung, with sixteen calls. J. Rollinson, 1; T. Allam (Witham), 2; W. Hudson, 3; G. H. Hollis, 4; J. T. Hollis, 5; T. S. Smith (Witham, conductor), 6. Also a 720 in the same method, with twenty calls. G. Hollis (aged 16 this day, and it being his first 720), 1; G. H. Hollis, 2; W. Hudson, 3; J. Rollinson, 4; N. Moxon (Witham), 5; T. S. Smith (conductor), 6. Also 360 Single Court Bob. G. Hollis, 1; J. T. Hollis, 2; W. Hudson, 3; G. H. Hollis, 4; T. Allam, 5; T. S. Smith (conductor), 6. A 360 Bob Minor was then rung, the ringers being stationed in the same order, and three 120's of Grandsire Doubles, each being called differently. T. S. Smith, 1; J. Stow (conductor), 2; J. T. Hollis, 3; J. Rollinson, 4; W. Wadsley, 5; J. Alford, 6. On the following evening, several from Witham, R. Clark, from Glinton, and G. Wells, from Deeping St. James, visited their brother strings at Market Deeping, and rang 720 Single Court Bob. R. Clark, 1; J. T. Hollis, 2; G. Wells, 3; G. H. Hollis, 4; T. Allam, 5; J. T. Hollis (conductor), 6. The company afterwards adjourned to the house of Mr. G. H. Hollis, the "George Inn," where a very pleasant evening was spent, the company separating at the hour of eleven. The best thanks of the visitors are due to Mr. T. S. Smith and their other Witham friends for the kindly manner in which they were entertained, and it is hoped that the time is not far distant when a similar gathering of old friends and new will take place in South Lincolnshire. J.T.H.

BIRCHINGTON, KENT.—QUEX PARK BAND.

At a special meeting of the above Band, held at the "Powell Arms," on November 15th, 1888, it was resolved that Mr. T. B. Reed, be re-elected captain and treasurer. Mr. J. Bristow tendered his resignation as secretary, which was accepted. A hearty vote of thanks for his services was passed and carried unanimously, and Mr. E. Tibble was elected to fill the vacancy. A committee was also appointed to revise the rules and prepare a plan for the re-organisation of the band, which will be submitted to the members at an early date.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE

MAJOR.

By H. DAINS, *Royal Cumberland.*

6048.

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

This peal contains the full extent of 4-5-6 in 5-6, and the 2nd and 3rd never there. Reduced 5152 in the same way as other peals of its class.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By J. J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth.*

5088.

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

Twice repeated.

First rung at Saddleworth, on Friday, November 9th, 1888.

A PEAL OF ROSE OF ENGLAND
TREBLE BOB MAJOR.By C. PRICE, *Eccleston.*

5760.

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

Four times repeated.

This peal has the least number of changes possible in a five-part peal with bobs B throughout in the method. It is also the exact half of the extent with tenors together, with bobs before throughout.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

5040.

2 3 4 5 6

2 3 6 5 4	7 in & out at 2 & 9-8-7
3 6 2 5 4	9-8-7
6 5 2 3 4	7 in 3
2 3 5 6 4	7 in and out at 2
5 2 3 6 4	9 in 3
4 5 2 6 3	9 in 3 s
3 4 5 6 2	9 in 3 s
5 3 4 6 2	9 in 3
4 5 3 6 2	9 in 3
2 4 5 6 3	9 in 3 s
3 2 4 6 5	9 in 3 s
4 3 2 6 5	9 in 3
5 4 3 6 2	9 in 3 s
2 5 4 6 3	9 in 3 s
3 2 5 6 4	9 in 3 s
5 3 2 6 4	9 in 3
2 5 3 6 4	9 in 3
4 2 5 6 3	9 in 3 s
3 4 2 6 5	9 in 3 s
2 3 4 6 5	9 in 3
4 2 3 6 5	9 in 3
5 4 2 6 3	9 in 3 s
3 5 4 6 2	9 in 3 s
4 3 5 6 2	9 in 3
2 4 3 6 5	9 in 3 s
5 2 4 6 3	9 in 3 s
3 5 2 6 4	9 in 3 s
2 6 5 3 4	8 in 3 s
5 3 6 2 4	8 in 3 s

The last twenty-four courses repeated, except first course call 8th in 2, which brings up the second part end—23456978, then call the 7th in and out at 5.

First rung on Monday, March 8th, 1886, at the cathedral church of St. Peter, with the bells muffled, in memory of the late H. W. Haley, conducted by Thomas Hammond.

TWO 720's OF GRANDSIRE MINOR.

By THE REV. E. W. CARPENTER, *Bobbing.*

720.

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

Twice repeated.

720.

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

Repeated.

Bob every lead except when the singles are called.

A CORRECTION.—In the composition column of September 25th, appears from Mr. Williams a 5007 Stedman Caters. The peal should read from the fourth part-end 3 1 2 4 5 6 5 1 2 6 3 4 4 5 16 then round by bobs 1, 4, 9, 16, 18, and one change.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

By A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, *Duffield.*

5016.

2 3 1 4 5 6 7 8

2 6 1 4 8 3 7 5	1	8	13	21	22
2 6 3 5 8 1 7 4	19	20			
3 6 2 1 8 5 7 4	6	19			
3 6 5 2 8 1 7 4	19				
5 6 3 1 8 2 7 4	6	19			
5 6 2 3 8 1 7 4	19				
2 6 1 3 8 5 7 4	6				
1 6 2 5 8 3 7 4	6	19			
1 6 3 2 8 5 7 4	19				
1 6 5 4 8 3 7 2	19	20			
1 6 3 5 8 4 7 2	19				
1 6 4 3 8 5 7 2	19				
4 6 1 5 8 3 7 2	6	19			
4 6 3 1 8 5 7 2	19				
4 6 5 3 8 1 7 2	19				
5 6 4 1 8 3 7 2	6	19			

The last seven courses three times repeated produce:—

2 6 5 4 8 1 7 3

2 3 1 4 5 6 7 8 5 9 11 13 14 18 19 21

This peal has an 8 10 12 six in the middle of each course, and is the first rung on the plan.

Rung at St. Martin's, Birmingham, on Monday, November 19, 1888, conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield.*

5280.

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

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield.*

5312.

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

Repeated.

COLN SAINT ALDWYN (Gloucestershire).—On Monday evening, November 19th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. Charles Bate, 1; R. Jeffries, 2; J. Kitchener (conductor), 3; H. Griffin, 4; *G. Smith, 5; T. Smith, 6.

*First 720 in the Oxford method.

OUR CHRISTMAS NUMBER,

NOW IN PREPARATION,

WILL CONTAIN

A PORTRAIT

Of a well-known Change-Ringer, with short Biographical Sketch.

The number will contain Two Stories:—

"A MERRY PEAL,"

By the Author of "The Belle of Belsham,"

AND

"THE CHURCHWARDEN."

By the Author of "The First Peal."

Further particulars will be announced in due course.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1888.

UNTIL some adventurous composer declares to the Exercise that he has produced a length in London Surprise greater than the peal announced in our last issue as having been rung at Burton, that achievement, as has been intimated, will head the roll of all eight-bell performances. The suggestion that such a composition may be attempted need not excite our risible faculties, for there are intrepid men to be found who consider it their mission to excel in all things, and to supersede anything and everything that has been done before. We should not be surprised to hear that the 6720 of London Surprise is to be beaten, and that already some individual, more ecstatic than profound has, by parting the tenors, and using perhaps half-a-dozen sixth-place bobs, with a few foreign calls thrown in for the sake of variety, nearly produced a 10,000 of this method, the only difficulty being that he is unable to bring the bells round without making the treble perform a variety of fantastic convolutions in the coming-home course. Such vagaries as these, however, would require that the "method" should be called by another name.

The Burton men having exhausted, as it were, the products of the Art on their limited number of bells, it seems a fitting time to again refer to the great desirability of increasing the number of St. Paul's bells to either ten or twelve. We have before pointed out such a desirable augmentation, but no effect, unfortunately, was produced by our comment on the matter. We should imagine that as the tenor of St. Paul's, Burton, is 26 cwt., an augmentation to ten at least would not be difficult; that

weight of metal ought in fact to produce an excellent peal of that number. That being so, we should like to be informed what difficulty—if difficulty there be—stands in the way of such augmentation. Surely the great merchant princes of Burton-on-Trent—large-hearted Churchmen as they have on many occasions proved themselves—would willingly come forward to assist in so praiseworthy a movement as the augmentation of St. Paul's bells. The sum of money required to effect this good work would not be felt by any of them, and would add very little indeed to their "benevolence account." The inhabitants of the town, wherein feeling and sentiment is not hostile to the Church, would certainly favor the movement by their countenance and help. Difficulties may perhaps loom in the distance; but cannot they be overcome? We may ask, would the late beloved vicar have spared any efforts in overcoming them? We think not. Then we say, let our brethren of Burton take the matter in hand themselves. They must not wait to see who will take them under their wing, but commence themselves canvassing for subscriptions for the purpose. If they do, and work at this new duty with their proverbial energy, the attainment of the consummation we are looking too is not far off.

The Metropolis.

SHADWELL, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Thursday, November 15, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 16 cwt.

THOMAS BAKER	Treble.	SAMUEL E. JOYCE	5.
CORNELIUS RILTON	2.	EMANUEL HALL	6.
WILLIAM CECIL	3.	HENRY SPRINGALL	7.
RICHARD J. TURNER	4.	*SYDNEY W. PARMENTER	Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

*First peal, †First peal of Grandsire. ‡First peal with a bob bell.

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

On Wednesday, November 21, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

AT THE ROCHESTER ARMS, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

H. R. NEWTON*	1-2.	G. T. McLAUGHLIN	5-6.
C. F. WINNY	3-4.	J. M. HAYES	7-8.

Conducted by H. R. NEWTON.

*First peal as conductor. Umpires—Messrs. H. T. Ellis, and W. Cropley, of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

The removal of an accumulation of soil during building operations in Eastgate, Lincoln, has brought to light an important fragment of the eastern wall of the Roman city. This fragment, consisting of a large quadrangular block of solid masonry, with dressed facing, projecting inwards from the wall, is probably the basement of a quadrangular tower, midway between the north-east angle and the east gateway. Although large portions of the Roman wall exist in other parts of the circuit, this is the only place in which any of the ashlar facing has been found remaining.

The Provinces.**LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.**

On Saturday, October 27, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF VIOLET MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

J. W. LANG Treble.	H. BROOKE 5.
S. KNOTT 2.	M. RAMSDEN 6.
J. ILLINGWORTH 3.	L. ILLINGWORTH 7.
S. GOODALL 4.	W. COLLINS Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, and Conducted by
LUKE ILLINGWORTH.

DORCHESTER, OXON.**THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Thursday, November 8, 1888, in Two Hours Forty-four Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ONE-PART. Tenor 19 cwt.

HARRY JACOB Treble.	JAMES HARRIS 5.
CHARLES TOLLEY 2.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK 6.
JOHN DAVIS 3.	HARRY COBB 7.
ARTHUR HAWES 4.	FELIX DAVIS Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

APPLETON, BERKS.**THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Friday, November 9, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

HARRY WOODWARDS Treble.	HARRY FRUIN 6.
WILLIAM BENNETT 2.	JESSE AVERY 7.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 8.
GEORGE HOLIFIELD 4.	FREDERICK WHITE 9.
BENJAMIN BARRETT 5.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by
JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

This is the first peal of Treble Bob Royal by the Guild, and the first peal in the method by the first, second, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, and tenor man.

TENTERDEN, KENT.**THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—TENTERDEN BRANCH.**

On Wednesday, November 14, 1888, in Three Hours Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MILDRED,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART (REVERSED). Tenor 30 cwt. in Db.

GEORGE CRAMP† Treble.	JAMES SHARP 5.
ROBERT EDWARDS 2.	A. EDGAR NUNN 6.
HARRY G. RUMMERY† 3.	GEORGE NEVE 7.
ALFRED HINDS* 4.	HENRY HOLDSTOCK Tenor.

Conducted by A. EDGAR NUNN.

*First peal in the method. †First peal.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.**THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

On Wednesday, November 14, 1888, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt.

HEBER DERBYSHIRE Treble.	FREDERIC DERBYSHIRE 5.
GEORGE LEE 2.	THOMAS DERBYSHIRE 6.
JOSEPH RIDYARD 3.	JOHN BAGULEY 7.
JAMES H. RIDYARD 4.	RICHARD RIDYARD Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by RICHARD RIDYARD.

The above was rung on the birthday of Lord Brackley.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.**THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION, AND THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.**

On Wednesday, November 14, 1888, in Two Hours Thirty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE "CROWN INN," STAMFORD STREET,

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

WILLIAM JAKEMAN* .. 1-2.	HARRY HEAP 5-6.
SAMUEL TAYLOR† 3-4.	†JOHN LEIGH 7-8.

Conducted by WILLIAM JAKEMAN.

Umpire—Mr. George Longden. This is the first peal in the method on handbells by the above societies, and the first for all who rang in it. *First peal in the method as conductor. †First peal in the method.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.**THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.**

(BURTON BRANCH).

On Thursday, November 15, 1888, in 3 Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 26 cwt.

EDWARD STONE Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR 5.
WILLIAM J. SMITH 2.	LEONARD BULLOCK 6.
JOHN AUSTIN 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	PETO MEADOWS Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

Rung in honour of the marriage on that day of Mr. Harry Wakley, a member of the St. Paul's Society, with Miss Catherine M. Harris, of Stopenhill, Burton-on-Trent.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.**

On Saturday, November 17, 1888, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JAMES S. WILDE Treble.	THOMAS WILDE 5.
C. H. HATTERSLEY 2.	THOS. HATTERSLEY 6.
JAMES WOOD 3.	JOHN THORP 7.
SAMUEL WOOD 4.	GEORGE LONGDEN Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by
SAMUEL WOOD.

All the above band have rung over a hundred peals each.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

On Saturday, November 17, 1888, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

GEORGE WOODMAN Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT 5.
WALTER CHARMAN 2.	HENRY BURSTOW 6.
THOMAS ANDREWS 3.	HENRY H. CHANDLER 7.
CHARLES BLACKMAN* .. 4.	THOMAS HOGSFLESH Tenor.

Composed by WALTER CHARMAN, and Conducted by
HENRY H. CHANDLER.

*First peal in the method.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Sunday afternoon, November 18th, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, 503 of Grandsire Caters. W. Little, 1; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 2; E. Hull, 3; J. W. Brewer, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; H. Brewer, 6; J. C. Mitchell, 7; W. H. L. Buckingham, 8; T. Waller, 9; A. Hull, 10. And on Sunday morning, October 28th, for Divine Service, 560 of Bob Major. A. Barnes, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. Also on Sunday afternoon, November 11th, for Divine Service, three courses of Bob Caters. J. C. Mitchell, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; G. W. Cartmel, 5-6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7-8; T. Waller, 9-10.

HERTFORD.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 12, 1888, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5035 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt.

REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. Treble.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 6.
HERBERT BAKER 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
EDMUND HOLIFIELD 3.	REV. H. A. COCKEY .. 8.
JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 9.
MATTHEW ELLSMORE .. 5.	FREDERICK GEORGE .. Tenor

Composed by H. JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by the
REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

This peal was rung half-muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of H. W. Demain Saunders, Esq., late High Sheriff of the county of Hertford, who died suddenly in church the day previous.

BENINGTON, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 13, 1888, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt.

REV. G. F. COLERIDGE* .. Treble.	*HERBERT BAKER 5.
JOHN KITCHENER 2.	*JABEZ WARNER 6.
A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 4.	SAMUEL PAGE Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal in the method.

BALDOCK, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 14, 1888, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
HERBERT BAKER 2.	JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 6.
SAMUEL PAGE 3.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. 7.
REV. CANON WIGRAM .. 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

First peal of Major on the bells.

HITCHIN, HERTS.

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

On Wednesday, November 14, 1888, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' VARIATION.

Tenor 28 cwt.

HERBERT BAKER Treble.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 5.
JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 2.	REV. H. A. COCKEY .. 6.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 3.	REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 7.
REV. CANON WIGRAM .. 4.	WILLIAM ALLEN .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

First peal in the method on the bells.

BRAUGHING, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 15, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 19 cwt.

REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. Treble.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 5.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 2.	JABEZ WARNER 6.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 3.	CHARLES SHAMBOOK .. 7.
HERBERT BAKER 4.	SAMUEL PAGE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, November 16, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' VARIATION.

Tenor 22 cwt.

MATTHEW ELLSMORE .. Treble.	JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 5.
HARRY HOLIFIELD 2.	HERBERT BAKER 6.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 3.	REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 7.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 4.	THOMAS WALLER .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

WOOD GREEN, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, November 17, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 17 cwt. 2 qrs.

EDWARD UNITT Treble.	JOHN GOUGH 5.
HENRY MALBORN 2.	JOSEPH FULLWOOD 6.
SAM ATKINS 3.	WILLIAM SMITH 7.
JOHN TINSLEY 4.	JOSEPH MALBORN .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH FULLWOOD.

The above was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Archdeacon Iles, President of the society, who was buried on that day.

HINDLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(MANCHESTER BRANCH).

On Saturday, November 17, 1888, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES H. RIDYARD Treble.	JOHN WELSBY 5.
GEORGE LEE 2.	EDWARD CASH 6.
JAMES BARRATT 3.	FREDERIC DERBYSHIRE .. 7.
HARRY CHAPMAN 4.	RICHARD RIDYARD .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and Conducted by RICHARD RIDYARD.

Messrs. Chapman and Cash hail from Manchester, Barratt from Eccles, the rest belong to Worsley. The ringers wish to thank Mr. Prescott for his kindness and hearty welcome, and for having everything in readiness.

WOOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LIVERPOOL YOUTHS SOCIETY.

On Saturday, November 17, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION

Tenor 20 cwt.

RICHARD WILLIAMS .. Treble.	GEORGE FISHER 5.
THOMAS HAMMOND 2.	HENRY COLEY 6.
JOHN R. PRITCHARD .. 3.	JAMES EGERTON 7.
CHARLES WILLIAMS .. 4.	ROBERT WILLIAMS .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by ROBERT WILLIAMS.

This is the first peal on the bells, and was rang as a compliment to the rector, the Rev. G. H. Spooner, M.A., and the Churchwardens, A. S. Mather, Esq., and S. D. Rimmer, Esq.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 17, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

W. ADKINS Treble.	H. HUMFREY 5.
T. SHORT 2.	E. HUMFREY 6.
A. J. KIMBREY 3.	*H. G. FRUIN 7.
J. BROWN 4.	H. HYDE Tenor.

Conducted by H. G. FRUIN.

*First peal as conductor.

MOSSLEY, LANCASHIRE.
THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 15, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN HOLDEN Treble.	SAMUEL STOTT 5.
FRED. CROSSLAND 2.	JAMES PRIESTLEY 6.
EDWIN B. SHAW 3.	JAMES H. SHAW 7.
J. TURNER 4.	THOS. B. DICKEN Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM HARRISON, and Conducted by
JOHN HOLDEN.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(STEYNING BRANCH).

On Saturday, November 17, 1888, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS
UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:

DUKE OF YORK, WOODBINE, KENT, OXFORD, YORKSHIRE COURT,
COLLEGE SINGLE, AND CANTERBURY PLEASURE.

Tenor 12 cwt.

J. SMART* Treble.	G. GATLAND 4.
C. CHAMBERS 2.	F. MORRIS 5.
J. WOOLGAR 3.	G. SMART Tenor.

Conducted by G. SMART

*First 5040.

SPROUGHTON, SUFFOLK.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, THE
NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST.
MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.

On Saturday, November 17, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MRS. E. MEE,

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 size in E.

WILLIAM MOTTS 1-2.	JAMES MOTTS 5-6.
CHARLES MEE 3-4.	WILLIAM P. GARRETT 7-8.

FREDERICK MEE 9-10.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and Conducted by
CHARLES MEE.

This peal has the sixth the extent at home in the regular and inverted Titum position, and now rung for the first time. It is the first peal of Grandsire Caters by all, and the first rung on handbells in the county, and also by the Norwich Diocesan Association. It was rung on the first anniversary of the first peal of Treble Bob Major on handbells in Suffolk. Umpire—Mr. A. E. Durrant.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 19, 1888, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5016 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt.

HENRY BASTABLE Treble.	JOSEPH GRIFFIN 7.
THOMAS RUSSAM 2.	JOHN BUFFERY 8.
WILLIAM KENT 3.	WILLIAM WAKLEY 9.
THOMAS REYNOLDS 4.	WILLIAM HICKLING 10.
SAMUEL REEVES 5.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD 11.
CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY 6.	ALFRED THOMAS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

This peal, which is the first rung thus, has the 8th fixed in 5th's place throughout, giving an 8 to 12 six in the middle of every course. The composition will be found on another page.

EXETER.—On Sunday evening, November 18th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Sidwells, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins. B. Mundy, 1; C. Carter, 2; S. Binfield, 3; F. Shepherd (conductor), 4; W. Stocker, 5; E. Shepherd, 6; J. Moss, 7; T. Mudge, 8.

Miscellaneous.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

PERRY BARR.—On Sunday afternoon, November 11th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. W. Cooper, 1; C. Williams, 2; W. Carter, 3; H. Brown, 4; W. E. Smith, 5; W. Long (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Tuesday evening, for practice at the parish church, 720 of Double Court Minor. J. Little, 1; H. S. Taylor, 2; W. Patton, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; W. D. Lister, 5; J. H. Whitfield (conductor), 6. First 720 by the first, second, and fifth ringers.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, October 21st, at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles), in 24½ mins. W. Denner, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; A. Potter, 3; J. Worthington, 4; Jas. Potter (composer and conductor), 5; J. Brookes, 6. Also on Sunday, November 11th, at mid-day, in honour of the second birthday of Charles Noel Heath, only son of the Rev. C. Heath, M.A., Vicar, 720 of Bob Minor in 23 mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; J. Williamson, 3; A. Potter, 4; Jas. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. And for evening service, 720 of Bob Minor in 23½ mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; Jas. Potter, 2; A. Potter, 3; J. Williamson, 4; Jas. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Thursday morning, November 8th, at the parish church, on the occasion of the opening of the new church at Lower Caversham, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also at 1.20 an attempt was made for a 720 of College Single, which was lost owing to a shift-course, the ringers standing as before. And on Sunday morning, November 11th, for Divine Service, 360 of Double Court. H. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; J. Hands, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, 360 of Yorkshire Court. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; G. Essex, 3; H. Smith, 4; E. Menday, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And after service, 360 of Plain Bob. G. Essex, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; H. Smith, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, November 11th, at the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor. W. T. Prior, 1; W. Watts, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Hammond, 5; Isaac Cavill (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, November 15th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Hammond, 5; Isaac Cavill (conductor), 6. Also 360 Plain Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; Isaac Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; Isaac Cavill, 4; W. Watts, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Friday, November 9th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Edwards, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Lincoln, 4; W. J. Piper, 5; A. Tarbun (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob. W. J. Piper, 1; A. Shuttleworth, 2; J. Dains, 3; A. Tarbun, 4; A. Edwards, 5; W. Lincoln, 6. And on Sunday afternoon, November 18th, for Divine Service, 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major. G. C. Scowen, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; A. Edwards, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. Hawkes, 6; W. J. Piper, 7; W. Lincoln (conductor), 8.

WRITTLE.—On Sunday morning, November 11th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 672 of Grandsire Triples. W. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; R. Edwards, 3; F. Radley, 4; R. Wood, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 7; W. Lincoln, 8. Also on Sunday, November 18th, before evening service, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 25 mins. W. Emery, 1; W. Hawkes, 2; G. C. Scowen, 3; F. Radley, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; A. Edwards, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; W. J. Piper, 8. *Longest touch.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Sunday, November 18th, at St. Stephen's Church, Westminster, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 49 mins. S. J. Reed, 1; H. R. Newton (conductor), 2; W. T. Cockerell, 3; G. T. McLaughlin, 4; E. Duff, 5; C. Creasey, 6; W. H. George, 7; J. M. Hayes, 8. Mr. C. Creasey hails from Spalding.

THE HORNSEY GUILD.

HORNSEY.—On Sunday, November 11th, at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. King, 1; J. Ward, 2; W. Dixon, 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; G. Griffin, 6. And for evening service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. E. King, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; W. Dixon, 3; A. Howell, 4; G. Woodis, 5; G. Griffin, 6. Also after service, 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26½ mins. T. Wood (Walthamstow), 1; C. Martin (Hendon, first 720), 2; G. Griffin, 3; W. Manning (Walthamstow), 4; T. Card (Finchley, conductor), 5; J. Hannington, 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. T. Card, 1; G. Griffin, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; A. Howell, 4; W. Manning, 5; G. Woodis, 6. Also several 120's of Stedman Doubles. W. Manning, 1; G. Griffin, 2; A. Howell, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; G. Woodis, 5; E. King, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—BRADFIELD DEANERY BRANCH.

BRADFIELD.—On Saturday evening, November 17th, six of the Beenham company visited the above place, having previously obtained permission of the rector, and having raised the bells in peal, rang a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor and a 720 of Single Oxford Bob Minor, and attempted a 720 of Plain Bob, which unfortunately came to grief through a shift-course. G. Webb, 1; H. Hatto, 2; A. Richardson, 3; T. Bidmead, 4; J. Hatto, 5; J. Richardson (conductor), 6. Tenor about 15 cwt. The bells were then lowered in peal, and the ringers walked back to Beenham, thoroughly pleased with their visit to Bradfield.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRANDESTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, November 10th, for practice at the parish church, 720 of Worcester Surprise, 720 of Rochester Surprise, and 120 of London Surprise; rung on the occasion of the birthday of W. Crickmer. Also on Saturday, November 17th, 360 of Plain Bob, 720 of Chichester Surprise, and 240 of London Surprise. S. Wightman, 1; A. S. Wightman, 2; W. G. Crickmer, 3; G. Wightman, 4; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 5; S. Wightman, sen., 6.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BIDDENHAM.—On Sunday, November 18th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, 720 Bob Minor. W. West, 1; C. West, 2; A. Ingram, 3; H. Clifton, 4; H. King, 5; C. R. Howard (conductor), 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday evening, October 16th, five members of the local band, assisted by Mr. J. Peglar, of Hempstead, rung for practice 720 Plain Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 27 mins. W. Peglar, 1; H. Mitchell, 2; W. J. Sevier, 3; A. A. Waite, 4; H. Barnes, 5; G. Miles (first 720 as conductor), 6. Also on Sunday afternoon, November 18th, after Divine Service, a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. J. Yeates (conductor), 1; A. A. Waite, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; G. Miles, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; W. Peglar, 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. G. Wanklin (Gloucester, first 720 in the method), 1; J. Yeates, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; G. Miles, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; H. G. Gardener, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 27 mins. G. Wanklin (first 720 in the method), 1; H. G. Gardener, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; J. Yeates, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. And two six-scores of St. Dunstan's Doubles. A. A. Waite, 1; W. Kadge (Hempstead), 2; H. G. Gardener, 3; W. Peglar, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; G. Miles, 6. Tenor 14 cwt in G.

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN.—On Friday, November 16th, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. E. Bullock, 1; J. Gleed, 2; H. Grindon, 3; J. Herne (conductor), 4; F. Trigg, 5; W. Gleed, 6. Also a 720 in the same method. F. Allen, 1; W. Gleed, 2; H. Grindon, 3; J. Herne, 4; F. Trigg, 5; T. Hart (conductor), 6. Tenor 21½ cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Thursday, November 15th, at the church of St. Mary, an attempt was made to ring Holt's One-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but it came to grief after ringing about 800 changes. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last tribute of respect to the late Rev. Joseph Jordan, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Woolwich. H. Bright, 1; G. Hogg, 2; E. E. Richards, 3; H. Harman, 4; W. Watchorn, 5; J. C. Harvey (conductor), 6; H. Harvey, 7; R. G. Carter, 8. And on Sunday, November 18th, in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins. H. Hill, 1; H. Bright, 2; H. Harman, 3; J. Beaven, 4; E. E. Richards (composer and conductor), 5; J. C. Harvey, 6; H. Harvey, 7; R. G. Carter, 8.

ERITH (Kent).—On Friday, November 16th, for practice, at St. John the Baptist's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins. G. Cullum, 1; F. Hunter, 2; E. E. Richards, 3; F. Cullum, sen., 4; F. Cullum, 5; G. Conyard (conductor), 6; J. Garrard, 7; D. Barnes, 8.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS Herts.—On Monday, October 28th, was chimed for Divine Service, at St. Peters, 560 of Bob Major. A. Barnes, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. Also for practice on Wednesday, November, 7th, was rung 756 of Grandsire Triples. T. Conley, 1; W. H. L. Buckingham, 2; E. Hull, 3; H. Brewer, 4; E. P. Debenham, 5; J. C. Mitchell, 6; T. Waller (conductor), 7; A. Hull, 8.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

HAGLEY.—On Tuesday, November 6th, 720 Grandsire Minor, with the tenor covering in 26 mins. F. Wright, 1; T. Lees, 2; J. Smith, 3; J. Barber, 4; W. Bradley, 5; W. Short (conductor), 6; H. Morris, 7. Also on Sunday, November 18th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure, in 23½ mins. *F. Wright, 1; *T. Barber, 2; C. Boughton, 3; *H. Morris, 4; W. Short (conductor), 5; H. B. Kingsford, 6. *First peal in the method. Also first peal in the method on the bells. H. B. Kingsford, hails from Worcester.

CLENT.—On Monday, October 29th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. M. Shilvock, 1; W. Huxley, 2; J. Smith, 3; G. Workman, 4; J. Barber, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, November 18th, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. M. Shilvock, 1; G. Workman, 2; T. Barber, 3; H. B. Kingsford, 4; J. Barber, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. M. Shilvock, 1; G. Workman, 2; J. Smith, 3; H. B. Kingsford, 4; T. Barber, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. H. B. Kingsford hails from Worcester and it is his first 720 of Oxford.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Sunday, October 21st, for Divine Service at St. Michael's Church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; C. Everett (Bunham), 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; W. Nudds, jun. (Bunham), 6. And on Sunday, November 4th, after Divine Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; J. Jackson (Tibbenham), 4; A. Dunnett, 5; G. Websdell (Tibbenham), 6. Also on Saturday, November 10th, for practice, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hinchley, 3; G. Smith, jun., 4; A. Dunnett, 5; J. Hilling, 6.

CHESTER.—On Thursday evening, November 8th, for practice at St. Michael's church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Povey, 1; A. Jones (conductor), 2; H. Gibson, 3; A. Cross, 4; J. Griffith, 5; J. Moulton, 6. Also a six-score of Stedman Doubles. W. Povey, 1; H. Gibson, 2; C. Price, 3; A. Cross, 4; J. Moulton (conductor), 5; J. Griffith, 6. And on handbells, 504 of Grandsire Triples. J. Moulton (conductor), 1-2; A. Jones, 3-4; A. Cross, 5-6; W. Povey, 7-8. Also on Sunday evening, November 11th, previous to Divine Service, two courses of Stedman Triples. W. Povey, 1; H. Gibson, 2; J. Griffith, 3; C. Price, 4; J. Moulton, 5-6; A. Cross, 7-8. And for Divine Service, two six-scores of Stedman Doubles, and 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. C. Price, 1; W. Povey, 2; H. Gibson, 3; A. Cross, 4; J. Moulton (conductor), 5; J. Griffith, 6. Mr. James hails from Gars-ton, near Liverpool.

GREAT WALDINGFIELD (Suffolk).—On Sunday afternoon, October 28th, after Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor. F. Tolliday (Sudbury), 1; H. Theobald (Waldingfield), 2; M. Silvester (Sudbury), 3; W. Cross (Sudbury), 4; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury, conductor), 5; H. Diggins (Waldingfield), 6. Also a 360 of Kent Treble Bob. H. Diggins, 1; F. Tolliday, 2; M. Silvester, 3; *H. Bowes, 4; W. Cross, 5; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 6. *First touch in the method. Tenor 14 cwt.

LICHEFIELD.—On Saturday, November 17th, at St. Mary's Church, with the bells half-muffled, on the occasion of the funeral of the late Ven. Archdeacon Iles, Archdeacon of Stafford, a 600 of Grandsire Triples, in 23 mins. A. G. Gallimore, 1; H. Meacham, 2; E. Gallimore, 3; A. Greenwood, 4; J. Key, 5; F. J. Copé, (conductor), 6; W. Fearneyhough, 7; H. Gallimore, 8. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E. This being A. G. Gallimore's first attempt at a 600 with a working bell, he was heartily congratulated by his brother ringers.

OXFORD.—On Thursday, October 18th, at the church of St. Peter's-in-the-East, 720 of Plain Bob. J. Hind, 1; C. Tolley, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; P. A. Hind, 4; W. Jeffery, 5; A. E. Hind (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. A. E. Hind (conductor), 1; C. Tolley, 2; W. Jeffery, 3; P. A. Hind, 4; C. Hounslow, 5; W. Finch, 6. Also on Sunday, November 4th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1; C. Tolley, 2; P. A. Hind, 3; A. Browning, 4; J. Waghorn, jun., 5; A. E. Hind, 6. And on Sunday, November 11th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. W. Jeffery, 1; C. Tolley, 2; A. Browning, 3; P. A. Hind, 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; A. E. Hind, 6.

RHYL (Flint).—On Tuesday, November 12th, at the church of St. Thomas, 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles), in 25 mins. A. Matthews, 1; J. Wallis, 2; W. Asher, 3; J. P. Powell, 4; F. Wallis, 5; F. J. Gamlin (conductor), 6. And a 720 of College Single in 26 mins. F. Hordley, 1; J. Wallis, 2; W. Asher, 3; J. P. Powell, 4; F. Wallis (conductor), 5; F. J. Gamlin, 6. The tenor was rung behind in both touches by J. P. Owen.

WOMBURN.—On Sunday, November 18th, the local company rang a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor, with the bells half-muffled, as a last tribute of respect to the late Archdeacon Isles, who died at Bournemouth, November 13th, aged 60, in 33 mins. G. Little, 1; H. Deans, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; J. E. Claridge, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Tenor about 12½ cwt. in G.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Arundel Branch at Arundel.—On Saturday, November 10th, a peal of Grandsire Triples (for particulars see peal columns). Also on Sunday, November 11th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. W. Challen, 1; S. Long, 2; T. Andrews, 3; C. Blakman, 4; E. Ede, 5; F. Luxford (conductor), 6; G. Balchin, 7; C. Hayler, 8.

By the Brighton Branch at St. Peter's.—On Sunday, November 11th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. D. Ross, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; E. C. Merritt, 3; J. E. Worsell, 4; G. Thwaites, 5; G. A. King, 6; J. Reilly (conductor), 7; H. Tugwell, 8. Also another 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 17 mins. D. Ross, 1; G. F. Attree (conductor), 2; G. A. King, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; E. C. Merritt, 5; J. Jay, 6; H. Cornwall, 7; W. F. Vernon, 8. And on Monday, November 12th, a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 17 mins. G. F. Attree, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; J. Searle, 3; J. Reilly, 4; G. Thwaites, 5; A. Fisher, 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; J. E. Worsell, 8.

By the Chailey Branch at Chailey.—On Thursday, November 1st, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late General Hepburn, C.B., a life-member of the Association and churchwarden of Chailey. J. Reynolds, 1; J. Langridge, 2; A. Gorridge, 3; H. Cornwall, 4; W. Turner, 5; W. Pelling (conductor), 6.

By the Sussex County Association Branch at St. Mary's, Eastbourne.—On Saturday, October 27th, an attempt was made for Holts six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 4120 changes in 2 hrs. 12 mins, it came to grief. J. Rollinson, 1; C. Harfey, 2; T. Willoughby, 3; E. Willoughby, 4; J. Gasson, 5; T. Lewis, 6; T. Hart (conductor), 7; G. Eade, 8.

By the Christ Church (Eastbourne) Branch at Christ Church, Eastbourne.—On Monday, October 29th, an attempt was made for a peal of Oxford Bob Triples, which came to grief after ringing for 2 hrs. 15 mins. Also on Monday, November 12th, a peal of Oxford Bob Triples (5040 changes). For particulars see peal columns.

By the St. Mary's Branch at St. Mary's, Eastbourne.—On Sunday, November 11th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. J. Rollinson, 1; H. Bennett, 2; C. Harfey, 3; L. Huggett, 4; E. Willoughby, 5; T. Lewis, 6; T. Hart (conductor), 7; T. Willoughby, 8. Also after service, a 320 of Grandsire Triples. J. Rollinson, 1; H. Bennett, 2; C. Harfey, 3; L. Huggett, 4; W. Avann, 5; E. Willoughby, 6; T. Hart (conductor), 7; T. Lewis, 8. And for evening service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 17 mins. J. Rollinson, 1; H. Bennett, 2; C. Harfey, 3; T. Willoughby, 4; W. Avann, 5; E. Willoughby (conductor), 6; T. Lewis, 7; C. Braban, 8.

By a Mixed Band at Horley.—On Sunday, November 11th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. A. Ellis, 1; G. Thwaites (conductor), 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; J. Newnham, 4; E. Dewey, 5; T. Whitmore, 6; F. Wickens, 7; G. Apps, 8. Also another 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 17 mins. A. Ellis, 1; W. Edwards, 2; T. Whitmore, 3; F. Rice, 4; E. Dewey, 5; J. Taylor, 6; G. Thwaites (conductor), 7; W. Wallace, 8. And a 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 24 mins. A. Ellis, 1; J. Newnham, 2; F. Rice, 3; G. Thwaites, 4; B. King, 5; W. Collinson, 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; F. Wickens (conductor), 8. Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 41 mins. B. Payne, 1; J. E. Worsell, 2; G. Thwaites (conductor), 3; W. Edwards, 4; E. Dewey, 5; F. Rice, 6; J. Taylor, 7; G. Apps, 8. The above quarter-peal is taken from Holt's Original.

By the Horley Branch at Horley.—On Wednesday, October 31st, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. E. Taylor, 1; T. Whitmore, 2; S. Kenward, 3; A. Comber, 4; W. Edwards, 5; J. Taylor, 6; F. Sparks (conductor), 7; A. Sparks, 8. †First touch as conductor. Also a 504 of Grandsire Triples. A. Ellis, 1; T. Whitmore, 2; S. Kenward, 3; T. Sparks, 4; W. Edwards, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; B.

King, 7; A. Sparks, 8. *First 504. And on Sunday, November 7th, a 840 of Grandsire Triples. A. Ellis, 1; T. Sparks, 2; T. Whitmore, 3; J. Taylor, 4; W. Edwards, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; B. King, 7; A. Sparks, 8.

By the Steyning Branch at Steyning.—On Sunday, October 28th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Smart, 1; G. Gatland, 2; T. Searle, 3; C. Chambers, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, November 4th, a 720 of Woodbine. J. Smart, 1; G. Gatland, 2; C. Tyler, 3; C. Chambers, 4; F. Morris, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Duke of York. J. Matthews, 1; F. Morris, 2; C. Chambers, 3; G. Gatland, 4; G. Smart, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6.

By the Worth Branch at Worth.—On Sunday, November 4th, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 23½ mins. W. Owden, 1; B. Payne, 2; Isaac Tullett, 3; W. Denman, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 23 mins. W. Owden, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; E. Streeter, 4; H. Meads, 5; F. Rice, 6. And a 720 of Violet Treble Bob, in 23 mins. F. Streeter, 1; W. Denman, 2; H. Meads, 3; E. Streeter, 4; J. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 23 mins. F. Rice, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; J. Illman, 4; H. Meads, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 23 mins. F. Streeter, 1; W. Denman, 2; J. Illman, 3; E. Streeter, 4; H. Meads, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, October 27th, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob. B. Payne, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; H. Meads, 4; J. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6.

By a Mixed Band at the Parish Church, Fulham.—On Saturday, November 10th, a peal of Grandsire Caters (5040 changes). For particulars see peal columns. First peal of Caters by the Sussex Association.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

Correspondence.

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

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

PROPOSED RINGERS' BENEFIT SOCIETY.

SIR,—In looking through the remarks of "Free Lance" on the above subject, I feel confident that the formation of a National Society for the benefit of distressed ringers, will be a very difficult task to accomplish; but on the other hand, if the managing committees of our various associations in this country would take the matter into their own hands, and each one form a benefit society for itself, then I think the desired object would be obtained. Suppose we formed a National Society: in the first place, the work of collecting the subscriptions into one common fund would be very difficult indeed, then in the next place I don't think we should be able to manage such a society without the aid of one or two paid officials, which of course would require some two or three hundred pounds a year for salaries alone. The first object, which "Free Lance" refers to is, to relieve cases of distress; but the most difficult part of this object would be in distributing the funds, so as to give general satisfaction to all those concerned. All societies with this object, have been sponged on more or less by persons who have not been entitled to relief, while those who have stood most in need of it have very often been left without. The second object, which is, to afford payment to its members in case of sickness would also be very difficult to work out, as "Free Lance" explains. The third object, namely, to make grants to the widows and orphans of members on their decease, would in my opinion, be the most suitable for our associations to take into consideration. The object could be worked, as Free Lance remarks, on the same principle as most death briefs. Take an association with about six hundred members (and I don't think there would be much difficulty in getting all members to join), and make a call of fourpence per member, this would realise ten pounds, thus enabling the society to make a grant of, say nine pounds, leaving a balance of one pound, which would more than cover the cost of working expenses, and in course of time would accumulate so as to pay these necessary expenses from the interest, which would then enable the society to raise the grant to ten pounds, the amount collected at each death. Then again, we have many members who would be willing to contribute to such a fund without any intention of their relatives receiving any benefit from it. Then as the funds increased, it would not be found necessary to make a call for subscriptions at every death. Then comes the question of management, which in the latter case would be no very serious matter. A sub-committee could be formed consisting of about five members of the general committee with the Secretary and Treasurer. When a death occurs, the captain of the company of which the decease is a member, should announce the same to the secretary who would then see that the money was forwarded. He would then have to make another call upon the members, which could be done through the captain or secretary of the various companies, and the subscriptions could be forwarded in the same manner. S.L.F.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Tempus fugit."

It has been my pleasure several times during the past twelve months, to remark upon the presentation of tokens of esteem to brother-strings for good services rendered. Another event of this nature I am glad to note this week, namely, the presentation of a model bell and fittings to Mr. Baker, of Hertford. I have watched the progress of the Hertford College Youths with peculiar interest, for some time back, and am thoroughly glad to see such services as those rendered by Mr. Baker recognised in such a manner. I need not add to my previous remarks on the praiseworthy character of these testimonials, but would content myself with saying that, like other events of a similar nature, while pleasing to the recipients, they are also in a very marked degree likely to prove a great incentive to others on our work, when they see that their efforts for good will sooner or later meet with some tangible recognition. Thus while we are rewarding faithful services rendered, we are at the same time offering an inducement to others to "go and do likewise."

While on this subject, I am also glad to note Mr. Newell's jubilee celebration at Reading. As the "Father" of change-ringing in that town, I can quite understand and appreciate his endeavours on behalf of the science, and form some idea of the extent of his work, and of his many anxieties and disappointments. He therefore, to my mind, is fully deserving of all the recognition which his services have received at the hands of those for whom he has laboured. One good point in his favour is that evidently he is blessed with a good wife who has given him that help and encouragement which no one but a wife can give, it was thus only reasonable that her kindly help should have been recognised. I have myself, fortunately, been blessed with such a good wife who has helped and encouraged me in my ringing work. I can therefore from experience shake hands with Mr. Newell, and wish him joy not only on the success of his worthy endeavours at Reading, but also on his happy possession of so good an helpmate.

It is to be hoped that the Hereford ringers' outing to Peterchurch will result in the establishment of a good company of change-ringers at that place. If the young band just formed there strive to repay their instructor's endeavours on their behalf, there need be no doubt that this outing will have borne good fruit.

What Englishman is there, who is not heartily glad to receive news of his fellow-countrymen abroad? I could not imagine a mortal so callous; and certainly do not think such a one exists among us. There is no need, therefore, for me to express the pleasure I felt on reading the letter from Melbourne. Mr. Shenton writes in a rather regretful tone, first because they have not succeeded in accomplishing their first peal, and second because they are not supported by the inhabitants. My friend, let these things trouble you little. The first desired event will come off in good time if only you persevere; and as for the second, well, perhaps the complaint is more fancied than real; we Englishmen are not a demonstrative nation at the best, and therefore it does not follow because of the absence of outward signs that there is no interest taken. Think of this, Mr. Shenton; most likely you will find, if you probe beneath the surface, that after all there is greater interest taken in the sound of old England's bells than you imagine. Remember the story of Mahomet and the mountain. When that "prophet" found that the mountain would not come to him, like a sensible person he

went to the mountain. I leave the application of this narrative to yourselves.

We have once more our friend Mr. Attree's analysis of peals before us. Although nine months out of the twelve are now included, there seems to be very little change in the relative positions of the various associations. The College Youths are, as usual, at the top; that is as it ought to be. But what is the great Yorkshire Association doing that it remains so obstinately the eighth on the list? More than that, what is the reason that no less than seven Associations have only scored one peal each this year so far? Come, my friends at the bottom of the list, bestir yourselves; do not let the smallest unit appear opposite your names on the 31st of December. Nothing is more calculated to promote good ringing than continual practice, and although I am no advocate for getting through peals anyhow, with the mere object of scoring, I do think that the number of peals rung by an Association is indicative of the interest taken in ringing by the members.

While on the subject of peals, I cannot help noticing the interesting array of performances reported on Saturday, foremost among which is the 6720 of London Surprise Major by the Burton men, an achievement which fully deserves the encomiums passed upon it by our Editor in his leading article. If a relative value were put upon all peals rung, I fear many of our modest performances will look small by comparison. The report that "the striking was excellent throughout," enhances the credit of this performance; and shews that the Burton men are as proficient in the practical as in the theoretical part of their work.

The respected Squire of Duffield is no longer the *only* conductor of a peal in the method which owes its existence to his fertile brain: he now shares the honour of that performance with one of his men, who I have no doubt has before this been complimented by the President of the Midland Counties' Association. I imagine, the more numerous conductors in this method become, the more pleasing it would be to our esteemed friend, Mr. Heywood.

Thursday, November 8th, might have been a day of some importance, for I see that no less than five of the peals reported last week were rung on that day. Saturday afternoon peals we can quite understand, but this sudden outburst of peal-ringing in the middle of the week seems "passing strange."

Six of last Saturday's peals, also, I observe, have been rung in honour of birthdays of brother-strings. I do not wish to be invidious by singling out any of them, but would wish "many happy returns" to all whose anniversary of their natal day has been so honoured. We as ringers have most peculiarly a happy mode of celebrating these events, and it is most pleasing to see from time to time how our brethren make good use of their opportunities in this respect. It is many years since I first had my birthday honoured with a good ring; and although it has been similarly honoured several times since then, the pleasurable feelings aroused by the first have not faded from my memory.

It is an old saying that "a straw will shew which way the wind blows," so when I read these birthday celebrations, I always feel assured in my mind that concord and brotherly love exists in these places, and that all the band are animated with feelings of respect one to another. Am I right?

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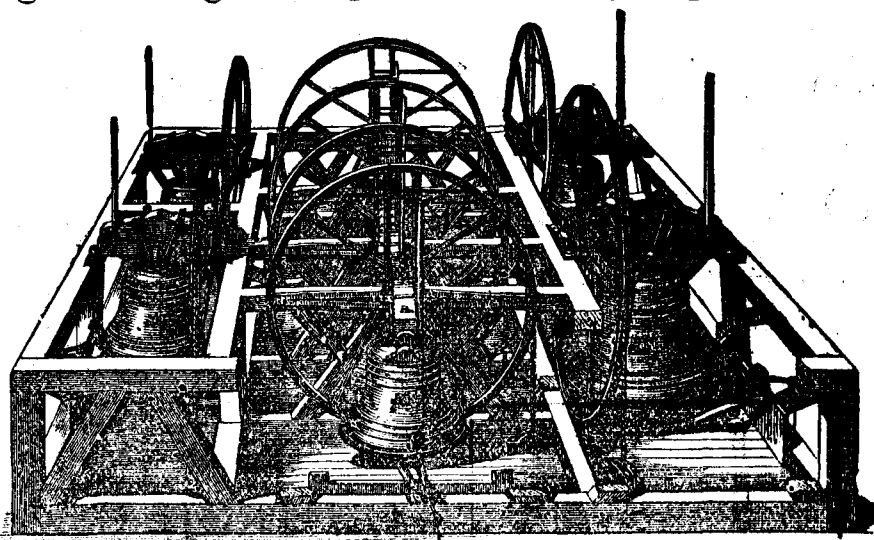
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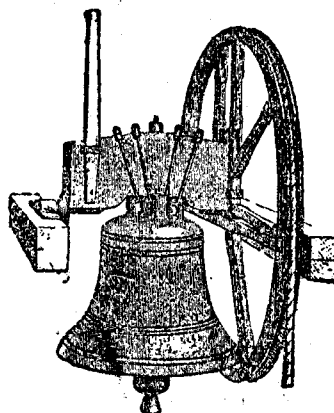
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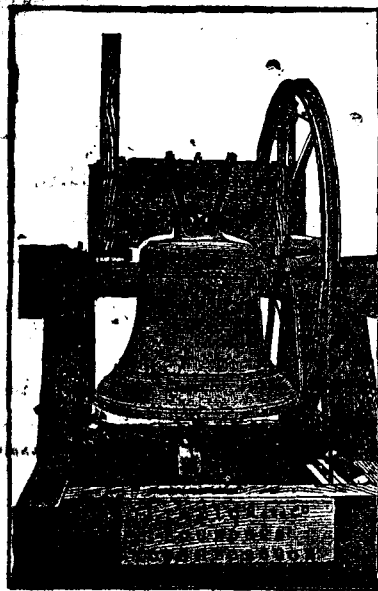
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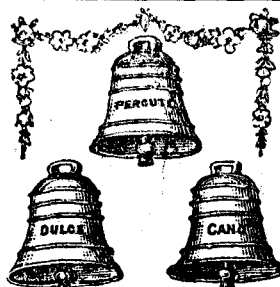
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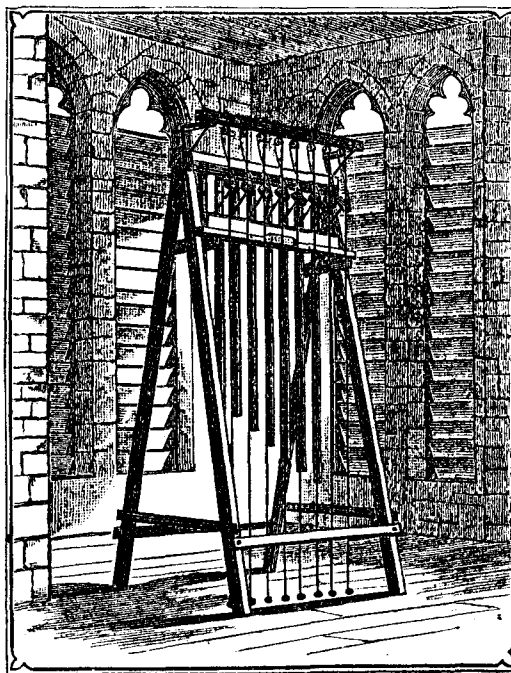
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THE BELLS OF HOLY TRINITY, BLACKBURN DEDICATION OF THE NEW PEAL.

An interesting service for the dedication of the new peal of bells hung in the belfry of Holy Trinity church, was conducted on Wednesday evening, November 21st, in the presence of a large congregation. It was announced that the dedication would be performed by the Right Rev. Bishop Cramer-Roberts, but he was unfortunately indisposed, and in his unavoidable absence the function was undertaken by the Rev. Canon Champneys, vicar of Haslingden, and Rural Dean, who was also the preacher on the occasion. The cost of the bells is £700, and the committee and the congregation are pulling well together to raise the necessary amount. Close upon one half has already been subscribed, and by special services and other means it is hoped that the deficiency will grow smaller and beautifully less until it vanishes altogether. There is perhaps a doubt whether it can be accomplished without a bazaar, but that the debt will be wiped off before long is certain, so general is the satisfaction which the new peal gives in and beyond the parish. The Rev. Dr. Moffatt, the Vicar, was supported at the service by the Rev. Canon Champneys, the Rev. S. F. Harris (St. Michael's), the Rev. W. H. Palmer (St. James'), the Rev. A. Evington (curate of St. John's), and the Rev. G. F. Chevassut (curate of Holy Trinity). The Rev. Mr. Harris read the lesson, and special psalms and hymns were sung, in which the congregation heartily joined. The anthem, "The Lord is my strength," was taken from the 118th psalm, and was sung with great taste. When the sermon had concluded, the clergy repaired to the west end of the church, where the bells were briefly dedicated to God's service, and the first bell was tolled. The service in the church concluded with the singing of a hymn and prayer, and as the organ ceased the bells in the steeple were heard in merry peal. The bells have been cast by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, the makers of Great Paul, and give every satisfaction. The tenor weighs 18 cwt. The massive tower in which these bells are placed is 14ft. square inside, and 140ft. high, the walls being 5ft. 6in. thick at the base, and 3ft. 6in. thick at the top. Very powerful English oak beams and trimmers, firmly bolted together, are let into the walls to carry this weight and strain. The bells are hung on the improved system of Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., being suspended on vertical iron frame castings, in which are fitted gun metal bearings with patent adjustable lubricating caps, which reduces the friction to a minimum. To mark an historical event the committee have had inscriptions cast upon the bells. The treble bears the name of "W. Walmsley, Sexton;" the 2nd that of "John Pye, Chairman of the Committee;" that on the 7th the name of "Robert Holden, Organist and Secretary to the Committee;" and on the tenor the names of the "Rev. C. W. Moffatt, L.L.D., Vicar; Rev. F. G. Chevassut, B.A., Curate; W. Stoot, Warden; and T. Longworth, Warden, 1888." The bells were subjected to a formal test on the previous evening and the ringers expressed themselves highly pleased with the ease and freedom with which they can be rung, the tone giving satisfaction to everyone who heard them. The preacher said it was very seldom that bells formed part of the original scheme of church building. They were looked upon as a parochial luxury, which when everything else had been provided some wealthy donor of the congregation by a supreme effort might present as a last and crowning gift. Bells were thus as non-essentials of church equipment the last in order, and the lowest in importance, and yet they had a very honourable place and a very definite function in the work which churches carried on. As the latest and crowning gift for the completion of God's House they witnessed to its completion; they shewed that nothing material

was now wanting; and that God's House was now fitted with all things customary for the performance of His worship. They spoke with their melodious voice of the gloriousness of the religion of Christ and the fruits and consolations of His service. They roused the indolent, they reminded the forgetful, they reproved the careless; they stirred memories of the past and of the happy Sunday in the old country home, of the joys and hopes of the wedding day, of that bitter parting with some dear one gone to rest with Christ; memories which spoke with no uncertain power to the heart and conscience. They exerted as no other inanimate things could do that living force of sympathy which so wonderfully softened, soothed, and stimulated those who came within its reach, reflecting, as they did, our varying moods, so that in a very real way, "They rejoice with them that rejoice, and weep with them that weep."

HARWICH, ESSEX.

An interesting event took place at St. Nicholas' tower, Harwich, on the 15th of November, being the unveiling of a handsome oak tablet, erected to commemorate the ringing of a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original) on the Prince of Wales' Silver Wedding day, at the above tower, by a band of young ringers. It is but a short period since they were taken in hand by H. W. Parker, Esq., late of Harwich, and received a little preliminary instruction in change-ringing, and by steady perseverance have now gained an insight into several methods, and should fortune favour them by causing a good instructor to settle in their midst, there is no doubt they would develop into a very fair band of ringers. Mr. Parker had promised them a peal-board on the completion of their first peal, and was pleased to hear of the accomplishment of that task, but being now a resident of Cardiff, was unable to be present himself at the ceremony of unveiling. He had, however, requested Mrs. Evans, of Harwich, to officiate for him, and that lady, with Mrs. Druce, after a few words from the Vicar, the Rev. G. W. Druce, and Dr. Evans, duly drew the curtains aside, and the tablet was dedicated for the future to the adornment of St. Nicholas' tower. A few touches were then rung, and the company adjourned to a Coffee Tavern, where they were entertained to a capital supper by Dr. Evans, the churchwardens, and other gentlemen. Previous to supper the ladies were entertained by some capital tune playing, and after justice had been done to the repast, the Rev. G. W. Druce, Rev. D. Horman, and Dr. Evans gave some good advice to the band, and congratulated them on their success in the past, advising them to practice and make further progress in the art and so become members of a society that could give great pleasure to the inhabitants of the town, at the same time deriving healthy amusement and pleasure themselves. General regret was expressed at the unavoidable absence of Messrs. G. Barclay and C. Mee, the conductor of the peal, from the meeting, but a very pleasant evening was spent, and hopes expressed of such another soon.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROCHDALE BRANCH.

On Saturday, November 24th, a meeting of the above Branch was held at St. Thomas's church, Lees, near Oldham, only a few members being present. Touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Minor were rung. It was agreed to hold the next meeting at St. Mary's church, Balderstone, near Rochdale, in January next. A very pleasant evening was spent at the meeting house afterwards, when tunes and changes were freely rung on the handbells. The best thanks of the members present were given to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and to Mr. Samuel Stott for presiding.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

NOTICE.—Members are requested to attend the next meeting at St. Saviour's, on Tuesday, December 4th, 1888, to discuss an important question. RICHARD T. WOODLEY, Hon. Sec.
40, Lillington Street, Pimlico, S.W.

THE CHURCH ASSOCIATION AND THE REREDOS AT ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

In July last a "rule nisi" was obtained in the Queen's Bench for a *mandamus* to the Bishop of London, directing him in effect either to transmit to the Archbishop the "representation" he had received with respect to the newly erected reredos in St. Paul's Cathedral, or to himself consider the representation with reference to the circumstances of the case. On Saturday, November 17th, this rule came on for argument before the Lord Chief Justice, Baron Pollock, and Mr. Justice Manisty.

The "representation" that was presented to the Bishop of London was as follows:—

"Public Worship Regulation Act, 1874.

"To the Right Reverend Father in God, Frederick, by Divine permission Lord Bishop of London, Visitor of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, in the City of London.

"We, John Derby Allcroft, of 108, Lancaster Gate, Paddington, in the county of Middlesex, justice of the peace, and Her Majesty's Lieutenant for the City of London, and residing within the diocese of London; James Houldsworth, of 36, Queen's Gate, Kensington, in the county of Middlesex, justice of peace for the said county, and residing within the diocese of London; and Sir Robert Phayre, K.C.B., of 64, St. George's Square, in the said county of Middlesex, a Lieutenant-General in her Majesty's Army, residing within the diocese of London; and John William Williamson, of 4, Stone Buildings, Lincoln's-inn, in the said county of Middlesex, barrister-at-law, residing within the diocese of London, being four inhabitants of your lordship's diocese and male persons of full age, who have signed and transmitted to your lordship under our respective hands the declaration contained in Schedule A under the Public Worship Regulation Act, 1874, and who have and for one year next before taking any proceeding under the said Act have had our usual place of abode in your lordship's diocese, do hereby represent—

"1. That the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, in the city of London, within five years before the date hereof—that is to say, in the month of January, 1888—have introduced into the said cathedral church and set up upon the altar-piece or reredos therein an image or sculptured subject representing our Lord upon the cross, in a conspicuous position immediately above the Communion table, the figure of our Lord being of the height of 5ft. or thereabouts.

"2. That the said image or sculptured subject is constructed so as to have the appearance of such an altar crucifix as was used in the Church England immediately before the Reformation, and so as to answer the purposes for which such a crucifix was intended.

"3. That the said Dean and Chapter within five years before the date hereof—that is to say, in the month of January, 1888—have introduced into the said cathedral church and set up upon the said altar-piece or reredos therein an image or sculptured subject representing the Blessed Virgin Mary with the child in her arms, in a conspicuous position a few feet above the firstly herein mentioned image or sculptured subject, the figure of the Blessed Virgin being of the height of 5ft. 6in. or thereabouts.

"4. That each of the said images or sculptured subjects tends to encourage ideas and devotions of an unauthorised and superstitious kind and is unlawful.

"5. That the said images or sculptured subjects are respectively additions to the fabric, ornaments, or furniture of the said cathedral church, and are decorations forbidden by law.

"Dated this 4th day of May, 1888.

"JOHN D. ALLCROFT.

"JAS. HOULDSWORTH.

"R. PHAYRE, Lieutenant-General.

"JOHN WILLIAM WILLIAMSON.

Witness, T. J. Baillie, Staple-inn, W.C., solicitor."

The reply which was sent by the Bishop, and on which a good deal of the argument turns, was as follows:—

"We, Frederick, &c., having, in pursuance of the provisions of the Public Worship Regulation Act, considered the whole circumstances attending the above representation, are of opinion that proceedings should not be taken thereon for the following reasons: The proposed proceedings have for their object the determination of the question whether a reredos showing our Lord upon the Cross in a conspicuous position immediately above the Communion table, and also the Blessed Virgin Mary with the Child in her arms in a conspicuous position a few feet above, has any tendency to idolatry, and whether its erection is permitted by law.

"The main question of principle here at issue has been already decided in the Exeter case ('Phillpott v. Boyd'). In that case the reredos showed a figure of our Lord in the act of ascending to heaven in a conspicuous position immediately above the Communion table, and this reredos was held to be lawfully erected.

"The sole object of the proceedings now proposed is merely to determine whether there may be exceptions to the principle laid down in the Exeter case, and whether the reredos now erected in St. Paul's is such an exemption. It appears to me impossible to say that the difference between the two erections is of very grave importance, or that one offers serious temptation to idolatry and the other does not.

"Litigation in these matters is sometimes necessary in order to settle disputed points of grave importance. But even in such cases litigation is a necessary evil. It keeps up irritation and party strife, it embitters men's feelings, it inflicts much mischief on the Church and on true religion, and it is only tolerable as a preventive of worse mischief that would otherwise follow.

"It is always possible, after any great question of principle has been decided, to keep up litigation indefinitely by raising minor points, and such litigation becomes more mischievous the longer it is continued, while the results obtained from it are of exceedingly little value. I am satisfied that in the present instance the proceedings could not end in any result which would make up to the Church and to the religious life of the country for the mischief which must inevitably be inflicted on them by the litigation itself.

F. LONDON.

"Dated this 23rd day of May, 1888.

"London House, S.W."

