

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 353.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1889.

ONE PENNY.

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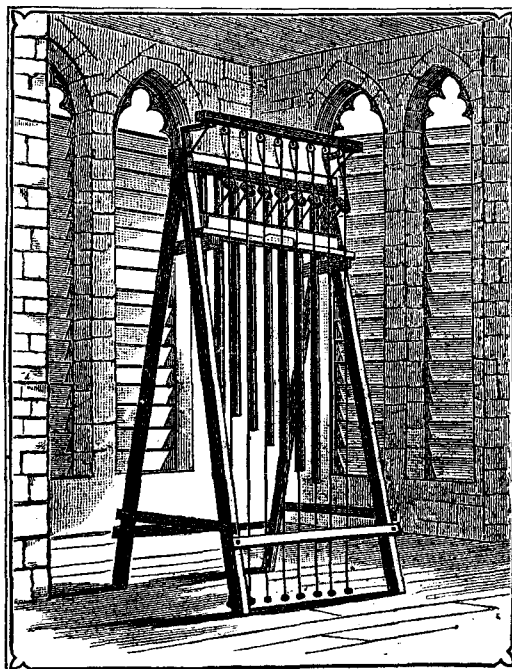
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THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS, GREENWICH.
PRESENTATION TO THE REV. H. A. COCKEY.

A meeting specially convened for the purpose of bidding farewell and presenting a testimonial to the late Treasurer, the Rev. Herbert A. Cockey, M.A., was held at St. Alphege church, Greenwich, on Friday evening, December 21st, 1888, Messrs. W. Weatherstone, F. W. Thornton, W. G. Davis, H. Bright, H. Hill, and several others being present.

Mr. W. WEATHERSTONE presided, and in opening the proceedings said he was sure every member of the Society shared his regret that Mr. Cockey was about to leave them so soon, and after alluding to the approaching marriage of the rev. gentleman in felicitous terms, concluding by calling upon Mr. Frederick W. Thornton to read the following address:

"To the Rev. Herbert A. Cockey, M.A.—On behalf of the members of the society of Trinity Youths, we, the undersigned, beg to offer you our sincere and heartfelt congratulations on your appointment to the vicarage of Oldland, Gloucestershire, and at the same time to express our profound regret that your connection with this society must of necessity be partially severed.

During the brief period you have resided amongst us you have, by your great kindness and sound advice, become endeared to every change-ringer in the district. We can never forget that it was entirely through your efforts the revival of our Ancient Society was brought about and met with such success, and since its revival you have ever been ready with your help and good counsel to forward in every way the interests of this Society, and the Exercise generally.

We therefore ask you to kindly accept this small gift as a token of our esteem and regard, and also as a mark of gratitude for the services you have rendered us. By your removal from this neighbourhood, we lose a true friend and valuable adviser, nevertheless, we fervently pray that God may grant you good health and long life, and abundantly bless your good work in the new sphere of labour to which you have been called.

Signed on behalf of the society of Trinity Youths.

WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE, *Master*.
FREDERICK W. THORNTON, *Secretary*.
WILLIAM BEDWELL, *Steward*.

Greenwich, December, 1888.

The CHAIRMAN then uncovered the presentation, which consisted of a very handsome marble timepiece, subscribed for by members and friends of the society connected with the following churches, viz., St. Alphege, Greenwich, St. Margaret's, Lee, St. John's, Deptford, St. Mary's, Lewisham, St. Mary's, Woolwich, and St. Paulinus, Crayford, etc.

The Rev. H. A. COCKEY, in reply, said—Mr. Weatherstone, Mr. Thornton, and gentlemen: I beg to offer you my hearty thanks for your very beautiful gift, which I can assure you has quite taken me by surprise. I had no idea that there would be any thought of making me a present after so short a stay amongst you. It would be false modesty to try and make out that I have not done much for the Society, for my position as one of the regular staff of clergymen in the neighbourhood has enabled me to do for the society what perhaps none but a resident clergyman and a ringer could have done. But at the same time you must not give me too much credit, for others had been preparing the way by awaking an universal desire among the ringers of the district that the Ancient Society of Trinity Youths should be revived, and though I helped to hatch the egg, it was most certainly laid by others. What I have done has been a real pleasure to me, bringing me in contact, as it did, with so many pleasant companions, and giving me so many pleasant evenings of ringing. I have always found ringers' meetings most agreeable and attractive. The first, in the way of a society's meeting, that I attended, were those of the Essex Association, and I found that so many kind and hearty friends were made in this way, and the day was always so enjoyable, that each one I attended made me more eager to be present at the next. And I have always found it the same since then, wherever I have been amongst ringers. But, when one has to do with the setting on its legs of a society like ours, the interest is doubled, and the friendship between myself and the members is even stronger, and I feel that though I shall be partly severing my connection with the society by going so far away, I shall always take a deep interest in it, and shall always be ready and glad to do anything I can for it, either by advice to its members, or by endeavouring to influence the clergy of the neighbourhood in its favour. I am strongly convinced of the need for such a

society in this district, where only one or two bands existed which were able to ring their eight bells in changes without extraneous aid, and where there were good ringers scattered about, one here and one there, and where there are so many who can handle a bell, and yet know nothing of change-ringing, because they had no opportunity of practising the art. I have seen enough since I first learnt to pull a bell, in my fourteenth year, to feel sure that change-ringing is the one road to friendliness, good fellowship, and unanimity amongst ringers, because we find that if we are to get on with the science, we must pull together with the other ringers, and do our best to keep good temper and mutual forbearance in our midst. In leaving this neighbourhood, I have the happy assurance that I take with me the friendship and goodwill of a band of some thirty or forty brother-ringers, all of whom were entirely unknown to me nine months ago, and that is something that I know to be well worth the winning, for a ringer's friendship is always warm and hearty, and does not fade with the lapse of time. This handsome present will always serve to bring before me the faces of those who gave it, and to call to my mind the pleasant evenings we have spent together in our various belfries. I suppose I must say a word of thanks to you on behalf of the lady whom I hope before long will be my wife, and who of course will be then "endowed" with this clock amongst other "wordly goods" which I now call mine. Our worthy Master has raised my spirits ninety per cent. by the glowing description he gave just now of the felicity of married life, and I am sure my fiancée, the grand-daughter of such a noted ringer and authority on bells as the late Mr. Ellacombe, would attach great weight to the opinion of the Master of the Trinity Youths. I am sure, gentlemen, she will for the same reason value most highly this beautiful present, and the goodwill of which it speaks. For her, and for myself, I thank you most heartily. The clock shall take its stand shortly, if all is well, on the chimney piece of my study at Oldland. For the good wishes and kind expressions of esteem set forth in the accompanying address, I return you, if possible, even warmer thanks, but I feel that I can never express to you in words the extremely high value that I attach to your goodwill towards me.

Mr. F. PALMER (St. John's, Deptford), and Mr. H. BRIGHT (Woolwich), on behalf of the ringers of the respective churches, thanked Mr. Cockey for the kind assistance he had given them, and hoped for the pleasure of a few peals with him whenever he visited them again.

On the motion of Mr. FREDK. THORNTON, seconded by the Rev. H. A. COCKEY, a cordial vote of thanks was given to Mr. Weatherstone for presiding, and that gentleman having replied, the interesting proceedings were brought to a close.

Prior to the meeting several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the bells, conducted by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, and Mr. W. Weatherstone.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 12th, at Christ Church, Southport. Ringing from 2 p.m.; meeting in the school at 6 p.m. This meeting is specially arranged at Southport, with the object of furthering the recently formed Liverpool Diocesan Branch, and it is hoped that all the ringers in the diocese will avail themselves of the opportunity, as the resolutions passed at the meeting held in Liverpool will be brought before this meeting for confirmation.

JOEL REDFORD, } *Hon. Secs.*
A. E. WREAKS, }

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., which will be free to all ringing members whose subscriptions are paid up. The tea will be followed by the usual business meeting, at which subscriptions for the current year will be received. Tower open for ringing in the afternoon and evening.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

NEW BELLS AT BURGHFIELD, CHURCH, OXFORD.

Some time ago a movement, having for its object the thorough renovation of the parish church bells, was originated in Burghfield; and now through the liberality of Mr. Richard Benyon, Mr. A. Harvey Thursby, Mr. T. Bland Garland, the Rev. D. O. Harington (rector of the parish), Mr. James Dewe, and other inhabitants of Burghfield and neighbourhood, the old bells, one of which was badly cracked, have, with a slight addition to their metal, been recast and returned to the belfry. The total cost has been about £250, and the six new bells weigh in the aggregate 46 cwt. 3 qrs. 21 lbs. on the former peal. The work was entrusted to Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel, and has by them been performed in a very satisfactory manner; the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, reporting of the bells that "they are brilliant in tone, and perfectly in tune one with another," and that "better bells of the weight there could not be."

The old bells were removed from the belfry on September 5th last, when a good photograph of them was taken by the curate, the Rev. H. Mawson, prior to their being sent to the foundry. A serious defect of the former peal was the precarious state of the fittings and framework, which allowed a rather alarming amount of oscillation. This has been remedied by having in addition to new bells, an entire new oaken framework erected to carry them in two tiers. The upper tier bears two and the lower four bells—a mode of hanging which by giving more stability to the lower portion, also considerably lessens the oscillation. This is the more noticeable, as formerly the bells were hung in two tiers each bearing three bells.

An apparently minor, though practically important improvement also made is the manner in which the bell-ropes are now hung. Formerly the ropes were hung without any regard to their proper order—a state of things which prevented anything like accurate ringing; now, they are hung round consecutively, and the improvement is obvious to all who have the least acquaintance with ringing.

The ceremony of the dedication of the bells to the service of God was performed on Thursday, December 20th, by the Rural Dean (the Rev. I. B. Burne, Vicar of Wasing) assisted by the Rev. Canon Cornish (Upton), F. C. Robinson (Drayton), and H. Mawson (Burghfield), the Rector of the parish (the Rev. D. O. Harington) being unable to be present owing to illness.

The service commenced at noon with the singing of hymn 303 (A. & M.), "When morning gilds the skies," after which a shortened form of morning service was gone through. The sermon, an appropriate and able one, was preached by the Rural Dean, the text being taken from Numb. x., 3.10. The preacher first briefly alluded to the occasion of meeting, and after dwelling upon the necessity of dedication, proceeded to state some of the superstitions connected with bells in ancient times, but now happily dispersed. He then went on to speak of the office of bells, and expressed the hope that the ringers would remember their holy office, and strive to make themselves worthy of it. Speaking of the history of the use of bells for religious purposes, he said that trumpets continued in use for a long time among the Israelites, and also among the early Christians: but in the times of persecution the latter gave notice of services personally. The cry of "Alleluia" was also used among some sects as a means of calling to worship. The first mention of bells as a means to give notice of services in Britain appeared to have been early in the 6th century, when handbells, something like a sheep bell, were used in Scotland and Ireland. The first bell erected in England was at Wareham about the middle of the 6th century; while the first peal was that mentioned by Ingulphus, the historian, as being in use at Croyland Abbey during the 10th century. From that time bells appeared to have been the general manner of calling to worship, and amongst those who, from the introduction of the bells paid attention to the art of bell-ringing, were the Archbishops Dunstan and Lanfranc. As to the method of ringing, there was still in existence a copy of the rules drawn up for the guidance of the ringers at Lichfield Cathedral, where it appeared that the bells were rung consecutively at first and then all together with a crash. The preacher dwelt further upon the influences of bells, remarking that they brought a message from God "To taste and see how gracious the Lord

is," and to the sick "To put their trust in the Lord." In conclusion, he earnestly besought all to pray that God would attune their hearts that they might be in perfect union with him above.

The sermon being over, the officiating clergyman proceeded to the belfry, where, after the senior churchwarden (Mr. Dewe) had read a request on behalf of the rector and churchwardens that he would dedicate the bells to God's service, the dedication service was performed according to the forms provided for the occasion.

After the service a short touch was rung on the bells, and the clergy, the churchwardens, the ringers (who included several from Beenham), the Rev. G. F. Coleridge from Caversham; Messrs. Newell and Johnson from Reading; and Mr. Washbrook, together with others invited, proceeded to the New School, when they sat down to a cold collation, excellently catered for by Mr. Sherval.

The usual loyal toasts were given, after which "The Bishop and Clergy," coupled with the names of the Rector, the Rural Dean, and Mr. Robinson, was proposed by the Chairman (Mr. A. H. Thursby).

The Rev. H. MAWSON responded on behalf of the Rector, and referred to a note which he had received from him expressing the regret he felt at not being able to be present.

THE RURAL DEAN, in returning thanks for the general toast, mentioned the thanks the parishioners owed to Mr. Dewe, whose services he highly eulogised.

THE Rev. F. E. ROBINSON also spoke a few words, thanking the churchwardens for the kind way in which they had referred to his services, which he assured them were always at their disposal if needed. He congratulated them on their beautiful peal, and urged the ringers to improve themselves, for which purpose the services of Mr. W. Newell, one of the best instructors in the district, would be afforded, if required. He also expressed the hope that they would look after their bells, which, like many other things, required attention. Mr. Dewe, in acknowledging the kind remarks of the Rural Dean, said that had it not been for the liberal help he had received from the parishioners, they would not have been able to accomplish so much: as for himself, he had only done his duty. Mr. W. Newell made a few remarks on the bells, describing them as a pretty musical peal.

The party then adjourned to the church, where a 720 was rung through in less than half an hour. This completed the formal days' proceedings, but changes were rung at various times throughout the day till nine p.m., when all was brought to a conclusion.

As a fitting memorial of the occasion a leaflet, headed with a pretty little woodcut of the church, and containing some original stanzas entitled "The voice of the bells,"—the joint production of the Rector (Rev. D. O. Harington) and curate (Rev. H. Mawson), was distributed to each person present at the morning service and at Advent evening service.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

The next Quarterly Meeting of this society will be held at All Saints', West Bromwich, on Saturday, January 12th. Members assemble at the tower at 2.30 p.m. J. R. KEBLE, *Hon. Sec.*

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

The next ringing meeting of the above branch will take place on Saturday, January 12th, at the parish church, Haslingden. Bells ready at 2.30. Meeting in the school at 6 o'clock.

J. T. STOTT, *Local Sec.*

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Wednesday, December 19th, at St. Martin's church, 1120 of Kent Treble Bob Major. W. J. Prince, 1; A. W. Barkus, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; A. P. Goddard, 5; H. D. Adams, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 8. And on Saturday, December 22nd, 1296 of Bob Major. A. W. Barkus, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; J. Blackburn, 5; H. D. Adams, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 8.

RE-OPENING OF THE BELLS OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH, MONMOUTH.

The bells of this parish church during the century and a half which they have been in existence having become worn and thin in places, and in danger of being cracked by the repeated striking of the clappers on particular places, the vicar, the Rev. E. J. Hensley, some time ago called in Mr. G. Phillott, of Cheltenham, a practical and experienced ringer, and Mr. J. Belcher, captain of the Cheltenham society, who gave their services gratuitously, and examined the bells. Acting upon their opinion the vicar convened a meeting of parishioners, when it was resolved that a tender from Messrs. Warner and Son, of the Cripplegate Foundry, offering to quarter-turn the bells, re-hang them, and put them into a thorough going condition be accepted. Messrs. Warner completed their share of the contract, and the formal re-opening of the bells took place on Thursday, December 6th. During the afternoon the newly restored bells were put to a practical test by the Cheltenham society, who rung various touches of Grandsire Triples and Stedman Triples, Mr. J. Belcher, the captain, conducting. J. Belcher, 1; W. Morris, 2; W. T. Pates, 3; W. Hooper, 4; F. Musty, 5; G. Phillott, 6; G. Aycocks, 7; A. W. Humphries, 8.

At five o'clock the Cheltenham and Chepstow ringers with a few friends sat down to an excellent dinner which had been prepared for them at the "Beaufort Arms," Hotel by Mrs. Garrett.—Mr. J. Belcher presided, and Mr. H. Stephen Lewis occupied the vice-chair. The Rev. E. J. Hensley said grace, but was unable to stay to sit down with the company. After dinner the toast of the "Church and Queen" was given from the chair, and duly honoured.—The Chairman then proposed the health of the Vicar, and in the course of some remarks alluded to the visit of himself and Mr. Phillott when they inspected the bells; he also spoke of the work of restoration of the bells by Messrs. Warner as having been performed in a very satisfactory manner. There were a few minor faults, such as a little stiffness in the working of the tenor bell, but he thought they would perhaps come right of themselves in time.—The toast was befittingly received, and Mr. H. S. Lewis responded on behalf of the vicar.—The vice-chairman proposed the health of Mr. Belcher, and, in replying, that gentleman gave them some good advice, the outcome of his nearly 50 years experience as a ringer. He told his hearers that they must not expect to learn all the science of bellringing in the belfry, they should pick out their changes at home, and meet together and practise them on handbells. Mr. Phillott thanked the vicar, churchwardens, and ringers of Chepstow for the kind reception and hospitality according to himself and his brother Cheltenham ringers. He re-echoed the opinion of Mr. Belcher as to the work done by Messrs. Warner. In the course of his observations he said they had present amongst them a veteran ringer in the person of Mr. W. Morris, who was 79 years of age last birthday, but was yet able to ring a peal or two with any man. Messrs. Belcher, Phillott, W. Morris, and another ringer then gave an example of the intricacies of change-ringing by performing a course of Grandsire Caters on handbells, after which the company separated, the Cheltenham visitors having to return by the seven o'clock train.

In the evening, Divine Service was held in the church and attended by a large congregation. Besides the Lord Bishop of Llandaff the following clergy were present. Revs. E. J. Hensley, M.A., vicar of Chepstow; W. H. Williams, M.A., rector of Portskeywett and rural dean (who also acted as bishop's chaplain); W. E. Rosedale, M.A., Vicar of Tiutern; R. Quarrell, Chepstow; Watkin Daivies, B.A., vicar of Matherne; N. Shafto Barthropp, M.A., vicar of Itton; and Pitt Ekyn Vicar of Magor and Redwick. The service opened with the hymn 'Blessed city, heavenly Salem,' followed by the opening prayer of the Evening service, and the 19th Psalm. The Rev. W. H. Williams read the lesson.

After some special prayers had been read, the Bishop took for his text the tenth chapter of Numbers, verse 10, "Also in the day of your gladness, and in your solemn days, and in the beginning of your months, ye shall blow with the trumpets over your burnt offerings, that they may be to you a memorial before your God. I am the Lord your God." The Bishop made allusions to the occasion of the service, and then to the uses of the bells in calling people to worship. At one time people

were called together by couriers, by rattles, by trumpets—which had been succeeded by bells. He spoke of the introduction of the four-sided bell in the 7th century. He described bells as the Church's messenger, inviting all to the marriage feast and the food that was awaiting to supply their spiritual needs; they proclaimed the communion of loving hearts. He spoke of the bells as superseding the uses of the trumpet as described in the text; their speaking out of the solemn funeral knell and their ringing on occasions of national and domestic joy and bereavement. The bells and tower were to the people generally what the preacher and the pulpit were to the congregation—they taught lessons of Christian love and sympathy, and warned the people to meet their God. He deprecated the disgraceful scenes that were formerly only too common in the belfries: the belfry was a part or member of the church and should contribute to the usefulness of the whole.

A hymn, 'Now again our bells have mounted,' was sung whilst the collection was being made, and the choir retired from the choir stalls to the organ-gallery, where with the assistance of several ladies and gentlemen of the town they sang Mendelssohn's "Lauda Zion." Mr. A. E. Kingsford presided at the organ, and the quartette in the piece was sung by Miss E. Kingsford, Miss Rowe, Miss F. Bluett, and Mr. C. H. Clarke. The benediction, pronounced by the Bishop, brought the service to a close.

THE LONG PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS AT APPLETON, BERKS.

On Monday, December 31st, ten members of the Oxford Guild succeeded in ringing at the first attempt, 15,041 of Stedman Caters. As it was the wish of the ringers to ring the peal in the year 1888, and as permission could not be obtained till the very last day of the year, with short notice the band assembled, several of them not knowing for certain if the peal was on or not till the day previous. However, nine o'clock saw nine of the band on the spot, some having had to come a long distance that morning. The tenth man, Mr. Avery, had not turned up. However, determined to have a start, one of the band started off to the next village to find the missing one, and found him quite busy, thrashing corn. The corn thrashing was soon under fresh hands, and at 10.30 the fine peal of ten bells struck off into Stedman Caters, the striking being splendid, up till four o'clock, when one of the band attempted to go in a wrong way. That was soon remedied, and the bells struck along as well as ever for two more hours, then another little hitch occurred which seemed to wake the men up to some downright good hitting, which was kept up till the bells run round at 7.46 p.m. the whole peal being timed at four mins. to the course outside the tower, and the ringers were congratulated outside on ringing a first-class peal and it may be mentioned that greatest credit is due to the tenor ringer for the way he had stuck to his work and struck his bell. The bell, like the 8th, requires a lot of pulling, owing to their being in the top tier of a shaky tower, nine feet square, sometimes pulling one arm nearly out, and sometimes not going up sufficiently, thus requiring double the pulling they should if they were steady, and to ensure sound striking. Notice was sent various ringers as there was no time for advertising in "THE BELL NEWS."

A HUNDRED POUNDS FOR A FAN.—Not for an old fan of historic or artistic interest; not for a relic to be preserved, and to show new generations how their forefathers lived; but a hundred pounds for a modern fan to be carried, soiled and ruined. Surely, of all vanities this is the vainest; of all luxuries waste the most wanton. The art of the painter is not encouraged but degraded, and no one and no art is really benefitted by the extravagance; look at it how we may, there is no plea to be raised for this. A hundred pounds! What education it might bring to untaught aspiring talent—what pleasure to a hundred fanless, pretty girls! —F. Mabel Robinson, in "The Woman's World" for January.

* The proposed attempt for the long peal of Bob Major at Warnham, on December 11th, 1888, had to be abandoned through one of the band falling ill. The attempt will be made as early as possible in the New Year.

RAWTENSTALL.

A large church clock has been erected in St. Mary's tower by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works Derby. The new clock has four dials each 7 feet 6 inches across, it chimes the Cambridge quarters upon the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 7th bells, and strikes the hours upon the largest or tenor bell. All the latest improvements are incorporated in this clock so that perfect accuracy of timekeeping will be ensured in all states of the weather. Extreme states of the temperature and violent winds have a very trying effect on large clocks unless properly provided for. The dials are constructed of skeleton iron framework, glazed with white opal glass and will be illuminated by gas at night. There is special automatic apparatus by which the gas will be turned on at sunset and off at sunrise. The clock movement with all the adjacent wheels and connections are fixed in the same room as the dials, the bells being in the room below. There is a thoroughly good glass case to protect the clock works. The main frame of the clock is of one solid casting of iron, planed smooth and true with all the various wheels, bushes, levers and fittings affixed to it by levers in such a way that any separate one may be removed without interfering with the other parts. This is a great convenience in large clocks of this kind. All the wheels are of the finest gun metal, with their teeth cut from the solid so as to be perfectly accurate and smooth. The pinions into which the wheels gear are of the best cast steel properly hardened and tempered. There is a special apparatus for maintaining the action of the clock during winding—without such a contrivance the clock would stop several minutes every time of winding as may constantly be observed of old church clocks. There are two small dials upon the clock frame shewing minutes and seconds, by which the whole of the external hands will be regulated and set to time simultaneously. The escapement of this clock is a most important feature, as in conjunction with the pendulum it rules and governs the whole machine. There are many kinds of escapements, but the one here employed was invented by Lord Grimthorpe, the distinguished inventor of many valuable improvements in clockwork. It is called the double-three-legged-gravity, and drives a pendulum which is also compensated in such a manner by zinc and iron tubes that it always remains the same effective length throughout all changes in temperature. Messrs. John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, have carried out the whole of the work and the same firm are now making church clocks for all parts of the country.

HOLY TRINITY, OLD HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

The Holy Trinity Ringers had their Annual Supper on Wednesday, December 26th, at which the vicar, the Rev. E. Brewer, was present. In the course of a response to a hearty welcome, Mr. Brewer proposed the health of the Rev. C. W. Bassano, who has just been ordained, and is leaving the band for a curacy at Cheltenham. Mr. Bassano returned thanks commenting on the pleasure he had had in learning and achieving successes with the band from the commencement, and hoped to see glowing accounts of their progress in "THE BELL NEWS" from time to time.

The report for the year showed that 21 720's had been done in the following methods:—Grandsire, Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, College Single, Court Bob, Oxford Bob, Woodbine, Double Court, Double Oxford, and Association Exercise; and a peal of Bob Major (5376), and of Kent Treble Bob Major (5024). Members of the band have taken part in three peals of Grandsire Caters, and one of Grandsire Triples. Touches have been rung of Double Norwich and Duffield, in addition to the more common methods.

On Christmas Eve the band rang at midnight H. Reeves' quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins. The bells were rung half muffled on New Year's Eve before 12 o'clock, and a touch of Grandsire Triples afterwards.

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.

JOHN BROOKS.

We have this week to record the death of the above veteran ringer, who died at Brighton on December 19th, aged 68 years. Deceased who was a native of Chailey, Sussex, commenced his ringing career at a very early age, having to stand on a stool while trying to manage his bell. It is not known at present how many peals he has rang, but he succeeded in obtaining his first peal at Waldron, and it is believed his last peal was at Lewes. For some years he was a member of the Brighton society at St. Nicholas Church; only two members are left now that were connected with him at that time. In 1875 he left Brighton for Northampton, and joining the ringers there he soon after became captain of the band. He was a good ringer and conductor, and also a great lover of hand-bells. In the early part of 1888 his health began to fail, and he expressed a wish to return to Brighton, where he had spent many years of his life, and had many friends. Towards the end of the summer he visited St. Nicholas, and rang his last touch, a 350 of Grandsire Triples. He still kept getting gradually weaker, and as the year was drawing to a close, he passed away, leaving a widow, to whom he had been wedded for forty-four years, to mourn his loss, and also a daughter. The funeral took place at the Brighton cemetery on the 26th December. A wreath of flowers was placed on the coffin by two old ringing friends, Messrs. Hilder and Jay, and on the evening of the 27th the Brighton society met at St. Nicholas, and as a mark of respect to his memory rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, particulars which will be found in another column. The Brighton ringers desire respectfully to express their sympathy with the family in their sad bereavement.

ROCHDALE, LANCASHIRE.

A tea party and ball was held by the Healey company at the Conservative Club on Saturday, December 8th, in honour of the marriage of the Rev. Robert Minnitt, M.A. The ringers and their friends, to the number of about fifty, sat down to an excellent knife and fork tea, their lady friends presiding at the tables. After tea the conductor was appointed chairman, who in a short address said it gave him very great pleasure to meet his fellow-ringers on all occasions, and congratulated them on the progress they had made in the art since they rang their first peal in February, 1887. Having cordially thanked the company for their presence, he hoped they would not forget to give the toast of the evening to the rev. gentleman to whose generous liberality the organisation of that party was due. The evening was then spent in singing and dancing till about eleven o'clock, when the company broke up by singing "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem, everybody expressing themselves well pleased.

RINGERS' SUPPER AT NETHERTON.

On Monday evening, December 31st, the ringers of St. Andrew's church, with Messrs. W. Micklewright, sen. and jun., held their annual supper at the house of Mr. J. Prestidge, one of the ringers. A good substantial repast (of the old English style), was provided by the host and hostess in a splendid manner, and to which full justice was done. After the withdrawal of the cloth, a convivial hour was spent in which ringing was the topic, conversation suitable only for ringers' company. The remainder of the evening was spent in listening to some good songs and recitations, a very pleasant and harmonious evening being enjoyed by all. Soon after the hour of eleven they wended their way to the tower and rang good-bye to the year that is gone, and welcomed the New Year with joyous ringing, wishing one another a Happy New Year, and trusting that it will be a bright and prosperous one.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The next Quarterly Meeting of the above society will be held at the "White Swan" Hotel, Edmund Street, on Monday, January 7th, at 8 p.m., when all members are earnestly requested to attend.

W. BROOK, Sec.

11, Tennant Street.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR MR. DORAN.

	£	s.	d.
E. F. Cole, Esq., London
Dr. A. B. Carpenter, Croydon
Mr. H. Hopkins, London
J. E. Worsell, Brighton
H. Swain, London
W. H. Dallimore, West Ham
W. Smith, West Ham
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H. S. Thomas, Esq., and a few Friends, Battersea
Mr. Glover, Battersea
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T. Card, Finchley
A. Wright, West Ham
W. Dickinson, West Ham

J. George, Coventry	0	1	0
F Sinkins, Slough	...	...	...	...	...	0	5	0
W. Lincoln, Writtle	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
A. Edwards, Writtle	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
H. Scarlett, Stoke Newington	...	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
H. W. Elliott,	do.	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
H. Spencer,	do.	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
W. Waterman, junr.	do.	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
G. Blaber,	do.	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
G. Chalkley,	do.	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
G. Waterman, sen.	do.	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
H. Nunn, sen., Woodford	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
F. Nunn, Woodford	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
Romford Company, per A. J. Perkins	...	...	...	...	...	0	8	0
D. Lovatt, London,	...	...	...	...	...	0	5	0
J. Barry, London	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
Mr. Peart, St. Bride's	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
W. D. Mathews, London	...	...	...	...	...	0	2	0
Mr. Clarkson,	do.	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
J. Wheeler,	do.	0	0	6
E. E. Vinen,	do.	0	2	6
Iford Company, per W. F. Mumford	0	5	0
W. Moore, London	0	2	6
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J. Woods, Kenninghall	0	1	0
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A lady, per H. Dains	0	1	0
Midhurst Company, per W. Selby	0	2	6
A Lancashire lad, Prescott	0	2	0
F. Rumens, Hackney	...	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
G. Page, Hackney	...	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
T. Page, Hackney	...	...	...	...	...	0	0	6
W. B. Manning, Walthamstow	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
A. S. Barrell, Walthamstow	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
T. Jackson, Hackney	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
W. H. Tubbs, Hackney	0	1	0
G. J. Smith, Hackney	0	1	0
W. D. Smith, Hackney	0	2	6

Total	£14 18 6
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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
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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. Holfield, Appleton	0 2 0
M. J. Mayo, Tetsworth	0 1 0
In small Subscriptions	0 7 9
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Further Subscriptions will be thankfully received by

W. J. FISHER.

The Imperial Hotel, Bournemouth.

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, JANUARY 5, 1889.

THE peal recently performed at Fulham by the Burton-on-Trent Society has, with regret be it said, been the cause of an ebullition of feeling the reverse of friendly. In asserting this, we do not mean to contend that the blame lies all one side, for the correspondence of last week shows that some defenders of the peal can be as trenchant and spirited in their replies as the sceptic who initiated the agitation. There appears to be no great effort made by some of the writers in replying to Mr. WINNY, for the display of that courtesy by which the strictures of an opponent should be met, though the opponent himself should lack in this direction, as in this case he may have done. It frequently happens that sentiments put upon paper, or as our friend "FREE LANCE" says, "reduced to writing," do not always accurately or strictly convey the exact meaning uppermost in the mind of the

writer. Consequently it is much better, especially with such a question as the performance of a peal, that endeavours should be made to settle the divergent points verbally, among the disputants themselves. No effort should be spared to bring about such a result, in order to avoid the unpleasant consequences that must ensue from a wordy war in public, when sometimes temper is apt to get the upper hand of judgment. Naturally the Burton gentlemen feel hurt at the accusations made against their performance, and their accuser, and others with him, feel that he has taken a proper course in publicly stating his opinions about it. We say nothing upon the points of dispute, only upon the manner in which the contention is being carried on.

Any one, we suppose, has a perfect right to doubt the truth of a peal which has been rung, or to call into question its quality. But these objections may be made in a way which would not affect the pleasant relationship which ought to exist between our ringing brethren, and any one who has an inclination therefore to combat the report that a "true peal" has been rung should be careful to avoid doing so in an objectionable or discourteous manner. Let us not be misunderstood. We are not even hinting that Mr. WINNY acted discourteously. That is for the Exercise to judge. We are speaking now in a general sense. Many there are who, hearing a doubt expressed of some performance, delight in propagating the rumour in unmeasured language, while at the same time they are totally unacquainted with the facts. We know districts which are blessed—or the reverse—with these sort of people, some of them of comparatively no standing in the Exercise; others whose strength of lung and blatant slander in language very far indeed from respectable, are the only modes they have of attaining a notoriety. The existence of this kind of person amongst us too painfully shows that with all our refinement we still retain much of the dross.

The Metropolis.

HAMPTON, MIDDLESEX.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, December 26, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 13 cwt.

JAMES NICHOLLS Treble.

HENRY R. NEWTON 2.

GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN .. 3.

HENRY LANGDON 4.

JOHN M. HAYES 5.

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. 6.

RICHARD T. WOODLEY .. 7.

WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. Tenor.

Conducted by G. T. McLAUGHLIN.

The ringers wish through this medium to thank the Vicar for his kind offer of a tablet to record the peal, and for the use of the bells; and Mr. W. Benn the steeple-keeper for having everything in readiness.

HIGHGATE.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 29, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANNE, BROOKFIELD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

JOSEPH WOODST Treble.

GEORGE NEWSON 2.

W. L. CHAMBERLAIN* .. 3.

ARTHUR JACOB 4.

THOMAS TITCHENER 5.

BENJAMIN FOSKETT 6.

JOHN WOODS 7.

JAMES HANNINGTON Tenor.

Composed by JOHN REEVES and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

†First peal. *First peal of Major. †First peal in the method. Messrs. Joseph and John Woods hail from Kenninghall.

The Provinces.

OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 24, 1888, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
At MERTON COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THRASTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 36 cwt.

WILLIAM FINCH Treble.	CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. 5.
JOB HOWES 2.	THOMAS PAYNE 6.
FREDERICK CASTLE 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 4.	A. STRANGE & A. BARNEY Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK,

ABINGDON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, December 26, 1888, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ST. HELRN.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

ALBERT KIMBRE Treble.	EDGAR HUMFREY 6.
HARRY SHEARD 2.	HAROLD HUMFREY 7.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 3.	HARRY FRUIN 8.
THOMAS SHORT 4.	JOHN BROWN 9.
EDWARD ALDWORTH 5.	ARTHUR BURGESS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

HERNHILL, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 26, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SOTTANSTALL'S TEN-PART.

EDWARD E. FOREMAN* .. Treble.	*FREDERICK T. HARRIS .. 5.
HERBERT F. FOREMAN* .. 2.	†WILLIAM W. BOULDEN .. 6.
GEORGE A. RANSOM* .. 3.	HENRY G. FAIRBRASS .. 7.
REV. F. J. O. HELMORE .. 4.	*ALBERT ALLEN Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY G. FAIRBRASS.

The Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, H. G. Fairbrass, and A. Allen hail from Canterbury; W. W. Boulden, G. A. Ransom, and F. T. Harris from Boughton, Blean; and the Brothers Foreman belong to the local company. *First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. The ringers desire to express their best thanks to the Vicar for the use of the tower and bells.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE CRAWLEY AND WARMHAM BRANCHES.)

On Wednesday, December 26, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

EDWARD DEWEY Treble.	BENJAMIN KING 5.
THOMAS ANDREWS 2.	FREDERICK WICKENS .. 6.
WALTER WADEY 3.	†FREDERICK W. RICE .. 7.
ALBERT ELLIS* 4.	HENRY BURSTOW Tenor.

Composed by BENJAMIN ANNABLE, and Conducted by
FREDERICK W. RICE.

*First peal with a bob bell. †First peal as conductor. Messrs. Andrews, Burstow, and Wadey hail from Warnham; the rest belong to the Crawley branch.

BETCHWORTH.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 26, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

5040 CHANGES; IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:

VIOLET, OXFORD, KENT TREBLE BOB, GRANDSIRE, COLLEGE SINGLE,
OXFORD BOB, AND PLAIN BOB.

Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

FRANK SANDERS Treble.	EDWARD MOSES 4.
GEORGE WILLIAMS 2.	RALPH ARNOLD 5.
FRANK ARNOLD 3.	WALTER SADLER Tenor.

Conducted by G. W. SADLER.

This is the first peal on the bells. Mr. G. Williams hails from Midhurst, Sussex.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN BRANCH,

On Wednesday, December 26, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
At CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 10 cwt.

*JOHN BENNETT Treble.	*JOHN R. PRITCHARD .. 5.
*RICHARD HILL 2.	*WILLIAM WARD 6.
DAVID E. RIMMER 3.	*WILLIAM DAVIES 7.
*JOHN ASPINWALL 4.	*ROBERT WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by ROBERT WILLIAMS.

*College Youths. †First peal in the method.

Mr. Bennett hails from Kidderminster, Mr. Ward from Woodbridge, both of whom were elected members of the Association previous to commencing the peal. Messrs. Hill and Rimmer belong to the local society; the remainder to Liverpool.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, December 27, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes

At THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' (INVERTED.) Tenor 9 cwt.

HARRY SHEARD Treble.	HAROLD HUMFREY 5.
ALBERT KIMBRE 2.	EDGAR HUMFREY 6.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 3.	HARRY FRUIN 7.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 4.	THOMAS SHORT Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

T. Short's 50th peal.

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

On Thursday, December 27, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At ST. SIDWELL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

THOMAS MUDGE* Treble.	FERRIS SHEPHERD 5.
WILLIAM STOCKER 2.	EDWIN SHEPHERD 6.
DR. A. B. CARPENTER .. 3.	JAMES MOSS 7.
STEPHEN BINFIELD 4.	THOMAS LAKE Tenor.

Conducted by DR. A. B. CARPENTER.

*First peal.

CROYDON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 27, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 27 cwt. in E b.

ALFRED ARNOLD* Treble.	†HENRY BROOKER 5.
WILLIAM STATES 2.	ALFRED BRUCE 6.
WILLIAM J. CHAMBERS .. 3.	THOMAS VERRALL 7.
ROBERT E. PEARSON! .. 4.	GEORGE BURT Tenor.

Conducted by W. STATES.

*First peal. †First peal in the method. The above was rung to commemorate the 20th birthday of W. J. Chambers, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns. This is also the first peal by W. States as conductor.

CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On New Year's Day, 1889, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt.

CHARLES T. HOPKINS .. Treble.	WILLIAM BEDWELL 6.
FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 2.	FREDERICK W. THORNTON .. 7.
HIRZEL F. DE LISLE, Esq. 3.	REV. T. L. PAPILLON 8.
ARTHUR EDWARDS 4.	REV. HERBERT A. COCKEY .. 9.
WILLIAM LINCOLN 5.	JAMES PARMENTER Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COX, and conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.
Mr. Thornton was elected a member of the Essex Association before starting for the peal.

STONHAM ASPAL, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, December 27, 1888, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAMBERT,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. <i>Treble</i> ..	WILLIAM G. CRICKMER .. 5.
CHARLES MEE 2.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN.. .. 6.
FREDERICK MEE.. .. 3.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 7.
DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. 4.	THOMAS STEWARD <i>Tenor</i> .

Composed by D. PRENTICE, and Conducted by FREDERICK MEE.

First peal of Major by the treble and fifth men. Messrs. Mee and Steward hail from Ipswich: the rest are all members of All Saints', Brandeston, society.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE BRIGHTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 29, 1888, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION.

Tenor 19 cwt.

JESSE NEVES <i>Treble</i> ..	HENRY BONIFACE 5.
HARRY MILES* 2.	WILLIAM PALMER 6.
JAMES SEARLE 3.	HARRY WESTON 7.
JOHN FOX 4.	EDWARD BUTLER <i>Tenor</i> .

Conducted by JAMES SEARLE.

*First peal.

MIDHURST.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE MIDHURST BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 29, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES ON SIX BELLS;

BEING FOUR 720'S OF KENT TREBLE BOB, AND THREE 720'S OF PLAIN BOB.

W. COURT <i>Treble</i> ..	*J. LEE.. .. 4.
G. BAKER 2.	G. BATTS 5.
C. TRIBE 3.	G. WILLIAMS <i>Tenor</i> .

Conducted by G. WILLIAMS.

G. Baker hails from Arundel. *First peal in any method.

ARUNDEL, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

(THE ARUNDEL AND WARNHAM BRANCHES).

On Saturday, December 29, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

W. TWIGG <i>Treble</i> ..	F. LUXFORD 5.
G. BALCHIN* 2.	E. EDE 6.
C. BLACKMAN 2.	H. H. CHANDLER 7.
W. SHORT 4.	C. HAYLER.. .. <i>Tenor</i> .

Conducted by G. BALCHIN.

*First peal as conductor. Messrs. Chandler and Short hail from Warnham.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE HERTS AND ESSEX ASSOCIATIONS.

On Friday, December 29, 1888, in Two Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT 3a, ST. PETER'S STREET,

UPON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 12 size in F.

HENRY LEWIS 1-2.	GEORGE W. CARTMEL.. 5-6.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.. 3-4.	RICHARD M. PRATT .. 7-8.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAM CARTMEL.

Umpire—Mr. Thomas Long.

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.
WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 29, 1888, in Four Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 8064 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN MASON* <i>Treble</i> ..	WALTER REA 6.
OLIVER JAMES 2.	GEORGE HAYWARD 7.
WILLIAM JAMES 3.	ALFRED MOORE.. .. 8.
THOMAS ALBUTT 4.	GEORGE BARNE.. .. 9.
WILLIAM ROBERT SMALL.. 5.	JAMES PARRY <i>Tenor</i> .

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE HAYWARD.

*First peal in any method. This peal was rung to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 12000 of Bob Major, rung on this date 1788. Mr. Small hails from Tipton, Staffordshire. The peal will be found in "The Bell News" for May 12th, 1888. This is the longest peal rung by the Association, and the longest peal on the ten bells

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, December 31, 1888, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 32 cwt. in C. Sharp.

WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. <i>Treble</i> ..	ROBERT HAWES 5.
FREDERICK TILLET.. .. 2.	WILLIAM P. GARRETT .. 6.
ALBERT E. DURRANT.. .. 3.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE .. 7.
HENRY BOWELL 4.	WILLIAM MOTTS <i>Tenor</i> .

Conducted by WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE.

SALISBURY, WILTS.

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

On Saturday, December 29, 1888, in Three hours and Ten Minutes.

AT ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

ARTHUR W. BARKUS <i>Treble</i> ..	THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 5.
SYDNEY LAWRENCE 2.	ALFRED P. GODDARD .. 6.
WALTER S. WISE 3.	HENRY D. ADAMS 7.
CHARLES A. CLEMENTS .. 4.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 8.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGATS of Chesterfield, and Conducted by WILLIAM H. GIFFORD.

CROYDON, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 31, 1888, in 3 Hours and 26 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt. in Eb.

ROBERT E. PEARSON* .. <i>Treble</i> ..	WILLIAM STATES 5.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER.. 2.	ALFRED BRUCE 6.
WILLIAM J. CHAMBERS*.. 3.	THOMAS VERRALL 7.
HENRY BROOKER* 4.	WILLIAM HILL <i>Tenor</i> .

Composed and Conducted by Dr. A. B. CARPENTER.

*First peal in the method. This is Dr. A. B. Carpenter's fiftieth peal.

APPLETON BEKKS.

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

On Monday, December 31, 1888, in Nine Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 15,041 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt. in Eb

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

Composed and conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

This is the greatest number of changes yet rang on ten bells,

BRIERLEY HILL.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 27, 1888, in 3 Hours, and 7 Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

RICHARD PERKINS Treble.	*LAWRENCE W. GRIFFITHS 5.
(2nd man left out)	ALFRED BEDDALL 6.
THOMAS ALDEN 3.	WILLIAM F. HARTSHORNE 7.
ALFRED WHATMORE 4.	HARRY HARTSHORNE .. Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY HARTSHORNE.

*First peal with a bob bell. The band meeting one short the second was left out and the tenor rung in. These bells have lately been rehung by Messrs. Barwell, of Birmingham, but the going of them is far from satisfactory.

BISHOPS STORTFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 31, 1888, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIE T. PRIOR Treble.	HENRY PRIOR 5.
WALTER PRIOR 2.	*FREDERICK W. CHAPMAN 6.
CHARLES PRIOR 3.	PHILLIP SPRINGHAM .. 7.
GEORGE PRIOR 4.	HENRY J. TUCKER Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by HENRY J. TUCKER.

This peal which is now rung for the first time has the 4th and 5th each twelve times wrong, and sixteen times right, and the 6th twelve times wrong and twelve times right, and was rung as an anniversary peal of a 6156 Grandsire Caters rung at the above church on December 30th, 1830. †First peal.

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LIVERPOOL.—On Monday evening, December 31st, the following members of St. Luke's Society rang the old year out with a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 6 mins. R. S. Mann, 1; P. Barton, 2; Wm. G. Mann, 3; F. W. Moore, 4; R. Branagan, 5; W. James, 6; John R. Pritchard, 7; R. Gowans, 8. Composed by John R. Pritchard, and conducted by R. S. Mann.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH (Leicestershire).—On Monday, December 17th, at the parish church, a date touch of Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 9 mins. W. Liggins, 1; W. J. Smith, 2; J. Dunmore, 3; J. Hopkins, 4; W. Owen, 5; L. Bullock, 6; J. Jaggar, 7; W. Canner, 8. Composed and conducted by J. Jaggar. It is the longest length in the method by all the band, also the longest touch of Major ever rung on the bells.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE AND SUSSEX ASSOCIATIONS.

ST. ALBANS.—Handbell Ringing.—On Wednesday, December 26th, at the business premises of Mr. H. Lewis, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 55 mins. Henry Lewis, 1-3; E. Percy Debenham, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; George W. Cartmel (conductor), 7-8. Composed by John Carter.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

HAGLEY.—On Sunday, December 30th, a date touch of Bob Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 21 mins. C. Barrett, 1; T. Lees, 2; H. Morris, 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Short, 5; A. Orford, 6; H. Harris, 7; W. F. Hartshorne, 8. Composed and conducted by William F. Hartshorne.

AUGHTON (Lancashire).—On January 1st, at Christ Church, Aughton, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1889 changes, in 1 hr. 12 mins. H. Cave, 1; T. Taylor, 2; T. Eastham, 3; R. Foster, 4; N. Spencer, 5; W. Bentham, 6; C. Sharples, 7; T. Gardner, 8. Composed and conducted by R. Foster. Tenor 16½ cwt.

ST. ALBANS.—On New Year's Eve, on the occasion of a midnight service, at the Cathedral, a half-muffled date touch of Grandsire

Triples, 1888 changes, was rung in 1 hr. and 16 mins. R. A. Fowler, 1; E. Mitchell, 2; T. Grant, 3; R. M. Pratt, 4; J. C. Mitchell, 5; W. Battle, 6; G. W. Cartmel (conductor), 7; E. A. Hulks, 8.

MOSSLEY (Lancashire).—On New Year's Day, at the parish church, the Kirkburton company, and Mr. Jno. Holden (Mossley), rang a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1889 changes, in 1 hr. 9 mins. J. Copley, 1; John Holden, 2; A. Armitage, 3; R. Hill, 4; Jos. Copley, 5; Jos. Pickering, 6; Henry Shaw, 7; Henry Shaw, 8. Tenor 13 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Christmas Eve, for evening service at the church of All Saints, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples 1260 changes, in 50 mins. A. R. Ward (first quarter-peal), 1; O. Coombes, 2; W. Ward, 3; W. Jennings, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; J. Norris, 6; E. Hatcher, 7; A. Ward, 8. Also on Christmas Day, for evening service, 700 Grandsire Triples. S. V. Salisbury, 1; W. Ward, 2; A. R. Ward, 3; W. Jennings, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; J. Norris, 6; E. Hatcher, 7; A. Ward, 8.

THE WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WORCESTER.—On Wednesday, December 26th, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. S. Cotton, 1; T. Barber, 2; W. Powell, 3; W. Short, 4; H. B. Kingsford, 5; W. Page (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. At St. Helen's 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Powell, 1; T. Barber, 2; W. Short, 3; G. Hobbs, 4; H. B. Kingsford, 5; L. Longney (conductor), 6; W. Page, 7; T. Malin, 8. Also a 742 (taken from Holt's Original). S. Cotton, 1; T. Barber, 2; W. Powell, 3; W. Short, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; L. Longney (conductor), 6; W. Page, 7; T. Malin, 8. At St. John's church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles), in 26 mins. G. Hobbs, 1; T. Barber, 2; W. Short, 3; L. Longley (conductor), 4; W. Page, 5; H. Wilks, 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. G. Hobbs, 1; L. Longney (conductor), 2; W. Short, 3; T. Barber, 4; S. Cotton, 5; H. Wilks, 6. Also 120 each of Treble Bob and Stedman Doubles. Messrs. Short and Barber hail from Clent; L. Longney from Croome; the rest are local men.

NETHERTON.—On Sunday, December 30th, at the church of St. Andrew's, for morning service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25½ mins. E. Hampton, 1; B. Townsend, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Composed by the Rev. E. W. Carpenter "Bell News," November 24th, 1888. Also for evening service (with the bells half-muffled it being the 16th anniversary of the death of Mrs. B. Skidmore, the donor of the bells), a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 26½ mins. W. Prestidge, 1; W. Micklewright, sen., 2; J. Townsend, 3; W. Micklewright, jun., 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. And 720 of Kent Treble Bob in 27 mins. R. Round, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; W. Micklewright, sen., 4; W. Micklewright, jun., (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE RAUNDS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Saturday, December 29th, at the parish church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob and 720 of Kent. *W. Pettett, 1; A. H. Martin, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; *J. B. Martin, 4; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 5; *Wm. Parker, 6. Also 360 Double Court. A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; A. H. Martin, 4; W. Pettett, 5; J. B. Martin (conductor), 6. Also 360 College Little (twelve singles). A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; W. Pettett, 5; A. H. Martin (conductor), 6. *First 720 of Treble Bob.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOMBURN.—On Sunday, December 23rd, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. G. Little, 1; G. Deans, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; H. Deans, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. And on Christmas day, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. G. Little, 1; G. Deans, 2; H. Deans, 3; W. Devey, 4; R. Cartwright (conductor), 5; A. Little, 6. Also for evening service a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. G. Little, 1; G. Deans, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; H. Deans, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, December 30th, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor, for evening service (nine bobs and 6 singles), in 26 mins. G. Little, 1; H. Deans, 2; J. E. Claridge, 3; A. Little, 4; W. Devey, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Tenor about 12½ cwt.

PENN.—On Sunday, December 30th, the local company from Wombourne rang for afternoon service at St. Bartholomew's church, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. G. Little, 1; H. Deans, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; J. E. Claridge, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Tenor 10½ cwt. First 720 in the method upon these bells.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—On Thursday, December 13th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 17 mins. W. Leader, 1; F. Sinkins, 2; R. Flaxman, 3; A. Andrews, 4; H. Reeves (Grenadier Guards), 5; W. Wilder, 6; A. C. Fussell (conductor), 7; T. Leader, 8. Tenor 9 cwt.

MAIDENHEAD.—On Wednesday, December 26th, at the church of All Saints, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). R. Biggs, 1; F. D. Biggs, 2; H. Stratford, 3; F. L. Free, 4; J. Evans, 5; F. Bissley, 6; J. W. Wilkins (conductor), 7; B. Page, 8. First quarter-peal by all except the ringers of the 6th, and 7th. Also a 671 in the same method. S. Goodchild, 1; J. W. Wilkins (conductor), 2; R. Biggs, 3; F. L. Free, 4; J. Evans, 5; S. Quintin, 6; H. Stratford, 7; B. Page, 8. And a 168. S. Goodchild, 1; F. Biggs, 2; H. Stratford, 3; F. L. Free, 4; J. Evans (conductor), 5; R. Biggs, 6; G. Bunce, 7; B. Page, 8.

GREAT MARLOW (Bucks).—On Wednesday, December 26th, at the parish church, a 112 of Grandsire Triples. E. W. Yates, 1; W. Hussey (conductor), 2; S. Goodchild, 3; F. Biggs, 4; F. L. Free, 5; J. Evans, 6; G. Bunce, 7; A. W. Truss, 8. Also a 336. S. Goodchild, 1; W. Hussey (conductor), 2; F. L. Free, 3; H. Stratford, 4; J. Evans, 5; F. Biggs, 6; G. Bunce, 7; B. Page, 8. The Hughenden ringers take this opportunity of thanking the vicars of Boyne Hill and Great Marlow respectively, for the use of the bells.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SLEAFORD.—On Wednesday, December 26th, a mixed company from Lincoln visited this place, and attempted a Peal of Bob Triples on the fine peal at the parish church, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 4,556 changes in 2 hrs. 42 mins. J. B. Fenton, 1; J. W. Watson, 2; H. Maidens, 3; H. Hoyes, 4; C. Wells, 5; L. Vickers (conductor), 6; D. W. Brown, 7; J. Ellard, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. The visitors take this opportunity of thanking the local ringers, especially Mr. Norman Snow, for having everything in readiness, and for their kind attention. This is the longest length rung by all except Messrs. Wells and Vickers.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Christmas Day, for early morning service, at St. John the Baptist's, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples 1260 changes, in 49 mins. H. Dudley, 1; W. J. Chambers, 2; A. Arnold, 3; H. Brooker, 4; T. Verrall, 5; W. States (conductor), 6; A. Bruce, 7; W. Hill, 8. Also a 504 in the same method. H. Dudley, 1; A. Arnold, 2; R. E. Pearson, 3; S. Fisk, 4; W. Statee, 5; H. Brooker (conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; A. Collins, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BOUGHTON-NEAR-FAVERSHAM.—On Sunday, December 30th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen singles and three bobs), in 26 mins. W. H. Hope, 1; J. Burch, 2; H. F. Foreman, 3; W. W. Boulden, 4; F. T. Harris, 5; G. A. Ransom (conductor), 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Monday evening, December 31st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins, with the bells half-muffled. T. Wragg, 1; W. Hexter, 2; J. C. Dicken, 3; S. Clarke, 4; W. Gilson, 5; J. Ward, 6; J. Barrow (conductor), 7; J. R. Ward, 8 (first quarter-peal). Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

BAGSHOT (Surrey).—On Thursday, December 27th, at St. Anne's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Haynes, 1; F. Francis, 2; Frank Francis, 3; W. Tidy, 4; T. Gould, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. Also a touch of Minor with W. Whittington, treble, and W. Haynes, tenor. Messrs. Haynes, Francis, Tidy and Whittington hail from Ewhurst. And on Saturday, December 29th, a 720 Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles). A. Harding, 1; H. Stapleton, 2; F. Francis, 3; O. Harding, 4; T. Gould, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. Also on New Year's Eve, a 720 of Bob Minor (26 singles). W. Stevens, 1; T. Gould, 2; F. Francis, 3; F. Harding, 4; H. Stapleton, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor to ring the old year out and the new one in

(eight bobs and two singles). W. Stevens, 1; F. Francis, 2; T. Gould, 3; O. Harding, 4; H. Stapleton, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. Tenor 21 cwt. And on hand-bells, several touches of Kent Treble Bob Minor by the same band.

BISHOP, STORTFORD (Herts).—On Christmas Day, December 25th, at the parish church, for early service, a quarter-peal of Plain Bob Triples, in 43 mins. W. T. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; C. Prior, 3; G. Prior, 4; F. W. Chapman, 5; H. Prior, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; T. Newman, 8. Also for morning service, 672 of Plain Bob Triples. W. T. Prior, 1; C. Prior, 2; F. W. Chapman, 3; H. Prior, 4; W. Prior, 5; G. Prior, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; T. Newman, 8. And 209 of Grandsire Triples, standing as before. Also on New Year's Eve, 476 of Grandsire Triples. W. T. Prior, 1; F. W. Chapman, 2; H. Prior, 3; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 4; W. Prior, 5; G. Prior, 6; P. Springham, 7; T. Newman, 8. Also 336 of Plain Bob Triples. C. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; G. Prior, 3; H. Prior, 4; F. W. Chapman, 5; P. Springham, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; T. Newman, 8.

BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, December 30th, at the parish church, for Divine Service, in the morning, 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major. W. James, 1; W. R. Small, 2; G. Hughes, 3; T. Albutt, 4; G. Hayward, 5; G. Bourne, 6; O. James, 7; W. Rea, 8. Also a touch of Plain Bob Major. And for Divine Service in the evening, 756 of Plain Bob Triples. G. Hayward, 1; W. Rea, 2; W. James, 3; W. R. Small, 4; O. James, 5; T. Albutt, 6; G. Bourne, 7; J. Parry, 8. The above touches were conducted by Mr. G. Hayward. W. R. Small and G. Hughes hail from Tipton.

CRADLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, December 25th, at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-six singles), with tenor behind. G. Dukes, 1; C. Beasley, 2; R. Beasley, 3; H. Woodall, 4; W. Woodall, 5; C. Daniel (conductor), 6; P. Beasley, 7. Also on Tuesday evening, December 4th, for practice, 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. G. Dukes, 1; H. Woodall, 2; C. Daniel, 3; J. Meredith, 4; H. Harris, 5; C. Beasley (conductor), 6. H. Harris hails from Stourbridge.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, December 29th, at the parish church, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), taken from Holt's original. A. Harris, 1; G. Lindoff (conductor), 2; J. Baker, 3; W. Cooke, 4; W. Evans, 5; A. Haigh, 6; W. Haigh, 7; P. Taffs, 8. Also 546 Grandsire Triples. A. Harris, 1; G. Lindoff, 2; J. Baker, 3; A. Haigh (conductor), 4; W. Haigh, 5; W. Cooke, 6; W. Evans, 7; J. Wellard, 8.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, December 30th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Nicholas, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28½ mins. *C. W. Miller, 1; J. Heathorn, 2; W. Groves, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; F. Bennett (conductor), 5; *J. J. Jones, 6. Two courses by E. Stone, and H. E. Hart. *First 720 on tower bells. †First 720 with a bob bell. And on handbells another 720 in the same method with T. H. Colburn on the 4th. Also on Monday night, December 31st, with the bells half muffled, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (with a call every lead), in 27½ mins. T. H. Colburn, 1 (first 720 on tower bells); T. Heathorn, 2; W. Groves, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; F. Bennett (conductor), 5; J. J. Jones, 6. And two courses by E. Stone, and H. E. Hart. Also 168 Grandsire Triples. C. W. Miller, 1; T. H. Colburn, 2; J. Heathorn, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; J. Jones, 5; W. Groves, 6; F. Bennett (conductor), 7; H. E. Hart, 8. Tenor 22½ cwt. The above 720's are the first which have been rung by a local band in Guildford for very many years.