Acknowledging the receipt of this statement the promoters wrote as follows to the Bishop on the 15th June:—

"As our object in making the representation, and our purpose in commencing legal proceedings was, and is, to obtain that redress to which we are by law entitled, and the removal of decorations and sculptured images forbidden by law, we feel bound to call upon you, as we hereby do, to proceed in the matter of the said representation in accordance with the Public Worship Regulation Act, 1874, and the law in that behalf."

To this the Bishop replied on the 18th June through his secretary that he had nothing to add to his statement of the 23rd May, and accordingly the matter must take its course.

The Public Worship Regulation Act, it may be noted, provides that in the case of cathedral or collegiate churches a representation may be made by any three inhabitants of the diocese, being male persons of full age who have and for a year next before taking the proceeding have had their usual place of abode in the diocese. They must, however, sign a declaration that they are members of the Church of England. Under sec.

8 they may make a representation to the Bishop if they are of opinion—

"That in the church any alteration in or addition to the fabric, ornaments or furniture thereof has been made without lawful authority, or that any decoration forbidden by law has been introduced into the church."

What is to follow thereupon is shown by sec. 9, which directs that—

"Unless the Bishop shall be of opinion, after considering the whole circumstances of the case, that proceedings should not be taken on the representation (in which case he shall state in writing the reason for his opinion), he shall, within twenty-one days after receiving the representation, transmit a copy to the person complained of, etc.

And then if both parties do not submit to the directions of the Bishop himself, he is to transit the case to the Archbishop, who is directed to forthwith require the Judge to hear the matter of the representation.

The counsel who appeared in the case were Sir Henry James and Mr. Moulton, Q.C., with Mr. Danckwerts, for the complainants in support of the application for a *mandamus*; the Attorney-General, with Mr. Jeune, Q.C., and Mr. Coward, for the Bishop of London; Sir Walter Phillimore for the Dean of St. Paul's; and Mr. Jeune, Q.C., and Mr. Coward for the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's.

Mr. Jeune had not finished his argument when the Court adjourned.

On Friday week the arguments of counsel were completed, and the Court reserved judgment.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Members who have not yet paid their subscriptions, are particularly requested to do so by December 1st, to ensure their names not appearing in italics in the report for the year, which will be issued as early as possible in January next. The Report for 1887 (48 pages) is given gratis to all who pay up their subscriptions, to the respective local Secretaries.

SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS, GREENWICH.

The next meeting of this Society will be held at Greenwich, on Tuesday, December 4th, at 7.30 p.m. All members are requested to be present, in order to elect a Treasurer in the place of the Rev. H. A. Cockey, who is leaving the neighbourhood, and will resign his office at this meeting. F. W. THORNTON, *Hon. Sec.*
Greenwich, November 28th.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX BELL RINGERS.

The Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held at St. James', Leyland, on Saturday, December the 8th. The Bells will be open by the kind permission of the vicar at 2 o'clock. Business meeting at 5 o'clock in the School-room.

JAMES HIGSON, *Sec.*

57, Chorley Road, Blackrod.

The new church of St. John the Baptist, is now the populous district of Lower Caversham, Oxon, the foundation-stone of which was laid by Earl Percy a year ago, was consecrated on the 8th inst. by Bishop Mitchinson, acting under commission from the Bishop of Oxford. The vicar (the Rev. A. E. Molineux), churchwardens, and building committee received the Bishop at the west door. After reading the usual petition for consecration, the procession, headed by the choir and augmented by a large number of the local clergy, advanced up the nave into the chancel, singing antiphonally Psalm xxiv. The Consecration Prayers having been said by the Bishop, the sentence of consecration was read by Archdeacon Palmer, in the absence of the Chancellor. The sermon was preached by the Bishop from Mark xiii. 1, 2. The sum collected amounted to £118.

THE VICAR OF WOODSTOCK AND "HIS GRACE" OF MARLBOROUGH.

The *Oxford Chronicle* says:—The fact that the relations between the Duke of Marlborough and the rector of Woodstock (the Rev. A. Majendie) are greatly strained has for some time been publicly notorious. The immediate cause of the misunderstanding was the marriage of his Grace. Under the circumstances in which the union was consummated it is no matter for wonder that Mr. Majendie should have been unable to see any cause for jubilation, and that in the exercise of his discretion he should have declined to allow the church bells to welcome the noble pair on their return. The refusal, however, has cost the rector and the parish dearly. Shortly after their Graces had settled down at Woodstock Mr. Majendie was driving as usual through Blenheim Park to his chapel-of-ease at Bladon, when he was peremptorily requested by one of the duke's underlings to stop, and not to drive that way again. The consequence is that the rector has now, when he wishes to visit Bladon, to make a circuit of several miles. But this is not all. A heavier blow has been struck by the duke in closing the parochial schools, the control of which is in the hands of the Marlborough family, and in his withdrawal from the schools of his annual subscription of £100.

The Rev. A. Majendie writes to the *Times*:—"The duke has not closed the parochial schools of Woodstock, which are not under the control of the Marlborough family, but has simply withdrawn his subscription of £10 (not £100); but he has forbidden myself and my curates to give any religious instruction in the schools of Bladon, which is part of my parish. He has also, through his agent, withdrawn the privilege of driving through Blenheim Park from myself and my family."

A very nice Duke indeed, a noble-man with whom some of our readers would like to become acquainted (?). It is almost a pity that "His Grace" cannot be shown that a thoroughfare through Blenheim Park is not his exclusive right. He, at any rate, has not done the slightest act which should entitle him to an inch of land in the county.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

A committee meeting of the above will be held at the "Swan Hotel," Edmund Street, on Saturday, December 8th, at 5 o'clock, as most important business will be brought forward.

Park Road, Harborne.

E. PARKER.

A crypt is being formed beneath the south transept of Peterborough cathedral, so as to keep open for inspection in perpetuity the foundation plan of the early Saxon church. From the remains it appears that the church was cruciform, partly built of stone, with a plastered floor, and that it had nave, transepts, choir, and bell tower. The choir was discovered under the south transept of the cathedral together with the east walls of the south transept, and the east, west, and north walls of the north transept. It was a roomy church, with plaster seats; primitive in every way.

During some excavations for an enlarged heating apparatus at Sherborne Abbey, a leaden coffin was found about 10 feet beneath the level of the floor of the nave, and near the west door. It was placed east to west, the feet being to the east. The coffin was opened on Thursday, and was found to contain the remains apparently of a young girl, the outline of whose features was singularly clear, although entirely blackened by time. It was the opinion of a medical man present that the deposit was a thousand years old. Within the coffin was a wooden shell, much decayed, and the remains themselves presented the appearance of charred paper. They will be re-interred in the cemetery.

WICKHAM SKEITH (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, November 21st, at the parish church, a mixed company rung 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. E. Youngs, 1; G. Wilkins, 2; T. Davey, 3; J. Norlow, 4; C. Nunn, 5; G. Catermole (conductor), 6.

WARWICK.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday, November 24th, five six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. B. Jealous, 1-2; J. Hardy (conductor), 3-4; E. Brassington, 5-6.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"What is worth doing at all is worth doing well."

Another week's ringing tour. Six peals in five days. That is (to use a slang phrase) good business. And when we consider the character of the peals rung—two of Stedman Triples, and one each of Stedman Caters, Cambridge Surprise, Double Norwich Court, and Superlative, we might also add, very creditable business also. One can scarcely resist the exclamation "Well done!" At the same time, and without for a moment desiring to detract one iota from the credit due to these performances, I feel strongly tempted to ask how it is that the conducting of these peals is almost invariably left to our friend Mr. Washbrook? Why do not more of the others emerge from the rank and file on these occasions and try their hand at the premier position? Of course, we are not all of us endowed with those necessary qualifications which combine to make good and safe conductors, but it does appear to me somewhat singular that so few make the attempt. Mr. Washbrook has undoubtedly "won his spurs" in the matter of conducting, and (perhaps in consequence) when he takes part in a peal, it has become quite an understood thing that he shall conduct it, but, my friends, having proved your abilities as good ringers, let us see more of you coming out as conductors.

* * * * *

The peal of Stedman Cinques at Birmingham is deserving of special mention; not that it is at all surprising such an attempt should have come off successful, for when we look at the names of those who took part in it, one would have been surprised had it (barring "accidents") come off any way else; but it was a no less creditable performance for all that.

* * * * *

The Liversedge band, I see, have been successful in "pulling off" a peal of Violet Major. I am glad of that, for I have heard it asserted more than once that there is no such method on eight bells. The ringing of this peal, however, settles that question. But how is it that the report is not to hand until four weeks after it was rung? The news, although agreeable, is certainly late.

* * * * *

I trust the editorial remarks of Saturday on the augmentation of the Burton ring of eight will bear good fruit. It certainly does seem a pity that such a talented band as that at St. Paul's should be compelled to confine their efforts to Major performances, and particularly so when they have such a fine 26 cwt. tenor. My Burton friends, you who have the proud satisfaction in being able to boast of once having such a man as the late Rev. J. H. Fish as your vicar and one of your number in the belfry, take the words of our Editor to heart, go in manfully for four more bells, and then emulate the historic doings at St. Peter, Mancroft. It is quite within your power, if you try; there is, I am confident, quite sufficient ability and energy amongst you for the successful carrying out of the work; and I am equally sure that you are so well surrounded by good and wealthy sons of the church, that were you to make a start in good earnest we should not have to wait long for the first peal of Cinques or Maximus in the tower of St. Paul's.

* * * * *

I have just alluded to the comment of our Editor upon this subject. I forgot for the moment that he is on a sick bed, and quite unable to take the least part in the production of our paper; in fact he is rigidly excluded from attempting to do any-

thing. I am sure all my readers wish him a speedy restoration to health, and will be glad to hear of his complete recovery. The complaint which has laid him low is of that order which brings with it an unusual amount of intense bodily suffering, so much so, I am informed, that at 2.0 a.m. on Monday last great fears were entertained concerning him, and his medical attendant was at once summoned to afford what relief he could. His condition, though improving, as I am glad to hear, will meet with all our sympathy.

* * * * *

"S. L. F." seems impressed with my remarks anent the difficulties attending the formation of the proposed Ringers' Benefit Society, and as a sort of alternative suggests that the County Associations should adopt the plan individually. This proposal is, of course, quite at variance with the original idea of a National Society, although, no doubt, a scheme easier of working out. I should be sorry to think that my previous remarks have had any effect in the way of "throwing cold water" upon Mr. Davies' proposition: they were certainly not written with any such motive. But I cannot think such is the case, and while refraining from further comment just now, would venture to press upon our friends to come forward in good earnest, and let us have their opinions upon it. After discussing the matter in private among yourselves, do not let it rest there, but write and tell us what you think about it. We shall thus more readily come to an understanding one with another.

* * * * *

I notice the Durham and Newcastle Associations has decided to devote a portion of its funds for the promotion of peal-ringing. How that Association intends to expend this money, of course, I am unable to say, but on the face of it, I think the decision a good one. There are, as we all of us know full well, many obstacles in the way of continual and successful peal-ringing, not the least of which (to a working-man), is the expense which it so often entails. Anyhow, I am pleased to see that our friends of Durham and Newcastle have resolved to "take the bull by the horns," and sincerely hope that the result will be commensurate with their efforts.

* * * * *

The name of Wakley is sufficiently well-known amongst us to need no introduction; and now that "brother Harry" has taken unto himself a wife, let us, with those who rung his wedding peal, wish him and his good lady happiness and joy on their entry into "the united state."

* * * * *

Another well-known name is to the fore this week in connection with a pleasant gathering at Witham-on-the-Hill, in the fen country. The name of Hollis does not appear likely to die out in the Exercise yet a bit, seeing that another scion of that family has made his appearance in a 720 of Minor at the early age of sixteen. Well done, George, my lad; keep up the reputation of your family, and endeavour to emulate the many abilities and good qualities of your worthy uncle "the Sergeant."

* * * * *

Let me likewise compliment the eight "century men" who rang a peal of Treble Bob together at Ashton on the 17th last. That the peal was a good one we cannot doubt, indeed, seeing that there were two Wildes, two Hattersleys, two Woods, and and Messrs. Thorp and Longden (of long peal fame) at the ropes' end, I think we may set it down to have been a remarkably good one. May they ring together again in celebration of their second "century."

Nor must I neglect a word of praise and encouragement to young Josiah Harford, who rung the tenor in his first peal at West Bromwich on the 17th last, at the age of seventeen. Now that you have scored your first, do not content yourself with ringing the tenor behind; but Josiah, my young friend, get into the middle, and let us see you soon figuring in another peal with a working bell.

* * * *

The ringers of Snaith (Yorks) make a request for copies (of rules, I presume), on the ground that they "are anxious to be in touch with their brethren in the craft." If such be their aim, have they communicated with the officers of their County Association, who will be the most likely persons to render them advice and assistance? If not, why not?

* * * *

How do our friends at St. Albans manage to ring two tower bells each for their Sunday services? But I forget—perhaps they chimed the bells. If so, they have neglected to tell us; and they need not have been ashamed of it by any means.

The inclination for hand-bell peals seems to be spreading. I see the Lancashire and the Norwich Associations have each scored their first. One point in connection with these peals I am glad to see, namely the presence of competent umpires. Although there should be no reason to doubt the veracity of the reports of these hand-bell peals having been properly rung, yet the mere fact that they have been umpired by some competent person is calculated to set aside any doubts. It is on this ground that I am pleased to see the presence of umpires becoming a regular and understood thing.

* * * *

The ringers of Clun appear to be an enterprising set of men, and fertile in resources. Finding themselves unable to keep their bells going in rounds even, in order to accomplish their purpose of honouring Lord Powis's birthday, they mount the bell frames and—clapper in hand—tap some Bob Doubles on the up-turned bells. Rather a singular performance. But how is it that the bells of Clun are in such a wretched condition that they cannot even be turned in rounds, and, in consequence, that the would-be ringers have to travel four or five miles to get a practice? Is it that the parish is too poor to afford the few pounds necessary to put the bells into ringing order? I cannot think they are so poverty-stricken as all that. My friends of Clun, although I must—and do—give you credit for perseverance under difficulties, I would strongly urge you for your own sakes even, to set about and get this deplorable state of things remedied. If your people are lukewarm in the matter, bring influence to bear upon them. Get the assistance of your Diocesan Guild; and then I confidently predict that before long you will be able to practice on your own bells with comfort, and get your "rope experience" at home, as you ought to, and will do, if only you display the same earnestness in this as you appear to do in your ringing.

FREE LANCE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MANCHESTER BRANCH.

A Meeting of the above Branch was held on Saturday, November 24th, at the Manchester Cathedral. Ringers attended from Ashton-under-Lyne, Worsley, Walkden, Eccles, Northenden, and Huddersfield. Touches were rung in the following methods: Treble Bob Royal, and Major, Bob Major, Grandsire Caters and Stedman Triples. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Eccles, on Saturday, December 15th.

ST. NICHOLAS', SEVENOAKS, KENT.

Until a few months ago the fine peal of bells at this church had not been heard for some time, the old band having broken up, although the Vicar and churchwardens did all they could to induce them to keep together, and ring for Sunday services, at the wish of the parishioners. Finding their efforts were of no avail, they at once set about forming a new band. One of the old members having agreed to take the responsibility of forming a band, he got together fourteen young men, ten out of that number having never handled a bell. Tied practices were the order for several weeks, and having learnt how to handle their bell, they rang rounds for the first time on Sunday, July 8th, and great satisfaction has been given for the progress they have made since that date. Finding the ringers meant business, the churchwardens had the bells put in going order, and new ropes were supplied by Mr. Nicoll, of Bermondsey. The Rector, the Rev. T. S. Curtis, suggested that they should become members of the County Association, and at a meeting held in the vestry it was resolved that the band should become members of the same, with the Rector and churchwardens as honorary members. This having been done an instructor was appointed, and the band are making rapid strides under his tuition. The Vicar has kindly promised them a peal-board on the completion of their first peal.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

A District Meeting was held on Saturday the 24th inst at Alfriston, being the first six-bell tower visited in East Sussex. Representatives were present from Arundel, Brighton, Eastbourne, Lewes, Alfriston and Seaford. The party sat down to luncheon at the Star Hotel, under the presidency of the Vicar, of Alfriston (Rev. J. Puttick), who was supported by the Rev. W. E. Richardson Rector of Southover, and Rev. R. F. Tompkins, of Tortington. A business meeting followed, when forty-eight new active members were elected, consisting of three new branches, namely, Horley, Milland, and Harting, the Rev. —Peebles, Vicar of Milland, also being elected an Hon Member. It was then decided that the next eight-bell tower District Meeting for East Sussex, should be held at Seaford, on the last Saturday in January, and the next six-bell tower meeting for that division of the county at Chailey.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar brought the meeting to a close. A special service was held during the afternoon, at which a short address was delivered by Rev. J. Puttick. During the evening the Local Branch decided to call in the aid of one of the Association Instructors to enable them to substitute change-ringing for call changes, which have held sway at Alfriston from time immemorial. The next District Meeting for West Sussex will be held on Saturday, December 1st, at Heene, Worthing.

G. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

DUCKLINGTON BELL FUND.

The following Subscriptions have been received or promised to the above Fund.

	£	s.	d.
The Ven. The Archdeacon of Oxford	1 0 0
Canon Bright, Oxford	0 10 0
The Rev. F. Robinson, Drayton	0 10 0
The Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Ringmer	0 2 0
Mr. T. Holford, Oxford	0 2 0
Mr. W. J. Holford, London	0 1 0
Mr. G. A. King, Brighton	0 1 0
A few Ladies	0 9 0
A. Percival Heywood, Esq., Duffield	0 5 0
E. D.	0 3 0
Mr. W. J. Swales, Norwich	0 1 0
In small Subscriptions	0 7 9
Total amount with Treasurer	7 0 0

Further Subscriptions will be thankfully received by
W. J. FISHER.
Limmer's Hotel, George Street, Hanover Square, London, W.

TO be Sold. A set of Handbells. In good repair, 3 octaves in chromatic scale 37 in number. C.22 size largest bell. No reasonable offer refused. Apply R. Binns, 20, Mint, Low Moor Side, Holbeck, Leeds.

THE RINGER'S GUIDE

TO THE
CHURCH BELLS OF DEVON,

COMPRISING:

PART I.—A Brief History of Bells and Bell-Ringing, with special reference to Devon.

PART II.—A List of the Church Bells of Devon, corrected up to date and abridged from the detailed Catalogue of Inscriptions, Diameters, &c., compiled by the late Rev. H. T. ELLACOMBE.

BY

CHARLES PEARSON, M.A.,

Member of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

CLOTH ILLUSTRATED, PRICE 2s. 6d.

WILLIAM POLLARD & Co., PRINTERS, EXETER,

1888.

OUR CHRISTMAS NUMBER,

NOW IN PREPARATION,

WILL CONTAIN

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Of a well-known Change-Ringer, with short Biographical Sketch.

The number will contain Two Stories:—

"A MERRY PEAL,"

By the Author of "The Belle of Belsham."

AND

"THE CHURCHWARDEN."

By the Author of "The First Peal."

Further particulars will be announced in due course.

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" 6 " 3s. 3d.

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1888.

The Metropolis.

STRATFORD-LE-BOW, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Thursday, November 22, 1888, in Two Hours Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

HENRY SPRINGALL Treble.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 5.
WILLIAM CECIL 2.	SAMUEL E. JOYCE .. 6.
JOHN BONNEY 3.	YORK GREEN 7.
RICHARD J. TURNER 4.	SAMUEL HAYES.. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by YORK GREEN.

LONDON.—THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, November 24, 1888, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, WELL STREET,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION Tenor 20 cwt.

DANSIE W. GRIGGS Treble.	GEORGE B. LUCAS 5.
JAMES PAGE.. .. 2.	THOMAS TITCHENER .. 6.
EDWARD F. COLE 3.	ARTHUR JACOB 7.
BENJAMIN FOSKETT 4.	THOMAS SCARLETT Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by ARTHUR JACOB.

This peal has the 6th the extent home in 3 parts and the 2nd never in 6th place at the course-ends, and is now rung for the first time

The Provinces.

WHITFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 12, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP.. .. Treble.	WILLIAM MARSDEN.. .. 5.
WILLIAM HARROP 2.	CHARLES BROOKE 6.
THOMAS JACKSON 3.	HENRY COOPER.. .. 7.
EDWARD HAIGH 4.	JOSEPH MALONEY Tenor.

Composed by the late H. W. HALEY, and Conducted by JOSEPH MALONEY.

*First peal as conductor.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 24, 1888, in Three Hours Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS',

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP.. .. Treble.	THOMAS WILDE 5.
JOHN HARROP 2.	JAMES S. WILDE 6.
WILLIAM MARSDEN 3.	SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN. .. 7.
JOSEPH MALONEY 4.	JOHN PYE, JUN. Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON, of Mottram, and Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN.

The above contains the sixth its extent home at eight courses. J. Harrop hails from Mottram, the brothers Wilde from Hyde; the rest belong to the local company

HAGLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTER AND AJJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 24, 1888, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT's TEN-PART.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

FREDERICK WRIGHT Treble.	THOMAS LEES 5.
HENRY MARTIN 2.	THOMAS BARBER 6.
HERY MORRIS 3.	WILLIAM SHORT 7.
JOSEPH SMITH 4.	JOHN BARBER Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY MARTIN.

This is the first peal of Grandsire Triples by all the above, and the first 5040 by all except H. Martin and T. Lees, and first peal as conductor Messrs. Short and Barber belong to Clent, Martin to Belbroughton, and the rest to Hagley.

LONGLEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, November 25, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S ONE-PART.

Tenor 16½ cwt in F.

ERNEST E. BEWICKE.. .. Treble.	THOMAS BROWN 5.
HENRY MITCHELL 2.	LIONEL LONGNEY 6.
HENEY G. GARDNER.. .. 3.	ROBERT A. BARRETT .. 7.
WILLIAM J. SEVIER 4.	*REUBEN GARDNER Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. SEVIER.

*First peal. The above was rung as a birthday peal for Mr. R. Ellis, one of the local ringers.

POSILINGFORD, SUFFOLK.

On Monday, November 26, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN TWO DIFFERENT METHODS UPON FIVE BELLS;

BEING TWENTY-ONE SIX-SCORES EACH OF GRANDSIRE AND BOB DOUBLES.

Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM ATKINSON Treble.	DANIEL GRIDLEY 3.
GEORGE BASHAM 2.	HENRY BURLING 4.
CHAS. HOWE Tenor.	

Conducted by C. HOWE.

HORLEY, SURREY.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 26, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION.

A. ELLIS Treble.	E. DEWEY 4.
F. WICKENS.. .. 2.	M. HEFFER 6.
J. WHITMORE 3.	W. COLLISON 7.
G. WICKENS 4.	G. APPS Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

THE HOLT SOCIETY.

On Saturday, November 24, 1888, in 3 Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERERS, 5055 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

THOMAS RUSSAM Treble.	WILLIAM R. SMALL 6.
HENRY BASTABLE 2.	THOMAS REYNOLDS 7.
JOHN BUFFERY 3.	BERNARD WITCHELL 8.
CHARLES STANBRIDGE .. 4.	HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. .. 9.
SAMUEL REEVES 5.	WILLIAM JACKSON Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by JOHN BUFFERY.

The above peal contains the 5th and 6th, each twenty-three courses behind the 9th. This is Henry Johnson, Junior's 100th peal, made up as follows: Grandsire Triples, 17; Grandsire Major, 1; Grand i e Caters, 5; Grandsire Cinques, 3; Bob Major, 1; Treble Bob Major, 5; Treble Bob Royal, 2; Stedman Triples, 19; Stedman Caters, 33; Stedmand Royal, 1; Stedman Cinques, 13

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.

On Monday, November 26, 1888, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. T. STEWARD,

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 size.

T. STEWARD 1-2.	J. MOTTS.. .. 5-6.
C. MEE 3-4.	*F. MEE 7-8.

Conducted by F. MEE.

*First peal as conductor. Umpire—H. Bowell.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(BURTON BRANCH).

On Tuesday, November 27, 1888, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. J. AUSTIN, 230 GOODMAN STREET,

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 15 size in C.

WILLIAM J. SMITH.. .. 1.2.	LEONARD BULLOCK.. .. 5-6.
JOHN JAGGAR 3.4.	JOHN AUSTIN.. .. 7-8.

Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 27, 1888, in 3 Hours 7 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN SIDEBOTHAM Treble.	JAMES S. WILDE 5.
JAMES SHAW 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
THOMAS WILDE 3.	GEORGE BRADDOCK 7.
WALTER SLATER.. .. 4.	THOMAS BRADDOCK Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN SIDEBOTHAM.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is in one part, and has the 5th and 6th their extent each way in 5-6. Messrs. Braddock brothers and Sidebotham hail from Mottram, the rest are of the local company.

In reply to numerous kind enquiries, we are sorry to state that the Editor of this journal is still unable to leave his bed, and there is not the faintest hope of his doing so for another fortnight at least.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.
By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co. Printers, Exeter.

GREAT YARMOUTH, NORFOLK.—THE ST. NICOLAS SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, November 20, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt. in D.

HARRY J. IRELAND Treble.	WILLIAM SECRETT 6.
ROBERT CHRISTIAN 2.	THOMAS TOOLEY 7.
WILLIAM T. BLYTH 3.	REV. JAMES F. HASTINGS .. 8.
MATTHEW LONG 4.	WILLIAM FLETCHER 9.
ARTHUR WEBBER 5.	DENISON HAYWARD Tenor.

Conducted by DENISON HAYWARD.

BIRMINGHAM.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.

AT ST. CHAD'S (R.C.) CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES JONES* Treble.	JOHN CARTER 5.
CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY .. 2.	WALTER REA 6.
ELIJAH CRUMP 3.	GEORGE BOURNE 7.
GEORGE HAYWARD 4.	*JOHN T. PERRY Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by C. H. HATTERSLEY.

First peal on the bells in the method. C. H. Hattersley hails from Sheffield, E. Crump, G. Hayward, W. Rea, and G. Bourne from Bromsgrove, the rest belong to Birmingham. *First peal in the method.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 21, 1888, in Three Hours Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 33 cwt.

JAMES STRUTT Treble.	*REV. H. SHEARS 5.
JAMES HARRIS 2.	GEORGE GRAY 6.
W. E. GARRARD 3.	JOHN WRIGHT 7.
GEORGE WOODISS 4.	JOHN SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by JAS. STRUTT.

*First peal.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, November 22, 1888, in 3 Hours and 30 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 26 cwt.

GEORGE ROBINSON Treble.	EDWARD I. STONE 5.
ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. 2.	CHAS. H. HATTERSLEY .. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

This composition, which is now rung for the first time, has the 4th and 6th their extent in 6th's place, with the 2nd never in that position.

MOSSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, November 24, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN LAWTON Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 5.
HUGH SHAW 2.	GEORGE LONGDEN 6.
WILLIAM FAWCETT 3.	SAMUEL WOOD 7.
EDMUND SCHOFFIELD .. 4.	JOHN THORP Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON, and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

APPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, November 23, 1888, in Three Hours Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATER, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

FREDERICK WHITE Treble.	GEORGE HOLIFIELD 6.
JAMES W. WASABROOK .. 2.	JESSIE AVERY 7.
THOMAS HIBBERT 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 8.
WILLIAM BENNETT 4.	HARRY WOODWARDS 9.
BENJAMIN BARRATT 5.	STEDMAN WHITE Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, and Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON, Master of the Guild.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.

On Saturday, November 24, 1888, in Two Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes.

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. HENRY BOWELL,

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 17 size in A.

WILLIAM MOTTS 1-2.	WILLIAM P. GARRETT .. 5-6.
JAMES MOTTS 3-4.	HENRY BOWELL 7-8.

Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

This peal is the first peal on handbells by Mr. H. Bowell, and was rang to celebrate his 59th birthday, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns. Umpire —Mr. A. Bowell.

NEWCHURCH, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

On Saturday, November 24, 1888, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

J. CURTISS Treble.	G. LORD 5.
T. HARRISON 2.	J. E. WHITTAKER 6.
H. H. NUTTER 3.	J. T. STOTT 7.
J. ASHWORTH 4.	W. WHITTAKER Tenor.

Conducted by J. CURTISS.

Rung in honour of the birthday of Mr. J. T. Stott.

CHRISTCHURCH, HANTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 24, 1888, in Three Hours Twenty-Nine Minutes.

AT THE PRIORY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 30 cwt. in D flat.

ALFRED GRIST Treble.	ARTHUR W. BARKUS .. 5.
JAMES G. BENNETT 2.	THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 6.
EDWIN T. GREEN 3.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 7.
SYDNEY LAWRENCE 4.	TOM BELBIN Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS BLACKBOURN.

The above is the second peal yet rung on the bells, and is the first peal by Messrs. Green and Belbin, Christchurch being T. Belbin's native home. Messrs. Gifford Blackbourn, Lawrence, and Barkus, hail from Salisbury, the rest from Bournemouth.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 24, 1888, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

JOHN CARTER Treble.	THOMAS SHORT 5.
WILLIAM ADKINS 2.	WILLIAM NAPPER 6.
H. F. DELISLE, Esq., .. 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 4.	CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN CARTER, of Birmingham.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL.—On Wednesday, November 21st, at Holy Trinity Church, a date touch of Bob Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. and 12 mins., in memory of G. W. Liddell, Esq., of Sutton-on-Hull, who died on the 17th inst. at Oxford. T. Stockdale, 1; J. F. Mallaby, 2; J. Highfield, 3; H. Jenkins, 4; J. Pollard, 5; J. Dixey, 6; C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 7; J. Dale, 8.

KILLMARSH (Derbyshire).—On Monday, November 26th, at the church of St. Giles, a date touch (1888 changes), being two 720's and 408 of Grandsire Minor, and 40 of Doubles, each 720 called differently in 1 hr. 5 mins. H. Taylor, 1; T. Bettison, 2; G. Jackson, 3; S. Norwood, 4; C. Severn (conductor), 5; J. Severn, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. This touch was rung to commemorate the first anniversary of the Rev. F. J. Metcalfe's settlement in this parish.

Miscellaneous.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday morning, November 18th, for Divine Service, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Single Court. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

WHITCHURCH (Oxon).—On Wednesday evening, November 21st for practice, at the parish church, various touches of Grandsire Minor. J. Nicholls, 1; W. Pocock, 2; W. Lawrence (conductor), 3; C. Pocock, 4; A. C. West, 5; E. Bushnell, 6. Afterwards on handbells several 120's of Doubles, with H. Bushnell, 1. And on Sunday evening, November 25th, for Divine Service (meeting one short for Minor), 600 Grandsire Doubles (fifteen bobs and thirty singles), each 120 called differently. C. Pocock, 1; W. Pocock, 2; W. Lawrence (conductor), 3; E. Bushnell, 4; C. West, 5; H. Bushnell, 6.

BRADFELD.—On Saturday, November 24th, the Tilehurst company paid a visit to the above place, and rang six 120's of Grandsire Doubles at the parish church in 24 mins., each 120 called differently, in 24 mins. S. Sturt, 1; S. Day, 2; C. Smith, 3; C. Chapman, 4; H. Goodyear (conductor), 5; H. Smith, 6. Also several touches of Grandsire Minor. S. Sturt, 1; F. Hopgood, 2; S. Day, 3; C. Chapman, 4; H. Goodyear, 5; T. Reeves (conductor), 6. T. Reeves and F. Hopgood belong to Reading, the rest belong to the Tilehurst band.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BEARSTED (Kent).—On Sunday, November 18th, for Divine Service, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor, in 26 mins, by the Leeds company. C. Tassel, 1; A. Knight, 2; H. Hollands, 3; W. Sloman (conductor), 4; F. Hollands, 5; T. Russel, 6.

WROTHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, November 11th, at the parish church, for evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor, with the fourth and tenor covering. *W. Hosmar, 1; †F. Taylor, 2; W. Taylor, 3; A. Phyll, 4; G. Osborne, 5; R. Edge (conductor), 6; C. Taylor, 7; T. Welsted, 8. And on Friday, November 16th, 504 of Bob Triples. W. Hosman, 1; F. Taylor, 2; G. Barham, 3; W. Taylor, 4; G. R. Edge, 6; C. Taylor (conductor), 7; J. Rogers, 8. *First 720; †First 720 with a bob bell. No 5th man mentioned.

LEEDS (Kent).—On Sunday afternoon, November 25th, after afternoon service at the church of S. Nicholas, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes), in 48 mins. P. Boyles, 1; S. Kemp, 2; E. Gransbery, 3; W. Pope, 4; R. Simmonds, 5; A. Moorcraft, 6; A. L. Porter, 7; H. Pearce (conductor), 8; E. Pope, 9; G. J. Moorcraft, 10. The brothers Pope and Gransbery hail from Staplehurst, Porter from Southport, Lancashire, the rest from Maidstone.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Saturday evening, November 24th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins. L. W. Copsey, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; G. W. Scowen, 3; W. Nash, 4; M. L. Myhill, 5; A. J. Perkins (composer and conductor), 6; J. Priest, 7; S. James, 8. Also on Sunday morning, for Divine Service, 504 of Grandsire Triples. L. W. Copsey, 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; G. Roughton, 3; W. Page, 4; M. L. Myhill, 5; — 6; W. Nash, 7; S. James, 8.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

IPSWICH.—On Friday, November 9th, at the church of St. Mary-le-Tower, 504 of Stedman Caters. J. Motts (conductor), 1; *W. E. Tydeman, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; T. Steward, 4; A. E. Durrant, 5; W. P. Garrett, 6; H. Bowell, 7; W. Motts, 8; R. Brundle, 9; W.

Catchpole, 10. *First touch of Stedman Caters. Also a course of Stedman Cinques. J. Motts, 1; W. P. Garrett, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; W. E. Tydeman, 4; J. Fosdike, 5; W. Motts, 6; A. E. Durrant, 7; C. Mee, 8; H. Bowell, 9; R. Hawes, 10; W. Catchpole, 11; W. Gobbitt, 12. And a course of Treble Bob Maximus. J. Motts, 1; T. Steward, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; W. E. Tydeman, 4; J. Fosdike, 5; A. E. Durrant, 6; C. Mee, 7; W. P. Garrett, 8; H. Bowell, 9; R. Hawes, 10; R. Brundle, 11; W. Gobbitt, 12. J. Fosdike hails from Woodbridge, W. Fressingfield, and W. E. Tydeman from Stowmarket.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GREAT MALVERN (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, November 24th, the following members attempted one of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies's peals of Grandsire Triples, at the Priory Church, but after some 2700 changes, a change-course brought it to grief. A. W. Humphries, 1; F. Jelf, 2; F. E. Ward (conductor), 3; H. B. Kingsford, 4; W. T. Pates, 5; L. Longney, 6; W. J. Sevier, 7; R. G. Knowles, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. The bells are in capital condition, and it is hoped to accomplish the peal ere the close of the year.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TIPTON.—On Monday evening, November 19th, at St. Martin's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. S. Jesson, 1; W. Cheshire, 2; J. Astbury, sen., 3; W. R. Small, 4; W. Pardoe, 5; D. Chapman, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; H. Mills, 8. Messrs. Astbury and Chapman hail from Walsall, Gough from Coseley, and this is his longest touch in the method.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

TIPTON.—On Sunday morning, November 18th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 1008 of Bob Major. A. Moore, 1; B. Gough, 2; H. Mills, 3; W. Pardoe, 4; G. Hayward, 5; E. Crump, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. R. Small, 8. Also before evening service, 1008 of Grandsire Triples. B. Gough, 1; H. Mills, 2; W. Horton, 3; G. Hayward (conductor), 4; E. Goodreds, 5; A. Moore, 6; G. Hughes, 7; W. Reynolds, 8. And 336 of Bob Major. W. Horton, 1; W. Cheshire, 2; B. Gough, 3; H. Mills, 4; G. Hayward, 5; A. Moore, 6; W. Pardoe, 7; E. Crump, 8. Conducted by G. Hayward. Messrs. Hayward, Crump, and Moore hail from Bromsgrove, Cheshire, Gough, and Horton, hail from Coseley.

BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, November 24th, eight members of the above Association, met at the parish church Bromsgrove, to attempt Taylor's bob-and-single peal of Grandsire Triples. A start was made, but owing to a shift-course, it came to grief. O. James, 1; A. J. Gwinnett, 2; G. Hayward, 3; W. James, 4; J. Mason, 5; W. Rea (conductor), 6; G. Bourne, 7; J. Parry, 8. A start was afterwards made for a touch of Grandsire Triples, and 500 was brought round in twenty mins. *H. Govier, 1; A. J. Gwinnett, 2; G. Hayward, 3; W. James, 4; J. Mason, 5; W. Rea (conductor), 6; G. Bourne, 7; J. Parry, 8. *First touch of Triples. Mr. Gwinnett hails from Painswick, and is a member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(CRAWLEY, HORLEY, AND CAPEL BRANCHES).

CHARLWOOD (Surrey).—On Thursday evening, November 15th, for practice, at the parish church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Ellis, 1; G. Wickens, 2; J. Akehurst, 3; B. King, 4; M. Heffer, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Oxford Bob Minor. S. Jordan, 1; G. Wickens, 2; J. Akehurst, 3; T. Sparks, 4; B. King, 5; M. Heffer (conductor), 6. And 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Ellis, 1; F. Wickens, 2; J. Akehurst, 3; G. Wickens, 4; B. King, 5; †M. Heffer (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Kent Treble Bob. *S. Jordan, 1; F. Wickens, 2; J. Akehurst, 3; G. Wickens, 4; B. King, 5; M. Heffer, 6. Also 120 of Kent Treble Bob. *T. Sparks, 1; F. Wickens, 2; J. Akehurst, 3; G. Wickens, 4; B. King, 5; M. Heffer, 6. And 120 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Akehurst, 1; F. Wickens, 2; †A. Ellis, 3; G. Wickens, 4; B. King, 5; M. Heffer, 6. †First 720 in the method as conductor. *First 720 in the method. †First 720 in the method on a bob bell.

HORLEY (Surrey).—On Monday, November 19th, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples (5040 changes), but after ringing 1 hr. and 22 mins., a shift-course occurred and the conductor called stand. A. Ellis, 1; F. Wickens (conductor), 2; W. Edwards, 3; G. Wickens, 4; E. Dewey, 5; B. King, 6; W. Collinson, 7; C. Apps, 8. Also 560 of Grandsire Triples. A. Ellis, 1; F. Wickens (conductor), 2; W. Edwards, 3; J. Whitmore, 4; *S. Kenward, 5; B. King, 6; W. Collinson, 7; W. Wallis, 8. *Longest touch in the method.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP.—On Sunday evening, November 25th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. A. L. Hardman (conductor), 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; W. Smith, 4; A. White, 5; Z. Lord, 6.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Thursday, November 22nd, at the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 40 mins. T. Webb (conductor), 1; J. Philips, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; A. Squires, 6; Richard Jackson, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. The above was rang in honour of the silver wedding of the conductor Mr. T. Webb, and this is his first quarter-peal as conductor, and was taken from Shipway, containing the Queens and Tittums.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Saturday evening, November 17th, at the parish church, 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Bumstead, 3; F. Calthorpe, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. Also 360 of Double Court Bob. T. Watson, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; F. Bumstead, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; C. Bearman, 6. And on Friday, November 23rd, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. A. Spurge, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; E. Radley, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, November 25th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. E. Hynds (first 720 in the method), 1; S. Hammonds, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; E. Claydon, 5; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 6. Messrs. Hynds and Claydon hail from Stebbing, Radley from Stisted, Rudkin, Calthorpe, Bumstead, Watson, S. and H. E. Hammond, from Braintree; the rest are of the local company.

BALDOCK (Herts).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Tuesday, November 20th, on handbells, at St. Mary's Church, 518 of Grandsire Triples. G. Spicer, 1; E. Bray, 2; J. Morley, 3; J. Craft, 4; W. Bidnell (aged 12), 5; A. Thurgood, 6; Richard Jackson (conductor), 7; J. Butts, 8. Also on Wednesday, November 22nd, 420 in the same method. G. Poulter, 1; G. Spicer, 2; G. Stanley, 3; conducted by G. Spicer and first touch as conductor. All the above, with the exception of Richard Jackson and G. Spicer are new members, having learned the method within the last seven weeks.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, November 24th, at the parish church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. T. Watson, 1; S. Hammond, 2; W. Bearman, 3; F. L. Bumstead, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 6. And on Sunday evening, November 18th, 720 of Double Court Bob Minor. T. Watson, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. L. Bumstead, 3; S. Sargent, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; S. Hammond, 6. Messrs. Bearman, Sargent, and Moore, hail from Bocking.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Wednesday, November 14th, at St. Michael's Church, for practice, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith jun., 5; J. Hinchley, 6.

CHURCH-KIRK (Lancashire).—On Wednesday evening, November 14th, at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 28½ mins. J. Horrocks (conductor), 1; A. E. Porter, 2; J. Bentley, 3; R. Grimes, 4; W. Pattison, 5; T. Horrocks, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. Mr. Porter, hails from Ely, Cambridgeshire, and Mr. Grimes, from Walpole, Norfolk.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—On Sunday, November 11th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. T. R. Jackson (conductor), 1; T. Townson, 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. Watson, 5; J. Burrows, 6.

ELMORE (Gloucestershire).—On Monday, November 26th, for practice at the parish church, 360 of Grandsire Minor. W. Ward, 1; R. Ellis, 2; T. Harmer, 3; L. Longney (conductor), 4; R. Prosser, 5; H. Merrett, 6. First touch of Minor by all except the conductor. Also a six-score of Grandsire Doubles. R. Prosser, 1; H. Merrett, 2; R. Ellis, 3; W. Ward, 4; T. Harmer, 5; L. Longney (conductor), 6. Tenor about 12½ cwt. in G. S. Longney hails from Croome, Worcestershire.

FULHAM.—On Sunday morning, November 18th, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 43 mins. A. S. Ough, 1; J. W. Kelley, 2; W. E. Garrard, 3; F. Davey, 4; *J. W. Driver (conductor), 5; Jas. Nicholls, jun., 6; S. Eales, 7; S. How, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb. First quarter-peal as conductor. And on Saturday, November 24th, 1080 of Grandsire Caters were rung after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal. *C. E. Kelley, 1; J. W. Driver, 2; A. Hubbard, 3; F. W. Kelley, 4; W. E. Garrard, 5; H. Kenton, 6; C. Porter, 7; J. Nicholls, jun., 8; J. W. Kelley (conductor), 9; S. How, 10. Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb. *Longest touch of Caters. Also on Sunday morning, November 24th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins. A. S. Ough, 1; J. G. Green, 2; C. E. Kelley, 3; Jas. Nicholls, jun., 4; J. W. Kelley (conductor), 5; W. E. Garrard, 6; J. W. Driver, 7; S. How, 8.

GISLINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday afternoon, November 25th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 30 mins. E. Youngs, 1; G. Bird, 2; T. Davey, 3; C. Nunn, 4; G. Vincent, 5; C. Elmer (conductor), 6.

HATFIELD (Herts).—On Sunday, November 11th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 518 Grandsire Triples. J. Kentish, 1; J. Shepherd, W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; A. Shepherd (conductor), 5; H. Rowe, 6; T. Gathard, 7; F. Stocks, 8. Also on Sunday, November 18th, for Divine Service, 378 Grandsire Triples. H. Rowe, 1; W. J. Richardson, 6; the rest as before. And on Tuesday, November 20th, for practice, 518 Grandsire Triples. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. Kentish (first 518), 3; W. J. Richardson, 4; W. Powers, 5; H. Rowe (conductor), 6; J. Hollingsworth, 7; F. Stocks, 8. *Handbell Ringing.*—Also on Monday, November 12th, at the house of Mr. J. Kentish, 480 Grandsire Minor. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. Rowe (conductor), 5-6. And four six-scores of Plain Bob Doubles, each called differently. J. Hollingsworth, 1; W. Powers, 2; H. Rowe (conductor), 3-4; J. Shepherd, 5-6. First in the method by the local company. Also a plain course of Grandsire Minor. W. Powers, 1-2; J. Shepherd, 3-4; H. Rowe, 5-6. And several plain courses of Grandsire Doubles. W. Powers, 1; J. Kentish, jun. (first attempt), 2; H. Rowe, 3-4; J. Shepherd, 5-6. Also on Tuesday, November 13th, six 120's of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. J. Rumney, 1; J. Hollingsworth, 2; H. Rowe (conductor), 3-4; W. Powers, 5-6. And on Wednesday, November 21st, 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Rumney, 1; J. Hollingsworth, 2; J. Kentish, sen., 3; J. Shepherd, 4; H. Rowe (conductor), 5-6; W. Powers, 7-8. Longest touch by all except the conductor. Also 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Rumney (first 720), 1; W. Powers, 2; J. Shepherd, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. Rowe (conductor), 5-6. And several plain courses of Grandsire Triples. J. Rumney, 1-2; J. Shepherd, 3-4; H. Rowe, 5-6; J. Kentish, sen., 7-8.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, November 26th, at St. Mary's Church, for practice, 350 and 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; A. Squires, 2; F. Furr, 3; J. Hare, 4; J. Foster, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; G. Halsey, 8. Also two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Randall, 1; A. Squires (conductor), 2; F. Furr, 3; T. Dobbs, 4; S. Hare, 5; C. Denniss, 6; J. Foster, 7; J. Froy, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

IPSWICH.—On Tuesday, November 15th, at the church of St. Mary-le-Tower, three courses of Stedman Cinques. R. Brundle, 1; C. Mee (conductor), 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; *W. E. Tydeman, 4; A. E. Durrant, 5; W. Motts, 6; J. Motts, 7; R. Hawes, 8; W. P. Garrett, 9; F. Tillett, 10; E. Steward, 11; F. Mee, 12. *Longest touch of Stedman Cinques.

LIVERPOOL.—On Sunday, November 25th, for morning service, at the church of St. Peter, a 720 Plain Bob Major, on the back eight bells. R. Williams, 1; H. Meadows, 2; C. Williams, 3; J. Moore, 4; J. Brown, 5; T. Hammond (conductor), 6; W. Booth, 7; R. Williams, 8. And for afternoon service, 504 of Stedman Caters. R. Williams, 1; H. Meadows, 2; E. Booth, 3; Robert Williams, 4; J. Moore, 5; J. Brown, 6; T. Hammond, 7; W. Booth (conductor), 8; C. Williams, 9; R. Diggle, 10. Also for evening service, a course of Treble Bob Royal. R. Williams, 1; E. Booth, 2; W. Woodhead, 3; Robert Williams, 4; J. Moore, 5; J. Brown, 6; T. Hammond, 7; W. Booth, 8; C. Williams, 9; J. Egerton, 10. And a 270 of Grandsire Caters, the first in the method by C. F. Williams, who rang the 4th.

LONDON.—On Thursday evening, November 22nd, for practice at the church of St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, Westminster, 447 of Grandsire Triples. S. J. Reed, 1; W. J. Gohns, 2; H. R. Newton (conductor), 3; J. Pryor, 4; W. Carter, 5; V. Coates, 6; J. Willshire, 7; J. Jones, 8. V. Coates and J. Jones hail from Bridgnorth.

LOWICK (Northants).—On Monday, October 29th, for practice at St. Peter's church, two six-scores of Bob Doubles. R. Dunkley, 1; J. Guess (conductor), 2; W. Fox, 3; C. Swan, 4; G. March, 5. Also a six-score each of Stedman Slow Course, St. Simon's, Canterbury, and New Doubles. J. Guess, 1; G. March (conductor), 2; R. Dunkley, 3; W. Fox, 4; C. Swan, 5. And on Friday, November 2nd, two six-scores of Bob Doubles. R. Dunkley, 1; J. Guess (conductor), 2; W. Fox, 3; E. Curtis, 4; C. Swan, 5. Also a six-score of Canterbury Doubles. G. Guess, 1; E. Curtis, 2; C. Swan, 3; R. Dunkley (conductor), 4; W. Fox, 5. And on Friday, November 16th, a six-score of Bob Doubles. R. Dunkley, 1; G. Guess (conductor), 2; W. Fox, 3; C. Swan, 4; G. March, 5. And a six-score of Stedman Doubles. E. Curtis (conductor), 1; W. Fox, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; B. Meadows, 4; C. Swan, 5. Also a six-score each of Stedman Slow Course, St. Simon's Doubles. G. March, 1; the rest standing as before. And on Sunday morning, November 18th, for Divine Service, two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. G. Guess, 1; G. March, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; W. Fox, 4; C. Swan (conductor), 5. Also for evening service, two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. G. Guess, 1; R. Dunkley, 2; W. Fox,

3; E. Curtis, 4; C. Swan (conductor), 5. And on Monday, November 19th, a six-score of St. Simon's Doubles. R. Dunkley, 1; G. Guess (conductor), 2; W. Fox, 3; C. Swan, 4; G. March, 5. And a plain course of Stedman Doubles. G. Guess, 1; W. Fox, 2; G. March, 3; E. Curtis, 4; C. Swan, 5. Also two six-scores of New Doubles. G. Guess, 1; W. Fox (conductor), 2; G. March, 3; R. Dunkley, 4; C. Swan, 5. *Handbell Ringing*.—On Friday, November 23rd, 360 of Bob Minor (nine bobs). G. Guess, 1; C. Swan, 2; W. Fox, 3; G. March, 4; R. Dunkley (conductor), 5-6. And at the house of Mr. C. Swan, a six-score each of Grandsire, Plain Bob, and Canterbury Doubles. H. Chapman, 1; C. Swan, 2; R. Dunkley, 3-4; W. Fox (conductor), 5-6.

NEW BUCKENHAM (Norfolk).—On Saturday, November 17th, at the parish church, with the bells deeply muffled, as a mark of respect for the late Mr. R. Ward, 96 years of age, who had been a ringer at the parish church for eighty years, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. R. Hutton, 1; R. Kemp, 2; A. Dunnett, 3; W. Mapes, 4; W. Chambers, 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. And 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley, 6. And another course in the same method. W. Mapes, 4; the others as before.

ROWLEY REGIS.—On Sunday evening, November 25th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Giles, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins. D. Woodhouse, 1; H. Bennett, 2; J. Bate (conductor), 3; H. Bate, 4; J. Oakley, 5; B. Lows, 6; R. Baker, 7; B. Oakley, 8.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Wednesday, November 14th, at the residence of Mr. A. E. Chapman, 720 of London Single. A. H. Martin, 1-2; A. E. Chapman, 3-4; W. Hall (conductor), 5-6. Also on Sunday, November 18th, 720 of Bob Minor. J. Bailey, 1; G. Heath, 2; A. E. Chapman, 3-4; A. H. Martin (conductor), 5-6. And on Wednesday, November 21st, 720 of Oxford Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. H. Martin, 1-2; A. E. Chapman, 3-4; W. Hall (conductor), 5-6. And on Sunday, November 25th, 672 of Bob Major. J. Bailey, 1; G. Burton, 2; A. E. Chapman, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; W. Lewis, 5; *G. Randall, 6; A. H. Martin (conductor), 7; F. Slade, 8. Also 236 in the same method. J. Bailey, 1; F. Clayton, 2; A. Clayton, 3; A. E. Chapman, 4; G. Burton, 5; W. Lewis, 6; A. H. Martin (conductor), 7; F. Slade, 8. Also two 360's of Bob Minor. F. Slade, 1-2; A. E. Chapman, 3-4; A. H. Martin (conductor), 5-6. *First attempt in the method.

STOWMARKET.—Recently at the parish church, 1800 of Stedman Triples. W. G. Garret, 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; H. Howell, 4; C. Mee, 5; J. Motts (conductor), 6; W. Motts, 7; H. English, 8. This was an attempt for a peal, but owing to the fourth rope stranding, it was brought round.

WEST BROMWICH.—On Sunday evening, November 18th, after Divine Service at the parish church, the usual muffled peal was rung, consisting of the whole pull and stand, after which a 504 of Grandsire Triples, and a 503 of Grandsire Caters was rung by the following:—S. Reeves, W. R. Small, T. Horton, J. Hall, R. Hall, C. Price, J. W. Sayer (Oldbury), E. Goodreds, J. Frisby, W. Gould (Oldbury). Conducted by Samuel Reeves.

WHITSTONE (Devon).—On Sunday, November 25th, after Divine Service at the parish church, with the bells half-muffled, as a last token of respect to the late Earl of Devon, 6 six-scores of Grandsire Doubles and some single call changes. The bells were raised and ceased in peal, and the ringing was continuous. S. Pester, 1; H. Baxter, 2; W. Pester, 3; W. Sercombe, 4; G. Baxter, 5; M. Skinner, 6. E. Elson took a bell in the singles.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Brighton Branch at St. Paul's.—On Thursday, November 15th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. P. Allfrey, 1; G. Biggerstaff, 2; H. Rann, 3; T. Stepney, 4; F. Hill, 5; W. Allfrey, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; J. Salmon, 8. Also on Saturday, November 17th, a 168 and 350 of Grandsire Triples. A. Read, 1; P. Allfrey, 2; H. Rann, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; F. Hill, 5; T. Stepney, 6; W. Allfrey (conductor), 7; B. Hobbs, 8. Reed and Hobbs hail from Waldron, Sussex.

By the Arundel Branch at Arundel.—On Monday, November 19th, a 700 of Grandsire Triples. W. Twigg, 1; W. Challen, 2; S. Long, 3; F. Luxford, 4; G. Balchin, 5; E. Ede, 6; C. Blackman (conductor), 7; C. Hayler, 8. Also on the same day and place, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Tragus, 1; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 2; S. Long, 3; C. Blackman, 4; G. Balchin, 5; E. Ede (conductor), 6; F. Luxford, 7; C. Hayler, 8.

Arundel and Angmering Branches.—On Sunday, November 25th, at Lynmister Church, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Twigg, 1; C. Hills, 2; C. Clear, 3; G. Balchin, 4; C. Blackman, 5; F. Luxford

(conductor), 6. Hills and Clear from Angmering. Also for evening service, 1260 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. C. Hills, 1; W. Challen, 2; O. Evershed, 3; C. Blackman, 4; G. Balchin, 5; F. Luxford (conductor), 6; G. Baker, 7; E. Ede, 8.

By the Balcombe Branch at Balcombe.—On Thursday, November 15th, at the parish church, a date touch (1883 changes), being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and 448 of Plain Bob, in 1 hr. and 5 mins. R. Bourn, 1; R. Streeter, 2; J. Gasson, 3; T. Streeter, 4; H. Meads, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. The above was rung to commemorate the 44th birthday of the Secretary and Captain, his brother ringers wished them many happy returns. Also on Thursday, November 22nd, a 360 of Oxford Single Bob. R. Bourn, 1; *E. Streeter jun., 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; R. Streeter, 4; T. Streeter, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. *First attempt with a bob bell. And a 360 of Kent Treble Bob. R. Bourn, 1; J. Gasson, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; R. Streeter, 4; H. Meads, 5; †T. Streeter (conductor), 6. †First attempt as conductor. Also a 360 of Oxford Single Bob. T. Streeter, 1; E. Streeter jun., 2; H. Meads, 3; R. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, November 25th, 360 of Plain Bob. E. Streeter jun., 1; R. Streeter, 2; R. Bourn, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. E. Streeter, 1; R. Streeter, 2; J. Gasson, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; T. Streeter, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Oxford Single Bob. E. Streeter, 1; R. Streeter, 2; H. Meads, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 17½ mins. D. Ross, 1; G. F. Attree (conductor), 2; E. C. Merritt, 3; J. Jay, 4; H. Cornwall, 5; A. A. Fuller, 6; G. A. King, 7; H. Tugwell, 8. And on Monday, November 26th, a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 19 mins. G. F. Attree, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; J. Searle, 3; E. C. Merritt, 4; W. J. Fisher, 5; G. A. King, 6; *G. Thwaites (conductor), 7; H. Tugwell, 8. *First touch of Stedman as conductor.

By the Brighton Branch at Heene.—On Saturday, November 24th, was attempted a peal of Stedman Triples (Brook's Variation) which unfortunately was lost through the breaking of a rope, after 4,580 changes had been rung, in 2 hrs. and 29 mins. J. Reilly, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; G. A. King, 3; W. J. Fisher, 4; J. Jay, 5; H. Weston, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; B. Bassett, 8.

By a mixed band at Crawley.—On Sunday, November 25th, a 714 of Grandsire Triples. W. Ward, 1; G. Thwaites, 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; J. Newnham (conductor), 4; W. Parsons, 5; W. Collinson, 6; F. Rice, 7; A. F. Hillier, 8. Also a 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Ward, 1; J. E. Worsell, 2; W. Parsons, 3; J. Newnham, 4; W. Collinson, 5; A. F. Hillier (conductor), 6; F. Rice, 7; G. Thwaites, 8. And a 1,008 of Grandsire Triples, in 36 mins. W. Ward, 1; W. Parsons, 2; J. Newnham, 3; J. E. Worsell, 4; E. Streeter, 5; W. Collinson (conductor), 6; G. Thwaites, 7; F. Rice, 8. Also a 742 of Grandsire Triples. B. Payne, 1; J. Newnham, 2; E. Dewey, 3; E. Streeter, 4; W. Collinson, 5; J. E. Worsell, 6; G. Thwaites (conductor), 7; E. Pearce, 8. Taken from Holt's Original. Messrs. Worsell and Thwaites hail from Brighton.

By the Lindfield Branch at Lindfield.—On Wednesday, November 14th, a 360 of Grandsire Triples, in 15 mins. G. Mason, 1; A. Tompson, 2; H. Hobden, 3; C. Tyler (conductor), 4; G. F. Scott, Esq., 5; C. Holman, 6; *F. Willey, 7; *H. Beard, 8. *Covers. It might be mentioned that this is the first touch recorded from this Branch. It reflects great credit on Mr. C. Tyler, from whom the members have been receiving instruction for the past few weeks. Something more is looked for from this tower.

By the Steyning Branch at Steyning.—On Sunday, November 11th, a 720 of Yorkshire Court. J. Matthews, 1; C. Chambers, 2; T. Searle, 3; G. Gathard, 4; C. Tyler, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of College Exercise. J. Smart, 1; G. Smart, 2; C. Chambers, 3; G. Gatland, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, November 15th, a 720 Plain Bob. G. Smart, 1; C. Chambers, 2; J. Woolgar, 3; J. Matthews, 4; G. Gatland, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. *J. Matthews first 720 on a bob bell. Also on Sunday, November 18th, a 360 of London Scholars Pleasure. J. Matthews, 1; G. Gatland, 2; C. Tyler, 3; C. Chambers, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. And a 720 of College Exercise. S. Searle, 1; F. Morris, 2; G. Gatland, 3; C. Chambers, 4; G. Smart, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, November 17th, a 5040 in 7 different Minor methods, in 3 hours and 25 mins. (for particulars see peal column).

By the Worth Branch at Worth.—On Wednesday, November 14th, a 720 of College Single. W. Ogden, 1; B. Payne, 2; J. Tullett, 3; F. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, November 22nd, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 23 mins. W. Denman, 1; F. Streeter, 2; J. Tullett, 3; G. Illman, 4; B. Payne, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob, in 23 mins. B. Payne, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; F. Rice, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6.

THE BISHOP OF LINCOLN AT WHAPLODE.

The re-dedication of the bells of Whaplode parish church by the Bishop of Lincoln took place on the evening of Monday, November 19th. The ceremony took place at the conclusion of the hymn after the third collect at evensong. The bells were cast by Henry Penn, in 1718, and were rehung by a local builder from Peterborough. The service commenced at seven o'clock, but long before this the congregation began to assemble, and it was soon evident that it would be necessary to bring in benches and seats from the school. Several alterations and improvements have lately been made in the church by the Vicar, not the least of these being the conversion of the old Jacobean pulpit, which for so many years had done duty as a surplice cupboard, into a vestry at the end of the north aisle; while for the accommodation of the Bishop a temporary vestry had also been erected at the west end of the church. It was here that the clergy, after robing, assembled to form the procession at the commencement of the service, and among them were—the Rev. J. R. Jackson, the Rev. E. M. Sanderson, the Rev. Canon Hemmans, the Rev. Walter H. James, the Rev. F. Hatt, the Rev. E. H. Bree, the Rev. J. M. Coates, and the Rev. J. Collin, Vicar of the parish. The Bishop was attired in cope and mitre, and attended by his Chaplain, the Rev. W. Randolph. The hymn, "The Church's one Foundation," was sung as the processional hymn, a cornet, which accompanied the organ, being a great help to the voices, and rendering the hearty singing of the hymn by the vast congregation most impressive as the procession moved up the centre aisle. The service was fully choral, the choir doing their part excellently and carefully. Previous to the actual service of Dedication in the tower, the Vicar approached the Bishop as he left the Sacrament, and offered him an address of welcome, thanking him for coming to Whaplode, and asking his Lordship's permission to read a statement. The statement showed that the existing bell-frame is more than two centuries and a half old; that it had been allowed to get into a state of neglect and decay, and that the work had been efficiently done at the cost of £128 7s., towards which there was still required about £40. A good deal of the old wood had been used for various things in the Church, such as new seats in the chancel, a prayer desk used by the Bishop himself within the Sacrament, and an altar desk carved by the daughter of a neighbouring Vicar. Then followed the re-dedication itself, the Bishop going in procession to the tower, where he offered up a prayer of blessing, and saying the concluding prayers of re-dedication on his return to the chancel steps. Then was sung the special re-dedication hymn, in which the whole congregation joined heartily. After this came the Bishop's sermon from Exodus xxviii, 33—"Bells of Gold," in which his lordship pointed out first that God required the best to be given to His service, and then went on in spell-binding simplicity to speak of the different times and occasions, both religious and social, at which church bells are used; and in conclusion he spoke on the mottoes which are on each bell, and on which the Vicar had prepared and circulated some verses as a memento of the occasion. The sermon was listened to with rapt attention by the vast congregation. The alms of the congregation were afterwards received by the Vicar, and presented to the Bishop, who placed them on the Altar, and then gave the blessing. The collection amounted to £8 1s. 8½d.

ST. PAUL'S, SPALDING.

On Sunday last, the Rev. R. G. Ash, after the sermon at St. Paul's, remarked: I wish to call your attention to the three days' bazaar which is to be held this week on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, in the Corn Exchange, Spalding. The object for which it is proposed to raise a fund is (1) to rehang our peal of eight bells, and (2) to enlarge our Sunday School. With regard to the first, I may say that the opinions of three competent bellfounders—one of them perhaps the highest authority in this country—all unite in saying that the work must be done over again, owing to unfortunate faults of construction, which not only make it a physical impossibility to ring the bells, but which have already caused some injury to the tower and would finally endanger its safety. The estimated cost of this work is £195, plus carriage and refixing the clock hammer.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF THRAPSTON.