HATFIELD (Herts).—On Tuesday, December 18th, at the parish church of St. Elthelreda, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by H. Rowe. And on Wednesday, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by A. Shepherd, came to grief after ringing 3108 changes in 2 hrs. Also on Sunday, December 30th, a 447 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by A. Shepherd. And on New Year's Eve, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by H. Rowe. The following took part in the above; Messrs. Stocks, Gathard, Rowe, Shepherd, A. Smith, Richardson, Hollingsworth, Shepherd, J. Renny, Kentish, Powers.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—At the parish church on Christmas morning for Divine Service, a 672 and 504 of Grandsire Triples. J. Bennett, 1; G. Salter, 2; H. Williams (conductor), 3; T. Bennett, 4; H. Smith, 5; J. Rew, 6; J. Crane, 7; T. Walters, 8. T. Salter rang 5th in the 504. J. Rew hails from Sheffield, and is a member of the St. Peter's Band.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, December 23rd, at St. Stephen's, Westminster, for Divine Service, 476 Grandsire Triples. A. G. Ellis, H. R. Newton, 2; S. J. Reed, 3; F. Inglefield, 4; E. Duff, 5; H. S. Ellis (conductor), 6; W. H. George, 7; J. George, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. This was to oblige Mr. J. George of Coventry. And on Sunday, December 30th, at St. John's Church, Waterloo Road, before evening service, 1330 of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. C. Chaplin, 1; W.

Baron, jun. 2; W. Partington (conductor), 3; S. G. Davies, 4; F. L. Davies, 5; Rev. A. W. Jephson, 6; H. L. Partington, 7; W. Chaplin, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

PINCHBECK (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, December 27th, at the parish church, on the occasion of the marriage of the daughter of the sexton, Mr. Laxton, eight 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Doubleday, 1; T. Ladd, 2; *G. Skeef (Spalding), 3; T. Fisher, 4; *G. Ladd (conductor), 5. *College Youths.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—Chiming.—On Sunday, December 30th, for afternoon service at St. Peter's Church, a 576 of Bob Caters. H. Lewis, 1-2; E. P. Debenham (conductor) 3-4; G. W. Cartmel, 5-6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7-8; T. Waller, 9-10.

SANDIACRE (Derbyshire).—On Christmas Day, at the parish church, at 8 o'clock a.m., 1260 changes, being ten 120's and sixty changes of Grandsire Doubles. G. Carrington, 1; J. Hall, 2; H. Wilde, 3; J. Bonsall, 4; R. Parkins (conductor), 5; M. Stevensoo, 6. First (1260) by all, also first 1260 on the bells. Tenor 16 cwt, 2 qrs, 14 lbs. in F.

SLEAFORD (Lincolnshire).—On New Year's Eve, for practice, in the parish church of St. Denys, a 1200 Grandsire Doubles, being ten 6-scores, each called differently, with 4 6 8 covering. W. Townsend, 1; E. Bristowe, 2; W. Maxey, 3; E. Holderness, 4; T. H. Holdich (conductor), 5; C. Harwood, 6; N. E. Snow, 7; A. G. Langdon, 8.

SYSTON (Leicestershire).—The old year was rung out in the parish church, with bells half-muffled, with a 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Bail, 1; G. Freeman, 2; I. Pickard, 3; A. Swann, 4; G. Walton, 5; J. Hall, 6; J. North (conductor), 7; J. Freeman, 8. And the new year rang in with 630 Grandsire Triples. W. Bail, 1; G. Freeman, 2; A. Swann, 3; J. Pickard, 4; G. Walton (conductor), 5; J. Hall, 6; J. North, 7; J. Freeman, 8.

Correspondence.

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

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

THE PROPOSED PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS AT APPLETON.

SIR,—I notice in a recent issue of "THE BELL NEWS" a letter from Mr. Russam with regard to the proposed peal of Stedman Caters at Appleton. I would like to ask Mr. Russam if he has ever been to Appleton, or ever rung upon the bells there? (or tin kettles as was once intimated), or does he know anything of the bells in question? If not, I would like to point out to him a few facts concerning these bells. In the first place the tower is a very small one, where very few would think of looking for a peal of ten; and again the bells are so hung that the ropes have a slanting or zig-zag descent to form the circle below, thus making the "go" of the bells quite as hard or harder than the majority of peals with their tenors a ton. I think if Mr. Russam was to pay a visit to Appleton, he would find that the back bells require quite as good men at their rope's end as in the peals he mentioned. Then again, the ringing room is very small, and well packed when all ten are on, and none too airy, which makes it very warm work in long touches, the ringer of the fourth having to stand in a niche cut out in the seat of the only window, which no doubt is very comfortable. Perhaps there are a good many ringers who will agree with what Mr. Russam says, but very few that have paid Appleton a visit would think of endorsing it. W. J. FISHER.

Bournemouth.

THE PROJECTED LONG PEAL AT APPLETON.

SIR,—In "THE BELL NEWS" of December 15th, it was announced that a long peal of Stedman Caters would be attempted at Appleton on Monday, December 24th. On seeing this notice, Mr. Ward wrote at once on behalf of the Cheltenham long peal band to the Rev. F. E. Robinson asking him to kindly send the composition of the intended peal and also the time of starting. To this Mr. Robinson replied that they "could not obtain leave to start at all in that week," and this information was confirmed in our paper of the 22nd instant, with the further statement that it would "not be started for till after the new year." On Sunday 30th, Mr. Robinson sent a post card (which was not received by Mr. Ward until late on Monday) to the effect that the peal would be started for on the Monday (31st) at 9 a.m., but the length of the peal and the constitution of the band he did not know.

I think it is due to ourselves and the Exercise at large to state these facts, in case it should be thought strange we were not represented at Appleton on Monday. I feel sure it will not be thought that this is written in any spirit of unfriendliness, but in what I conceive to be the true interests of change ringing. W. T. PATES.

P.S.—Since writing the above I hear that the peal (15035 in 9 hrs. and 16 mins.) was accomplished, and most heartily congratulate the band upon such a magnificent performance. I ought to say that the composition was not forwarded to us as requested.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—The peal rung at Writtle, on December 26th, (see "BELL NEWS," December 29th, page 501), should have been credited to the Sussex Association, of which all our band are members. The omission was mine. T. L. PAPILLON, Hon Sec. E.A.C.R.

Writtle, Decemb. 31st, 1888.

THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

EVERTON.—The following is the ringing done for the month of December.—On Thursday, December 6th, 720 each of College Pleasure and Treble Bob. On Saturday, December 8th, 720 of College Pleasure and Treble Bob. On Thursday, December 13th, 720 of Violet Treble Bob. On Saturday, December 15th, 720 of College Exercise and Treble Bob. On Monday, December 17th, 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure and Treble Bob. On Thursday, December 20th, 720 of Oxford Delight and Treble Bob. On Saturday, December 22nd, 720 City Delight and Treble Bob. On Sunday, December 23rd, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. On Monday, December 24th, 720 of Duke of York Treble Bob, also 720 of New London Pleasure and Treble Bob. On Tuesday, December 25th, 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob, also 720 of Kent Treble Bob. On Monday, December 31st, with the bells half-muffled, 720 of New London Pleasure Treble Bob. The following are those that took part in the above, all being local men: Charles Lindley, Fred Durdy James Holgate, John Swindin, William Stevenson, Joseph Swindin, George Brown. George Pearson took part in the Oxford Treble Bob.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, pursuant to the notice which appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" a district meeting was held at Eversholt, and a fair gathering of members took place. The Eversholt bells have recently been put into complete order, and a new second bell being substituted for the old one by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough. Among those present were the Rev. W. S. Baker, the rector, his son, and the Rev. W. W. C. Baker, one of the hon. sec's of the Association. Messrs. I. Hills, S. Cullip, W. Allen, M. Warwick, Bedford; Mark Lane, W. Smith, Aspley Guise; A. Morrison, F. Flood, Chas. Herbert, hon. sec., Woburn.

During the afternoon and evening some well-struck touches were rung, among them being 720 of Plain Bob Minor. A. Morrison, 1; W. Smith, 2; M. Warwick, 3; Mark Lane, 4; I. Hills, 5; W. Allen, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. W. Allen, 1; S. Cullip, 2; M. Warwick, 3; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 4; Mark Lane, 5; I. Hills, 6. And 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. I. Hills, 1; S. Cullip, 2; M. Warwick, 3; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 4; W. Allen, 5; M. Lane, 6. Several 120's of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were rung, Mr. F. Major, of the Eversholt company, covering very well indeed with the tenor, which weighs 17 cwt.

At half past four the Rector very kindly invited all present to partake of tea at the Green Man Inn where a room had been reserved for the ringers, some of whom made use of the handbells. The Rector presided, his son taking the vice. All present thoroughly enjoyed the pleasant meeting, and desire to return their best thanks to those two gentlemen for bringing about such a successful and interesting gathering.

A USEFUL WORK BAG.—At one side of the fireplace stands my work-bag on its own four legs. It is very convenient, being just the height of a chair, and so much more tidy than a hanging bag. I made it out of one of the shilling camp-stools, the legs of which I first painted white; I then lined a piece of strawberry-colour plush with blue sateen, and made it into a bag without a bottom, and fastened it on to the seat of the camp-stool. I then turned it inside out and sewed a piece of the sateen over the ends to quite cover the seat; this formed the bag. Below the camp-stool seat I saw a deep frill of white Valenciennes lace to hang down: the bag was tied with ribbon to match the velvet. These bags look pretty made of any stuffs. Chintz pattern cretonne is a favourite and cheap material.—From "Cassell's Family Magazine" for January.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

O'er the snowy meadows ringing
Come the chimings sweet and clear;
Hark the message they are bringing—
"Unto all a glad New Year!"
List how softly they are stealing,
Louder now, oh joyful bells!
Then again so faintly pealing,
Thus the music dies and swells.

How I love to hear them ringing,
Like a tuneful hymn of praise!
With the bells my heart is singing,
"Joyful be the dawning days!"
New Year, New Year! thou hast roses,
Summer light and all things fair;
Every hour new joy discloses,
Blessings crown us everywhere.

As I write, the few remaining moments of the old year are swiftly passing away. The muffled tones of the bells in the tower fill the air with a mournful cadence, announcing the approaching demise of 1888, and with it another period of our life and country's history. Before long the muffles will have been removed, and then "in tones loud and clear" will come through louvres of the belfry windows the announcement that a New Year has just dawned upon us "for weal or for woe." Surely, as the Christmas-tide just past is rightly a season of joy and thanksgiving, so should the advent of the New Year be a time for reflection upon the past and of hope for the future. Our past is before us; it stares us in the face with its joys and its sorrows. They are gone beyond recall. But the future is an "unknown quantity," we know not whither it shall lead. Although we are, humanly speaking, "creatures of circumstances," or—to put it more correctly—frail beings in the hands of an all-merciful God whose doings we are unable to fathom, yet we have sufficient margin allowed us to make our path—to a certain extent—rough or smooth. Then let us at this season, proverbial for its formation of good resolutions, make at least one good resolve, namely, by mutual bearing and forbearing one with another, so to smooth our pathway through the next twelve months of our lives (if we should be spared), that when we once more exchange the time-honoured greeting of "A Happy New Year," we may be able to reflect that this now coming year has really been one of "peace and goodwill" all round. May the New Year also prove one of steady progress in the art. In the words of the old toast—

"May good ringers flourish,
May bad ringers mend;
May change-ringing prosper
Till the world's at an end."

Once more, my friends—A Happy New Year to all! And if in the year now opening, I should feel prepared to write what seem to be harsh words on any of your doings, believe me that I shall have done it not only with the best intentions, but also with very great reluctance. I never write words of censure without feelings of pain. But amidst all things, believe me, I must be honest. If I write words of praise, they come from the heart. If I write words of censure it is only through a sense of duty and my anxiety for the good of the Exercise that I do so. Therefore, let us in the future agree to take "the good and bad alike as it comes," remembering that in one point at least we are all agreed, namely, the desire to further the interests of that art to which we are devotedly attached.

The achievements of the past year, so ably summarised in Saturday's leading article, may well give us cause for pleasant reflections. Not only have we beaten all previous record in the number of peals rung, but, as has been well observed (and which is even a more satisfactory sign of progress made) much more attention has been paid than heretofore to the musical qualities

of peals composed and rung. This fact denotes a growing and praiseworthy desire on the part of our brethren to get the best music possible out of their bells. This is as it should be: and as the musical taste develops and increases amongst us, there can be no doubt that in the future even more regard will be paid to this aspect of our ringing.

But if our ringing performances have been so satisfactory, what can be said of that other equally important branch of our work—organisation—to which the leader of last Saturday makes no reference? How do our County Associations and Guilds stand on the first day of 1889, compared with their position on the same day of the previous year? We shall, I trust, ere long be favoured with our friend Mr. Attree's ever-welcome analysis of peals rung, which denotes so practically what progress has been made in the science; then would it not be equally interesting and useful to us if we could have a return shewing what has been done in the work of organising our forces, and of raising our art to its proper position? Of course, we have reports of meetings week by week, just as we have of the peals rung; but I think that a short and succinct account from each Association would be very valuable.

Worthy secretaries, I throw out this suggestion for your consideration. If you think it worth acting upon, and send me (through the editor) such reports, I will gladly collate them and put them into shape for the pages of "THE BELL NEWS." We hold by that means be able to form a pretty correct idea of our position both socially and scientifically, and thus might endeavour to regulate our affairs for the future, armed with a better knowledge of our true position.

Mr. Winny has properly set loose the "dogs of war," by his letter on the peal at Fulham. I rather fancy somehow that he will before this have come to the conclusion that he has brought a finely developed hornet's nest about his ears. But, of course, it is his turn next, and doubtless many like myself will be curious to see if or how he is going to turn the scales in face of the weight of last Saturday's letters. One thing is certain—there can be no backing out—the question must be fought out for the credit of the Exercise; and I would add in all earnestness, let it be fought out honourably and courteously, as should be all controverted questions which arise amongst us.

FREE LANCE.

SALISBURY, WILTS.

On Saturday, December 29th, a 5120 of Bob Major was rung at St. Martin's church to replace a 5120 in the same method which was rung at this church on October 17th last, and which afterwards proved to be false. The figures of this false composition appear in the Shipway Reprint, part iii., page 24. The same evening also happened to be the fifth anniversary of the first 720 of Bob Minor ever rung in Salisbury, viz., Saturday, December 29th, 1883, by H. O. Dowling, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. S. Dowling, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6. This may seem a small matter to many, but as it was the first change-ringing of any note in Salisbury, and as it was struck well, it was thought a great deal of at the time. Mr. H. O. Dowling is now at Texas, U.S., and Mr. A. S. Dowling (now the Rev. A. S. Dowling), was recently living at Barking, in Essex.

SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS, GREENWICH.

Members are requested to note that the next meeting at St. Alphege Church will be held on the second Tuesday in January, 106, King George Street, Greenwich, S.E.

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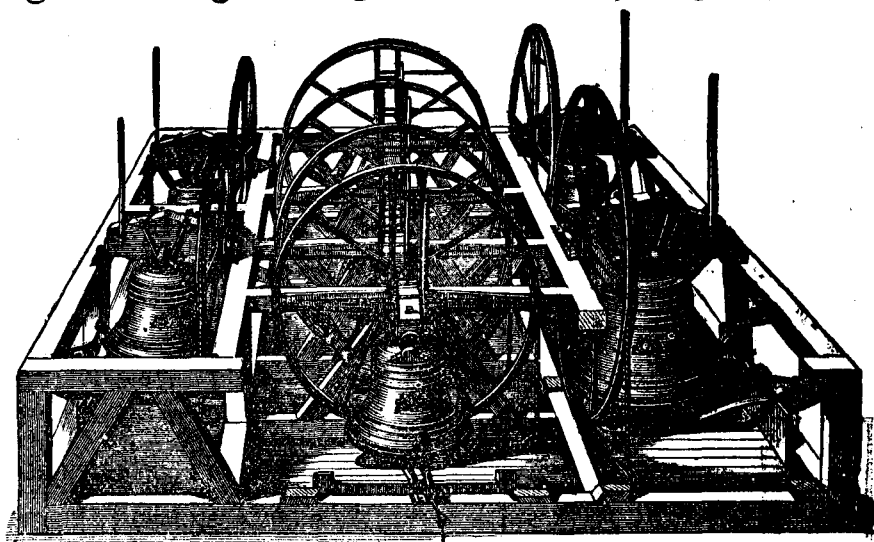
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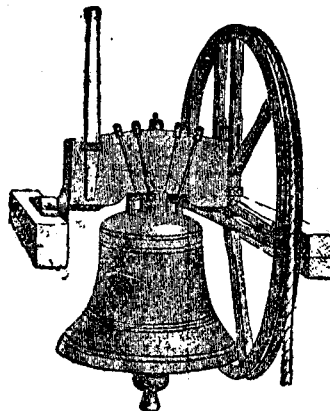
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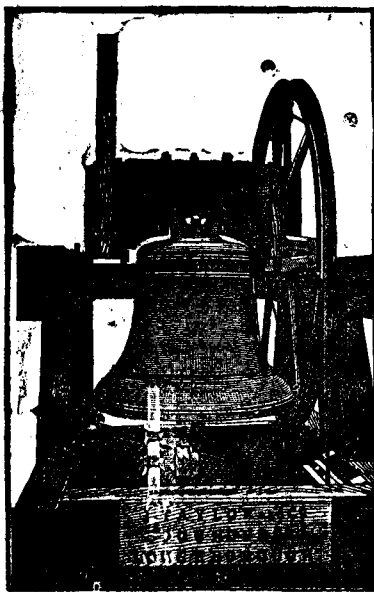
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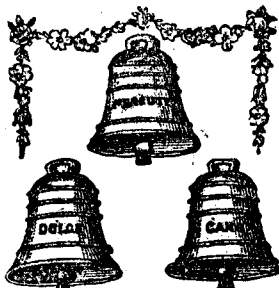
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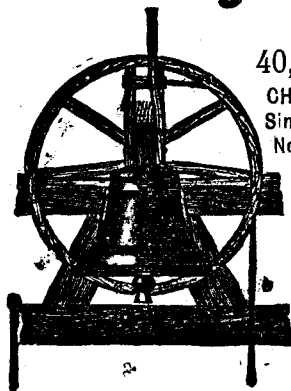
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No. 354.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1889.

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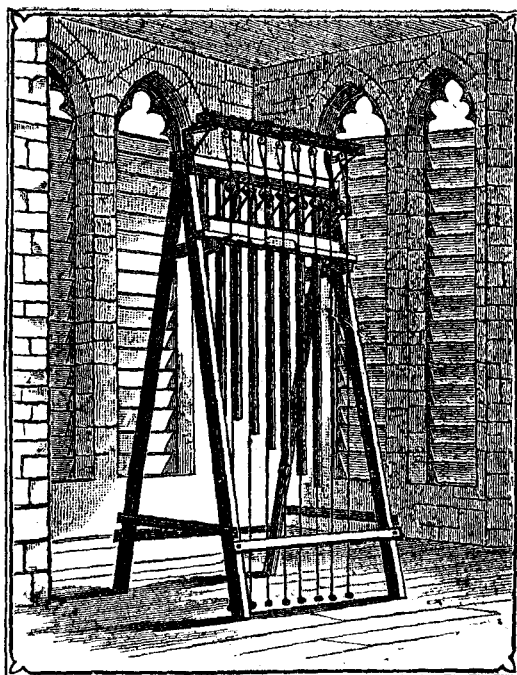
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THE ST. DAVID'S AND ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETIES,
EXETER.

On Saturday evening, December 29th, 1888, the members and friends of the above Societies dined together at the Rougemont Hotel, Exeter, the company numbering about 35. The Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote (the Secretary of the Devonshire Guild), occupied the chair, and the Rev. S. W. E. Bird (President of the St. Sidwell's Society), the vice-chair. Among those also present were the Revs. W. W. Richards, H. Branscombe, F. Molineux, C. M. Hawker, and C. T. Hatt; Messrs. Marshall, B. Mundy, J. Moss, E. Shepherd, F. Shepherd, J. Rowden, G. Seymour, T. Mudge, R. Jerman, Harris, Carroll, T. Lake, J. Ball, W. Stocker, Roberts, C. Bartlett, T. Templeman, W. Drake, C. Carter, S. Binfield, T. Hodge, Bunker, W. Hope, and W. Hill. On the conclusion of the repast,

The CHAIRMAN announced the receipt of letters regretting their inability to attend the gathering from Mr. R. B. West, Mr. W. Barnes, Mr. H. V. Jones, Mr. H. F. Willey, and Mr. Spicer.

The toast of "The Queen" was proposed from the chair and duly honoured.

Mr. MARSHALL submitted "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese."

The Rev. W. W. RICHARDS, who responded, said that there was no doubt that whatever the Church had passed through in England it would always stand, and it would remain for them to give it their support, whatever might be the difficulties it would have to pass through.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN proposed "Success to the Guild of Devonshire Ringers," and coupled with the toast the name of the Hon. and Rev. J. S. Northcote. He remarked that although he was only an honorary member of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers he had had the good fortune to know the Guild and its working for many years, and he considered that ringers now realised the dignity of their work—that their ringing was really part of God's worship, and that they carried that thought and motive into it, and he believed that in bringing about this reform the Guild of Devonshire Ringers had played a very important part. Referring to the present Secretary of the Guild, Mr. Bird said that he was prevented from saying much respecting him that he should like to say owing to his being present, but they knew him better than he did, and they knew his worth, and knew, too, that he honoured the name he bore, and well carried out the traditions of that name in everything to which he put his hand.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply, thanked the company for the cordial manner in which they had received the toast. Naturally they would expect him to say a word or two about the progress of the Guild. Well, he did not want to flatter them, nor did he want to say that they were doing more than they really were, and he would therefore tell them that they were holding their own, and, he thought, were making progress. They were not increasing very fast in actual numbers, but he thought that they were continuing to do a very good work, and that the influence which the proposer of the toast had spoken of was still spreading throughout the diocese. The good work which was being done by the Guild was not confined to methods of ringing; as the members helped and advised wherever any restoration or alteration of bells was proposed, and he wished that in many cases more than at present their help was asked for, because they were able to give very good advice, although he said it himself, as regards the hanging of a new peal, or with regard to any alterations that might be necessary. One of the reasons, he considered, why their numbers did not increase rapidly was the difficulties connected with change-ringing. In conclusion he hoped that the misunderstanding which had existed between them and the ringers of a certain parish in the city would be amicably settled.

Mr. E. SHEPHERD proposed "Success to St. David's Society." He hoped that the St. David's Society would make as much progress as had the St. Sidwell's Society.

The Rev. C. T. HATT and Mr. ROWDEN briefly acknowledged the toast.

Mr. JERMAN, in submitting the toast "Success to St. Sidwell's Society," referred to the great assistance which the St. David's Society had received from their *confrères* of St. Sidwell's.

The Rev. S. W. E. BIRD and Mr. MUNDY acknowledged the

toast, the latter mentioning that the St. Sidwell's Society consisted of about 20 members, and that the financial condition of the body was satisfactory, there being a balance on the right side.

"The Visitors" was proposed by Mr. F. SHEPHERD, and responded to by the Rev. F. MOLINEUX and Mr. SEYMOUR.

During the evening handbell performances were given, and several capital songs were sung.

QUEx PARK AND ALL SAINTS' BAND.

On Monday, December 31st, the members of this Society met at the Waterloo Tower, Quex Park, at 10 p.m., and after ringing several touches of Grandsire Triples the front four bells were raised and the new year welcomed in with rounds on the twelve. On Tuesday, January 1st, they again met at the tower, and after ringing some good touches of Triples and a few rounds on the twelve, an adjournment was made at 4.30 p.m. to the "Powell Arms," where a splendid dinner, generously given by H. H. P. Cotton, Esq., was in readiness, and after doing such ample justice to it as only ringers can, the cloth was removed and the usual loyal toasts duly honoured.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. T. B. Reed), proposed "The health of Mr. and Mrs. Cotton and Family," and referred to Mr. Cotton's kindness and liberality in annually providing the ringers with such a noble banquet. The toast was drank with musical honours and much enthusiasm.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN (Mr. J. J. Bristow), next proposed "The health of the Captain" (Mr. T. B. Reed.)

The healths of Mr. Leon Willshire, and the Secretary, Mr. E. Tibble was drank and suitably responded to.

During the evening several courses of Triples, Major, and Caters were rung on the handbells (retained in hand), and some courses of Cinques with bells on the table, in which Messrs. T. B. Reed, L. Willshire, J. Bristow, T. B. Reed, jun., G. Willshire, S. Jarman, E. Tibble, A. Pointer, and E. Golder, took part.

After some capital songs by Mr. H. Wilson and others, a thoroughly pleasant and enjoyable evening was brought to a close by singing the National Anthem.

SALISBURY CITY RINGERS.

The Annual Dinner was held at the "Three Swans," on Friday, January 4th. About twenty-six sat down, and Mr. G. Fulford presided. The usual toasts of the "Queen, Bishops and Clergy, etc.," having been proposed and responded to, Mr. Griffin proposed "The Diocesan Guild," coupled with the names of the Rev. A. D. Hill and Mr. J. R. Jerram. Mr. Hill not being present Mr. Jerram responded, and proposed the health of Mr. Gifford, who responded. Mr. Bartlett then proposed "The City Ringers," coupled with the names of the captains of each belfry, who each responded. The health of the chairman having been drunk, the rest of the evening was spent in songs and handbell ringing.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN
ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 30th, at Chipping Sodbury and Yate. Short Service at St. John the Baptist church, Chipping Sodbury, at 12 o'clock. Dinner at the Portcullis Hotel, at 1 o'clock. Business Meeting afterwards. Usual allowance to members who have sent notice to the Local District Secretary by Wednesday, January 23rd. Train arrivals at Yate from Gloucester way 9.33 and 11.8. From Bristol 9.35 and 11.23. Towers open to Associates (six bells), Chipping Sodbury, Yate, and Iron Acton.

RE-OPENING OF ST. MARY'S BELLS, CHEPSTOW.

The bells in this parish church were re-opened on Thursday, December 6th, after having been rehung with new spindles, brasses, stocks, wheels, and also quarter-turned. The bells were opened by the Cheltenham ringers with a 504 of Grandsire Triples, and a 360 of Stedman Triples, before the service. The work has been carried out by Messrs. Warner and Sons, of London, who have given every satisfaction.

News from Abroad.

THE ST. PHILIP'S SOCIETY, SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES.

It is again our pleasure to chronicle the doings of some of our brother-strings on the other side of the globe. Mr. W. S. Morton, who has more than once before corresponded with us, sends the following account of a ringers' festival, which will be read with interest. We hope our Antipodean friends will strive hard to excel in the more intricate parts of our art. We tell Mr. Morton's story in his own words, as follows:—

On Saturday, August 11th, 1888, the members of the above held their first Annual Ringing Festival in connection with the formation of the society, which was established August 12th, 1859.

It may be mentioned that the 25th of July was always observed in the tower as a day of rejoicing in commemoration of the birthday of the late Hon. John Campbell, who presented the bells, and on this occasion always sent a donation of one guinea per bell to the ringers. This observance, on his decease (some three years ago), was discontinued by the ringers, who considered that there would be a want of fitness in further observing the custom. It was thought however that in its stead there should be substituted for it an "Annual Ringing Festival," to which members from kindred societies might be invited to take part, and by social intercourse thereby stimulate each other to take greater interest in the cause of ringing. Invitations were sent to the ringers of St. Mark's, Darling Point, St. Jude's, Randwick, All Saints, Parramatta, and Christ Church, Sydney, together with the late members of St. Philip's, who had severed their connection with the tower through various causes.

At 9 a.m. the tower bunting was displayed, consisting of five large and well-proportioned flags. These were presented to the belfry by the ringers (St. Philip's), at a cost of about £76, in commemoration of the departure of the New South Wales troops to the Soudan. The following description may be of interest: Union Jack, six yards long, for central staff, English white ensign, English red ensign, American ensign, and Colonial ensign, each four yards long for staffs run out on each side of the tower.

The belfry was open at 2 p.m. for ringing, at which time the Rev. J. D. Langley, incumbent, and also president of the society, was present to receive the visitors, who came in batches until the tower accommodation was taxed to its utmost. Ringing was indulged in with very little intermission until 5.30, when all adjourned to the school-room, where Messrs. Whetton, Dennis, Cartwright, Rostron, and Burchell, with the assistance of their good wives and sisters, etc., had in the meantime supervised all that was necessary in connection with what proved to be an excellent tea, to which over fifty ringers sat down. The Rev. J. D. Langley presided, supported on the right by Mrs. Langley, and the Rev. R. R. Eva, Rural Dean and rector of Maryborough. Grace having been sung, the company soon betook themselves to supplying the wants of the inner man. This tea was by no means the least interesting feature in connection with the festival, as ringers (many of whom had never met before), were afforded an opportunity for social intercourse and a friendly chat, which seemed to be taken advantage of. After tea,

Mr. JOYNER, conductor (St. Mark's), rose on behalf of his company, and congratulated the members of St. Philip's on their happy idea of bringing so many ringers together from the various towers, and thus laying the foundation of a periodical reunion which he believed would result in causing them to throw more energy into their work as ringers. He believed that the members of St. Philip's church could hold their own with any tower in the city "in plain ringing," but he would like to see them go in for ringing on scientific principles. He advocated scientific ringing, and concluded by expressing a hope that his band would be invited on a future occasion.

The Rev. J. D. LANGLEY, President, expressed his pleasure at presiding over such a large and interesting meeting of Church-workers, whose services he valued very highly. He viewed bell-ringing in its highest sense as a work for God, and always

considered the ringing of the bells as a direct protest against scepticism and infidelity, as from time to time they sounded to call God's people to wait upon Him. He hoped ringers would always consider their work in its higher aspect. He referred to the very great difficulty there was to get suitable ringers, as members of his congregation were continually removing from the city out to the suburbs. The tower suffered from the same cause. He concluding by extending a very cordial and hearty welcome to all the ringers present.

Mr. KIMBERLEY (conductor of St. Jude's, Randwick) stated on behalf of his society, the pleasure it gave them to be present, and referred to the many similar gatherings which had taken place in connection with St. Jude's tower in the days of the late S. H. Pearce, who took very great interest in the bells, and generally arranged for an annual dinner on a large scale. His tower also suffered he was sorry to say, through the removal of members.

Mr. COOPER (senior member of Christ Church Society), responded on behalf of Mr. Whittle (conductor), thanking the members of St. Philip's for the invitation, which they had all enjoyed so very much.

Mr. DAVIS (conductor of All Saints', Parramatta), responded in a few well-chosen words and offered a cordial invitation to the ringers of St. Philip's to visit their tower.

Mr. C. J. LESTER responded on behalf of the late members of St. Philip's.

Mr. ALBERT HURFORD was called upon to represent All Saints' Cathedral Society, Bathurst, New South Wales, but was relieved of the task by Mr. Morton, who stated that it afforded him very much pleasure to respond on behalf of Bathurst, as it was there that he first learned to ring, and those lessons were received from Mr. Hurford's respected father. He had received a letter some time back from Mr. Lynch, the present conductor of the Cathedral society, in which it stated that he was trying to teach a young band to overcome Bob Doubles, but with what success he had not yet learned.

The REV. R. R. EVA (Queensland) said it afforded him very great pleasure at being present. He thanked the St. Philip's society very much for the invitation he had received. When he heard that there was to be a ringers' festival, he had fully determined to come whether invited or not, so that he might testify of the indebtedness of his people to the ringers of St. Philip's for visiting Maryborough, and opening their bells. It had come under his notice that some of his people who were formerly careless and indifferent about spiritual things, had been led to attend the services of the church by hearing some of the tunes rung by the ringers during their stay in Maryborough. He had the honour of having the only peal of bells in Queensland capable of being rung. When he returned back he would bring the matter of scientific change-ringing under the notice of his society, whom Mr. Payton, his conductor, had written to say, now numbered twenty-one members.

The PRESIDENT called upon Mr. W. S. Morton, who on behalf of St. Philip's, said how pleased he was to see such a very large gathering of ringers present in response to their invitation. It was without doubt the largest gathering of ringers that had ever been held in the city. He was very pleased to see Mrs. Langley present, and also the Rev. Mr. Eva, who had conferred a very great honour on the St. Philip's society by inviting them to open the new bells at Maryborough. Much of the success of the Festival was, he felt sure, attributable to the ladies present, to whom should be accorded the best thanks of the meeting, for so kindly presiding over the tables, which they had also adorned in a more substantial way. He advocated the practice of scientific change-ringing, of which he had a fair theoretical knowledge, but regretted not being able to do much in a practical way. He hoped shortly to circulate copies of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD," an English penny weekly, published solely for the benefit of the Exercise. He believed that if this paper was supported and read, it would do very much in stimulating them to throw more energy into the cause of ringing than what at present appears to exist. He also believed that in a measure it had a claim on their support. He was pleased to be a subscriber to it for the past two years, and always read its contents with very much pleasure, and not a little profit. In England he believed it had brought about much belfry reform.

The Doxology having been sung, and the Benediction pronounced by the President, an adjournment was again made to the tower by some of the company, when a band representing four of the towers rung rounds, Queens, Tittums, and Whittingtons on the eight, and the striking was excellent. After which the All Saints' company rang 30 of Grandsire Doubles, and St. Mark's 60 in the same method, both full pull. 8.30 p.m. brought to a close the first Annual Ringing Festival, which in every respect was a very great success.

ALL SAINTS, LOUGHBOROUGH.

Since the augmentation and re-hanging of the fine peal of bells in All Saints' tower, steps have been taken to render the ringing-chamber more comfortable for the well-trained band of ringers, who have from time to time rung some notable peals on the bells. A number of friends were found who gave generous aid in the work, and the improvements carried out have entirely changed the aspect of the former belfry and rendered it one of the most attractive and convenient in the country. The stone wall has been covered with stained wood panelling to a height of six or seven feet, the floor has been covered with linoleum, curtains of a warm and cheerful colour conceal the doors, hat and coat pegs are placed in suitable positions, and a brilliant "sun" gaslight occupies a central position in the ceiling. The Mayor (Ald. Griggs), Mr. B. Barrow, Mr. T. Beeby, and Mr. C. Fisher kindly contributed the various materials required, and Messrs Taylor and Sons renovated the ceiling and carried out the necessary painting, and varnishing which has added to the cheerfulness and brightness of the bell-chamber. It should also be added that several of the ringers have given their time to carry out the improvements in the evenings. The whole of the work having been completed, the event was commemorated by an interesting little ceremony on Saturday afternoon, when the Rector (the Rev. T. Pitts, M.A.), accompanied by the Mayor, the Rev. T. Vaughan Evans, the churchwardens (Messrs. Hy. Dean and Jas. Cartwright), and Mr. B. Barrow, paid a visit to the ringing chamber to inspect the improvements made and to meet the bell-ringers there.

The Rector, in the course of a few remarks, explained the great improvements which had been carried out in the augmentation and re-hanging of the bells by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, and the subsequent alterations in the ringing chamber. He sincerely thanked all who had aided in the work, and said they now had a peal of bells worthy of the Church and of the town, and a ringing chamber second to none in the country. He expressed the hope that bell-ringing would flourish, and that Messrs. Taylor might continue to carry the name and fame of Loughborough far and wide.

The Mayor added a few words, congratulating Messrs. Taylor on the great work they had done in connection with the bells, and gave expression to his feelings of gratitude towards them. He contrasted the deserted aspect of a church belfry where jackdaws and owls loved to congregate, with the pleasing appearance of the modern bell-chamber in which they were assembled, and concluded a few aptly chosen remarks by complimenting the ringers on the proficiency they had attained in the art of bell-ringing.

Mr. J. W. TAYLOR (the head of the well-known firm of bell-founders) returned thanks for the kind terms in which he and his sons had been alluded to; and Mr. J. W. TAYLOR, jun., thanked the Mayor, on behalf of the ringers, for his kindness in coming up to the bell-chamber and showing such interest in their work.

A visit to the higher chamber, containing the ten bells, was then made, and a few rounds having been rung the ringers gave further evidence of their skill on the handbells, and this brought the interesting event to a close.

NOTE TO THE PEAL AT HALEWOOD, LANCASHIRE.—This peal, now rung for the first time, contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th each eighteen times in 6th's place, with the 2nd and 3rd never there; and the 4th, 5th, and 6th each twelve times in 5th's place. It is the longest yet rung and the first in the method upon the bells. The ringers here desire to thank the Rev. C. J. Robinson, the rector, for his kind permission, and also Mr. Joshua Large, Superintendent, for having everything in readiness, and for his kind hospitality at the conclusion of the peal.

FORMATION OF A CHANGE RINGERS' ASSOCIATION IN CUMBERLAND.

On Tuesday, January 8th, at a supper kindly given by the vicar, Rev. A. Hodges, to the bell-ringers of St. Stephen's church, Carlisle, it was proposed and unanimously accepted that an Association of change-ringers be formed to be called the "Carlisle and Cumberland Association of Change Ringers." The vicar was elected president, and a secretary and treasurer were also appointed. It was further resolved that circulars be sent out to other belfries in Cumberland asking the ringers to become members of the Association. Very little is done in the way of change-ringing in Cumberland, and this is a step in the right direction with a view of furthering the "art" in the county.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

The proposed attempt for a 13440 of Bob Major at Warnham was made on Saturday, January 5th, which was started for punctually at 10.30. All went well till three minutes after 12 o'clock, when the second rope broke, having rung 2224 changes. After getting another rope the ringers determined to start for the first half of it; go was again called at 2.40, and the peal brought round at 6.33, the account appears in another column. The peal will be attempted again as early as another set of ropes can be obtained. This is the 53rd peal rung by this one set of ropes, which was supplied to Warnham by Mr. Nicoll, of Bermondsey, on October 12th, 1886. Afterwards the ringers were kindly entertained with refreshments by Mr. Harry Farley, of the "Sussex Oak" Inn, the band thanking him for his kindness.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Angmering Branch at Angmering.—On Tuesday, December 18th, a 720 of Bob Minor. E. Parsons, 1; J. Hills (first 720), 2; C. Clear, 3; T. Linfield (first 720), 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, December 20th, a 720 of Bob Minor, standing as before. And on Saturday, December 22nd, a 720 of Bob Minor. E. Parsons, 1; F. Finch, 2; J. Hills, 3; T. Linfield, 4; C. Clear, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6.

By the Arundel and Warnham Branches at Arundel.—On Saturday, December 20th, 5040 of Grandsire Triples (for particulars see peal page of last week).

By the Brighton Branch at St. Nicholas, Brighton.—On Saturday, December 29th, 5040 of Grandsire Triples, Reeves's Variation (for particulars see peal page of last week). Also at St. Peter's, on New Year's Eve, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples, Hoks original, which failed after ringing 4870 changes in 2 hrs and 54 mins. G. F. Attree, 1; G. Thwaites (conductor), 2; G. A. King, 3; A. Merritt, 4; J. Jay, 5; H. Weston, 6; A. A. Fuller, 7; H. Cornwall, 8. Also on Thursday, December 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late John Brooks, a former ringer in the St. Nicholas Society, in 44 mins. J. Neves, 1; H. Miles, 2; J. Searle (conductor), 3; J. Fox, 4; H. Boniface, 5; W. Palmer, 6; H. Weston, 7; W. Davey, 8.

By the Balcombe Branch at Balcombe.—On Christmas Day, 360 of Canterbury Pleasure. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Streeter, 2; J. Gasson, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Plain Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; J. Gasson, 2; H. Meads, 3; R. Streeter, 4; T. Streeter, 5; J. Cheeseman (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. R. Bourne, 1; R. Streeter, 2; J. Gasson, 3; T. Streeter, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Cheeseman (conductor), 6. Also on Wednesday, December 26th, 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob. R. Bourne, 1; J. Gasson, 2; E. Streeter, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; G. Illman (hails from Worth), 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Violet Treble Bob. R. Bourne, 1; J. Gasson, 2; E. Streeter, 3; G. Illman (hails from Worth), 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Oxford Single Bob. J. Gasson, 1; E. Streeter, jun., 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; H. Meads, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter, sen. (conductor), 6.

By the Crawley and Warnham Branches at Crawley.—On Wednesday, December 26th, an attempt for a peal of Kent Treble Bob, which failed after ringing 3648 changes. J. Akehurst, 1; J. Newnham, 2; T. Stedman, 3; A. Mills, 4; R. Jordan, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; D. Jordan, 7; F. Wickens (conductor), 8. And on the same day, 5040 of Bob Triples, in 2 hours and 51 mins. (for particulars see peal page of last week).

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.—WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 29th, in accordance with the notice that appeared in "THE BELL NEWS," the Bromsgrove branch of the above Association celebrated the 100th anniversary of the long peal of Bob Major, 12,000 changes, rung at Bromsgrove, on the 29th of December, 1788, composed and conducted by the late Charles Ravenscroft. The members of the company, with Mr. W. R. Small, of Tipton, met at the parish church at seven in the morning to attempt a peal of 8064 Grandsire Caters, which was successfully accomplished and appeared in last week's issue. After raising the bells in peal at 7.28, "go" was called, and all went well till the welcome words "this is all" brought the bells round at 12.27. On descending from the belfry the ringers were met by Mr. H. Mason, of Old Hill, Mr. G. Hughes, of Tipton, and several other members of the Association, who congratulated the band on the excellent striking. Great credit is due to the ringer of the treble, he having never attempted a peal of Caters before; and also to the ringer of the 8th, this bell going very stiff. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon the ringers, churchwardens, and clergymen of the parish met at the "Golden Cross," for dinner, when a company to the number of about thirty sat down, among whom were the Rev. E. A. Seymour, Vicar of Bromsgrove, who presided, supported by the Revs. F. E. Jones, A. S. B. Wrey, and Dr. C. Kidd. Mr. J. Green was in the vice-chair, supported by the other churchwardens, Messrs. G. Nicholls, T. Bilbingham, and R. Cordell; Mr. W. R. Small and G. Hughes, of Tipton; Mr. H. Mason, Old Hill; and several other ringing friends.

After the good things provided had been done ample justice to, and the cloth removed, the Chairman proposed the health of "The Queen and Royal Family," which was drank in the usual manner.

Mr. J. GREEN next proposed "The Health of the Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," coupling with it the name of the Vicar, who, in responding, spoke very highly of the Bishop of Worcester in the way in which he treated all the ministers in his Diocese, and the work he done, and although in his 82nd year he had not nor ever had any private secretary to do any of his correspondence, and it did not matter who ever wrote to him, rich or poor, they would be sure to get an answer.

The CHAIRMAN next proposed the health of "The Members of the Bromsgrove Society," and congratulated them on the excellent peal they had rung, which he had heard that morning, and said he thought at one time of coming up into the belfry to give them a little encouragement and so make their task easier; but on being informed that the ringers were locked in so that no one could get to them, he gave up all thought of going up, but he was pleased to say that they (the ringers), had done what they went for in a workmanlike manner. He said that when he was at college, there was a young man there who took a great interest in change-ringing, and he knew a little bit about it, for he (the Vicar) managed to ring a 720 on handbells, and no doubt he would have been at it now if it had not been for a little incident which happened to him. He coupled with the toast the name of Mr. E. Crump, who in responding said he thanked the Vicar and the rest of the company for the way in which they had drunk his health, and that of his brother-ringers, for the kind way he had spoke about the peal and the band all together.

Dr. KIDD next proposed the health of "The Churchwardens," and in doing so spoke very highly of all those connected with the church, coupling the name of Mr. G. Nicholls with the toast, who, in responding, said it gave him great pleasure to be among the ringers to celebrate this long peal, rung a hundred years ago. He had listened to the peal that morning, and was hoping that they (the ringers) would carry it through, which he was pleased to say they had.

Mr. W. REA next proposed the health of "The Visitors," coupling with it the name of Mr. W. R. Small, of Tipton, who in responding said he thanked the members of the Bromsgrove company for allowing him to be in the peal rung that day, and he could assure the chairman and the rest of the company that the peal was a credit to the composer and conductor, Mr. G. Hayward; a better peal could not be rung. It was a good peal and a musical peal, and was well rung from

beginning to end. In conclusion, Mr. Small referred to the Vicar and officers of the church making themselves a little more acquainted with the ringers. He said that he knew from experience that when the officers of the Church never troubled about their ringers you could not find a good band, but where they all associated together, one with another, you would find things a good deal better.

Several songs and tunes on the handbells, and courses of Grandsire Caters were rendered during the evening, and the company broke up well pleased with their day's proceedings.

CHRISTMAS IN BIRMINGHAM.

On December 25th, Mr. J. Moulton and Mr. W. Povey, of Chester, paid a friendly visit to Birmingham. They were met at the Railway Station by several members of the Birmingham Amalgamated Society, and after partaking of refreshments they paid a visit to St. Chad's (R.C.) Cathedral, where a short touch of Stedman Triples was rung. J. Jones, 1; J. Carter (conductor), 2; T. Miller, 3; J. Moulton, 4; R. Hackley, 5; J. T. Perry, 6; A. Hackley, 7; A. Druce, 8. After which they adjourned to Mr. Carter's, Bracebridge Street, when the handbells were brought into use with courses of Grandsire Triples and Caters. Mr. J. Moulton then tapped some Treble Bob Maximus, Grandsire Caters, and Cinques on his instrument called the Fairy Bells, which he brought with him.

On Wednesday, December 26th, it was arranged to start for a peal in the early morn at Bishop Ryder's Church, but owing to one not turning up a touch of Grandsire Triples was rung containing about 1400 changes. W. Povey, 1; G. A. Taylor, 2; J. Jones, 3; J. Carter, 4; J. Moulton, 5; J. T. Perry (conductor), 6; B. Stevens, 7; J. Hodson (tower keeper), 8.

An adjournment was then made to Woodcock Street, where they made a stand at a refreshment house kept by Mr. Wilkins where a peal of Grandsire Caters was attempted, but after ringing 900 changes a mishap occurred. G. A. Taylor, 1-2; J. Carter, 3-4; J. Moulton (conductor), 5-6; J. T. Perry, 7-8; W. Povey, 9-10. After which touches of Stedman Triples and Grandsire were rung. The fairy bells were next brought into use by Mr. J. Moulton, when he tapped in splendid style three leads of Treble Bob Maximus, and three leads of Stedman Triples, and Grandsire Caters, and 209 of Grandsire Triples called by Mr. J. Carter.

On Thursday, December 27th, they met again for a few hours and rang upon the handbells touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, and Grandsire Caters. Fairy Bells appeared again with usual courses, after which Mr. J. Carter called 305 of Grandsire Caters, and also four courses of Grandsire Triples which was run through as if by clockwork.

The Amalgamated Society take this opportunity of thanking Mr. J. Moulton and Mr. W. Povey for the trouble they took in amusing them with the Fairy Bells, and likewise for their assistance on the tower and handbells.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that an eight-bell tower district meeting will be held at Seaford, on Saturday, January 26th. Full particulars will be given next week. The following meetings are also being arranged: February 23rd, Angmering, West Sussex six-bell tower; March (date not fixed), Chailey, East Sussex, six-bell tower; April (date not fixed), Bolney, West Sussex, eight-bell tower; May (date not fixed), Brighton, central, eight-bell tower.

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

JAS. E. WORSSELL, *Assistant Hon. Sec.*

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—CHESTER BRANCH.

By kind permission of Archdeacon Barber, the Annual Meeting of the above branch will be held in Old St. Mary's school-room at 7 p.m., on January 23rd. All our ringing friends and honorary members are cordially invited to attend the meeting.

RICHARD PEASE, *Local Secretary.*

Saltney.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR,

By C. H. HATTERSLEY, *Sheffield*.

5088.

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

First rung at St. Peter's church, Ashton, on November 17th, 1888, conducted by Samuel Wood.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN SIDEBOTHAM, *Mottam-in-Longdendale*.

5184.

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

This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent each way in 5-6. Rung at St. George's Church, Hyde, on Tuesday, November 27th, 1888, conducted by its composer.

A DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

1889.

By GEORGE HAYWARD, *Bromsgrove*.

2 3 4 5 6

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

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

Round as usual.

A DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham*.

1889.

2 3 4 5 6 7

5	7	2	6	3	4	IS
7	2	5	6	3	4	4
4	6	7	3	2	5	I
6	7	4	3	2	5	4
5	3	6	2	7	4	I
6	7	5	3	4	2	3
2	3	6	4	7	5	I
7	5	2	6	4	3	2
3	6	7	4	5	2	I
7	5	3	6	2	4	3
4	6	7	2	5	3	I
6	7	4	2	5	3	4
3	2	6	5	7	4	I
6	7	3	2	4	5	3
5	2	6	4	7	3	I
7	3	5	6	4	2	2
2	6	7	4	3	5	I
7	3	2	6	5	4	3
4	6	7	5	3	2	I
6	7	4	5	3	2	4
2	5	6	3	7	4	I
6	7	2	5	4	3	3
3	5	6	4	7	2	I

5	6	3	4	7	2	4
4	6	5	2	3	7	5
7	2	4	3	6	5	I
6	5	7	4	3	2	2
2	4	6	3	5	7	I
6	5	2	4	7	3	3
7	3	6	2	4	5	2
6	4	7	3	5	2	3
2	3	6	5	4	7	I
4	7	2	6	5	3	2
3	6	4	5	7	2	I
4	7	3	6	2	5	3
5	6	4	2	7	3	I
6	4	5	2	7	3	4
3	2	6	7	4	5	I
6	4	3	2	5	7	3
7	2	6	5	4	3	I

5	2	7	3	6	4	5
6	4	5	7	3	2	2
2	7	6	3	4	5	I
7	6	2	3	4	5	4
5	3	7	4	6	2	I
7	6	5	3	2	4	3
4	3	7	2	6	5	I
6	5	4	7	2	3	2
3	7	6	2	5	4	I
6	5	3	7	4	2	3
2	7	6	4	5	3	I
7	6	2	4	5	3	4
3	4	7	5	6	2	I
7	6	3	4	2	5	3
5	4	7	2	6	3	I
6	3	5	7	2	4	2
4	7	6	2	3	5	I
6	3	4	7	5	2	3
2	7	6	5	3	4	I
7	6	2	5	3	4	4
4	5	7	3	6	2	I
7	6	4	5	2	3	3
3	5	7	2	6	4	I
3	2	5	4	7	6	

This touch contains the twenty-four 6-7's, with Queens and Tittums.

Lieutenant General Feilden, of Witton Park, Blackburn, member for the Chorley division, has offered 1,000l. and a site for a new church at Cherry Tree. This is only one of many gifts to the Church Mission at Cherry Tree, which adjoins his estate.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

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

5088.

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

Twice repeated.

First rung on Saturday, December 8th, 1888, at the parish church of All Saints, Fulham, Middlesex, by the St. Paul's society, Burton-on-Trent. Conducted by W. Wakley.

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES.

By G. LINDOFF.

5040.

2	3	4	5	6	M	W	H
6	4	2	3	5	-		
5	2	4	6	3	s	-	
4	3	5	2	6	-	s	-
6	5	4	3	2	-		
4	2	6	5	3	-	s	-
3	6	4	2	5	-		
5	4	6	3	2	s	-	
3	6	5	4	3	-		
3	5	2	6	4	-		
4	2	3	5	6	-		

Five times repeated with s at half-way and end. The above contains 154 bobs and 26 singles having thereby a call at every m, w h.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By S. MARSH, *Westbromwich*.

5120.

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

Repeated having the 6th her extent at home, and the 4th and 5th each nine times in 6th's place, 2 and 3 never there at a course-end.

A DATE TOUCH OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield*.

1889.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Odd change.
2	6	3	5	4	2				I
5	2	3	6	4	1	-			2
4	3	2	6	5	1				I
2	3	6	4	5					2 I
2	5	3	4	6	2				I
2	3	4	5	6					I 2

The Queen has forwarded, through the Duke of Rutland, 20l. to the rector of Castleford, the Rev. J. Simpson, towards his new Mission church.

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.

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E. W. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.*

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us 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, JANUARY 12, 1889.

THE particulars of another extraordinary peal, rang by ten members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild were published in our issue of last week. This performance of 15,000 of Stedman Caters is one which, to use an old phrase, "will take a deal of beating," and it may reasonably be imagined that those gentlemen who are ambitious of exceeding all previous records, will feel inclined to rest for a time, and take breath after reading of this latest achievement. Yet we dare say our Cheltenham friends have before this discussed the pros and cons, and made some preliminary arrangements for a still longer peal, and thus we may expect every post to bring the announcement that at an early date a 16,000 is to be attempted at

the old parish church of the beautiful Gloucestershire town. We shall not be surprised, at any rate, if such a determination is arrived at.

There seems to have been some circumstances over which Mr. WASHBROOK and his friends did not appear to have any control, relative to the day when this peal was to be attempted. Taking into consideration the magnitude of the enterprise, the great and serious import with which its success affects those who were interested, and its historical importance to the annals of ringing, it seems a great pity that it did not have a more clear and determined announcement. Circumstances, however, prevented this, as the conductor of the peal, on another page, explains. Had not these circumstances existed, and the attempt been announced for certain, the neighbourhood of Appleton would have been honored by the presence of a great many of the *elite* of the Exercise, some of whom would have spent their time in "taking off the course-ends as they came up," and those able would have watched, with wonderful pertinacity and application, for any omissions at either 4, 5, or 16. But these latter experts would not have had the opportunity of discovering any omission, and the Exercise can well believe that a good peal was honestly obtained. The least doubt upon this is amply set at rest by the appearance in the peal of such gentlemen as the Revs. F. E. ROBINSON and G. F. COLERIDGE, and Mr. HERBERT BAKER, all of whom possess the ability to detect anything amiss had it occurred. The performance therefore must be classed as unique, if not perfect, of its kind. The nine hours and five minutes at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, in the last century may show more physical endurance, perhaps, when the weight of metal is considered, but in contrasting the two performances, the methods rang must not be lost sight of. In Treble Bob a trip may with no difficulty be set right; but in Stedman it requires but a slight mistake "in the slow" to upset a performance, despite the acumen and wakefulness of the conductor, and especially is this mistake likely to happen when the corporeal faculties are prone to exhaustion. The performers of the Appleton peal will certainly be regarded in the future as something greatly beyond bare enthusiasts in the art.

The Editor of this journal tenders his sincere thanks to those of his readers who have expressed such genuine sympathy during his recent illness, coupled with the complimentary greetings of the season. Especially are his thanks due to those gentlemen who have during his compulsory absence assisted in its publication. On returning to his post, he appeals to his friends to lighten his duties as far as they can by sending their reports as early in the week as possible. One or two gentlemen whom he would rather not name, systematically keep back reports till the last moment, and thus it happens that just before going to press, a number of reports of peals come to hand which could easily have been received two or three days earlier. It should be understood that "THE BELL NEWS" has to be printed on Thursday, so that the publisher may receive the copies by 9 o'clock on Friday morning. Therefore when reports are kept back till the last moment, a night's work is frequently a necessity; an immense drawback from several points of view. During the Editor's absence, no doubt some matters may have been overlooked which have disappointed the senders; every exertion shall be made to prevent such disappointments in future.

The Metropolis.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION
AND THE LONDON ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.

On Saturday, January 5, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 19½ cwt.

ARTHUR J. KEIT.. .. Treble.	ROBERT J. MAYNARD .. 5.
GEORGE GRIMWADE 2.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.. 6.
THOMAS MAYNARD 3.	JOSEPH BARRY 7.
JOHN NUNN 4.	THOMAS WATSON Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

Previous to starting on December 29th, J. Barry was elected a member of the Essex Association, and G. Grimwade a member of the St. James' Society.

The Provinces.

WEST BROMWICH.—SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY
OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, December 24, 1888, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DAY'S SIX-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOSIAH COOPER Treble.	GEORGE GRIFFITHS 5.
EDWARD WOODHALL 2.	SIMEON SLATER 6.
EDWIN CASHMORE 3.	WILLIAM A. COOPER 7.
SIDNEY SMITH 4.	JOSIAH HARFORD Tenor.

Conducted by W. A. COOPER.

This peal was rung at the first attempt. The start was made at two minutes past nine, and the peal brought round at five minutes past twelve, thus ringing in what is hoped has been a merry Christmas to all brother-ringers.

WHITCHURCH, SALOP.—THE LICHFIELD AND SALOP
DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 1, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 21 cwt.

H. G. GARDNER.. .. Treble.	J. GIBSON 5.
G. WRIGHT 2.	G. WOODHALL 6.
W. HUTCHINSON.. .. 3.	T. BARRON 7.
F. RYDER* 4.	†W. BARRON Tenor.

Conducted by H. G. GARDNER.

*First peal with a bob bell. †First peal. This is the first time this peal has been rung by the Association. H. G. Gardner hails from Gloucester; all the rest are of the local band.

LOUGHTON, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 3, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six and ½ Minutes

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

GEORGE CARTER.. .. Treble.	JAMES RANN 5.
GEORGE PERRY 2.	FREDERICK FREEMAN .. 6.
JOHN GOBBETT 3.	WILLIAM LEBBON 7.
EDWARD BACON 4.	WALTER CLARK Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM LEBBON.

OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, January 4, 1889, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 42 cwt.

CHARLES TOLLEY Treble.	WILLIAM C. BASTON .. 5.
FREDERICK CASTLE 2.	WILLIAM SMITH 6.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW 3.	WILLIAM FINCH 7.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 4.	GEORGE TOLLEY Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM SMITH.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 3, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5083 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

ARTHUR EDWARDS* Treble.	*HIRZEL F. DE LISLE, Esq. 5.
JOHN DAINST 2.	†REV. H. A. COCKEY 6.
WILLIAM HAWKES 3.	*WILLIAM J. PIPER 7.
ALFRED TARBUN* 4.	†WILLIAM LINCOLN Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and Conducted by WILLIAM LINCOLN.

*First peal in the method. †First peal in the method with a bob bell. First peal of Treble Bob as conductor. This peal was rung for the birthday of the Rev. H. A. Cockey, formerly Hon. Sec. of the Essex Association.

LEESFIELD, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.—THE
UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 3, 1889, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES'S TEN-PART (No. 2). Tenor 14 cwt.

JOSEPH SHAW Treble.	THOMAS EGERTON 5.
FRED CROSLAND* 2.	*JAMES PRIESTLEY 6.
JAMES GRATRIX* 3.	*SAMUEL STOTT 7.
EDWIN B. SHAW* 4.	JOSHUA M. PLATT Tenor.

Conducted by FRED CROSLAND.

*Members of the Lancashire Association. J. Gratrix hails from Manchester; J. Stott from Oldham.

MIDHURST, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY
ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 3, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY MAGDALENE AND DENIS,

**5040 CHANGES, IN THREE DIFFERENT METHODS
UPON SIX BELLS;**

BEING A 720 OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB, TWO 720'S OF KENT TREBLE BOB, AND FOUR 720'S OF BOB MINOR, EACH CALLED DIFFERENTLY.