In this day of general restoration and improvement it is rather unusual to find a town belfry in the untidy and (from a ringer's point of view) unpleasant condition of that at Thrapston. A comfortless ringing-room, with ceiling open in places to the bells just above (rendering the operation of chiming or ringing anything but "soothing"), a much-worn newell stair, requiring very careful navigation, and lastly the bell-chamber itself, with louvreless windows, squeaking gudgeons and clappers, and an "out of order" state of things generally, is the impression left on a visitor to this belfry. Were these old bells rehung, it would not only be encouraging to the local ringers, but inviting to neighbouring teams, who might like to try for a peal on this little ring of five.

The bells are dated as follows: Treble, 1686, second, 1765, third, 1677, fourth (ancient), tenor, 1634. Diameter of largest bell, 35½ in.; weight about 9 cwt. The inscriptions are of no particular interest, except that on the fourth, which is in black letter, and reads thus: "Sancta Anna Ora Pro Nobis. J.S." This old sixteenth-century bell is rung daily at 1 o'clock.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, BATTERSEA.

On Monday, December 17th, 1888, at Lammas Hall, Bridge Road West, Old Battersea, the Swallows Minstrel Troupe will give an entertainment, when they will be supported by the following: Messrs. G. Abbey, T. Crust, H. Bert, H. Malt, A. Griggs, W. J. Kelly, A. Orchard, T. Orchard, W. Orchard, W. Revell, F. Windgate, W. H. Porter, and other Gentlemen. Doors open at 7.30. Commence at 8. Reserved Seats, 2s. each. Body of Hall, 1s. Gallery, 6d. Tickets can be obtained from any member of the Troupe; Mr. Henry S. Thomas, 71, Bridge Road West; Mr. G. Brooking, Post Office, Battersea Square; and Mr. Mullett, Post Office, Bridge Road. The proceeds, after paying expenses, will be given to the St. Mary's Bell-ringing Society.

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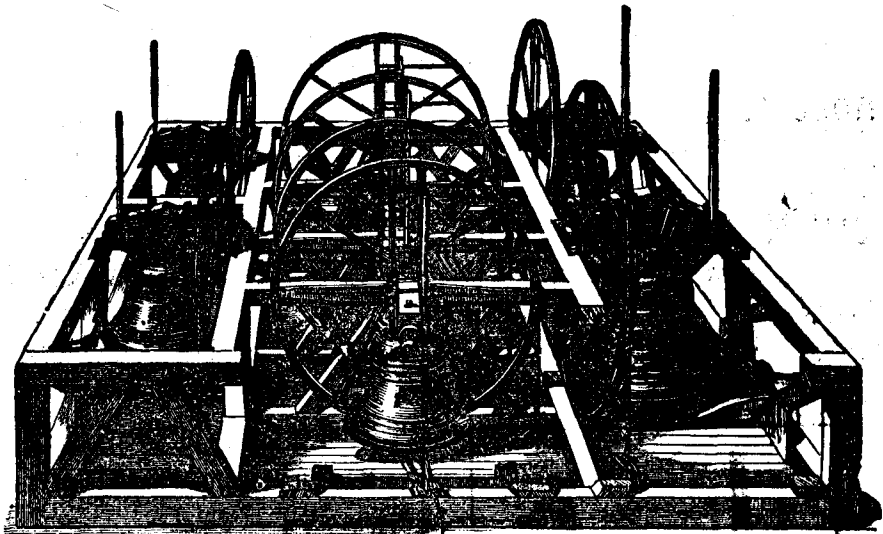
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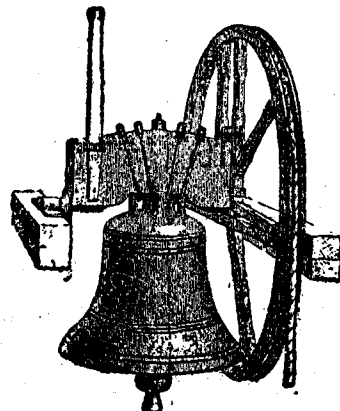
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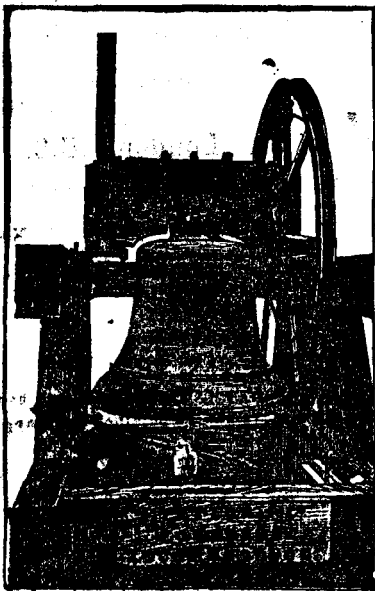
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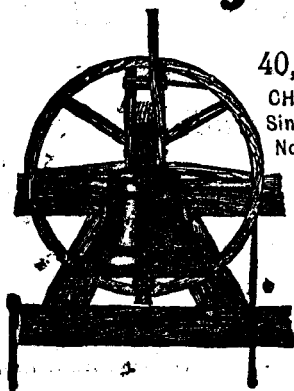
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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1888.

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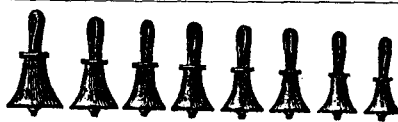
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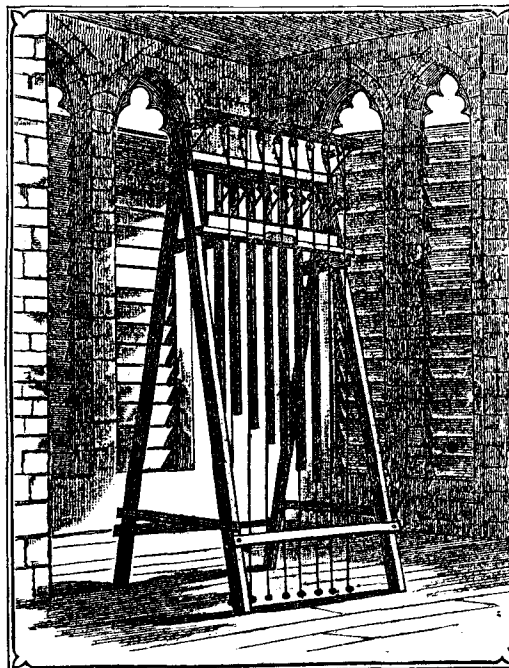
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THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—DISTRICT MEETING AT HEENE.

The fifth and last district meeting for the present year was held at Heene, near Worthing, and was well attended. Representatives from the following branches were present:—Angmering, Arundel, Balcombe, Brighton, Goring, Heene, Lindfield, and Midhurst. The majority of the ringing was upon the light eight in the tower of St. Botolph, the parish church of Heene, by Warner and Sons. The belfry at West Tarring was also visited during the afternoon. Luncheon was provided at the school-room, and between thirty and forty members sat down under the presidency of the Vicar of Heene, the Rev. H. McLeod Beckles, who was supported by the Rev. R. F. Tompkins, vicar of Tortington, the Rev. — Cowther, and Dr. George, of Midhurst. A business meeting was then held, but following so closely within one week of that at Alfriston, only one honorary (the Vicar of Heene), and five active members were proposed. Four towers were then proposed as suitable for holding the next eight bell District Meeting for West Sussex, at of which on being put to the vote, Bolney was selected by a large majority. It was then decided that the Angmering six-bell District Meeting should be held on the last Saturday in February, 1889. Votes of thanks to the Vicar of Heene for the use of the church bells and schoolroom, also for presiding at the meeting, and providing the special service (which was held in the church at four o'clock), were then carried.

The Chairman, in response, said he should have great pleasure in allowing any branch of the Association to have the use of the Heene bells at any time they wished to ring a peal or meet for a practice.

The performances consisted of touches of Stedman. Grand-sire, and Bob Triples, Treble Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob Minor.

The following is a list of the District Meetings as at present arranged for the early part of 1889:—January 26th—Seaford, East Sussex, eight-bell tower; February 23rd—Angmering, West Sussex, six-bell tower; March 23rd—Chailly, East Sussex, six-bell tower; April 23rd—Bolney, West Sussex, eight-bell tower; May (Annual Meeting), Brighton, Central, eight-bell tower.

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

FROME, SOMERSETSHIRE.

On St. Katherine's Day, the Frome-Selwood branch of the Church of England Working Men's Society, held their Annual Festival at the parish church. Amongst the members of which who joined in the procession at the close of the evening service was noticed the majority of the ringers connected with the church, wearing their medals of office, thus demonstrating the fact that they realised their position as officials of the Church and their pledge to the C.E.W.M.S., that they are prepared to stand up for the "rights and liberties" of their faith. At the entertainment which took place the following evening under the auspices of the same society, surely the ringers might have occupied a place on the well rendered and much appreciated programme by a touch on their fine set of handbells. Of late, Mr. W. S. Fricker has been unable through impaired health to take an active part in the belfry, and contemplates relinquishing his membership of the Guild at the end of the year. This it is hoped will not be the case, but that he may be restored to good health and strength as of yore, and in the coming new year continue his exertions to push on the cause of change-ringing. It possibly may be of interest to mention that the name of Fricker is well-known in the county, the late William Fricker (father to the above), being the recipient of many prizes at prize-ringing competitions, and as described by a local journal "holding a monopoly for his handbell visitations to the leading families of the town during the Christmas festivities," and for many years was captain of the Frome parish church ringers.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

A committee meeting of the above will be held at the "Swan Hotel," Edmund Street, on Saturday, December 8th, at 5 o'clock, as most important business will be brought forward.

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E. PARKER.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.

On Saturday, December 1st, five members of the Writtle company with Messrs. Piper and Tarbun from Widford, and G. C. Scowen, from Brentwood, attempted Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples. A mis-call brought it to a close after three-quarters of an hour; but they started again, and all went well for two hours, when one of the strands of the tenor rope gave way below the sally, and gradually unwound till the sally itself untwisted and it was impossible to go on ringing the bell. This was very disappointing, as the peal was going well, and would have been the first for three of the ringers, and for the conductor as such. W. Emery, 1; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 2; G. C. Scowen, 3; F. Radley, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; A. Edwards, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; W. J. Piper, 8. On Monday, December 3rd, in honour of the silver wedding day of Mr. and Mrs. T. Osborne, 504 of Grandsire Triples were rung, and at 6 a.m. and in the afternoon 840 and 504 in the same method by a band composed entirely of residents in the parish, viz. W. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; A. Edwards, 3; F. Radley, 4; R. Wood, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; A. Bonnington, 8.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 1st, a ringing meeting of the above Association was held at the Abbey church, Worksop, when members were present from Everton, Retford, Shire Oaks, and Worksop. Ringing commenced at 4 p.m., and was kept up for several hours, the most creditable performance being a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, which was brought round in 25 mins. S. Tomlinson, 1; E. Russon, 2; J. Swindm, 3; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 4; G. Brown, 5; R. Beestin, 6. The next performance was a 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. S. Tomlinson, 1; J. Swindin, 2; E. Russon, 3; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 4; G. Brown, 5; D. Russon, 6. And 360 of Violet Treble Bob. S. Tomlinson, 1; J. Swindin, 2; G. Barrowcliff, 3; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 4; D. Russon, 5; R. Beestin, 6. Several other methods were tried by mixed bands, but nothing worthy of reporting being accomplished. Messrs. Swindin and Brown hail from Everton, Hargreaves, Tomlinson, and Russons (2) hail from Shire Oaks, and Beestin and Barrowcliff are of the local company. At the business meeting after ringing it was decided to hold the next Quarterly Meeting at Retford, on Saturday, March 2nd, 1889.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Members who have not yet paid their subscriptions, are particularly requested to do so by December 1st, to ensure their names not appearing in italics in the report for the year, which will be issued as early as possible in January next. The Report for 1887 (48 pages) is given gratis to all who pay up their subscriptions, to the respective local Secretaries.

A BURIAL CASE.

Mr. Burt asked the Home Secretary on Thursday week, whether he had seen in the *Newcastle Daily Leader* of November 19th, a copy of a letter addressed to George Felton by the Rev. R. W. Snape, vicar of Lamesley, Gateshead, in reply to a notice of a burial under the Act of 1880. This letter stated that the Act required the burial to take place between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., and that the sexton was told to receive the usual fee of 8s. before beginning to make the grave. In reply, the Home Secretary said that the law did not require such notice to be given, but he was not aware that it was illegal:—

"There is nothing in the statute as to the manner in which the fee is to be collected. It is a question of ecclesiastical law whether the vicar acted legally in insisting on the payment of the fee before the opening of the grave, and I must decline to give an opinion on that point. It is one over which I have no jurisdiction. The statute says that he shall be entitled to the same fee as if the burial had taken place with the service of the Church of England."

Church News.

The Bishop of Dunedin and Mrs. Nevill left for New Zealand on Friday, December 7th, by the *Orizaba*. The Bishop's Commissaries in England are the Revs. W. A. Purey-Cust, Belton Rectory, Grantham; and W. H. Jervois, St. Matthew's, Westminster.

The Bishop of London, who was born at Santa Maura, in the Ionian Islands, completed his sixty-seventh year on Friday.

Canon Knox Little is leaving for Canada, where he is to conduct a series of Missions and visit his nephew in Manitoba. He will return to England in February next.

Bishop Cheetham, who has been vicar of West Cowes since 1882, but has resigned on account of ill health; has taken the chaplaincy of Trinity Church, Rome, for one year.

On Wednesday, the Bishop of London solemnly dedicated a fine new sea-going steamboat for the use of the Thames Church Mission to ply between London and Gravesend. The boat was named the *Edward Auriol*, and is steel built.

The Rev. James Terry Patch, late diocesan inspector, Exeter, now vicar of Cornwood, Devon, by a deed poll enrolled in the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, has changed his surname from Patch to Mundy, and will be known as the Rev. James Terry Mundy.

The Rev. Thomas Edward Usherwood, Canon of Maritzburg, now at Rossmore, Parkstone, Dorset, has been appointed Assistant Commissary to the Bishop of Maritzburg.

The Bishop of Lichfield has appointed the Rev. Charles Bodington, vicar of Christ Church, Lichfield, and Rural Dean, and also Diocesan Missioner to the canonry vacant by the death of Archdeacon Iles. The canonry will thus be directly associated with the Mission work of the diocese. Mr. Bodington was previously rector of St. James's, Wednesbury, of which church he was curate on first coming to the diocese in 1865. Two years ago he was offered the bishopric of Bloemfontein, South Africa, which he declined.

The Bishop of Lichfield has appointed the Rev. M. H. Scott, vicar of St. Mary's, Lichfield, and a brother of the late Sir Gilbert Scott, to be Archdeacon of Stafford, in succession to the late Archdeacon Iles. Mr. Scott, who was a Scholar of Caius, took his degree in 1850 as Fourth Senior Optime. Having been vicar of Ockbrook, Derbyshire, 1852-72, and St. Andrew's, Littlechurch, Derby, 1872-8, he was appointed by the Dean and Chapter to St. Mary's, and has been Prebendary of Robenhale since 1877. He is a Proctor in Convocation, chaplain to the Bishop, and a commissioner under the Pluralities Act for the Archdeaconry of Stafford. An Evangelical and earnest temperance advocate, he is descended from Scott the Commentator. His cousin, Bishop Charles Scott, is a missionary Bishop in North China.

On St. Andrew's Day two Bishops were consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury, who was assisted by many Bishops, in Westminster Abbey, in the presence of a large congregation. The Bishops-designate were Archdeacon Sumner, Prolocutor of the Lower House of Canterbury Convocation, who was to be consecrated Bishop Suffragan of Guilford, and the Ven. Charles Frederick Douet, Archdeacon of Surrey, Jamaica, who was to be consecrated Assistant-Bishop of Jamaica. The Archbishop, the Bishop of London, and the other officiating Bishops were received by the Dean and the abbey clergy in the Jerusalem Chamber, and a procession was formed, which passed through the Dean's private doorway into the abbey. The Archbishop at once commenced the Communion Service, morning prayer having been said at eight o'clock. The epistle was read by the Bishop of Winchester, and the Gospel by the Bishop of Jamaica (Dr. Nuttall). The Rev. C. Grant, who preached, selected as his text 2 Tim. ii. 3. After the sermon the Bishops-designate retired to the Islip Chapel to put on their rochets, the choir in their absence singing "The Lord hath been mindful of us" (Wesley). On their return they were formally presented to the Archbishop, the Bishops of Winchester and Dover presenting Archdeacon Sumner and the Bishops of Rochester and Jamaica, Archdeacon Douet. The Queen's mandates for the consecra-

tion having been read, and the oath of canonical obedience administered, the Litany was intoned by the Precentor, the Rev. Flood Jones. At the conclusion of the questions, when the Bishops-designate retired to put on the rest of the Episcopal habit, the choir sang, "How lovely are the messengers" (Mendelssohn). The two Bishops, fully robed, were then escorted to the presence of the Archbishop, and the *Veni Creator Spiritus* was sung as they knelt before the altar. After the consecration the two newly made prelates took their places with their Episcopal brethren. A celebration of the Holy Communion followed, the Archbishop being the celebrant, assisted by the Bishop of London and the Dean of Westminster. The offertory was given to the Jamaica Church Fund.

On the 15th ult. the chancel of Atherstone church, formerly the monastic choir of an Augustinian Priory, was reopened after being alienated from its sacred purposes for over 300 years. For some time it was used as a grammar-school, and when the new school was built the chancel was sold, and it was purchased by the Rev. F. H. Riching (the late vicar), aided by subscriptions, and partially restored at a cost of £700. It was his great wish and endeavour to finish the restoration, which was all but completed at the time of his death in July last. Towards this object he had already collected a further sum of about £550, and the work has now been finished at a probable cost of £650, the architect being Mr. J. Oldrid Scott. The chancel is very long, lofty, and finely proportioned with oak waggon roof and oak stalls, the east wall of the sanctuary being decorated with beautiful mosaic work. The magnificent perpendicular east window forms a striking feature in what is now one of the finest churches in Warwickshire, being also one of the few examples in England in which the tower stands at the intersection of the nave and chancel, and of an octagon tower. Great historic interest is attached to this restoration, for Henry VII. knelt before its altar on the eve of the battle of Bosworth Field. On removing the plaster, traces of the Tudor arms, together with the white rose of York, could plainly be seen on the east wall. The opening sermon was preached by the Bishop, who was also celebrant at the Holy Communion. At the luncheon after morning service a noble tribute was paid to the memory of the late vicar by the Bishop, also by Mr. J. S. Dugdale, M.P., Q.C., Chancellor of the diocese, and by the new vicar, the Rev. W. Northcote, who stated that Mr. T. Richings had built the vicarage and church, enlarged the endowment, rescued the chancel from secular purposes, carried out the restoration, and though called away just before its re-opening, had left full instructions by will with regard to it, which are being faithfully carried out.

The foundation stone of a new Mission church in the rapidly growing parish of Cowley St. John, Oxford, was laid on Monday week by the Warden-elect of Keble College (the Rev. R. J. Wilson). The Vicar (the Rev. W. Scott), officiated, and the architect (Mr. A. Mardon Mowbray) handed a trowel to Mr. Wilson, who declared the stone to have been laid in the faith of Jesus Christ, and in the course of a brief address remarked that that building was being erected in no small degree by the little gifts of those who could give but little.

The church which has been erected by the corporation of Liverpool in place of the old parish church of Llanwddyn, the site of which is to be submerged along with the rest of the village by the waters of the lake Vyrnwy—the great artificial reservoir for supplying Liverpool with water—was consecrated yesterday week by the Bishop of Bangor, acting on behalf of the Bishop of St. Asaph, who is incapacitated by grave illness. The new church, which is dedicated to St. Wyddyn, is about two miles from the old church, and overlooks the great Vyrnwy embankment.

There is a project, approved of by the Bishop of Rochester for erecting a Mission church at Brompton, near Chatham, to meet the requirements of a populous district, and to perpetuate the memory of the late Canon Comnay. It is stated that for twenty-four years the clerical income of the deceased clergyman never reached £150 per annum, yet whilst the vicar of St. Nicholas's Rochester, he devoted no less than £13,000 for the building and endowment of a church at Brompton.

THE BLACK LETTER SAINTS' DAYS.

Mr. Gladstone is unsurpassed in the thoroughness with which he musters and the skill with which he sets out all that can be advanced to support any proposition which recommends itself to him. We therefore wonder that in his recent article on Queen Elizabeth and the Church of England he omits to mention the "Black Letter" Saints' Days. For the Calendars of 1549 and 1552 contained only those that are known as Red Letter Days, excepting indeed the names of St. George and St. Laurence. It was in 1561 that the Calendar was revised under authority of a letter from the Queen to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. And it seems rather significant that whereas the Royal Letter directed the Commissioners to "peruse the order of the Lessons and cause some new Calendar to be imprinted, whereby such chapters or parcels to be removed and other more profitable may supply their rooms," yet in fact only the First Lessons for Whitsunday were changed, whilst the leading feature of the new Calendar, if we except the "Tables," was the insertion of more than fifty names which now appear in our Prayer Book up and down the Christian year as those of "Black Letter" saints. That the subject was not thought unimportant seems evident also from the fact that three more names were added at the last Revision, in 1661—those of Bede, St. Alban, and St. Enurchus. Something might be said as to the principles on which the selection was made from the much larger number found in the mediæval Calendars; and something also as regards the rather unaccountable omissions. Why, for instance, are not St. Cuthbert and St. Aidan and St. Patrick in their places? But it is at any rate apparent, from an inspection of the list itself, that one object kept in view was, as Mr. Francis Procter says, to "evince that the English Church was still in spirit undis severed from the national Church of earlier years, and from the brotherhood of Catholic Christianity." This is the reason why so many great names from the earlier mediæval times appear, and why so many also from Gallican hagiology. The whole transaction, both in itself and the manner of its being effected, is characteristic. It was a double-edged stroke of policy at once anti-Papal and anti-Puritan.

We are led to make these remarks in part by Mr. Gladstone's article, in part also by a very striking sermon preached in Exeter Cathedral on Sunday, September 30, by the Rev. W. J. Edmonds, one of the Prebendaries. September 30th is St. Jerome's Day in our Calendar, and some telling sentences are devoted by Mr. Edmonds to the juxtaposition of St. Jerome with St. Michael and All Angels—"the most super-human of angels, the mightiest in all the hosts of God," and "the most human, the most historical, the most passionate, the most modern of all the Fathers of the Church;" "the faulty monk next to the flawless archangel." Mr. Edmonds lays out his chief strength, however, upon what he says about the Latin Bible. Jerome's great work, which for a thousand years represented the Word of God to the whole great West of Christendom. We call attention to it because it affords signal illustration of one manner at least in which the "Black Letter" Days may be turned to account in cathedrals. In those national sanctuaries at any rate some observance of these days might surely be introduced and combined with not a little that would be instructive and edifying.

ST. NICHOLAS, GUILDFORD.

The ringers of the above church have not been able to ring the bells for many weeks in consequence of a case of severe illness near the church. On Thursday evening, November 22nd, they rang 504 of Grandsire Triples upon handbells. C. W. Miller, 1; T. H. Colburn, 2; J. Heathorn, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; J. J. Jones, 5; F. Bennett (conductor), 6; W. Groves, 7; G. Sheppard, 8.

In the parish of Haslingden, Lancashire, a new ecclesiastical district is about to be formed, Miss Turner, of Carter Place, having made arrangements before her death, which took place on Wednesday, November 28th, for the endowment of the church of St. John, Stonefold, built by her in 1885, and consecrated in the following year as a chapel-of-ease to Haslingden.

ALLEGED ASSAULT BY A RECTOR.

The rector of Eaton Bishop, the Rev. Charles Burroughs, was charged at the Herefordshire Hall on Saturday with assaulting Mr. Washington Taylor, a churchwarden, on Sunday, November 4th. The complainant, who is a farmer, alleged that with a view to enforcing the Bishop's order as to the disposal of the offertory, he followed the rector down the church at the end of the service. On reaching the vestry, the rector, who was carrying the alms-dish, turned (he said) and pushed him, and slammed the folding-doors together. Subsequently the churchwarden entered the vestry, and the rector rushed past him to go into the church. The churchwarden admitted having written to the local paper comparing the rector to Judas Iscariot; and he now declined to withdraw the expression. For the defence the assault was denied; and it was argued that the churchwarden had no business in the vestry. In dismissing the summons, the chairman of the magistrates said there was no doubt that their jurisdiction was ousted by the question of title that had been raised. He also expressed his distress that the churchwarden had not withdrawn his most disgraceful and insulting comparison.

HARROGATE, YORKSHIRE.

On Friday afternoon the Bishop of Chester laid the foundation stone of a chapel-of-ease at Starbeck, to Christ Church High Harrogate, a parish which was, till the foundation of the see of Ripon in 1836, inside the border of the diocese of Chester. A school is to adjoin the building. Preaching afterwards at Christ Church, from Neh. ii. 18, Dr. Stubbs said that when he looked back for sixty years on the district endeared to him by the earliest and best associations of a busy life, those years covered the whole period of the extension and development of Harrogate from the small cluster of ruins and lodging houses which composed it in 1828 to the great corporate town of to-day, full of wealth and life and energy. He could, as few of those present could, remember the old chapel which stood near the site of Christ Church, and which had been for some eighty years approximately adequate to the needs of the permanent inhabitants, when the old church at Knaresborough was every Sunday afternoon crowded even to stifling by the summer visitors from Harrogate. He could remember the consecration of the church in 1831, and heard the first sermon preached in it. The little hamlet for which they were at work that day was composed of the Knaresborough Spa and inn, and the Harrogate Workhouse, and scarcely half-a-dozen other houses, and Stonefall the centre and source of religious light to the whole district, the home of the venerable and beloved family of the Vicar.

The Bishop of Leicester, presiding at Northampton on Thursday, in the absence of the Bishop of Peterborough, at the annual meeting of the Northamptonshire Education Society, said that the attitude of the Church in the matter of education should be one of defence and not of defiance, but Churchmen must at all costs maintain the principle of religious education. He thought that in the country at the present time things looked favourable, and was gratified at the attitude taken up by the School Board electors in the metropolis. A resolution was passed expressing general approval of the majority report of the Education Commission.

The Lancaster ringers wish to inform the Exercise that all correspondence to them must, in future, be addressed to Mr. R. S. Hirst, 17, Martin Street, Lancaster.

A "Charles Dickens" bazaar was held last week in the Drill Hall, Macclesfield, in aid of the parish church, of which Canon Turner is the vicar. The stalls represented places mentioned in the works of Dickens. The bazaar was opened by the Bishop of Chester, and the receipts amounted to £1,100.

WANTED a good Bell-ringer who thoroughly understands the methods of change-ringing, and capable of writing out changes. To go abroad to erect and ring Harrington's Patent Tubular Bells. Passage paid out. A Carpenter or Fitter preferred. To a steady man this would be an excellent opening Address immediately, stating Age and Salary required, to HARRINGTON & Co., Coventry.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

At a meeting of the above society, held in the vestry-room of St. Alphege Church, Greenwich, on Tuesday evening, December 3rd, Mr. Edward E. Richards, of St. Mary's, Woolwich, was unanimously elected to the post of Treasurer, vacant by the resignation of the Rev. Herbert A. Cockey, M.A., who has been appointed to the vicarage of Oldland, Bristol.

FREDERICK W. THORNTON, *Hon. Sec.*

106, King George Street, Greenwich, S.E.
December 5th, 1888.

DATE TOUCHES IN THE STEDMAN METHOD FOR THE YEAR 1889.

By A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

As date touches can always be obtained in Stedman in a legitimate manner without any irregular changes, this method is preferable to others for the purpose. The following compositions may tempt those who have not the opportunity of going for a peal at least to try for a touch in this most attractive of odd bell methods.

In the touch of Triples 6-7 are at home at every course-end, and the 4th being fixed in treble's place, both 7-4 and 4-6 come together behind in each course, thus producing the best obtainable music. The following instructions may be useful to conductors who are unaccustomed to call by the number of the six.

Call the 7th Wrong, Home, Wrong, Last whole turn, In quick, Home, Home with a double, Wrong. The first course-end will come up five sixes after this last call. The distance apart of the calls can be seen below. After the first course the 7th is a fixed bell; the bobs at 7 are called at its last whole turn, those at 12 when it is in quick. In the last course the bob at 9 is made by the 7th, when it has come out slow. After making the bob it goes in quick and the bells come round at hand four sixes later. The bells behind at the single are the treble and 2nd, of which the latter makes the 6th place.

The touch of Caters is throughout in the most musical position to be had, viz., with the 6th fixed in 2nd's place, and the 5th always either at home or in treble's place. The touch of Cinques is good music generally, and arranged in the ordinary way with the treble a fixed bell. As all conductors of Caters and Cinques are familiar with the usual notation by figures, further explanation is superfluous.

1889 STEDMAN TRIPLES.

2 3 1 4 5 6	
4 1 3 2 5 6	2 7 9 15 20 23 29 30 32
4 5 2 3 1 6	7 12
4 3 5 2 1 6	12
4 2 3 5 1 6	12
4 1 5 3 2 6	7 12
4 3 1 5 2 6	12
4 2 5 1 3 6	7 12
4 1 2 5 3 6	12
4 5 1 2 3 6	12
4 3 1 2 5 6	7 12
4 2 3 1 5 6	12
4 1 2 3 5 6	12
4 5 3 2 1 6	7 12
4 2 5 3 1 6	12
4 1 3 5 2 6	7 12
4 5 1 3 2 6	12
4 3 5 1 2 6	12
4 2 1 5 3 6	7 12
4 5 2 1 3 6	12
4 1 5 2 3 6	12
1 3 4 2 6 5	7 9

Round in 3 changes.

1889 STEDMAN CATERS.

2 3 1 4 5 6	
3 6 2 1 5 4	1 6 16
5 6 4 1 3 2	4 5
4 6 2 3 5 1	4 16
4 6 1 2 5 3	16
4 6 3 1 5 2	16
5 6 3 2 4 1	4 5 16
5 6 1 3 4 2	16
1 6 2 4 5 3	4 16
1 6 3 2 5 4	16
1 6 4 3 5 2	16
5 6 4 2 1 3	4 5 16
5 6 3 4 1 2	16
5 6 2 3 1 4	16
2 6 4 1 5 3	4 16
2 6 3 4 5 1	16
5 6 1 4 2 3	4 5
1 3 4 2 6 5	

Round in 3 changes.

The last course-end is produced by bobs at 5, 6, 13, 15, 16, 19, 21, 23, 24.

1889 STEDMAN CINQUES.

2 3 1 4 5 6	
3 1 6 4 5 2	1 56 7
6 1 2 4 5 3	6
5 1 3 4 6 2	5 6
3 1 5 2 6 4	6 19
3 1 4 5 6 2	19
3 1 2 4 6 5	19
2 1 3 5 6 4	6 19
2 1 4 3 6 5	19
4 1 2 5 6 3	6 19
4 1 3 2 6 5	19
4 1 5 3 6 2	19
5 1 2 6 4 3	5 19
5 1 3 2 4 6	19
1 3 4 2 6 5	

Round in 3 changes.

The last course-end is produced by bobs at 4, 5, 8, 10, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 25, 27.

DUCKLINGTON BELL FUND.

The following Subscriptions have been received or promised to the above Fund.

	£	s.	d.
The Ven. The Archdeacon of Oxford	1 0 0
Canon Bright, Oxford	0 10 0
The Rev. F. Robinson, Drayton	0 10 0
The Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Ringmer	0 2 0
Mr. T. Holford, Oxford	0 2 0
Mr. W. J. Holford, London	0 1 0
Mr. G. A. King, Brighton	0 1 0
A few Ladies	0 9 0
A. Percival Heywood, Esq., Duffield	0 5 0
E. D.	0 3 0
Mr. W. J. Swales, Norwich	0 1 0
L. L. Cardy, Sudbury	0 1 0
In small Subscriptions	0 7 9
Total amount with Treasurer	7 0 0

Further Subscriptions will be thankfully received by

W. J. FISHER.

The Imperial Hotel, Bournemouth.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The District Meeting arranged to be held at Newington is unavoidably abandoned owing to illness in the near neighbourhood of the church.

December 4th. 1888,

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, } *Hon. Secs.*
EDWARD F. STRANGE, }

CLUN, SALOP.

INSTALMENT OF THE NEW ORGAN.—The ceremony of opening the new organ which has been placed in the parish church of St. George took place here on Tuesday last. The firm of Nicholson and Co., Worcester, was selected to build the organ, on recommendation of Sir Frederick A. G. Ouseley, canon, of Hereford Cathedral, and the Rev. W. Rayson (Lindridge), and was executed at a cost of £325, which amount, added to the expense of erection and carriage, will involve an expenditure of about £350. The specification was prepared by Sir F. Ouseley. The parishioners are at length in possession of an instrument which is worthy of their fine old church, and which will add to the already many attractions. A scheme to provide a better organ for this church was first set on foot some years ago by a number of ladies who devoted £117, the proceeds of a bazaar which they held, for the purpose of forming a fund. This sum together with its interest, now amounts to £125. The project seems to have been left dormant for a time, until last year, at a meeting held in the Town Hall to consider the best means of celebrating her Majesty's Jubilee in Clun, Mr. T. L. Brown (who officiates as organist in the parish church) proposed the organ scheme. The proposal was not very favourably received, but was ultimately adopted, and the arrangements were left with the proposer to be carried out. Mr. Brown at once set about the work with characteristic energy. The scheme met with general approval from the parishioners. The Earl of Powis headed the subscription list with £50, and the fund is now little short of £300. There was a large congregation on Tuesday, and the service, which was a fully choral one, was of a most impressive character. There were present, with the choir—The Vicar (the Rev. C. Warner), the Rev. Sir F. A. G. Ouseley, Bart., the Revs. W. Rayson (Lindridge), W. M. Rowland (Bishop's Castle), E. Brown (Clun), J. H. Brown (Bedstone), C. Borrough (Eaton Bishop), Baxter (Sibdon), and W. Glen (Wentnor). The prayers were intoned by the Rev. Rayson. The proper Psalms were 148th, 149th, 150th. The first lesson was read by the Rev. Mr. Baxter, and the second lesson by the Rev. C. Borrough. The anthem was the "Hallelujah Chorus" (Handel). The hymns were—processional 395, recessional 396, other hymns. 308 and 302, (A. & M.) Mr. W. Haynes (Malvern) presided at the organ, and the choir was conducted by Mr. T. L. Brown. The choir numbered about 40, not including the lady auxiliaries. The arduous work of training devolved entirely upon Mr. T. L. Brown, to whom the result (which reflected the greatest credit upon his instruction) must have been very gratifying. In the course of the service the Vicar read a deed signed by himself by which the new organ and brass lectern were declared to be dedicated to the use of the church for ever, and handed the same to the churchwardens—Mr. T. Gwillian (Clun) and Mr. J. Jones (Treverward)—in the presence of the congregation. An appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. Sir F. A. G. Ouseley, who took for his text 2 Kings iii. 15. The collection which was in behalf of the deficiency in the organ fund, amounted to over £12. In the evening the choir were invited by the vicar to partake of an excellent spread provided at the schools. At 8 p.m. an organ recital was given at the church by Mr. W. Haynes, when there was a large attendance, and the performance of that skilled artist were greatly appreciated.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—BROMSGROVE BRANCH.

NOTICE.—The members of this branch of the above Association intend celebrating the 100th anniversary of the 12,000 of Bob Major which was rung at Bromsgrove on December 29th, 1788, conducted by Charles Ravenscroft. Dinner will be provided at the "Golden Cross" Hotel. Further particulars will appear shortly. Any member of the above Association wishing to attend will receive a hearty welcome. Tickets for dinner 2s. 6d. each, can be had by applying to

Stourbridge Road.

WALTER REA, Sec.

The see of Oxford will become technically vacant on Wednesday next. The Right Rev. John Fielder Mackarness, who is resigning the see, completed his sixty-eighth year on Monday.

TITHE AGITATION.

In a postscript to his letter, in last week's *Guardian* issue, Mr. R. Jasper More, M.P., alluded to a scheme of redemption proposed in a letter to the *Times* of the 24th ult., by Mr. A. F. Jeffreys, the Conservative member for the Basingstoke division of Hampshire. We now subjoin the scheme as explained in that letter:—

"The reduction of the average from a septennial to a triennial is supposed to be a hardship and loss, to titheowners; but I think that is a great mistake, as if the prices of corn continue to rise as they have done this year, by a triennial system of averages we should quickly get into a high tithe again, whereas, under the old septennial average, we must have a low tithe for at least five or six years, and, therefore, this clause in the Bill is no relief to the tithepayers. But in my opinion there will never be a final settlement of the tithe question without a scheme of redemption, and with your permission I will shortly describe my plan.

"In the redemption scheme of Lord Salisbury last year it was proposed to redeem the tithes at twenty years' purchase at par—i.e., every £100 nominal value of tithe would be redeemed by a capital payment of £2,000—and the titheowners, I believe, quite agreed to this proposal; but for the tithepayer or landowner to find this money would cost him at least 4 per cent. or say, £80 a year, and as every £100 of tithe under the septennial averages for this year is only worth £84 2s 8½d., and the actual value calculated on the present prices of corn is not much over £70, it follows that no landowner of ordinary intelligence would think of redemption on these terms.

"But my plan would be—and I beg attention to this point—to redeem the tithe at, say, twenty years' purchase at par, but by means of a loan from the State at 3 per cent., to be paid of in fifty or sixty years by an annual sinking fund.

"And there is a precedent for this in the case of the loans advanced by the State to owners and occupiers of land in Ireland. This £100 nominal value of tithe at twenty years' purchase would amount to £2,000, which at 3 per cent. would cost the tithepayer £60 a year, being a very considerable and immediate relief from the incidence of the tithe; but I would also propose to pay off this capital sum of £2,000 in, say, fifty years by means of an annual sinking fund which, with the interest would only amount to £77. 13s 6½d. a year, which is considerably less than the present value of the tithe rent-charge.

"No doubt this State loan would amount to a large sum; but it would cost the country nothing, and be an excellent security as it would be a first charge on the land.

"I therefore venture to hope that the Government will introduce some measure of this kind next year, which will be fair and honourable to both titheowners and tithepayers, and will be a lasting settlement of this vexed question."

A determined resistance to the payment of tithes was made on Thursday, at Llanrhystyd, Cardiganshire. A body of men, acting for the vicar and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and supported by constabulary, attempted to collect tithes from a dozen farmers who are two years in arrears. Those who resisted included four freeholders, poor law guardians, and a county magistrate. Where animals had been distrained upon they could not be found. It was the same with hay. Ultimately nine of those who resisted paid the claims, but in three other cases a refusal was given accompanied by a threat to resist to the utmost. Large amounts for tithe are still due in various parts of the county.

THE
RINGER'S GUIDE

TO THE
CHURCH BELLS OF DEVON,

COMPRISING:

PART I.—A Brief History of Bells and Bell-Ringing, with special reference to Devon.

PART II.—A List of the Church Bells of Devon, corrected up to date and abridged from the detailed Catalogue of Inscriptions, Diameters, &c., compiled by the late Rev. H. T. ELLACOMBE.

BY

CHARLES PEARSON, M.A.,

Member of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

CLOTH ILLUSTRATED, PRICE 2s. 6d.

WILLIAM POLLARD & Co., PRINTERS, EXETER,

1888.

OUR CHRISTMAS NUMBER,

NOW IN PREPARATION,

WILL CONTAIN

A PORTRAIT

Of a well-known Change-Ringer, with short Biographical Sketch.

The number will contain Two Stories:—

"A MERRY PEAL,"

By the Author of "The Belle of Belsham."

AND

"THE CHURCHWARDEN."

By the Author of "The First Peal."

Further particulars will be announced in due course.

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

One copy, 12 months 6s. 6d.

" 6 " 3s. 3d.

" 3 " 1s. 8d.

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1888.

At their late meeting the Worcestershire Association debated the proposal with regard to a Ringers' National Benefit Society, which was recently revived in our correspondence column. We need scarcely remark that we warmly favour the scheme, and shall be ready at all times to render the matter all the help in our power. No doubt there are difficulties to surmount; we do not deny them, nor do we wish to blind the eyes of our readers to the fact of their existence. With time and care we hopefully trust that they may be overcome. And the Worcestershire Association has taken a right step in this direction by talking on the subject. It must in the first instance be well ventilated. Ringers regard themselves as Church Workers, and in their business affairs they cannot do better than copy the action of their spiritual Mother. How has the Church been enabled to make the strides that we have seen Her make within the last two or three decades? Humanly speaking, by Her system of Diocesan Conferences and Church Congresses. These assemblies have no legislative power, but by shewing the condition and strength of the general feeling of the Church, they fortify the hands of Convocation and of Churchmen in the Houses of Parliament. Earnestly therefore we would recommend all Diocesan and County Associations to name the proposed Society as one of the subjects for discussion at their next Annual or General Meeting. Nothing will ever be done without discussion, and where is the *raison d'être* of our various Guilds and Associations if it be not found in mutual counsel and deliberation? The Church House was much derided, but it is founded. At least no *opposition* has been offered to the Ringers' National Benefit Society, and were it once founded there is no knowing, as in the case of the Church House, to how many good things it may not lead.

TO be Sold. A set of Handbells. In good repair, 3 octaves in chromatic scale 37 in number. C. 22 size largest bell. No reasonable offer refused. Appl. R. Binns, 20, Mint, Low Moor Side, Holbeck, Leeds.

The Metropolis.

SHADWELL, MIDDLESEX.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, December 3, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

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

GEORGE J. SMITH* Treble.	WILLIAM BURKIN 5.
WILLIAM CECIL 2.	HENRY SPRINGALL 6.
JAMES PETTITT 3.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF 7.
FREDERICK W. RICE 4.	RICHARD T. WOODLEY .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by
JAMES PETTITT.

*First peal. Mr. Rice hails from Worth, Sussex.

STEPNEY, LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, December 5, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 31 cwt.

WILLIAM TANNER Treble.	*RICHARD J. TURNER 6.
WILLIAM CECIL 2.	†HENRY SPRINGALL 7.
WILLIAM GREENLEAF 3.	*EMANUEL HALL 8.
SAMUEL E. JOYCE† 4.	SAMUEL HAYES 9.
YORK GREEN* 5.	*THOMAS BAKER Tenor.

Composed by HENRY C. HALEY, and Conducted by
HENRY SPRINGALL.

*First peal of Caters. †First peal of Grandsire Caters.

The Provinces.

BEDFORD.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BEDFORD BRANCH.)

On Monday, November 26, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

5040 CHANGES UPON SIX BELLS,

Being a 720 each of the following:—

WOODBINE TREBLE BOB, OXFORD TREBLE BOB, KENT TREBLE BOB,
PLAIN BOB, OXFORD BOB, GRANDSIRE MINOR, AND DOUBLE COURT BOB

Tenor 7 cwt. in B.

WILLIAM C. ALLEN Treble.	ISAAC HILPS 4.
FRANK SMITH 2.	SAMUEL J. CULLIH 5.
FREDERICK SHARP 3.	CHARLES W. CLARKE .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

F. Sharp and F. Smith's first 5040. Mr. F. Sharp was proposed a member of the
above Association previous to starting for the peal.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE STEYNING BRANCH).

On Tuesday, November 26, 1888, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

Being a 720 each of the following.

NEW LONDON PLEASURE, DUKE OF YORK, COLLEGE EXERCISE,
LONDON SCHOLAR'S PLEASURE, WOODBINE, OXFORD, and KENT.

Tenor 12 cwt.

J. MATTHEWS Treble.	C. CHAMBERS 4.
C. TYLER 2.	J. WOOLGAR 5.
G. GATLAND 3.	G. SMART Tenor.

Conducted by G. SMART.

First 5040 by all the above in seven Treble Bob methods.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION, AND THE ASHTON-
UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Wednesday, November 28, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE "CROWN" INN, STAMFORD STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

WILLIAM JAKEMAN 1-2.	HARRY HEAP 5-6.
GEORGE LONGDEN* 3-4.	*JOHN LEIGH 7-8.

Conducted by WILLIAM JAKEMAN.

This peal was taken from the *Clavis* *First peal in the method on handbells.

SOWERBY, YORKSHIRE.

THE ALL SOULS' SOCIETY, HALIFAX.

On Thursday, November 29, 1888, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

H. REYNOLDS* Treble.	*H. PAYNE 5.
T. PARKER* 2.	*C. E. STEWART 6.
G. H. C. COPPING* 3.	A. F. NICHOLL 7.
J. S. AMBLER 4.	*S. W. STEWART Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, of Sheffield, and Conducted by
S. W. STEWART.

This is the first peal ever rung by the above Society with the exception of H.
Payne. *Members of the Yorkshire Association.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(BURTON BRANCH).

On Thursday, November 29, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM LIGGINS Treble.	WILLIAM OWEN 5.
WILLIAM J. SMITH 2.	LEONARD BULLOCK 6.
JOHN DUNMORE 3.	JOHN BULLOCK 7.
JAMES HOPKIN 4.	JOSEPH CURTIS Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

This peal was rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. Walter Canner (the worthy
captain of the Ashby Society), to Miss A. Hill, of Packington, Leicestershire.
Messrs. Bullock, Smith and Jaggar hail from Burton-on-Trent.

BOLTON, BRADFORD, YORKS.

THE SOCIETY OF COPLEY SCHOLARS, AND THE
YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 29, 1888, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES',

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

BERNARD E. HOWE* Treble.	ALFRED RILEY 5.
J. COTTERELL 2.	J. W. CUNDALL 6.
B. EMMOTT* 3.	F. LONDON 7.
G. TITTERINGTON 4.	S. PALFRAMAN Tenor.

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL, and Conducted by F. LONDON.

*First peal.

FRAMPTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, November 29, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES,

Being Forty-Two Six-Scores, each called differently.

WALTER ELLIS* Treble.	LIONEL LONGNEY 4.
TIMOTHY HARMER 2.	HENRY MERRETT 5.
ROBERT ELLIS 3.	REUBEN GARDNER Tenor.

Conducted by LIONEL LONGNEY.

*First 5040, also the first 5040 on the bells. Messrs. Harmer and Merrett hail
from Elmore; L. Longney from Croome; the rest from Longney

PULFORD, CHESHIRE.

On Thursday, November 29, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:—

DOUBLE OXFORD BOB, OXFORD BOB, COLLEGE SINGLE, GRANDSIRE, BOB MINOR, OXFORD AND KENT.

SAMUEL JONES* Treble.	WALTER THOMAS 4.
GEORGE JONES 2.	WILLIAM MORGAN 5.
JAMES MERCER 3.	JAMES MORGAN Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES MORGAN.

*First peal.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, KIDDERMINSTER.

On Saturday, December 1, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt in D.

JEREMIAH BENNETT Treble.	W. HENRY SMITH 5.
GEORGE SALTER 2.	J. THOS. SALTER 6.
JOHN BENNETT 3.	RICHARD E. GROVE 7.
JOHN CRANE 4.	THOMAS WALTERS Tenor.

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD, and Conducted by R. E. GROVE.

First peal in the method by all the band, also first in the method on the bells.

WOODBIDGE, SUFFOLK.

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

On Saturday, December 1, 1888, in Three Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5568 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

Tenor 28 cwt in D.

JAMES MOTTS Treble.	WILLIAM FOSDIKE 5.
WILLIAM MOTTS 2.	FREDERICK MEE 6.
WILLIAM P. GARRETT 3.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE 7.
JOHN FOSDIKE 4.	FREDERICK TILLET 8.

Composed by the late THOMAS DAY, and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

This peal was rung on the occasion of the fixing of a peal board for the first and only peal of Stedman Triples on the bells, and it is also the first part of the 16,608 of the late Thomas Day's composition. Messrs. Fosdike and Ward are local men; the rest are members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich.

ECCLESFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 1, 1888, in Three Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6144 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 18 cwt.

JOSEPH MULLIGAN Treble.	THOMAS TURTON 5.
WILLIAM TURTON 2.	FREDERICK TURTON 6.
SAMUEL HEMMINGFIELD 3.	GEORGE SHAW 7.
CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY 4.	ARTHUR BRIERLEY Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by GEORGE SHAW.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, December 1, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

JOSEPH COOPER Treble.	SIDNEY SMITH 5.
EDWIN CASHMORE 2.	SIMEON SLATER 6.
GEORGE GRIFFITHS 3.	WILLIAM A. COOPER 7.
EDWARD WOODHALL 4.	JOSIAH HARFORD Tenor.

Conducted by W. A. COOPER.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 1, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL

Tenor 12½ cwt.

HARRY PEARCE Treble.	ALCHIN MOORCRAFT 5.
WILLIAM J. REEVE 2.	FREDERICK J. FRENCH 6.
FREDERICK G. NEWMAN 3.	RICHARD FRENCH 7.
GEORGE CONYARD 4.	WILLIAM SAXBY Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

Previous to starting Messrs. Reeve and R. French were elected members of the above Association.

QUORNDON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 1, 1888, in Five Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 9120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt. 2qrs. 18lb.

AMOS CRESSER Treble.	J. BUTTERTY 5.
CHAS. SMITH 2.	W. T. BILLINGHURST 6.
RD. LANE 3.	A. MILLIS 7.
JOS. HARDY 4.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. Tenor.

Composed by J. LOCKWOOD, and Conducted by JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN.

SHARNBROOK, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 1, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

5040 CHANGES UPON SIX BELLS,

Being a 720 each of the following:—

WOODBINE TREBLE BOB, OXFORD TREBLE BOB, KENT TREBLE BOB, PLAIN BOB, OXFORD BOB, GRANDSIRE MINOR, AND DOUBLE COURT

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ALBERT BARCOCK Treble.	A. E. CHAPMAN 4.
FRANK SMITH 2.	ISAAC HILLS 5.
CHARLES W. CLARKE 3.	WILLIAM A. HALL Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

Messrs. Hall and Chapman hail from Rushden, Northants, and were made members on this occasion.

BEENHAM, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 1, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHOD ON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:—

DOUBLE OXFORD BOB, SINGLE OXFORD BOB, COURT BOB, CANTERBURY PLEASURE, COLLEGE SINGLE, PLAIN BOB, AND GRANDSIRE.

Tenor 10 cwt.

GEORGE WEBB Treble.	THOMAS BIDMEAD 4.
HUBERT HATTO 2.	JOSEPH HATTO 5.
ARTHUR RICHARDSON 3.	JOSEPH RICHARDSON Tenor.

Conducted by J. RICHARDSON.

LIVERPOOL.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 3, 1888, in Two Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. J. R. PRITCHARD, 40, LOWTHER STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 19 size in F.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD* 1-2.	THOMAS HAMMOND 5-6.
JOHN ASPINWALL* 3-4.	*WILLIAM DAVIES 7-8.

Conducted by JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

Umpire, Mr. George Fisher, who ticked off each bob lead as rung. *College Youths. The above is the first handbell peal by all except J. Aspinwall, and is the fifth rang in Liverpool, the last having been rung upwards of twenty-two years ago.

GREAT MARLOW, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 1, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS',

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN C. TRUSS, SEN.	Treble.	HENRY COLLINS	5.
HEZEKIAH ROGERS	2.	SAMUEL QUINTIN	6.
JAMES W. WILKINS	3.	EDWIN ROGERS	7.
CHARLES SMITH	4.	JOHN WOOLFORD	Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WILKINS.

This is C. Smith, H. Collins, and S. Quintin's first peal. Messrs. Truss, Collins and Smith belong to Marlow; the rest to Boyne Hill. The above was rung as a birthday peal for H. Rogers.

LOUGHTON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 3, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 10½ cwt. in E Natural.

GEORGE CARTER	Treble.	JAMES RANN	5.
GEORGE PERRY	2.	FREDERICK FREEMAN	6.
WILLIAM LEBBON	3.	WALTER CLARK	7.
EDWARD BACON	4.	JAMES BROWN	Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM LEBBON.

First peal by treble, 2nd, and tenor men, and first peal with a bob bell by 5th and 7th men, and is the first peal on the bells by an entirely local company, and was rang at the first attempt.

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LIVERPOOL.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Wednesday, November 28th, at the house of Mr. J. R. Pritchard, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 1-2; J. Aspinwall (composer), 3-4; T. Hammond, 5-6; J. Martin, 7-8.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL.—On Tuesday, December 4th, at the church of Holy Trinity, a date touch of Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr and 12 mins. R. Chaffer, 1; W. T. Verity, 2; J. F. Malaby, 3; H. Jenkins, 4; T. Stockdale, 5; J. Dixey, 6; W. Southwick, 7; C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 8. In this touch the 6th is at home in every course-end.

OLNEY.—On Friday evening, November 30th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1888 changes), in fifteen different methods, in 1 hr. 20 mins. G. Mynard, 1; W. Jones, 2; J. Coles, 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Freeman (conductor), 5; B. Branson, 6. Tenor 36 cwt.

DONCASTER.—On Sunday morning, December 2nd, for Divine Service, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr and 15 mins. H. Fevre, 1; W. Newsome, 2; H. Brock, 3; G. Marwood, 4; T. Fevre, 5; J. White, 6; J. Leach, 7; W. Howard, 8. Tenor 30 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Tuesday, November 20th, a 720 of Oxford Bob. C. Eagles, 1; R. Jordan, 2; G. Cox, 3; A. Mills, 4; T. Stedman, 5; R. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also a 720 Worcester Surprise. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; A. Mills, 4; D. Stedman, 5; D. Jordan, 6. And on Friday, November 23rd, a 720 of Coventry Surprise. M. Jenkins, 1; R. Jordan, 2; T. Stedman, 3; E. Jordan, 4; A. Mills, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in this method on the bells, also the first by all the ringers. And on Sunday, November 25th, a 720 of Coventry Surprise. J. Akehurst, 1; E. Jordan, 6; E. Jordan, 3; M. Jenkins, 4; A. Mills, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 240 each of London, Wells, and Superlative in the same order as in Coventry.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

HAGLEY.—On Sunday, November 25th, 720 of Grandsire Minor (twenty-four singles and thirty-six bobs), in 25 mins. W. Bradley, 1; H. Morris, 2; T. Lees, 3; J. Barber, 4; J. Smith, 5; W. Short (conductor), 6. Composed by the Rev. E. W. Carpenter, and published in "THE BELL NEWS" on Saturday, November 24th, and is believed to be rung for the first time.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—(*Handbell Ringing*).—On Friday, November 23rd, at the house of Mr. T. Barber, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure in 22 mins. *G. Workman, 1; T. Barber, 2; J. Smith, 3; H. Morris, 4; W. Short (conductor), 5; *J. Barber, 6. *First 720 in the method.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, November 22nd, at St Mary's Church, 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Sharp, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. Hall, 6. Also two 120's Stedman Doubles. F. Smith, 1; I. Hills, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; W. Hall, 5. And 144 Double Court. W. Hall, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; F. Sharp, 3; F. Smith, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; I. Hills, 6. Also at St. Paul's church, on Sunday, December 2nd, for morning service, 503 of Grandsire Triples. J. Spencer, 1; J. N. Frossell, 2; W. Hall, 3; F. Keech, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; W. Allen, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. Pass, 8. Also for afternoon service, 672 in the same method. F. Hull, 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Sharp, 3; W. Allen, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; J. N. Frossell, 8.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WITTON, NORTHWICH (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, November 28th, at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor in 28 mins. W. Forster (conductor), 1; S. Forster, 2; R. Chantler, 3; T. Forster, 4; J. Bell, 5; S. Moore, 6. First 720 in any method by S. Moore.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MIDHURST (Sussex).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Tuesday, November 13th, for practice, 112 and 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Selby, 1-2; W. H. George, 3-4; G. Williams (conductor), 5-6; Mrs. G. Williams, 7-8. And on Tuesday, November 27th, 289 Stedman Triples. W. H. George, 1; W. Selby, 2; Rev. J. L. Cother, 3; W. Court, 4; G. Williams (conductor), 5-6; Mrs. G. Williams, 7-8. Also on Thursday, November 29th, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 25 mins. T. Ellis, 1; W. Court, 2; J. Lee, 3; C. Tribe, 4; W. Selby, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor. And on Thursday, November 8th, 588 Bob Triples. T. Ellis, 1; W. Selby, 2; C. Tribe, 3; W. H. George, 4; G. Williams, 5-6; Mrs. Williams, 7-8. Also on Tuesday, November 13th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Selby, 1-2; W. H. George, 3-4; G. Williams, 5-6; Mrs. Williams, 7-8. Also 112 of Grandsire Triples in the same order, G. Williams (conductor). And on Thursday, November 15th, on the church bells, for practice, 360 Kent Treble Bob. T. Ellis, 1; W. Selby, 2; J. Lee, 3; C. Tribe, 4; G. Batts, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, November 27th, on handbells, 289 of Stedman Triples. W. H. George, 1; W. Selby, 2; Rev. J. L. Cother, 3; W. Court, 4; G. Williams (conductor), 5-6; Mrs. Williams, 7-8.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING.—On Sunday evening, November 25th, after Divine Service at the church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, 840 Union Triples. E. Jarvis, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. Ladd, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6; G. Skeef, 7; J. W. Jarvis, 8. And on Tuesday, November 27th, 1680 Union Triples, in 1 hr. 5 mins. E. Jarvis, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; J. W. Jarvis, 3; G. Skeef, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6; R. Jarvis, 7; G. Ladd, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BIRCHINGTON.—On Saturday evening, December 1st, for practice, at All Saints' church, 720 of Grandsire Minor. *E. Golder, 1; G. Willshire, 2; T. B. Reed, 3; T. B. Reed jun., 4; L. Willshire (conductor), 5; J. Bristow, 6. *First 720. Also 120 of Grandsire Doubles. L. Willshire, 1; G. Willshire, 2; T. B. Reed, 3; T. B. Reed sen., 4; J. Bristow, 5; *W. Enden, 6. Also 120 of Grandsire Doubles, with H. Wilson tenor, the others standing as before. *First 120.

THE ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY.

EXETER.—On Sunday evening, December 2nd, for Divine Service at St. Sidwell's church, 2226 Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, in 1 hr. 23 mins. T. Mudge, 1; C. Carter, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; S. Binfield, 4; W. Stocker, 5; E. Shepherd (conductor), 6; J. Moss, 7; J. T. Lake, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WINDSOR (Berks).—On Monday, November 12th, at St. John's, 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 20 mins. H. Reeves, 1; A. Garaway, 2; W. Wilder, 3; F. Simkins, 4; A. Andrews, 5; R. Flaxman, 6; A. C. Fussell (conductor), 7; F. Waites, 8. Also a 210 in the same method. G. King, 1; H. Reeves, 2; W. Wilder, 3; A. Andrews, 4; A. Garaway, 5; A. C. Fussell (conductor), 6; R. Flaxman, 7; F. Waites, 8. And a 252 of Bob Triples. C. King, 1; H. Reeves, 2; R. Flaxman, 3; W. Wilder, 4; A. Andrews, 5; A. Garaway, 6; A. C. Fussell (conductor), 7; F. Simkins, 8. Tenor 22 cwt.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—On Thursday, November 29th, a 504 of Bob Triples, and a touch of Bob Minor by W. Leader, R. Flaxman, H. Reeves, A. Andrews, A. Garaway, W. Wilder, A. C. Fussell, and F. Simkins. Tenor 9 cwt. Conducted by A. C. Fussell. Mr. Reeves who is a private in the 2nd Grenadier Guards stationed at Windsor, was formerly a member of the Sussex County Association.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOMBOURN.—On Wednesday evening, November 28th, at the parish church, the local company rang 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 27 mins. G. Deans, 1; H. Deans, 2; G. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; J. E. Claridge, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, December 2nd, for Divine Service, 720 Double Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. G. Little, 1; H. Deans, 2; R. Cartwright (conductor), 3; W. Devey, 4; J. E. Claridge, 5; W. Wakley, 6. Also for evening service 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor. R. Cartwright (conductor), 1; H. Deans, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; J. E. Claridge, 5; W. Wakley, 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. Mr. W. Wakley hails from Burton-on-Trent.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LIVERPOOL.—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday, November 24th, at the house of Mr. John R. Pritchard, 720 Grandsire Minor in 21 mins. J. R. Pritchard (conductor) 1-2; J. Aspinwall, 3-4; W. G. Mann, 5-6. Also on Sunday, November 25th, 720 Bob Minor in 20 mins. J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 1-2; J. Aspinwall, 3-4; T. Hammond, 5-6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—On Tuesday evening, December 4th, for practice, at the church of SS. Mary and Cuthbert, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 32 mins. A. Thompson, 1; G. Curry, 2; W. Brown, 3; T. Walker, 4; W. Sheraton, 5; J. Swinburne (conductor), 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Sunday, December 2nd, at the parish church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; G. Spicer, 2; J. Phillips, 3; J. Smith, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; *A. Squires (conductor), 6; Richard Jackson, 7; G. Gentle, 8. *First touch of Triples as conductor on tower bells. Also a 112 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; *E. Bray, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; G. Spicer (conductor), 4; J. Smith, 5; A. Squires, 6; Richard Jackson, 7; W. Bidnell, senr., 8. And 168 in the same method. T. Webb (conductor) 1; J. Phillips, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; *J. Craft, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; G. Spicer, 6; Richard Jackson, 7; E. Bygrave, 8. *Their first touch on tower bells. Also on Wednesday, November 28th, on hand-bells, 742 of Grandsire Triples. G. Poulter, 1; E. Bray, 2; J. Morley, 3; J. Craft, 4; W. Bidnell, jun., 5; A. Thurgood, 6; G. Spicer (conductor), 7; J. Cutts, 8. And 280 in the same method standing as before.

BATH.—Recently at the Abbey, 252 of Grandsire Caters. W. Langham, 1; J. Henton, 2; G. Hill, 3; G. Temple, 4; J. Smith, 5; H. Wotton, 6; J. Holman, 7; J. Wotton, 8; H. Brown (conductor), 9. N. Wake and A. Crocker, 10.

BELGRAVE (Leicestershire).—On Monday, December 3rd, for practice at the parish church, 895 Grandsire Triples. G. Pole, 1; H. Clayton, 2; G. Burrows (conductor), 3; A. Millis, 4; J. Needham, 5; J. Pole, 6; S. Pole, 7; W. Bennet, 8.

BRISTOL.—On Saturday, December 1st, at St. Luke's church, 720 Grandsire Minor. T. Salter (conductor), 1; A. Parish, 2; C. H. Gordon, 3; G. Towell (first 720), 4; J. Davies, 5; C. Tompkins, 6.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Monday, November 26th, at the parish church, on the occasion of a recreation ground and public gardens being opened, given by Mr. and Mrs. Courtenauld, of Bocking, two 720's of Bob Minor were rung. A. Spurge, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargeant, 4; E. Radley, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. Also 360 in the same method (24 singles) conducted by E. Radley. Also several other touches of Bob Minor and Oxford Treble Bob were rung during the afternoon. E. Ridley hails from Stisted.

CARSHALTON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, November 27th, at All Saints' church, the local company assisted by Messrs. J. and A. J. Plowman, rang a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 30 mins. †T. Holder, 1; *A. J. Plowman, 2; †C. E. Buckingham, 3; †E. Matthews, 4; J. Plowman (conductor), 5; J. Harding, 6; †E. Hollands, 7; †W. Bromsgrove, 8. *First half-peal with a bob bell; †first half-peal.

COLN ST. ALDWYNS (Gloucestershire).—On Monday evening, December 3rd, for practice at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. C. Bate, 1; R. Jefferies, 2; J. Kitchener (conductor), 3; H. Griffin, 4; T. Wittchell, 5; T. Smith, 6.

ELHAM, KENT.—On Saturday evening, November 24th, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung (fourteen singles and four bobs), in 27 mins. J. Prebble, 1; R. Andrews, 2; A. Beer, 3; C. Laker, 4; J. Andrews, 5; D. Tanton (conductor), 6. Also another 720 in the same method, with eighteen bobs and two singles. G. Greenstreet, 1; J. Andrews, 2; R. Ansley, 3; H. Cheeseman, 4; A. Tanton, 5; T. Hooker (conductor), 6. Tenor 16½ cwt.

GREENWICH (Kent).—On Friday, November 30th, at the church of St. Alphege, the usual funeral peal, was rung with the bells deeply muffled, as a mark of respect to the memory of William Davies, jun., one of the local band, who died on the 24th ult. H. W. Grout, 1; J. Lamb, 2; R. Shade, 3; W. Buckmaster, 4; S. Gibbs, 5; W. Foreman, 6; W. G. Davis, 7; F. W. Thornton, 8.

HORSSELL.—On Monday, November 26th, a few members of the St. Nicholas company, visited the above place, and rang at the parish church several 120's of Grandsire Doubles. C. W. Miller, 1; W. Groves (conductor), 2; J. Heathorn, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; T. H. Colburn, (first six-score on an inside bell), 5; W. Biles (Horsell), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt.

KIDDERMISTER.—On Sunday, December 2nd, for Divine Service at the parish church, 1008 Bob Major. J. Bennett, 1; T. Bennett, 2; G. Salter, 3; J. Bennett, 4; W. H. Smith, 5; J. T. Salter, 6; R. E. Grove (conductor), 7; J. Crane, 8.

TWERTON.—On Thursday, November 29th, for practice, at St. Michael's, 2520 of Grandsire Triples. J. Smith, 1; G. Temple, 2; W. Davies, 3; H. Wotton, 4; J. Holman, 5; J. Wotton (conductor), 6; J. Blackmore, 7; A. Crocker, 8. And a course of Stedman Triples. W. Langham, 1; G. Temple, 2; W. Davies, 3; J. Smith, 4; H. Wotton, 5; J. Wotton, 6; J. Holman, 7; W. Dicks, 8.

PIMLICO.—On Sunday, November 25th, for Divine Service, at the church of St. Gabriel's, 1120 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, in 41 mins. W. Hoverd, 1; G. T. McLaughlin, 2; E. Carter, 3; H. R. Newton, 4; F. G. Newman, 5; J. N. Oxborrow, 6; C. F. Winny, 7; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 8. Also upon hand-bells, retained in hand, 461 of Grandsire Triples. C. F. Winny, 1-2; H. R. Newton (conductor), 3-4; G. T. McLaughlin, 5-6; C. Creasey (Spalding), 7-8. And after service, at the church of St. Barnabas, 395 of Grandsire Caters. C. Creasey (Spalding), 1; W. E. Garrard, 2; W. Coombe, 3; W. Lalley, 4; W. Carter, 5; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 6; H. Swain, 7; G. T. McLaughlin, 8; W. George, 9; W. Cropley, 10. Also 379 in the same method. C. F. Winney, 1; W. Lalley, 2; W. Coombe, 3; W. Hoverd, 4; H. F. Newton, 5; J. M. Hayes, 6; H. Swain, 7; G. T. McLaughlin (conductor), 8; W. H. George, 9; — Wilson, 10.

PONTEFRAC (Yorks).—On Thursday, November 29th, at the parish church a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Gelder, 1; W. Pease, 2; J. Harist, (first 720), 3; B. Watkinson, 4; R. Brook, 5; F. Lee (conductor), 6.

RINGSTEAD (Northants).—On Saturday, November 10th, at the parish church, a 720 of Double Court. F. Clayton, 1; A. H. Martin, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; W. Hall, 4; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 5; J. B. Martin, 6. And 324 of London Siagle. H. Stubbs, 1; A. H. Martin, 2; W. Hall (conductor), 3; G. Burton, 4; F. Clayton, 5; J. B. Martin, 6. Also 360 Oxford Bob. W. J. Gilbert, 1; A. H. Martin, 2; J. B. Martin, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; F. Clayton, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. And 360 of Bob Minor. W. Hall, 1; F. Chapman, 2; J. B. Martin, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; A. H. Martin (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Kent Treble Bob. F. Clayton, 1; A. H. Martin (conductor), 2; A. E. Chapman, 3; W. Hall, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; H. Stubbs, 6. And at the "Axe and Cleaver" Inn, on hand-bells, a 518 of Grandsire Triples. G. Burton, 1; J. B. Martin, 2; W. Hall, 3; A. H. Martin, 4; A. E. Chapman, 5; W. J. Gilbert, 6; H. Stubbs, 7-8. The above touch is the first part of Holt's ten-part, and conducted by A. H. Martin. Also a course of Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Clayton, 1; J. B. Martin, 2; W. Hall, 3; A. H. Martin, 4; A. E. Chapman, 5; F. Slade, 6; W. J. Gilbert, 7; H. Stubbs, 8. First course by all except the fourth man.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co. Printers, Exeter.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Tuesday, November 20th, for practice, at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; W. Watts, 2; I. Hammond, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Cavill, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Double Oxford Bob. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, November 25th, for afternoon service, 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; I. Cavill, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, November 27th, 350 of Plain Bob Minor. T. J. Watts, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. †T. J. Watts, 1; W. Watts, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, December 2nd, for afternoon service, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; G. Gray, 2; W. Watts, 3; I. Hammond, 4; J. Luckey, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. †First 720. Tenor 1; cwt.

STOKE PRIOR (Worcestershire).—On Monday, November 26th, for practice, at St. Michael's church, 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. *O. Stanworth, 1; †G. Lucas, 2; J. Thompson, 3; A. Moore, 4; W. Lewis, 5; †J. Mason (conductor), 6. *First 720. †First 720 with a bob bell. †First 720 as conductor. Also on Sunday, December 2nd, several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Clisset, 1; G. Lucas, 2; J. Thompson, 3; O. Stanworth, 4; J. Mason, 5; E. Busk, 6.

WANDSWORTH.—On Saturday, December 1st, at the parish church, the All Saint's (Fulham) band rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins. C. E. Kelley, 1; J. G. Green, 2; F. W. Kelley, 3; J. Nicholls jun., 4; F. Davey, 5; J. W. Kelley, 6; W. E. Garrard, 7; S. How, 8. Conducted by J. W. Kelley. The above members take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar of Wandsworth for the use of the steeple, and the Clerk and Steeple-keeper for their courtesy.

WOLLASTON.—On Saturday, December 1st, at the parish church, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. *F. Molineux, 1; T. Barber, 2; H. Morris, 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Short (conductor), 5; J. Barber, 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor. F. Wright, 1; T. Barber, 2; H. Morris, 3; J. Smith, 4; J. Barber, 5; W. Short (conductor), 6. Messrs. Short and Barber hail from Clent, the others from Hagley.

Correspondence.

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

A CORRECTION.

SIR.—I see by your issue of November 24th, that I am credited with ringing the 2nd and tenor, and conducting a 720 of Single Court Bob, at Market Deeping, on the 12th inst. The ringer of the tenor and conductor should have been "T. S. Smith," of Witham.
J. T. HOLLIS.

A FALSE PEAL.

F SIR.—I am very sorry to say that Shipway's peal of Bob Major, 5120, which was rung at St. Martin's, Salisbury, and called by me on the 17th October last, is false. Mr. Arthur Knights, of Chesterfield has been kind enough to point this out to me. This composition appears in the "Shipway Reprint."
W. W. GIFFORD.

A memorial window, by Messrs. Burlison and Grylls, to the late Canon Lowe, for so many years vicar of Willingdon, near Eastbourne, has been dedicated in the church by Archdeacon Sutton, on behalf of the subscribers. The Archdeacon preached a most impressive sermon from Prov. x. 7, dwelling on the long and faithful services of the late Canon and the wonderful way in which he kept touch with all classes among his people. The church was well-filled, and there was a large number of communicants. The offertory was for the sick and aged in the parish. The memorial window, which is at the north side of the chancel, immediately opposite the window erected to the memory of the late Mrs. Lowe, consists of two lights, representing the Good Samaritan and the Good Shepherd. Underneath the window a memorial brass tablet has been placed, having upon it these words:—"To the glory of God, and in grateful memory of Thomas Lowe, M.A., of Oriel College, Oxford, Canon Prebendary of Chichester, thirty-seven years vicar of this parish (1850-1887), seventeen years Rural Dean of Pevensy Division I.; this window is erected by friends and parishioners who loved and revered him."

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It is proposed to close the above list on December 20th, 1888, and any other brother strings who should feel disposed to give a small trifle towards this deserving case will be gratefully received by the undersigned
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THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—DEVONPORT DOCK-YARD BRANCH.

This Society has been earnestly striving for the last six weeks to accomplish a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. Their meetings have been on every Saturday evening. On one occasion the fourth rope broke; on another occasion after ringing over a thousand the sixth rope broke, at other times a mistake has happened. But on Saturday, December 1st, their efforts were crowned with success by accomplishing 1260 changes without a hitch in 42 mins. E. Cross, 1; G. Broderick, 2; E. Hendy, 3; J. Steed, 4; A. Richards, 5; W. Pine, 6; W. Marsh (conductor), 7; W. Condry, 8. This is believed to be the first quarter-peal by any local band since the days when their respected and esteemed President, Mr. W. Banister, took an active part in change-ringing. They hope yet to cheer his heart by accomplishing a whole peal. This quarter-peal contains twenty-four 6-7's, and was composed by E. Pitt, of Exeter.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MANCHESTER BRANCH.

A meeting of the above Branch will be held at the parish church, Eccles, on Saturday, December 15th. Bells ready at three o'clock. A good attendance is requested.

JOHN EACHUS, Secretary.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Retgression is contrary to nature."

It would be difficult to peruse the pages of last Saturday's paper without being impressed with the idea that bell-founders, bell-hangers, and bell-ringers are alike busy just now. New rings are being opened, and old ones re-hung, while the list of peals accomplished swells out into page after page. This is a satisfactory "sign of the times." When we remember the doleful prognostications some years ago of the decay of our favourite art, through the indifference of Churchpeople and the public generally, these signs alone are evidence enough to dispose of those optimist notions, and to prove that the science of change-ringing never existed in more happy times than the present. If ever our art and work does degenerate and lose its hold on the public taste and sympathies, the cause of it will, I am fully convinced, have to be laid to the charge of ourselves, from our own lack of energy, and neglect to keep ourselves up to the standard. Happily there is no fear of that deplorable state of affairs. Present appearances bode in the opposite direction; and thus, without a great change for the worst takes place, bell-founders, bell-hangers, and bell-ringers may reckon on a continuation of busy times. May it be so!

As a contrast to this satisfactory state of affairs, we have an account of the condition of the bells at Thrapston: "a comfortable ringing-room, with ceiling open in places to the bells just above; . . . a much-worn newell stair, requiring very careful navigation, and lastly the bell-chamber itself, with its louvreless windows, squeaking gudgeons and clappers, and an 'out of order' state of things generally." Here is a pretty state of affairs for you. Are there any ringers at Thrapston? If so, they ought to be thoroughly ashamed of themselves. We are told that were these bells re-hung, it would be "encouraging to the local ringers." But what are these local ringers about that they do not of themselves make things more creditable and "encouraging?" Do they fold their arms and—Micawber-like—wait for something to turn up; Why do they not set to and remedy these defects in their tower? Squeaking gudgeons and clappers are easily enough remedied, when the will is there; a few shillings spent in slates or oak would soon furnish the "louvreless windows;" and if the ringers showed any energy in putting such things to rights as were quite within their power, I cannot but think that their efforts would be supplemented by those of the parishioners, so that the "much-worn newell-stair" would soon be repaired, and the re-hanging of the bells quickly become a *fait accompli*; and by those means the ringing of the bells of Thrapston become "inviting to neighbouring teams." Wake up, ye men of Thrapston; remember the good old saying, that "God helps those who help themselves."

Another evidence of the energy displayed in ringing matters is the large number of reports of touches rung, and peals and touches attempted. Now, while I am always glad to read of these touches—quarter-peals, 720's, and such like—having been brought round, and particularly when these have been the first of that nature by one of the company; but there are oft times reports of touches given which cause me to wonder what is the object in sending them up for insertion. Do they ring through love of the art, or from the vain desire to see their names in print? If every six-score of Bob Doubles, or 120 of Kent Treble Bob Minor were reported in this manner, what size would "THE BELL NEWS" have to assume in order to contain them all? Then again, look at the many reports we have week by week of

short touches rung on some practice nights—or perhaps a series of practice nights—where the performers' names are iterated and re-iterated till the thing becomes positively nauseous even through its very monotony?

Take a case in point. In page 453 we have a paragraph of fifteen lines, recording the ringing done on a practice night at Charlwood (Surrey). On that evening were rung three 720's of Minor, and three 120's. That must have been a good practice, no doubt; but what earthly reason was there to make such an ostentatious parade of the ringers' names? In this short report, S. Jordan and T. Sparks appear twice; A. Ellis, three times; F. Wickens, five times; while G. Wickens, J. Akehurst, B. King, and M. Heffer appear no less than six times. And that in a fifteen-line paragraph.

Then again, the parading of very ordinary ringing for Sunday services, seems to me peculiarly objectionable. We meet during the week for the purpose of practice and of improving ourselves in the art, but on Sundays our object is—or should be—to do our best to perform that preliminary portion of the service which is allotted to us, to the very best of our ability. If in doing this we achieve something extraordinary—either through its extra length, the special object for which the service peal is rung, or otherwise, then there might be some justification for reporting the same in print. But when we see such trifling performances as a course of Bob Major, or a six-score of Bob Doubles, paraded before us with the names of the ringers, and which are rung for no special event whatever, it seems to me to be pointing very strongly in the direction of an absurdity. What would be thought of an organist who published week after week the voluntaries which he played on the organ before and after service? Or what would be the thoughts of the choir which in a like manner ostentatiously proclaimed the chants and psalm tunes which it had sung on the Sunday? They would be simply objects of ridicule; and yet they would only be doing what our friends are in the habit of.

I know I am treading on delicate ground in this matter; and that I shall doubtless draw down upon myself remarks of a not too complimentary character from those who are guilty of the habit which I thus condemn. That I cannot help; I do not willingly make use of disparaging remarks at any time; I would much rather be occupied in the more congenial task of complimenting my brethren on their progress and exploits. But I most certainly do think that the limited space available in our paper should be taken up with more creditable and useful matter.

The weekly bulletin I receive from the Manager of the office of our paper informs me that the Editor is somewhat better though unable to leave his bed. His family can hardly hope to have him up by Christmas even under the most favorable circumstances. His physician has just recommended that another medical man—a specialist in the disease—be called in for consultation.

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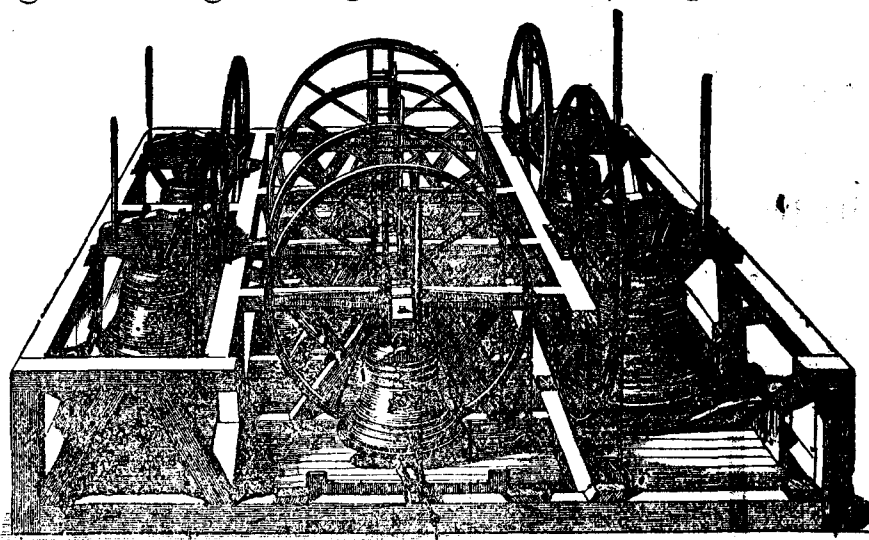
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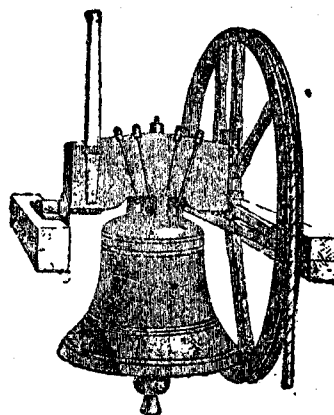
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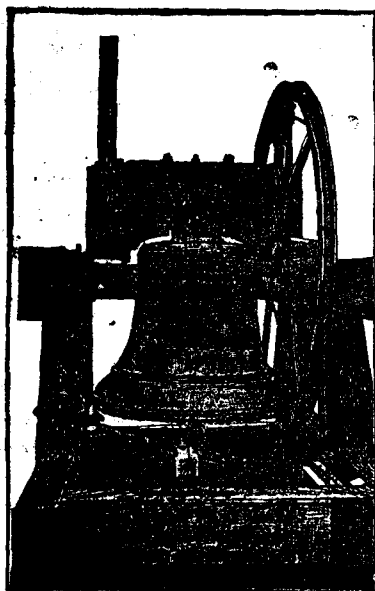
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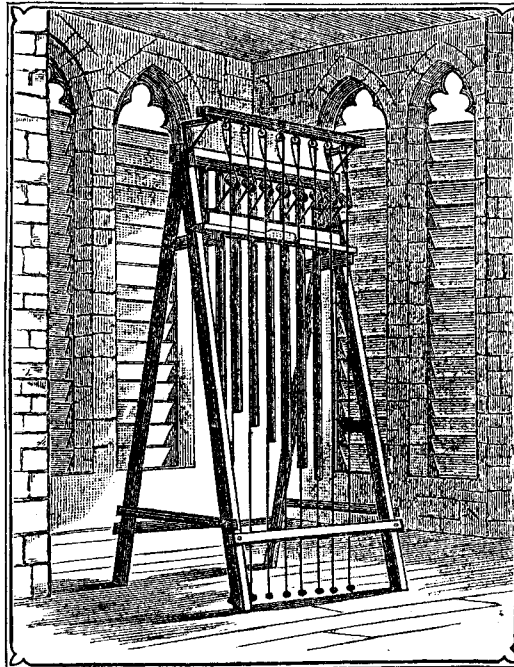
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MESSINA CATHEDRAL.

There are sound reasons for the belief that both Dogberry and Verges were, at a certain period, on the roll of the one Company, and that the "Sexton," who by virtue of his office, was also steeple-keeper at Messina Cathedral, but no ringer, was likewise a member of the same paternity. This latter worthy had been approached, in an underhanded manner, by some unscrupulous members of the (friendly) rival company, with a view to getting, or rather trying for, the first peal in a new method, name now unknown, just then becoming fashionable in the ringing world. Now the "Sexton" being a deep card, with an eye to the main chance, had decided in his own mind that the approaching marriage of Claudio with Hero, the daughter of Leonato, the Governor, was the opportunity to go for this peal, for, as he argued to himself, "the Governor, his daughter, being the first lady in the city, and, moreover, the darling and only child of her father, it will be but fitting that she should be greeted on her wedding with something more than the usual two peals of twenty minutes each by the scruffe. So they can go for their peal, and even if they get out early they are sure to try again and so ensure an hour or two of ringing, while if they get it, it will take them about three hours and a quarter, and either way I can tap Leonato copiously for the extra ducats; and at the same time no respectable and enthusiastic band will ever think of pay when ringing a first peal in the method in an opposition tower"; and then he winked.

This crafty scheme of the "Sexton," however, did not work out, as owing to circumstances too numerous to be detailed here, but which are given in full by one William Shakespeare, a member of the Stratford-on-Avon Band, the wedding did not, at that time, come off, although, happily, a few days later, the pair were made one, by special license it is to be presumed, in a room of Leonato's house, and at the same time and place, the lady's cousin Beatrice was united to Don Enrico Irvingi.

Now the "Sexton" had in a weak moment, confided to his cronies Dogberry and Verges, his contemplated treachery to the scruffe, and those worthies, although generally hanging together, had happened to take different views of the matter; this difference of opinion culminated in one of the twain stigmatising his quondam friends as "vagrom men," and joining the (friendly) rival company; and to this day, occasional specimens of their descendants, with all the distinguishing characteristics of their notable forefathers, may be found gracing ringers' meetings, both in town and country; while the children of the "Sexton" have by no means died off the face of the land, and still tread "the ways that were dark" of their common ancestor.

It is said that in 1643, or 1658, for the accounts differ this much, the great bell was taken down from the north western tower and shipped off to Naples, where it was melted down and from the metal made an equestrian statue of Carl IV., King of Spain, Naples, and Sicily. A ring of marble let into the floor at the western porch of the cathedral commemorates the size of this bell; the marble ring is nine feet eleven inches in diameter.

The great earthquake of 1783 demolished this tower amid the general destruction of the city, though the body of the Cathedral seems to have suffered but little, and since then two rather poor looking lantern towers have been added to the east end of the building, the northern one only of which has bells. These are six in number, ranging from 53 inches down to 16 inches in diameter. The three smaller are dated 1868, and are of ordinary modern shape, the larger three, which are of the same general shape, are very long wasted, the fourth, as to size, is very badly cracked, and the largest, which is worn very thin at the clappering on the soundbow, and has never been quartered, has the inscription:—

AVE MARIA GRATIA
PLENA
MDCXXXI

They are all hung, rigidly, on beams in the windows, and the clapper ropes let down to the ground floor.

At the foot of the ancient staircase that led up to the demolished tower, but which in itself still stands intact, within the main body of the building, is a large bell resting on wood blocks a few inches high, upon the pavement. This bell, which is a fine clean casting, is of the diameter, at the mouth, of 6 ft. 7. ins.,

at the crown, 3 ft. 2 ins., height 6 ft. 4 ins. At the crown are no cannons, but six holes of 3½ inches diameter, the crown being 5 ins. thick; there is also the running head of 9 inches diameter and 6 inches high, and which was evidently much higher when run and has been broken off at 6 inches, shewing sound, solid, metal, at the fracture. The sound-bow is 8 inches thick. It was cast to commemorate the great earthquake, as shown by its lettering, which runs thus: on the obverse

SD X SF X SI X MINIRE NOBIS.

ST MARIA A SACRIES LITERIS

ORA PRO NOBIS

a bust of the
Virgin & Child
both crowned
11 inches high

FERDINANDX IV

REGNANTE

On the reverse—

OPVS PAOLI COSTANTINO ET VINCENTE CIVFRIDA

TERRAMOTO SUBVERSO TVRRT
AE CAMPANVM RUNA DIFFRACTUM
RESTITUIT AVXIT DICAVIT

laurel Crown
Maltese
Cross laurel

S. P. Q. M.
RELIGIO
A. D. 18MDCCLXXXII

Having got their big bell it proved to be, for many years, a white elephant, for the existing towers are evidently incapable of carrying it; so it stood on the cathedral floor, mute and inglorious and without use, until about twenty-five years ago, when a certain individual, evidently an offshoot of the house of that artful "Sexton," "struck a bright." A large iron-bound box was prepared, and fitted with double padlocks, one key of which is supposed to be held by the Municipality, and the other by the cathedral authorities. In the lid of the box is a small slit, and over the box is a printed placard, framed and glazed, setting forth a parable to the effect that the bell is cracked, and begging the faithful to contribute their cash towards the cost of re-founding it. Great is the power of Faith, for the coins fall in a perennial shower; but alas for human credulity, the only crack that can be found in the neighbourhood, is not in the bell, but is the crack or slit, in the lid of the box with the iron clamps, a crack just large enough to admit a silver dollar, that being the largest coin of the realm, should, perchance, any of the faithful feel faith enough to drop one in.

A document displayed alongside the placard, sets forth that the treasure chest was last opened in August, 1885, when the amount then found therein, added to previous sums from the same source, amounted to 2828 lire 44 centesimi, equal to in English money £113 2s. 6½. It is safe to prophecy that that bell will not be recast for a very considerable time to come.

The Cathedral is oblong in plan, with a rounded east end; the length 295 ft., breadth 98 ft., and height 105 ft. In ancient times a famous Greek Temple of Neptune overlooked the dreaded whirlpool Charybdis, at a distance of about four miles from the new site of the Cathedral. The remains of this pagan temple were utilised for the erection of the christian edifice, notably twenty-four huge pillars of granite or porphyry; these are of different lengths, but are equalised as to height, to support the roof, by the varying heights of the marble bases upon which they are set. Into the western front is built many lengths of white marble frieze, about twelve inches in width, carved in alto-relievo, showing the various agricultural and manufacturing processes connected with corn, wine, oil, and flax. In addition the vine is glorified to an extent commensurate, with its importance as a food in the old Greek economy, very many lengths of the marble frieze being devoted solely to the Divine plant. Very elaborate carved marble columns are also worked into the portals showing cupids, monkeys, and satyrs, sporting in foliage. Two exquisitely carved, slender, spiral columns of white marble, twisting opposite ways, and life-sized figures of lions or some such animals, but with the heads sadly damaged, are at the central western door. In addition to these spoils of the old Greek temple much mosaic of fine Sicilian marbles enrich this front. The floor is composed of an intricate mass of patterns in various coloured marbles; here are squares, circles, diamonds, lozenges of every conceivable shape, tre-foils, quatre-foils, cinque-foils, stars, half-moons, crescents, a bewildering array of shapes, all fitting and merging one into another and forming one harmonious whole. Lying at an angle across the floor is a Gnomon, or Meridian Indicular and perpetual diary, also of marble, about 80 ft. long by 5 ft. wide. The months and days

of the months are each marked off, inlaid with vari-coloured marbles, and a hole in the roof of about one inch diameter, permits the sun, each day at noon, to shine upon the proper day marked on the floor. An inscription notifies that this remarkable contrivance was the work of the blind priest, Antonio M. Iaci, in 1804; and it is said that our Lord Nelson, who was also Sicilian Duke of Bronte, and then held Sicily against Napoleon, made splendid offers to the blind astronomer, to induce him to proceed to England to take a high post in the Royal Observatory; but in vain. Love of country was, with the blind philosopher, stronger than the love of self. Near the foot of the great altar, let into the floor, is a circle of purple porphyry, about three feet in diameter, regarded as a precious stone. The great altar itself is a most marvellous work of the most beautiful inlaid marbles in mosaic, the design being largely made up of tropical fruits, flowers, and birds, the rare and valuable lapis lazuli, verde antique, and rose marbles entering largely into this beautiful work of art. It is some forty feet in height and breadth, and not merely front show, for back and sides are all of the same costly material and workmanship. The stalls, numbering forty, are of exquisitely carved and various designs in a dark, hard, wood, several of them, however, are much decayed.

The domed roof over the altar has a gigantic mosaic portrait of the Archbishop Tabiat, by nationality a Greek, during whose sway the building was either created, or largely restored. His tomb bears the date 1336. There are many splendid tombs of various Archbishops and Cardinals, either natives of Messina, or who have held the Archi-episcopate. Two, of quite recent date, are magnificent specimens of the sculptor's art.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MANCHESTER BRANCH.

On Monday, December 10th, eight members of the Manchester Cathedral Ringers, assisted by Messrs. Barratt and Grimshaw, of Eccles, attempted a peal of Grandsire Caters, 5021 changes, composed by the late John Cox, at the Cathedral, in honour of the marriage of Mr. A. E. Wreaks, which took place the same day at St. Mary's Church, Crumpsall, but unfortunately after ringing 1 hr. 45 mins. a change course occurred, and stand was called. After a short interval queens and firing were rang. The band afterwards adjourned to the meeting-house, Crown Hotel, Blackfriars Street, where the health and happiness of Mr. Wreaks and his bride was drank, and a very pleasant evening was spent with the hand bells. The band rang as follows: T. G. Downes, 1; Joseph Turner, 2; James Gratrix, 3; Thos. Thorpe, 4; Joseph Grimshaw, 5; James Barratt, 6; George E. Turner, 7; James Thorpe, 8; John Eachus, 9; Harry Chapman, 10.

EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

This Association held its quarterly meeting at Heath, near Chesterfield, on Saturday, December 1st, 1888, when the Rev. Canon Cottingham gave a short address on Bells and Bell Ringers which was warmly responded to by the ringers present. After the meeting, thirty-eight members being present, a vote of thanks was given to the Chairman, the Rev. J. B. Nodder, of Ashover, and the Rev. Sanderson, of Heath, after which a few 120's of Bob Doubles and several 120's of Grandsire by the different churches represented were rung.

GEDNEY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

On Tuesday, December 4th, the ceremony of formally handing over to the churchwardens a new set of twelve handbells, the cost of which has been defrayed by subscription, was carried out. The churchwardens accepted the same as the property of the parish, and promised that an entry should be made in the vestry book to that effect. The new ringers rang some tunes and touches on the bells, and considering the short time they have had for practice, acquitted themselves in a highly satisfactory manner, and bad fare to leave the old style of handbell ringing in this parish far behind.

BIDDENHAM.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday evening, December 8th, the ringers of this parish, at the kind invitation of Mr. Chas. Howard, sat down to an excellent supper at the Manor House, the occasion being the farewell of Mr. C. R. Howard, who is leaving for Australia.

Supper being over, Mr. King, on behalf of the Vicar, Churchwardens and Ringers presented Mr. Howard with an appropriate address and also a dressing case, in recognition of his services in connection with the ringing.

Mr. Howard, in thanking the donors, expressed his sorrow at leaving, and handed each of the ringers a present in remembrance of his connection with the belfry. Afterwards a very pleasant evening was spent, the proceedings being enlivened by several touches on the handbells, interspersed with songs. Mr. Howard is a prominent member of this Association, and thanks mainly to his exertions, the Biddenham Belfry was some time ago thoroughly renovated, while the ringing under his leadership has been greatly improved, as the reports of peals which from time to time have appeared in these columns amply testify.

The ringers of Biddenham are to be congratulated on having in their belfry what, we believe, no other belfry in the county contains, namely, "The Church Bells of Bedfordshire," being a complete list of the parishes, with name of church, number of bells, weight of tenor, name of maker, and in fact, full particulars of all the bells in the county. This is written in "Church Text," and is the work of Mr. Howard, and will be a lasting memorial of his connection with the belfry.

Obituary.

JOHN VERNON.

We deeply regret to announce the death of the above member of the St. Matthew's Society, Hayfield, who died November 22nd, aged 38 years, and was interred at the above place, on November 27th. The funeral was largely attended by relations, ringers, and friends. The body of the deceased was borne to and from the church by four of his ringing friends, Thomas Brocklehurst, T. Whitehead, A. Rangeley, and J. Brocklehurst. Several invitations were sent out to neighbouring churches. Old Glossop was represented by Mr. J. Sellers, and Mr. J. Pye, jun. The bells of St. Matthews were deeply muffled. The first touch was rung by W. Booth, 1; Joseph Brocklehurst, 2; T. Whitehead (conductor), 3; J. Wheatcroft, 4; A. Rangeley, 5; T. Brocklehurst, 6. The next was a 720 of Oxford, with A. Rangeley on the treble, A. Hadfield on the fifth the others as before. Later in the evening another 720 was rung by W. Booth, J. Brocklehurst, T. Whitehead, A. Rangeley, T. Brocklehurst, J. Pye, jun. The deceased had the honour of ringing (5040's) on different dates at St. Matthews Church, Hayfield, in seven different methods, and he is the first member taken from them, and his loss will be deeply regretted by all who knew him. The ringers of Hayfield take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and churchwardens for allowing them the use of the bells on this occasion.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MANCHESTER BRANCH.

A meeting of the above Branch will be held at the parish church, Eccles, on Saturday, December 15th. Bells ready at three o'clock. A good attendance is requested.

JOHN EACHUS, Secretary.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Thursday, November 29th, for practice at the parish church, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Preston, 1; M. Warwick (R.E.), 2; G. Lindoff (R.E.), 3; A. Haigh (conductor), 4; W. Cooke, 5; W. Evans, 6; W. Haigh, 7; C. Harvey, 8. Also 504 of Grandsire Triples, standing as before, G. Lindoff (conductor). Also on Tuesday, December 4th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins. W. Preston, 1; G. Lindoff, 2; W. Haigh, 3; W. Cooke, 4; W. Evans, 5; J. Baker, 6; A. Haigh (conductor), 7; M. Warwick, 8.

ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.

On Tuesday, December 4th, the local company rang with the bells half-muffled two 720's of Oxford and Violet Treble Bob, as a tribute of respect to George Smith, who has been a member of the above company for twenty years, and died after a short illness at the age of 41 years. Deceased met with an accident two years ago while following his employment as a circular sawyer, which cost him all the fingers on his right hand, and made ringing with him at an end, and although he has been assisted by many friends his trouble has been great, loosing his hand and unable to follow his employment in one year, and a few months after having his wife laid-up with a long and painful illness. The ringers who took part in the above are the following:—F. Hancock, W. Price, E. James, J. Shaw, G. Norman, G. Marsden (conductor), and T. Lunn.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1888

	Jan. to Oct.	Nov.	Total.
Ancient Society of College Youths ...	71	10	81
Midland Counties Association ...	58	9	67
Sussex County Association ...	54	8	62
Oxford Diocesan Guild ...	48	9	57
Essex Association ...	43	3	46
Lancashire Association ...	37	7	44
Norwich Diocesan Association ...	28	3	31
Yorkshire Association ...	26	3	29
Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association ...	19	4	23
United Counties Association ...	15	7	22
Surrey Association ...	18	2	20
Society of Royal Cumberland Youths ...	18	1	19
Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford ...	15	3	18
Salisbury Diocesan Guild ...	13	2	15
Kent County Association ...	14	1	15
St. Jame's Society, London... ..	14	0	14
Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association ...	13	1	14
Hertford Association ...	8	6	14
The Holt Society ...	10	1	11
Winchester Diocesan Guild... ..	8	1	9
Hertford College Youths ...	7	0	7
Liverpool Youths' Society ...	4	2	6
Trinity Youths ...	5	0	5
All Hallows Society ...	3	0	3
Waterloo Society, London ...	3	0	3
St. Martin's, Birmingham ...	3	0	3
Devonshire Guild... ..	3	0	3
Birmingham Amalgamated Society ...	3	0	3
Bedford Association ...	1	1	2
Eastern Counties' Guild ...	1	0	1
Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal Association ...	1	0	1
Durham and Newcastle Association... ..	1	0	1
Bath and Keynsham Deaconries Association ...	1	0	1
Chester Diocesan Guild ...	1	0	1
North Lincoln Association ...	1	0	1
Independent Societies ...	74	7	81
	642	91	733
Less peals entered under two Associations	64	7	71
Total... ..	578	84	662

The above peals were rung in the following methods:—London Surprise Major, 2; New Cumberland Surprise Major, 1; Cambridge Surprise Major, 9; Superlative Surprise Major 12; Double Oxford Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 18; Stedman Cinques, 4; Stedman Caters, 27; Stedman Triples, 44; Duffield Royal, 4; Duffield Major, 3; Treble Bob Maximus, 3; Treble Bob Royal, 12; Treble Bob Major, 103; Prince Albert Major 1; Violet Major, 2; Grandsire Caters, 43; Grandsire Major, 2; Grandsire Triples, 240; Grandsire Doubles (5040), 15; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1; Canterbury Pleasure Triples, 3; Court Bob Triples, 2; Oxford Bob Triples, 7; Union

Triples, 7; Bob Maximus, 1; Bob Royal, 3; Bob Major, 34; Bob Triples, 23; Bob Doubles (5040), 1; Place Triples, 1; in seven Minor methods on six bells, 22; in fourteen Minor methods on six bells (10080), 1; in one ditto, 3; in fourteen methods on five bells, 2; in six ditto, 5; Total 662. Quickest 5000 upon Church bells, 2 hrs. 27 mins.

	1887.	1888.
Number of peals rung in January ...	50	52
" " February ...	76	72
" " March ...	65	60
" " April ...	62	98
" " May ...	57	53
" " June ...	38	57
" " July ...	14	39
" " August ...	20	40
" " September ...	41	41
" " October ...	52	66
" " November ...	67	84
	542	662

Increase on the eleven months 120
Brighton. GEO. F. ATTRE.

DUCKLINGTON BELL FUND.

The following Subscriptions have been received or promised to the above Fund.

	£	s.	d.
The Ven. The Archdeacon of Oxford	1	0	0
Canon Bright, Oxford	0	10	0
The Rev. F. Robinson, Drayton	0	10	0
The Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Ringmer	0	2	0
Mr. T. Holford, Oxford	0	2	0
Mr. W. J. Holford, London	0	1	0
Mr. G. A. King, Brighton	0	1	0
A few Ladies	0	9	0
A. Percival Heywood, Esq., Duffield	0	5	0
E. D.	0	3	0
Mr. W. J. Swales, Norwich	0	1	0
L. L. Cardy, Sudbury	0	1	0
Mr. W. J. Holford, London (extra)	0	1	0
In small Subscriptions	0	7	9
Total amount with Treasurer	7	0	0

Further Subscriptions will be thankfully received by
W. J. FISHER.

The Imperial Hotel, Bournemouth.

ECCLESIASTICAL FLORICULTURE.—Our attention has been directed to the superior collection of "Florists' Flowers" so eminently suitable for Church and other decoration, always to be seen at the important nurseries of Mr. S. B. Goslin, jun., situate at Bexley Heath, Kent. The proprietor, it would appear, has taken great pains to bring the art of Church Floriculture to something near perfection, for from this part of the "Garden of England" may be obtained fresh, by parcels' post, supplies of artificial flowers in every conceivable color. The adoption of Artificial Flowers instead of the unseemly flock or common wadding, or puff balls, so frequently used in the formation of letters for texts—which appear to be inartistic, rough, rude, and out of character, is a sensible act, and we venture to think when it is known that such simple and faithful representations of flowers can be supplied at such moderate prices, they will be appreciated by many thoughtful minds, and will tend to promote the love of the beautiful in the most fitting positions, and greater interest in the truths to be proclaimed. Nor is Mr. Goslin only a specialist in flowers, *par et simple*, but in silver and frosted leaves of all kinds, Heath Grasses, and what may be termed berry foliage, he is a remarkable adept. Banners with white floral texts on violet, crimson, green, or maroon cloth ground, with or without borders, may be had from his establishment. We recommend our readers who take an interest in the pleasing study of Church decoration to obtain his catalogue, or pay him a visit at the Camden Nurseries, Glynde Road, Brompton Park, Bexley Heath, Kent.

LETTER FOR "FREE LANCE."

DEAR FREE LANCE,—After reading your interesting notes in "THE BELL NEWS" I thought I would drop you a line or two letting you know what difficulties we have had to contend with since we took to change-ringing. In the first place our bells are a very poor peal of six, tenor about 11 cwt. in F. Five of them were cast in 1668, and a new treble—a very long bell—was added in 1681. They have been rehung since they were first put there, all the repairs being done by local men. Change-ringing was quite unknown in this district until we took it up just before the Hereford Diocesan Guild was established. Before that time there was a lot of old round-ringers, who done all they could to put down change-ringing here; they have not done so. I think they have got disheartened, as they have all left one by one. One of them said to me he did not see any sense in it, as when we came to a nice change we only rang it once and then left it, instead of ringing it over several times and getting the music out of it. Most of us are quite young ringers, between 20 and 30, some younger, and had not rung a bell that went properly until the new peal of six was hung at Clunbury last year, but we cannot get down there as often as we should like, most of us being engaged with our work till 7 p.m. It is not our fault that the bells are in such a disgraceful state, or for want of perseverance on our part, as you seem to think, as we have drawn the attention of both the Vicar and churchwardens to them about two years ago, and they gave Mr. Buchanan permission to get a bellfounder to look at them, and we got Mr. Taylor, of Loughborough, and he recommended us to have a new peal of eight, Tenor about 18 cwt., in a iron frame. We set to work to get the money, and got our Vicar to head the list by giving the new tenor, ourselves following by giving the treble, and during the winter months we got up two concerts, and after paying all expenses we put £12 in the bank. When summer came there was a meeting called to decide the best means of celebrating Her Majesty's Jubilee. Mr. Buchanan brought forward our church bell restoration scheme, Mr. Brown, our schoolmaster and organist, the new organ scheme. He (Mr. Brown) being backed up by the sum of £125 in the bank towards a new organ, the result of a bazaar some years ago, other proposals followed, but after several meetings it was decided that after providing a dinner of roast beef and plum pudding for all the men in the parish, and tea for women and children, and providing sports, the balance, if any, should go towards a new organ, which has been dedicated, with a handsome new lectern, the gift of the Vicar, the Rev. C. Warner. After our Jubilee celebrations we did not loose heart, and have still kept the bell movement to the front, and last winter we gave a third concert, and the Miss Creswells gave a children's entertainment, and after paying all expenses we have the nice sum of about £22 in the bank. As soon as the organ job is settled and paid for we intend starting again with renewed vigour, and have no doubt we shall soon have a new peal of eight bells. We have several people promised to support us, including Mr. Brown, the organist, and the Rev. E. Brown, our newly appointed curate, who has promised to become a change-ringer. One of our greatest drawbacks is the disgraceful state of the church tower, the church being restored about eleven years ago at a cost of £7000, the late Mr. Street offering to do the tower and rehang the bells for £1000 extra, at the time of doing the church, but I suppose the committee did not see their way clear to have it done, but I think the parish has done very well, considering it is purely an agricultural one. I think I have told you all, but if you want to know more I will tell you if I can. Please excuse all faults, for I have wrote it in a hurry.

Park Cottage, Salop.

W. MEAD.

BELL RESTORATION IN THE DIOCESE OF SALISBURY.

The peal of eight bells at St. Peter's, Bournemouth, have been fitted with new gudgeons and brasses, and other minor repairs have been executed by Mr. T. Blackburn, of Salisbury. The tenor bell at Caine, weight 25 cwt., is also being rehung by the same, with a new frame. The frame of the heavy peal of six at Heytesbury has been recently repaired by a local builder.

KIMPTON, HERTS.

This little village was quite *enfete* on Thursday, the 6th inst., this being the day fixed for the re-opening of the tower and bells of the parish church by the Bishop of St. Albans, after a thorough restoration. It is about thirty years since this splendid peal of bells were rung, owing to the dilapidated state of the tower, but through the energy and perseverance of the Rev. L. Stevens, the Vicar, once more the village is enlivened with the melody of the bells. The Rev. Stevens has spared nothing to make everything as perfect as possible in the belfry, and it was a great treat for the parishioners to listen to some good ringing, before and after the service, under the conductorship of C. Robinson, of Whitwell (who has been engaged by the Rev. Stevens to instruct the young men of Kimpton).

Both the Bishop of St. Albans and the Archdeacon of St. Albans, referred to the rapid strides that were made in bell-ringing. The Archdeacon said the time had passed when round-ringing was considered an art, and now change-ringing required both great thought and tact. and he wished the Kimpton company every success.

Subjoined is the name of the ringers: C. Robinson (conductor), 1; J. Chapman, 2; J. Dennis, 3; A. Sleet, 4; W. Wells, 5; C. Gilbert, 6. In the second touch W. Ball rang the fourth. Messrs. Chapman, Dennis, and Gilbert, belong to the Knebworth Guild, Robinson, Ball, Sleet and Wells to St. Paul's, Walden.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—PROPOSED LIVERPOOL BRANCH.

The idea has long existed in the minds of ringers in this part of Lancashire that a branch of the County Association should be established in the district. At last, under the impulse given to it by the action of one of the local clergy, the scheme has been definitely started and is receiving warm support. A meeting will be held to arrange necessary details, and establish the branch, on Saturday, December 22nd, at 5.30 p.m., in the Cocoa Rooms, St. Luke's Place, Bold Street, Liverpool. All change-ringers in the district are cordially invited to attend. It is especially hoped that every belfry in the Diocese will send one representative at least, to express the opinions of his band, and to give support to the proposals submitted to the meeting.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD, Local Sec. (pro tem),

40, Lowther Street, Liverpool.

ELSTOW, NEAR BEDFORD.

This place, so well-known as the birthplace of Bunyan, has just had its church restored, under the care of Mr. T. J. Jackson, architect, and a very handsome clock has been erected by John Smith and Sons, Derby. The clock is fitted with all the latest improvements, all the wheels are of the best gun metal, with their teeth cut from the solid, so as to be perfectly accurate and smooth. The main frame is arranged so that any separate part may be removed without interfering with the remainder, and steel wire ropes carry the weights. Messrs. Smith & Sons guarantee the clock to go with very great accuracy, and so form a standard of timekeeping for the place. The clocks at Wootton and Goldington, near Elstow, were also made by the same firm.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—BROMSGROVE BRANCH.

NOTICE.—The members of this branch of the above Association intend celebrating the 100th anniversary of the 12,000 of Bob Major which was rung at Bromsgrove on December 29th, 1788, conducted by Charles Ravenscroft. Dinner will be provided at the "Golden Cross" Hotel. Further particulars will appear shortly. Any member of the above Association wishing to attend will receive a hearty welcome. Tickets for dinner 2s. 6d. each, can be had by applying to

Stourbridge Road.

WALTER REA, Sec.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co. Printers, Exeter.

THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND SOCIETY.

On Thursday, December 6th, ten members of this Society met by invitation of Mr. Chapman, at the Roe Buck, Hampstead, to celebrate the completion of a tablet recording the peal of Cambridge Surprise rung at St. Annes Church, Highgate, on 26th June, 1888. This Tablet is of marble in the shape of a bell, and has been most ably executed by Mr. G. Hannington, of Highgate, from a drawing kindly supplied by Messrs. Warner and Sons, of the Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate. The Tablet has not been fixed yet as it is not quite decided whether it shall be placed in the belfry or in the vestibule. After doing full justice to the supper, the rest of the evening was spent in harmony, in which Messrs. Chapman, Foskett, Newson, and the Hannington brothers took part, the above gentlemen also obliging with several tunes and touches upon the hand bells. Great regret was expressed that Mr. J. Barrett had to leave early on account of the serious illness of his wife, and his brother strings sincerely hope she will have a speedy recovery. J. H.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

A quarterly meeting of this Association was held at St. James', Leyland, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Saturday, December 8th. Members were present from Blackrod, Chorley, Eccleston, St. Andrews, Leyland, and St. James', Leyland. Several 720's of Bob Minor and Touches in other methods were rung at intervals during the afternoon and evening. The meeting was held at 5 o'clock in the School-room, and was presided over by Mr. John Milner, of St. James', Leyland. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, and other business gone through it was arranged that the next quarterly meeting should be held at St. Mark's, Preston. Votes of thanks to the Chairman for presiding, and to the Vicar for the use of the bells and school brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

JAMES HIGSON,

57, Chorley Road, Blackrod.

ST. SIDWELL'S AND ST. DAVID'S SOCIETIES,
EXETER.

On Saturday, December 29th, 1888, a ringing meeting of the above Societies will be held at Exeter. The towers of St. David's and St. Sidwell's will be open for ringing at two p.m. At 7 p.m. a dinner will be provided at the "Roguemont Hotel." Tickets 2s. 6d. each, all friends are heartily welcome.

B. MUNDY.

A. W. SEARLE. } Hon. Secs.

48, Sandford Street, Exeter, December 11th, 1888.

CHETTON, SALOP.

A company of ringers from Burwarton visited the above church on Wednesday evening, November 28th. The Rector of Burwarton, the Rev. A. James kindly providing traps for the conveyance of the party who were met at Chetton by Mr. J. Jones, the foreman of the local ringers. Several six-scores conducted by J. Sanderson, with J. Bowen, treble, were rang, and a 360 of Doubles by W. H. Fassell, 2; J. Underwood, 2; G. Preece, 3; W. Bowen, 4; J. Sanderson, 5; J. Wellings, 6. The bells were cast by Rudhall, of Gloucester. Tenor 13½ cwt. and ring very well, but only of late possessed stays, which were fixed by a carpenter from Chilmarsh, in a very extraordinary manner on the wheels.

A peal was rung by the local band, in whole pulls, who are a smart company. This meeting was arranged with a view of furthering the objects of the Hereford Diocesan Guild of Bell Ringers, to which all the above-named belong.

NOTICE OF LONG PEAL.—A band of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, will, if all is well, attempt a long peal of Stedman Caters at Appleton, on Monday, December 24th.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR MR. DORAN,

	£	s.	d.
E. F. Cole, Esq., London	1	0	0
Dr. A. B. Carpenter, Croydon	0	10	0
Mr. H. Hopkins, London	0	2	6
J. E. Worsell, Brighton	0	5	0
H. Swain, London	0	2	0
W. H. Dallimore, West Ham	0	2	0
W. Smith, West Ham	0	1	0
Rev. H. A. Cockey	0	5	0
W. Hawkes, Springfield	0	2	0
J. R. Haworth, London	0	2	6
Collected at Brentwood	0	2	0
G. Williams, Midhurst	0	2	0
J. Dains, Widford	0	1	0
W. J. Piper, Widford	0	0	6
A. Shuttleworth, Widford	0	0	6
A. Tarbun, Widford	0	0	6
L. Green, Wanstead	0	2	6
R. Turner, London	0	2	0
H. Springhall, London	0	1	0
S. Hayes, London	0	1	0
J. Smith, Kingston-on-Thames	0	1	0
J. Potter, West Ham	0	1	0
H. Randall, West Ham	0	2	6
C. E. Malin, Esq., London	0	10	6
H. Dains, London	0	2	6
A Friend, per W. B.	0	2	6
C. Hopkins, Walthamstow	0	2	6
West Ham Company, per H. Randall	0	10	0
R. T. Woodley, London	0	1	0
J. Nunn, Walthamstow	0	1	0
A. Jacob, London	0	1	0
T. Maynard, Walthamstow	0	2	6
C. Dempsey, West Ham	0	1	0
S. Joyce, London	0	1	0
J. Hannington, London	0	2	6
J. Rogers, London	0	5	0
G. Rochester, Sawbridgeworth	0	1	0
H. W. Tarling, Sawbridgeworth	0	1	0
A. Brown, Sawbridgeworth	0	1	0
P. Springham, Sawbridgeworth	0	1	0
W. Morris, Sawbridgeworth	0	1	0
C. West, Biddenham	0	2	6
N. J. Pitstow, Saffron Waldron	0	2	6
W. H. Fussell, Slough	0	2	6
A. C. Fussell, Slough	0	2	0
W. Wilder, Slough	0	2	2
J. Perryman, Slough	0	2	0
H. J. Tucker, Bishops Stortford	0	2	0
F. W. Chapman, Bishops Stortford	0	2	0
H. Prior, Stansted	0	1	0
G. Prior, Stansted	0	1	0

It is proposed to close the above list on December 29th, 1888, and any other brother strings who should feel disposed to give a small trifle towards this deserving case will be gratefully received by the undersigned

H. RANDALL.

24, St. Mary's Road, Plaistow, E.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, December 1st, at St. Martin's, Tipton, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Ven. J. H. Iles, Archdeacon of Stafford and President of the above Society, eight members attempted to ring a peal of Plain Bob Major, but it came to grief after ringing about 1700 changes. Afterwards was rung the usual peal, consisting of the whole pull and stand, and a 1008 of Plain Bob Major. E. Goodreds, 1; W. Cheshire, 2; B. Gough, 3; H. Mills, 4; W. R. Small, 5; W. Micklewright, 6; G. Hughes, 7; S. Smith, 8. Messrs. Cheshire and Gough belong to Coseley, Smith to Netherton, Micklewright to Dudley. Conducted by Mr. George Hughes.

WANTED a good Bell-ringer who thoroughly understands the methods of change-ringing, and capable of writing out changes. To go abroad to erect and ring Harrington's Patent Tubular Bells. Passage paid out. A Carpenter or Fitter preferred. To a steady man this would be an excellent opening Address immediately, stating Age and Salary required, to HARRINGTON & Co., Coventry.

THE
RINGERS' GUIDE

TO THE
CHURCH BELLS OF DEVON,

COMPRISING :

PART I.—A Brief History of Bells and Bell-Ringing, with special reference to Devon.

PART II.—A List of the Church Bells of Devon, corrected up to date and abridged from the detailed Catalogue of Inscriptions, Diameters, &c., compiled by the late Rev. H. T. ELLACOMBE.

BY

CHARLES PEARSON, M.A.,

Member of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

CLOTH ILLUSTRATED, PRICE 2s. 6d.

WILLIAM POLLARD & Co., PRINTERS, EXETER,
1888.

OUR CHRISTMAS NUMBER,
WHICH WILL BE PUBLISHED NEXT WEEK,

WILL CONTAIN

A PORTRAIT

Of that well-known Change-Ringer, Mr. WILLIAM COOTER, of London, with short Biographical Sketch.

The number will contain Two Stories :—

"A MERRY PEAL,"

By the Author of "The Belle of Belsham."

AND

"THE CHURCHWARDEN."

By the Author of "The First Peal."

And other interesting matter.

The Price of publication of the Christmas Number will be
THREEPENCE.

The Portrait is a splendid Lithograph, on a separate sheet of paper, being thus suitable for framing. It is a perfect likeness of Mr. Cooter, and when framed will appear equal to a Steel Engraving. The cost of this process of portraiture renders it necessary that the number should be slightly increased in price.

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

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

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

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving 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.

JOHNSON E. HERN.—We have not received your letter.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1888.

For a company of ringers from the Metropolis to visit a provincial town in order to ring a peal is not an event of unusual occurrence. A hearty reception and a widespread interest in the performance are sure to be accorded, and many are the pleasant reminiscences that attach to such outings. Very rarely, however, have our friends from the country brought a band to the metropolis, and the visit of the Burton-on-Trent company last week may almost be ranked as a new departure. Wonderful as are the abilities of these gentlemen, it cannot but be considered a bold programme that London Surprise should have been the method chosen for the occasion. Clearly the inducement to this choice lay in the fact that never hitherto has a peal in that most intricate of methods been achieved in the locality from whence it derives its name. We rejoice that success has crowned the intrepid resolution, and that a peal of London Surprise within the Metropolitan area is now an accomplished fact.

We believe we are correct in saying that to Mr. HENRY DAINS were due the excellent arrangements for Saturday last. To him therefore as well as to the Burton company are due the thanks of London ringers for the compliment paid to the ringing community of the Metropolis. The opportunity of welcoming the St. Paul's Society last week was no doubt most acceptable to those, by no means few, of our local brethren who have at various times made acquaintance with the hearty welcome to friends from a distance which is always to be found at Burton. It is to be hoped that the precedent now initiated may be often followed in the future, for we can conceive nothing as more likely to strengthen the bonds of union between town and country members of the Exercise than reciprocal visits from which each party may obtain not only pleasure but also incentives to progress.

The Metropolis.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

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

On Saturday, December 8, 1888, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS

**A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088
CHANGES.**

GEORGE ROBINSON Treble.	EDWARD I. STONE 5.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	HARRY WAKLEY 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by
WILLIAM WAKLEY.

This is the first peal of London Surprise ever rung in London, and is also the first in this intricate method ever achieved by any band on bells other than those on which they were accustomed to practice.

LONDON.—THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND
YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 1, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SEPULCHRE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt. in D.

JOHN ROGERS Treble.	ARTHUR JACOB 6.
WILLIAM LALLY 2.	ALBERT E. CHURCH 7.
WILLIAM HOVERD 3.	GEORGE WILD 8.
HENRY SWAIN 4.	GEORGE NEWSON 9.
W. L. CHAMBERLAIN* .. 5.	JOSEPH BARRY Tenor
	JAMES WHEELER

Composed and Conducted by JOHN ROGERS.

*First peal on ten bells. The above peal, in 62 courses, has 60 undisturbed from Titium position, each bell twelve courses behind the 9th, the sixty 9-7-8's, and is believed to contain the greatest properties ever obtained in a peal of this method and number and was rung on the occasion of the birthday of H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, by special desire of the Churchwardens of this ancient church.

The Provinces.

HAGBOURNE, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, November 30, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 23½ cwt.

JAMES PETHER Treble.	ERNEST NAPPER 5.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 2.	WILLIAM NAPPER 6.
FRANK NAPPER 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
DENNIS NAPPER 4.	ALFRED WOODLEY Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION,
AND THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, KIDDERMINSTER.

On Wednesday, December 5, 1888, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt in D.

JEREMIAH BENNETT .. Treble.	J. THOS. SALTER 5.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 2.	THOMAS BENNETT 6.
GEORGE SALTER 3.	RICHARD E. GROVE 7.
JOHN BENNETT 4.	JOHN CRANE Tenor.

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD, and Conducted by R. E. GROVE.

First peal of Major on the bells. The peal rung here on October 17th last, was a Worcestershire Association peal.

TEWKESBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF DAVIES'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qrs. 9 lbs.

WM. HAMPTON Treble.	THOS. DEVEREUX 5.
R. H. WITHERINGTON .. 2.	FRANCIS E. WARD 6.
CHAS. W. DYSON 3.	JOHN HALL 7.
LIONEL LONGNEY 4.	WM. HAINES Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS E. WARD.

BISHOPSTONE, WILTS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, December 6, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

HARRY SHEARD Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 2.	WILLIAM 6.
WILLIAM LAWRENCE .. 3.	REV. G. FERRIS 7.
ERNEST NAPPER 4.	DENNIS NA Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

This is the conductor's 200th peal.

APPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, December 7, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,

5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

HARRY WOODWARDS .. Treble.	JESSE AVERY 5.
WILLIAM BENNETT 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 6.
BENJAMIN BARRETT 3.	FREDERICK WHITE 7.
GEORGE HOLFIELD 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

HANLEY CASTLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Saturday, December 8, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES;

Being Thirty-Two Six-scores with Extremes, and Ten with Plain leads,
each called differently.

Tenor about 16 cwt.

HARRY WILLIS Treble.	WILLIAM TARLING 4.
ALBERT PITT 2.	ROBERT G. KNOWLES .. 5.
ALBERT ASPEY 3.	WILLIAM TURNER Tenor.

Conducted by ROBERT GEO. KNOWLES.

First 5040 by all, also first 5040 upon the 16 lbs.

GILLINGHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 8, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

GEORGE CHANTLER* .. Treble.	MAURICE WARWICK (R.E.) 5.
JAMES TULLETT* 2.	*JAMES BAKER 6.
ALBERT RING* 3.	GABRIEL LINDOFF (R.E.) 7.
ABRAHAM HAIGHT† .. 4.	WILLIAM HAIGH Tenor.

Conducted by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

*First peal. †College Youth. This is the first peal on the bells since 1811, when a peal of Oxford Treble Bob was rung.

SITTINGBOURNE (Kent).—On Friday, December 7th, for practice at the parish church, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Mann, 1; C. Bourguin, 2; C. Willshire, 3; Rev. E. W. Carpenter, 4; B. J. Bottle, 5; J. G. Elliott, 6; S. Snelling (conductor), 7; J. Wilson, 8.

HAGLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 8, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt.

C. BARRETT	Treble.	H. HARTSHORNE	5.
T. LEES	2.	G. PAGETT	6.
H. MARTIN	3.	*W. F. HARTSHORNE	7.
H. HARRIS	4.	J. CRUMP	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM F. HARTSHORNE.

The ringers desire to express their best thanks to the rector for the use of the tower and bells. *First peal as conductor in the method.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE BRIGHTON BRANCH).

On Saturday, December 8, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE F. ATTREE	Treble.	JOHN JAY	5.
GEORGE A. KING	2.	ARTHUR A. FULLER	6.
HARRY WESTON	3.	JOHN REILLY	7.
JAMES SEARLE	4.	WILLIAM ROBINSON	Tenor.

Conducted by GEO. F. ATTREE.

WOOLWICH, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS, AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 8, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt.

HENRY BRIGHT	Treble.	JAMES CHARLES HARVEY	5.
WILLIAM BEDWELL	2.	REV. H. A. COCKEY	6.
YORK GREEN	3.	EDWARD E. RICHARDS	7.
GEORGE CONYARD	4.	*RICHARD G. CARTER	Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BEDWELL.

*First peal. The ringers wish to thank the Rector and Churchwardens, for kindly allowing them the use of the bells.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE WARNHAM BRANCH).

On Saturday, December 8, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF COURT BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

JESSE GARMAN	Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT	5.
WALTER CHARMAN*	2.	HENRY H. CHANDLER	6.
THOMAS ANDREWS	3.	HENRY BURSTOW	7.
HARRY COOK	4.	THOMAS HOGSFLESH	Tenor.

Composed by FREDERICK WICKENS, and Conducted by HENRY H. CHANDLER.

*First peal in the method. This is the 50th peal by Mr. William Short, the captain of the Warnham branch.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE HERTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 8, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

HENRY BREWER*	Treble.	E. P. DEBENHAM	5.
JESSE W. BREWER*	2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM	6.
EDWARD HULL†	3.	THOMAS WALLER	7.
JOHN C. MITCHELL	4.	ARTHUR HULL	Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD PERCY DEBENHAM.