THOMAS ELLIS Treble.	CHARLES TRIBE 4.
GEORGE WILLIAMS 2.	WILLIAM SELBY 5.
JAMES LEE 3.	GEORGE BATTS Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This peal was rung to celebrate the birthday of Mr. C. Tribe, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 5, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART (REVERSED).

ALBERT KIMBREY Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
WILLIAM SPIRES.. .. 2.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 6.
THOMAS SHORT 3.	EDGAR HUMFREY 7.
ARTHUR BURGESS 4.	JOHN BROWN Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

CRADLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 8, 1889, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

ANNABLE'S SIX-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

GEORGE JEWKES* Treble.	*CHARLES DANIEL 5.
HARRY WOODHALL* 2.	*CALEB BEASLEY 6.
ROBERT BEASLEY* 3.	†HARRY MASON 7.
ALBERT E. PARSONS 4.	*JOSEPH T. MERIDETH .. Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY MASON.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. Also the first peal in the method on these bells. Messrs. Parsons and Mason belong to Old Hill.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.—THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 5, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 20½ cwt.

FREDERICK ARGENT* Treble.	GABRIEL LINDOFF 5.
FREDERICK WILSON 2.	RICHARD W. STANNARD .. 6.
WILLIAM J. BUTTON 3.	THOMAS G. STAULKEY .. 7.
ROBERT WELLS 4.	JOHN FLEGG Tenor.

Conducted by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

*First peal. This is the first time the conductor (who was only twenty last November), has called "the Original."

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

On Saturday, January 5, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6720 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qrs.

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

Conducted by HENRY H. CHANDLER.

This is the first half of Mr. A. Knights' 13,440. The above is the first peal of Major by the treble man.

HALEWOOD, LANCASHIRE.—LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 5, 1889, in Three Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6144 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD* .. Treble.	*JOHN ASPINWALL 5.
PETER BARTON*† 2.	GEORGE FISHER 6.
WILLIAM G. MANN*† .. 3.	*WILLIAM DAVIES 7.
WILLIAM JAMES 4.	THOMAS HAMMOND Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

*College Youths. †First peal in the method.

BIRMINGHAM.—BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, January 5, 1889, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, DERITEND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

ANNABLE'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT C. BOWKETT* .. Treble.	*GEORGE WALKER 5.
JAMES JONES 2.	FRANK H. JAMES 6.
JOHN CARTER 3.	ALBERT HACKLEY 7.
WILLIAM BROOK 4.	*JOHN JENNING Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

*First peal in any method.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.—LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, January 8, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt. 8 lbs.

LEWIS WHITMORE Treble.	BENJAMIN TUNGATE 5.
JOSEPH RIMMER 2.	JAMES W. RIMMER 6.
JAMES RIMMER 3.	*WILLIAM BALDWIN 7.
WALTER HEWITT 4.	DAVID E. RIMMER Tenor.

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD, and Conducted by DAVID E. RIMMER.

*College Youth. The above was rung as a farewell peal to W. Baldwin, who is leaving the town; and also on the occasion of the marriage of L. Whitmore, his brother-ringers wishing him much happiness.

Date Touches.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Monday, December 31st, at St. Paul's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (arranged from Holt's Original), in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Spencer, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; F. Sharp (longest touch in the method), W. Allen, 4; F. Smith, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; I. Hills, 7; C. Pass, 8.

LINDLEY (Huddersfield).—On Monday, January 7th, at the parish church, a date touch of 1889 Kent Treble Bob Major, in five parts, with sixth-place bobs, and four of them made by the treble, in 1 hr. 8 mins. H. Wilkinson, 1; A. Crosland, 2; G. Denbigh, 3; G. Schofield, 4; A. Sykes (composer), 5; C. Craven, 6; B. Shaw, 7; F. Schofield (conductor), 8.

LIVERSEDGE (Yorkshire).—On Monday, December 31st, the local company rang a date touch of 1889 Kent Treble Bob Major (with sixth-place bobs), in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. W. Lang, 1; J. Knott, 2; A. Briggs, 3; S. Goodall, 4; H. Brookes, 5; M. Ramsden, 6; L. Illingworth (conductor), 7; W. Collins, 8. Composed by W. Goodall, of Liversedge. Tenor 15 cwt.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On New Year's morn, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. John Prescott, 1; James Pilkington, 2; Henry Ellis, 3; William Ellis, 4; James Sholicar (composer and conductor), 5; William J. Taylor, 6; James Prescott, 7; Peter H. Harvey, 8.

WALDRON (Sussex).—On Sunday morning, January 6th, for Divine Service at the parish church of All Saints, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. A. Dawes, 1; H. Ades, 2; J. Beal, 3; A. Reed (conductor), 4; J. Burgess, 5; B. Hobbs, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Tuesday, New Year's Day, at All Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 49 mins. J. Hewett, 1; A. Williams, 2; W. E. Ward, 3; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; J. Norris, 6; E. Hatcher, 7; A. Ward, 8. Tenor 26½ cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE (Durham).—On Wednesday, January 2nd, at St. Cuthbert's church, 720 Bob Minor. W. Oliver, 1; H. Ferguson, 2; E. Wallis, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; G. Forsyth, 5; F. Lees (conductor), 6. The treble man belongs to the local company, the rest hail from Newcastle. Tenor 15 cwt.

BLACKHILL (Durham).—On Wednesday, January 2nd, at St. Mary's (R.C.) church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 31 mins. H. Ferguson, 1; F. Barron, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; E. Wallis, 4; *A. Nichol, 5; F. Lees (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. The second and fifth ringers are local men. Tenor 22 cwt.

STAINDROP.—On Monday, December 24th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles). W. McLean, 1; J. W. Shipp, 2; W. E. Johnson, 3; T. Leonard, 4; D. Shipp (conductor), 5; J. Brown, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BIRCHINGTON (Kent).—On Saturday, January 5th, 1889, for practice at All Saints' church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. A. Pointer, 1; G. Willshire, 2; T. B. Reed, 3; T. B. Reed, jun, 4; L. Willshire (conductor), 5; J. J. Bristow, 6.

STAPLEHURST (Kent).—On Monday, January 7th, at the church of All Saints, 504 Stedman Triples. W. Walter, 1; W. Collison, 2; J. G. Tillmon, 3; W. E. Pope, 4; H. G. Pope, 5; W. Pope, 6; E. Pope (conductor), 7; A. Palmer, 8. Also 216 Stedman Triples, with T. G. Colvin on the tenor.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Christmas Day, 720 Plain Bob. J. Harding, 1; L. Digweed, 2; G. Hayes, 3; J. Broom, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. And on December 31st, for the mid-night service, 720 Plain Bob. J. Harding, 1; L. Digweed, 2; J. Broom, 3; W. Harper, 4; W. Martin, 5; A. Cornford (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, January 6th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Kent Treble Bob. L. Digweed, 1; F. Ring, 2; G. Hayes, 3; J. Broom, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PAINSWICK.—On Christmas morning, for Divine Service at 8 a.m., a 1008 of Grandsire Triples. A. Gwinnett, 1; W. Hale (conductor), 2; D. Marment, 3; C. West (aged 16, longest length), 4; E. King, 5; J. Everatt, 6; W. Ryland, 7; T. Wright, 8. Also for Divine Service at 11 a.m., a 504 in the same method. On New Year's Eve, after the annual supper at the Vicarage, the old year was rung out with a deeply-muffled touch on the twelve bells, and just on the stroke of twelve the bells were taken off and the new year ushered in with the twelve open. Afterwards a 504 of Grandsire Triples (the first part of Reeves's Variation). A. Trigg, 1; D. Marment, 2; E. King, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Wager, 5; J. Everatt, 6; W. Ryland, 7; T. Wright, 8. Also three courses of Triples on the handbells. The company then adjourned to the Cross and rung several tunes and courses. Mr. Joseph Everatt has been elected Secretary to the above band, and all communications should be addressed to him.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP.—On Sunday morning, December 30th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 720 College Single. W. Ormerod, 1; J. Hardman, 2; Z. Lord, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. On Monday evening, December 31st, at Saviour's church, by the Christ Church company, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. Z. Lord, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. Also 720 Plain Bob. W. Ormerod, 1; the rest as before. On New Year's Eve, at Christ Church, 720 College Single. On New Year's morning, 720 Oxford Single, the ringers standing as before.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, December 13th, at St. Mary's, for practice, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Allen, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; F. Sharp (first 720 in the method), 3; F. Smith (first 720 in the method), 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; I. Hills, 6. On Monday, December 24th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). W. Hall, 1; F. Smith, 2; I. Hills, 3; W. Allen, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; M. Warwick (conductor), 6. At St. Paul's church, on Sunday, December 16th, for morning service, 448 Grandsire Triples. J. Spencer, 1; J. N. Frossell, 2; F. Sharp, 3; W. Hall, 4; F. Smith, 5; M. Warwick, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 8. For evening service a 504 in the same method. F. Smith, 1; W. Allen, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; F. Sharp, 5; F. Keech, 6; M. Warwick, 7; I. Hills, 8. Also a 464 of Bob Major. W. Allen, 1; F. Keech, 2; F. Sharp, 3; F. Smith, 4; M. Warwick, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; I. Hills, 7; J. N. Frossell, 8. On Sunday, January 6th, for evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Spencer, 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Keech, 3; C. Pass, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; M. Warwick (conductor), 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Allen, 8.

CLAPHAM (Beds).—On Saturday, December 15th, for practice at the parish church, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Sharp, 1; F. Smith, 2; G. Cockings, 3; T. Lane, 4; F. Sharp (conductor), 5.

SHARNBROOK (Beds).—On Saturday, January 5th, for practice at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Dickinson, 1; C. Allen (first 720 in the method), 2; L. Bell, 3; E. Coleman, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; W. Page (first 720 as conductor), 6. Also three 120's of St. Simon's Doubles, in which T. Bransome and F. Dickinson took part.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

HANBURY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday evening, December 30th, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 29 mins. F. Lucas, 1; J. Mason, 2; J. Thompson, 3; W. Lewis, 4; G. Hughes, 5; A. Moore (conductor), 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REIGATE (Sussex).—At the house of Mr. Moses, on Christmas Day, on handbells, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 19 mins. E. Moses, 1-2; G. Williams (conductor), 3-4; Mrs. Williams, 5-6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Monday evening, December 31st, the following members of the St. Peter's Society rang out the old year with a 720 of College Single, the bells being half-muffled. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. After the muffles were removed the hour was tolled on the tenor, and the new year rung in with a 720 of Plain Bob. G. Essex, 1; J. Hands, 2; T. Newman, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; H. Smith, 5; E. Menday (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

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

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Sunday, December 23rd, 1888, at St.

Paul's church, a plain course of London Surprise Major, followed by two courses, 448 changes, in the same method. G. Robinson, 1; J. Austin, 2; A. Wakley, 3; J. Griffin, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; H. Wakley, 6; T. Holmes, 7; J. Rogers, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, January 6th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Michael's Church, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise. S. Watson, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; S. Hammond (conductor), 3; F. L. Bumstead, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. Also for evening service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. S. Watson, 1; F. L. Bumstead, 2; S. Hammond (conductor), 3; E. Clandon, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; *Rev. H. A. Cockey, 6. And a 360 of Kent Treble Bob with E. Hinds at the treble, the rest as before. *First 720 in the method. Messrs. Clandon and Hinds hail from Stebbing, and Rev. H. A. Cockey from Greenwich.

GREAT BADDOW (Essex).—On Wednesday, December 26th, a mixed band visited this church and attempted Penning's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing upwards of 4,000 changes in 2 hrs. and 10 mins., by a change-course. R. C. Burrell, 1; W. Hawkes, 2; W. J. Piper, 3; W. Rowland, 4; C. H. Howard, 5; A. Tarbun, 6; A. Edwards (conductor), 7; A. Richell, 8. Messrs. Burrell and Rowland hail from Chelmsford; Hawkes from Springfield, Piper and Tarbun from Widford; Howard from Braintree; Edwards from Writtle; and Richell is of the local company.

THE NORTH MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

EDGWARE (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, December 4th, the above association rang at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26½ mins. W. Tubb, 1 (first 720); F. Spark, 2; T. Card (conductor), 3; J. Cornell, 4; C. Crampton, 5; C. Martin, 6. This is supposed to be the first 720 on the bells. And several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in which Messrs. Webb, Russell and Mulley took part; after which, in company with the local band, all adjourned to the "Boot," to refresh the inner man, where the hand-bells were brought into requisition, and the remainder of the evening spent in tune-ringing.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Wednesday, January 2nd, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor, with 7-8 covering. *S. F. W. Powell, 1; *J. R. Higgins, 2; T. Curtis, 3; G. Gasson, 4; *H. Jacob, 5; H. White, 6; F. Dolton, 7; T. Boxall, 8. *First 720.

BLACKBURN (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, January 2nd, at Holy Trinity Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins. W. Wilson (parish church), 1; E. Horsfield, 2; H. Hayes (Church Kirk), 3; J. Ainsworth, 4; J. Sanderson (conductor), 5; J. Davidson (formerly of Liverpool), 6; R. J. N. Parker, 7; J. Smith, 8. The foregoing touch was rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. G. Appleby, one of the local ringers, formerly of Burton-on-Trent.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Wednesday, December 5th, at St. Michael's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, conducted by R. Hutton. On Sunday, December 9th, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob Minor, conducted by J. Hinchley. On Wednesday, December 12th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, conducted by R. Hutton. On Saturday, December 15th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, conducted by R. Hutton. On Wednesday, December 19th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. On Saturday, December 22nd, for practice, 720 Plain Bob Minor, conducted by J. Hinchley. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob, conducted by R. Hutton. On Tuesday, December 25th, at 7 o'clock in the morning, 720 Kent Treble Bob, and for Divine Service at 11, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, conducted by R. Hutton. On Saturday December 29th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 720 Kent Treble Bob, conducted by R. Hutton. The following took part in the ringing: R. Hutton, G. Smith, sen., J. Hinchley, J. Hilling, A. Dunnett, G. Smith, jun., G. Websdell, and J. Cullum.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—On Tuesday evening, November 27th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Yorkshire Court Bob, in 30 mins. A. Meyers, 1; G. Curry, 2; W. Brown, 3; W. Sheraton, 4; J. Huntley, 5; J. Swinburn (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by the local company. On Thursday, January 3rd, on the occasion of the wedding of Col. Trent and Mrs. Stongton, two 720's of Bob Minor (each called differently). W. Brown, 1; G. Curry, 2; J. Anderson, 3; T. Walker, 4; J. Huntley, 5; J. Swinburn (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Canterbury Pleasure, and several touches of Oxford Bob.

CIRENCESTER (Gloucestershire).—On Friday, December 28th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. J. Tennant, 1; J. Earle, 2; G. Davis, 3; A. Tennant, 4; H. Freeth, 5; H. Hughes, 6; J. Kitchener (conductor), 7; H. Clutterbuck, 8. J. Kitchener hails from Coln St. Aldwyns; J. Tennant and A. Tennant from Willesden.

DARLEY DALE (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, January 6th, for Divine Service, at St. Helen's church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. W. Gill (first 720), 1; J. Derbyshire, 2; J. Siddall, 3; W. Taylor, 4; C. Gwain, 5; E. Hallows (conductor), 6.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, January 1st, at the parish church, the local company rang the New Year in with a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; Y. Lunn, 8.

KILLMARSH (Derbyshire).—On January 1st, at the parish church, a 720 each of Duke of York and Violet. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; Y. Lunn, 6.

MOSSLEY (Lancashire).—On New Year's Day, the Mossley Amateur Society rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. John Greaves, 1; Fred Rhodes, 2; John Holden (conductor), 3; Moses Bradbury, 4; Samuel Wrigley (first 720), 5; Thos. B. Dicken, 6.

PRESTWICH (Lancashire).—On Sunday, January 6th, for afternoon service at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Warburton (conductor), 1; R. Fitton, 2; J. Gratrix, 3; J. Brooks, 4; H. Percival, 5; J. Heywood, 6. And after evening service the above company rang another 720 in the same method, in 27½ mins., conducted by W. Warburton. Warburton hails from Whitefield; Gratrix from Manchester; the rest belong to the local company.

READING (Berks).—On Tuesday, January 1st, at St. Giles' church, to welcome in the new year, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. T. Tarrant, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. Evans, 3; J. Richardson (Beenhams), 4; H. Egby, 5; T. Hibbert (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, January 3rd, for practice, 720 Oxford Bob. H. Bonney, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. Evans, 3; J. Hands (Caversham), 4; J. Richardson, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6.

SAFFRON WALDEN (Essex).—On Tuesday, December 11th, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peat of Stedman Triples (1260 changes, Brook's Variation), in 45 mins. J. Freeman, 1; N. J. Pitstow, 2; J. Campin (Sudbury), 3; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury), 4; G. Martin, 5; E. Pitstow, 6; F. Pitstow (conductor), 7; A. Cox, 8. Also a touch of 408 Stedman Triples. J. Freeman, 1; N. J. Pitstow, 2; C. Freeman, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; G. Martin, 5; E. Pitstow, 6; F. Pitstow, 7; A. Cox, 8.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Saturday, December 15th, for practice at St. Gregory's church, a quarter-peat of Stedman Triples (1260 changes, Brook's Variation), in 50 mins. W. Howell, 1; W. Griggs, 2; W. B. Ranson, Esq., 3; M. Silvester, 4; H. Harper, 5; A. Scott, 6; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 7; J. Campin, 8. On Christmas Eve, a touch of 576 Bob Major was rung at 11.45 at St. Peter's church. F. Tolliday, 1; M. Silvester, 2; W. Griggs, 3; W. Cross, 4; W. Howell, 5; A. Scott, 6; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 7; H. Harper, 8. On Christmas Day, touches of Stedman Triples, Treble Bob, and Bob Major were rung at St. Gregory's and St. Peter's churches during the day for the various services. On Wednesday, December 26th, the following attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (5024), but after ringing 1 hr. 40 mins. it was unfortunately lost through the 6th man getting out of his place. C. Sillitoe, 1; J. Campin, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; W. Griggs, 4; W. Howell, 5; H. Harper, 6; N. J. Pitstow (Saffron Walden), 7; Fred Pitstow (conductor, Saffron Walden), 8. On December 31st, the following rang the old year out and the new year in at St. Peter's, with a touch of 720 Bob Major: F. Tolliday, 1; J. Campin, 2; W. Griggs, 3; W. Cross, 4; W. Howell, 5; A. Scott, 6; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 7; H. Harper, 8. Tenor 23 cwt.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Tuesday, December 11th, on handbells, a 1036 of Grandsire Triples. A. P. Goddard, 1-2; W. S. Wise (conductor), 3-4; W. W. Gifford, 5-6; H. D. Adams, 7-8. On Wednesday, December 12th, a 1148 of Grandsire Triples, in 31 mins. W. S. Wise, 1-2; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 3-4; W. W. Gifford, 5-6; H. D. Adams, 7-8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples (strictly non-conducted). W. S. Wise, 1-2; A. W. Barkus, 3-4; W. W. Gifford, 5-6; H. D. Adams, 7-8. On Wednesday, December 19th, at St. Martin's church, a 1120 of Kent Treble Bob Major. W. J. Prince, 1; A. W. Barkus, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; A. P. Goddard, 5; H. D. Adams, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 8. On Saturday, December 22nd, a 1296 of Bob Major. A. W. Barkus, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; H. D. Adams, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 8.

SADDLEWORTH (Yorkshire).—On Friday, January 4th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, by two of the Mossley Amateur Society, assisted by three of the Saddleworth Society and T. B. Dicken (Mossley), being Greaves and Holden's first attempt away from their own tower. John Greaves, 1; J. Pilling, 2; A. W. Holden, 3; Frank Brierley, 4; J. A. Lawton, 5; T. B. Dicken, 6.

SLEAFORD (Lincolnshire).—On Monday evening, January 7th, on the occasion of the 21st birthday of Mr. Norman Snow, a quarter-

peat (forty-five bobs), of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. W. Holmes, 1; Norman Snow (conductor), 2; E. Bristowe, 3; G. Porter, 4; W. Cawton, 5; G. Challands, 6; T. H. Holdich, 7; W. Townsend, 8. Also a 504 and 224 of Grandsire Triples, the ringers standing in the same order. G. Porter, conductor. Porter, Cawton and Challands hail from Grantham, the rest belong to the local company.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

By J. W. WASHBROOK, Oxford.

15,041.

2 3 1 4 5 6	4 5 16	Continued—	4 5 16
* 3 1 5 6 4 2		5 1 2 3 6 4	-
3 1 2 5 4 6	-	2 1 5 4 6 3	-
3 1 6 2 4 5	-	2 1 3 5 6 4	-
6 1 3 5 4 2	-	2 1 4 3 6 5	-
6 1 2 3 4 5	-	4 1 2 5 6 3	-
2 1 6 5 4 3	-	4 1 3 2 6 5	-
2 1 3 6 4 5	-	4 1 5 3 6 2	-
2 1 5 3 4 6	-	6 1 5 2 4 3	-
5 1 6 3 4 2	-	15 1 2 3 4 6	-
4 1 6 2 5 3	-	4 1 2 6 5 3	-
4 1 3 6 5 2	-	4 1 3 2 5 6	-
4 1 2 3 5 6	-	4 1 6 3 5 2	-
2 1 4 6 5 3	-	6 1 4 2 5 3	-
2 1 3 4 5 6	-	6 1 3 4 5 2	-
2 1 6 3 5 4	-	6 1 2 3 5 4	-
6 1 2 4 5 3	-	2 1 6 4 5 3	-
6 1 3 2 5 4	-	2 1 3 6 5 4	-
6 1 4 3 5 2	-	3 1 2 4 5 6	-
5 1 4 2 6 3	-	3 1 6 2 5 4	-
5 1 3 4 2 6	-	3 1 4 6 5 2	-

* This course produced by bobs at 5, 6, 7, 9, 16. † This course is produced by bobs at 5, 7, 8, 15, 18.

The last eleven courses nine times repeated with extra calls at 15, 18, 20, 21, 22, produce rounds at the third blow of the twenty-third six.

A single instead of a bob at 16 in the tenth course of fifth and tenth parts.

First rung on December 31st, 1888, at St. Lawrence's, Appleton; Conducted by its composer, JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

DUCKLINGTON BELL FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already advertised	10	0	0
Mrs. Langtry, Bournemouth	0	1	0
Miss McLelland, Bournemouth	0	1	0
Miss Hawkes, Bournemouth	0	0	6
Miss Woodward, Bournemouth	0	1	0
Mrs. Pantou	1	1	0
Misses White	1	1	0
Miss Bradman (Cards)	2	0	0
Rev. St. John Tyrwhitt	0	10	0
Joseph Fisher (Card)	0	10	0
Mrs. Garratt	0	5	0
Mrs. Bell	0	2	6
Miss Dawson (Card)	0	5	0
In smaller Subscriptions	0	16	3
Total	10	14	9

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received by Imperial Hotel, Bournemouth.

W. J. FISHER.

MR. DORAN'S FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	14	18	6
A friend, per H. Hopkins	0	2	6
J. Priest, jun. Wanstead	0	2	0
G. Cornell, Wanstead	0	1	0
J. King, Wanstead	0	1	0
E. Barnett, Wanstead	0	1	0
J. Marks, Wanstead	0	1	0
A. H. Gardom, Wanstead	0	5	0
Mr. Richardson, Stoke Newington	0	2	0
W. Whittaker, Leeds	0	2	0
Total	15	16	0

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 PROPOSED RINGERS' BENEFIT SOCIETY.

SIR,—With your permission I will give your readers my ideas of a Ringers' National Benefit Society, and an outline of how I think it could be managed. I quite agree with the writer of one of the letters on this subject, that there are many benefit societies which ringers might join, and I know that a great many of my ringing acquaintances are (as I am) members of the I.O.O.F., M.U., and Foresters. But what we ringers want is a sort of Free Masonry Society; not one to pay a given sum per week for sickness and a fixed amount at death, but a society to be gathering a sum of money together so as to be able to relieve any ringer by a substantial donation, who happens through no fault of his own to become an object of charity. For example, such cases as Doran's and others, on whose behalf we have been appealed to through our paper, and also such as the following, which has recently been brought to my notice. The one I refer to, was a capital ringer. Through an accident in alighting from a tram, he has been forced to part with his right hand. He was a carpenter by trade, and now he cannot follow his employment, and he has a wife and six small children. No appeal has been made for him, but the ringers in the same tower and a few neighbouring towers have subscribed to him; at present I cannot say how much. Now, if we ringers had had a good society and a respectable fund, something might have been done to set this man up in some business. This would be providing for a want that the existing benefit societies do not meet. Your readers will see that I am not in favour of any fixed sum as benefits. I would suggest an annual payment of rs. per member or whatever sum might be agreed upon, which I beg to suggest might be collected in the following manner:—After a company of ringers have decided to join what I at present will call the "National Ringers' Benefit Society," let them appoint a Secretary and Treasurer; the Secretary to collect the money from his own Society, and he and the Treasurer to account for it to the County or District Association of which they are members. Then I suggest that each Association should let their respective Committees have the management and investing of the funds, and that all appeals for relief for any unfortunate member be made unto the said committees. Again I would further suggest that every three years a meeting be held of two delegates from each Association or Guild, as the case may be, and that these delegates in meeting assembled have power to appoint a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and nine Directors, to make a levy of rs. or not more than 2s. per member on all the districts who have joined, and also to consider extraordinary cases of distress which must be brought before them at this meeting. Rules might be drawn up giving District Associations power to grant relief to a certain amount, and if that fixed amount be thought insufficient an appeal could be made to the Officers and Directors. Brother ringers, let us endeavour during the coming year to establish a Ringers' National Benefit Society. At the triennial meetings, ringing matters as well as cases of relief could be discussed. It would be a social society as well. I think that it would promote ringing and good-fellowship, and make us more deeply interested in every individual of our fraternity. Mr. Editor, I respectfully submit this draft scheme to the readers of "THE BELL NEWS," and shall always be pleased to read the opinions of others, and, if need be, assist in forming a "Ringers' National Benefit Society." I thank you, Sir, in anticipation for the use of your valuable space, and wish all my brother ringers and friends a happy new year.

JOHN HOLDEN.

AN APPEAL.

SIR,—You will oblige by inserting the following in your next issue, as I think it a very needful case;—

"Subscriptions are earnestly needed for Mr. Fred. Bate, who has been laid up in Guy's Hospital for the last ten weeks, suffering with a very severe attack of rheumatic fever and bronchitis, and will therefore not be able to follow his employment for some time to come. Small donations will be thankfully received and acknowledged through "THE BELL NEWS" by Mr. B. Buckmaster, Bookseller, 45, Newington Butts, S.E., or Mr. Codlin, 18, Cole Street, Borough, S.E."

B. BUCKMASTER.

THE PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE AT FULHAM.

SIR,—In reading the letters of your correspondents in "THE BELL NEWS," I think I shall be in order if I make a few remarks on the subject of the disputed peal of London Surprise at Fulham. I think Mr. Wakley rather misled your readers with his account of the extraordinary difference in the gait of the ninth and tenor bells at Fulham. One would think it a most difficult task to ring a peal of Major on the back eight at Fulham. Let me inform Mr. Wakley that I heard a peal of Major rang at Fulham in excellent style, viz.: the famous peal of Double Norwich Court Bob, on the 3rd of February, 1883. Now Sir, the peal of which I speak was the first peal that I ever heard on Fulham bells, and when I compare the striking of that

peal, and the striking of the last peal, and while making allowance for the slight difference of intricacy between the methods, I consider that the ringers were in fault, the bells are not to blame. In reading his (Mr. Wakley's) letter of December 29th, he denies that there was any firing. Well, sir, before the bells were in changes fifteen minutes, four of the bells were heard to strike at once, while the other four were uncomfortably close after them. As for "trippings" I am not in a position to say how many, but there was enough tripping to make the ringing what it was, viz.: a very poor exhibition of change-ringing. With regard to "Another hon. member of S. Paul's," let me inform that gentleman that there was very few London ringers who knew anything about an intended attempt for a peal of London Surprise. I, for one, who had made necessary preparations, was not sure the bells would be required for ringing until the men arrived at 6.20 p.m., the few ringers which I had informed of the expected attempt, were there to listen, or else the affair would have gone off very quietly, and nothing would have been disputed.

JAMES W. DRIVER.

SIR,—I noticed with much regret the letter which appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of Saturday the 22nd ultimo, with regard to the peal of London Surprise recently rung by the Burton men at Fulham. I did not happen to be a "bystander" on the occasion referred to, but it has been my pleasure on many occasions to listen to the performances of our Burton friends, and their achievements reflect on them the highest credit, and their honesty of peals is undoubted, and I think the vein of jealousy which is exhibited throughout Mr. Winny's letter very much to be regretted. If he will peruse page 482 of "THE BELL NEWS" referred to, he will find it fully explained that the seventh and eighth bells were not in good going order, and I should have thought that such an "accomplished" ringer as Mr. W., being in London and as I presume knowing the different towers, would, instead of trying to pull to pieces the Burton men for their remarkable performance, have written a letter of congratulation for their having successfully brought off the first peal of "London Surprise" in the metropolis. I am sure such letters as that written by Mr. Winny are not the sort to cement the good feeling which I know to exist generally between the London men and ringers from the Provinces; and if Mr. W. feels himself aggrieved at not figuring in the first peal of "London" yet rung at that place, I trust he will take heart and be amongst a band to first perform it somewhere else, but I expect that, like myself, it will be some time before he is able to take part in such complicated methods. I feel sure that after perusing the remarks of Mr. Wakley and Mr. Dains which appeared in a recent issue, our friend will, on reflection, admit his letter was entirely out of order, and that he will offer an a suitable apology for having endeavoured to throw discredit and doubt upon the performance of the Burton band.