*First peal. †First on a bob bell. Messrs Brewer were elected members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, previous to the starting for the peal.

ARUNDEL, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE ARUNDEL BRANCH).

On Saturday, December 8, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART

Tenor 14½ cwt.

S. LONG*	Treble.	C. BLACKMAN	5.
W. CHALLEN	2.	G. BALCHIN	6.
O. EVERSHEDE†	3.	E. EDE	7.
F. LUXFORD	4.	*C. HAYLER	Tenor.

Conducted by F. LUXFORD.

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

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, December 8, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

HENRY BASTABLE	Treble.	THOMAS REYNOLDS	5.
WILLIAM HENRY GODDEN*	2.	BERNARD WITCHELL	6.
WILLIAM KENT	3.	HENRY JOHNSON, JUN.	7.
CHARLES STANBRIDGE	4.	JOSEPH JOHNSON	Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY BASTABLE.

*First peal with a bob bell.

CARSHALTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 10, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN HARTLEY†	Treble.	ARTHUR B. CARPENTER	5.
JOHN BRANCH	2.	*JOHN HARDING	6.
GEO. WELLING	3.	CHARLES BANCE	7.
JAMES W. TRAPPITT	4.	HENRY BROOKS	Tenor.

Conducted by DR. A. B. CARPENTER.

*First peal of Grandsire. †First peal with a working bell.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 11, 1888, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

AT CHEIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt. 8 lbs.

LEWIS WHITMORE*	Treble.	JAMES W. RIMMER	5.
JOSEPH RIMMER†	2.	*LEWIS TYLDESLEY	6.
JAMES RIMMER	3.	WILLIAM BALDWIN	7.
BENJAMIN TUNGATE*	4.	DAVID E. RIMMER	Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, and Conducted by DAVID E. RIMMER.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. ‡College Youth.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 11, 1888, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S COMPOSITION.

JESSE GARMAN	Treble.	HARRY COOK	5.
WALTER CHARMAN	2.	WILLIAM SHORT	6.
HENRY H. CHANDLER	3.	HENRY BURSTOW	7.
THOMAS ANDREWS	4.	GEORGE WOODMAN	Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY BURSTOW.

This peal was rung to commemorate the birthday of Mr. Henry Burstow. The ringers wish him many happy returns of the day.

SALTAIRE, YORKS.

THE SOCIETY OF COPLEY SCHOLARS, AND THE
YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 8, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES UPON SIX BELLS,

Being seven 720's of Plain Bob Minor, each differently called.

Tenor 9 cwt.

B. T. COPLEY	4.	G. TITTERINGTON	4.
J. COTTERELL	2.	B. F. LAMB	5.
A. RILEY	3.	F. LONDON	Tenor.

This peal, which is the first on these bells, and the first of Minor by all, was rung as a Conductors' practice, each ringer calling a 720 in turn, beginning and ending with the treble. It was also rung on the first attempt. B. T. Copley and G. Titterington, hail from Bolton; J. Cotterell and B. F. Lamb from Bradford; A. Riley from Saltaire; and F. London from Shipley.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, THE
NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST.
MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.

On Thursday, December 6, 1888, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes;

AT THE "HALBERT INN,"

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 size in D.

WILLIAM MOTTS	1-2.	JAMES MOTTS	5-6.
WILLIAM P. GARRETT	3-4.	WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE	7-8.

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

Date Touches.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

ASTON.—On Sunday morning, December 2nd, before Divine Service at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a date touch of Stedman Caters (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. H. Johnson, jun., 1; A. Jones, 2; C. Stanbridge, 3; W. Smith, 4; T. Russam, 5; J. Buflery, 6; B. Witchell (conductor), 7; W. Kent, 8; T. Reynolds, 9; W. Jackson, 10. Composed by Henry Johnson, sen.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP.—On Tuesday, December 4th, at Christ Church, a date touch (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins., in the following methods: 600 Plain Bob, 600 College Single, and 688 Oxford Single. W. Ormerod, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled, as a last tribute of respect to the late Vicar, the Rev. John McCubbin, who for thirty-four years had been at the above church, and was also an hon. member of the above Association.

TUE BROOK NEAR LIVERPOOL.—On Sunday, December 8th, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, an attempt to ring a peal of Bob Major (5024 changes), unfortunately came to grief after ringing 4576 changes, in 3 hours, owing to a mistake on the part of the conductor. J. R. Pritchard (composer and conductor), 1; P. Barton, 2; W. G. Mann, 3; W. James, 4; R. Hill, 5; D. E. Rimmer, 6; J. Aspinwall, 7; W. Davies, 8.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL.—On Saturday, December 8th, at St. James's church, a date touch of Bob Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr and 8 mins. Tenor 15 cwt. F. Merrison, 1; J. W. Stickney, 2; G. M. Brownrigg, 3; A. Chaffer, 4; J. F. Mallaby, 5; T. Stockdale, 6; C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 7; F. Sharp, 8. The company met for a peal, but after ringing an hour they were stopped by a defect in the chiming apparatus and a date touch was rung.

RAWMARSH (Yorks).—On Friday, December 7th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 5 mins. T. Whitworth (conductor), 1; S. Whitworth, 2; V. Hawkins, 3; J. Hawkins, 4; J. Ensor, 5; J. Farmery, 6; R. Whitworth, 7; J. Scholfield, 8. The above touch was rung with the bells muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Mrs. W. T. W. Fitzwilliam, whose funeral took place on Thursday, December 6th, at the churchyard of Marhome, near Peterborough.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LINCOLN.—On Monday, December 10th, a mixed company of Lincoln ringers rang at the church of St. Peter-at Arches, a date touch of Bob Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr and 7 mins. J. B. Fenton, 1; J. W. Watson, 2; H. Maidens, 3; H. Hoyes, 4; C. Wells, 5; I. Vickers (conductor), 6; D. W. Brown, 7; J. Ellard, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Composed by Mr. Charles Jackson, Hull.

Miscellaneous.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

TWYFORD (Herts).—On Tuesday, December 4th, at St. Mary's church, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. C. Hawkins, 1; *G. Smith, 2; *Rev. C. Buxton, 3; W. West, 4; A. Ashford, 5; F. Hewlett (conductor), 6. *First 720.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FOY (Herefordshire).—On Sunday, November 18th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. J. G. Wall (conductor), 1; H. Bussell, 2; E. Turner, 3; J. Clark, 4; J. Andrews, 5; A. Bird, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. Also several six-scores of Stedman Doubles by the above, with H. Phillips from Bristol.

BURWARTON (Shropshire).—On Monday evening, November 26th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Doubles (six different six-scores), in 27 mins. J. Bowen, 1; J. Underwood, 2; G. Preece, 3; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 4; J. W. Sanderson, 5; J. Wellings, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

BRIDGNORTH.—On Saturday, December 1st, at St. Leonard's church, two 168's of Grandsire Triples. H. Fowles, 1; W. Rickhuss, 2; E. Baker, 3; J. E. Hall, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; H. Jones, 6; J. Overton, 7; H. James, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, November 7th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). W. Allen, 1; I. Hills, 2; F. Sharp, 3; F. Smith, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; F. Keech, 6. Also on Friday, November 9th, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Smith, 1; W. Hall, 2; F. Keech, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. Allen, 6. And on Thursday, December 6th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). I. Hills, 1; W. Hall, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; F. Smith, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. Allen, 6. Also on Thursday, November 15th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Hull, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; I. Hills, 3; W. Hall, 4; F. Smith, 5; *F. Sharp (conductor), 6. *First 720 as conductor. And on Friday, November 9th, at St. Paul's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins., containing the nine 4-6's, nine 7-4's, and nine 6-7's, Queens and Tittums. J. Spencer, 1; W. Allen, 2; F. Smith, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; W. Hall, 5; C. W. Clarke (composer and conductor), 6; I. Hills, 7; F. Keech, 8. Followed by 742, 672, and 336 in the same method, and 224 Bob Major, and 224 of Kent Treble Bob Major. The above was rung on the election of the Mayor, J. Hawkins, Esq., a hon. member of the above Association.

SHARNBROOK (Beds).—On Saturday, November 10th, for practice at St. Peter's church, 720 Oxford Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Dickens, 1; W. Page, 2; E. Coleman, 3; L. Bell, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; A. J. Barcock (conductor), 6. Also 216 Grandsire Minor, and 120 Grandsire Doubles. And on Saturday, November 17th, 720 Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles). C. Allen (aged 13, first 720, and first attempt), 1; L. Bell, 2; W. Page, 3; E. Coleman, 4; A. J. Barcock, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also two 120's of St. Simon's Doubles. And on Saturday, December 8th, 720 Grandsire Minor (fifty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). J. Dickens, 1; L. Bell, 2; E. Coleman, 3; A. J. Barcock, 4; W. Page, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor. Also 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Dickens, 1; C. Allen (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; L. Bell, 3; E. Coleman, 4; W. Page, 5; A. J. Barcock (conductor), 6. And 360 Oxford Bob Minor. C. Allen, 1; L. Bell, 2; E. Coleman, 3; W. Page, 4; A. J. Barcock, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles, with T. Bamsome, 1.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FRITTENDEN.—On Friday, November 23rd, at the church of St. Mary, 720 of Bob Major. E. Watson, 1; J. Goldsmith, 2; C. Walter, 3; W. E. Pope, 4; J. G. Tillmon, 5; E. Taylor, 6; E. Pope, 7; T. Daynes (conductor), 8. Also a 336 of Grandsire Triples. E. Watson, 1; W. E. Pope, 2; C. Walter, 3; J. G. Tillmon, 4; E. Taylor, 5; T. Daynes, 6; E. Pope (conductor), 7; J. Goldsmith, 8.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

PIMLICO.—On Sunday, November 25th, for evening service, at St. Gabriel's church, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, in 46 mins. W. Hover, 1; G. T. McLaughlin, 2; E. Carter, 3; H. Newton, 4; F. G. Newman, 5; J. N. Oxborough, 6; C. F. Winney, 7; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 8. Tenor 16½ cwt.

LONDON.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Sunday, December 2nd, at the "Rochester Arms," 1260 of Grandsire Triples. G. T. McLaughlin, 1-2; C. F. Winney, 3-4; J. M. Hayes, 5-6; F. Davey, 7-8. Also a course of Stedman Triples, and a touch of Grandsire Triples, with W. H. George, 7-8; conducted by J. M. Hayes. Mr. Davey hails from Exeter.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY LONDON.

ST. ALBANS.—On Monday, December 3rd, at the office of the *Herts Standard*, on handbells retained in hand, 720 of Bob Minor (non-conducted). J. C. Mitchell, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3-4; G. W. Cartmel, 5-6.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRANDESTON.—On Saturday, December 8th, at the parish church, an attempt was made to ring a Surprise peal but after ringing 720 each of London, Rochester, Chichester, Worcester, and 120 of Superlative, in 1 hr. and 45 mins, the second rope broke. S. Wightman, 1; A. S. Wightman, 2; W. G. Crickmer, 3; G. Wightman, 4; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 5; S. Wightman, sen., 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP.—On Sunday morning, December 2nd, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 720 Oxford Single. W. Ormerod, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. Also for evening service 720 Plain Bob (eight bobs and six singles. Z. Lord, 1; J. Hardman, 2; J. B. Taylor (Newchurch), 3; A. A. Downing, 4; J. Smith (Rawtenstall), 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled, as a last tribute of respect to the late vicar, the Rev. John McCubbin, who for thirty-four years had been at the above church, and was also an hon. member of the above Association.

BOUGHTON NEAR FAVERSHAM.—On Sunday morning, November 25th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-eight bobs and eighteen singles), in 25 mins. W. W. Boulden (conductor), 1; H. Foreman, 2; E. Foreman, 3; G. A. Ranson, 4; F. T. Harris, 5; W. Hope, 6. And after afternoon service, 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. W. Hope, 1; H. Foreman, 2; E. Foreman, 3; W. W. Boulden, 4; G. A. Ranson, 5; F. T. Harris (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, November 27th, 720 of Bob Minor (thirty singles and six bobs), in 25 mins. W. W. Boulden (conductor), 1; J. Burch, 2; E. Foreman, 3; W. Hope, 4; R. Castle, 5; G. A. Ranson, 6. This was rung on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. Thomas Harris one of the local ringers, with Miss Jane Exton, of the same parish, his brother ringers wishing them both long life and happiness.

GREENSTEAD GREEN (Essex).—On Sunday, December 2nd, at St. James' church, for afternoon service, 360 of Plain Bob Minor (nine bobs). S. Buss, 1; E. Chaplin, 2; F. Webb, 3; W. Claydon, 4; F. Saunders, 5; E. Radley (conductor), 6. And after service, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. E. Chaplin, 1; F. Saunders, 2; H. Wiffen, 3; W. Ward (conductor), 4; T. Arnold, 5; E. Radley, 6. Also 216 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (twelve bobs and two singles). S. Buss, 1; W. Ward, 2; F. Webb, 3; W. Claydon, 4; E. Radley (conductor), 5; F. Saunders, 6. Messrs. Radley, Saunders, and Chaplin, hail from Stisted, Claydon and Webb from Colne. Ward from Halstead; the rest belong to the local company. Tenor 14 cwt.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Sunday, November 25th, at St. Michael's church, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Hutton (conductor) 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley, 6. Also on Monday, November 26th, for practice, two 720's of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; J. Hinchley, 6. And on Sunday, December 2nd, for Divine Service, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, sen., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; E. Coleman, 5; J. Hinchley, 6.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—On Thursday, November 29th, at the parish church, 503 Grandsire Triples. W. T. Prior, 1; W. J. Prior, 2; G. Prior, 3; F. W. Chapman, 4; H. Prior, 5; P. Springham, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7. This was rung without a cover. Also on Sunday morning, December 2nd, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. T. Newman, 1; G. Prior, 2; F. W. Chapman, 3; H. Prior, 4; P. Springham, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6.

HANLEY CASTLE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, December 2nd, at the parish church, three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. A. Newman, 1; R. G. Knowles (conductor), 2; C. A. Clews, 3; C. B. James, 4; T. H. Gwynn, 5; A. Aspy, 6. Second six-score.—A. Newman, 1; E. B. James, 2; C. A. Clews, 3; A. Aspy, 4; T. H. Gwynn, 5; F. Jelf (conductor), 6. Third six-score.—A. Newman, 1; E. B. James, 2; A. Aspy, 3; C. A. Clews, 4; T. H. Gwynn, 5; F. Jelf (conductor), 6. Also two courses of Grandsire Triples. C. A. Clews, 1-2; E. B. James, 3-4; F. Jelf, 5-6; T. H. Gwynn, 7-8. In the second course A. Newman rang 1-2; the others as before. A. Aspy hails from Old Hanley, the rest belong to the Malvern Priory company. The ringers wish through the medium of this paper to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells.

MOSSLEY (Lancashire).—Recently at St. George's church, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 28 mins. J. Greaves (aged 15 years), 1; F. Rhodes (aged 14 years, first 720), 2; A. W. Holden (first 720), 3; H. Mayall, 4; J. Holden, 5; T. B. Dicken (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

SALISBURY.—On Wednesday, December 5th, at St. Martin's church, 1260 of Grandsire Triples. W. E. Ramshaw (longest touch), 1; H. D. Adams, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; W. S. Wise (conductor), 5; C. A. Clements, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; W. M. Lush, 8. And 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. W. Barkus, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; H. D. Adams, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6.

WALTON-ON-THAMES (Surrey).—On Monday, December 3rd, for practice at the parish church, several plain courses, and 168 Grandsire Triples. G. Atkins, 1; G. Luker, 2; E. Bromham, 3; T. Bond, 4; J. Sedgely, 5; G. Woodiss (conductor), 6; B. Wickens, 7; F. Tingey, 8. This is the first ever rung by a local band; they are making steady progress, and have until recently received instruction from Mr. J. M. Hayes.

WOKING (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, November 25th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Doubles. W. Furlonger, 1; *Frank Arnold, 2; F. Arnold, 3; R. Arnold, 4; W. Sadler, 5; *A. Sanders, 6. Also after service 720 in the same method. W. Furlonger, 1; *W. C. Ryde, Esq., 2; F. Arnold, 3; *F. Ryde, Esq., 4; R. Arnold (conductor), 5; A. Sanders, 6. This is the first 720 on the bells. The brothers Arnold hail from Betchworth, the rest are of the local band. *First 720.

WORCESTER.—On Sunday, December 9th, on the occasion of the Mayor and Corporation, attending Divine Service at the Cathedral, 403 of Grandsire Caters. W. Pudge, 1; W. Powell, 2; H. Pheasant, 3; G. Hobbs, 4; J. Morris, 5; L. Longley, 6; H. Wilks (conductor), 7; J. Reynolds, 8; W. Page, 9; T. Malin, 10. Another 500 conducted by L. Longley, unfortunately came to grief three leads from home. Tenor 52 cwt.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Arundel Branch at Arundel.—On Sunday afternoon, December 2nd, 1260 of Grandsire Triples. W. Twigg, 1; E. Ede, 2; O. Evershed, 3; W. Challen, 4; G. Balchin, 5; C. Blackman (conductor), 6; F. Luxford, 7; R. Goatcher, 8. Also for evening service, 503 Grandsire Triples. C. Tribe, 1; H. Haggett, 2; C. Blackman, 3; G. Baker, 4; G. Balchin, 5; F. Luxford, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 8. Tribe and Williams from Midhurst. And for evening prayer, 210 Grandsire Triples. C. Tribe, 1; G. Balchin, 2; C. Blackman, 3; G. Williams (conductor), 4; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 5; F. Luxford, 6; G. Baker, 7; G. Treagus, 8. Also on Monday evening, December 3rd, 504 Grandsire Triples. S. Long, 1; G. Blackman, 2; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 3; W. Challen, 4; C. Blackman, 5; F. Luxford (conductor), 6; E. Ede, 7; A. Mills, 8.

By the Brighton Branch at Brighton.—On Sunday, December 2nd, 504 of Grandsire Triples. D. Ross, Esq., 1; G. F. Attree, 2; A. A. Fuller, 3; E. C. Merritt, 4; G. A. King, 5; G. Thwaites (conductor), 6; J. Jay, 7; H. Tugwell, 8. Also on Monday, December 3rd, 504 of Stedman Triples. J. Searle, 1; G. Thwaites, 2; E. C. Merritt, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; G. A. King, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Reilly (conductor), 7; H. Tugwell, 8.

By Mixed Bands at Heene.—On Saturday, December 1st, on the occasion of Association meeting, 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Searle, 1; G. A. King, 2; Staples, 3; J. Gasson, 4; G. F. Attree, 5; J. Jay, 6; G. Williams, 7; H. Weston (conductor), 8. Also 504 of Stedman Triples. H. Weston, 1; J. Searle (conductor), 2; J. Reilly, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; G. Williams, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; G. A. King, 7; J. E. Worsell, 8. And 504 of Grandsire Triples. Staples, J. Searle (conductor), 2; G. A. King, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; H. Weston, 5; J. E. Worsell, 6; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 7; J. Reilly, 8. Also 504 J. Reilly, 1; Staples, 2; A. A. Fuller, 3; J. Searle, 4; G.

Williams (conductor), 5; G. F. Attree, 6; G. A. King, 7; E. Butler, 8. And 504 of Grandsire Triples. J. Searle, 1; *H. Bassett, 2; A. A. Fuller, 3; H. Boniface, 4; G. A. King, 5; J. Reilly (conductor), 6; G. Williams, 7; E. Butler.

By Mixed Bands at Heene.—On Saturday, December 1st, on the occasion of Association meetings, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. *W. H. George, 1; —Staples, 2; H. Meads, 3; C. Tribe, 4; G. Williams (conductor), 5; J. Gasson, 6. *First 720. Also 720 of Plain Bob Minor. —Staples, 1; C. Tribe, 2; H. Evans, 3; G. F. Attree, 4; C. E. Golds, 5; H. Hills (conductor), 6. And 720 of Plain Bob Minor. H. Bassett, 1; C. Tribe, 2; H. Evans, 3; H. Hills, 4; —Clear, 5; J. Searle (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. W. H. George, 1; —Staples, 2; Rev—Cothor, 3; C. Tribe, 4; G. Williams, 5; H. Holman (conductor), 6.

By the Rigger Branch at Rigger.—On Monday, November 26th, for practice, 504 of Grandsire Triples. *T. Miller, 1; †A. Washer, 2; A. Starks, 3; C. Painter, 4; H. Jones, 5; G. Washer, 6; C. P. Davies (conductor), 7; †F. Newham, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. *First 504 on the treble. †First 504 with a bob bell. †First 504 on the tenor.

By the Steyning Branch at Steyning.—On Monday, November 19th, 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure. J. Smart, 1; G. Gatland, 2; C. Chambers, 3; C. Tyler, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, November 22nd, a 720 of Plain Bob. *F. Brooks, 1; G. Gatland, 2; J. Matthews, 3; C. Chambers, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. *First 720. And on Sunday, November 25th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Smart, 1; C. Chambers, 2; G. Smart, 3; S. Searle, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Double Oxford. J. Matthews, 1; G. Gatland, 2; C. Tyler, 3; C. Chambers, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, December 2nd, 720 of Woodbine. J. Matthews, 1; C. Tyler, 2; G. Gatland, 3; C. Chambers, 4; F. Morris, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, November 26th, a 5040 in seven different Treble Bob methods, in three hours and seven minutes.

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."

CORRECTIONS.

SIR,—In your issue of December 8th, page 463, in the peal rang at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, it should read John Jaggard, 7; and not John Bullock. Also on page 451, of December 1st, R. Logie was the umpire for the peal on handbells rung at Burton, and was rung at the 10th attempt, the other nine being as follows: 1200, 1300, 3000, 3922, 1876, 1120, 1904, 1890, 2744. J. JAGGARD.

SIR,—In answer to a paragraph in your last issue, I find there is a great mistake as to the representation of Lancaster ringers. Mr. R. S. Hirst only represents the St. Mary's company, there being two other companies, St. Thomas's, with a ring of six bells, with Mr. B. A. Edmondson, conductor, and St. Peter's with a ring of eight bells, Mr. P. Mulligan, conductor. R. T. EDMONDSON.

THE PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR AT ST. ANDREW'S, WELL STREET, LONDON.

SIR,—With reference to the above, which was published in your issue of the 1st inst., as being rang at the above church on the 24th ult., I am informed by a reliable authority that 2-3 "shifted course," and remained so for some time; also when "that's all" came up, 4-5 were found to be the wrong way, and were put right. I should like to know whether such is the case. Would the conductor (Mr. A. Jacob), be kind enough to enlighten us. If my informant is correct in his statement, why did not some one contradict the peal last week. He tells me he was not the only one who heard the peal. CONDUCTOR.

SIR,—In your issue of December 1st, there is a report of a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major rang at St. Andrew's Church, Well Street, London, on November 24th. Now, Sir, I should like to ask the conductor how many times the 2nd and 6th changed courses, and also how many times the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th were shifted in the last two or three leads to bring the bells round. And also if it is a fact that when the band separated they were under the impression that they had not rung a peal, the said members being surprised and annoyed when they saw it published as a peal. S.W.

ANSWER TO "FREE LANCE."

SIR,—In "Notes by the Way," under the quotation "Retrogression is contrary to nature," "Free Lance" raises a question I consider of some importance to the ringing community; I refer to the reports in "THE BELL NEWS" of touches rung upon practice nights and for Sunday services. I fail to see where the writer would have the line drawn, and what should, according to his idea, be sent for insertion in "THE BELL NEWS." He says he is always glad to read of such touches as quarter peals and 720's having being brought round; but is not a 500 or even a 120 by a young band equally creditable and as worthy of insertion as a quarter-peal or a 720 accomplished by a band after years of practice. Again, as to the reports of ringing for Sunday services, would it not be well if more, rather than less, were forthcoming, even though nothing extraordinary is achieved? It would, at all events, show that the bells (in these reformed days) were being put to their proper use in being rung for each Sunday Service, instead of, as I fear it is, too often still the case, that they are only raised once a month on ringing Sundays, or in many places are never raised except for week-day practice. Supposing "Free Lance's" suggestion be carried out and only extraordinary performances are reported, what will occupy the space (on an average six or seven columns per week) now devoted to the reports of ringing? Can matters of interest, or instruction, to ringers be found from week to week, or will our journal, which boasts of being a "Ringers' Record," commit an act so "contrary to nature as retrogression," by devoting the space so provided by recording additional extraordinary "Burial Cases," "alleged assaults by rectors," "Black Letter Saints' Day," etc., such as appeared last week? GEO. F. ATTREE.

Brighton.

PROPOSED BENEFIT SOCIETY, AND MR. DORAN'S CASE.

SIR,—Some few weeks since, the idea of "A Ringers' Benefit Society" was proposed in these columns. While much is to be said in favour of such a grand idea, a great many objections may be raised. Firstly, would it be wise on our part to attempt to counteract the efforts and work of such societies as the A.O.F., M.U.O.F., and other existing benefit societies, societies for that one-object. I am afraid that between the promotion of the art of change-ringing and belfry reform, and the working of an Association for the promotion of thrift among ringers, between the two we should come to the ground. It is perhaps needless to add that ringers are not restricted from enjoying the advantages such societies as are here spoken of offer. Secondly, to float successfully a ringers' benefit society means the incurring of a great expense, much more than I venture to think ringers would feel prepared to pay, at any rate I do not think we are going to talk them into such an idea so very easily. To judge by the miserable response made to Mr. Randall's appeal on behalf of Mr. Doran, here is (what is in my opinion) a very deserving case, brought to our notice not only by Mr. Randall, but by one of our most prominent ringers, Mr. Henry Dains the Hon. Sec. of the Royal Cumberland Youths, and again by the respected editor of our "weekly" himself, so that we cannot doubt the case. But what do we find; some three months after the appeal as been made we find the magnificent sum of £5 17s. 6d. has been subscribed amongst 42 ringers out of the many hundreds there are existing, who are enjoying the greatest blessings that Providence can bestow upon them, viz., health and strength. I do not hesitate to say that such conduct on our part is simply disgraceful, that so many ringers should abstain from subscribing their mite. I take for example the Association of which I am Assist. Hon Sec; on looking down the list of subscribers I see that out of a membership of over 600 only 2 names occur. I do regret to think this should be the case, the matter would bear a different complexion if an appeal were often made, but this is only the second time such an appeal as been made this year. I am fully aware my remarks will not be met with approval by many of my brother-ringers, but here is a fact and as a fact, brother-ringers, I submit it to your consideration. You know the old Scotch proverb still stands good. "Many a mickle makes a muckle." That happy Christmastide is fast approaching, do your best now the opportunity presents itself, to make at least one home bright and cheerful if possible, and you may rest assured that your Christmastide will be doubly happy. I could say much more, but for fear of trespassing on valuable space, I now close, feeling sure my remarks (although harsh perhaps) will not have been made in vain.

JAMES EDWARD WORSSELL, Assist. Hon. Sec. S.C.A.C.R.
14, Foundry Street, Brighton.

The easternmost window in the north gallery at St. James's, Piccadilly, has just been filled with painted-glass in commemoration of the bicentenary of the consecration of the church. The chief subject represents the raising of Lazarus, and has been executed by Messrs. Ward and Hughes, under the superintendence of Mr. Wimperis.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"All's well that ends well."

Without a doubt, the most prominent feature of last Saturday's issue is the numerous array of peals reported. That circumstance denotes forcibly enough the fact that we are once more "in the thick" of the peal ringing season, and moreover, that our friends in various parts are by no means "letting the grass grow under their feet" in this respect.

* * * * *

In the weekly list of peals there are, of course, always some more or less interesting features; but last Saturday's collection seems to be more than usually notable. Not the least of this is the number of "first peals" or "first peals in the method," for I find that among the ringers of the twenty-one peals in question, no less than forty-six of them come under this category. If that is not an unmistakable sign of progress, I confess I don't know what else is. It shews that after many months of training on the part of the seniors, the young ringer has given evidence of his diligence in mastering the art, and thus rewarded the patient endeavours of his tutors by piloting his bell through his first peal. It shews signs of progress also in other cases where a band has set about mastering a fresh method, and after much practice together succeeded in "pulling off" a "fiver" in it.

* * * * *

But if our Triples and Major ringers have been busy, surely the six-bell men must be credited with having been no less so, seeing that there are six peals to their credit, and their selection of methods which they rang, also, denotes long and constant practice.

* * * * *

I was rather surprised, though, to learn that the Steyning men rang their first combination of Treble Bob methods on the 20th ult. They were so well to the fore twelve months ago, that I imagined a peal of this kind was among the number. Nevertheless, although it has been longer in coming, I am pleased to see it.

* * * * *

The band who visited Frampton must have been eager for a peal when they rung these bells to the tune of forty-two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. Perhaps the fact of its being the first on the bells as well as the first by the treble-man had something to do with it. The most credit in connection with that performance is undoubtedly due to the conductor, and shews that he is gifted with a good memory. But my friends, when you have a ring of six, why content yourselves with the very limited compass which five bells afford! Why not turn the tenor into the work and ring more pleasant and varying Minor methods? Of course, I might be met with the rejoinder that many with eight bells in their tower content themselves with ringing Triples. But considering the difference in the "extents" between Doubles and Triples, there is no analogy in the cases. Anyhow, seeing that you have successfully brought round the first peal on the Frampton bells, let us read before long that you have met again in the same belfry and been equally fortunate with a good peal of Minor.

* * * * *

By the way, I see the All Souls (Halifax) Society have been regaling the ears of our old friend Mr. Sottanstill with a peal of Treble Bob on the bells of his quaint old parish church of Sowerby. But what struck me most in this was the fact that six out of the octave are starred as being members of the Yorkshire Association. Why didn't they get the other two proposed, and thus have made it what it so nearly is—an Association peal. Perhaps it was an oversight.

The Lancashire Association is bidding fair to be top scorer with their handbell peals; two more this week. In fact, I have noticed with pleasure of late an appearance of much vigour in the County Palatine, both in the matter of ringing and also in their work of organisation. I ventured some time ago to remark upon the very large number (proportionately) of peals by independent societies, in that county, which seemed to indicate that this Association was a long way off embracing in its ranks the bulk of the ringers. But if this life and vigour be maintained, I do not doubt that ultimately these outsiders will be brought in, and that Association become as extensive and potent for good as even its most zealous members could wish for.

* * * * *

That reminds me of a story I heard a little time ago (and I am forcibly impressed with the idea that it came from Lancashire), which, if true, tempts me to think that they must have some queer individuals to deal with. One of the members waited upon a certain clergyman, and asked him to become an honorary member, as they were naturally anxious to have the support of the clergy. By way of supporting his request he shewed the Rev. gentleman a copy of their report, which contained a list of their hon. members. After looking through it, the said vicar returned the book with the discouraging remark that he could not comply. "Why so?" queried the astonished ringer. "Oh!" said he, "how do you suppose that I, as an evangelical, could allow my name to appear in that list among those High Churchmen and Ritualists?" That must have been a settler. At all events, so the story goes, it settled the point as to his becoming a member of the association. I should be glad, for the sake of our clergy, if this story could be contradicted; for if true, it shows that intolerance and bigotry are not confined to the lowest and most ignorant of our countrymen, but that these unworthy features manifest themselves even among the ranks of those who are our spiritual guides, and who should be examples for us to follow.

* * * * *

The Midland Counties men seem to be going in for "splicing" just now. Let us hope these splices will all of them be happy ones; and with respect to the latest of them, may Mr. Walter Canner's family obligations not tempt him to become lax in his ringing work, and that he will find in his good wife a worthy help-mate, so that in year's to come he may still be found "the worthy captain of the Ashby Society."

* * * * *

This brings to my mind the performances of another ringers wife, to whom I have previously had the pleasure of referring, namely, Mrs. Williams. This lady appears to be making good progress in handbell ringing, and her exploits would be worthy of any of the oldest masculine practitioners amongst us. I think Mr. G. Williams must have found an apt pupil in his "better half," who seems quite at home with 7-8 either in Grandsire, Stedman, or Plain Bob. He has made a good splice, evidently, and is to be congratulated accordingly.

* * * * *

The Devonport Dockyard men deserve credit for their perseverance with their quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. Six consecutive meetings with six consecutive failures was certainly disheartening enough, but they strove on till success rewarded their efforts. Their experience in this is by no means unique, as many of us know from personal experience; but that by no means detracts from the merit of their praiseworthy and continued efforts. I wish them every success in their desire to cheer the heart of their esteemed president with a whole peal, and hope ere long to have the pleasure of congratulating them on the event.

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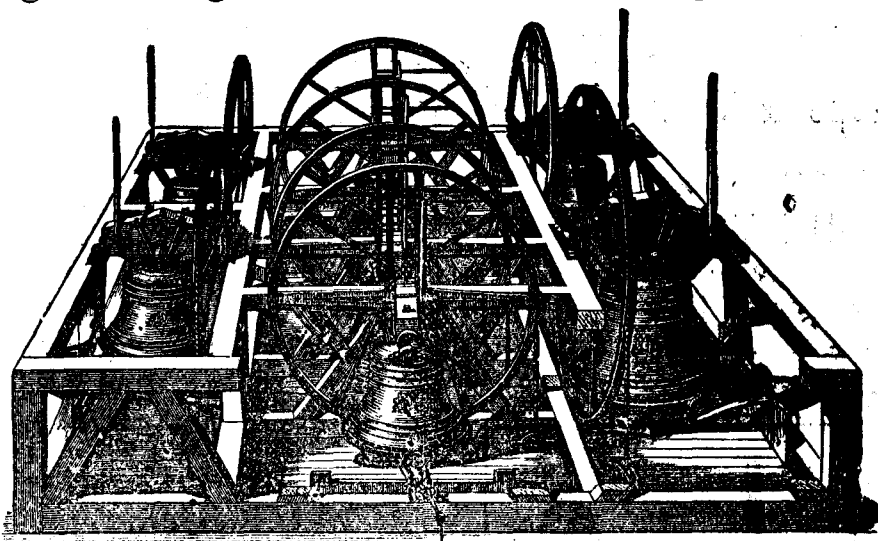
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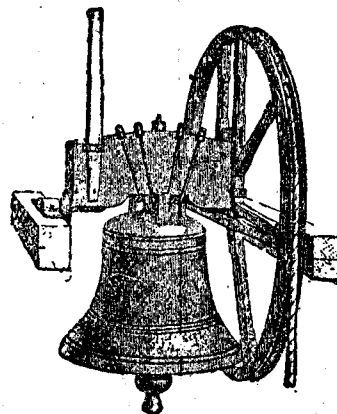
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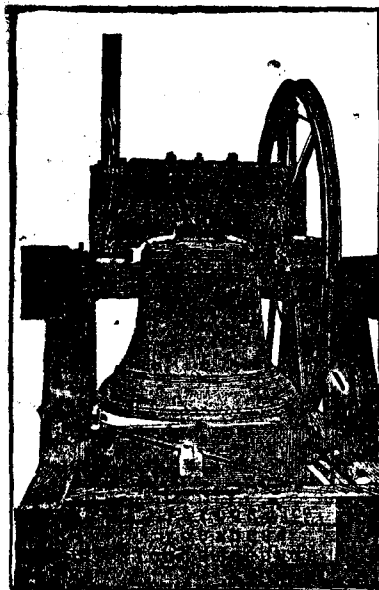
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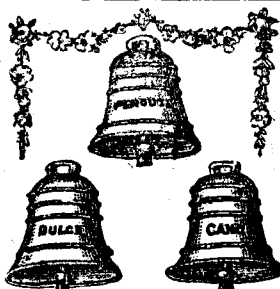
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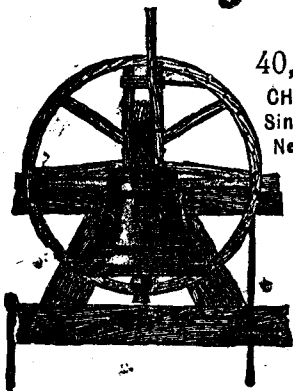
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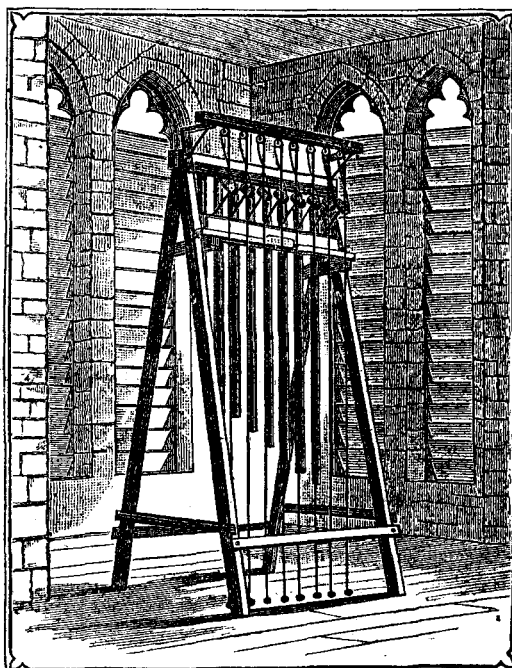
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MR. WILLIAM COOTER.

NOTWITHSTANDING the fact that the subject of our memoir ranks high among the talented ringers of the century, he will be personally unknown to very many of our readers. Those who have closely watched his ringing career, those among his intimate ringing acquaintances who know his character and attainments, are apt to regard him as one of the cleverest ringers the Metropolis has ever produced.

The church of St. James, Bermondsey, with its grand peal of ten bells, was consecrated in the year 1825, and Mr. COOTER first saw the light the same year. He claims to be a thorough Cockney—the real or supposed advantages of which are exceedingly problematical—being born in the parish of St. George-in-the-East, the church of which name has not been without some notoriety. While a youth, he became attached to bells, going through his probationary term in the most approved manner, viz., by chiming and ringing for Divine Service. The minute particulars of how he became a Change-ringer must be left to the imagination, for no one of his contemporaries appear to have the slightest knowledge how or when he “learnt the method.” We are informed when making inquiries in this respect, that Mr. COOTER seemed to require no practice for any method, but when called upon to ring he appeared to be quite ready. We may see in this, of course, not only the talent of quickly grasping new ideas and pursuits, but that of close application to what he took in hand. “Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might.” “What is worth doing at all is worth doing well.” His entry into the Exercise would seem to encourage the idea that the teaching embodied in these sentences was ever present to his mind.

In 1846, he joined the London St. James's Society, and rang his first peal—Grandsire Triples—with that society the same year. This peal was also the first by Mr. M. A. WOOD; and they both rang in the first peals of Stedman Cinques, Double Norwich, and Superlative ever rung by the “St. James's.” In 1852 he became Master of this company.

The same year in which he joined the St. James's, viz., 1846, he was elected a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. In this company he successively filled the offices of Steward and Master, and after that the office of Secretary for some years. He found that the interesting records of this society had for years previously been kept in a most perfunctory manner, but by dint of hard work and the employment of a considerable amount of time and trouble, he succeeded in bringing them into an orderly arrangement. Mr. COOTER has rung in all two hundred and three peals. These comprise eleven upon handbells, viz., Grandsire Triples, three; Stedman Triples, two; Stedman Caters, four; Stedman Cinques, two. The first peal of Stedman Triples ever rung on handbells was called by Mr. COOTER, on January 20th, 1854, he ringing 3-4. This fact, as has been alluded to in a previous number of “THE BELL NEWS,” was rung by four members of the College Youths, the others being Messrs. FERRIS, WOOD, and DWIGHT. In March of the same year he was one of four of the St. James's Society who rang another peal of Stedman Triples in hand without a call being made, or any signal of the calls being given. This peal was not the same composition as the one which he had called. His companions on that occasion were Messrs. HALEY, COX, and WOOD. Such feats as these were at once

sufficient to point him out at the time of their performance, as a ringer of rare ability, very rare indeed. Those gentlemen bearing the above names, with two others celebrated in the same direction, Messrs. POWELL and BRITTEN, were among our most honored friends in the Exercise, but for all that we do not hesitate to say that if a greater spirit of unity had pervaded them, or had they at the period of these achievements the wise precepts of some one like the late Rev. J. H. FISH to guide them, our Burton friends would not have rung the first peal of “London” in the Metropolis. It is however rendering mere justice to the subject of this memoir to say that his non-contentious disposition would have assisted unity instead of preventing it. This however by the way.

Whenever a band of ringers—above what we may call the ordinary capacity, was required for any particular purpose—such as the opening of a new peal—Mr. COOTER's services were nearly always secured, and thus we find him at the following places: St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, when augmented to twelve; Kingston, Dorset, the seat of the Earl of Eldon; St. Stephen, Carlisle, Privett, Hants; Llanstephan, South Wales; Cliffe-at-Hoo, Kent; St. Barnabas, Dorking; Northwold, Norfolk; St. Peter, Bournemouth, and Weybridge, Surrey. At nearly all of the foregoing places he has scored a peal. He took part in the first peals rang in Scotland and Ireland, and on the way to the latter country, while on the Irish Sea, he rang in a course of Grandsire Cinques, this last however being more curious than difficult. In the year 1869 he was one of a band of College Youths who at the invitation of the local authorities visited Exeter for the purpose of exhibiting their skill on the Cathedral bells, and though little could be done owing to their condition, this visit, we are disposed to think, assisted in some measure to pave the way for the establishment of the Devonshire Guild. When the ringing of DAY's peal of 15,840 Treble Bob was on the tapis, the late Mr. HALEY, to whom the College Youths naturally looked to to call it, doubted its possibility of attainment, and for some time withheld his consent. The Colls. were however, determined upon attempting it, and if Mr. HALEY had positively declined to call it, Mr. COOTER would have been solicited to undertake the task. This is mentioned to show the confidence the Society possessed in him. The manner in which that splendid performance was got through is now matter of history. Our friend rang the 2nd in this peal, which occupied 9 hours and 12 minutes in execution. In the long peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Michael's, Cornhill, which has since been superseded by the Birmingham gentlemen, he did not take part, owing to indisposition.

A sketch of Mr. COOTER's ringing career, no matter how incomplete, ought not to be without the following remarkable circumstance, which our readers may depend upon as being absolutely authentic in every particular.

Some years ago—we forget the date, but it is immaterial—our friend had one day reached his place of business just after the dinner-hour was over, when he was waited upon by the late Mr. COX. Mr. COX stated that he had that evening to call a peal of Stedman Caters at the church of St. John, Horsleydown, Surrey, but owing to another engagement he could not stay till the finish. He proposed to commence calling the peal, and wished Mr. COOTER to come up, and, taking the rope out of his hand, finish it. At the time Mr. COX handed to him the figures of the peal—a level 5000. Mr. COOTER consented. His business being over in the evening, he wended his way to the church. Taking stock from the



(RE-PHOTO, SPRAGUE & O'LEARY)

MR WILLIAM COOTER.

outside how far the peal had progressed, he ascended, and the ringing-chamber being entered by a trap door immediately under the rope of the 6th, having knocked at this trap door, the ringer of that bell—Cox himself—stepped one side and Mr. COOTER entered. Divesting himself of coat and waistcoat, he took the rope out of Cox's hands, the latter hastily disappearing through the trap-door as soon as possible. That peal Mr. COOTER finished without the slightest hitch, the good striking being unimpaired; and we think this episode is unique in the annals of ringing. Unfortunately the composition turned out upon examination to be false, and thus has never been recorded.

So far as is known, Mr. COOTER has never given his mind to composition. This has been the case with many celebrated ringers who are bob-callers. But as a manipulator—so to speak—of bells, when at the rope's end, especially when "Stedman" is being rung—he is said to be equalled by few, and surpassed by none. Labouring under a similar affliction to that of Mr. Haley—defective vision—caused by the optical obstruction known as cataract, often preventing him seeing even to the other side of a ringing-chamber, he never appears to the on-looker to suffer any inconvenience from such a physical defect while ringing. Evidently his aural capabilities, like those of his departed friend above-named, are remarkably acute, balancing perhaps, to some extent the loss of sight, though for such loss nothing else can be an equivalent. When the College Youths very wisely determined to depute one of their members to attend to "watch" a long peal of Stedman Caters lately rung at Appleton, they selected the best they could find in the person of Mr. COOTER.

The subject of our memoir is to be found at St. Paul's Cathedral every Sunday. He is always willing to assist in a peal, no matter how remote the church may be, and to oblige young aspirants in any way he can. He is held in respect by those who know him in as great a degree as any ringer living within the whole metropolitan area. Unassuming in his manner, never boasting of what he has done in the science, much less of that what he *can* do, he is a good example for many younger men whose reticence is the opposite of conspicuous. As an example of a desire not to intrude himself upon the notice of his ringing brethren, it may be stated that when it was suggested to him that his portrait should appear in this journal, he modestly replied that he did not think he had done sufficient in the science to entitle him to be brought into such prominence. In addition to the Societies already named, he is a member of the Essex Association and the Walthamstow St. Saviour's Society.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR BIRMINGHAM, ASTON, AND THE SURROUNDING DISTRICTS.

The first general meeting of this Guild will be held at St. Martin's Mission Rooms Barwick Street, Edmund Street, Birmingham, on Tuesday evening, January 8th, 1889, at 8 o'clock, when all the present members of the St. Martin's and Holt Societies are earnestly requested to attend.

W. H. GODDEN, Sec., pro tem.

HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

The usual quarterly meeting of this Society will be held at the tower, on Thursday, January 3rd, 1889.

W. H. GODDEN, Secretary.

VISIT OF THE ST. PAUL'S (BURTON-ON-TRENT) SOCIETY TO LONDON.

After repeated invitations from several prominent London ringers, who at different times had favoured Burton with a visit, the St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent company at length decided to pay a visit of a Saturday afternoon and Sunday's duration to London, in order to attempt a peal of some sort on the Saturday, and to have on the Sunday an opportunity of hearing some of the famous peals in the metropolis, and of becoming better acquainted with London ringers. Mr. Henry Dains, a very old friend of the Burton men, made all arrangements, and after a 4½ hours' ride to St. Pancras, followed by another hour spent in the delightful atmosphere of the underground railway, the visitors found themselves at 6.15 p.m. on Saturday, December 8th, at Fulham, where it was arranged the peal should be attempted. London Surprise was the method fixed on, and a start was at once made, and in about three hours and a half from the time of the ringers' arrival at Fulham, the first peal of that method ever rung in London itself was an accomplished fact. The Fulham bells are a good going peal with a good circle and a good ringing-room, the chief drawback, one which to some extent hampered the ringers, being the extraordinary difference in the "gait" of the seventh, or properly the ninth, and the tenor, the former requiring to be rung very close on both strokes, while the tenor could scarcely be rung too wide. When the bells became mixed up (and they are fairly well mixed in London Surprise), the effect of this peculiarity was most puzzling to the ringers of the front bells, and the striking to some extent suffered, but the whole of the band were very keen on their work, and although there were several trips by individual bells, the offender was in every ease promptly and accurately pounced upon and set right. The ringers were immediately after the peal heartily congratulated on their success by many prominent ringers who were present, the respected vicar of the parish a few minutes later adding his congratulations to those that had gone before. Taking into consideration the extreme difficulty of the task, the opinion expressed by these gentlemen that a most creditable performance had been achieved, will we think be pretty generally endorsed.

Sunday's programme included ringing at St. Martin's, Trafalgar Square, in the morning, a visit to St. Paul's in the afternoon—the fact that Canon Liddon was to be the preacher at the afternoon service being an additional attraction here—and ringing at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, for evening service. At St. Martin's a course of Superlative Surprise was first rung on the back eight, and subsequently several of the visitors took part in a touch of Stedman Cinques, five of the band now hearing twelve bells rung for the first time. At St. Paul's, while some of the visitors secured an early seat for Divine Service, others, under the obliging guidance of Mr. R. T. Woodley, had an opportunity of visiting Great Paul, and of viewing the heavy peal of twelve, the leader of the Burton company remaining in the belfry and accepting the kind invitation given to take part in a touch of Stedman Cinques. At each of the places named the visitors had the pleasure of meeting many old friends (including Mr. N. J. Pitstow, who had come up to town on purpose to meet them) and of making the acquaintance of many prominent members of the two great London Societies, with whose names they were all perfectly familiar, but whom they had not previously had the good fortune to meet. At each place the greatest possible kindness and courtesy was shewn them by all concerned, and they are glad of the opportunity of publicly thanking all those gentlemen for doing so much towards making this outing one of the most interesting and enjoyable the St. Paul's society has ever had.

To Mr. H. Dains for his perfect arrangements, and to the Rev. Mr. Fisher, for so kindly granting the bells at Fulham for the peal, their thanks are particularly due, as also to the band of Burton ringers who under the leadership of Mr. Jaggard kindly undertook their Sunday duties at St. Paul's during their absence.

NOTICE.—The peal of Stedman Caters proposed for December 24th, will be postponed, through the wish of the Rector of Appleton, till after the New Year.

ADDINGHAM, YORKS.

Hitherto nothing has appeared in these columns from this place on the subject of Campanology. This is not because we have no bells or bell-ringers, for we have the nicest peal of six bells for miles round, and a good set of bell-ringers, besides learners—but because there is no one who takes an interest in chronicling the doings in the belfry.

Last Saturday we had a social gathering of the neighbouring ringers, quite a new thing here, and it proved more than equal to our expectations; so I ask you to be as kind as to allow a short account of it to appear. If more of these social gatherings were got together, no doubt, better ringing would be the result.

The day turned out all that could be desired for this time of the year, and about forty ringers, representing Kildwick, Guiseley, Tong, Ilkley, and Addingham, availed themselves of the invitation sent, to come and try the sweet-toned bells of the parish church.

At 6 o'clock a free tea was provided for all comers, which was heartily enjoyed after pulling at the ropes and inhaling the pure country air. After tea Mr. Geo. Bolland, Tong, proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector, churchwardens, and ringers, for the kind invitation given them that day, the preparations made, and for placing the bells at their disposal.

The Vice-Chairman of the Yorkshire Association seconded the vote of thanks in a few appropriate words.

W. WATSON, Esq., churchwarden, replied on behalf of the rector, and expressed a hope that this gathering would only be the first-fruits of many more of a similar nature.

The gathering has already produced good results. Four members of the home set have joined the Yorkshire Association, others are following; and it was given to understand that the Kildwick ringers intend joining at the beginning of the year.

Great praise is due to W. Laird, Hon. Sec., for the able way he carried out all the arrangements.

ALL SAINTS', NORTHAMPTON.

The principal church in Northampton, a fine Renaissance work attributed to Sir C. Wren, dedicated to All Saints, and popularly known as the Corporation Church, was reopened on Thursday, having been closed five months for external repairs and the decoration of the interior, at a cost of about £2,500. The only important alteration inside has been the blocking up of the very ugly east window by the erection of a fine classic reredos, of which the principal feature is a large picture of the Crucifixion, placed in the centre between Corinthian columns, which bear a lofty arched canopy reaching nearly to the chancel roof. This church has long been famous for the beautiful moulded plaster work in the ceilings, and now the walls of the chancel are covered with fine work of a similar character. The old chancel arch, which was very poor, is entirely remodelled, and is now supported upon four Ionic pillars. The old reredos, containing two pictures of Moses and Aaron, by Sir G. Kneller, has been used to decorate the blank west wall; the ancient pulpit rests upon a better base, and a fine chandelier hangs from the great dome, which stands over the centre of the square nave. Four Bishops were present at the reopening, the Bishop of Peterborough, who preached in the morning, the Bishop of Hereford, who preached in the evening, the Bishop of Leicester, and Bishop Mitchinson. A procession was formed from the Town-hall to the church, in which walked about eighty of the clergy of the diocese, with the choir and the mayor of the town (who is senior churchwarden of the church), and eighteen out of the twenty-four members of the corporation, besides other officials.

ST. SIDWELL'S AND ST. DAVID'S SOCIETIES,
EXETER.

On Saturday, December 29th, 1888, a ringing meeting of the above Societies will be held at Exeter. The towers of St. David's and St. Sidwell's will be open for ringing at two p.m. At 7 p.m. a dinner will be provided at the "Roguefont Hotel." Tickets 2s. 6d. each, all friends are heartily welcome.

B. MUNDY.

A. W. SEARLE.

Hon. Secs.

48, Sandford Street, Exeter, December 11th, 1888.

DUCKLINGTON BELL FUND.

The following Subscriptions have been received or promised to the above Fund.

	£	s.	d.
The Ven. The Archdeacon of Oxford	1 0 0
Canon Bright, Oxford	0 10 0
The Rev. F. Robinson, Drayton	0 10 0
The Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Ringmer	0 2 0
Mr. T. Holford, Oxford	0 2 0
Mr. W. J. Holford, London	0 1 0
Mr. G. A. King, Brighton	0 1 0
A few Ladies	0 9 0
A. Percival Heywood, Esq., Duffield	0 5 0
E. D.	0 3 0
Mr. W. J. Swales, Norwich	0 1 0
L. L. Cardy, Sudbury	0 1 0
Mr. W. J. Holford, London (extra)	0 1 0
Mr. F. White, Appleton	0 2 6
Mr. J. Avery, Appleton	0 2 0
Mr. R. Bennett, Appleton	0 2 0
Mr. W. Bennett, Appleton	0 2 0
Mr. G. Cook, Appleton	0 2 0
Mr. G. Holifield, Appleton	0 2 0
In small Subscriptions	0 7 9
Total amount with Treasurer	7 0 0

Further Subscriptions will be thankfully received by

W. J. FISHER.

The Imperial Hotel, Bournemouth.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS'
ASSOCIATION.—BROMSGROVE BRANCH.

On Saturday, December 29th, 1888, the members of this branch of the above Association will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the long peal of Bob Major, 12,000 changes, rung at Bromsgrove, on December 29th, 1788, composed and conducted by the late Charles Ravenscroft. The days' proceedings will commence by an attempt to ring a peal of Grandsire Caters containing 8,024 changes, by ten members of the above Association. Dinner will be provided at the "Golden Cross" Hotel at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The Vicar of Bromsgrove, the Rev. A. E. Seymour will preside. Members of the above Association and any other ringing friends will receive a hearty welcome. Tickets for dinner 2s. 6d. each, to be ordered not later than Wednesday the 26th December, and any other information can be had on applying to WALTER REA, Secretary.

CRATHORNE, YORKSHIRE.

In the new tower of the above parish church, three new bells, from the foundry of Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, have been placed, at the sole cost of Mr. J. Lionel Dugdale of Crathorne. The old pear-shaped bell, still sound, dating apparently from about 1,300, has been rehung.

ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

The usual quarterly meeting of this Society will be held at the tower on Tuesday, January 1st, 1889. A. THOMAS, Secretary.

Another section of Holy Trinity, Aberystwyth, consisting of tower and transepts, was consecrated by the Bishop of St. David's on the 29th ult., and the octave of services was brought to a close last Thursday. The first part of this church was only opened in August, 1886, and it soon became so crowded that the vicar (Prebendary Williams), with the help of a committee of laymen, had to proceed at once with the extension of the building. The church at present consists of nave, central tower, and transepts, and has cost £5,700. The chancel will be built as soon as funds are forthcoming.

NOTICE OF LONG PEAL.—Twelve members of the Yorkshire Association will attempt 10,196 of Stedman Cinques at the parish church, Sheffield, on Monday, December 31st, to commence at 10.30.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"In terra pax!
In excelsis gloria

Once more, old Father Christmas is on the eve of paying us his annual visit. Once more we are about to celebrate in right good English fashion, as of yore, the great festival which we hold to commemorate the birth of Our Lord and Saviour. Once more we shall utter, with a *heartiness* which rolling years only serve to strengthen, the time-honoured wish to each other that we may all have "A merry Christmas." Before I write my next weekly contribution to these pages, we shall once more have rung the Christmas peal; we shall have sounded "among the hills and the valleys" the jubilant tones of our bells which proclaim to our people, as the angels proclaimed to the shepherds, "Unto us a child is born; Unto us a Son is given."

The bells have ever been a favourite theme with our poets, but on no subject have they waxed so eloquent as on the bells of Christmas-tide. To them—and no less to them than all of us—Christmas would be bereft of one of its greatest and most notable features were the bells to be silent at this happy time. In the words of the American poet, who though many miles away from the "old country" still retained his fondness for the Christmas morn at home—

"Those bells—those bells of mother-land,
Upon a Christmas morn,
Outbreaking, as the angels did,
For a Redeemer born;
How joyfully they call afar,
To cot and Baron's hall,
With holly decked, and mistletoe
To keep the festival!"

I think sometimes, when I muse upon ringing affairs generally, that we are apt to underrate the appreciation of our work on the part of those for whom we ring. We are prone to imagine that no one cares for our performances on the bells; that though we may, after many months of careful study and constant practice, succeed in ringing a date touch or peal in some intricate method, no one outside seems to know or care about it. We think fretfully, sometimes, even, that people don't seem to care whether we ring or not, and in consequence there is an inclination to become discouraged. My friends, put these ideas away from you; let them sink into oblivion; there is an inducement of sympathy with bell-ringing among Englishmen that time will never wear out—nay, will and does—strengthen as years go on. The general public is ignorant of the technicalities of our art, they do not, and cannot, comprehend the intricacies of our systems, but they know and appreciate the times when the bells are ringing, whether it is in mournful muffled tones for the loss of a brother, or in jubilant sounds to celebrate some festival or time of rejoicing. We have the pleasure in ringing, they in listening to us; and if they do not seem to interest themselves in us and our affairs so much as we could wish, is it not more because our art is to them a "sealed book," than to any semblance of indifference. But at the glad Christmas-time, do we not then, at any rate, play a most important part in the celebration of our great time-honoured festival? Would Christmas be thought complete without the old familiar peal from the bells in the church tower? Let us then ring heartily, as faithful sons of the church meet in our belfries next Monday evening and welcome in the season which brings home to one another, parents and children, brothers and sisters, who will listen together for that glad sound through the louvres of our belfry windows, which proclaim "Peace on earth; good will to men!"

Then as we meet on the Christmas morning to call together the people to church, let us once more join together, hand in hand, as brothers, and agree to jog along life's pathway in pleasant harmony. Let all past differences sink and pale in the bright light of this happy season, resolving to begin anew with purer hopes and brighter prospects, helping one another, bearing and forbearing, remembering that this is the last Christmas some of us will be permitted to see on this side of the grave; thus shall we be truly happy together; thus will we spend the festal season with joy, and be able to think of it with pleasure in the days to come.

My friends, allow me in the fulness of my heart to wish you all a right happy and merry Christmas Tide. May we be able in the future to point to it as a happy event in our lives. May we be permitted to spend the coming season so that naught put pleasurable feelings will be around in after time, at its remembrance.

It was a very pleasurable surprise to read of the accomplishment of a peal of London Surprise at All Saints', Fulham, by the talented Burton men. I feel I can but reciprocate the complimentary remarks, and good feeling expressed in Saturday's leading article, and hope that the sentiments therein evoked will bear practical fruit; first in giving honour to this intrepid company, and, second, in inducing other provincial societies to pay a visit to the Metropolis and "do likewise."

The Royal Cumberlands have been successful in ringing a peal of Caters at the historic church of St. Sepulchre. The description of this peal denotes many musical qualities, and I therefore hope to see the composition appearing before long in the pages of "THE BELL NEWS."

"This is the conductor's 200th peal." Such is the foot-note appended to a peal on page 475. If this is not absolutely unique I might ask how many ringers in England have passed that record? I have no desire to create vanity in the mind of our respected friend Mr. Washbrook, but I cannot refrain from heartily congratulating him on the circumstance. Those of us who go in for peal ringing know full well the innumerable ups and downs inseparable from such work, and when we think of the breakdowns and failures which will have been attendant upon this total of two hundred peals, we can readily imagine the time and perseverance which Mr. Washbrook must have devoted to it. It is therefore with more than ordinary pleasure that I compliment the worthy instructor of the Oxford Diocesan Guild on this achievement. I trust that he may be long spared to be not only an ornament to his profession but also a power for progress in the Association which is so fortunate in possessing his services.

Mr. Attree's monthly analysis of peals is once more before us, in which there appears but little change in the relative positions of the various Associations and Societies. I do not suppose there will be much alteration at the end of the year, and I would most strongly urge our friends to study this return thoroughly. When we are favoured with the full analysis up to the end of the year I hope to have something further to remark upon it.

The Liverpool men are starting a project which deserves every commendation and wish for its success. There can be no doubt that the formation of strong branches in our County Associations will be productive of much good. Not only will they materially aid in bringing in more members to the general body, but they will—which is perhaps an even more important matter—be able to assist in a most marked degree in the work of organization and improvements, which is the great object of these Associations. I wish the Liverpool men every success in their endeavour, and trust that their meeting on Saturday will be successful to the full extent of their anticipations.

* * * * *

"The Society of Copley Scholars" appears to be striking out a new line in their peals, according to the report of one which they rung on Saturday, the 8th inst. The peal itself is modest enough—seven 720's of Bob Minor—but their plan of ringing it is one which commands itself to me, and is in accordance with opinions which I have previously expressed in the matter of conducting. I think that, for many reasons, more of our friends should go in for conducting touches—if not peals. In how many instances do we find local companies where there is but one of the number who ever attempts to call a bob? The result is, that when this individual is absent—through sickness or otherwise—the rest have to content themselves with plain courses and such like. This is a point which deserves attention. No ringer, I contend, should consider himself thoroughly competent in his work unless and until he has proved himself able to conduct at least a service peal. I hope this example of the "Copley Scholars" will be followed by others, and by this means the latent talent on the part of the "rank and file" be brought out.

FREE LANCE.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MANCHESTER BRANCH.

A ringing meeting of the above branch was held at the parish church, Eccles, on Saturday, December, 15th. Ringers attended from Radcliffe, Whitefield, Manchester, Swinton, Worsley, Walkden, and Bolton. Various methods were rung during the evening. Afterwards all adjourned to the meeting-house, the "Grapes Hotel," Mr. James Barrett being appointed chairman. The proposed formation of a new branch of the Association at Liverpool was brought before the meeting by Mr. Joel Redford, the Secretary, and was heartily approved by the members present. Three new members were proposed, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Whitefield, on Saturday, January 12th, 1889, ringing to begin at four o'clock.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—PROPOSED BLACKBURN BRANCH.

A Ringing Meeting will be held at Blackburn parish church, on Saturday, December 29th, at 2.30 p.m. At 6 o'clock a meeting will be held to arrange necessary details and establish the branch. All change-ringers in the district are cordially invited to attend. It is especially hoped that every belfry in the district will send one representative at least, to express the opinions of his band, and to give support to the proposals submitted to the meeting.

JAMES HORROCKS, Sec.

93, Henry Street Church.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting proposed to be held at Leighton Buzzard, on Saturday, December 29th, cannot be held there as the tower is under repair. It will therefore be held instead on that day at Eversholt, the six bells having just been overhauled by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, and put in good ringing order.

CHARLES HERBERT, }
W. W. C. BAKER, } Hon. Secs

TITHE AGITATION.

The tithe agitation, hitherto almost confined to Flintshire and Denbighshire, has broken out in Carnarvonshire, and on Saturday, at some sales in Llannor parish at the instance of the Rev. D. Jones, vicar of Pwllheli, there were a series of remarkable scenes. Early in the morning guns were fired to apprise the people of the visit of the auctioneer. Mr. Lloyd Carter was protected by Colonel Ruck, chief constable of Carnarvonshire, and Superintendent Hughes, of Pwllheli. When the distraining party took the road a cart was placed in front of the procession, and in it was the effigy of a clergyman intoxicated and lolling in a chair, having on his breast the words in Welsh, "This is what we do with the tithes." In front of the clergyman stood a table with a bottle of wine and a tobacco-pipe. On the way to the second farm, another effigy was met representing a surpliced clergyman attired in a pair of shooting-boots which peeped out under his canonicals. He bestrode a white horse, and he carried a gin bottle. Then came a sickly-looking youth sitting on an empty beer-barrell, and clad in all the hues of the rainbow, driving a pair of ponies. At the next farm Captain Roberts, the tenant, refused to pay £16 odd. The stack was bought in for the tenant, and then the crowd sang the Welsh national song, "Land of my Fathers." At Fron farm, tenanted by Mrs. Williams, a widow, a collection was made on her behalf, and the amount paid, cheers being given for the subscriptions of Colonel Ruck, and Superintendent Hughes. At Hendre, Penbyrs Mills the tenant paid £11 out of £13 odd due, and the sale of a large stack of hay for the balance seemed to excite the crowd, for when the miller turned on the water which flows down the yard in an aqueduct, they pushed Mr. Carter, the auctioneer, under it, and he was rescued in a drenched condition. The last place visited was Tynewydd, where £18 were recovered by the sale of a haystack to Dr. Griffiths, who purchased for the tenant. On leaving the yard clods of earth were flung at Mr. Carter, and he was roughly used. A move was then made to the vicarage, where the Rev. T. Jones was vigorously hooted.

Mr. Stevens, acting on behalf of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners and the local clergy, was busily engaged on Monday in levying distrains in various parts of Flintshire. Starting from Mold at daybreak, accompanied by Chief Constable Bolton and several police and emergency men, he proceeded to Rhesycae and Halkyn, where several seizures were made. At Whitford the party were vigorously pelted with rotten eggs. About forty miles were traversed during the day.

Ten days' notices have been served by the representatives of Christ Church, Oxford, upon the tithepayers in the Meiford Valley, Montgomeryshire for arrears. A large number of the farmers have not paid since 1886, and the Dean and Chapter refuse to concede an abatement of 10 per cent.—*Guardian*.

Obituary.

THOMAS BAMFORD.

WE regret to announce the death of the above ringer, who had been a ringer of the Rochdale parish church society for over sixty years, which event took place on Sunday, November 11th, at the advanced age of 84 years. The deceased was interred at the Rochdale cemetery on Wednesday, November 14th, and was borne to the grave by four of his ringing friends. The funeral ceremony was performed by the Rev. C. S. Rowland, one of the curates of the church, after which a course of Grandsire Triples was rung at the grave side. The bells of the parish church were deeply muffled, when touches of Grandsire Triples and Major were rung by mixed companies from Rochdale, Heywood, and Todmorden. Deceased rang regularly for the Sunday services within two months of his death, and was in possession of all his faculties up to the last. He took part in a good many peals of 5000, and notably one to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of his first peal, when he was seventy-eight years of age. On his eightieth birthday he rang another 5000, and for Divine Service on his eighty-second birthday he rang the first half of Reeves's ten-part peal (2520 changes). Deceased was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and took part in a peal of Grandsire Triples in London.

THE RINGERS' GUIDE

TO THE
CHURCH BELLS OF DEVON,

COMPRISING:

PART I.—A Brief History of Bells and Bell-Ringing, with special reference to Devon.

PART II.—A List of the Church Bells of Devon, corrected up to date and abridged from the detailed Catalogue of Inscriptions, Diameters, &c., compiled by the late Rev. H. T. ELLACOMBE.

BY

CHARLES PEARSON, M.A.,

Member of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

CLOTH ILLUSTRATED, PRICE 2s. 6d.

WILLIAM POLLARD & Co., PRINTERS, EXETER,

1888.

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

One copy, 12 months 6s. 6d.

" 6 " 3s. 3d.

" 3 " 1s. 8d.

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1888.

ONCE again the most genial season of all the year has come round, and we are "in position" to repeat the welcome call—"A Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year," to all our readers and friends. Welcome to many, without doubt, the warm-hearted, kindly greetings which pass from mouth to mouth, and heart to heart: welcome to the worn and weary toiler in counting-house and workshop the brief respite from labour and care which the well-earned holiday brings with it; welcome the glad reunion of families round the old home fireside; welcome the tender and gentle influence which cheers the poor, soothes the sorrowing, and breathes on the hearts of all the heavenly message of "peace and goodwill."

True, we have other holidays, and other occasions

during the year, for family or social gathering; but, for all that, "Christmas comes but once a year," and the Christmas holiday has a flavour which is all its own. Whether we "keep Christmas" in midwinter, on this side of the globe, or in midsummer at the Antipodes, the old associations cleave to it, it retains its own peculiar charm, and exerts its own benignant spell: its time-honoured traditions, like the evergreens with which we adorn our churches and houses, will last; while other emotions are crushed and battered in the rough battle of life, or wither with the growth of years. May the benign influence of this season of joy, hallowed alike by its origin and its significance, exert its proper sway over the hearts of us all! As votaries of a beautiful art, consecrated by its association with the offices of religion, may we all permit Christmas, with its holy lesson of love, peace, and goodwill, to teach us to lay aside all petty animosities, to heal our little feuds, to reconcile our differences, and to start afresh for a new peal, with truer changes and better striking, of mutual help, brotherly love, union and concord.

Bell-ringers, like the carol singers, have been in many parts of the country for years associated with the celebration of Christmas: and on Tuesday next, we doubt not, joyous peals will ring out from many a church tower, nor will the hand bell-ringers be idle: for many a village household will doubtless receive its customary visit and listen to the harmony of Grandsire and Treble Bob, while curious eyes endeavour in vain to unravel the intricacies of the rapidly and well-struck changes. This will be as it should be. For we venture to think that our church bells, at least can be put to no higher or better use than to mark by special peals of joy the feasts kept by the church in commemoration of the Great Events of our Redemption. We hope to see the time when no church tower, with an effective ring of bells, will fail to send forth its notes of joy and praise on these High Festivals, and when every band of ringers shall recognize in such a peal, not only an act of official duty, but a labour of love—a reasonable voluntary service.

Let us begin by extending such a recognition to this Christmas Festival; and we may be sure we shall feel happier and better for having in our own special way joined heartily in giving "Glory to God!"

The Metropolis.

LONDON.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 15, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES IN THE FIELDS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 18 cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNY Treble.	GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. 5.
JOHN C. MITCHELL 2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 6.
E. P. DEBENHAM 3.	JAMES W. DRIVER† .. 7.
RICHARD M. PRATT* 4.	WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN C. MITCHELL.

*First peal in the method. †First peal of Stedman Triples.

LONDON.—THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.

On Monday, December 17, 1888, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. in G.

WILLIAM J. MOORE Treble.	WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. 6.
ALBERT E. CHURCH 2.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 7.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 3.	*GEORGE C. HAMMOND .. 8.
JOHN W. MANSFIELD .. 4.	RICHARD FRENCH 9.
HENRY LANGDON 5.	JOSEPH BARRY Tenor.

Composed by JOHN ROGERS, and Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

*First peal on ten bells.

The Provinces.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 11, 1888, in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP Treble.	JOSEPH MALONEY 5.
WILLIAM HARROP 2.	CHARLES BROOKE 6.
JOHN SIDEBOTTOM 3.	MAURICE WILLIAMSON .. 7.
HENRY COOPER 4.	SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN. .. Tenor.

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL, and Conducted by
SAML. KNOTT, JUN.

Messrs. Sidebottom and Williamson hail from Mottram, the rest are of the local company.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 12, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS',

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 18½ cwt.

WILLIAM E. EMERY* Treble.	HIRZEL F. DE LISLE, ESQ. 5.
JOSEPH J. EVERARD* 2.	REV. T. L. PAPILLON .. 6.
ARTHUR EDWARDS 3.	†WILLIAM LINCOLN 7.
FREDERICK RADLEY* 4.	*W. G. DICKINS, ESQ. .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM LINCOLN.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. Mr. De Lisle is from Galleywood, Essex; Mr. Dickens from Cherington, Warwickshire; the rest are members of the Writtle company.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thursday, December 13, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 23 cwt, 3 qrs. in E.

EDWARD WOODHALL Treble.	CHARLES PRICE 5.
JOHN R. FRISBY 2.	ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. 6.
SAMUEL REEVES 3.	CHARLES TIMMS 7.
THOMAS HORTON 4.	JAMES HALL Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time on these bells, was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect, to the late Isaiah Reeves, who died on November 27th, 1888, at the age of 81 years, and who had been beadle at the above church for upwards of 25 years.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND
THE HERTS AND ESSEX ASSOCIATIONS.

On Friday, December 14, 1888, in Two Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY NATIONAL SCHOOLS, ST. ALBAN'S,

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 15 size in C.

GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. 1-2.	JOHN C. MITCHELL .. 5-6.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 3-4.	*RICHARD M. PRATT .. 7-8.

Conducted by J. C. MITCHELL.

Umpire—Mr. Thomas Long. *First peal on Handbells.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, December 14, 1888, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

R. LANE Treble.	F. A. UNDERWOOD 6.
J. WARD 2.	E. CARTWRIGHT 7.
C. SMITH 3.	W. BIRKINSHAW 8.
A. CRESSER 4.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUNR. .. 9.
J. C. DICKEN 5.	E. WIGHTMAN Tenor.

Composed by J. CARTER, and Conducted by J. W. TAYLOR, JUN.

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, December 15, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICAR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 13½ cwt.

*WILLIAM CARTE Treble.	REV. J. R. KEBBLE 5.
WILLIAM COOPER 2.	†CHARLES WILLIAMS 6.
GEORGE SMITH 3.	WILLIAM LONG 7.
WILLIAM E. SMITH 4.	CHARLES FLUCK Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM LONG.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. The above is the first peal on the bells by a local band.

RAYLEIGH, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, December 14, 1888, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS ON
SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:

DOUBLE COURT, KENT, YORKSHIRE COURT, OXFORD, COLLEGE SINGLE,
GRANDSIRE, AND BOB MINOR.

Tenor 18 cwt.

G. SMITH Treble.	F. STRUGNELL 4.
F. HASLAM 2.	H. DEAL 5.
J. JOHNSON 3.	W. H. JUDD Tenor.

Conducted by H. DEAL.

First peal on six bells by all. First peal ever rung in Rochford Hundred.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 15, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS
UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:

OXFORD TREBLE BOB, KENT TREBLE BOB, COURT BOB, COLLEGE
SINGLE, BOB MINOR, CANTERBURY PLEASURE, AND GRANDSIRE MINOR.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*WALTER PRESTIDGE Treble.	†RICHARD ROUND 4.
JAMES PRESTIDGE 2.	WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT .. 5.
JOHN TOWNSEND 3.	JOHN SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT.

*First peal. Also first 720's of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. †First peal. This is the first by all in seven different methods, the first peal on the bells, and first by members of the Association. The above was rung to commemorate the thirty-fourth birthday of the conductor, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—On Thursday, December 13th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Leader, 1; F. Sinkins, 2; R. Flaxman, 3; A. Andrews, 4; H. F. Reeves, 5; W. Wilder, 6; A. Fussell (conductor) 7; T. Leader, 8. Rung on the occasion of the trial of the new 6th, given by F. Charsley, Esq., and recently hung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank

HARBORNE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, December 15, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 12 cwt.

JAMES JONES	Treble.	JOHN CARTER	5.
RICHARD HACKLEY	2.	JOHN T. PERRY	6.
WILLIAM BROOK	3.	ALBERT HACKLEY	7.
CHARLES CARMELL	4.	JOHN HOLLIER	Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 15, 1888, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS 5039 CHANGES:

Tenor 22 cwt.

RICHARD C. BURRELL†	Treble.	*ALFRED TARBUN	6.
ARTHUR EDWARDS*	2.	*WILLIAM HAWKES	7.
WILLIAM LINCOLN	3.	REV. T. L. PAPILLON	8.
HIRZEL F. DE LISLE, Esq.*	4.	GEORGE NEWSON	9.
WILLIAM J. PIPER*	5.	*W. G. DICKENS, Esq.	Tenor.

Conducted by G. NEWSON.

*First peal of Caters. †First peal. R. C. Burrell belongs to the Chelmsford Guild of church bell ringers. W. Dickens hails from Warwickshire, G. Newson from Hampstead; the rest are from villages round Chelmsford,—viz., Galleywood, Springfield, Widford and Writtle.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE WARNHAM BRANCH).

On Saturday, December 15, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

GEORGE WOODMAN	Treble.	WALTER CHARMAN	5.
FREDERICK LUXFORD	2.	WILLIAM SHORT	6.
WALTER WADEY	3.	HARRY COOK	7.
THOMAS ANDREWS	4.	HENRY H. CHANDLER	Tenor.

Composed by C. W. CLARKE, and Conducted by HENRY H. CHANDLER.

This is the first peal of Major by the first and second men.

ASHSTEAD, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

(CROYDON BRANCH).

On Saturday, December 15, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S 12-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

ROBERT E. PEARSON*	Treble.	HENRY BROOKER	5.
WILLIAM STATES	2.	*ALFRED BRUCE	6.
WILLIAM J. CHAMBERS†	3.	THOMAS VERRALL	7.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, M.B.	4.	*GEORGE BURT	Tenor.

Conducted by DR. A. B. CARPENTER.

*First peal; †first peal in the method. All the above to Croydon.

DERBY—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 15, 1888, in Three Hours One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, LITCHURCH,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM SHARDLOW	Treble.	GEORGE MOTTASHAW	5.
THOMAS ALTON	2.	HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD	6.
ALBERT E. THOMPSON	3.	CHARLES HART	7.
JOHN WM. THOMPSON	4.	THOMAS ALBUTT	Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD.

The above peal was rung on the occasion of Mr. Wm. Shardlow's 58th birthday, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns. This is the first peal in the method by any of the band, and the first by the Association, also the first on the bells.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 15, 1888, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP	Treble.	JOSEPH MALONEY	5.
JOHN HARROP	2.	THOMAS WILDE	6.
SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN.	3.	JAMES S. WILDE	7.
HENRY COOPER	4.	JOHN PYE, JUN.	Tenor.

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL, and Conducted by

SAML. KNOTT, JUN.

The above peal has the tenors parted, and will be found in Snowden's Treatise on Treble Bob, page 88, and is the third peal on that page. The brothers Wilde hail from Hyde, John Harrop from Mottram, the rest are of the local company.

BIRCHINGTON, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS, AND
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 15, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE WATERLOO TOWER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

E. GOLDER*	Treble.	T. B. REED	5.
L. WILLSHIRE	2.	S. JARMAN	6.
G. WILLSHIRE	3.	J. J. BRISTOW	7.
T. B. REED, JUN.	4.	H. WILSON	Tenor.

Conducted by L. WILLSHIRE.

*First peal on the treble. †First peal.

STOURBRIDGE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 15, 1888, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS'

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt 20 lbs in E flat

A. ORFORD†	Treble.	HARRY HARRIS	5.
THOMAS LEES	2.	WILLIAM F. HARTSHORNE	6.
CHARLES BARRETT	3.	*HARRY HARTSHORNE	7.
GEORGE H. PAGETT	4.	JOSEPH CRUMP	Tenor.

Conducted by H. HARTSHORNE.

*First peal as conductor †First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. Rung in honour of the conductor's 21st birthday his brother strings wishing him many happy returns of the day,

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE CRAWLEY BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 15, 1888, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S FOUR-PART.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILLIAM WARD*	Treble.	EDWARD DEWEY	5.
FREDERICK WICKENS	2.	BENJAMIN KING	6.
JOSEPH NEWNHAM	3.	FREDERICK W. RICE	7.
GEORGE WICKENS	4.	WILLIAM COLLISON	Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

*First peal.

WARNHAM.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE WARNHAM BRANCH).

On Sunday, December 16, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S TWELVE-PART.

THOMAS HOGSFLESH	Treble.	THOMAS ANDREWS	5.
FREDERICK LUXFORD	2.	WILLIAM SHORT	6.
WALTER WADY	3.	HENRY H. CHANDLER	7.
GEORGE CHARMAN	4.	GEORGE WOODMAN	Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY H. CHANDLER.

This peal was rung to commemorate the birthday of Mr. Wadey. Luxford hails from Arundel, and is his first peal in the method. Also Mr. Andrew's 50th peal.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(WARNHAM BRANCH).

On Monday, December 17, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

GEORGE WOODMAN Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT 5.
WALTER CHARMAN 2.	HARRY COOK 6.
THOMAS ANDREWS 3.	HENRY BURSTOW 7.
GEORGE CHARMAN 4.	HENRY H. CHANDLER .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by HENRY H. CHANDLER.

This is the first peal of Canterbury Pleasure Major ever rung. In an unsuccessful attempt the same band rung 4632 changes, and the 6th rope broke. This is the conductor's 50th peal, thirty-two of which he has conducted.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 18, 1888, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:—

OXFORD AND KENT TREBLE BOB, COLLEGE SINGLE, CANTERBURY PLEASURE, OXFORD BOB, PLAIN BOB AND GRANDSIRE.

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN SMART Treble,	CHARLES CHAMBERS .. 4.
GEORGE GATLAND 2.	JAMES WOOLGAR 5.
HARRY WESTON* 3.	CHARLES TYLER Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES TYLER.

*First peal on six bells and hails from Brighton.

Date Touches.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTEAD.—On Wednesday, December 12th, at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, six of the local company rang a date touch (1888 changes), in the following methods; 88 Plain Bob Minor, 360 Double Oxford Bob, 720 Kent Treble Bob, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; W. Watts, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. This is the longest length by J. Cavill and G. Gray. Tenor 13 cwt.

BISHOPS STORTFORD.—On Thursday, December 6th, at the parish church, a date touch of Bob Major (1888 changes). W. T. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; H. J. Tucker (composer), 3; G. Prior, 4; F. W. Chapman, 5; C. Prior, 6; P. Springham, 7; H. Prior (conductor), 8. The above was rung as a birthday touch for the conductor.

COGGESHALL (Essex).—On Monday, December 17th, at St. Peter's church, a date touch of Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 14 mins. R. Potter, 1; W. Dyer, 2; J. Sadler, 3; J. Nicholls, 4; D. Elliott, 5; H. Elliott, 6; W. Nicholls, 7; Jas. Sadler (conductor), 8. The above was rung on the occasion of the opening of the new clock.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Sunday, December 16th, for evening service, at the parish church, 1888 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 59 mins. W. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; A. Edwards, 3; F. Radley, 4; W. J. Piper, 5; H. F. De Lisle, Esq., 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; W. G. Dickens, Esq., 8. Also at All Saints' church another date touch in the same method, in 59 mins. W. C. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; A. Edwards, 3; F. Radley, 4; W. J. Piper, 5; H. F. De Lisle, Esq., 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; W. G. Dickens, Esq., 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

THIRSK (Yorks).—On Thursday, December 13th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 11 mins. R. Boddy, 1; H. Brown, 2; G. Wright, 3; J. Barnett, 4; G. Neesam, 5; J. Holmes, 6; J. Wrightson (conductor), 7; H. Wright, 8. Tenor 19½ cwt. in F. Composed by Mr W. Sottanstill, of Sowerby Bridge. J. Holmes and J. Barnett hail from Northallerton, the rest belong to the local band. This was rung on the occasion of the Freemason's banquet held on that day.

Miscellaneous.

THE HORNSEY GUILD.

HORNSEY.—On Sunday evening, December 9th, at the parish church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26½ mins. G. Griffin, 1; T. Card, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Kitchener, 5; G. B. Lucas, 6. Tenor, 17½ cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday, November 25th, for Divine Service at the parish church 720 Plain Bob. G. Martin, 1; J. Harding, 2; G. Hayes, 3; A. Cornford, 4; J. Broom, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. First 720 by J. Harding with a bob bell. And on Saturday, December 8th, with the bells deeply muffled, the usual whole pull and stand, followed by a 720 of Plain Bob. L. Digweed, 1; A. Cornford, 2; W. Martin, 3; J. Broom, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. This was rung as a token of respect to the Rev. T. H. Candy, the late rector of the parish, who was interred at Swanscombe that afternoon.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CHADDLESLEY CORBETT (Worcestershire).—On Sunday evening, December 1st, at the parish church, for Divine Service, 1568 Grandsire Triples. H. Bough, 1; W. Rea (conductor), 2; G. Hayward, 3; *E. Gilbert, 4; *W. Hemming, 5; J. Perrins, 6; J. Broad, 7; W. Horne, 8. Messrs. Rea and Hayward hail from Bromsgrove, the rest belong to the local company. *Longest touch.

HAGLEY.—On Sunday, December 16th, at St. John the Baptist's church, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Smith, 1; H. Morris, 2; T. Lees (conductor), 3; C. Barrett, 4; A. Orford, 5; W. F. Hartstone, 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Smith, 1; C. Barrett, 2; T. Lees, 3; H. Morris, 4; A. Orford, 5; W. F. Hartshorn (conductor), 6. This is C. Barrett's and A. Orford's first 720 of Grandsire Minor.

TIPTON.—On Monday, December 10th, at St. Martin's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins. W. R. Small, 1; B. Gough, 2; W. Horton, 3; H. Mills, 4; W. Pardoe, 5; S. Jesson, 6; J. Goodman (conductor), 7; W. Reynolds, 8. Messrs. Gough and Horton hail from Coseley, Goodman from Dudley, the rest belong to the local company. Time not permitting an attempt for a peal, this quarter-peal was rung to celebrate the eighteenth birthday of W. Reynolds, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, December 16th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. M. Shillock, 1; W. Broughton, 2; G. Workman, 3; T. Barber, 4; *J. Barber, 5; C. Broughton (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. And on Monday, December 17th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. M. Shillock, 1; W. Broughton, 2; G. Workman, 3; W. Huxley, 4; J. Barber, 5; C. Broughton (conductor), 6.

MILDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Sunday, December 9th, at St. Paul's Church, for morning service, 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Orme, 1; S. Gretton, 2; R. Logie, 3; W. J. Smith, 4; J. Jagger (conductor), 5; P. Meadows, 6; J. Walker, 7; F. Shepherd, 8. And for evening service, two 504's of Grandsire Triples. J. Jagger, 1; W. J. Smith (conductor), 2; R. Logie, 3; S. Gretton, 4; J. Walker, 5; P. Meadows, 6; L. Bullock, 7; F. Shepherd, 8. F. W. Appleby rang the tenor in the second touch.

WINSHILL.—On Saturday, December 1st, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor in 27½ mins. J. Morby, 1; J. Woodward, 2; L. Bullock (conductor), 3; F. Shepherd, 4; R. W. Logie, 5; C. Golder, 6. And 720 Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. C. Golder, 1; W. Wyld, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; R. W. Logie, 4; W. J. Smith, 5; L. Bullock (conductor), 6.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

TIVERTON.—On Monday, December 10th, at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins. R. Grater, 1; J. Grater, jun., 2; W. Grater, 3; B. Grater, 4; Jas. Grater, 5; J. Grater, 6; R. Grater, jun. (conductor), 7; S. Grater, 8. This touch is very interesting from its being rung by two brothers and their sons, which is quite a novelty in the change-ringing world.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—On Saturday, December 8th, at St. Edward's church, an attempt was made for Hollis's five-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but the third part-end coming up false, the conductor called "stand." W. Pegrum, 1; J. Gobbett, 2; G. C. Scowen, 3; W. Nash, 4; M. L. Myhill, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6; J. Priest, 7; S. James, 8. Chiming.—And on Sunday evening, December 9th, for evening service, three 120's of Grandsire Doubles. B. Keeble, 1-2-3-4; L. Copsey, 5-6.

BRENTWOOD.—On Sunday evening, December 9th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Thomas-the-Martyr, 398 and 504 of Grandsire Triples. Also after service, the last 700 of Holt's Original. W. Pegrum, 1; W. Pye, 2; G. Roughton, 3; M. L. Myhill, 4; G. C. Scowen, 5; W. Nash, 6; A. J. Perkins (conductor) 7; S. James, 8. Mr. Warren, of Brentwood, rang the treble in the 504 before service; the others standing as above.

BISHOPS STORTFORD.—On Sunday, December 9th, for morning service 720 of Bob Minor (thirty-five bobs and six singles). T. Newman, 1; H. J. Tucker, 2; G. Prior, 3; F. W. Chapman, 4; P. Springham, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6.

WRITTLE.—On Wednesday, November 21st, at All Saint's church, 518 of Grandsire Triples. W. C. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; F. Radley, 4; R. Wood, 5; W. J. Piper, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor) 7; A. Bonnington, 8. Also 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. C. Emery, 1; J. Everard, 2; H. Shuttleworth, 3; F. Radley, 4; A. Edwards, 5; H. Wood, 6; *W. J. Piper (conductor), 7; A. Bonnington, 8. *First touch as conductor.

CHELMSFORD.—On Friday, November 30th, at the church of St. Mary, 882 of Grandsire Triples. R. C. Burrell, 1; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 2; W. Lincoln (composer), 3; J. Dains, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; A. Edwards (conductor), 6; W. J. Piper, 7; J. Parmenter, 8.

WIDFORD.—On Friday, December 7th, at St. Mary's church, 1008 of Bob Major. R. C. Burrell, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; J. Everard, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; A. Edwards, 6; W. J. Piper, 7; W. Lincoln (conductor), 8. Also on Sunday, December 16th, for Divine Service, 672 of Grandsire Triples. R. C. Burrell, 1; J. Dains, 2; W. J. Piper, 3; A. Edwards, 4; A. Shuttleworth, 5; A. Tarbun, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; W. G. Dickens, Esq., 8. Also on Friday, December 14th, for practice, 504 of Grandsire Triples. R. C. Burrell, 1; J. Dains, 2; W. Lincoln, 3; A. Tarbun, 4; A. Shuttleworth, 5; A. Edwards, 6; W. J. Piper (conductor), 7; *C. Houghton, 8. And another 504 called differently. R. C. Burrell, 1; W. Lincoln, 2; J. Dains, 3; A. Tarbun, 4; A. Edwards, 5; A. Shuttleworth, 6; W. J. Piper (conductor), 7; C. Houghton, 8. *First touch.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHURCH KIRK (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, December 12th, at the parish church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. J. Haworth (conductor), 1; W. Graham, 2; T. Dodd, 3; R. Grimes, 4; J. Walmsley, 5; J. Atherton, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Thursday, December 6th, at St. Peter's church, 720 Grandsire Minor. H. Carter, 1; C. Privett, 2; D. J. Jeffery (first 720), 3; F. Hill, 4; G. Grafham, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, December 13th, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Grafham, 1; J. Staples, 2; D. J. Jeffery, 3; C. Privett, 4; G. Instrel, 5; F. Staples, 6; W. J. Whiting (conductor), 7; W. Irish, 8.

BALDOCK.—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Tuesday, December 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). G. Poulter, 1; E. Bray, 2; J. Morley, 3; J. Craft, 4; R. Jackson, 5; A. Thurgood, 6; G. Spicer (conductor), 7; J. Cutts, 8.

BRANCEPETH.—On Saturday, December 8th, at St. Brandon's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, and a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. C. Bradford, 2; W. H. Craggs, 2; W. G. Newton, 3; J. E. Avery, 4; W. Prince, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6.

BRISTOL.—On Monday, November 5th, at St. Nicholas Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1272 changes). G. Colston, 1; W. Tyler, 2; E. Duckham, 4; G. Daltry, 5; C. Trevett, 6; W. Parsons, 7; F. Price, 8; J. Hinton (conductor), 9; W. Colston and J. Richmond, 10. Also at St. Mary-le-Port church, a 720 Grandsire Minor. H. Pring, 1; G. Colston, 2; W. Emery, 3; C. Trevett, 4; S. Phillips, 5; F. Price (conductor), 6. First 720 by H. Pring. And at St. Stephens Church, on Tuesday, December 11th, 360 Bob Minor. H. Pring, 1; C. Colston, 2; C. Trevett, 3; F. Elles, 4; E. Duckham, 5; S. Phillips (conductor), 6. And a few courses of Treble Bob Minor. First attempt by H. Pring.

GIGGLESWICK (Yorks).—On Sunday, December 9th, at the Parish Church, for afternoon service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 26 mins. H. Ingham (conductor), 1; W. Middleton, 2; J. Parker, 3; S. James, 4; W. Fell, 5; J. Morphet, 6. H. Ingham and W. Middleton belong to the Settle Society, and the rest are local men.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Thursday, December, 6th, at St. Peter's Church for practice, 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. States, 1; *G. Burt, 2; A. Arnold, 3; H. Brooker, 4; R. E. Pearson, 5; A. Bruce

(conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; F. G. Hermon, 8. *First 500. Also a 308. W. States, 1; R. E. Pearson, 2; A. Bruce, 3; W. C. Palmer, 4; T. Verrall, 5; H. Brooker (conductor), 6; F. G. Hermon, 7; A. E. Collins, 8. And on Sunday morning, December 9th, for Divine Service, 350 of Grandsire Triples. W. Collins, 1; G. Burt, 2; R. E. Pearson, 3; W. C. Palmer, 4; H. Brooker (conductor), 5; C. H. Kitching, 6; F. G. Hermon, 7; A. E. Collins, 8.

DISS (Norfolk).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Thursday, November the 29th, five of the local company, belonging to the Diocesan Association, rang a touch of 864 of Grandsire Caters. E. Hayward, 1-2; E. Broome, 3-4; T. Souter (conductor), 5-6; E. Batrum, 7-8; T. Rudd, 9-10. This is the longest length in the method by the Company.

DURHAM.—On Monday, the 19th November, at St. Oswald's parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. W. Liddle, 1; J. E. Avery, 2; W. G. Newton, 3; W. H. Craggs, 4; T. Wheatley, 5; W. Prince, 6. Also a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. W. Liddle, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; W. G. Newton, 3; C. Bradford, 4; W. Prince, 5; J. E. Avery (conductor), 6.

HATFIELD (Herts).—On Sunday, December 2nd, for Divine Service, at the parish church, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Kentish, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; H. Rowe, 5; W. J. Richardson, 6; A. Shepherd (conductor), 7; G. Smith, 8. Also for evening service, 423 of Grandsire Triples. W. J. Richardson, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. Kentish, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; W. Powers, 5; H. Rowe (conductor) 6; T. Gathard, 7; G. Smith, 8. Also on Tuesday, December 4th, for practice, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. Kentish, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; W. Powers, 5; H. Rowe (conductor) 6; T. Gathard, 7; *W. J. Richardson 8. *First quarter peal as conductor. Also on Sunday, December 9th, for evening service, 532 Grandsire Triples. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd 2; W. Powers, 3; H. Rowe (conductor), 4; J. Kentish, 5; J. Hollingsworth, 6; W. J. Richardson, 7; G. Smith, 8. And on Tuesday, December 11th, for practice, the first part of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 35 mins. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. Kentish, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; W. Powers, 5; H. Rowe (conductor), 6; T. Gathard, 7; G. Smith, 8. First by the local company for over forty years, and longest in the method by all except T. Gathard. Also on Sunday, December 16th, for Divine Service, 378 Grandsire Triples. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. Kentish, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; W. Powers, 5; H. Rowe (conductor), 6; W. J. Richardson, 7; G. Smith, 8. Also for evening service, 532 Grandsire Triples. J. Rumney, 1; J. Kentish, 2; J. Shepherd, 3; W. J. Richardson, 4; W. Powers, 5; H. Rowe (conductor), 6; J. Hollingsworth, 7; G. Smith, 8.

IPSWICH (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, December 11th, at the weekly practice, the following members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, rang two plain courses that intricate method of Double Norwich Court Bob Maximus, being the first ever rung. R. Hawes, 1; J. Motts, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; W. L. Catchpole, 4; A. Durrant, 5; W. Motts, 6; C. Saul, 7; H. Bowell, 8; W. P. Garrett, 9; R. Brundle, 10; T. Steward, 11; S. Tillett, 12.

KEMERTON (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, December 9th, 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24½ mins. *W. Payne, 1; A. Devereux 2; F. Potter, 3; H. Payne, 4; A. Attwood, 5; E. Devereux (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. *First 720 of Grandsire Minor rung by any of the others except the conductor.

KETTLEBOROUGH (Suffolk).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday evening, December 15th, for practice at the house of Mr. Alfred Moore, three touches of Bob Major. R. H. Haywood (conductor), 1-2; J. Farrant, 3-4; A. Moore, 5-6; W. Florry, 7-8.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—On Tuesday, December 18th, at All Saints' church, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) in 45 mins. Tenor 33 cwt. †E. J. Strutt (aged 14), 1; Rev. H. Shears, 2; *George Naish, 3; Joseph Parslow, 4; George Gray, 5; G. Woodis, 6; J. Wright (conductor), 7; J. Green, 8. †First quarter peal. *First peal inside. Also 270 Grandsire Caters, G. Nash, 1; J. Smith, 2; G. Woodiss, 3; J. Parslow, 4; H. Parslow, 5; J. Strutt, 6; Rev. H. Shears, 7. G. Gray, 8; J. Wright (conductor) 9; J. Green, 10.

MANCHESTER.—On Friday, December 18th, at St. Phillips, Hulme, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Heald, 1; A. Barry, 2; H. W. Wood, 3; T. Willson (first 720 on a bob bell), 4; J. Heald, 5; J. F. Woods, 6. And 720 Kent Bob Minor in 25 mins. A. Barry (first 720), 1; J. F. Wood, 2; H. Wood, 3; J. Heald, 4; John Heald, 5; T. Heald (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, December 17th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. T. Wilson, 1; W. Dean (first 720 with bob bell), 2; A. Barry, 3; H. Wood (conductor), 4; J. O'Brian, 5; J. Heald, 6.

OLD HILL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, December 15th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1280 changes). G. Raybold, 1; A. E. Parsons, 2; C. Daniel, 3; J. Palmer, 4; C. W. Bassano, Esq., 5; H. Cartwright, 6; H. Mason, 7; A. H. Bassano,

Esq. (conductor), 8. C. Daniel belongs to Cradley. On Monday, December 17th, an attempt was made to ring the Rev. C. D. P. Davies's five-part peal of Grandsire Triples, which was lost after ringing 5012 changes, in 3 hrs. and 3 mins. W. Bird, 1; A. E. Parsons (conductor), 2; J. Palmer, 3; C. W. Bassano, Esq., 4; H. Cartwright, 5; R. Bird, 6; H. Mason, 7; W. Green, 8.

OXFORD.—On Tuesday, December 11th, for practice at the church of St. Mary Magdalen, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. H. J. Castle, 1; C. Hester, 2; J. Howse, 3; C. Tolley, 4; F. Castle, 5; A. H. Browning (conductor), 6. Also 360 Double Court Minor, conducted by H. J. Castle.

PENZANCE (Cornwall).—On Monday evening, December, 17th, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. T. Hicks, 1; J. Hodder, 2; J. Richards, 3; J. Symmonds, 4; M. Hicks, 5; A. G. Higdon, (conductor), 6; C. Boase, 7; T. Kessell, 8. This is the first 1260 conducted by Mr. Higdon, and was well put through at the first attempt.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Sunday, December 9th, after Evening Service, at the Parish Church, 504 of Stedman Triples. G. H. Croucher, 1; F. S. Hoad (conductor), 2; R. Arnold, 3; W. Sadler, 4; W. Argent, 5; E. Moses, 6; W. Webb, 7; J. Robinson, 8. First 500 by R. Arnold and W. Sadler, who belong to Betchworth.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Thursday, December 11th, for practice at All Saints' parish church, a start was made for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, but unfortunately came to grief after ringing 1050 changes, in 36 mins. S. V. Salisbury, 1; A. Williams, 2; W. Ward, 3; W. Jennings, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; A. Ward, junr., 6; O. C. Coombes, 7; A. Ward, senr., 8. This is the longest touch rung on the bells by the local band. Also on Sunday, December 16th, for Divine Service, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. A. Ward, junr., 1; A. Williams, 2; W. Ward, 3; W. Jennings, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; O. C. Coombes, 6; W. Carley, 7; A. Ward, senr., 8.

MIDDLETON STONEY.—On Saturday, December 8th, for practice, at the parish church, 1300 of Plain Bob Minor, in 50 mins. J. Gibbard, 1; G. Beechingale, 2; F. Bowers, 3; J. Tuppy, 4; T. Wuknell, 5; J. R. Gibbard (conductor), 6. This is J. Gibbard's first touch of Minor. Tenor 12½ cwt.

SWALDEN.—On Sunday, December 9th, at St. Paul's Church, for Divine Service, several touches of Bob Singles. C. Robinson (conductor), 1; W. Ball, 2; A. Sleet, 3; W. Wells, 4; G. Wells, 5. Tenor 20 cwt.

SALWARPE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, December 9th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 23 mins. J. Thompson, 1; J. Mason, 2; W. Lewis, 3; H. Thompson, 4; G. Hayward, 5; A. Moore, 6.

TAUNTON (Somerset).—On Saturday, December 15th, for practice, at St. Mary's church, 168 Grandsire Triples. E. Manning, 1; F. Burge, 2; G. E. Harbour, 3; T. W. Radford, 4; J. Burge, 5; J. Maddock, 6; T. Doble (conductor), 7; J. Summerhayes, 8. Mr. Manning hails from Hackney, and is a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and was heartily welcomed by the St. Mary's Guild, who hopes he will pay them another visit at an early date. Also on Sunday evening, for service, 168 in the same method, standing as before except the treble which was rung by Mr. Dart. Tenor 29 cwt. 2 qrs. 20 lbs.

TWYKESBURY ABBEY (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday evening, for practice, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins. S. Cleal, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; L. Longney, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; T. Devereux, 6; J. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. Any brother-ringer desiring a touch of Stedman Triples will be welcome to try his hand at any of our practices.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Tuesday, December 11th, at the parish church, 1260 changes in the following Minor methods; 180 of Plain Bob, 360 of Grandsire, 360 of Kent Treble Bob, and 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 50 mins. G. Gregory, 1; J. Gardner, 2; F. Money, 3; A. Bunce, 4; C. Page, 5; F. May (conductor), 6.

WOOLTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, December 11th, the local company rang for practice a plain course of Grandsire Triples. J. Richardson, 1; P. Leather, junr., 2; J. Edwards, 3; G. Hyslop, 4; R. Leather, 5; C. Collins, 6; T. Kay, 7; P. Bates, 8. Also a plain course. J. Richardson, 1; P. Leather, junr., 2; J. Fyles, 3; R. Roughley, 4; R. Leather, 5; P. Ball, 6; T. Kay, 7; J. Edwards, 8. These are the first plain courses by all the members. On Saturday, a peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted, but brought round at half-way owing to the tenor man having a sprained wrist. Robert Williams, 1; R. Williams, 2; T. Mercer, 3; G. Fisher, 4; H. Coley, 5; T. Hammond (conductor), 6; T. Byron, 7; R. Diggle, 8.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR MR. DORAN.

	£	s.	d.
E. F. Cole, Esq., London	1 0 0
Dr. A. B. Carpenter, Croydon	0 10 0
Mr. H. Hopkins, London	0 2 6
J. E. Worsell, Brighton	0 5 0
H. Swain, London	0 2 0
W. H. Dallimore, West Ham	0 2 0
W. Smith, West Ham	0 1 0
Rev. H. A. Cockey	0 5 0
W. Hawkes, Springfield	0 2 0
J. R. Haworth, London	0 2 6
Collected at Brentwood	0 2 0
G. Williams, Midhurst	0 2 0
J. Dains, Widford	0 1 0
W. J. Piper, Widford	0 0 6
A. Shuttleworth, Widford	0 0 6
A. Tarbun, Widford	0 0 6
L. Green, Wanstead	0 2 6
R. Turner, London	0 2 0
H. Springhall, London	0 1 0
S. Hayes, London	0 1 0
J. Smith, Kingston-on-Thames	0 1 0
J. Potter, West Ham	0 1 0
H. Randall, West Ham	0 2 6
C. E. Malin, Esq., London	0 10 6
H. Dains, London	0 2 6
A. Friend, per W. B.	0 2 6
C. Hopkins, Walthamstow	0 2 6
West Ham Company, per H. Randall	0 10 0
R. T. Woodley, London	0 1 0
J. Nunn, Walthamstow	0 1 0
A. Jacob, London	0 1 0
T. Maynard, Walthamstow	0 2 6
C. Dempsey, West Ham	0 1 0
S. Joyce, London	0 1 0
J. Hannington, London	0 2 6
J. Rogers, London	0 5 0
G. Rochester, Sawbridgeworth	0 1 0
H. W. Tarling, Sawbridgeworth	0 1 0
A. Brown, Sawbridgeworth	0 1 0
P. Springham, Sawbridgeworth	0 1 0
W. Morris, Sawbridgeworth	0 1 0
C. West, Biddenham	0 2 6
N. J. Pitstow, Saffron Waldron	0 2 6
W. H. Fussell, Slough	0 2 6
A. C. Fussell, Slough	0 2 0
W. Wilder, Slough	0 2 2
J. Perryman, Slough	0 2 0
H. J. Tucker, Bishops Stortford	0 2 0
F. W. Chapman, Bishops Stortford	0 2 0
H. Prior, Stansted	0 1 0
G. Prior, Stansted	0 1 0
W. Baron, London	0 2 0
W. H. D. Porter, Battersea	0 1 0
A. G. Thomas, Esq., Battersea	0 5 0
S. Baker, Battersea	0 1 0
W. Ambrose, Battersea	0 1 0
A. Swetman, Battersea	0 1 0
Mr. Comley, Battersea	0 1 0
H. S. Thomas, Esq., and a few Friends, Battersea	1 7 6
Mr. Glover, Battersea	0 2 0
Waltham Abbey Society, per W. C. Dymock	1 0 0
J. Bristow, Birchington	0 2 6
R. K. Knight, Walthamstow	0 2 6
E. Moses, Reigate	0 1 6
J. W. Mansfield, London	0 1 0
G. C. Hammond, London	0 1 6
B. Foskett, London	0 1 0

It is proposed to close the above list on December 29th, 1888, and any other brother strings who should feel disposed to give a small trifle towards this deserving case will be gratefully received by the undersigned.

H. RANDALL.

24, St. Mary's Road, Plaistow, E.

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."

BILL DORAN'S CASE.

SIR,—Allow me to say the case of our old friend Doran, is rather an exceptional one. He has always been a steady and careful man, never of the strongest in health, but with a good heart and will, as supplement, I found in him the man that would do and say just what was about the right thing. I cannot say if he belongs to a Benefit Society or not, but suppose he does. His illness has been so protracted that he will have outrun its benefits; again, suppose he has this society to back him up, what is it after all 10s. or 12s. a week. Not much to provide for a little family, pay rent, and find the necessaries for a sick man's wants. Beyond this I will also say that when in work, his wages were such, that only by dint and perseverance could he make both ends meet, and many of us who know him well, know also he would have attended ringing practice more frequently and regularly had it not been for the fact that he could not afford the few pence for railway fare.

Yes, Mr. Editor, the case of plain, but straightforward Bill Doran is a bad one, I appeal to all members of the Royal Cumberlands to support it, other gentlemen to please themselves, and to do so quickly, or I doubt for ever lose the opportunity, as without a great alteration the case is hopeless.

During the present foggy weather, the poor fellow, has to struggle for breath and existence. Let me hope, that this and other appeals I am making may ease the struggle for sustenance. HENRY DAINES.
147, Barnsbury Road, N.

THE PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE AT FULHAM.

SIR,—In your last issue, I see you have recorded a peal (?) of London Surprise, rang at All Saints, Fulham, in 3 hrs. and 19 mins. by the St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, branch of the Midland Counties' Association.

As an honorary member of the St. Paul's Society, and also of the Fulham Association of Change-Ringers, I think it my duty to bring before your notice the following facts, but I may add that I do so without any personal feeling in the matter. I could not help noticing the very poor striking at the start, but thought it would improve after a time. In 20 mins. the bells got into a complete fire, which continued, when a bystander remarked, that he hoped they would not break down as it would be too late to start again. This occurred three times during the progress of the ringing. The rate varied from twenty-four to twenty-six changes per minute; calculating at the average rate, it was remarked that the ringing should have taken five or six minutes longer.

It was a very poor exhibition of ringing all through, and wound-up by the bells being at sea to come round clean by the method.

C. F. WINNY.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—I wish to inform those of your readers who possess a copy of Snowdon's "Grandsire" of a misprint on page ninety-three, in the second peal. (Rev. C. D. P. Davies, fifth part).

It will be seen at the 14th bob lead that the observation bell (the second) is called in and out at three. This should be in and out at four. Also the small figure denoting the number of plain leads between the 18th and 19th bob leads should be two instead of five.

Both mistakes may be perceived by noticing the 15th and 19th bob leads which are correct.

A. E. PARSONS.

Old Hill, Staffs.

SIR,—In reading yours of the 15th inst. I saw an intimation from the Oxford Guild of their intention to attempt a long peal of Stedman Caters, and taking it for granted to be their intention, if possible, to lower the record of the last, viz., Cheltenham peal, I could not help but think how much better, aye, fairer it would have read had they seen their way clear to have selected a peal of bells something near the same weight. When one reads of the splendid performances achieved in London, for instance, when they were struggling for the mastership in the long lengths of Treble Bob, and used to get some weight at the ropes' end one cannot help but admire their pluck and endurance. Then again we have the Painswick peal, the 12,000 at Broomsgrove, tenor nearly a ton, and like a bright star, the over 15,000 at Ashton, tenor 21 cwt. shines out prominently. These few I take it are something like performances against which the intended peal next Monday sinks into a mere farce. I daresay my Oxford Guild friends will be annoyed at my writing like this, but I also think there are a goodly number of brother ringers who will agree with what I say.

T. RUSSAN.

PROPOSED BENEFIT SOCIETY.

SIR,—I thoroughly believe were a Committee formed with the intention of taking up the initiative of "Free Lance," the above would soon become an accomplished thing and enjoy the support of the great majority of ringers. I noticed a correspondence purporting from the "Assist. Hon. Sec." Sussex County Association (Mr. J. E. Worsell), in your last issue. With some amount of amusement I learned from him that "ringers are not restricted from enjoying the advantages" of the A.O.F., M.U.O.F., etc. Would not it have been just as instructive for that gentleman to have gone a little further and have added that ringers are not even "restricted" from enjoying the rights of Magna Charta? Both of these societies named by your correspondent could in no serious manner be injured by the ringers having a benefit society. I think also Mr. Worsell is somewhat hard on ringers in general and on his Association in particular for not responding to Mr. Randall's appeal for Mr. Doran. Does it ever occur to Mr. Worsell that there is such a malady as "Depression of Trade" which more or less I think every working-man has had an unwelcome experience? This I attribute to such a shallow response to such a deserving case. Mr. Doran, I feel sure, has the sympathy of all non-subscribers, and their regret at not being able to support him, but who none the less hope that he may enjoy the coming festive season with their welcome of a right Jolly Happy Christmas.

ALFRED J. J. GIDDINGS.

1, Horton Street, Frome, Somersetshire.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Arundel Branch at Arundel.—On Saturday, December 1st, a variation of Holt's Ten-Part, of Grandsire Triples (for particulars see peal column).

By the Brighton Branch at Brighton.—On Saturday, December 1st, at St. Peter's church, a peal of Grandsire Triples, Holt's Original (for particulars see peal column). Also on Sunday, November 25th, at St. Paul's church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. H. Eves, 1; P. Allfrey, 2; G. Biggerstaff, 4; W. Allfrey, 5; T. Stepney, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; J. Salmon, 8. And for evening service, 504 of Grandsire Triples. H. Eves, 1; P. Allfrey, 2; H. Rann, 3; G. Hill, 4; F. Hill, 5; T. Stepney, 6; W. Allfrey (conductor), 7; J. Salmon, 8. Also another, 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 17½ mins. H. Eves, 1; P. Allfrey, 2; H. Rann, 3; T. Stepney, 4; G. Hill, 5; W. Allfrey, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; J. Salmon, 8. And on Sunday, December 2nd, 504 of Grandsire Triples in 18 mins. H. Eves, 1; A. Bennett (conductor), 2; H. Rann, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; P. Allfrey, 5; T. Stepney, 6; W. Allfrey, 7; J. Salmon, 8. Also on Thursday, December 6th, 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. H. Eves, 1; W. Allfrey, 2; H. Rann, 3; G. Hill, 4; F. Hill, 5; T. Stepney, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; J. Salmon, 8. And on Sunday, December 9th, 714 of Grandsire Triples, in 24 mins. J. E. Worsell, 1; G. Biggerstaff, 2; H. Rann, 3; W. Allfrey, 4; P. Allfrey, 5; T. Stepney, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; J. Salmon, 8. And for evening service, 714 of Grandsire Triples, in 23½ mins. H. Eves, 1; J. Salmon, 2; G. Hill, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; H. D. Betteridge, 5; T. Stepney, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; W. Allfrey, 8. H. D. Betteridge hails from Oxford. Also on Sunday, December 9th, at St. Paul's church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. J. E. Worsell, 1; J. Reilly (conductor), 2; G. Thwaites, 3; J. Jay, 4; E. C. Merritt, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; G. A. King, 7; H. Tugwell, 8. And for evening service, 503 of Grandsire Triples. G. Thwaites (conductor), 1; J. E. Worsell, 2; J. Jay, 3; G. F. Attree, 4; E. Dewey, 5; E. Dewey, 5; G. A. King, 6; A. A. Fuller, 7; J. Mocket, 8.

By the Crawley Branch at Charlwood.—On Sunday, December 2nd, 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, in 23½ mins. W. Ward, 1; J. Newnham, 2; E. Dewey, 3; W. Collinson, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob Minor, in 23 mins. A. Ellis, 1; J. Newnham, 2; B. King, 3; W. Collinson, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all the band. And 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. A. Ellis, 1; F. Wickens (conductor), 2; J. Akehurst, 3; B. King, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; W. Collinson, 6. Also on Tuesday, December 4th, 1050 of Grandsire Triples. W. Ward, 1; F. Wickens (conductor), 2; W. Parsons, 3; J. Newnham, 4; E. Dewey, 5; A. Ellis, 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; W. Collinson, 8. An on Thursday, December 6th, 720 of Plain Bob, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, 720 Wainham Court Bob. W. Ward, 1; J. Newnham, 2; G. Wickens, 3; W. Collinson, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6.

WICKHAM, SKEITH (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, December 5th, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. E. Youngs, 1; W. Burgess, 2; C. Nunn, 3; T. Davey, 4; G. Catermole (conductor), 5; S. Kemp, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

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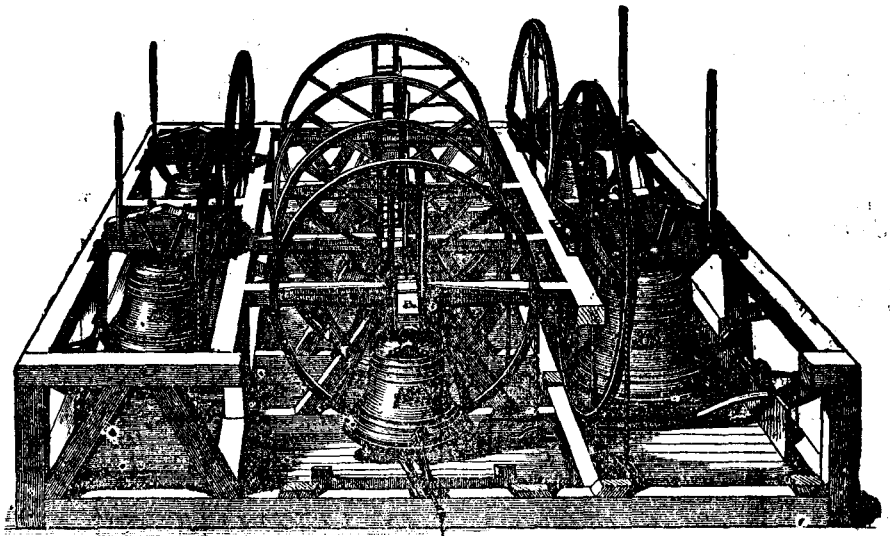
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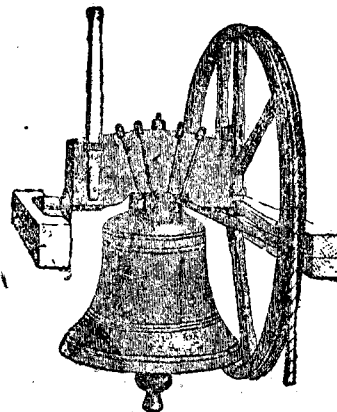
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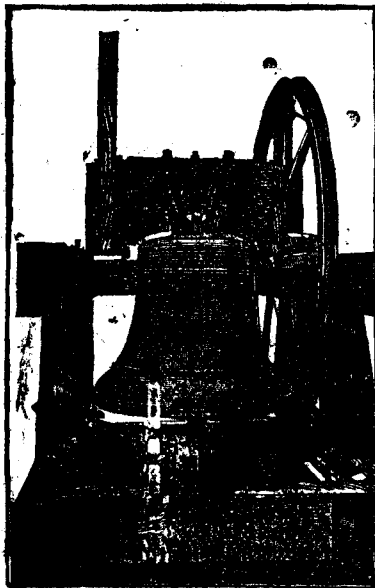
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THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—LIVERPOOL
DIOCESAN BRANCH.

A most successful and harmonious meeting took place on Saturday last, in the Cocoa Rooms, St. Luke's Place, Liverpool, for the purpose of forming the above Branch. The meeting opened at 5.30, when there were present about thirty ringers, representing Aughton, Blackburn, Hindley, Huyton, Liverpool, Ormskirk, Prescott, Sefton, Southport, Upholland, and Wigan, and the secretary and treasurer of the county association. The Rev. D. Jones, of Aughton, was unanimously voted to the chair, and explained the object of the meeting.

Mr. F. W. Moore proposed "that having heard the remarks of the chairman, it was desirable to form a branch of the Lancashire Association for Liverpool and district." This was seconded by Mr. W. Bentham and carried unanimously.

Mr. John R. Pritchard then proposed "That the branch should be called 'The Liverpool Diocesan Branch.'"

Mr. R. Hill seconded, and this motion was unanimously carried.

Mr. J. R. Pritchard then proposed "That meetings be held monthly alternately at eight and six-bell towers." This also was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Joseph Prescott, Hindley, proposed, and Mr. W. G. Mann, Liverpool, seconded, "That Mr. John R. Pritchard be elected local Secretary," which proposition was unanimously carried.

Mr. James, Liverpool, proposed "That the various superintendents of towers, being members, should form a provisional committee to select the places of meeting, six of whom to form a quorum." This was also agreed to.

Mr. J. Martin, churchwarden of Sefton parish church, in a few well-chosen remarks, wished the branch every success, and was elected an honorary member.

Mr. F. W. Moore also addressed the meeting, and gave some very appropriate remarks on the duties of clergy and wardens to the ringers, and the ringers' duties to the church.

The Chairman then proposed a vote of thanks to the wardens of St. Luke's church for kindly placing the bells at the disposal of the meeting. The meeting then proceeded to the election of members, when forty performing and two honorary members were added to the roll of the Association. A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding brought a very pleasant meeting to a close.

After the meeting touches were rung on the bells of St. Luke's church, and also on the handbells in the ringing room. The next meeting of this branch will be held (in conjunction with the quarterly meeting of the County Association) at Southport, on Saturday, January 12th, 1889, when it is to be hoped all ringers in the diocese will attend.

40, Lowther Street, Liverpool. J. R. PRITCHARD, Local Sec.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—MACCLESFIELD
BRANCH.

The Fourth Quarterly Meeting of the above Branch will be held at Prestbury, on Saturday, January 12th, 1889. Bells ready at 2 o'clock, tea at 5, in a building adjoining the Vicarage, and the usual business meeting immediately after. All ringing friends will be welcome.

Gurnett, near Macclesfield.

W. WALMSLEY, Local Sec.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Kingston-on-Thames, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Monday, January 14th. Tea at the Leopold Coffee Tavern at 6 p.m., followed by the usual business meeting, at which subscriptions for the ensuing year will be payable. Further particulars next week.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

December 25th.

ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

The usual quarterly meeting of this Society will be held at the tower on Tuesday, January 1st, 1889. A. THOMAS, Secretary.

ST. GABRIEL'S, PIMLICO.

It is with the most sincere regret that we have to announce the lamented and unexpected death of the wife of the Rev. J. H. Ellison, Vicar of St. Gabriel's, Warwick Square. It was only last year that her marriage took place at Lambeth Palace Chapel, under the happiest and brightest auspices. About six weeks ago she was safely delivered of a son, and appeared to be progressing favourably. Recovery was somewhat slow, but her death on Wednesday, December 19th, was almost sudden. A local paper, referring to the deceased lady, says:

"Mrs. Ellison was the youngest daughter of the late Archbishop Tait, and was not the least brilliant of a specially gifted family. Besides intellectual talents of no mean order, she had a most lively fancy and humour, a keen wit, an unruffled good-temper, and the most engaging manners. She was the delight of a very large family circle, and a still wider surrounding of friends. She was the support of her father's declining years, and the comfort of his many and repeated domestic bereavements; and it was most touching to see them as almost playful companions together, and to hear her gay and sweet voice singing about the old halls and galleries of Lambeth Palace. She had much that recalled her illustrious father both in face and character. Many of the happiest homes of England are desolated by this untimely loss, and the deepest and most respectful sympathy must be felt for her husband, whose life is so prematurely overshadowed."

The deceased lady was only twenty-eight years of age. The first part of the funeral service took place at St. Gabriel's, on Friday, December 21st, and she was laid to rest the next day at Addington. Last Sunday evening a muffled peal, consisting of the usual whole pull and stand, was rung at St. Gabriel's. C. F. Winny, 1; H. Swain, 2; W. Hoverd, 3; W. E. Garrard, 4; G. T. McLaughlin, 5; W. T. Cockerill, 6; R. T. Woodley, 7; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 8. Afterwards two courses of Stedman Triples were rung. The ringers also forwarded to the Vicar a letter of condolence.

VISIT OF THE BENINGTON RINGERS TO WIDFORD,
ESSEX.

It is already known to the Exercise that this peal of bells (tenor 12 cwt. in G) has recently been augmented from six to eight. Besides two new trebles, the back six have been thoroughly overhauled, the second and sixth are placed in a new oak frame above the others, the whole having new sallie rollers and iron guides for the ropes, with chiming apparatus complete. The work has been carried out in a most satisfactory manner, through the munificence of A. Pryor, Esq.

On Wednesday, December 19th, by the kind invitation of the donor of the new bells, there journeyed to Widford L. Proctor, Esq., and the Benington ringers, accompanied by Mr. H. Baker and Mr. J. Gray, of Hertford, where they arrived about 11 a.m. The bells were raised in peal, and afterwards touches of Stedman, Double Norwich, Superlative, Cambridge, and London Surprise were brought round during the day, amounting to upwards of 4000 changes. At 2 o'clock the party sat down to an excellent repast, provided by host Clark, at the "Sir Evelyn Wood," afterwards returning to the tower, where ringing was kept up until 4 p.m. The visitors having expressed themselves greatly pleased with the splendid "go" of the bells, then made their way to Chelmsford, and rang a short touch of Stedman Triples and 416 of Double Norwich, at St. Mary's, afterwards catching the 6.30 train en route for Hertfordshire. The Benington ringers included Samuel Page, John Kitchener, Joseph Kitchener, L. Chapman, J. Warner, N. Warner, C. Shambrook, and W. Hobbs.

H. B.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR BIRMINGHAM, ASTON,
AND THE SURROUNDING DISTRICTS.

The first general meeting of this Guild will be held at St. Martin's Mission Rooms, Barwick Street, Edmund Street Birmingham, on Tuesday evening, January 8th, 1889, at 8 o'clock, when all the present members of the St. Martin's and Holt Societies are earnestly requested to attend.

W. H. GODDEN, Sec. pro tem.

OPENING OF ST. MARY'S TOWER, RAWTENSTALL.

On Thursday evening, the formal opening of the new tower clock and bells, in connection with St. Mary's Church, Rawtenstall, took place. The Bishop of Manchester preached the dedicatory sermon from St. Mary's pulpit, to an exceedingly large audience, and was listened to with profound attention. The following clergymen were present:—Revs. Canon Champneys, vicar of Haslingden and Rural dean; J. G. Haworth, vicar of Tunstead; A. Spencer, vicar of Goodshaw; E. Holliday, vicar of Cloughfold; I. Downham, vicar of Baxenden; C. Wesson, vicar of St. James' Waterfoot; A. Smith, and T. F. Jones, curates, Stacksteads; J. Gardner, curate of Goodshaw; R. W. Hay, Newchurch Grammar School, and curate of Haslingden; Rev. J. M. Mather, Revs. J. Norris, J. Dodd, and J. Given, Rawtenstall.

The Bishop then ascended the pulpit. He said they had met to dedicate that tower and bells to that house of prayer. He supposed the principle upon which they had proceeded in their work had been this, that so far as they were able to secure it, every one of their gifts to God should be perfect of its kind. So thoroughly did the builders of the Middle Ages, recognise this principle that they made not only every stone perfect that was exposed to view, but also those inside. The eye of man might not rest upon them, but the eye of God would, and so far as their efforts could prevent it, they were determined there should be no defect in their gifts. He believed they at that place had carried out that principle, and he congratulated them on their work, and might God grant His blessing on their works of faith and labours of love.—His Lordship then preached an impressive sermon from Matthew, 12 chap. and xxxvi. verse.