EVAN MORETON.

THE LONG PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS AT APPLETON.

SIR,—I am sorry to see that our long peal of Stedman Caters at Appleton should be the cause of correspondence, but we could not help short notice to people. I did not know myself till the day previous that the peal was to be attempted, and it was wonderful how the band turned up. I am sorry too, that some other ringers beside our own did not hear the peal rang, for a good peal it was.

J. W. WASHBROOK.

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAXIMUS.

SIR,—In your remarks about Double Norwich Court Bob Maximus the statement is made that a peal in that method has already been rung, alluding I suppose to the peal of Norwich Court rang at St. Peter's Norwich in 1817, and of which peal I venture to assert no evidence has yet been produced to prove that it has been rung in the Double Method, but the evidence on the peal board itself proves in the following paragraph that it was rung in the single method: "This peal very much resembles Norwich Court Royal on ten, there being very short dodging on the bells before and behind, and tenth's place at the bob." This, Sir, is about as good a description of the single method as could be made in so short a space, but of the double method it is much the same as Stedman Triples would be if described as "double dodging in 4-5 and 6-7, and fifth's place at the bob." We, Sir, would like some of the leading ringers to examine this question and give us their opinion upon it, because we have an ambition to do what this same peal board asserts can never be done, that is to surpass the Norwich peal, and should like to start upon something like a sound opinion as to its being the first or second peal rung in the method if we should be so fortunate as to ring one, and that is the reason why the two courses were stated as being the first ever rung in the method. But I think, Sir, that it will be some time yet before a peal is attained, for it wants a lot of doing, and it is a bit difficult to get twelve men to meet regularly for practice, and to secure our practice nights, they being often stopped, so we cannot get on so fast with it as we could wish. There is one great merit in the method, its very musical properties, considering the tenor is in.

W. L. CATCHPOLE.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"As the moments roll
Let new joys inspire."—*Old Song.*

Anno Domini 1888—the year of long lengths and record-beating—was fittingly brought to a close with the 15,041 of Stedman Caters at Appleton. The past twelve months will without doubt stand out prominently in the history of change-ringing by reason of its achievements in this direction, and one is tempted to wonder what will be the next move in the shape of shadowing previous performances. If any of our friends are ambitious of making their mark in this, they have at any rate now a stiff task before them.

* * * * *

I was disappointed in not seeing a report of the successful termination of the announced attempt at a 10,196 of Stedman Cinques by twelve members of the Yorkshire Association at Sheffield, on the last day of the old year. Was the attempt made? I expect our esteemed friend Mr. C. H. Hattersley was "at the bottom of this," and although I believe that gentleman has a strong disinclination to publish failures, yet if the band actually started for the peal, I feel sure it would have interested us all to know how they got along with it, even if they *did* "come to grief." Anyhow, their reputation would not have suffered through an unfortunate failure.

* * * * *

The last few days of the old year have also been made memorable by many other interesting events, not the least of which was the presentation of a marble timepiece to the Rev. H. A. Cockey, by his fellow members of the Society of Trinity Youths. It was not to be expected that these youths of Greenwich would have allowed such a valuable helpmate to leave their midst without some tangible recognition of his many and valued labours for good amongst them, and they seem to have done their duty thoroughly. While they are to be sympathised with on losing such a friend, it is to be hoped that Mr. Cockey's removal to Oldland will prove to be such a mode of blessing to our friends of Gloucestershire as his residence in the celebrated naval borough appears to have been to our friends there. The good wishes of the Trinity Youths with reference to his approaching marriage will, I doubt not, be echoed by many—very many—of our brethren throughout the country, who know how to value a good friend and helper in their work, and all will cordially reciprocate the wish expressed in their address—that God may grant him health and long life, and abundantly bless his good work in the new sphere of labour to which he has been called.

* * * * *

Another good feature of the year, I would add, is the great amount of work which has been accomplished in our bell-chambers. As I have before had occasion to remark, the oft recurring reports of new rings opened, and old ones augmented, restored, or put into new frames, shew that our bell-founders and bell-hangers must have had a pretty busy time of it. I only hope the year just commenced will prove to them one of even more than usual briskness, for most assuredly their gain is our benefit. Bell-founders and bell-hangers, may you have cause to double your staff, and such a thing as short time among your employees be a thing unknown!

* * * * *

The other week I had the pleasure of congratulating Mr. Washbrook on the completion of his second "century;" this week I am equally glad in being able to compliment Dr. A. B.

Carpenter and Mr. T. Short, on their respective fiftieth peal. In the former case, it was peculiarly appropriate that Dr. Carpenter's fiftieth should have been composed and conducted by him. Were it not for the fear that I might be laying myself open to the charge of perpetrating a pun, or of giving offence in however small a degree, I would say that Dr. Carpenter has proved himself a good workman hitherto, but I won't say anything of the kind, and only add my hope that the Exercise may in the future continue to have the worthy doctor's valued help, which has been so effectively given in the past, and that when he accomplishes his "century," the event may be celebrated by those among whom he rings in right royal fashion. And may we who perforce cannot be there to see, at any rate, have the pleasure of reading about it.

* * * * *

The ringers of Old Hill, Staffordshire, are certainly to be sympathised with on losing their good friend, Mr. Bassano, who is leaving them to undertake a curacy at Cheltenham. This losing of good friends is one of the unhappy circumstances of our lives, and it seems to apply most peculiarly to us ringers. It is a thing we can't help, and thus "have to put up with it." In this case, no doubt, the Old Hill men's loss will be the Cheltenham men's gain, and thus the former may with some amount of pride reflect that if they have lost a good brother amongst them, he has but transferred his good qualities and abilities to another friendly quarter, and they may console themselves with the thought that he is not so very far away, but that they may often meet again. May it be so.

FREE LANCE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

The next Quarterly Meeting of this society will be held at All Saints', West Bromwich, on Saturday, January 12th. Members assemble at the tower at 2.30 p.m. J. R. KEBLE, *Hon. Sec.*

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

The next ringing meeting of the above branch will take place on Saturday, January 12th, at the parish church, Haslingden. Bells ready at 2.30. Meeting in the school at 6 o'clock.

J. T. STOTT, *Local Sec.*

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MANCHESTER BRANCH.

In consequence of the quarterly meeting being held at Southport on Saturday, January 12th, the day fixed for holding the above branch meeting at Whitfield, it will be postponed until Saturday, January 26th. Bells ready at 4 o'clock.

JOHN EACHUS, *Sec.*

Obituary.

JOHN DUDDING.

On Monday, December 31st, the above-named ringer, at one time a member of the York Minster Society, and also of the Ancient Society of College Youths, departed this life, aged 42 years, and was interred on Thursday, the 3rd inst. He was one of the band who rang the first peal of Kent Treble Bob Major ever rung in York by York men, and only took part in another when he was compelled to retire from ringing through ill health, and from the rupture of a blood vessel on Christmas Day he died as above. The ringers of York Minster met in the evening and rung a muffled touch of Caters as a last tribute of respect to his memory.

WANTED immediately a set of handbells, not less than 12, apply with full particulars and cash price to H. T. JAMES, 11, Mill Lane, West Hartlepool.

PEAL TABLETS.

	£	s.	d.
Black with gold letters, 30 ins. by 21 ins.	2	0	0
Ditto with white or yellow letters	1	10	0
Small tablets, 14 ins. by 11 ins.	0	5	6

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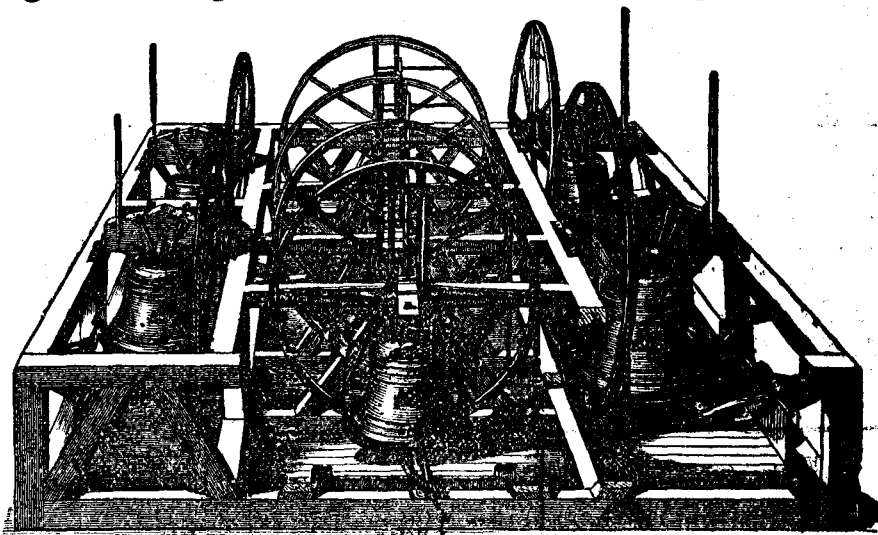
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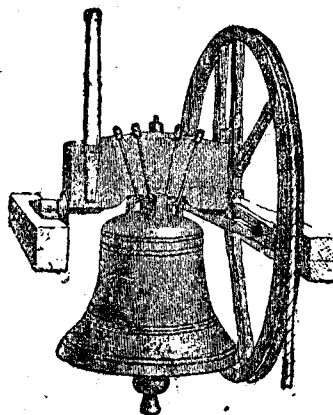
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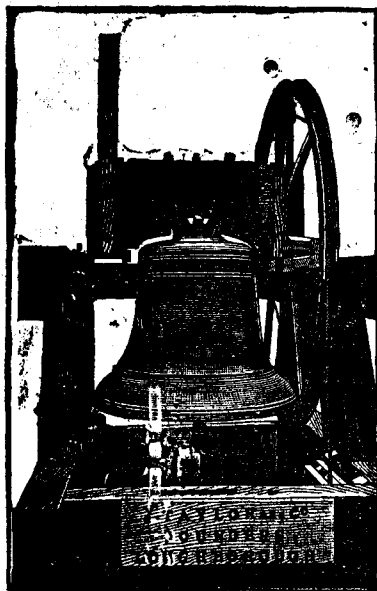
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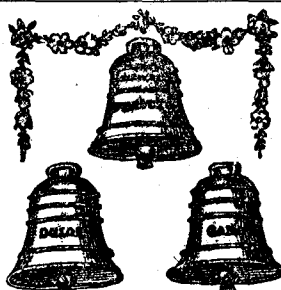
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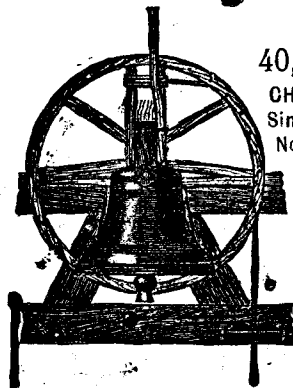
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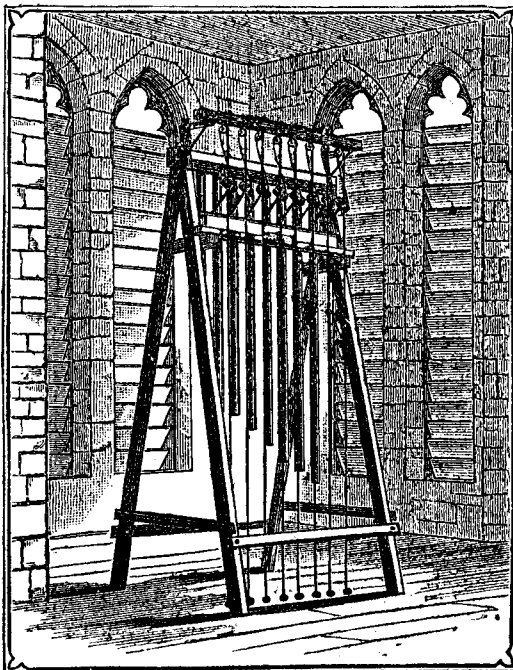
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SOCIETY OF COPLEY SCHOLARS, BRADFORD.

On Wednesday, January 9th, the members of this Society held their first "social" in the Unity Lodge Rooms, Sunbridge Road, at which between fifty and sixty persons were present, including several old retired Bradford ringers, and a goodly number of ladies.

Mr. B. T. COPLEY, who presided, in opening the proceedings, on behalf of the members, gave a cordial welcome to the invited guests present, and expressed an earnest hope that all might have a happy and prosperous new year. He was glad to see so many old familiar faces amongst the younger ones that evening, and thought it boded well for the future, that old and young had met together in this way.

A course of Grandsire Minor was next rung on the handbells, after which the "social" business commenced in right good earnest.

Mr. G. Titterton recited "Bite Bigger;" Mr. Sidney Clark sang "The Salvation Army;" Master H. Thornton (a talented boy of twelve years) performed two piano solos, "The Abbey Streamlet," and "Evening Twilight;" Mr. Albert Bakes sang "The Sheep-stealer" (comic), "Dear old Friend," and "Good Bye, Darling," and recited "A cure for the Rheumatic;" Mr. J. Mawson sang "White Wings;" Miss Hardcastle recited "The Blind Child," and Mr. George Nettleton recited the poetry from "THE BELL NEWS" Christmas number, "The Ringers (old style)." Courses of Caters, Major, Triples, and Oxford Treble Bob Minor, as well as the old familiar tune, "The Captain," and an amusing course of changes, locally known as "Keg-Meg," were also given at intervals during the evening, on the handbells. These items, which were all much appreciated and loudly applauded, were interspersed with dancing, which was freely indulged in not only by the juniors but also by some of the seniors, who appeared to feel young again while "tripping the light fantastic." Mr. James Angus and Mr. Albert Bakes very ably accompanied the songs and played for the dancing, on the piano.

Towards the close of the evening, Mr. H. RAISTRICK proposed, and Mr. THOMAS POLLITT seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to those friends who had so kindly contributed to their enjoyment, not forgetting their old friend Mr. Moulson, who had so well looked after their convenience and comfort as host for the evening. This was carried with applause.

Mr. J. CHEETHAM (late conductor of the parish church company) proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, speaking in warm terms of the good work done by that gentleman for some years past, in connection with teaching young ringers, and in every other way promoting the art of change-ringing in the town and district.

Mr. J. H. HARDCASTLE (conductor of the parish church company) in seconding the motion, cordially reciprocated the expressions of his esteemed friend and predecessor, Mr. Cheetham, observing that their young ringers ought to follow Mr. Copley's good example of patience and perseverance; in him they had a teacher who taught them in a proper manner, they were thus unlike him, who in his younger days as a ringer had no such facilities as them, but was literally "dragged up."

Mr. ANGUS put the motion, which was carried with applause.

The CHAIRMAN, responding, thanked Mr. Cheetham and Mr. Hardcastle for their complimentary remarks. He said he was tempted to think himself sometimes a fortunate individual, inasmuch as he was enabled so often to see the fruits of his endeavours. With regard to their gathering, he hoped that they would have many such in time to come. Ringers' wives had had in the past good cause for complaint at their husband's habit of meeting by themselves for their evening's pleasure, leaving their "better halves" at home alone. By means of these "socials" this just complaint would no longer exist; instead, they would be able to spend an occasional evening together in rational amusement, and enjoy themselves for a brief space of time together.

At twelve o'clock, the singing of the National Anthem brought the proceedings to a close which, thanks to the indefatigable exertions of the stewards (Messrs. London, Raistrick and Titterton); and the Hon. Sec. (Mr. Joe Hardcastle, jun.) had been more successful than was dared to anticipate.

THE BRIGHTON ST. NICHOLAS SOCIETY.

The above society had their annual dinner on Wednesday, January 9th, at their ringing-house, the "Morning Star," Church Street. Thirty-four members and friends sat down to an excellent dinner provided by Host Awcock. Mr. E. Tibbs presided, the vice-chair being taken by Mr. Searle, Master of the society. Dinner being over, "The Queen," "The Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," was given from the chair, and "The Army and Navy" was responded to by two of the company who had seen service, and displayed medals on their breasts. "The Sussex County Association" was given, and responded to by Mr. G. F. Attree, the Hon. Sec., who remarked that since the Association had been established, great good had been done among the members of the various bands, that towers and peals of bells were being improved, and regretting that the Association was not at the top of the list, but still held a very honourable position. "The St. Nicholas Society" was then given from the chair, and responded to by the Secretary (Mr. Boniface), and the Master (Mr. Searle), the secretary stating that they had been during well during the past year. Many changes had taken place; they had a new vicar and churchwarden; the vicar had inscribed in the society's book a valuable testimonial for their past year's service, and feeling the honour that had been done to them, and knowing the confidence that was placed in them, he hoped they would prove themselves worthy of it in the future. Thanking those friends who had come among them on this occasion, he wished them on behalf of the St. Nicholas band a very happy new year. The remaining toasts were "Kindred Societies," "St. Peter's and St. Paul's," Mr. Attree responding for the former; "The Chairman and Vice-Chairman," and "Host and Hostess."

During the evening the handbells were brought into requisition, the intervals being filled up with vocal and instrumental music. Some amusement was created by what at first sight seemed to be a cheque being handed round the room, but which really was a cheque for ten thousand good wishes sent by a well-known London ringer to a brother-string at Brighton.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly meeting was held on Saturday last, at Christ Church, Southport, members were present from Liverpool, Manchester, Bolton, Aughton, Ormskirk, Pendlebury, Etc. Touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, Treble Bob, Etc. were rung during the afternoon and evening.

The Business meeting was held at 6 p.m. The chair being occupied by Mr. A. E. Holme, M.A. (Vice-President of the Association) who was supported by the Rev. C. M. Clarke, curate of Christ Church. The chairman in the course of his address alluded to the advantages derived by the establishments of such branches in the county, as the only means whereby the ringers may become more united. Mr. Redford the Secretary read the proceedings of the meeting held in Liverpool at which the branch was formed a copy of which has already appeared in "THE BELL NEWS." Mr. Hill, Southport, proposed and Mr. Jackson, Bolton, seconded the confirmation of the proceedings which was carried amidst applause. Rev. C. M. Clarke next addressed the meeting and gave the Association a hearty welcome to Southport and apologised for the absence of his Father Archdeacon Clarke. Forty-four new members have been elected since the first meeting on December 22nd of last year. A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings. J. R.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MEETING AT LIVERSEDGE, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH, 1889.

The Committee has pleasure in announcing that by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. W. Fowler, M.A., and with the friendly co-operation of the Liversedge change-ringers, the next meeting will be held as above, i.e., on the second Saturday in February. WM. SNOWDON, President.

WANTED immediately a set of handbells, not less than 12, apply with full particulars and cash price to H. T. JAMES, 11 Mill Lane, West Hartlepool.

CAERLEON, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

In another column will be found the report of a peal rung at this ancient town on Saturday last, and as it is the *first by all*, it may not be inappropriate, or uninteresting to "Free Lance" and the fraternity generally, if a few facts are given to let them know how ringing matters stand in this part of Monmouthshire.

Six bells were cast by Messrs. Warner and Sons in 1881, and the ring was augmented to eight in 1885, since when Messrs. Green and Davies have not only studied the science of ringing and taught their own band, but introduced the art into neighbouring towers. Grandsire is the principal method practised, but the company also possess a knowledge of Plain Bob, Stedman, and Kent Treble Bob.

In December last a decision was arrived at that when the year 1889 set in, the company should "weekly meet and go for peal until it be accomplished." The first meeting took place on the 31st ult., when a break down occurred at 4200; the next was on January 5th, when only 2400 changes were rung; but the third proved more successful, as stated above. It is worthy of note that it was a remarkably well-struck peal, and that there was not the slightest approach to firing throughout; and when the welcome words "that's all" were called, each man was able to go home knowing he had taken part not only in the first peal in Caerleon, but in one in which there were no "doubts" as to its accuracy.

W. J. P.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROCHDALE BRANCH.

On Saturday, January 12th, a ringing meeting of the above Association was held at the church of St. Mary Balderstone, Rochdale. There were over twenty members present from the following places: Rochdale, Heywood, Moorside, and Bacup. Touches of Grandsire Triples were rung and Bob Major attempted, but owing to the bad go of the bells no good ringing could be done. The bells require a little more attention from the ringers themselves. A meeting was subsequently held in the schoolroom, which was presided over by Mr. Millett, sen., of Heywood, who briefly explained the objects for which the above branch was formed. Five new members were elected from St. Mary's tower, and it is hoped the others will soon follow. The meeting closed with the usual votes of thanks, Mr. Hartley responding for the St. Mary's Society. The next meeting will be held at St. Luke's church, Heywood, on Saturday, February 2nd, and members are kindly requested to accept this as the only notice to be given.

ST. STEPHEN'S JUNIOR SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

On Wednesday, January 9th, the above Society, by the kind invitation of the Rector, the Rev. M. Crofton, were entertained to supper at the Rectory. After ample justice had been done to the good fare provided, an adjournment was made to another room, where the rest of the evening was spent in a very pleasant manner.

The Rector, on rising, said he was very pleased indeed to meet them there that evening, and said he meant to make the ringers' supper an annual occurrence, and although he did not know much about ringing himself, he had not failed to notice their progress during the year, and hoped at the next general meeting of church workers of St. Stephen's parish the Secretary of the Society would be present with the ringers' report, as another source of good Christian work in the parish.

Mr. Hinton tapped some good tunes on his box of bells, and a course each of Grandsire Cinques and Bob Maximus, in good style (to whom, by the way, great thanks are due for his untiring efforts with the band this last six months). After an hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for his kindness, and to Mr. Duckham, Secretary, the members dispersed, all having spent a very happy evening.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MANCHESTER BRANCH.

The next meeting of the above branch will be held on Saturday, January 26th, at All Saints' church, Whitefield, ringing to commence at 4 o'clock.

JOHN EACHUS, Sec.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY, DERBY.

On Friday evening, January 11th, the members of the above Society, together with the clergy, churchwardens and several of the sidemen, assembled at the "George" hotel, Station Street, to commemorate the seventh anniversary of the dedication of the bells of the above church. An excellent supper was, through the liberality of the congregation and a number of the inhabitants of the parish, provided by Hostess Warrington. After the removal of the cloth Mr. S. Round took his seat at the piano, and a number of songs were rendered by members and friends, and touches on the handbells were also given, and altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent. On Saturday, January 12th, the ringers of the above met at the belfry for the purpose of fixing a very elaborate peal-board, which had been provided by the subscriptions and workmanship of the members themselves. The board having been safely fixed, an attempt was made to honour the occasion by a peal of Major, but after an hour and half's ringing a change-course occurred, which unfortunately brought it to an early termination.

ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.

On Thursday evening, January 10th, the members of this Society spent a very pleasant evening, being invited to a supper by the churchwardens of the parish, the Rector, the Rev. G. James, the President. The Master, Mr. S. E. Romans presided at the table, and about fourteen members were present. After supper the Rector astonished the company and the host by stating that the latter was a very good ringer, which he proved by the statement that he catered well. The members felt this doubtful, since he had changed course several times. The evening was spent in hand-bell ringing and other amusements, and all the members were much pleased. A course of Grandsire Cinques. G. L. Brunson, 1-2; R. Brunson, 3-4; R. J. Wilkins, 5-6; H. L. James, 7-8; S. E. Romans, 9-10; W. J. Sevier, 11-12. Also a course of Grandsire Triples. A. Roberts, 1-2; E. B. James, 3-4; H. L. James, 5-6; W. J. Sevier, 7-8. And a course of Caters. G. L. Brunson, 1-2; R. Brunson, 3-4; R. J. Wilkins, 5-6; H. L. James, 7-8; W. J. Sevier, 9-10. And some tunes by Messrs. S. E. Romans, and R. J. Wilkins, which were much applauded.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 14th, this Association held its first Quarterly Meeting at Kingston, by the kind permission of the Vicar. Tea was provided at 6 p.m. at the Leopold Coffee Tavern, and to this some forty members sat down. Besides the local men there were ringers present from London, Ashstead, Epsom, Beddington, Carshalton, Croydon, Streatham, Thames Ditton, and Wimbledon. At the business meeting held after tea, some twenty-four new members were elected; and it was decided to hold the next District Meeting at Mortlake, and the next Quarterly Meeting at Camberwell.

There was some good practice on the church bells, both before and after tea: and among other touches may be noticed a course of Treble Bob Royal, a 701 of Grandsire Caters; and as a wind-up, a very pretty 648 of Stedman Caters, conducted by Mr. Welling. ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The third Quarterly Meeting of the year will be held at Leicester, on Saturday, January 26th, 1889. The following towers will be open for ringing from 2.0 till 9 p.m., viz: St. Margaret's 10 bells; St. Mary's, 8 bells; St. Saviour's, 8 bells; St. Mark's, 8 bells; St. Peter's, Belgrave, 8 bells; and St. George's, 6 bells. St. Martin's, 10 bells, will be open from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. only. Committee meeting in St. Margaret's Schools at 4.45. Tea at St. Margaret's Coffee House at 5.30, tickets one shilling each. General meeting immediately after tea, all members and friends are earnestly invited to attend. JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.
5, St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent.

MINEHEAD, SOMERSET.

On Monday, December 31st, the Dunster Guild with W. W. Thorne were invited by the Rev. J. W. Todd, who is now living at Minehead, to meet him and the young band of change-ringers, he has just commenced to instruct, to a supper, kindly given by him. The Dunster band went over in the afternoon and made an unsuccessful attempt for Holt's Ten-part peal, the first since they were augmented from a peal of five into a peal of eight bells by Warner and Son. Edward Hole, 1; W. W. Thorne (conductor) 2; G. Daltry, 3; J. Tudball, 4; R. Hole, 5; J. Grabham, 6; C. B. Craze, 7; J. Payne, 8. Everything went well until the sixth-part, where a shift course occurred, and the bells were called round in 1 hr. 45 mins. The Rev. J. U. Todd was to have taken part in the above but stood out to make room for Mr. Daltry, who was on a visit from Bristol. After the attempt a 400 of Grandsire Triples was rung, in which the Rev. J. U. Todd, R. S. Thorne, T. Elliott, and W. Thrush took part, conducted by W. W. Thorne. Afterwards a move was made to the "Feather's" Hotel, where Host Thistle having everything ready a band of 24 rang a good peal with the knives and forks. After supper was over the Rev. J. U. Todd, in a short speech, thanked the Dunster ringers for coming over, and told them he hoped by unity and perseverance the Minehead band would soon know as much as the Dunster Guild, although they had got a long start. Dr. Ollerhead (one of the young band), proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. J. U. Todd. The handbells were brought into use, and Grandsire Cinques, Caters, Major, and Triples was rung, and an enjoyable evening was spent until 11 o'clock, when, after wishing each other a Happy New Year, the Dunster Band made tracks for home, a distance of two miles. It being a beautiful evening, the walk was thoroughly enjoyed, and at a quarter to twelve the Dunster bells were set going half muffled, and the New Year rang in with a well-struck 500.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—HORLEY BRANCH.

On New Year's Eve, the members of the above held their annual supper at the "Six Bells" Inn. The chair was taken by the curate-in-charge, the Rev. Paske Smith. The members present were fifteen of the Horley branch, also Messrs. Wickens, B. King, A. Ellis, and M. Heffer, from Charlwood; and E. Dewey, from Reigate, who are members of the above Association, and to whom much praise is due for the services which they have given the local ringers in change-ringing. It is pleasant to add that there has been much progress in change-ringing during the past year. There has been three peals of Grandsire Triples rung in the tower during the past year, in which two or more of the Horley branch have taken part, and which were conducted by F. Wickens, of Charlwood. There has not been a peal rung at Horley for some forty-five years, in which any of the Horley branch have taken part, until the past year. The supper was provided by Host Chart in a very satisfactory manner. After they had satisfied their appetites, the members spent the evening in hearty songs and toasts, while eight members went to the old church tower and rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 42 mins., taken Holt's Original, tenor 14 cwt. A. Ellis, 1; F. Wickens, 2; T. Sparks, 3; J. Taylor, 4; E. Dewey, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; B. King, 7; A. Sparks, 8. After which the old year was rung out, and a Happy New Year to all.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 30th, at Chipping Sodbury and Yate. Short Service at St. John the Baptist church, Chipping Sodbury, at 12 o'clock. Dinner at the Portcullis Hotel, at 1 o'clock. Business Meeting afterwards. Usual allowance to members who have sent notice to the Local District Secretary by Wednesday, January 23rd. Train arrivals at Yate from Gloucester way 9.33 and 11.8. From Bristol 9.35 and 11.23. Towers open to Associates (six bells), Chipping Sodbury, Yate, and Iron Acton.

ANNUAL DINNER OF THE WANSTEAD SOCIETY.

On Saturday, January 12th, about forty members of the Wanstead Amalgamated Society were entertained at the "George" Hotel, Woodford, by the Master, A. H. Gardom, Esq. There were also present Messrs. Stable and Fox, churchwardens of Woodford church. The spread was of a most liberal character, to which full justice was done by those present. When the cloth was removed, the usual loyal toasts were given and duly honoured. Other toasts followed, among them being "The Churchwardens," responded to by Mr. Fox and Mr. Stable, who expressed their pleasure at being amongst the ringers. "The Visitors," responded to by Mr. Bright, of Woolwich. The toast of the evening, "The Wanstead Amalgamated Society of Change-Ringers," coupled with the name of the Master, was received with musical honours.