The bells were opened by the Newchurch ringers with a 504 Grandsire Triples, before and after the service. And on Sunday, for Evening Service the same company rang another 504. After Evening Service a 720 Plain Bob Minor. T. Harrison, 1; T. N. Pickup, 2; J. B. Taylor, 3; James Pickup, 4; John Smith, 5; John Kershaw, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. The bells are by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and the clock by Messrs. J. Smith and Sons, and they give every satisfaction.

RAVENINGHAM CHURCH BELLS, NORFOLK.

The bells in this parish were re-opened on Saturday, December 22nd, after having been entirely re-hung upon a new stout English oak frame. Two new bells have also been added to complete the peal. Saturday being the day fixed for the opening ringers were invited, and the following places were represented: Eye, Beccles, Loddon, Norton, Thurlton, etc. Through the liberality of N. W. Bacon, Esq., J.P., of Raveningham Hall, a substantial dinner was provided to which about twenty sat down and did ample justice to. The chair was taken by Mr. J. Mendham, agent to N. W. Bacon, Esq., and the vice-chair by Mr. George Day, Eye. The bells formerly consisted of three, which are from the Norwich Foundry, 1676 and 1617, bearing the city shield, and have now, through the generosity of N. W. Bacon, Esq., been augmented into a peal of five, by the addition of two new bells, and they are considered by all who have heard them to be a very pretty musical peal. The two new bells were cast by John Warner and Sons, of London.

During the evening several toasts were proposed and drunk, including the health of the donor of the bells, and that of Mr. J. Mendham, who has taken much interest in the restoration, being one of the ringers, and to him thanks are due for the use of his excellent peal of handbells during the evening.

The clergy who have been attached as curates to the parish church at Halifax under Dr. Pigou have presented their former vicar with two handsome easy chairs for the library—one in morocco leather, and the other upholstered in rich velvet for Mrs. Pigou. The Rev. H. Robinson said that while offering their congratulations their feelings were mingled with regret at Dr. Pigou's departure. They recalled with much pleasure the kindness not only of himself but also of Mrs. Pigou, who had endeared herself to them by ever making them feel that the vicarage was a home where they always had a kindly greeting. The Dean and Mrs. Pigou feelingly acknowledged the gift. A silver plate inserted in the book-rest bore an inscription.

ACCIDENT TO A BELLHANGER.

An inquest was held on Saturday, at the Bristol General Hospital, by the city coroner, Mr. Wasbrough, concerning the death of Alfred York. The coroner said the case before them was one in which a bellhanger, who had been severely injured by a bell falling on him, died on Friday at the Hospital. James York, of 19, Hillgrove-hill, Stoke's-croft, son of the deceased, said his father was a bell-hanger, and his age was 52. He lived in the same house as witness. While deceased was engaged at Withington, Herefordshire, in hanging a peal of bells a bell fell on him. This happened on November 28. George Liversha, of 4, Queen-street, Eastville, said he was engaged with the deceased in hanging the peal of bells. The deceased was working under a bell, when the bolt which was keeping it up broke, and the bell fell on the deceased. The bell weighed 9½ cwt. One of the jury asked if the bolt was a temporary one. Witness said it was not, and in reply to the question whether the bolts were tested before they were used made answer that they did not test them, as they were supposed to be tested by the blacksmiths of whom they were bought. Dr. H. C. Newnham, said the deceased was brought to the hospital on November 28, suffering from a compound fracture of the leg. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. The coroner then recommended that all bolts should be tested before being used.

DUCKLINGTON BELL FUND.

The following Subscriptions have been received or promised to the above Fund.

	£	s.	d.
The Ven. The Archdeacon of Oxford	1 0 0
Canon Bright, Oxford	0 10 0
The Rev. F. Robinson, Drayton	0 10 0
The Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Ringmer	0 2 0
Mr. T. Holford, Oxford	0 2 0
Mr. W. J. Holford, London	0 1 0
Mr. G. A. King, Brighton	0 1 0
A few Ladies	0 9 0
A. Percival Heywood, Esq., Duffield	0 5 0
E. D.	0 3 0
Mr. W. J. Swales, Norwich	0 1 0
L. L. Cardy, Sudbury	0 1 0
Mr. W. J. Holford, London (extra)	0 1 0
Mr. F. White, Appleton	0 2 6
Mr. J. Avery, Appleton	0 2 0
Mr. R. Bennett, Appleton	0 2 0
Mr. W. Bennett, Appleton	0 2 0
Mr. G. Cook, Appleton	0 2 0
Mr. G. Holifield, Appleton	0 2 0
M. J. Mayo, Tetsworth	0 1 0
In small Subscriptions	0 7 9
Total amount with Treasurer	7 0 0

Further Subscriptions will be thankfully received by

W. J. FISHER.

The Imperial Hotel, Bournemouth.

The *Carnarvon Herald* states that Dr. Gardner, the Queen's physician in Scotland, has reported to the Archbishop of Canterbury that the Bishop of St. Asaph is incapable of resigning, owing to mental inability to give that attention which would make such an act valid, and if pressure were exerted fatal results might follow. The signature of the Bishop of St. Asaph to the commission appointing the Bishop of Bangor to officially act for him in the diocese was made before a recent serious collapse, and even then only a mark was appended and witnessed. Under the peculiar circumstances it is announced that the Archbishop is consulting the law officers of the Crown to endeavour to relieve the deadlock.

NOTICE OF LONG PEAL.—Twelve members of the Yorkshire Association will attempt 10,196 of Stedman Cinques at the parish church, Sheffield, on Monday, December 31st, to commence at 10.30.

THE PROPOSED ADDITION TO WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

Westminster Abbey is a building of such surpassing interest that any matter relating to it is worthy of public attention. The manner in which its walls are covered and often disfigured by its multitude of monuments, cannot escape the eye of the most casual observer. However wrong it may seem from an æsthetic point of view, it is unquestionably true that the chief interest of the Abbey for the general visitor lies in these very monuments; and the interest is historical not, æsthetic. In them it contains what is perhaps the most impressive and certainly a most popular lesson in the national history. When therefore we are met by the fact that the Abbey is full—too full as many think—and that the time has come when no more monuments can be placed in it, it is necessary to consider how provision may be made for the future. For the necessity of making adequate provision for continuing this as yet unbroken line will be admitted by every one.

More than twenty-five years ago Sir Gilbert Scott proposed to build in Abingdon-street, facing the Houses of Parliament, a monumental cloister stretching from the Chapter-house to Great College-street. In the November Number of the Nineteenth Century, at the end of an article on recent work in connection with the public buildings of London, Mr. Shaw Lefevre discussed another scheme for adding to the Abbey a building styled variously a chapel, a cloister, and a new south transept. The plan now advocated consists of an oblong building to be erected on the south side of the Abbey between the Little Cloisters and the Jewel Tower, with its east side facing Old Palace-yard. This site is now occupied by houses of no architectural interest, and if cleared would give space for a building 200ft. long by 100ft. wide. It would include within its walls the remains of St. Catherine's Chapel, the altar of which might be rebuilt to be used in connection with the memorial or dedicatory services; its main entrance from the exterior would be at Poet's-corner, but it would be more closely connected with the Abbey by a passage from the south transept under the buttresses of the Chapter-house, and by an entrance from the Little Cloisters; one great merit, it is suggested, of this plan would consist in opening up a view of the Chapter-house and of the south elevation of the Abbey.

A building of such a size, and necessary of considerable architectural pretensions, would of course involve a large outlay of money. And there is the site to be bought. Mr. Shaw Lefevre's proposals for raising the required funds are given in the same article and are as follows:—For the site a sum of about £80,000 is required. The building itself, he estimates, would involve an outlay of some £50,000 or £60,000, though surely this is too little. It is not to be expected that Parliament will vote the money. But in the course of the next year, we are told, there will come into existence a quasi-public fund upon which no one has any claim, and for which as yet there is no destination. The much abused London coal duties, at first intended to cease on July 1st, 1888, were extended to July 1st, 1889, in order to free certain bridges over the Thames and the Lea from tolls. After providing for this it is estimated that there will be a surplus of not less than £120,000 to be disposed of as Parliament may think fit. It is proposed that this fund should be appropriated "as an inducement to private liberality for works of public improvement."

One half of the amount necessary for the erection of the chapel might come from this fund and the remaining half be raised by public subscription. Among the supporters of this scheme are such well-known names as those of the Duke of Westminster, Lord Wantage, Lord Brassey, Baron F. de Rothschild, Mr. Cubitt, Mr. H. H. Gibbs, Mr. Bertram Currie, and Dr. E. Freshfield.

In conclusion, it is suggested that the building should remain in the hands of the Government, who would be responsible for its maintenance and repair, and regulate the burials and the placing of monuments in it. It might be called Victoria Chapel.

Notice has already been given—and this shows that the promoters are in earnest—of an intended application to Parliament in the ensuing session to authorise the compulsory purchase of the site and to sanction the application of part of the coal duties for the above purposes.

Obituary.

THOMAS BARROTT.

We regret to have to announce the death of the above ringer, who was accidentally killed on Friday, December 14th, whilst following his employment at the Besom Hill Brick Works, by a fall of shal and stone, killing him on the spot. He was in his 26th year, and leaves a wife and child to mourn his loss. For many years—up to his untimely death—the deceased was an active member of the Moorside tower and handbell ringers, and has rung in about eight peals and a few date touches. He was looking forward to going out with the ringers on Christmas Eve, and was whistling a few minutes before his death a tune which they had been practising for that occasion. On the Sunday following his death, the bells were rung deeply-muffled, and a 760 of Grandsire Triples was rung for morning service. In the evening the company met early and rung the first four parts of Reeves's Variation. A. Butterworth, 1; T. Greenwood, 2; J. Gratrix, 3; George H. Beaver, 4; F. Cocks, 5; W. Sutcliffe, 6; J. Taylor, 7; J. Crossley, 8. Messrs. Beaver and Cocks hail from Glodwick, Oldham; J. Gratrix from Manchester; the rest are of the local company. Both touches were conducted by Wm. Sutcliffe. In the evening the ringers wended their way to the tower, and rang a muffled peal of Grandsire Triples, in 2 hrs. and 57 mins., as a token of respect to their deceased brother-ringer. Adam Butterworth, 1; Thomas Greenwood, 2; William Pitman, 3; Samuel Stott, 4; Joseph Taylor, 5; William Sutcliffe, 6; James Siddall, 7; *John Crossley, 8. Conducted by Wm. Sutcliffe. *First peal. Messrs. Stott and Siddall hail from Oldham; the rest belong to the local company. The deceased was laid to rest on Tuesday in St. Thomas's churchyard, Moorside, before a large and sympathising crowd of people. He was followed to his last resting place by his widow and child, parents, sisters, brother and other relatives and friends, and the workmen at the brickworks, and the Moorside ringers. The Rev. George Holmes, son of the Vicar, officiated at the service, and sympathised with the bereaved, and said he had known the deceased when a boy. Over the grave his brother ringers rang that beautiful hymn "Go bury thy sorrow," and a course of Grandsire Minor on the handbells. The procession then returned, after which the ringers ascended the tower and rang a touch of Grandsire Triples 350 changes, with the bells deeply muffled. They subsequently adjourned to the house of Mr. John Lees, Sholver Moor, where a sumptuous tea was provided for them and the workmen of the brickworks. After the cloth was removed (Mr. Isaac Bassett in the chair), Mr. Thos. Mellowdew, Sholver Moor, and the host delivered some appropriate remarks about the deceased. Mr. Adam Butterworth moved that a message of condolence be sent to the deceased's widow, sympathising with her in her sad bereavement. Mr. James Siddall, of Oldham, seconded it, in a few touching remarks, the company unanimously agreeing. Mr. Thomas Mellowdew thanked them on behalf of the widow, parents, and relatives for assisting them in the painful duty they had to perform that day. Mr. Adam Butterworth then recited some verses which he had composed for the occasion.

As the result of a munificent gift, a new parish is being formed in Hastings, and a church will, it is hoped, be built without delay. A lady some months ago, having consulted the Rev. H. D. Jones, rector of Upper Street, S. Leonard's decided to build and endow a church in memory of her husband, at a cost of £15,000, in the poor and populous district of All Saints', Hastings. The offer made was readily accepted by the Rev. G. A. Foyster, the vicar, on condition of the Bishop's approval of the scheme of patronage by which Mr. Jones was to choose the first vicar. Mr. Foyster was able to add that a site had already been promised by the Rev. C. Sayer-Milward, who owns land in the parish. The first incumbency has been offered to and accepted by the Rev. H. U. Whelpton, curate of Christ Church, Albany Street, N.W., and son of Prebendary Whelpton, of Eastbourne. The appointment has been approved by the fundress and the Bishop.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"A Happy New Year."

Let us hope that the coming year of grace may prove so to all of us. But we should try to make it so far as we can by the practice of the cardinal virtues, notably of self-denial. This virtue is an important factor to the well-being of our art. Let us then practice it in and out of season. Then we shall hear no more of the ravings of spite and jealousy.

* * * * *

I am obliged to Mr. Mead for his very interesting epistle. Although I am rather inclined to think that his letter was intended more for my private perusal than for publication, yet the information it contains sufficiently warranted its "reduction to print," while at the same time, to my mind, it fully bears out my previous remarks which give rise to it. I gave the Clun men credit for perseverance, and surely the story told by Mr. Mead is one long narrative of drawbacks, and a steady determination to surmount them. First they have the opposition of the old stoney ringers, which they appear to have settled satisfactorily. Then their efforts to procure the restoration of the tower and the substitution of a good peal of eight in place of their present "very poor peal of six," although not so successful as they deserve to have been, yet seem to me full of promise for the future. Take heart, my friends, keep pegging away, and and success will attend you sooner or later—probably sooner.

* * * * *

That part of Mr. Mead's letter referring to the restoration of their church is, I am sorry to say, only too common with us. Large sums are collected and spent in the "restoration" of nave and chancel, vestry and organ chamber. Expensive oak and tile work are laid down for the purpose of beautifying the interior; but the poor old tower, which for generation after generation has pointed heavenward, is left in its dilapidation and dirt. Nobody goes up its spiral staircase to view its interior, save the ringers, and perhaps the sexton when he has to ring the death-bell or wind up the clock. The parishioners see it only from the outside, which to them seems as solid as ever it did. Thus it is so often our towers and their contents are neglected, and left to "rack and ruin," so that in many places when the ringers are not so persevering as the men of Clun, they give up ringing, in disgust, the bells remain silent and all above is forgotten, till some day a clock weight, or a rotten beam, or a stone gets loosened from its fastenings and comes thundering down into the church below, dealing destruction in its course. Then the people wake up, and wonder how this has come to pass; how it is that such a dreadful state of affairs exists in their but recently restored and beautiful church. They talk of the narrow escape, and what might have been the case had this "accident" happened during service time: then in the flush of the moment they commence to do that which they ought to have done years before—finish the work of restoration properly—only to find that what might have been previously accomplished with tens of pounds, now costs hundreds.

* * * * *

Here is a parish which eleven years ago spent £7,000 in the church, but where the Committee "did not see their way clear" to raise but another seventh of that sum to properly complete the work. Thus the state of the tower is a disgrace to the church and parish. But, ringers of Clun, you have made a good start—two bells towards the eight. Surely with the powerful help of Vicar, Curate, Organist, and good ladies in the parish, you are on the right track, and bound to win. My earnest hope is that this time next year you may be ringing together in a restored belfry, and usher in Christmas with a touch of Major on a fine new ring of eight.

What a contrast is this story told by Mr. Mead to the report we have from Kimpton! After thirty years of enforced silence through this very cause—the dilapidated state of the tower—the bells have been once more made ringable, thanks to the good effects of the worthy vicar. The presence of the Bishop and Archdeacon of St. Albans at the reopening was a fitting recognition not only of our art, but also of the vicar's energy and perseverance, and it is to be hoped that we shall soon read of substantial progress made by the local band under the tutorship of Mr. Robinson.

* * * * *

The ringers of Mossley and Sharnbrook are to be congratulated on the success of their young pupils, who have evidently commenced early in life, one fifteen, one fourteen, and one thirteen years of age, all of whom have rung their first 720 of Minor. But I should like to know how the conductor of the latter company managed to crowd fifty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles into one 720 of Grandsire Minor.

* * * * *

It is to be hoped, for his own credit's sake, that the conductor of the peal of Treble Bob at St. Andrew's, Well Street, will be able to answer satisfactorily the doubting queries respecting it. Certainly the temperate language used by the two correspondents does somehow give an unpleasant *prima facie* appearance of good grounds for their questions. They do not appear to be of that disagreeable species of humanity which we have too often amongst us, who seems to think that his great object in life is picking holes and fault-finding. Among ringers he is generally to me found putting disagreeable questions which he knows serve no purpose but to make things unpleasant. If a peal has been rung, which he has not taken part in, he is replete with queries and innuendoes: first as to the truth of the composition, then as to its having been properly conducted and rung; if he fails to find in them a peg to hang up a case on, then he will fall back on his last resource—"Oh, the striking was bad; it wasn't worth counting a peal," and so on. Well, the best mode of dealing with these conceited would-be mischief-makers is to "leave them severely alone," and they will in the long run extinguish themselves. But as I observed before, I don't think these queries in question come from such a quarter, and thus I shall look with some interest for the answer.

* * * * *

And now a word with our friend Mr. Attree. With all due deference to him, I think he has made but a poor defence of the practice which I complained of. His whole letter, indeed, smacks so much of that old familiar *tu quoque* style of disputation, as to take away much of the weight it otherwise might have. His points, too, are so easy of annihilation that I really feel almost ashamed of tackling them. But by way of illustration I will just mention one or two. First the peculiar connection which he endeavours to form between my weekly motto and my remarks on this subject; which had no existence save in his own mind. Then the argument having reference to the appearance of what he seemed to consider extraneous and (to us) useless matter; that is a point altogether wide of the question, and does not affect the point at issue in the slightest. Again, the cases which he cites in favour of his contention are actually the cases which I wrote in favour of, *i.e.*, where there is something more than ordinary in their nature. I am afraid I am spinning out my notes to and inordinate length this week, or I might have had a little more to say to our friend Mr. Attree. As it is, I would recommend him to produce something stronger if he wishes to convince anyone that he is right in his contention.

Mr. Worsell reverts to the recently suggested "Ringers' Benefit Society," and like many others, seems to be impressed with the many difficulties in the way. But, in whatever shape it might assume, there can be no doubt that we, as a fraternity, ought to have some properly constituted plan of helping brothers in distress. Let me then strongly urge upon our friends to give this subject their earnest thought; and more, while they are holding happy unions together this Christmastide, devote a little time to the discussion of the point, have an interchange of ideas, so that when the holidays are once more over, we can express our opinions which have thus been formed after careful consideration.

* * * * *

I wish our friends of the Oxford Guild every success with their proposed attempted long peal of Stedman Caters, at Appleton, as announced. May "the course-ends roll up like clockwork," one after the other till the welcome words "That's all," brings to an end a peal the ringing of which will afford pleasant recollections to the performers.

* * * * *

Our Christmas number contains two capital stories, and a splendid portrait of a very expert ringer. I trust that the future portraits of our paper will be of the same order. They can be utilised for framing, or inserting in a kind of portfolio made for the purpose; and thus every ringer will be able to possess a ringers' portrait gallery. Let me commend this idea to my readers. I am told that each of these portraits cost nearly a penny each to produce, so that we ought not to murmur at the increase in the price of the number. And with respect to the stories I can affirm without fear of contradiction, that shorter stories not near so interesting are sold at railway bookstalls for sixpence and one shilling. The tale entitled "A Merry Peal," certainly gives above three penny's worth of amusement and interest. And our old friend Trippels also is to the fore again.

* * * * *

Once more my friends—everyone, great and small—accept the heartiest new year's festive greetings from your humble servant, and well wisher,
FREE LANCE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—PROPOSED BLACKBURN BRANCH.

A Ringing Meeting will be held at Blackburn parish church, to-day, Saturday, December 29th, at 2.30 p.m. At 6 o'clock a meeting will be held to arrange necessary details and establish the branch. All change-ringers in the district are cordially invited to attend. It is especially hoped that every belfry in the district will send one representative at least, to express the opinions of his band, and to give support to the proposals submitted to the meeting.

93, Henry Street, Church.

JAMES HORROCKS, Sec.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting proposed to be held at Leighton Buzzard, to-day, Saturday, Dec. 29th, cannot be held there as the tower is under repair. It will therefore be held instead on that day at Eversholt, the six bells having just been overhauled by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, and put in good ringing order.

CHARLES HERBERT, } Hon. Secs
W. W. C. BAKER, }

Eight members of the Sussex County Association will, if all's well, make an attempt for a 13,440 of Bob Major. at Warnham, on Monday, December 31st, 1888.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR MR. DORAN.

	£	s.	d.
E. F. Cole, Esq., London	1 0 0
Dr. A. B. Carpenter, Croydon	0 10 0
Mr. H. Hopkins, London	0 2 6
J. E. Worsell, Brighton	0 5 0
H. Swain, London	0 2 0
W. H. Dallimore, West Ham	0 2 0
W. Smith, West Ham	0 1 0
Rev. H. A. Cockey	0 5 0
W. Hawkes, Springfield	0 2 0
J. R. Haworth, London	0 2 6
Collected at Brentwood	0 2 0
G. Williams, Midhurst	0 2 0
J. Dains, Widford	0 1 0
W. J. Piper, Widford	0 0 6
A. Shuttleworth, Widford	0 0 6
A. Tarbun, Widford	0 0 6
L. Green, Wanstead	0 2 6
R. Turner, London	0 2 0
H. Springhall, London	0 1 0
S. Hayes, London	0 1 0
J. Smith, Kingston-on-Thames	0 1 0
J. Potter, West Ham	0 1 0
H. Randall, West Ham	0 2 6
C. E. Malim, Esq., London	0 10 6
H. Dains, London	0 2 6
A Friend, per W. B.	0 2 6
C. Hopkins, Walthamstow	0 2 6
West Ham Company, per H. Randall	0 10 0
R. T. Woodley, London	0 1 0
J. Nunn, Walthamstow	0 1 0
A. Jacob, London	0 1 0
T. Maynard, Walthamstow	0 2 6
C. Dempsey, West Ham	0 1 0
S. Joyce, London	0 1 0
J. Hannington, London	0 2 6
J. Rogers, London	0 5 0
G. Rochester, Sawbridgeworth	0 1 0
H. W. Tarling, Sawbridgeworth	0 1 0
A. Brown, Sawbridgeworth	0 1 0
P. Springham, Sawbridgeworth	0 1 0
W. Morris, Sawbridgeworth	0 1 0
C. West, Biddenham	0 2 6
N. J. Pitstow, Saffron Waldron	0 2 6
W. H. Fussell, Slough	0 2 6
A. C. Fussell, Slough	0 2 0
W. Wilder, Slough	0 2 0
J. Perryman, Slough	0 2 0
H. J. Tucker, Bishops Stortford	0 2 0
F. W. Chapman, Bishops Stortford	0 2 0
H. Prior, Stansted	0 1 0
G. Prior, Stansted	0 1 0
W. Baron, London	0 2 0
W. H. D. Porter, Battersea	0 1 0
A. G. Thomas, Esq., Battersea	0 5 0
S. Baker, Battersea	0 1 0
W. Ambrose, Battersea	0 1 0
A. Swetman, Battersea	0 1 0
Mr. Comley, Battersea	0 1 0
H. S. Thomas, Esq., and a few Friends, Battersea	1 7 6
Mr. Glover, Battersea	0 2 0
Waltham Abbey Society, per W. C. Dymock	1 0 0
J. Bristow, Birchington	0 2 6
R. K. Knight, Walthamstow	0 2 6
E. Moses, Reigate	0 1 6
J. W. Mansfield, London	0 1 6
G. C. Hammond, London	0 1 0
B. Foskett, London	0 1 0
M. A. Wood, London	0 1 6
All Hallows (Tottenham) Society, per W. P. English	0 10 6
F. Wells, Glemsford	0 1 6
R. Wells, Glemsford	0 2 6
T. Card, Finchley	0 2 0
A. Wright, West Ham	0 1 0
W. Dickinson, West Ham	0 1 0
Total	£11 6 0

THE RINGERS' GUIDE

TO THE
CHURCH BELLS OF DEVON,

COMPRISING :

- PART I.—A Brief History of Bells and Bell-Ringing, with special reference to Devon.
PART II.—A List of the Church Bells of Devon, corrected up to date and abridged from the detailed Catalogue of Inscriptions, Diameters, &c., compiled by the late Rev. H. T. ELLACOMBE.

BY

CHARLES PEARSON, M.A.,

Member of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

CLOTH ILLUSTRATED, PRICE 2s. 6d.

WILLIAM POLLARD & Co., PRINTERS, EXETER,

1888.

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

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

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

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

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

W. LINCOLN.—Very little harm is done. The compiling of reports for publication should be strictly delegated to one person only of the company.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1888.

THE issue of our last number for the year 1888 affords a fitting opportunity for some remarks on the progress made in the science and art of change-ringing during the last twelvemonths—a subject which deserves special recognition at our hands, when we compare the position of the Exercise at the date of the first appearance of our paper with its position and achievements at the present moment; and we trust that we shall not expose ourselves to the charge of vanity, if we venture to express the hope that the weekly appearance of "THE BELL NEWS" during the last eight years has not been without its influence in bringing about the results which we deem it our duty to summarise and chronicle.

The past year has been in various ways a remarkable

one in the annals of change-ringing, and though it is the fashion to relegate the "palmy days" of the Exercise to a former generation, we cannot help thinking that if records were thoroughly searched and tabulated, that for the year which now closes would be found to be greatly in advance, in all important respects, of any which have gone before it. It is true that in the days of the giants men delighted to handle heavier metal in ringing their long lengths; but after all, this was merely a trial of physical strength and endurance, which did not touch the higher and finer interests of the art, and however much we may admire, as they deserve, these achievements of old, we think that we have something better and more noble to show in the superior and more general advance of the intellectual side of the art during recent years.

First, then, let us notice briefly the additions to the literature of change-ringing which have been made during 1888. This year has given to the Exercise the last work of its faithful and devoted friend, JASPER SNOWDON; his admirable Treatise on the Grandsire System bringing to a premature close the incomparable "Change-Ringing Series" with which he had purposed to endow the art he loved so well. Many of us, as we read his lucid explanations, and, above all, the very interesting and erudite chapter on the "History of Grandsire," could not fail to be conscious once more

"of the touch of a vanished hand,
and the sound of a voice that is still."

This year has also seen the production, in completed form, of Mr. HEYWOOD's Treatise on the new method, "Duffield," which he has presented to the Exercise. In certain respects, this method marks a new departure on the scientific side of change-ringing; presenting new principles and new effects, which are well worthy of acceptance. The method is still too young to have secured anything like general attention; but its scientific merits are such as will, we doubt not, receive the recognition due to them as ringers, in general, advance in scientific knowledge add attainments. The Treatise, with its collection of the most notable compositions hitherto produced in the method, is a welcome addition to our literature: for it paves the way to a reformation of much which has for long sadly needed amendment.

In the next place, we note, with satisfaction, the greater regard that is being paid to the musical qualities of the peals which have of late been composed and rung. This is evidenced by the footnotes appended to records, as well as by many of the compositions which have appeared in our columns from time to time. There is still much room for improvement in this direction; but we are glad to recognise and welcome the advance already made.

When we turn to the number and character of the peals rung during the year, the beating of previous records is still more patent. Thanks to Mr. ATTREE's careful analysis, we are enabled readily to compare one year's achievements with another's; and though the returns for the closing year are not yet complete, enough is still

shewn by the return for eleven months to make evident a very considerable advance in this respect. The total number of peals rung during the year has considerably increased; and this increase is not the result of spasmodic effort, or established and acknowledged rivalry; for the increase has been more or less steady month by month. What does this imply? It implies, not so much that individual societies are increasing their performances as that fresh companies are coming to the front, and fresh towers being opened for peal-ringing. The art is extending and gathering in new votaries from new districts. The advanced character of very many of the performances is also a conspicuous feature in the year's doings. Peals have been rung, on varying numbers of bells, in some sixty different methods, all told; including four Surprise methods, and such unusual names as Prince Albert Major, Violet Major, Canterbury Pleasure Major and Triples, and Place Triples, besides other methods which have not been much practised for many years. This revival of forgotten methods is a cheering sign, it shows an increasing spirit of enterprise which augurs well for the future; and though the more notable performances are to be credited to three or four enthusiastic bands, yet they are no longer confined, as was once the case, to isolated efforts waiting long for repetition or imitation. In this connection we gladly note the fact that the Ipswich Tower Society have, before the end of the year, broken through the cloud which has so long brooded over Double Norwich Maximus; and we are confident that before long we shall have the pleasure of booking a first peal—the first peal for many, many years, and the second ever rung—to the credit of that talented company. Nor must we pass over, as a feature of the year's performances, the long peals achieved by the Oxford Diocesan Guild, lowering the previous record in three methods, Double Norwich being one. A word of recognition is also due to the six-bell ringers for the energy and enterprise they have displayed in several places by scoring five thousands in different methods. We have had pleasure in recording many performances of this class during the year—performances, in our judgment, of no mean kind; evidencing much industry and devotion to the art, and giving token that those who have achieved such peals have had the best possible training in the art of method-ringing to fit them for taking part in the more ornate branches of Major ringing, when the suitable opportunity occurs.

Enough has been said to point out the real progress which has been effected, and to encourage our brethren to renewed perseverance, fresh enterprise, and more notable achievements than even the past year has witnessed.

ST. SIDWELL'S AND ST. DAVID'S SOCIETIES, EXETER.

To-day, Saturday, December 29th, a ringing meeting of the above Societies will be held at Exeter. The towers of St. David's and St. Sidwell's will be open for ringing at two p.m. At 7 p.m. a dinner will be provided at the "Rougemont Hotel." Tickets 2s. 6d. each; all friends are heartily welcome.

B. MUNDY,
A. W. SEARLE, } *Hon. Secs.*

48, Sandford Street, Exeter.

The Provinces.

CAPEL, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 18, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

5040 CHANGES ON SIX BELLS; IN SEVEN DIFFERENT SURPRISE AND TREBLE BOB METHODS;

LONDON SURPRISE, SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE, WELLS SURPRISE,
CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE, COLLEGE EXERCISE, COLLEGE PLEASURE, AND
OXFORD.

Tenor $7\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

JOHN AKEHURST.. .. Treble.	MARK JENKINS 4.
ROBERT JORDAN 2.	ALFRED D. MILLS 5.
EDWIN JORDAN 3.	DAVID JORDAN Tenor.

Conducted by DAVID JORDAN.

The above was rung on the eleventh anniversary of the erection of the treble bell.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, KIDDERMINSTER.

On Wednesday, December 19, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' TEN PART. Tenor 30 cwt. in D.

GEORGE SALTER.. .. Treble.	W. HENRY SMITH 5.
HARRY WILLIAMS 2.	J. THOMAS SALTER 6.
RICHARD E. GROVE 3.	JOHN CRANE 7.
THOMAS BENNETT 4.	THOMAS WALTERS Tenor.

Conducted by J. THOMAS SALTER.

First peal as conductor.

MITCHAM, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 19, 1888, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION.

SAMUEL GREENWOOD .. Treble.	GEORGE FOSTER 5.
JAMES DREWITT 2.	GEORGE PELL 6.
EPHRAIM BURTENSHAW .. 3.	JOSEPH FAYERS.. .. 7.
CHARLES E. MALIM 4.	HARRY PATES Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL GREENWOOD.

BRANDESTON, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(BRANDESTON BRANCH)

On Saturday, December 22, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH.

5040 CHANGES; IN SEVEN SURPRISE METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:

LONDON, ROCHESTER, CHICHESTER, WORCESTER, SUPERLATIVE,
COVENTRY, AND CAMBRIDGE.

Tenor 9 cwt.

STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. Treble.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN .. 4.
ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN.. 2.	DAVID G. WIGHTMAN.. 5.
WILLIAM G. CRICKMER.. 3.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, SEN. Tenor.

Conducted by DAVID G. WIGHTMAN.

This is the first 5040 of Surprise peal rung in Suffolk.

HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

The usual quarterly meeting of this Society will be held at the tower, on Thursday, January 3rd, 1889.

W. H. GODDEN, Secretary.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 20, 1888, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP Treble.	JOSEPH MALONEY 5.
JOHN HARROP 2.	*CHARLES GRAY 6.
JOHN SIDEBOTHAM 3.	GEORGE BRADDOCK 7.
JESSE B. HIBBERT 4.	JOHN PYE, JUN. Tenor.

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

*First peal.

Messrs. John Harrop, Sidebotham, and Braddock, hail from Mottram; Hibbert from Whitfield; and Gray from Dinting; the rest are of the local company.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, December 20, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 26 cwt.

HARRY WAKLEY Treble.	EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 5.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	WM. WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by WM. WAKLEY.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, December 21, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART (Reversed).

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

RICHARD C. BURRELL* .. Treble.	ARTHUR EDWARDS 5.
JOHN DAINS 2.	WILLIAM J. PIPER 6.
ABRAHAM SHUTTLEWORTH† 3.	WILLIAM LINCOLN 7.
HIRZEL F. DE LISLE, ESQ. 4.	ALFRED TARBUN Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM LINCOLN.

*First peal. †First peal of Triples.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE WARNHAM BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, December 22, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

JESSE GARMAN Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT 5.
WALTER CHARMAN 2.	HARRY COOK 6.
GEORGE CHARMAN 3.	HENRY H. CHANDLER .. 7.
THOMAS ANDREWS 4.	THOMAS HOGSFLESH .. Tenor.

Composed by WALTER CHARMAN, and Conducted by HENRY H. CHANDLER.

This peal was rung prior to the eight o'clock service in the morning.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 22, 1888, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S 5-PART.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

WALTER PEGRUM Treble.	MARK L. MYHILL 5.
JOHN GOBBETT 2.	ACKLAND J. PERKINS .. 6.
BENJAMIN KEEBLE 3.	EDWIN BARNETT 7.
WILLIAM NASH 4.	SAMUEL JAMES Tenor.

Conducted by ACKLAND JAMES PERKINS.

This is the quickest peal rung on the bells.

STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE,

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 22, 1888, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES'S FIVE-PART (No. 3).

Tenor 24 cwt.

EDWARD JAMES* Treble.	DANIEL J. ASTON 5.
FRANCIS E. WARD 2.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 6.
H. L. JAMES 3.	WILLIAM J. SEVIER 7.
CHARLES KING 4.	FREDERICK STEPHENS .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS E. WARD.

*First Peal.

DEWSBURY, YORKSHIRE.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE AND STALYBRIDGE SOCIETIES.

On Saturday, December 22, 1888, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JOHN LAWTON Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADEENT .. 5.
HUGH SHAW 2.	GEORGE LONGDEN 6.
WILLIAM FAWCETT 3.	SAMUEL WOOD 7.
EDMUND SCHOFIELD 4.	JOHN THORP Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

The first four hail from Stalybridge; the last four from Ashton. The band wish to thank the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells, and the local societies for their kind reception.

PONTEFRAC, YORKSHIRE.

On Monday, December 24, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

W. PEARSON† Treble.	*F. HARGREAVES 5.
S. BROOK* 2.	J. POLLARD 6.
F. MOODY* 3.	*C. WATTS 7.
H. DODDS* 4.	†J. CARTER Tenor.

Conducted by C. WATTS.

This is the first peal on the bells. *First peal. †First peal in the method. Mr. H. Dodds belongs to the St. Philip's Society, Manchester. Mr. J. Pollard hails from Hull; the rest are local men.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE BRIGHTON BRANCH.)

On Monday, December 24, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE BRIGHTON PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 10 cwt.

GEORGE F. ATTREE Treble.	FRANCIS L. DAVIES 5.
ARTHUR A. FULLER 2.	JOHN REILLY 6.
JOHN JAY 3.	JAMES SEARLE 7.
HARRY WESTON 4.	HORACE CORNWALL .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES SEARLE.

Mr Davies hails from London.

HURSTPIERPOINT, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE BRIGHTON BRANCH.)

On Thursday, December 20, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN REILLY Treble.	JOHN JAY 5.
GEORGE A. KING 2.	HARRY WESTON 6.
GEORGE F. ATTREE 3.	JAMES SEARLE 7.
ARTHUR A. FULLER 4.	GEORGE MURRAY Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES SEARLE.

First peal in the method upon the bells.

BIRMINGHAM, WARWICKSHIRE,
THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.
On Monday, December 24, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5005 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt. in C.			
THOMAS RUSSAM	Treble.	THOMAS REYNOLDS	7.
WILLIAM E. SMITH	2.	JOHN BUFFERY	8.
ARTHUR J. JONES	3.	WILLIAM KENT	9.
BERNARD WITCHELL	4.	JOHN JAMES	10.
HENRY BASTABLE	5.	HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. ..	11.
CHARLES STANBRIDGE ..	6.	† WILLIAM JACKSON ..	Tenor.

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

This is the same peal as given in Vol. vii, Page 53, of "THE BELL NEWS," with the exception of the first course, which starts from rounds, and omitting the bob at 16 gives the above number. And is the first peal of Stedman Cinques rung on church bells on this plan. This is the fourth peal rung by W. E. Smith, and the first in the method (aged 17), the other three being Grandsire Triples. †First peal on twelve bells. First peal of Cinques by this Society.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.

On Wednesday, December 26, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.			
WILLIAM EMERY	Treble.	ROBERT WOOD	5.
JOSEPH J. EVERARD	2.	REV. T. L. PAPILLON ..	6.
ARTHUR EDWARDS	3.	WILLIAM LINCOLN	7.
FREDERICK RADLEY	4.	* ALFRED BONNINGTON ..	Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM LINCOLN.

*First peal. This is the first peal by a band composed entirely of Writtle men since the year 1821.

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 26, 1888, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 24 cwt.			
WILLIAM P. GARRETT ..	Treble.	WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE ..	5.
ALBERT E. DURRANT* ..	2.	JAMES MOTTS	6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER ..	3.	WILLIAM MOTTS	7.
WILLIAM BEDWELL* ..	4.	HAWKINS ENGLISH	Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

H. English hails from Coddanham; W. Bedwell from Greenwich; and the rest belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich. *First peal in the method, also the first of the same method on the bells.

Date Touch.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Saturday, December 15th, at the parish church, the Southport company rang a Date Touch of Bob Major (1888 changes) in 1 hr. and 15 mins. L. Tyldesley, 1; J. Rimmer, 2; J. Rimmer, 3; B. Tungate, 4; R. Hill, 5; J. W. Rimmer, 6; W. Baldwin, 7; D. E. Rimmer (conductor), 8. Composed by J. R. Pritchard.

Miscellaneous.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

RETFORD.—The Retford branch of the North Notts Association, rang on Thursday, December 20th, 2520 changes of Grandsire Minor, being three 720's, and a 360 changes (each 720 called differently.) The first 720 conducted by W. Skelton; second 720 conducted by N. G. Hunt, 1,080 conducted by H. Haigh. The time occupied was 1 hr. and 32 mins. Tenor 9 cwt. 9 lbs. H. Warburton, 1; W. Skelton, 2; W. Kipling, 3; N. G. Hunt, 4; H. Haigh, 5; R. Potter, 6. Also on Sunday, December 23rd, for Divine Service, another 720 in the same method in 26 mins. W. Skelton, 1; H. Haigh, 2; J. F. Haigh, 3; N. G. Hunt (conductor), 4; J. W. Clark, 5; R. Potter, 6. This 720 was rung specially for J. F. Haigh, who was desirous of ringing through his first 720 on an extreme bell before the old year expired and whose age is only 16.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHPORT.—On Sunday, December 23rd, for evening service, 576 of Bob Major. J. Burrows, 1; Joseph Rimmer, 2; James Rimmer, 3; B. Tungate, 4; R. Hill, 5; J. W. Rimmer, 6; W. Baldwin, 7; D. E. Rimmer (conductor), 8. Tenor 10 cwt. J. Burrows hails from Dalton-in-Furness, and this is his first attempt at Major.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Sunday, December 9th, 720 Grandsire Minor (32 bobs and 28 singles), was rung before Divine Service, in the morning, in 24 mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; *Jos. Potter, 2; J. Potter, 3; J. Worthington, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brooks, 6. *First 720 in the method. Also on Sunday evening, December 23rd, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles), in 23 mins. J. Brooks, 1; J. Worthington, 2; J. Potter, 3; J. Ridyard (Worsley), 4; Jas. Potter (composer and conductor), 5; A. Potter, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday evening, in St. Edwards Belfry, a 720 of Bob Minor, Penning's (46 calls). M. L. Myhill, 1-2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3-4; W. Nash, 5-6.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Tuesday, December 4th, at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, by the local company, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 24 mins. J. Cavill, 1; G. Gray, 2; Isaac Hammond, 3; J. Luckey (conductor), 4; W. Watts, 5; Isaac Cavill, 6. And on Sunday, December 9th, for morning service, 360 Double Oxford Bob. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Hammond, 5; Isaac Cavill (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, December 18th, 720 Double Court Bob. J. Cavill, 1; W. Watts, 2; Isaac Cavill, 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Hammond, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.

MIDHURST.—On Tuesday, December 18th, at the parish church, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Court, 1; T. Ellis, 2; W. H. George, 3; J. Lee, 4; W. Selby, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, the 20th, another 720 by the same, and 720 Plain Bob Minor. W. Court, 1; *Rev. J. L. Cother, 2; G. Williams (conductor), 3; J. Lee, 4; C. Tribe, 5; G. Batts, 6. And 120 Stedman Doubles. W. H. George, 1; Rev. J. L. Cother, 2; W. Selby, 3; C. Tribe, 4; G. Williams, 5; W. Court, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. *First 720 on tower bells. On Sunday, December 23rd, for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. Ellis, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; J. Lee, 3; C. Tribe, 4; W. Selby, 5; *G. Batts, 6. *First in the method.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Tuesday evening, December 18th, at All Saints' Church, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins. J. Hewett, 1; O. Coombes, 2; W. Ward, 3; W. Jennings, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; J. Norris, 6; E. Hatcher, 7; A. Ward, 8. First quarter-peal by all excepting J. Hewett, who hails from Gosport. Also on Sunday evening, December 23rd, for Divine Service, 350 of Grandsire Triples. A. R. Ward, 1; H. Jennings (conductor), 2; W. Ward, 3; W. Jennings, 4; O. Coombes, 5; J. Norris, 6; E. Hatcher, 7; A. Ward, 8. Tenor 26½ cwt.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—At St. Mary's church, on Monday evening, December 24th, for practice, a 504 of Bob Triples. W. Leader, 1; F. V. H. Sinkins, 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; W. A. Garraway, 4; W. Wilder, 5; R. Flaxman, 6; A. C. Fussell (conductor), 7; J. Perryman, 8. Tenor 9½ cwt.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THAMES DITTON.—For church parade, on Sunday, December 9th, six of the above rung several 120's of Grandsire Doubles. J. Chandler, (conductor), 1; H. Potter, 2; T. Wells, 3; J. Trapmore, 4; A. Morrison, 5; G. Brickwood, 6.

THE NORTH MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

FINCHLEY.—On Thursday, November 22nd, at St. Mary's, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 27 mins. H. Martin, 1; F. Sparks, 2; T. Card (conductor), 3; J. Cornell, 4; C. Martin, 5; C. Crampton, 6. Tenor 10 cwt. This is the first 720 by the 1st, 2nd, and 4th men, also by the 6th man with a bob bell. It is also the first by the above association which was formed on the 11th October last, for the furtherance of change-ringing. At the time of formation only one member could ring Minor, so a start was soon made in that direction with the above result. In six weeks it is hoped to make the Association a successful one by the co-operation of other towers in the district.

ASHCHURCH (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, November 25th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins (eighteen bobs and two singles). D. Done, 1; C. Slatter, 2; W. Wellan, 3; W. Davis, 4; C. W. Dyson (Treddington), 5; E. Wallis (conductor), 6. This 720 was rung with the bells half muffled in token of respect to Charles Hampton who was buried on that day, the late C. Hampton, was also a member of the Foresters' Friendly Society, and there was upwards of sixty brother members at the funeral. Also on Sunday, December 2nd, for morning service, a 720 Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. J. Grinaway, 1; W. Davis, 2; W. Wellan, 3; *D. Done, 4; C. Slatter, 5; E. Wallis (conductor), 6. *First 720 with a bob bell.

BALDOCK (Herts).—The following was rung on December 17th, on hand bells; 252 of Stedman Triples. T. Webb (conductor), 1; E. Bray, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; J. Phillips (conductor), 5; G. Spicer, 6; R. Jackson, 7; W. Bidnell, 8. This is the first touch of Stedman Triples with all local men. Also on December 19th, a date touch of Grandsire Triples. G. Poulter, 1; E. Bray, 2; J. Morley, 3; J. Craft, 4; W. Bidnell, 5; A. Thurgood, 6; R. Jackson (conductor), 7; G. Stanley, 8. Also a 1,484 in the same method. G. Poulter, 1; E. Bray, 2; J. Morley, 3; J. Craft, 4; W. Bidnell, 5; R. Jackson, 6; G. Spicer (conductor), 7 & 8.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Wednesday, December 10th, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), with 7-8 covering. *J. Ballard, 1; *W. Bullpit, 2; *T. Curtis, 3; *G. Gasson, 4; T. M. Stedman, 5; H. White (conductor), 6; J. R. Higgins, 7; W. Hatten, 8. *First 720 on tower bells. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles with S. F. W. Powell treble, conducted by T. M. Stedman. And 240 Grandsire Minor with S. F. Powell, 1, and J. R. Higgins, 5, the rest as before. S. Powell is only 12 years of age, and this is his first attempt at change-ringing in the steeple. T. M. Stedman hails from Capel, the rest belong to the local company.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Thursday, December 13th, at St. Peter's Church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. States, 1; *G. Burt, 2; A. Arnold, 3; H. Brooker, 4; R. E. Pearson, 5; A. Bruce (conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; F. G. Hermon, 8. *First 500.

KIDDERMINSTER.—Recently at the Parish church a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Bennett, 1; G. Salter, 2; J. Bennett, 3; J. Craze, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Salter (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, December 16th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 1064 of Grandsire Triples in 38 mins. J. Bennett, 1; J. Bennett, jnr, 2; C. Salter, 3; T. Bennett, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Salter (conductor), 6; J. Crane, 7; T. Walters, 8. On Thursday, December 6th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Bennett, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; G. Salter, 3; J. Bennett, 4; W. H. Smith, 5; T. Salter, 6; J. Crane, 7; J. Zeach, 8.

PINCHBECK (Lincolnshire).—On Christmas Day, for early service, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Doubleday, 1; T. Ladd, 2; T. Laxton, 3; T. Fisher, 4; *G. Ladd (conductor), 5. Longest length by all except the conductor, *College Youth. Tenor 20 cwt.

RIPON (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday evening, December 18th, the local company assembled for practice, and rung a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Stedman Triples in 47 mins. T. Clark, 1; A. Clark, 2; J. Stronden, 3; A. Pratt, 4; A. Ingleby, 5; J. Flower, 6; W. Peck, 7; H. Rumbold, 8. Conducted by T. Clark, and composed by Mr. Lates, being the third quarter of his 5040 Stedman Triples. Tenor 21 cwt.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—On Christmas Eve, at the parish church, a 720 of College Little (22 singles). J. Bailey, 1; W. Hall, 2; H. E. Chapman, 3; W. Pettett, 4; F. Clayton, 5; A. H. Martin (conductor), 6. A 720 Bob Minor. J. Bailey, 1; G. Burton, 2; J. B. Martin, 3; W. Pettett, 4; W. Hall, 5; A. H. Martin (conductor), 6. Also a 360 Oxford Treble Bob, and 360 Yorkshire Court by the above, and 360 of Oxford Bob Minor, in which C. Green and A. Clayton took part.

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Sunday, December 16th, on handbells, at the residence of Mr. F. Gilbert, a 1260 Plain Bob Triples. R. Pendered, W. J. Gilbert, 2; F. Gilbert (conductor), 3; F. Slade, 4; A. E. Chapman, 5; A. H. Martin, 6; H. Stubbs, 7-8. First 1260 on the handbells. On Sunday, December 23rd, at the residence of Mr. J. Stubb, a 517 of Oxford Bob Triples. *J. Bailey, 1; A. E. Chapman, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; *J. Stubb, 4; A. H. Master (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6; H. Stubbs, 7-8. *First attempt.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Christmas Eve, at St. Peter's church, 1666 of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. and 2 mins. H. Brewer, 1; W. Brewer, 2; E. Hull, 3; W. H. Buckingham, 4; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 5; H. Lewis, 6; T. Waller, 7; D. Gibbons, 8. On Christmas, for Divine Service in the morning, 1146 in the same method in 33 mins. W. Little, 1; J. W. Brewer, 2; E. Hull, 3; H. Brewer, 4; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 5; H. Lewis, 6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7; D. Gibbons, 8. And for the afternoon service 4 courses of Bob

Triples. A. Snell, 1; H. Brewer, 2; H. Lewis, 3; E. P. Debenham, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; T. Walter, 7; D. Gibbons, 8. And on Wednesday, December 19th, for practice, 616 of Grandsire Triples. W. Little, 1; J. W. Brewer, 2; E. Hull, 3; H. Brewer, 4; W. H. Buckingham, 5; E. P. Debenham, 6; T. Waller (conductor), 7; A. Hull, 8. Afterwards 305 of Grandsire Caters.

STOKE PRIOR (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, December 21st, at St. Michael's church, for practice, (720 changes) of Grandsire Minor, was rung in 27 mins. O. Stainworth, 1; G. Lucas, 2; J. Thompson, 3; H. Thompson, 4; W. Lewis, 5; J. Mason (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 rung by the local company by themselves.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Lindfield Branch at Lindfield.—On December 10th, 720 of Grand sire Minor, in 30 mins. F. Willey, 1; A. Tompsett, 2; H. Hobden, 3; C. Tyler (conductor), 4; G. Mason, 5; C. Holman, 6; †H. Beard, 7; †W. Hall, 8. †Covers.

By the Brighton Branch at St. Peter's.—On Sunday, December 16th, 503 of Grandsire Triples. H. Weston (conductor), 1; J. E. Worsell, 2; G. A. King, 3; E. C. Merritt, 4; J. Reilly, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; A. A. Fuller, 7; D. Ross, 8. Also for evening service, 504 of Grandsire Triples. J. Jay, 1; G. Thwaites (conductor), 2; H. Cornwall, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; E. C. Merritt, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; G. A. King, 7; G. Murray, R.E. 8.

By the Crawley Branch at Crawley.—On December 13th, a quarter-peal 1260 of Grandsire Triples, in 49 mins. W. Ward, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Parsons, 3; B. Payne, 4; E. Dewey, 5; A. Ellis, 6; A. F. Hillier (conductor), 7; W. Collison, 8. Bells muffled in memory of Mr. M. Miller, a much respected resident. Also on December 17th, 2520 of Plain Bob Triples, in 85 mins. E. Dewey, 1; J. Newnham, 2; F. Wilkens, 3; A. Ellis, 4; B. King, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; F. Rice (conductor), 7; W. Collison, 8. This was an attempt for a peal but a change course made the conductor call stand.

By the Steyning Branch at Steyning.—On December 4th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Smart, 1; T. Searle, 2; C. Tyler, 3; C. Chambers, 4; G. Gatland, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Plain Bob F. Brooks, 1; C. Chambers, 2; J. Matthews, 3; *J. Smart, 4; T. Searle, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. *First 720 on a bob bell. Also on Sunday, December 9th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Smart, 1; C. Tyler (conductor), 2; T. Searle, 3; C. Chambers, 4; G. Gatland, 5; G. Smart, 6. And on December 10th, 720 of Grandsire Minor (twenty-six singles and thirty-four bobs). F. Brooks, 1; C. Chambers, 2; T. Searle, 3; G. Gatland, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Composed by the Rev. E. W. Carpenter, and supposed to be rung for the first time. And on December 14th, 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Smart, 1; T. Searle, 2; †F. Brooks, 3; C. Chambers, 4; C. Tyler (conductor), 5; J. Woolgar, 6. †First 720 on a bob bell. Also on Sunday, December 16th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Smart, 1; G. Gatland, 2; C. Tyler (conductor), 3; C. Chambers, 4; F. Morris, 5; J. Woolgar, 6.

Christ Church, Harpurhey, Manchester, was reopened on Sunday, after complete restoration and considerable enlargement. New open seats have taken the place of narrow and dark pews, a new floor and heating apparatus have been laid, two new lancet windows opened at the east end, the chancel has been brought forward and greatly improved, and new pulpit, reading-desk, and sedilia provided. Two new bays have been added to the church, forming porches, and staircases to the galleries, the gallery seats widened, a new font erected, a new vestry built, and by a new roof raft additional height has been gained over the former ceiling. The new lancet windows are filled with painted glass subjects in memory of the donor's father and mother, the late Henry and Elizabeth Hilton. Two other stained-glass windows, now brought to the east end of the church, commemorate the family of Mr. F. Andrew, of Green Mount. The improvements have been at the sole cost of a lady, formerly a parishioner, and have been carried out from designs of Mr. J. S. Crowther. The reopening sermon was preached by the rector (the Rev. J. Leighton) from 1 Cor. iii. 11. The other preachers of the day were the Rev. J. A. N. Hibbert and the Rev. J. G. Haworth, vicar of Stacksteads.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co. Printers, Exeter.

Church News.

The Goldsmiths' Company have contributed £50 towards the Thames Church Mission.

The Dean and Chapter of Christ Church at the close of the morning service on Monday formerly elected Dr. Stubbs, Bishop of Chester, to be Bishop of Oxford, in the room of Bishop Mackarness, resigned.

Mr. Gladstone, before leaving England, forwarded 20*l.* to the Bishop of Bedford for the East London Church Fund. The subdiocese of East London now includes such neighbourhoods as Islington, Enfield, Clerkenwell, and Shoreditch.

The consecration of Dr. Jayne, vicar of Leeds, as Bishop of Chester, will not take place, as has been announced, on Friday, January 25th. No date is yet fixed, but it is hoped the necessary legal preliminaries may be completed by February 2nd, the Purification. The consecration will be in York Minster.

The congregation of St. Matthew's, Redhill, have voluntarily subscribed all expenses of a visit to the Holy Land and Egypt of the Rev. Henry Brass, as a mark of appreciation of his ministry among them during a period of more than a quarter of a century.

The living of Rype, vacant by the resignation of the Rev. R. S. Sutton, has been offered to the Rev. F. C. Fox, M.A., curate of Benenden, Kent, who has accepted it.

The following Commissioners under the Pluralities Act Amendment Act have been re-elected in the diocese of Southwell:—Canon Gray, for the chapter of Southwell; Canon Andrew, for the archdeaconry of Derby; the Rev. W. Homfray, for the archdeaconry of Nottingham.

The *Record* states that the Rev. John Hurst, vicar of St. Mark's, Tollington-park will succeed the Rev. D. L. McAnally, in the secretaryship of the Colonial and Continental Society. Mr. Hurst was ordained in 1858 in the diocese of Huron. From 1859 to 1874 he was rector of Windsor, Ontario, and from 1874 to 1875 he was assistant-minister of Huron Cathedral. In 1878 he was appointed assistant-secretary of the Colonial and Continental Church Society, and in 1881 he accepted the vicarage of St. Mark's, Tollington-park.

"Those who have criticised the Bishop of Liverpool for driving from one church to another on the Sabbath day in his carriage," says the *Rock*, "have evidently overlooked the teaching conveyed in our Saviour's question, 'Have ye not read in the law how that on the Sabbath days the priests in the temple profane the Sabbath, and are blameless?' They profaned it merely by the necessary duties of their office, and were held 'blameless' because the work was necessary for the services of the Temple. The Bishop who uses a carriage when he cannot possibly help it is in very much the same position as were the ecclesiastics of old.

On Monday se'night the congregation of St. John-the-Baptist's, Holland-road, assembled in considerable numbers in the Addison Hall to present to the Rev. S. F. Green a testimonial on the occasion of his resignation of the position which he has held amongst them during the last five years. A sum of £350 was collected, and was presented, together with an illuminated and framed address, to Mr. Green at the meeting. The chair was taken by the vicar of the parish, the Rev. G. Booker, and the presentation was made by Mr. S. Adams, one of the churchwardens, who read the address.

The Chairman next presented to Mr. and Mrs. Green a handsome silver tea-service, as a small offering from Mrs. Booker and himself.

In obedience to the Constitutions of the Cannons Ecclesiastical, and in conformity with the judgement of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, delivered February 23, 1871, the Dean of Rochester wore at the celebration of the Holy Communion on Christmas Day in his Cathedral a beautiful and costly cope, presented to him by friends in Liverpool in remembrance of "mid-day addresses to business men" given by the Dean for several successive years to crowded congregations in the parish church of St. Nicholas.

On Thursday, December 20th, the renovated parish church of St. Lawrence, Effingham, Surrey, was reopened. A chapel or chantry existed on this spot from very early times—certainly from the twelfth century—served by the monks of the once famous monastery of Merton, to whom in 1388 William of Wykeham issued a mandate, enjoining on them the rebuilding and adorning the chancel. The great Bishop's behest has been once more obeyed and carried to a most thorough completion. About six years ago the then new vicar, the Rev. E. F. Bayly, began the good work of improvement in the services and the adorning of the sanctuary, and this being done the parishioners settled themselves to wait for some future day when the blank, dreary walls, the unsightly galleries, and the high pews might also be swept away. Last New Years Day the same generous hand which had given such help to the vicar in the chancel made him a liberal offer towards the entire restoration, and thus encouraged he asked and obtained subscriptions to supplement his own resources. The services at the re-opening began with a celebration at 8.15 a.m., which was well attended, followed by matins at 10 a.m. and a choral celebration at 11.45, beginning with the processional, *Salve Festa Dies*. The sermon was preached by the Rural Dean, the Rev. F. P. Phillips, rector of Stoke d'Abernon, from Heb. viii. 5. At 7.30 the preacher was Canon Teesdale, from Joshua iv. 6. By lowering the floor of the nave there are now two steps up into the chancel, thereby adding to the dignity of the sanctuary. In rebuilding the walls and taking away the galleries an ancient stoup was found near the old porch, which has been replaced, and in the south transept containing the chapel of St. Nicholas a stone piscina marking the place of an altar in former time. The church is dedicated to St. Lawrence and St. Nicholas.

The last of the Advent lectures at St. Alphage, London Wall, was preached on Friday evening, by Canon Benham, who (it being St. Thomas's Day), referred to the want of faith exhibited by the Apostle. Some carols were sung by the choir after the service.

New Mission buildings for the parish of St. Michael's, Camden town, were opened on Tuesday week, by the Duchess of Teck. Suitable prayers having been said by the Bishop of Marlborough, the vicar (the Rev. E. B. Penfold), read an address to her Royal Highness describing the purposes of the buildings, and the bishop spoke of the need of mission-rooms in all parts of London, and thanked the Princess for her presence. She was then, at her special desire, conducted over the building. The architect is Mr. Lacy W. Ridge, of Upper Woburn Place, and the building consists of two large rooms in the basement, where soup kitchen and clubs will be held. In the large hall Sunday-schools, Mission services, and temperance work will be carried on, as well as mothers' meetings and a Girls' Friendly Society. The building has been specially designed with regard to ease of access to all the rooms, and has cost, including every expense, £1,950. The land is held from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners at a nominal rent. The Bishop of London's Fund has given a liberal grant, and about £300 has still to be raised.

A paragraph has appeared in several of the daily newspapers stating that the clergy in Rochester, Chatham, and neighbourhood have been considerably troubled by the falling off in their congregations since Dean Hole took up his residence in the cathedral city. The Dean inaugurated his rule by introducing Sunday evening services at the cathedral, made as popular as possible, and evening prayer being shortened, while sacred songs are sung from the "London Mission Hymn-book." On these occasions the congregation never numbers less than 1,000 persons, and the clergy of the district complain that not only members of their flock, but their churchwardens and officers, are drawn to the cathedral, to the detriment of the local offertories. As a result of communications made to him, Dean Hole arranged for a collection to be made at the Sunday evening services, and the proceeds are to be divided among the parochial clergy whose funds have suffered for distribution among the poor.

The Bishop of Southwell on Wednesday week, installed as Honorary Canons the Rev. J. T. Alderson, rector of Ravenstone, and the Rev. J. G. Richardson, vicar of St. Mary's, Nottingham.

Correspondence.

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

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

THE PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE AT FULHAM.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Winny's letter *re* the above peal, I should like to say that after the peal was rung, as I was leaving the churchyard in company with Mr. Woodley (Hon. Sec. of the College Youths), Mr. Winny came up and said he did not consider it much of a peal, but condescended to add "that he would give us credit for being able to ring a better one on our own bells." No mention was made about the peal not being rung true, and when he met us at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, on Sunday evening, nothing was said as to the accuracy or inaccuracy of the performance. Mr. Wakley has kindly shown me his reply to Mr. Winny's letter, and as I knew every course and the time it took to ring each part, I fully endorse his remarks thereon, and consider Mr. Winny intensely ignorant of the method, and his comments most absurd.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

5, St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent.