Mr. GARDOM, in replying, thanked those present for the cordial way in which they had received the toast, and said he hoped in the future to have similar gatherings, and that the same familiar faces as those gathered round him now might be spared to meet him again.

Songs and tune playing upon the handbells followed, and a most enjoyable evening was brought to a close with "God save the Queen."

THE PARISH CHURCH SOCIETY, LANCASTER.

On Saturday, January 12th, the above ringers, past and present, held their first annual supper in the Lancaster Coffee Tavern, Market Street, when sixteen sat down to an excellent supper, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all present. After the removal of the cloth, Mr. P. Walker, one of the past ringers, was voted to the chair.

The CHAIRMAN in the course of his remarks said it was the first time he had taken the chair, and hoped it would not be the last. The past ringers then gave a course on the handbells, after which the ringers gave a selection on the handbells, intervened with songs, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman, Host and Hostess, brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

COGGESHALL, ESSEX.

A large clock, with two illuminated dials, and striking the hours, has just been erected in commemoration of the Queen's jubilee. Mrs. Osgood, Hanbury, formerly started the clock. John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, have carried out the work.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting will be held at Saffron Walden, on Saturday, February 2nd, by permission of the Vicar. Further particulars will be announced. T. L. PAPILLON, Hon. Sec. Writtle, Chelmsford.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Hoghton, near Preston, on Saturday, January 26th. Belfry open at 2.30; meeting at 5.30. JAMES HORROCKS, Sec.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting of this Association will take place in the National Schoolroom, Cradley, near Stourbridge, on Saturday, January 26th, at 5 p.m. prompt. Mr. S. Spittle, Master, will preside. The Rev. J. H. Thompson, Vicar, has kindly offered the use of the tower and bells for the occasion. All contributions are due at this meeting, and the Hon. Sec. requests that all companies in union hand over the same according to rule 10. The members of the Association will be pleased to meet any ringing friends.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"While one cannot help the many;
The many can help the few."

I am much obliged to my friend Mr. Holden for his well-written letter of Saturday, although it has "taken the wind out of my sails" most effectually, seeing that his proposal, in its salient points at least, is so similar to the one I had intended to have propounded. Like myself, Mr. Holden is a member of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows, and like myself also he has taken an active part in the working of that great Friendly Society; we both of us, therefore, can speak from experience as to the working and management of friendly or benefit societies. Like Mr. Holden, my plan was to take a pattern from the Free Masons, and in place of setting up a rival establishment to our already firmly-established Friendly Societies with their fixed scale of contributions and benefits (which plan, as I before observed, would entail a comparatively large weekly subscription, and through our scattered positions an inordinate percentage for management expenses), adopt the Free Masons' plan of a small annual contribution, and make grants therefrom as occasion might require, according to the judgment of the Managing Committee.

* * * * *

In order to better elucidate my meaning, I will give my plan for the consideration of the Exercise, which as I before observed is so strongly on the lines laid down by Mr. Holden, that the two might with advantage be considered together. First, the Hon. Sec. of each County Association should issue an appeal to the members to send in their names who are willing to contribute a shilling per year to what I would style "The Ringers' Benevolent Fund." This having been done by a certain fixed date (say the first of May next), a definite time should be decided upon for the first annual subscription to be paid up (say the first of August.) Then comes the question of investment. This I would meet by suggesting that the whole should be banked in one central place (say Birmingham), in the names of three trustees, who, of course, would have to sign all cheques for withdrawal. The next point which arises is the centre or moving spirit, without which no Society can exist. That would be in this case either a Committee of Management or Board of Directors (or a similar body by whatever name it might be called), which body would have to be in the first place elective, in the second as representative as possible, and in the third formed so that the members thereof would be able to meet or communicate with each other readily to decide on the various applications. But perhaps even more important in this matter would be the selection of some one able and willing to undertake the duties of Secretary. With a competent and energetic official in this department, the remainder of the work of formation, and thus, the general routine of business would be easy, as so much of the Directors' work could be done through the post that it would need little more than the triennial personal meeting together, as suggested by Mr. Holden, to carry on the work.

* * * * *

In order to further illustrate my plan, I will just sketch out a *modus operandi*. We will suppose that some brother-string has undertaken the duties of Hon. Secretary *pro tem*; then that the Hon. Secretaries of the various County Associations have brought this question before their members and collected the names of intending subscribers, according to my previous suggestion. That so far will be plain sailing. On or soon after the first of May, these lists of names will be sent to the Hon.

Sec. of the fund, together with the name and address of one member of each Association who has been elected to represent it on the Directorate. This having been done, the Hon. Sec. appoints a day and place of meeting (say the Monday or Tuesday in Whitsun-week), and notifies the same to these representatives so elected. This meeting, I would add, should be in as central a place as possible (say Birmingham or Derby), when a code of regulations could be discussed and agreed to. This meeting, being held at holiday time, would naturally cause least inconvenience, besides being a pleasant outing for those concerned; and if each Association agreed to pay the travelling expenses of its delegate (which would not be much individually), we might reasonably anticipate a very representative gathering.

* * * * *

Then comes the question as to the disbursement of the funds. Here the plan adopted by the Free Masons would furnish us with a good precedent. Should any subscribing member become unfortunately in such a position that his friends in the local company think him deserving of a grant, they shall lay the same before the officers of this County Association; if these officers consider the case a deserving one, they shall send a statement of the case to the Hon. Sec. of the fund. On receipt of this communication the Hon. Sec. will forward a copy of the same to all the representatives, whose duty it will be to consider the case carefully and reply stating the amount they think should be granted. If there is any great divergence in their awards, then he might communicate with them again, giving a list of various sums suggested, and asking for a medium proposal. On receiving this he could get a cheque signed by the trustees for the amount and forward it at once to its proper quarter.

* * * * *

Of course, there are many other details which would require working out, but these would be left to the inaugural meeting; and taking it together I do not see any serious difficulty in working out this plan. *Experientia docet* is an old and truthful maxim, and so it would be in this case. As the time went on, different cases and varying circumstances would arise which would of themselves help to work out the fund to the best advantage, and consolidate it, thus increasing its usefulness. There would then be no need for the continued appeals for help in the columns of "THE BELL NEWS" of which we have seen so much, as we should have a common fund for the relief of such cases, and at the same time would not be setting up any costly rival establishment to those to which so many of us belong.

* * * * *

I leave the foregoing in the hands of the Exercise, and would add but one word more, namely, that as I am a thorough believer in practicing what I preach, should no one come forward to carry this plan through its initial stages (in case it be adopted) I will voluntarily undertake the work until it is established on a satisfactory footing, and the work of any future Secretary be made comparatively easy.

* * * * *

The warmest wishes of the Exercise will, I do not doubt, go with the ringers of St. Stephen's, Carlisle, in their endeavour to form an association for Cumberland, neither do I doubt that every assistance will be gladly afforded to them in such an endeavour by other established Associations. If I might venture to give our friends of Carlisle a word of advice, I would recom-

mend them by all means to put themselves in communication with the Hon. Secs. of these Associations, and get all information possible as to the best mode of carrying on their work. If they are not in possession of the names and addresses of such gentlemen, were they to apply through the columns of "THE BELL NEWS," I am sure they will be given every assistance. I most heartily wish them all success.

The report furnished us by Mr. Morton of the doing of our friends in New South Wales will have been read with great interest. When we read of the earnest endeavours made by our brothers in the far-away colonies to propagate the art, and let their people hear "the bells of Motherland" rung in scientific manner as in the old country at home, our hearts must warm towards them, and our aspirations breathe sentiments of affection and goodwill. We are proud of our empire as one on which "the sun never sets," so shall we be proud to think that the bells,

"Of England green and old"

resound through the hills and dales of our colonies where our brothers and sisters have made their homes, and even more so when we learn that our brothers over the water are endeavouring to emulate the doings of their (in this respect) more fortunate brethren at home. Success betide the labours of Mr. Morton and his coadjutors. May they surmount all their difficulties, and although they, like us, have to bear with the disappointment of losing good helpers through removal from their midst, may others spring up to take their places, so that the sound of their loved bells may echo week by week through the length and breadth of their vast island.

The Warnham men, I see, made a start for their 13,440 of Bob Major, on Saturday the 5th instant. Of course, it is invariably to a more or less acute degree disappointing to us when our well-meant efforts come to grief, particularly when it is through no fault of our own, as at Warnham. This company have certainly no cause for complaint as to their ropes, which are said to have stood the strain of no less than 53 peals rung on the bells. That fact alone is about the highest commendation that could be given to their maker, Mr. Nicoll, and shows the excellence of his material and workmanship

FREE LANCE.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that an eight-bell tower district meeting will be held at Seaford, on Saturday, January 26th. Full particulars will be given next week. The following meetings are also being arranged: February 23rd, Angmering, West Sussex, six-bell tower; March (date not fixed), Chailey, East Sussex, six-bell tower; April (date not fixed), Bolney, West Sussex, eight-bell tower; May (date not fixed), Brighton, central, eight-bell tower.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

JAS. E. WORSSELL, Assistant Hon. Sec.

ST. MARY, STRATFORD, BOW, PAROCHIAL SOCIETY OF CHANGE-RINGERS.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual Dinner of the above society will take place at the "Bow Bells," Bow Road, on Thursday, January 24th. Any ringing friends wishing to sit down with the company on that occasion can obtain all information by applying to Mr. D. Sutton, Bow Vestry Hall, Bow Road, E. There will be a meeting at the church for practice on Monday evening next, at 8 o'clock.

ST. PETER'S, ISLE OF THANET, KENT.

On Saturday evening last, ten members of the Quex Park and All Saints' band paid a visit to St. Peter's church, and were met in the belfry by the St. Peter's band. After raising the bells a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles was rung to try the bells, which were found to be in excellent ringing order and of a musical mellow tone. A start was then made for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, which was rung in 26 mins. A. Pointer, 1; G. Willshire, 2; T. B. Reed, 3; T. B. Reed, jun., 4; L. Willshire (conductor), 5; J. Bristow, 6. This is the first 720 on the bells. Some ringing was then done by the local band in a very creditable manner, and some more Doubles by the visitors, in which S. Jarman and H. Wilson took part. After leaving the belfry the visitors were entertained at the "Wheatsheaf" Hotel, by the St. Peter's band to a first-class supper, which was much enjoyed by all. Handbell ringing, interspersed with songs, concluded a very pleasant evening, the visitors departing for home about 11 o'clock p.m. The ringers wish to thank the vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells and the St. Peter's ringers for their hospitality and kind welcome.

THE BELLS OF SEAFORD, SUSSEX.

A correspondent writes:—The music of the bells heralding in the New Year was missed by residents of Seaford. We hear that for at least 40 or 50 years no break has taken place in the good old custom of thus speeding the parting and welcoming the coming year. This break in a good old plan is the more regrettable when we remember that however one and another may differ in doctrine and be divided by sect, that the music of the bells proclaims "Peace on earth, goodwill to men."—"A Lover of the Bells" also writes:—Our bells have been silent this year; no welcome to 1889 has come from them; and thus for some reason or other (what good reason I know not) we have allowed the oldest of our time-honoured customs to drop through in this little old-world town of Seaford. If it be they were silenced because of the watch-night service, surely it must have been through some misunderstanding. Though far from underrating the power of the preacher, I am certain of this, that at this period of the year the voice of the bells have a wider and far deeper meaning to all than any words, however appropriate, that fall from the preacher's lips. The ringers say they were informed they could ring at one o'clock—probably so; but then to them it seems to have appeared next Sunday would do as well as an hour after the New Year had begun. Perhaps they are right, for if the bells are not rung to welcome in the New Year, I do not see any reason for their ringing half an hour or an hour later. I trust the matter may be set right ere another year is come and that those who prevented this year's welcome being rung may recognise the deep significance that the bells and their New Year's peal have in the hearts of all true Englishmen. Long may our grand-toned peal of bells be permitted to and hereafter always—

Ring out the old, ring in the new;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Gainsborough, on Saturday, January 26th. Tea will be provided at the Coffee Tavern at 5 o'clock. Those intending being present are requested to write to Mr. J. C. Tinker, 20, Trinity Street, Gainsborough, not later than the 23rd, instant.

JOHN W. WATSON,
Hon. Sec.

15, Knight Street, Lincoln.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—CHESTER BRANCH.

By kind permission of Archdeacon Barber, the Annual Meeting of the above branch will be held in Old St. Mary's school-room at 7 p.m., on January 23rd. All our ringing friends and honorary members are cordially invited to attend the meeting.

RICHARD PEASE, Local Secretary.

Saltney.

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.

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One copy, 12 months 6s. 6d.

" 6 " 3s. 3d.

" 3 " 1s. 8d.

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

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Wallhamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication 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," Wallhamstow, London.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1889.

SEVERAL correspondents have this week expressed their gratification at the account of the festival of our Antipodean friends, which was published in last week's number. This gratification will be much enhanced when the fact is known that we have received another letter from the leader of the St. Philip's (Sydney) company—Mr. MORTON—who sends, with a nicely-executed photograph of the members of his Society, Christmas and new year's greetings to the Exercise in the old country. We feel sure that such sentiments will be reciprocated in a hearty fashion by all who read these lines, coupled with earnest wishes that complete success may attend our brother-strings in all parts of the globe.

There is something very satisfactory and pleasing on reading these reports from foreign parts concerning the progress our art is making abroad. The universality of

the game of cricket among English-speaking communities has been held to assist the conviction that the Anglo-Saxon race—or perhaps it would be more correct to say those races speaking our language—will at some future time sway the destinies of the world. If there is any ground for such belief we may naturally infer that if our art makes a similar progress in our various colonies and possessions, it will be also become a most important factor in the same direction.

It has been a matter of surprise to many people that change-ringing has not been practised in the United States of America. We think that church bells within the Republic are not as a rule hung for ringing. It is well-known that HOLT's ten-part peal was rung in the city of Philadelphia, called by the late Mr. H. W. HALEY, but we believe it is nevertheless true that these bells with their frame and fittings complete, were sent out there by an English firm of bellfounders, and thus were easily erected by local craftsmen according to plan and instructions. But this is the only account we have ever heard of change-ringing in "the States," though Englishmen who were ringers when at home are to be found there. An attempt was made, when the late Emperor NAPOLEON was in the zenith of his fame and power, to introduce the art into France under his auspices and patronage. But nothing came of it. Probably the monarch was too much occupied with matters which necessitated his constant attention to introduce or patronise such an English time-honored institution as bell-ringing. And there is certainly very little likelihood at the present of its taking root in Gallic soil.

With pleasure, therefore, must we hail its adoption in our colonies, amongst our own people. We shall gradually watch its development, and English ringers will fondly look for its satisfactory and steady progress among their brethren of the same race in far-off lands. Perhaps we shall see, ere long, our colonies striving in a genuine friendly rivalry for the first peal out of England by colonists. We hope so. We hope also to hear of our friends' doings more frequently, not only in Australia, but in New Zealand and other parts of the Empire blessed with that Anglo-Saxon institution—"a peal of Church bells."

In the following page will be found a report of a peal of Stedman Cinques rung by the College Youths at the church of St. Michael, Cornhill. This report we received last week, and it was put into type and placed in the page so that it would have appeared as first among the peals in last week's number. On the eve of going to press, we received by post a note purporting to emanate from Mr. J. M. HAYES, the conductor of the peal, asking that it may not be inserted, specifying a satisfactory reason for its non-publication. As matters sent are frequently countermanded before the day of publication, we naturally came to the conclusion that the communication was a genuine one. Unfortunately, so far as we can at present hear, it was a very poor attempt at an hoax, which the perpetrator should try to improve upon when his inclinations again lead him to play the fool. If he thought to stop the announcement of such a performance, he has been most egregiously deceived, for this disclosure of his miserable antics has the effect of making the peal more popular and more widely known than ever.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 5, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL, CORNHILL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5021 CHANGES.

Tenor 41 cwt.

JAMES PETTIT Treble.	GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN .. 7.
WILLIAM COOTER 2.	EDWIN HORREX 8.
SAMUEL E. JOYCE 3.	RICHARD T. WOODLEY .. 9.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 4.	REV. H. A. COCKEY .. 10.
RICHARD FRENCH 5.	JOHN M. HAYES 11.
HENRY SPRINGALL 6.	WALTER PRIME Tenor.

Composed by the late H. W. HALEY, and Conducted by
JOHN MURRAY HAYES.

This peal was rung as a farewell to Mr. Cockey who is leaving the Metropolis, having been appointed to the living of Oldland, Gloucestershire. It was his first peal on bells, and was the first twelve-bell peal in which a clergyman has taken part.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 12, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5219 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Treble.	JAMES W. DRIVER 6.
FRED. W. KELLEY 2.	*WILLM. T. COCKERILL .. 7.
WILLM. E. GARRARD 3.	JAMES NICHOLLS, JUN. .. 8.
FRANK DAVEY* 4.	CHALLIS F. WINNY 9.
JOHN W. KELLEY 5.	SAMUEL HOW Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN W. KELLY.

First peal as composer. *First peal of Caters. With the exception of Messrs. Newman and Cockerill, all the above are of the local company.

SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION, AND THE ALL HALLOWS SOCIETY, TOTTENHAM.

On Saturday, January 12, 1889, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

ALFRED FOX Treble.	HENRY A. BARNETT 5.
JOSEPH WAGHORN 2.	JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 6.
THOMAS C. GROVE* 3.	GEORGE B. LUCAS 7.
EDWARD F. STRANGE* .. 4.	WILLIAM PYE ENGLISH .. Tenor.

Composed by ERNEST E. VINEN, and Conducted by
J. WAGHORN, JUN.

*First peal in the method; and first in the method on the bells.

The Provinces.

DRAYTON, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 31, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:

OXFORD AND KENT TREBLE BOB, DOUBLE COURT, COLLEGE SINGLE, OXFORD BOB, PLAIN BOB, AND GRANDSIRE MINOR.

Tenor 8 cwt.

WILLIAM COLL Treble.	CHARLES TRINDER 4.
GEORGE JONES 2.	THOMAS FULKER 5.
H. D. BETTERIDGE 3.	*FREDERICK FIELD Tenor.

Conducted by F. FIELD.

*First peal as conductor.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.—THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 8, 1889, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES S. WILDE Treble.	SAMUEL BENNETT 5.
JOHN SIDEBOTHAM 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
JOHN HOLDEN 3.	THOMAS WILDE 7.
WALTER SLATER 4.	EDWARD WOOD Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES S. WILDE.

This peal, which contains the 6th its extent right, and all the 8-6's, is a three-part one. Messrs. Holden and Wood hail from Saddleworth; J. Sidebotham from Mottram; the rest are of the local company.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE WARNHAM BRANCH).

On Thursday, January 10, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

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

Composed by WALTER CHARMAN, and Conducted by
HENRY H. CHANDLER.

This peal is supposed to be the first of Major ever rung in the method, and was rung at the first attempt. Neither of the above band has ever rung any besides this peal before.

HEYWOOD, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE ROCHDALE BRANCH.)

On Thursday, January 10, 1889, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 22½ cwt.

ALBERT SCHOFIELD Treble.	WILLM. H. WALMSLEY .. 5.
JAMES PILKINGTON 2.	JOHN HARRISON 6.
JOHN MILLETT 3.	JAMES SCHOLBY 7.
ERNEST BISHOP 4.	JAMES MILLETT Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN MILLETT.

First peal in the method by all. Mr. Bishop hails from Bury; the rest belong to Heywood.

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

On Friday, January 11, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

ANNABLE'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

RICHARD C. BURRELL .. Treble.	WILLIAM HAWKES 5.
ARTHUR EDWARDS 2.	HIRZEL F. DE LISLE, Esq. 6.
JOHN DAINS 3.	ALFRED TARBUN 7.
WILLIAM J. PIPER 4.	WILLIAM LINCOLN Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM LINCOLN.

First peal in the method on the bells, and by all the band except the fifth man.

CAERLEON, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

On Saturday, January 12, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 7½ cwt. in Bb.

ROMULUS LE VESCONTE* .. Treble.	*LOT STAEFORD* 5.
HENRY SHEAM* 2.	*JNO. W. JONES 6.
EVAN DAVIES* 3.	*FRANK GREEN 7.
WM. HENRY ARNOLD* .. 4.	*HAMILTON EVANS Tenor.

Conducted by EVAN DAVIES.

*First peal by all, and first peal on the bells.

SAXMUNDHAM, SUFFOLK.—THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, January 11, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN FOUR DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

BEING TWO 720'S OF KENT TREBLE BOB, TWO 720'S OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB, TWO 720'S OF GRANDSIRE MINOR, AND 720 OF PLAIN BOB.

Tenor 10 cwt.

RICHARD W. STANNARD Treble.	ROBERT WELLS 4.
HENRY J. BUTTON 2.	THOMAS E. SHEARING 5.
ALBERT LINCOLN 3.	GABRIEL LINDOFF Tenor.

Conducted by G. LINDOFF.

R. Wells belongs to the local company; the remainder hail from Leiston. This is the first 5040 on the bells, and the first on six bells by all.

OLD HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, January 12, 1889, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 23½ cwt.

ALBERT E. PARSONS Treble.	HARRY CARTWRIGHT 5.
JOHN CARTER 2.	JAMES T. PERRY 6.
WILLIAM BROOKS 3.	HARRY MASON 7.
JAMES JONES 4.	RICHARD BIRD Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

*First peal in the method. This peal, which is now rung for the first time, will shortly appear in "THE BELL NEWS." The ringers of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 6th bells are members of the Birmingham Amalgamated Society.

SLEAFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 12, 1889, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. DENYS,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOSEPH B. FENTON* Treble.	COOK WELLS 5.
JOHN W. WATSON* 2.	ISAAC VICKERS 6.
HENRY MAIDENS* 3.	DAVID W. BROWN 7.
HENRY HOYES* 4.	JOSEPH ELLARD Tenor.

Conducted by ISAAC VICKERS.

This is the first peal on the bells, and is the first by a Lincoln company since 1780.
*First peal. †First peal as conductor.

SHEFFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 12, 1889, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt.

THOMAS DIXON Treble.	CHARLES BOWER 5.
CHAS. HY. HATTERSLEY 2.	CHARLES JACKSON 6.
WILLIAM LOMAS 3.	ARTHUR BREARLEY 7.
THOMAS HATTERSLEY 4.	ALFRED RODGERS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

Mr. Charles Jackson hails from Hull.

STANSTEAD, SUFFOLK.—THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, January 13, 1889, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN FOUR DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

BEING 720 OF OXFORD SINGLE BOB, TWO 720'S OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB, TWO 720'S OF KENT TREBLE BOB AND TWO 720'S OF BOB MINOR.

Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

GEORGE MAXIM Treble.	ROBERT MINGAY 4.
JOHN LEE 2.	OLIVER GARWOOD 5.
WALTER GRIDLEY 3.	SAMUEL SLATER Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL SLATER.

The first four hail from Foxearth, and the two last from Glemsford.

ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.—LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN BRANCH.)

On Monday, January 14, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. R. PRITCHARD'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 25½ cwt.

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

Conducted by JAMES SHOLICAR.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Monday, January 14, 1889, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN'S DERITEND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT C. BOWKETT* .. Treble.	*GEORGE WALKER 5.
WILLIAM BROOK 2.	*CHARLES CARMELL 6.
JOHN CARTER 3.	ALBERT HACKLEY 7.
JAMES JONES 4.	FRANK H. JAMES Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

This peal never has the 2nd and 3rd in 6th's place at a course-end. *First peal in the method. This is the first time it has been rung.

CARSHALTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 15, 1889, 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 12½ cwt. in G.

F. HOLDER* Treble.	J. PLOWMAN 5.
E. BENNETT 2.	J. HARDING 6.
J. TRAPPETT 3.	*E. HOLLAND 7.
E. MATTHEWS 4.	*W. BROOMSGROVE Tenor.

Conducted by J. PLOWMAN.

*First peal. Bennett, Trappett, Plowman, and Harding belong to Beddington. The others are local men.

HAGLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

Recently, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

HARRY MORRIS Treble.	JOSEPH SMITH 5.
WILLIAM SHORT 2.	ALFRED ORFORD 6.
THOMAS LEES 3.	G. H. PAGETT 7.
HARRY HARTSHORNE 4.	W. F. HARTSHORNE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM F. HARTSHORNE.

First peal of Major by all. Messrs. Orford and Pagett belong to Stourbridge Short, Lees, Smith, and Morris belong to Hagley. Messrs. Hartshorne are unattached, and hail from Harts Hill.

AYLESFORD, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Recently, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

ERNEST NEWMAN Treble.	ALFRED H. WOOLLEY 5.
EDWARD PRICE 2.	WILLIAM BELL 6.
JOSEPH GRANSBERRY 3.	ALCHIN MOORCRAFT 7.
HARRY PEARCE 4.	EDWARD DUNK Tenor.

Conducted by H. PEARCE.

Messrs. Newman and Bell hail from Mereworth; Pearce, Woolley, Moorcraft, and Dunk, from Maidstone; Gransberry from Staplehurst; Price belongs to the local company.

ROWLEY REGIS, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Tuesday, January 15, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BIDDLESTONE'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN OAKLEY Treble.	SAMUEL MILLS.. .. 5.
HENRY BENNETT 2.	BENJAMIN LOWE 6.
JOHN BATE.. .. 3.	RICHARD BAKER 7.
WILLIAM HENRY BATE .. 4.	DAVID WOODHOUSE.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL MILLS.

This is the first peal by any Rowley Regis Band, and the whole of the ringers only commenced change-ringing about twelve months.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE BALCOMBE BRANCH.)

On Thursday, January 10, 1889, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:—

WOODBINE, VIOLET, KENT TREBLE BOB, CANTERBURY, PLAIN BOB, AND OXFORD SINGLE BOB.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

JOHN GASSON Treble.	*THOMAS STREETER 4.
RICHARD STREETER*.. .. 2.	JOHN CHEESEMAN 5.
EDWARD STREETER 3.	HENRY MEADS Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY MEADS.

*First 5040 with a beb bell.

Date Touches.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—On Tuesday, January 8th, at All Saints' church, a date touch of 1889 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 11 mins. G. Naish, 1; Rev. H. Shears, 2; C. Slade, 3; J. Parslow, 4; G. Gray, 5; J. Wright (composer and conductor), 6; J. Smith, 7; J. Harris, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

RADCLIFFE.—On Tuesday, January 13th, for Divine Service in the evening, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1889 changes in 59 mins., by the following members of the Manchester branch of the above Association. W. Hutton, 1; J. Morris, 2; F. Rudman, 3; E. Bishop (conductor), 4; A. Hardman, 5; J. Hardman, 6; A. Barrett, 7; W. Turner, 8. Composed by John Carter, of Birmingham.

BATLEY CARR (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, January 8th, a date touch of 1889 changes in the following methods: 714 Duke of York, 720 New London Pleasure, 264 Violet, and 191 Oxford Treble Bob. Jno. Scott, 1; W. Idle, 2; Squire Mitchell, 3; J. H. Idle, 4; J. Blackburn, 5; G. H. Simon (composer and conductor), 6. The above was rung in honour of W. Idle's birthday, the company wishing him many happy returns.

RIPON (Yorks).—On Tuesday, January 8th, at the Cathedral, a date touch of Stedman Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. A. H. Clark, 1; J. Baines, 2; J. Strodder, 3; A. Pratt, 4; A. Ingleby, 5; W. Pick, 6; T. Clark (conductor), 7; H. Rumbold, 8. Composed by A. Percival Heywood, Esq., Duffield, Derby, and is taken from "THE BELL NEWS," No. 349, Vol. VII., page 460. The above are members of the Durham and Newcastle Association, with the exception of Messrs. Strodder and Rumbold.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday, January 13th, for evening service at St. Lawrence's, a date touch (1889 changes) of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. and 11 mins. B. White, 1; J. Potter, 2; J. F. Sarvant, 3; C. Bennett, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6; T. Hibbert, 7; W. Higgs, 8. Composed by J. Carter, of Birmingham.

SANDIACRE (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, January 13th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1889 changes), in 1 hr. and 4 mins. E. Norman, 1; J. Bonsall, 2; H. Wilde, 3; J. Hall, 4; R. Parkins (conductor), 5; M. Stevenson, 6. Tenor 16½ cwt. Longest touch by all. The above was rung to commemorate the eighth anniversary of the opening of the bells.

THORNHAM MAGNA (Suffolk).—On Monday, January 14th, the Wickham Skeith company paid a visit to this place and rang a date touch of Grandsire and Bob Doubles, in 1 hr. 8 mins. E. Youngs, 1; C. Nunn, 2; D. Mayes, 3; T. Davey, 4; G. Catermole (conductor), 5. Tenor 12 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SPELDHURST (Kent).—On Sunday, January 6th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 360 Grandsire Triples. D. Pelling, 1; J. Baker, 2; F. Still, jun. (conductor), 3; G. Turley, 4; F. Still, sen., 5; G. Card, 6; H. Edwards, 7; F. Still, 8. Also 1008 of Bob Major, in 40 mins. H. Edwards, 1; J. Baker, 2; J. Maynard, 3; G. Turley, 4; F. Still, sen., 5; G. Card, 6; F. Still, jun. (conductor), 8.