SIR,—Mr. Winny is either totally ignorant of the method of London Surprise, quite incapable of following a bell through a course of the method, and not able to even recognise a course-end when he hears it, or, in his anxiety to discredit a performance he cannot hope to supersede in any other way, he has deliberately invented the "facts" he has thought it his "duty," without any "personal feeling" to communicate to you. If Mr. Winny is at all qualified for his self-imposed task—if the combined mantles of Henry Haley and John Cox have indeed fallen upon him—he must know that in so far as his "facts" are intended to impugn the truth of the peal, they have not even the remotest foundation of "fact" to recommend them. He must know that though as we have always admitted there were mistakes made by individual bells (I utterly deny that there was any firing or that more than one bell at a time was implicated), yet in no case was the coursing order of the bells affected. He must have been able to follow the number of courses and the number of leads in each; he must, a quarter of an hour before the end have actually heard the bells run into the plain course; have heard them remain there two leads; have heard the bobs wrong and home, with the course end 45236,—than which no course-end was ever better struck; and when in the middle of the last lead, after the 5th had been called home again, he heard a slight "trip" behind, he must have known that it was caused by a slight hesitation on the part of the 7th in going down to 565 with the 2nd; he would have heard a couple of wide blows and a close one or two; would have heard the bells come clear again and would have known that the tenor had only to run straight up from 4th's place to behind getting there at back stroke, and the bells would be round. This, Sir, is an accurate statement of the course of the peal. During the last 800 changes there had been—with the single exception I have named—no trip of any kind, the striking had been good, and there was nothing to prevent a competent man ascertaining accurately the position of the bells—and yet Mr. Winny says "the bells were at sea for coming round in the method!" Well, Sir, I assert as emphatically as I know how that if Mr. Winny is a "competent" man, he has in that statement wilfully and deliberately asserted what he knows to be false; if he is not competent then by what right, I ask, does he without the slightest proof make so disgraceful a charge against us? I have dealt fully with Mr. Winny's remarks on the truth of the peal. I do not propose to notice his other remarks; offensive, intentionally offensive, as they are, except by saying that the peal was heard by many other ringers quite as capable as himself, and of much higher standing in the ringing world, and that to them I am prepared to leave the settlement of the question whether in the short account of our visit to London which appeared in last week's "BELL NEWS," and in what I have said in this letter, I have or have not given a fairly accurate description of the performance. Lest there should be any who even now are anxious or willing to believe in the falseness of the peal, I send you a copy of the calling and beg to state that:—(1) As regards the rate per minute at which the bells were going, the first part of 1696 changes took exactly 1 hour 5 mins., the second part, as nearly as possible 1 hour 6 mins., and the last 1 hour 8 mins., so that the rate varied from about twenty-six and a half in the first part, to almost exactly 25, in the last. (2) That every bob was called and made, that every course and every lead of the peal was rung, that there was no change-course or anything approaching it, and that nothing that occurred in the course of the ringing would have justified any conductor in stopping the peal. (3) That I am prepared to maintain, on oath if need be, the absolute correctness of the whole of these statements.

Burton-on-Trent, December 24th, 1888.

WILLIAM WAKLEY,

SIR,—I notice in your last issue a letter from Mr. Winny. I should like to ask that gentleman if he thinks it possible to get into a muddle so that the bells, as he says, fired (I take his word for it), and then come out clean in such a method. If they did, so much for the capabilities of the conductor and deputy, which one would think should prevent them getting into it. We see from the Burton point of view, that getting used to the gait of the bells would take up the first 500 or so, and also that one or two members did go wrong, and were put right, (don't think that would cause fire), some allowance should be made for young men who would naturally feel a little shaky, ringing before an audience composed of the great lights of the Exercise, such as our learned friend Mr. Winny tow it. Then the poor exhibition of ringing is easily accounted for by the method being unmusical. Perhaps he expected to hear Superlative music from a gentile method like London, which one would think was only invented or gathered together from all the stray-bungles, turning courses, and comicalities of other methods rung in the great city. It is most interesting to ring but to listen is rather painful, and inclined to make you bilious next morning, which may continue for a week or so, more or less. The time, so many changes per minute, how was it possible to count if the ringing was not decent? I don't understand about starting at sea and coming round by method. Does he mean to say that the Burton band completely gulled the London Exercise, and he has made a great discovery—a little better explanation about sea and method would be esteemed a favour. I should like to hear what others have to say about the peal. Mr. Pitstow, Mr. Dains, or Mr. Hayes—by the way (if he was not out of the way)—or some other friend who has not had nightmare.

ANOTHER HON. MEMBER OF ST. PAUL'S.

SIR,—I note in your issue of the 22nd inst. a letter on this subject signed C. F. Winny, and as an honorary member of the St. Paul's, Society, Burton-on-Trent branch of the Midland Counties' Association, I deem it my duty to say I consider this letter a tissue of fabrication, or gross misrepresentation of facts from beginning to end. During the ringing of this peal there was some good striking, but the bells never approached a complete fire, "and as to the bells being at sea to come round clean by the method," let any of your readers who have an opportunity look up the last half dozen changes of the plain course, and see if these changes do not appear to be foreign to the rounds so soon to follow. This being so, our critic unwittingly favors the peal he otherwise attempts to destroy. As to the speed of ringing I think him further at sea than the bells; upon this point I have the authority of Messrs. W. Baron, A. Jacob, and B. Foskett, who are I think competent to time a peal, as well as to judge its quality, and they say they found the bells going at from 25 to 27 per minute nearly, never so slow as 24, and I therefore conclude that a slight mistake has crept into the letter above mentioned. Respecting the bystanders, now although there were several of us in the cluster, I believe I am the person alluded to; be this so or not, I certainly ventured the reported expression, and mind, sir, I intended what I said, but my hope was in no way compromising, neither was it suggestive that the trip just taking place was likely to lead up to such a catastrophe by a break down. No sir, it was a hope sincere, and one that I had the satisfaction to realize in about three hours later when the bells came round. Concerning the performance, I will say here as I said previously, that, raking all things into consideration, the miles the men had travelled, the strange bells to ring upon, and above all the most complex of methods that can be selected, I think the performance is very creditable one indeed, one that shows how thoroughly these men have grasped the method, and how thoroughly they set their minds upon the work in hand. Lastly, Mr. Winny says he has no personal feeling in the matter. Well, Sir, how anyone could write such a letter without, I can hardly conjecture. While there were several other ringers on the spot, quite as able to judge what ringing a peal should be made of, and I am quite sure, quite as free from personal feeling, as your correspondent will ever be. I would here stop but cannot, as our friend possesses some rare and undoubted abilities both as ringer and conductor of peals. I therefore regret to write of him as I have done, while at the same time I feel I am thus only doing justice to all other parties concerned.

147, Barnsbury Road.

H. DAINS.

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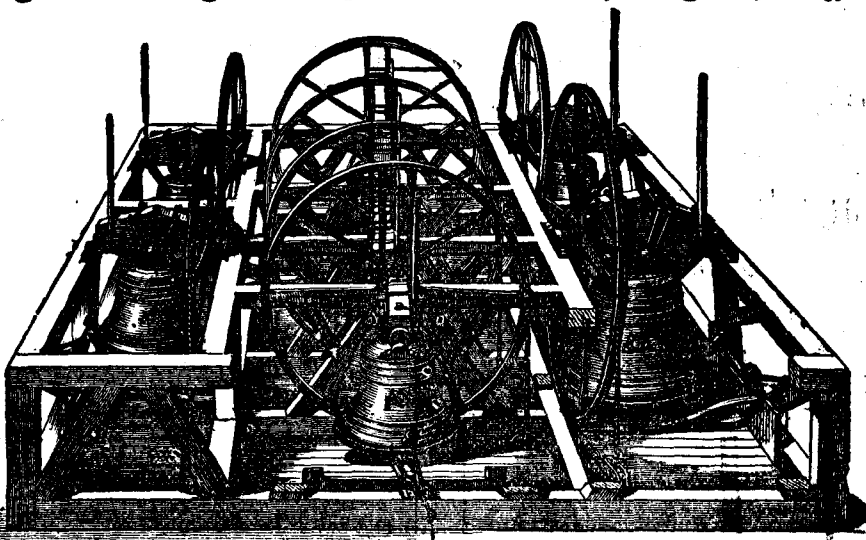
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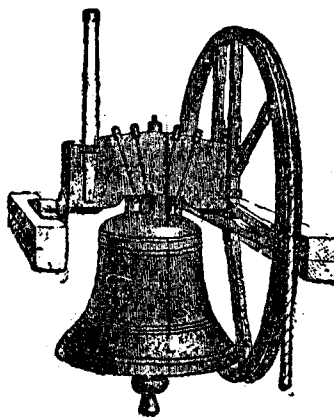
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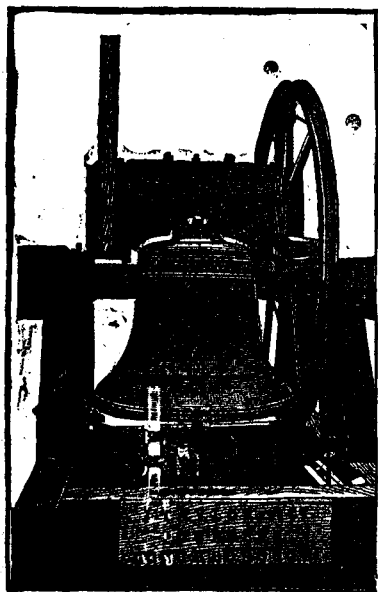
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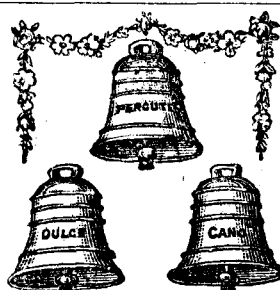
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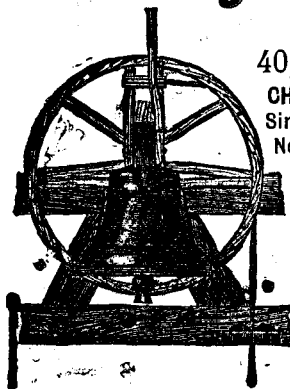
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CHRISTMAS SUPPLEMENT

TO

The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

A MERRY PEAL.

BELMINSTER is a pretty little country place in one of the great coaching roads to the North. Too large to be called a village, and too small to be a town, it can boast of a good shop, where you can buy almost anything, and of two or three establishments whose managers are rather above the rank of blacksmiths and carpenters. The great inn of former times, where the passengers of the "Fly and Rocket" used to dine, has become a boarding-school for young ladies, and now there is a railway station, whence you may reach London within the hour. In other respects Belminster has not changed much for centuries, though, as is often the case with country towns, the railway has rather diminished than increased its importance. The church, which belonged to a famous monastery of mediæval times, is large and handsome, and the tower contains a fine peal of eight bells, on which some notable feats of change-ringing were performed in the palmy days of the Exercise.

Besides the general store and workshops already mentioned, there is another industry which brings a large sum of money into the place in the form of wages. This was formerly the embroidering of smock-frocks, and, since smocks have gone out of fashion, it has been changed for the making up of cheap clothing for export. Most of the women and girls find employment in this branch of the sweating system, which is in their eyes an unmixed blessing. But it is disliked by the farmers, who say that it makes the people so independent that a labourer will do nothing more than he pleases. If the "sweater" were resident he would no doubt be one of the magnates of Belminster, but he is represented there only by an agent who comes from London once a week to inspect the work and pay the wages of the needlewomen. After all, agriculture is a far more important industry here than all the others put together. Accordingly, it is only natural that the eyes and tongues of the public should be devoted in a special manner to the Squire, the Parson, and the tenant of the Castle Farm, who have in fact through several generations been an unfailing topic of conversation for tap-rooms and tea-tables. In this triumvirate there is always to be found a Cæsar and an Antony, while the third is usually a "slight unmeritable man, meet to be sent on errands;" but whether the parson, or the squire, or the farmer of the period is Cæsar or Antony, or Lepidus, seems to depend more upon their personal characters than upon any advantages of fortune. Ten years ago Squire Partridge was undoubtedly the Cæsar of the trio, and like other Cæsars, if he were no better or worse than his neighbours, his good and bad qualities were at least more conspicuous than theirs. He was at this time an elderly man, nearer sixty than seventy years of age, of a spare habit of body, endowed with a clear intellect and plenty of shrewd good sense, but sadly deficient in everything like enthusiasm or geniality.

He had taken a high degree at the University, and was the author of some books of repute, especially a Manual of Political Economy, much used as a text-book in superior schools.

His favourite motto was, "Be just before you are generous;" and if he could fairly call himself a just man it seemed never to occur to him that generosity also had its claim when justice had been satisfied. As a magistrate he was a terror to evil-doers, but the innocent, and even those who had been betrayed into crime through weakness or thoughtlessness, knew that their

defence would be understood when he sat on the bench. Among his own set he was an admirable host and companion as long as he had his own way, but no one could make himself more disagreeable when he was thwarted.

The second member of the triumvirate, the Rev. Hugh Mildred, was an amiable man of high character and cultivated mind, who did much good in the parish, and might have done much more if he had been able to hold his own against the squire. As a rule they were excellent friends, and the parson enjoyed nothing more than a cosy dinner at the Manor House, or a chat in the squire's library. But sometimes his sense of duty would compel him to plead in behalf of a poacher's wife, or a poor creature whose rent was in arrears, or to seek the squire's support in some benevolent project for the benefit of the widows and orphans of his flock, and then the pleasant intercourse would come to an end, and he had to submit to a series of petty insults and annoyances, which were inflicted with as much pleasure to their author as they caused distress to his too good-natured friend.

Farmer Barley was not so easily managed as the parson, but he too had to confess that he was no match for the squire. He was a strong jovial man still, in the prime of life, well-known in three or four counties as a fox-hunter and breeder of Sandowns, profuse in his hospitality, but jealous of his rights.

It was of course useless to attempt to bully such a man, and the squire, whose temper was always under control, took care to make no demand of his tenant for which he could not give a plausible reason, and never sought to gain his end by mere rudeness, as he did when he wanted to reduce the parson to subjection. Nor would Barley waste words in asking for concessions which the squire was indisposed to grant. Sometimes, of course, a debateable point would arise, and then the battle was fierce indeed. Only once had the squire been beaten. There was a question between them of manorial rights and copyhold in which the written law was in conflict with the custom of the district, and Barley, whose ancestors had held the Castle Farm for many generations, was ready to throw up his lease rather than give way. Then the squire's good sense prevailed, and he said to his tenant, "We must not part so. You are quite wrong, but do as you please." So the dispute was settled, and the squire bore his defeat stoically, but an illness which he had soon afterwards was attributed with some show of reason to his disappointment. There was another difficulty in Belminster about this time which caused a good deal of ill-feeling between the labourers and the farmers, though the squire saw no occasion to interfere, except by making remarks which were equally irritating to both parties.

To do the squire justice, he had never been a grasping landlord, and his rents were low. He preferred, as he said, to have on his estate farmers whose fathers and grandfathers had been there before them, to putting up his farms to competition. Agricultural wages were also lower than in the neighbouring parishes, though the labourers were rather better off than the average owing to the earnings of their wives and daughters by needlework. This was inevitable, as was shewn in the squire's book on Political Economy, but the men could not see that it was fair that they should be paid less for doing the same work as their neighbours who had no dealings with the "sweater."

With low rent and low wages the farmers ought to have been happy men, but nothing is easier than to learn to live up to one's income, and in times of depression they would grumble as much as others who had formed more parsimonious habits. However, things went on pretty well till the men, most of whom belonged to the Labourers' Union, were ordered by the chief of their society to strike for the wages which were being paid elsewhere in the district. Squire Partridge was a great authority on rent and wages, but what he had to say on the subject, though admirably convincing to outsiders, was not calculated to calm the troubled waters. If anyone had a right to strike, he maintained it was himself, as he could find tenants for his farms any day at the increase of twenty-five per cent. But he could not blame the men for striking, or the farmers for resisting their demands. Wages depended upon supply and demand, but they could only be adjusted from time to time by what Adam Smith called "the haggling of the market," and a strike was nothing but a somewhat violent and ruinous mode of haggling. But he suspected that the farmers would be able to hold out longer than the Union, and in the meantime would be forced to use machinery, and so become less dependant than ever upon the good will of the labourers.

In due time all this came to pass, but before the strike was at an end the cordial relations between master and man which had formerly existed had become embittered, and among other evil consequences many of the labourers were alienated from the church, and either joined the dissenters, or ceased to attend any place of worship. His illness, the strike, and some other reasons which do not concern us, induced the squire to shut up the Manor house, and go abroad for a season. Two years is not a long time for the old and middle-aged, but it is long enough to change a boy into a man, and this is what happened to the farmer's eldest son. Young Tom Barley was at school at Bedford till he was eighteen, after which it was intended that he should live at home, and learn to tread in the steps of his father. Few young men have such a good start in life as Tom Barley, but of those few a considerable portion for one reason or another are discontented with their lot. This was the case in the present instance. Tom was fond of hunting and shooting, and of a life out of doors, and in the way of work he liked agriculture as well as anything else. But he was popular among his schoolfellows, and was a first-rate cricketer. He was certain to be in the University Eleven if he went up to Cambridge, and he and his friends were eager that he should have this opportunity of distinguishing himself. Besides, he was a clever fellow, though he preferred to study anything rather than Latin and Greek and Mathematics, and held revolutionary views with respect to Political Economy, which was one of the subjects in which he delighted. His father, who could afford to send him to college, and would have consented to do so if his son had been of a more docile disposition, had no idea of sending him there to learn to lead a life of genteel idleness, and, moreover, was much irritated by his taking the part of the labourers in the strikes. He was determined to knock all this nonsense out of the young man's head, so from Easter to Christmas Master Tom was constrained to remain at home, working on the farm in a rebellious frame of mind, and railing at everything which he did not happen to like. One of his grievances was the social position of tenant-farmers. Good-looking, well-dressed, of popular manners, and with money in his pocket, at school he had found himself the equal and companion of the sons of the gentry, and now it was gall and wormwood to him to see the parson and his son admitted to the squire's drawing-room, while his father and himself were allowed to penetrate no further than the gun-room. Old Barley, though a proud man in his way, had not been brought up to new-fangled ideas of equality, and had no more wish to sit at the squire's table than he had to see his shepherd and horse-keeper at his own. And he had the good sense to see that if his son wanted to be a gentleman he must try the experiment away from Belminster, where the classes were as distinct as so many Indian castes.

One of the farmer's sisters had married a doctor who had since attained some eminence in the profession, and it happened that this Christmas their son, a medical student at Guy's, came to spend his holidays at the Castle. Dick Bransby was the life and soul of any party of pleasure-seekers. No one was his equal in singing a comic song, or in acting a funny part in a play, or

could chaff a pretty cousin with more audacity. If he had a fault it was a weakness for practical jokes, but it is fair to say that they were calculated to amuse as much, and to annoy as little, as possible. Never had they spent such a merry Christmas at the Castle Farm, and cousin Dick was not allowed to go away until he had promised to make his visit annual. But something more than amusement resulted from these festivities.

Tom Barley found that nothing would suit him but being a doctor. Not that he had any particular taste for the science of medicine, but he was determined to be a gentleman some way or the other, and by all accounts the life of a medical student seemed to be a very jolly one. His father had not the same objection to this scheme as to the other, and as his second son was only too glad to have his brother's birthright, he agreed somewhat reluctantly to allow them to make an exchange of careers, for it had always been contemplated that one of the boys would be taken under the wing of their uncle the London doctor.

Dick Bransby usually left his mark wherever he went, and there was another matter in which he was the author of a new departure at Belminster. In addition to the accomplishments which have already been mentioned, he was an excellent change-ringer, and was a member of the Guild of Æsculapius, a ringing society consisting chiefly of young doctors and medical students on the Surrey side of the Thames. Accordingly soon after his arrival at Belminster our friend Dick paid a visit to the belfry. Here he found a state of things not altogether satisfactory to an enthusiastic ringer. In former years the belfry had been a model one, and the bells could be put in order again without much trouble or expense, but they were suffering from recent neglect. There were still some change-ringers in Belminster, but a few years ago the long-suffering parson had been forced to quarrel with them on a question of belfry reform and a new set had hardly learnt to ring a plain course of Triples when the strike occurred, and they seceded, to spite the church-wardens, or for some such frivolous reason. When these troubles were over, the squire, whose house was close to the church, found that he had always disliked the bells, more perhaps because they gave pleasure to others than because they caused annoyance to himself, and was able to silence them simply by not renewing the liberal subscription which had been paid by his predecessors for some generations, and by himself in former years. The parson and some others knew pretty well that the squire would never tolerate the revival of ringing as long as he lived. But it had not been necessary for him to say so, especially as he had no right to interfere at all, and Dick Bransby had like difficulty in getting permission from the parson to form a band from among the old ringers, together with two or three of his cousins, who were popular with them on account of the line Tom had taken with respect to the strike. So, with some help from the neighbouring market town, Christmas was duly honoured on the bells once more, and the old year was rung out, and the new year in, quite in the style of the good old ringing days. Moreover, when Dick and Tom had gone to London to pursue their studies, a promising young band of ringers remained to learn the mysteries of the Exercise, and before long they began to talk of celebrating the centenary anniversary of a famous peal rung to issue in the new year of 1781. Then they joined the Diocesan Guild, and when Dick Bransby and his cousin came to spend Christmas at Belminster again, they arranged to repeat the feat of their forefathers, and left a band in training for it, being themselves ready to take the place of any two defaulters. Of course during the summer there was a cessation of practice, but in October they began again in earnest, and in the following month succeeded in ringing a half-peal of Bob Major without a hitch, and no one thought of asking how the squire would like it. This was a serious oversight, though it is impossible to say what they could have done to invert impending danger. However, one day unusual signs of movement were observed at the Manor. The chimneys began to smoke, the shutters were opened, furniture vans and other conveyances came and went through the park, and on Sunday morning the squire was seated in the great pew in church. It would be incorrect to say that his reappearance was generally welcomed, but it caused a good deal of interesting conversation. It was felt that many usurped privileges and lax proceedings of various kinds must now be given up, and on the whole quiet people were glad that it should

be so. As was remarked by a cynic at the "Green Dragon" "Well, the squire must be a good man to be sure; leastways there's a deal of mischief goes on when he's away."

Thursday was practice night for the ringers, and the first Thursday after his return the squire had a few friends to dinner. He was in excellent humour and spirits, retailing to the company stories which he had picked up on his travels. Suddenly the bells struck up, and at once the stream of anecdote was frozen up. Mr. Mildred, who guessed the cause of the squire's displeasure, explained with some embarrassment that the ringers had joined the Diocesan Guild, and that he hoped the old fame of the Belminster bells might be revived. "Ah!", said the squire, "I don't think they will keep that up long."

"Why don't you think so?" asked Mildred nervously.

"Because the ringers live in my houses, and they will have to and homes out of the parish if they are so fond of ringing."

No one ventured to remonstrate against this ebullition of despotism, and indeed it would have been of no use. The squire could be agreeable when he was in the humour, but he enjoyed making himself disagreeable infinitely more. As for the poor parson he felt that he was in disgrace, and would be cut off from all the social amenities he so loved for the next six weeks. Then his spirit rebelled against the slight put upon himself. It was the parson's business to manage the belfry, and the squire was not even a churchwarden. But what could he do? Some bitter words rose to his lips, but on the whole he thought it best to bear the affront in silence, as he had often done before in other matters. But the pleasure of the evening was gone for him, and for the other guest who were sensible of the squire's ill humour without fully understanding the cause of it.

Next morning after breakfast, when the squire as usual sat in the gun-room to transact business, he did not fail to instruct his steward to communicate to the ringers his amiable intentions. Some of the young men were for defying the tyrant, naturally thinking that life would not be worth living if they allowed themselves to be trampled upon to gratify the caprice of a cross-grained curmudgeon, to whom they applied even less complimentary epithets. Two of the Barleys, who belonged to the band, were especially loud in their indignation, but their father, who did not care about the bells, and had no mind for another quarrel with the squire as soon as he returned, peremptorily forbid their ringing without the permission of the parson. Mr. Mildred, for his part, adopted a line of conduct which was to be expected of him. He was personally in favour of encouraging the revival of ringing, but under the circumstances he thought it better that the practices should be discontinued for a month, in order that he might have time to consult with the churchwardens and ascertain the nature of the squire's objections. Then it appeared that some of the old ringers, who were not very enthusiastic in the cause, and hardly cared to ring at all unless they could count upon the squire's five-pound note at Christmas, were by no means inclined to quarrel with their bread and butter, or to risk the threatened eviction. So the band was broken up, and the hope of the centenary peal was abandoned.

When the news reached Tom Barley, who was now studying at Guy's, he was exceedingly wroth, and wanted to make a formal demand on the part of the Guild of Æsculapius for permission to ring a peal at Christmas, knowing that the parson would find it difficult to refuse so reasonable a request from a society of such high repute.

Dick Bransby, however, was of opinion that the squire would be sure to circumvent them somehow, and advised proceeding by stratagem. He was not long in concocting a scheme, the outline of which was whispered in confidence to some choice spirits of the Guild of medicos, and immensely tickled their fancy. The design and execution of this plot we shall now proceed to unfold as briefly as possible.

Dick and Tom had been engaged to spend their Christmas holidays at the Castle Farm, but it now appeared that they were reading so hard for the examination that they could not leave town, at any rate till the dance which was to come off on twelfth-night. This was a great disappointment to the fair sisters and cousins at Belminster, but excited a fit of apoplectic laughter in the breast of old Sawyer, the village doctor, who was not to be imposed upon by any of Dick Bransby's devoting the Christmas holidays to hard reading. In his opinion Master Dick was not

the sort of young man to be amused with the decorous pleasures of a country house, and no doubt by this time corrupted his cousin with the insidious fascinations of London life; though what their little game might be he was unable to surmise. As it happened, the old doctor's diagnosis of the young men's minds was as faulty as if he had believed implicitly in the alleged examination.

To proceed with our story. On the last day of the old year a young gentleman of artistic appearance, in whom Dick Bransby's mother would assuredly not have recognised her son, called at the Vicarage, and asked for the keys of the church. He wore a velvet coat, and a brigand's hat, from beneath which a profusion of glossy ringlets brushed his shoulders, and he carried a large portfolio under his arm. He wished to make a sketch of the old pulpit, and he displayed so intelligent an interest in the antiquities of the place that Mr. Mildred presented him with a copy of his "History of Belminster Abbey," and would have liked to ask him to lunch had he not been deterred by his very Bohemian appearance.

The parson's key gave access to the church through the vestry, where certain keys were kept, pertaining to the tower and gates of the churchyard, which were not likely to be missed if they were in Dick Bransby's pocket for the next twelve hours. It did not take the artist long to complete his drawing of the pulpit, and he had time before the next train to grease the bearings of the bells, to adjust the ropes, to trim the lamp, and to make all the preparations which a careful steeplekeeper might think necessary before a long peal. At eleven o'clock the same night, when ninety-five per cent. of the population were already buried in their first sleep, the quiet of Belminster was disturbed by the thunder and lightning, or in plain prose by the clatter of wheels and hoofs and flashing lamps, of a great excursion break, which deposited a dozen or more of its passengers at the main gate of the churchyard, and then drove away as rapidly and mysteriously as it had arrived. The sexton, whose house overlooked the churchyard, and who happened to be seeing the old year out in company with two or three of the old ringers, and with the support of hot gin and water and pipes, observed from his window that after posting sentinels, who appeared to be policemen, at each gate, the rest of the party ascended the tower, and were soon off for a peal of Bob Major in capital style. Hastily finishing the contents of their tumblers, the sexton and his friends sallied forth, bent upon solving the mystery. But the policeman at the gate refused to give them any information, or allow them to pass. While they were standing in the road conjecturing all sorts of things to account for so strange an occurrence, and guessing that the ringers must be the College Youths ("leastways they were sure no band in the Diocesan Guild could ring so well"), they were joined by Mr. Parker, the squire's butler, who had been sent by his master to order the ringers to stop at once on pain of his most serious displeasure. The Squire, who always kept an empty house at Christmas and other festive seasons had, as usual, been dining alone, and was sipping his tumbler of warm negus before retiring to rest, when the bells struck up. It would not be right to say that the joyful sound put him into a towering passion, because, strictly speaking, he never lost his temper. But he at once determined to have his will respected by making an example of the offenders. He rang the bell violently. The butler appeared with an expression of alarm on his face, knowing that something had happened to put his master out, and thinking over his own peccadilloes.

"Go to the church, Parker, and tell the ringers to stop at once; and that I shall have them up before the magistrates next Wednesday." Parker hurried off to give his message, but like the sexton was stopped by the policeman at the gate. Having explained that his master was a justice of the peace, and had a right to interfere, he persuaded the policeman to give some more information than the sexton had been able to elicit.

"We have come down from Scotland Yard," he said. "We have information that the Bermondsey burglars are secreted in the vaults of the church, or are somewhere in the neighbourhood. You had better go home and look after your plate. Sorry we can't let you pass."

"But won't you take a message to the ringers? The squire's in a terrible wax."

"Can't help that. Colonel Henderson's orders is to let no one

pass in or out, nor yet to allow any kind of communication with them as is inside. We have nothing to do with the ringers. That's another party. P'raps there's some detectives among them. But, lor bless you, I know no more of that than you. I'll tell you what I'll do for you, when the Inspector comes round I'll tell him that the squire would like to speak to him."

This was all the satisfaction that Parker could get from the policeman, so he turned to the sexton, who was as much mystified as himself. Everybody had heard of the Bermondsey burglary, but what it had to do with the excellent peal of Bob Major, which was in full swing, was not at all clear. No one ever heard of burglars and detectives ringing a peal. They must be either that unknown quantity, the College Youths, or perhaps Squire Proctor's band from Bennington, who had talked of coming to ring a peal last Christmas, though nothing had been heard of them since. Anyways, it was a most extraordinary coincidence.

So Parker had to carry back this strange tale to the squire, who told him that he was a fool, and might go to bed.

"If it were not for this confounded asthma, I would go myself and find out what it all means. However, I will be a match for these gentlemen, whoever they may be." So he got out his law books, and before he went to bed had found a case in which some ringers, who had been bribed to ring for a victory on the race-course in spite of the express prohibition of incumbent and churchwardens, had been punished with a month's imprisonment. Meanwhile the peal went on merrily, and about two o'clock the sexton, who had returned with his friends to the pipes and glasses, heard the bells come into rounds. Knowing that the end was now near at hand, they went to the window, and then they saw a curious thing by the flashes of dark lanterns and carriage lamps. The break drove up from the direction in which it had disappeared three hours before, and almost at the same moment a procession issued from the church. There were three prisoners, handcuffed, and each of them in charge of two policemen. A few others were in plain clothes. The party at once took their seats on the break, and were preparing to drive off, when the sexton and his companions appeared on the scene. They were by this time somewhat fuddled by gin and mystery, but they were burning with curiosity, and the sexton, without venturing to ask a direct question, addressed the leader of the party, whom he took for the Inspector:

"Some first rate ringing here to-night, Sir! we are ringers ourselves, and thought perhaps . . ."

"Oh! the ringers? Well, I dare say you'll find them in the belfry. All right, coachman!"

In a moment the break was gone, and the sexton's party naturally went to the church, which they found locked. Having shouted in vain under the tower window, where a light was still burning, they returned to the house for the key, and admitted themselves without further trouble. There was no one in the belfry, only below the old peal board they saw a sheet of white paper, on which was printed in large type an inscription to the following effect:—

"On the night of December 31st-January 1st, 1880-81, a true and complete peal of Bob Major was rung on these bells by the following members of the Guild of Æsculapius, in commemoration of the peal rung by the Belminster band exactly one hundred years ago."

Then followed the names of the ringers, and below:—

"Of the above, Thomas Barley and Richard Bransby are great grandsons of Thomas Barley, who rung the tenor and conducted the peal of 1780-81."

"Well," said the sexton, "that Mr. Bransby is a comical chap as ever I see! The outdaciousness of him!! What will Squire Partridge say now, I wonder? There'll be some pretty games afore they've done, you'll see. Mark my words if there beant."

In these sentiments his companions concurred. For the next three or four days the burglars and the bells were the talk of Belminster, and it is needless to say that the squire was at a loss for evidence against the perpetrators of the trick which had been played him. So many different stories were afloat that it was difficult to say what had actually happened. But there was no doubt that the bells had been ringing half through the night, and some people thought that the break and the police were an invention of the sexton and the Belminster ringers.

When Dick Bransby came down with his cousin for the twelfth-night dance at the Castle Farm he solemnly declared that he knew nothing of the matter. He was glad to hear that the peal had been rung, and only wished he had been there to take part in it. He suspected the College Youths. They were terrible fellows for practical jokes. He knew some of them, and might have mentioned in conversation his disappointment about the projected centenary peal. If so, they had kept their proceedings very dark. No doubt it was the College Youths who had rung the peal. As for the Bermondsey burglars and the policemen there might be some truth in what was said. What was the use of detectives if they let every one know what they were about? For his part he believed there were more detectives in society than most people supposed. "Now, that man," he said to his partner in a waltz, pointing to a mild-looking youth in spectacles who was supposed to be learning farming, "I know to be a detective. Be sure you don't mention it, but I have seen him in very different company to this. Only see how he keeps his eye on that pretty little woman who is flirting with Captain Jones. Shall we take another turn?"

Tom Barley denied having anything to do with the new year's peal, though he did so with some embarrassment, and without any of that fertility of suggestion in which the vivacious Dick Bransby revelled.

Nevertheless, the record of the peal appeared in due course in "THE BELL NEWS" in exactly the same form as on the printed paper found by the sexton in the belfry, and next Christmas, the squire being again absent on the continent, all pretence was laid aside, and Dick and Tom were present at the unveiling of a new peal tablet presented by the Guild of Æsculapius in honour of their own performance and for the adornment of the belfry of Belminster church.

THE CHURCHWARDEN.

BY AN EX-CHURCHWARDEN.

MR. BOUNCE was the newly-elected churchwarden of the Abbey church at Slowborough, of which we have read in former numbers of "THE BELL NEWS."

He came into office at a most unusual time of the year, viz.: early in December. How this came to pass I will explain. The former Churchwarden, an old and respected inhabitant who had held the office for more than twenty years in succession, had died rather suddenly, and his colleague was unwilling to act singly, so a vestry meeting was called, and Mr. Bounce was appointed to fill the vacancy *pro tem.* till Easter, when in all probability he would be re-elected to the office.

And now a word or two with regard to Mr. Bounce's antecedents. He was a young man, and had only lived in Slowborough for a comparatively short time, having come from London and taken on an important drapery business in the town, which had been left him by a deceased uncle some three years previous to the commencement of our story. He understood his own line of business and managed it fairly well, but he was one of those individuals who always want to be dabbling in public matters. He had put up for the Town Council once during the short time he had resided in Slowborough, but had been defeated by a large majority. He was a good Churchman and a well-meaning man. While he lived in London he had attended a somewhat "ritualistic" suburban church, and was there the incumbent's right-hand man in everything, and when he came to Slowborough he soon fell in with the Vicar and other church officers, being most zealous in every kind of church work. Hence it came to pass that he was elected to fill the vacancy above mentioned, although he was only a new comer to the town. Mr. Bounce was a bit of a radical in his way. I don't mean politically, but radical in ideas on the management of things in general. No doubt the slow and easy-going ways of an old Abbey church, where nearly everything was paid for from endowments, presented somewhat of a contrast to him when compared with a modern London church kept up entirely by voluntary contributions. Be that as it may, after his arrival at Slowborough he soon saw many things in connection with the Abbey which, in his opinion, required rectifying.

Certainly on the day of his election he shewed no signs of

bumptiousness in the vestry, but thanked the ratepayers present in the most modest manner for the honour they had done him in electing him Churchwarden; but as soon as he got out into the street he walked along with the air of a man who meant to do something to be talked about.

Nothing of any particular importance occurred during the first few days after his election, but about a week afterwards there was a vestry meeting to receive tenders for repairs to the roof of part of the Abbey, and to decide upon certain repairs to the bells.

Now Mr. Bounce was but little acquainted with matters connected with the building trade, and he knew still less about bells. However, on the day of the meeting he managed to make himself the laughingstock of several by making some absurd propositions with regard to the repairs of the roof. Next came the question of repairs to the bells. It appeared that several of the peal required new gudgeons and brasses as well as other minor repairs. Mr. Bounce did not see that anything of the kind was needed; he said that "the bells sounded all right when they were rung last Sunday." In reality they had only been chimed; and he further remarked that "he had been up into the bell-chamber that morning, and that the bells looked all right," and he added that "it was absurd to go to the expense of getting a bell-hanger from London, even if anything did want doing, when they had a man in the town who was a bell-hanger. The "bell-hanger" he alluded to was a local ironmonger and "house-bell hanger" who probably knew as much about a church bell as a watchmaker knows about a locomotive.

Mr. Bounce's ideas were happily "pooh-poohed," and an order was given to a well known firm to execute the necessary repairs at once. He was not to be daunted, however, but he determined, that if he had appeared to disadvantage that morning, he would still shew that he was a man who knew a thing or two. In the meantime he made up his mind to improve his knowledge of church bells; so on the following morning he paid a visit to the belfry, where he found our old friend Mr. Trippels chiming two bells for the usual daily service.

Unfortunately Mr. Trippels was not in a very communicative mood that morning, and Mr. Bounce was unable to obtain much information from him.

In the afternoon Mr. Bounce had a fresh chance of distinguishing himself in matters parochial. It was as follows: there was a meeting of the Trustees of the choristers' school, of which body the churchwardens were members *ex-officio* and the vicar *ex-officio* chairman.

Amongst other business at this meeting the trustees had to elect a boy to fill a vacancy among the choristers which had recently occurred. After examining several testimonials, and receiving the report of Rev. Dr. Swishem (head master), who had examined the candidates as to their scholastic attainments; and after hearing the organist's report on the quality of their voices; it was decided to elect the son of a poor curate in Liverpool. As soon as the decision was announced Mr. Bounce (who was the only trustee who was not in favour of the choice), rose to his feet and said: "Gentlemen: why should we choose a boy from Liverpool to fill this vacancy, when we have plenty of poor deserving boys in our National school, I cannot understand, and—"

THE CHAIRMAN: "Excuse me, sir, you seem to be under a misapprehension. The fact is, we must have boys of some social position. The trust deed expressly states that sons of poor clergy are to have the preference."

MR. BOUNCE: "But are we bound to stick exactly to rules laid down more than two hundred years ago? I should say that—"

ANOTHER TRUSTEE: "My dear sir, we must keep to our old plan; otherwise we shall have the Charity Commissioners down upon us."

MR. BOUNCE: "Why not apply to them for a new scheme?"

THE CHAIRMAN: "I think, sir, that the majority of the gentlemen present will agree with me when I say that the plan which has always been pursued in the election of boys is far preferable to any new scheme which could be invented. As I said before, we must have sons of gentlemen in our choir, and it would not do to mix boys of a lower grade with them." (Hear hear, on all sides.)

This matter then terminated, and after some other business had been discussed, a bright idea occurred to Mr. Bounce by which he thought he could distinguish himself; so turning to Dr. Swishem, he asked if it would be convenient for him to come into the school sometime during the ensuing week, and ask the choristers a few questions upon what they had been learning; at the same time he inquired what subjects they had lately been engaged with. Dr. Swishem said he could come if he liked, and mentioned the names of several well-known Latin and Greek authors whom his boys had been reading. This completely floored Mr. Bounce, as he had never had anything but a strictly commercial education himself. So he was obliged to decline coming.

Having so originally failed in his undertaking so far, Mr. Bounce thought he would try his hand at belfry reform. Now it will be remembered that the Abbey belfry at Slowborough was quite a model belfry already, as far as the conduct of the ringers was concerned, who were also fairly proficient in several standard methods in change-ringing. But this was not enough for Mr. Bounce, and he took into his confidence the Rev. Alban Cope, B.A., a newly-arrived curate, who knew as little of bells and ringers as Mr. Bounce himself did. It never occurred to these two worthies that the vicar, or anyone else except the ringers, would trouble much about what arrangements were made with regard to the ringing.

It will be remembered that the Abbey bells were always rung on the greater church festivals, and also on several loyal occasions. It occurred to these two gentlemen that anything which was not strictly a church festival ought not to be rung for; so between them they drew up an elaborate table for ringing days, wherein the Queen's birthday, Coronation, Mayor's day, and several other days for which the ringers received a liberal fee, were cut out, and it was arranged instead that the company were to ring a "peal" (so they called it) of five minutes' duration several times during the day on certain saints' days. This plan Mr. Bounce undertook to deliver and explain to the ringers on their next practice-night.

So accordingly on the evening of the following day when the company were met for practice, he burst into the belfry with the important document in his hand; thereby causing a well-struck touch of Treble Bob to come to grief and putting the ringers generally, and Mr. Trippels in particular, into anything but a suitable frame of mind to receive the oration which he was about to deliver.

Before he could get a word out of his mouth Mr. Trippels began with—"Now sir, you really ought to know better than to burst into a belfry in that fashion when a company are engaged ringing a touch or peal."

Mr. Trippels' observation rather took Mr. Bounce aback, but he recovered himself and said—"Oh—ah—I didn't know it made any difference,—I should have thought you could have gone on pulling just the same. But look here,—Mr. Cope (our new curate) and I have been consulting about the days you ring on, and we think that the list I have here in my hand will be more suitable than the occasions which you have hitherto rung for. Just put this up somewhere when all the men can see it, and see that they keep to it, will you?"

Mr. Trippels took the paper and just glanced through it. He then smiled and handed it back to Mr. Bounce, saying:—"I think, Sir, you had better lay it before the vestry, and then you can get the vicar's signature and that of your colleague, and then perhaps we may consider the matter, that is if you will guarantee us the fees on all these occasions. You see the list of ringing days was fixed by the Vestry and signed by the Vicar and Churchwardens in 1839, and it has never been altered since. If you like to step over to our meeting-room at the 'Crown and Mitre,' I will shew it to you." Mr. Bounce saw that it was of no use to argue the point, so he said, "Well I must see into this matter, and by the bye, you spoke of the 'Crown and Mitre' just now—you don't mean to say that you fellows go and spend money in a public-house after you have done ringing, do you?"

Mr. Trippels' temper was now roused and said:—"Sir: I am proud to say that our company are steady and respectable men, and why we should not meet in our private room at the chief hotel in the town, where the society has met for time immemorial, I cannot say, nor shall I take the trouble to argue with you on such a ridiculous matter. You have had the bad taste

to burst in upon us and spoil our touch, and then you give us a lot of absurd rubbish to read, and afterwards insult us and give us a temperance lecture. I have our vicar's full permission for all we do here, and I may tell you that individually you have no right to interfere."

Mr. Bounce saw that he was getting the worst of it, so he left the belfry, saying that he would see the vicar about the matter.

This he did that very same evening, but the vicar considered that his plea was absurd, and gently hinted that in future he had better use a little more consideration before attempting to alter any old customs.

The next day was Friday, and there was the usual morning service in the Abbey at eleven o'clock, with the weekly lecture which was paid for from an old endowment. Mr. Bounce did not often go to church on weekday mornings, but he took it into his head to do so to-day. When service began he observed that only eight of the twelve choristers were in their places. He immediately thought that here was a chance for distinguishing himself in the execution of his duties, and he determined to see into the matter after church. I am sorry to say that his mind was so busily occupied in considering how he should act that he paid very little attention to the service. As soon as it was over he made his way to the choristers' school, intending to interview Dr. Swishem, and demand the reason why all the boys were not at church that morning. Unfortunately both the Doctor and Mrs. Swishem were out when he arrived, and were not expected home for an hour or more; so he thought that the best thing to do would be to speak to the boys themselves. Now if Mr. Bounce had appeared to disadvantage before the ringers on the previous he determined to make ample amends for it now by the grandeur and magnificence of his speech before the chorister boys.

Before we go further it will perhaps be better to explain to the reader the reason why all the boys were not at church that morning, which was as follows:—The weather had been unusually severe, and three of the boys (including Alec, the senior chorister) were kept indoors with bad colds and sore throats, whilst another (Master Xerxes, of whom we have read before), had on the day previous been engaged in a pugilistic encounter with a big town boy who had often annoyed the choristers; and between whom there had existed a continual feud for some time past. Now although Xerxes had managed to defeat the enemy, he had not altogether escaped some damage to himself, but had received a black eye and sundry scratches and bruises, and he was not just now quite presentable to the public. Consequently he had been sent up to the matron's room to keep the invalids company, and Dr. Swishem had given him fifty lines of Virgil to learn by way of employment.

When Mr. Bounce found that the Rev. Dr. Swishem was out he made his way to the school room and learned from one of the boys there the true state of the case: whereupon he demanded to see the matron, and this good woman having been fetched, he requested to see the invalids. Very reluctantly she led the way to her room, where he found the boys before-mentioned sitting by the fire and reading sundry periodicals published expressly for schoolboys.

"Oh! so this is the way you boys spend your time, is it?" he exclaimed; "I should have thought that although you may not be well enough to go out, Dr. Swishem might find some profitable employment for you which would improve your minds, instead of reading that trash. And let me tell you that (if it was my custom to rebuke those who were ill, which it is not), I should say that had you boys taken reasonable care of yourselves, you would not be laid aside now. As a trustee of this school I must say that we cannot afford to clothe, keep and educate delicate boys who are of no use to us as choristers, and I shall mention this at next meeting."

While he was speaking, Xerxes grinned, and the other boys looked sheepish. Alec, who was a sensitive boy, was near crying. Mr. Bounce now turned his attention to Xerxes, and was about to give him a severe lecture for fighting, when he was interrupted in a way in which neither he nor the boys expected. It was in this wise: The church bell-hanger from London had already commenced the repairs to the bells alluded to in the former part of our story, and Mr. Trippels was up in the bell-chamber with him, giving certain directions about what wanted

doing. Just as Mr. Bounce entered the school premises, Trippels happened to be looking out through the louvers of the bell-chamber, and saw Mr. Bounce going towards the school. He then observed to the bell-hanger—

"I'll tell you what it is,—Mr. Redleaf—we've just got a new churchwarden here, and ever since he was elected, he's been poking about and trying to interfere with everything. There's one blessing, and that is, although he's elected, he hasn't been admitted into office by the Archdeacon yet—and he can't be till next Easter—if indeed, he doesn't give in before then. And it's just this, neither the Vicar nor anybody thinks much of him, or his doings; and as he has not yet been legally admitted, nothing he does will stand law if the point were contested. Now, last night he came to us in the belfry and spoilt a touch of Treble Bob, and then wanted to shove some absurd rules on us about our ringing days. And now I'll bet a penny he's off to show his authority over those young cubs at the choir school,—I know Dr. Swishem is out,—and although I'm only an outsider, and only go to teach mathematics twice a week, I feel that under the circumstances I ought to go over and see what he's after. Goodness knows what he'll say or do. He'll make those kids think he's King of England before he's been there five minutes. What do you think, Mr. Redleaf?"

Mr. Redleaf agreed that if the new churchwarden was such as Mr. Trippels represented, that he (Mr. Trippels) was certainly justified in looking after his proceedings. Accordingly Mr. Trippels put on his coat and went down, and arrived at the school just as Mr. Bounce had gone up to the matron's room. On finding out where he was, Mr. Trippels followed, and arrived just at the moment we last left Mr. Bounce. Now Mr. Trippels did not want to have any scene before the boys, so he quietly informed that gentleman that he wanted to speak to him immediately on a matter of considerable importance. Mr. Bounce was only too pleased to think that he was such an important personage as to be consulted on weighty matters, so he followed Trippels at once out of the school premises. When they got outside, Mr. Trippels said "I don't know, sir, what has been the object of your visit to the school to-day: possibly you may want to make some new arrangements about the boys and their duties, as you did with us ringers last night, but let me tell you—as an assistant in the school—that whatever anyone may have to say on such matters must go through the Rev. Dr. Swishem, as head master. Even the Vicar himself would not presume to do otherwise. You will please excuse me for mentioning the matter, but I have no doubt that the Doctor will hear any suggestions you have to make when he returns, but he will of course use his own judgement as to whether he carries them out."

When Mr. Bounce found out what Mr. Trippels really wanted him for he flew into a passion, and accused that gentleman of interfering with him in the execution of his duties. Mr. Trippels simply smiled contemptuously and walked away.

Mr. Bounce determined to see Dr. Swishem as soon as he returned, and to talk the matter over with him. This he would have done; but that afternoon, just as he was about to start on the aforesaid errand, he received a somewhat curt note from the Doctor, saying that "he would trouble him not to interfere with his boys any more," and asking him "to make any suggestions he might have to make to him, and him only," and further adding "that he, as head master, should in any case reserve to himself the right of rejecting or carrying out such suggestions as he thought fit." This note completely shut Mr. Bounce up in this matter.

It still wanted about a week to Christmas, and during that time Mr. Bounce had time to consider the various mistakes he had made during the past fortnight. After carefully thinking over the matter he determined to change his tactics and come out before the public as "Lord Bountiful," and to overcome everybody by his wonderful activity in assisting all good works, and by the magnificence of his gifts and subscriptions to every parochial institution. Accordingly he began by sending donations of one guinea each to the parochial clubs, library, and other institutions. He also sent a guinea to Dr. Swishem to be expended in prizes for the choristers, and he further determined to present a guinea to the ringers on Christmas Eve, and to go up into the belfry and deliver it to Mr. Trippels in person. So on Christmas Eve he made his way to the belfry in good time, arriving at the church before any of the ringers. As he had had

some difficulty in finding his way up the stairs in the dark on his previous visit, he took care this time to bring a small hand lantern with him. He found the door at the bottom of the stairs unlocked, so he went up, and as none of the company had as yet arrived, he determined to ascend to the bell-chamber and inspect the work which had recently been done to the bells by the aid of his lantern. When he arrived at the bell-chamber he could not see any difference in the general appearance of the bells from what it was before the work was done: and considering that the repairs had consisted chiefly in new gudgeons and brasses, it was scarcely likely that an uninitiated observer would detect any difference. So he entered the bell-chamber and groped his way along the frames to the opposite side from the door. He had no sooner reached this point when he perceived the bells beginning to move, and he had just time to recede into a window when two or three deafening clangs reached his ears, and the whole peal were in due time raised. Now Mr. Bounce was no coward, so he made up his mind to stay where he was till the bells stopped. "I suppose," said he to himself, "that when they stop they'll be all down as they were when I came up first. It's rather a nuisance sticking here in the cold, but still they won't be long, and there'll be no harm done." Just then he happened to turn round, and as he did the seventh which swung close to the window where he was, touched his arm and wiped her lip on his coat sleeve, depositing a lot of grease thereon which had dropped from her bearings. He was not hurt, but he was annoyed to have a good coat spoiled.

Contrary to Mr. Bounce's expectations the bells did not stop so soon as he imagined they would, and when they did they still maintained a vertical position. The fact of the matter was that, as it was Christmas Eve, the ringers determined to raise the bells in peal, ring a short touch, and leave them up ready for Christmas morning. This they did, going straight into the touch as soon as the bells were up, without setting them. When the bells were set Mr. Bounce waited for a minute or two, expecting them to go down in some way or other, he knew not how. Finding that they did not do so he began to call out, but it was too late, as the ringers had left the belfry; and as the church stood in the middle of a large railed churchyard, nearly a hundred yards from the street, it was scarcely likely that anyone would hear him, considering the noise and bustle of the down on a Christmas Eve. Now anyone accustomed to the bells could have easily got out of the bell-chamber, although they were all up, but Mr. Bounce had an idea that the least touch would send them off, and he dare not move from the window where he was. So all he could do was to stay where he was, and shout. Although no one could hear him in the town it was quite possible that anyone in the churchyard or on the premises of the choristers' school, which was only about fifty yards from the tower, might do so. So we will leave him for a short time and take a look in at the school premises. Dr. Swishem was sitting in his study, having just returned from the schoolroom, after having read prayers and sent the boys to bed. He took off his cap and gown and sat by the fire indulging in a reverie. He had heard that day that a former chorister, now grown up, who had been under his charge some eight years previously, was going to the bar; and as he had taken a great deal of pains with him when a boy, he was naturally distressed at what he had heard. "Ah!" said the Doctor to himself, "I've much to be thankful for after all. My lot would be an enviable one to many a parochial clergyman, with perhaps several thousand souls in his parish. Here am I with only a dozen boys to look after, and a sermon to preach once a week; and my boys are absolutely under my control while they are here, and if I can't bring them up in the way they should go, it's a pity. By God's help I'll try and do my duty to them." While the Doctor was thus musing, his pupils had gone up into their dormitories. A small boy happened to look out of one of the windows facing the Abbey tower, and saw a light in the bell-chamber, and thought he could hear someone shouting, so he went up to one of the elder choristers and said "I say, Montie, there's a light in the tower; I wonder what it is." "Why you little duffer, Archie," said Montague, "It's only old Trippels oiling the bells, come, make haste and undress and get to bed." "Oh, but I don't think it can be him," said Archie, "he wouldn't be up there so late as this, and I think I can hear somebody shouting too." "No,—catch old Trips up there this time of night," said

Xerxes, who had just come up, "he'll be making himself comfortable at the 'Crown and Cushion' by now." Mr. Trippels' habits were pretty well-known to the choristers. Boys always find out anything which they are not wanted to know. Montague lifted the window, and shouts were distinctly heard so as to leave no doubt but that someone was shut up in the bell-chamber. It was therefore decided that Montague had better go down and inform Dr. Swishem of the matter. This he did and first tapped at the study door, as the doctor was occupied with his thoughts as above related. "Please there's a light in the tower, and we can hear somebody calling," said Montague, in answer to the Doctor's inquiry as to what he wanted. "Eh! What? Nonsense, boy," said the Doctor. "Oh but there is Sir, I'm sure,—would you mind looking out, Sir?" said the boy. Thereupon Dr. Swishem, accompanied by Montague, left the room and went to a side door next the churchyard, which when he had opened, Mr. Bounce's shouts could be distinctly heard. "Why, Montie," said the Doctor, "This is a regular ghost story,—good enough for the Christmas number of some magazine. I wonder where Mr. Trippels is—we must get the belfry key—but stay,—we'll just go across the churchyard to the vicarage. I believe the vicar has a key of his own and it will save time; you can come too if you like."

Thereupon both pedagogue and pupil crossed the Abbey yard, and entered the vicarage garden, and rung the bell at the front door.

Now the Rev. Jabez Orthodox had invited one of his curates to dine with him that evening. The curate being a bachelor, his vicar thought it would be more lively for him to dine at the vicarage than to be alone in his lodgings on Christmas Eve, and both vicar and curate were discussing matters parochial after dinner when Dr. Swishem and his pupil were announced. The Doctor soon explained his errand, but it turned out that the vicar had only a key to the church, and not one to the belfry staircase. "Have you any idea where we should be likely to find Mr. Trippels?" said the vicar. Dr. Swishem said he didn't know, but Montague said "Please, Sir, I think he'll be down at at the 'Crown,' er—I mean the ringers room at the 'Crown and Mitre Hotel.'" All three clergymen recollecting the habits of the ringers generally, and Mr. Trippels in particular, thought that Montague's suggestion was probable. The curate undertook to go and find him, and made his way across the churchyard, through the market place and into the yard of the "Crown and Mitre." When he arrived all the company of ringers had left, except Mr. Trippels, whom he found standing in the bar and having a final glass before going home. Matters were soon explained, and Mr. Trippels having the keys with him, the curate and he went at once to the Abbey. By this time the Vicar, Dr. Swishem and Montague had arrived at the west doors. These were soon opened and the staircase door unlocked. Mr. Trippels and the curate ascended the stairs with a lantern, while the rest of the party remained below. On gaining the bell chamber they found Mr. Bounce in the position before described.

"Oh, Trippels," said he, "I'm in such a predicament. I came up to see you to-night, and you weren't here, so I went up to have a look at the bells, and then you began to ring, and I couldn't get out, and I've been here ever since."

"So it seems," said Trippels, dryly. "All I can say is that I hope you've had a pleasant evening, but why on earth didn't you come out when we stopped?" Mr. Bounce then explained his fears of sending some of the bells off.

"Pooh!" said Trippels, swinging himself along the frame between the lips of the upturned bells to where Mr. Bounce was, "Now give me your hand." Mr. Trippels then half led and half carried the affrighted churchwarden across the frame and safely deposited him on the stairs. They then went down, and Mr. Bounce related his adventure to the Vicar and Dr. Swishem below.

The vicar insisted upon the whole party adjourning to the vicarage. On their arrival there he gave Montague a glass of wine and as many oranges as he could cram into his pocket, and Dr. Swishem sent him to the school, where he recounted the whole adventure to an admiring audience in the dormitories. As for the rest of the party the vicar suggested that "something hot" would not be amiss, and thereupon he insisted on their partaking a stiff glass of grog all round. This, Mr. Bounce especially, was very glad of, as he had been nearly frozen.

Trippels and the curate lit their pipes (the other three were not smokers), and it was past midnight when the party broke up.

Christmas morning dawned clear and frosty, and Mr. Bounce was awakened at an early hour by the Abbey Bells. When he got up he found himself not much the worse for his last night's adventure.

Before morning service he went up into the belfry and wished Mr. Trippels and the rest of the company. "A Merry Christmas," and then presented them the donation he had intended giving them on the previous evening.

I need not go through all the events of that Christmas Day, as nothing unusual occurred. After this Mr. Bounce forbore to meddle with matters which he did not understand, and by Easter he had become quite accustomed to the duties of his office, so that he was then unanimously re-elected; and before another Christmas the church officials and the parishioners generally came to the conclusion that the new churchwarden was "not such a bad sort after all."

THE RINGERS.—(OLD STYLE.)

The old church bells were merry, merry bells, altho' they were but three,

The Ringers too as jovial set, as ringers ought to be.
Now it happened once upon a time, but when I can't reveal,
That these old ringers sallied forth to ring a midnight peal.

They spent their evening as before, in soaking well their clay,
And when they sallied forth to ring could scarcely see their way.
To see them walk, and hear them talk, along the road was rich,
And strange to tell one old boy fell and rolled into the ditch.

They pulled him out, then to the church these ringers did repair
Unlocked the door, then on their knees went scrambling up the stairs;

They off' their coats and seized the ropes, but could not start at all,
'Till each man had to make his stand, with his back against the wall.

The bells begun, with three, two, one, and then went one, three, two,

For on that night to ring them right was more than they could do.
They stamped and tugged, and blowed and lugged, nor was it long before,
The big bell ringer missed his pull and tumbled on the floor.

He soon got up and seized his rope and tried with might and main,
But every time he tried to ring he tumbled down again.
The other two whose eyes were shut, kept on their bells a-ringing
Till one says "Stop, we'll have a drop, and finish up with singing."

The bells they stopt, and down they sat upon the belfry floor,
And drank till all the beer was gone, of that you may be sure.
Then groping back their way downstairs, as homeward they did reel,
Each one declared, he'd never heard, a better midnight peal.

For it really is a funny thing, the tales that I've been told,
It shows us clear, what ringers were, in the merry days of old.

THE TOCSIN.—The word Tocsin will be familiar to most, in connection with the sounding of an alarm by means of tolling a large bell, generally the largest in the principal church tower of the town, city, or village, as the case may be. The word seems to be derived from the Portuguese tongue; in that language "sino" is a bell, while to "tocca" is to "make" or "do," or as we say, to play a musical instrument. Thus to "tocca rebecca" is to play the violin, while the Blacksmith will shout to his assistant or hammerman to "tocca," "tocca," when he wants him to strike, or "do" his work; So "tocca-sino" is to ring the bell, and thus "Tocsin."

INNOCENCE (A fact).—Tom was a hardened criminal of about three and a half years; manifold had been his transgressions, culminating in stealing a bun from the confectioner's counter while his mother and the man of flour and jam were discussing matters at the other end of the shop. The infamy of this act was duly impressed upon Tom's mind at bed and prayer time, and must have sunk very deep, for the next morning at the breakfast table, with his mouth full of bread and butter, he said, "Mamma, do you fink God'll give me anover chance?"

ANOTHER CHAPTER IN THE TRUE HISTORY OF THAT AMBITIOUS TENOR MAN.

"The Belfry,"
Christmas Eve, 1888.

You'll recollect some time ago I wrote a short narration
About a simple Tenor-man, a man of aspiration,
Who, at vast expense, and enterprise, well worthy of the cause
Had purchased all the costly tomes that treat upon the laws—

Of scientific ringing; and had bothered his weak brains,
And at length achieved a peal of Grandsire Caters for his pains.
And how his friend (?) the Teacher-man had disappeared from view
These incidents, perchance dear Sir, are borne in mind by you.

Now this peal of Grandsire Caters had so puffed him up with pride,
That he strutted round quite haughty, and piled on lots of side,
While his costume underwent a metamorphosis so vast,
As recalled to an observant eye some pictures of the past.

Before his Grandsire Cater days, he'd mount a modest tile
Of felt, round topped and dark in hue, and quiet as to style,
But now to ape a College Youth is what he would be at,
To invested four-and-ninepence in a sleek Bell-topper bat.

Having thusly aped the apex of the College Youths attire,
To clothe his nether man appropriately did aspire,
So to St. Martin's Lane he went, and to a tailor there
An order gave, which rather made Sartorio to stare.

Said he "I know the Cumberlands, those noble ringing swells,
Whose meeting house is in this Lane, they ring St. Martin's bells,
When ringing, blithe as butterflies, industrious as ants;"
So make for me, same style as theirs, some wide Bell-bottomed pants.

Now wide Bell-bottomed trousers, as you dear Sir, well know,
Are not just now the fashion, and they make a man look low;
He then with most perverted taste, discarded modern hose
And like the dame of Banbury Cross, hung Bells upon his toes.

A swell of this strange type of course had views about his neck,
Which might be termed advanced, indeed he'd always worn large check,
But checks were now discarded, and he studied with a view
To clothe his throat to mark his taste, and still be loud in hue.

So he bought a large sized bicycle, and on it hung eight Bells,
The extra seven to mark him off from other cycling swells;
Then off he wheeled to Macclesfield, and of Matthews of that ilk,
Purchased forty "ringers' badges," splendid neckerchiefs of silk.

From Macclesfield to Birmingham, and found John Carter there,
Had some chat on ringing matters, and then John displayed his ware,
Of gold, or silver, copy of Great Paul, our man debated
Within himself, then bought them both, and went his way elated.

He always lit his pipe with matches, of the make of Bell and Black,
And his modest quenchers purchased either at the "Bell and Mack-
rell in the Mile End Road, or travelled on until he reached Cornhill,
Then at the "Bell" in Gracechurch St. his pipe and glass he'd fill.

(Note.—And empty two or three times).

With costume thus conspicuous he didn't feel small beer,
But felt a something wanting to crown his costume queer;
So when he went a courting, and was walking out his gell (*groans*)
(Rhymes are a fearful drain on the brain space of the unaccustomed rhymester, Mr. Editor).

For a buttonhole he always wore a Canterbury-Bell.

All this was fairly praiseworthy, but I grieve to have to say,
From his lofty aspirations this young man fell away;
The Bell idea he'd worked quite dry, he had no further hopes,
(That young "gell's" name was Sally), so he turned his mind to ropes.

The state required a servant, a man whose "line" was cord.
'Mong' st others (some were Baronets), our hero sent in word
That he the post would undertake; but he did not get the place,
And the Exercise are thankful that they're spared the sad disgrace.

What's that I hear you say, dear Sir? I thought you murmured "space,"
And that "Comps and Printers' Devils are not of patient race;"
The hero's name you'd like to know? ah! that I must not tell,
But by special Act of Parliament, 'tis lately changed to Bell.

And so, dear Mr. Editor, I hope that the individual is now happy, and
will not worry your readers any more with his vagaries, which have
become as tiresome to them, no doubt, as they have to

Yours (more or less) rhythmically,
THE WANDERING BELL-HAULER.