DOVER (Kent).—On Saturday, January 12th, 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. This 720 was rung on the occasion of the erection of the peal-board in the belfry recording the seven 720's of Bob Minor 5040 changes, which was rung on the 16th of June last, in 3 hrs. 14 mins. by the same men.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND.—On Saturday, January 12th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 25 mins. L. Digweed (Swanscombe), 1; F. J. Ring (Swanscombe), 2; G. Hayes (conductor, Swanscombe), 3; A. Ring (Frindsbury), 4; C. Waterman (Milton), 5; F. Hayes (Milton), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CUDDINGTON (Bucks).—On Sunday evening, January 6th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Frost, 1; W. Adkins, 2; R. Ward, 3; J. Blake, 4; A. Frost (conductor), 5; A. Webb, 6. W. Adkins hails from Abingdon; the rest are local men.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, December 24th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, 1036 of Grandsire Triples. E. Jarvis, 1; J. R. Mackman, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6; G. Skeef, 7; J. Peck, 8. At midnight, 518 in the same method. On Tuesday, January 1st, to ring the old year out and new year in, 518 Grandsire Triples. At 7 a.m. 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 360 London Single. J. S. Wright, 1; C. Neaverson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. W. Jarvis, 5; R. Jarvis, 6. At noon, 1036 Grandsire Triples. J. R. Mackman, 1; G. Skeef, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6; J. W. Jarvis, 7; R. Jarvis, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHTON (Essex).—On Monday, January 7th, for practice, 1030 of Grandsire Triples. Lance Corporal T. Chapman, 1; E. Barnett (conductor), 2; E. Bacon, 3; F. Freeman, 4; J. Rann, 5; G. Carter, 6; W. Clark, 7; W. Lebbon, 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HENFIELD (Sussex).—Recently at the parish church for evening service, this branch of the above Association rang 700 of Grandsire Doubles in 24 mins. W. Teirce, 1; T. Stringer, 2; W. Stringer, 3; J. Blake, 4; H. Freeman (conductor), 5; T. West, 6.

ALL HALLOWS SOCIETY, TOTTENHAM, MIDDLESEX.

TOTTENHAM.—On Sunday evening, January 13th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1280 changes), in 45 mins. A. Fox, 1; E. F. Strange, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; J. Waghorn, 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; W. P. English, 6; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 7; J. Waghorn, jun., 8.

THE HORNSEY GUILD.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 13th, after Divine Service, a 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. S. Scarlett, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; C. Martin, 3; T. Titchener, 4; T. Card, 5; G. Blaber, 6. Also another 6-scores by the same band with H. Spencer at the tenor. A 720 of Plain Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 24 mins. C. Martin, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; H. S. Scarlett, 3; T. Titchener, 4; T. Card, 5; G. Griffin, 6. And another 720 of Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. W. Russell (first 720), 1; F. Spark, 2; T. Card, 3; J. Hannington, 4; C. Martin, 5; H. S. Scarlett (conductor), 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

RADCLIFFE.—On Tuesday evening, January, 8th, an attempt was made to ring Holt's Ten-Part peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells deeply muffled, as a token of respect for the late Mrs. Starkie, the Rector's mother, but after ringing 2930 changes in 1 hr and 45 mins., the conductor had to call stand owing to being seized with cramp in one of his hands. W. Hutton, 1; J. Morris (conductor), 2; J. Gratrix, 3; A. Barrett, 4; A. Hardman, 5; E. Bishop, 6; W. Fielding, 7; J. Hardman, 8.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

KEMPSEY (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, January 12th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Single (four bobs and fourteen singles). H. T. Knowles, 1; S. Cotton, 2; H. B. Kingsford, 3; L. Longney, 4; R. G. Knowles, 5; W. Page, 6. A 720 Canterbury Pleasure (fourteen bobs and two singles). H. T. Knowles, 1; H. B. Kingsford, 2; L. Longney, 3; S. Cotton, 4; W. Page, 5; R. G. Knowles, 6. A 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). R. Passey, 1; L. Longney, 2; H. T. Knowles, 3; W. Page, 4; R. G. Knowles, 5; H. B. Kingsford, 6. A 720 of Grandsire Minor. R. Passey, 1; H. B. Kingsford, 2; R. G. Knowles, 3; H. T. Knowles, 4; L. Longney, 5; W. Page, 6. Also 120 each of Kent Treble Bob and College Single. H. T. Knowles, 1; S. Cotton, 2; L. Longney, 3; H. B. Kingsford, 4; R. G. Knowles, 5; W. Page, 6. Tenor about 15 cwt. in F. All the above touches were conducted by L. Longney, who hails from Croome; Messrs. Kingsford and Passey from Stoulton; H. T. and R. G. Knowles from Malvern; Cotton and Page from Worcester.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Thursday evening, January 10th, for practice, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 25½ mins. W. Prestidge, 1; W. Cheshire, 2; J. Townsend, 3; W. Pardoe, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. W. Cheshire hails from Coseley, and this is his first 720 in this method. W. Pardoe hails from Tipton.

THE NORTH MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

HENDON.—On Wednesday, January 9th, 720 of Plain Bob Minor. H. Martin, 1; F. Sparks, 2; T. Card (conductor), 3; F. Pratt (first 720), 4; C. Martin, 5; C. Crampton, 6. Tenor 16½ cwt. This is the first 720 on the bells by a local band.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday morning, January 6th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Cambridge Surprise. T. Watson, 1; F. Bumpstead, 2; S. Hammond, 3; F. Calthorpe, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 6. Also for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; F. Bumpstead, 2; S. Hammond (conductor), 3; E. Claydon, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 6. And 360 Kent Treble Bob. E. Hynds, 1; the rest as above. E. Hynds and E. Claydon hail from Stebbing.

BOOTLE (Lancashire).—On Saturday evening, January 12th, at Christ Church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. R. H. Barton, 1; T. Barton, 2; W. J. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; C. E. Wilson, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 6. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. T. Woodward, who was for about eight years a ringer at the above church.

BRISTOL.—On Tuesday, January 8th, at St. Stephen's church, 1280 of Forward Major. F. Elles, 1; E. Duckham, 2; C. Burden, 3; G. Colston, 4; S. Phillips, 5; C. Trevett, 6; W. Emery, 7; J. Hinton (conductor), 8. This is the first quarter-peal in the method, which is composed by John Carter, of Birmingham. The striking was not so good as it should have been, owing to the bad go of the bells.

COLN ST. ALDWYN (Gloucestershire).—On Christmas morning, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Tennant, 1; R. Jefferies, 2; C. Bate, 3; J. Kitchener (conductor), 4; A. Tennant, 5; T. Smith, 6. The brothers Tennant hail from Willesden, Middlesex.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, December 18th, at the parish church, 504 Union Triples. S. Fisk, 1; Dr. A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 2; T. Verrall, 3; W. States, 4; H. Brooker (first touch in the method), 5; A. Bruce, 6; J. Trappitt, 7; W. Hill, 8. On Thursday, December 20th, at St. Peter's church, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Collins (first 500), 1; W. States (conductor), 2; W. Chambers, 3; A. Arnold, 4; R. E. Pearson, 5; A. Bruce, 6; F. G. Hermon, 7; H. Brooker, 8.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—On Sunday, January 13th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty bobs and thirty singles), in 24 mins. T. R. Jackson (conductor), 1; T. Townson, 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. Watson, 5; J. Burrows, 6.

DUNSTER (Somerset).—On Christmas Day, before morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. E. Hole, 1; W. W. Thorne, 2; R. Hole, 3; J. Tudball, 4; J. Grabham, 5; W. W.

Thrush, 6; C. B. Craze (conductor), 7; J. Payne, 8. On Thursday evening, December 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. F. Pitts, 1; C. B. Craze, 2; E. Hole, 3; J. Tudball, 4; R. Hole, 5; J. Grabham, 6; W. W. Thorne (conductor), 7; J. Payne, 8.

HATHEROP (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday evening, December 23rd, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. T. Barnett, 1; C. Bate, 2; J. Kitchener (conductor), 3; H. Griffin, 4; A. Tennant, 5; T. Smith, 6.

HARWICH (Essex).—On Sunday, January 13th, for Divine Service, 360 of Bob Minor on the inside six, with treble leading and tenor covering. W. Brittain, 1; G. Barclay, 2; G. Knock, 3; J. Brewster, 4; A. Peachey, 5; W. Green, 6; W. Easter, 7; J. Brayne, 8. Also 392 Grandsire Triples. G. Barclay, 1; G. Knock, 2; J. Brewster, 3; D. Huff, 4; A. Peachey, 5; W. Green, 6; W. Easter (conductor), 7; J. Brayne (first touch), 8.

IPSWICH (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, January 6th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Mary-le-Tower, 672 Superlative Surprise Major. I. S. Alexander, 1; A. E. Durrant, 2; W. Motts, 3; W. P. Garrett, 4; H. Bowell, 5; R. Hawes, 6; J. Motts (conductor), 7; W. L. Catchpole, 8.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, January 13th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 25 mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Wood (conductor), 4; J. W. Brough, 5; W. Baddeley, 6.

SANDIACRE (Derbyshire).—On Monday, December 31st, at midnight, at the parish church, six 6-scores of Bob Doubles. J. Cheney, 1; R. Parkins, 2; H. Wilde, 3; J. Hall, 4; J. Bonsall (conductor), 5; E. Norman, 6. After which the bells were fallen in peal.

SLEAFORD (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday evening, January 12th, the local company rung a 672 of Grandsire Triples. *W. Townsend, 1; *N. E. Snow, 2; *E. Bristowe, 3; *T. H. Holdich (conductor), 4; H. Hoyes, 5; I. Vickers, 6; D. W. Brown, 7; C. Clifton, 8. Also a 336 of Grandsire Triples. *J. Holmes, 1; *N. E. Snow, 2; *E. Bristowe, 3; I. Vickers, 4; H. Maidens, 5; *T. H. Holdich (conductor), 6; *J. E. Picker, 7; D. W. Brown, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. *Local men.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, December 30th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, for morning service, 360 College Single. J. Cavill, 1; W. Watts, 2; G. Gray, 3; J. Luckey, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. For afternoon service, 360 Double Court. J. Cavill, 1; W. Watts, 2; G. Gray, 3; J. Luckey, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. And to ring the old year out and the new year in, 720 College Single. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 6th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. On Thursday, January 10th, for practice, 360 Plain Bob Minor. T. J. Watts, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; J. Luckey, 4; W. Watts, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. Also a plain course each of the following methods: College Double Bob, Double Court, Oxford Bob, College Single, Double Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; W. Watts, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill, 6. On Sunday, January 13th, for morning service, 360 College Double Bob. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. And for afternoon service, 720 College Double Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all, and on the bells. Tenor 13 cwt.

SHREWSBURY.—On Friday, January 11th, at St. Alkmund's church, for practice, 420 Grandsire Triples. G. Tinsley, 1; G. Boylin, 2; T. Burd, 3; T. W. Groves, 4; J. E. Groves, 5; T. Price (conductor), 6; A. Jervis, 7; A. D. Griffiths, 8. Also 336 in the same method. G. Tinsley, 1; T. Price, 2; G. Boylin, 3; T. Burd (conductor), 4; J. E. Groves, 5; T. W. Groves, 6; A. D. Griffiths, 7; A. Jervis, 8. Tenor 13½ cwt in G.

SEPHTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday afternoon, January 13th, at the parish church for Divine Service, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. H. Rothwell, 1; W. J. Short, 2; J. T. Smith, 3; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 4; T. Meadows, 5; J. Roughley, 6. C. E. Wilson hails from Walton, W. Short from Bootle, the rest belong to the local company.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 6th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), taken from Holt's ten-part. W. Richards, 1; H. Barnett, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; J. Wag-horn, jun., 4; G. Griffin, 5; W. P. English, 6; J. Waghorn, sen., (first quarter-peal as conductor), 7; J. King, 8.

WEST HAM (Essex).—On Sunday, January 6th, at Holy Trinity Church, after evening service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. W. Brown, 1; W. Smith (first 720 inside), 2; W. H. Dallimore, 3; A. White, 4; J. R. Lowe, 5; H. Randall (conductor), 6.

WICKHAM SKEITH (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, January 9th, the local company rung 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.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, January 6th, at Christ Church, a 720 Bob Minor (forty-six calls) was rung after evening service. J. King, 1; J. Priest, 2; L. Green, 3; G. Cornell, 4; J. Marks, 5; E. Barnett (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, January 13th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung after evening service. J. King, 1; L. Green, 2; T. Wood, 3; W. Manning, 4; J. Marks, 5; E. Barnett (conductor), 6.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (LANCASHIRE).—On Sunday evening, January 13th, at St. Mary's parish church, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Nightingale, 1; H. Kelly, 2; R. Hurst, 3; H. N. Spinks, 4; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 5; T. Johnson, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Brighton Branch at St. Paul's.—On Sunday, December 23rd, a 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 35 mins. H. Eves, 1; J. Salmon, 2; G. Hill, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; P. Allfrey, 5; T. Stepney, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; G. Murray, 8. Also on Thursday, December 27th, 980 of Grandsire Triples. H. Eves, 1; H. Rann, 2; G. Biggerstaff, 3; W. Allfrey, 4; F. Hill, 5; T. Stepney, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; J. Salmon, 8. And 560 of Grandsire Triples. H. Eves, 1; H. Rann, 2; J. Salmon, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; P. Allfrey, 5; T. Stepney, 6; A. Bennett, 7; W. Allfrey (conductor), 8. Also on Sunday, December 30th, two 560's by the same band for morning and evening services. Also a quarter-peal (1260) of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. H. Eves, 1; W. Allfrey (conductor), 2; H. Rann, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; P. Allfrey, 5; T. Stepney, 6; A. Bennett, 7; J. Salmon, 8. The above is taken from Holt's Original. And on Sunday, January 6th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. H. Eves, 1; H. Rann, 2; J. Salmon, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; P. Allfrey, 5; T. Stepney, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; W. Allfrey, 8. An attempt was also made for a peal on Thursday, January 3rd, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing close upon 1500 changes through the breaking of the 5th rope. H. Eves, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; E. Willoughby, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; G. Hill, 5; W. Allfrey, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; J. Rollinson, 8. Messrs. H. P. Bennett, Rollinson, and Willoughby, hail from Eastbourne.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR MR. F. BATE.

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Wright	0	2	6
Mr. Twelves	0	2	0
Mr. Brice	0	2	0
Mr. Bond	0	2	0
Mr. Ablitt	0	1	0
Mr. Sliper	0	1	0
Mr. Bland	0	0	6
Mr. Bordman, St. George's Church	0	1	0
Mr. Stunt, Union Street	0	2	6
A Friend, per Mr. Codlin	0	1	0
E. M. Bedford	0	2	0

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received by Mr. B. Buckmaster, or Mr. Codlin, 18, Cole Street, Borough, S.E.

MR. DORAN'S FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	15	16	0
Reading Society, per Mr. Newell	0	10	6
J. A. Eastbourne	0	2	0
Total	15	28	6

THE ABOVE FUND IS NOW CLOSED.

James Edward Worsell, the Assistant Hon. Sec. of the Sussex County Association, hereby gives notice that his address for the future will be 33, Crown Street, Western Road, Brighton, where all communications respecting Association matters shall receive prompt attention. Local Secretaries please note.

HOLBECK CHURCH BELLS.

The following letter has been received by the Editor of *The Yorkshire Post* :—

"SIR,—As the Holbeck Church bells, which are admitted to be among the best in Yorkshire, are in danger of becoming silent, not on account of lack of competent ringers, but in consequence of want of funds to pay such ringers—our church offertory being quite unable to bear the burden of such payment—I venture to appeal through your columns to all lovers of bells to assist us in maintaining the ringing of our bells.

"The majority of the company who compose our ringers have lately given their services free of charge, but we find that many of the voluntary ringers do not consider themselves bound, as paid ringers are, to attend regularly and punctually, and that they will not submit to the imposition of fines for non-attendance and unpunctuality. Consequently, those who make it a point of duty to be in the belfry regularly and at the times arranged for practice and ringing are frequently put to the inconvenience of waiting for longer or shorter times till the company is complete, and sometimes the number for ringing cannot be made up.

"The company have therefore decided that they cannot continue the present voluntary plan, and we are compelled to find funds to remunerate our ringers, or to let our bells remain silent. This latter alternative will, I hope, be averted by the kind help of Holbeck people and others who appreciate bell ringing. Any contributions that may be sent I will duly acknowledge.

"In conclusion, I feel that I ought to say our ringers stand second to none for respectability, good behaviour, and steadiness. They form a very capable company, and I believe it would be a matter of real regret to them to be disbanded; it certainly would be to me.—Faithfully yours,

"Holbeck Parsonage, January 11." OSMOND COOKSON.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.

On Saturday, January 12th, a Quarterly Meeting of the above was held at Prestbury, when there were thirty-three members present from Bollington, Macclesfield, Alderly, Prestbury, Wilmslow, Gawsworth, and Poynton. Soon after two o'clock the church bells were set in motion, and touches of Grandsire Triples and Plain Bob Minor were brought round by the Bollington and Alderly men respectively. The Macclesfield men arriving by the four o'clock train, soon pulled off five courses of Stedman Triples. At five o'clock the members adjourned to the barn belonging to the vicarage, where a good substantial tea was awaiting, which was presided over by the Rev. J. T. Penrose, rector of Gawsworth. It needs hardly to be said that ample justice was done to the good things provided, which reflects great credit on J. D. Wheelton, one of the Prestbury contingent. The barn was beautifully decorated and illuminated. After tea the usual business meeting was held, when the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and a lot of certificates were given to the members, the place of meeting being voted to Alderly on May 4th. Some other matters were discussed, and after a course of Grandsire Caters on the handbells by five of the Macclesfield men, the proceedings terminated by a hearty vote of thanks being accorded to the rev. Chairman. Some more Plain Bob and Grandsire were rung on the tower bells, for which, with barn, the members wish to thank the Rev. Canon Wilson for his kindness.

BRANCEPETH.—EIGHT-BELL OPENING.

The new peal of eight, tenor 13 cwt., will be inaugurated on Monday, January 21st. Change-ringers are invited, and will be provided with refreshments in the Castle. Please send at your earliest convenience to the Rector, the Rev. A. D. Shafto, the number of ringers from your company intending to be present. 16, Finkle Street, Stockton-on-Tees. 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.

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 NORWICH COURT MAXIMUS IN 1817.

SIR,—It will probably never be known with absolute certainty whether the peal achieved at Norwich in 1817 was rung on the Double or Single plan. The late Mr. Snowdon, however, who examined the question with infinite care, and collected all the information to be obtained on the point, came evidently to the conclusion that it was most probably rung on the Double plan, for he included it in his list of performances of Double Norwich Court. And that he did so not without some show of reason will, I think, be admitted by all who read his "History" of the method. The looseness in nomenclature, and in the wording of records which prevailed eighty years ago, makes it impossible at the present time to say what was really rung or what was not. In those days men spoke vaguely of "Court Ten in" or "Court Twelve in," without ever deeming it necessary to say whether it was the Single or Double Variations, the Norwich or London methods of which they were speaking. But it is as certain as the meagre evidence in our hands can make it, that the "Court" so much practised by the Norwich men in the early part of the century was Double Norwich Court: "Ten in" being for many years a favourite method with them. When they began to turn the other two bells in, is it not more likely than not, that being already proficient in Double Court Ten in, they would pursue that variation on the twelve rather than betake themselves to the Single plan; especially since Robert Chesnutt, their leader, may be said to have been steeped in Double Court from his youth up? The description of the method rung in 1817 on the Norwich tablet, on which Mr. Catchpole seems to rely for his opinion, really is not conclusive one way or another. It is certainly not an adequate description of Double Norwich Maximus; but at the same time there is nothing in it inconsistent with the opinion that it refers to Double Norwich. "Short dodging," that is, a single dodge "in front and behind," is a characteristic of the entire lead of Double Norwich Maximus; whereas it is only a feature of half the lead of Single Norwich Twelve. If anything, therefore, the description favours the Double rather than the Single variation. Be this as it may, the peal of undoubted Double Norwich Maximus, which I feel sure the Ipswich men will show us before long, will still be a most brilliant achievement, the lustre of which cannot be tarnished for a moment by the supposition that a peal of the same may possibly have been rung seventy years ago.

H. EARLE BULWER.

THE PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE AT FULHAM.

SIR,—Mr. James W. Driver in his letter upon this subject last week says "few London ringers knew anything of the intended attempt for this peal." He also says "was it not for the few ringers he spoke to, the affair would have gone off quietly." This is rather a curious statement to make, when the fact is, Messrs. Baron, Mansfield, Jacob, Foskett, C. E. Malim, H. S. Thomas, and A. E. Church, were present during the whole time this peal was being rung, and that Messrs. Newson, Hannington, Rogers, Swain, Chapman, H. Hopkins, Titchener, and others partly promised an audience, but were prevented by inclement weather and other causes, but most of them met the Burton men next morning at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields for Divine Service. Your correspondent next tells us it was his duty to get the bells ready, but was not sure they would be wanted. This, Sir, is very curious, when he had my word for the fact some weeks previously. In fact he knew the arrangement almost as soon as anyone in London, and so had the opportunity of inviting whoever he might have thought proper to listen to this peal. But I suppose none of us are sure; sometimes one hears of railway accidents, and as the late George Stockham said, we sometimes hear of meeting one short.

147 Barnsbury Road.

H. DAINS.

SIR,—There appears to be very little to answer in the letter of Mr. J. W. Driver, published in the last issue of "THE BELL NEWS." I notice however that the truth of the Fulham peal is no longer disputed, and with reference to the suggestion to which your correspondent is reduced—that very little was known of the proposed attempt, and that in fact, but for his astuteness in asking certain men to be present, "the affair would have gone off quietly, and nothing would have been disputed." I can I think prove that this is as devoid of foundation in fact as are most of the other statements made by our critics in connection with the peal. As a fact, in addition to asking Mr. N. J. Pitslow and Mr. Herbert Baker—both well-known Surprise ringers, and the former the composer of the peal, and the most capable man I know for taking off the calling of Surprise methods—to be present, both of whom conditionally accepted the invitation. I myself wrote to Mr. C. F. Wianny, as one of the few College Youths I

knew, telling him our plans, and saying that though the peal was arranged by a friend of the rival society, yet we were looking forward to meeting both himself and many other members of his society during our short stay in London. Owing to the fact, as I heard afterwards, that Mr. W. had changed his address, this may not have reached him, but considering that Mr. Dains—in addition to informing the members of his own society—personally wrote to several prominent members of the College Youths Society on the subject, enough has been said to prove our anxiety that every publicity should be given to the fact and object of our visit. As to the other parts of the letter, it is not easy to take seriously a writer who talks of the "slight" difference of intricacy between Double Norwich and London Surprise, and who thinks it fair to compare a peal rung in the former simple, and most musical method, by a band perfectly at home on the bells, with the peal rung in a most intricate and un-musical method under circumstances of considerable difficulty by strangers. I may perhaps assure Mr. Driver that so far from considering it a difficult task to ring a peal of Major at Fulham, I know—given a reasonable method and some little acquaintance with the bells—very few better places for the purpose. I still however maintain that the peculiarity I have mentioned had, in this method, a most puzzling effect on our ringers. Unknown to us—your correspondent may possibly be an authority on change-ringing matters; whether that is so or not, he is evidently a firm believer in the truth of the good old saying, that "if you only throw mud enough, some of it is sure to stick."

W. WAKLEY.

Waterloo Street, Burton-on-Trent.

THE WELLS STREET PEAL.

SIR,—As the conductor of the above peal has not thought fit to answer the queries put to him, I think your readers may take it for granted that the peal was not rung, and I should advise the Cumberland Society to make enquiries of Mr. Jacobs before entering this so-called peal in their peal-book. I would also tender a word of advice to friend Jacobs which I hope he will profit by, viz.: when he next attempts to call a peal and should miss a bob, or the bells shift, the best plan is to stop at once; he will thereby gain the confidence and respect of his brother-strings, and not as now, be held up to doubt and ridicule. Honesty in ringing as in everything else is the best policy.

W. S.

[We think the writer of this letter should have had the courage to append his name.—Ed.]

REPLY TO "FREE LANCE."

SIR,—I wish to state that a start was not made for the 10,167 of Stedman Cinques, owing to the indisposition of one of the band.

CHAS. HY. HATTERSLEY.

P.S.—The calling of the first course of Mr. Washbrook's 13,041 of Stedman Caters, seems to be altogether wrong. Perhaps that gentleman will correct it.

THE INFLUENCE OF "THE BELL NEWS."

SIR,—The remarks of the gentleman at Sydney (Mr. Morton), concerning the influence of our paper, must commend themselves to every one of its readers. I should like to point out what others besides myself know to be true, and that is that in districts where "THE BELL NEWS" is read, ringing will be found to flourish, in some cases more than others. If we look at the obverse side, that is at districts where our paper has little or no subscribers, ringing is sure to be at a low ebb. We know what interest in ringing matters is paramount in Yorkshire, and you will thus see our paper in every town. My society numbers 13 members, of whom only 5 can afford (?) to subscribe to it. But they all read it, nevertheless, by borrowing the copies from their fellow members, and thus keep their interest in the art at fever-heat. So that I come to the conclusion that where we can get our paper circulated, there will ringing expand. What does "Free Lance" say to this? I am sure that we owe a great deal to the publication of our journal, and I fervently hope that every one will do their best to help it on. Some years ago each subscriber was asked to get one more to subscribe. I got four more, who have stuck to it ever since.

A TENOR RINGER.

ST. JAMES', BOLTON (Bradford, Yorks).—On Saturday, January 12th, eight members of the Society of Copley Scholars attempted a peal of Bob Major (Shipway's) 5040 changes, in honour of the coming of age of J. W. Cundall, and the birthdays of H. Raistrick, B. E. Howe, C. Barker, and Mrs. Copley. The ringers were: J. Hardcastle, jun., 1; J. Cotterell, 2; H. Raistrick, 3; G. Titterton, 4; B. T. Copley, 5; J. W. Cundall, 6; S. Palframan, 7; B. F. Lamb (conductor), 8. The peal went on all right for an hour, when the wind arose and affected the tenor so much that the conductor was compelled to call stand at the end of the 23rd course.

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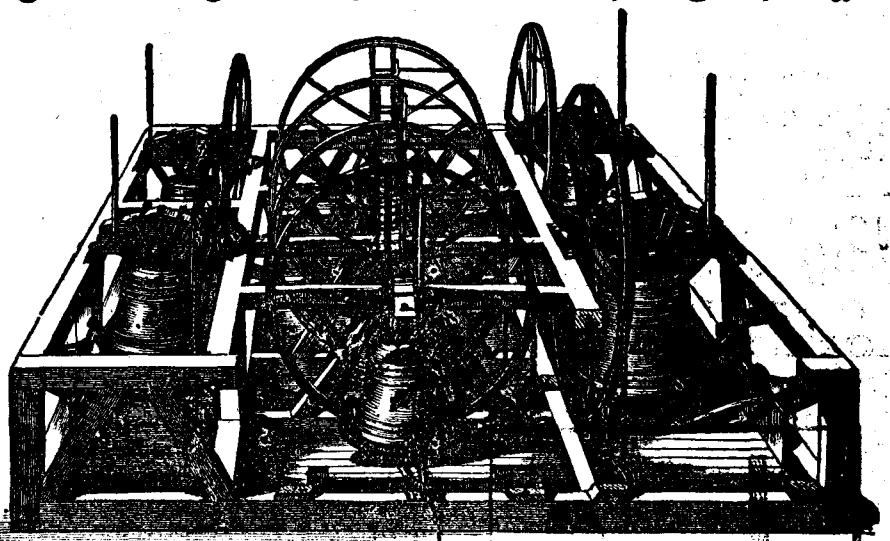
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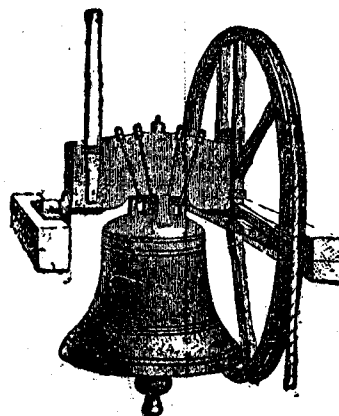
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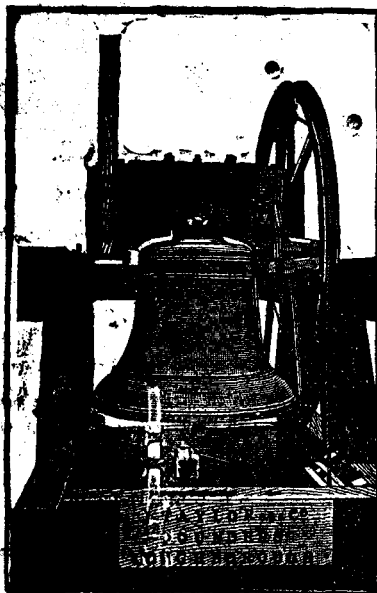
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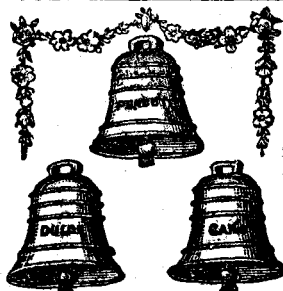
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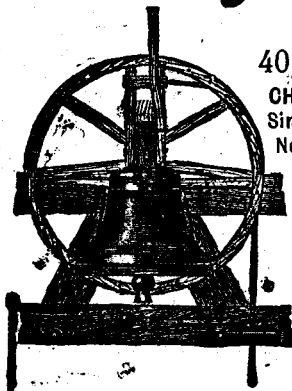
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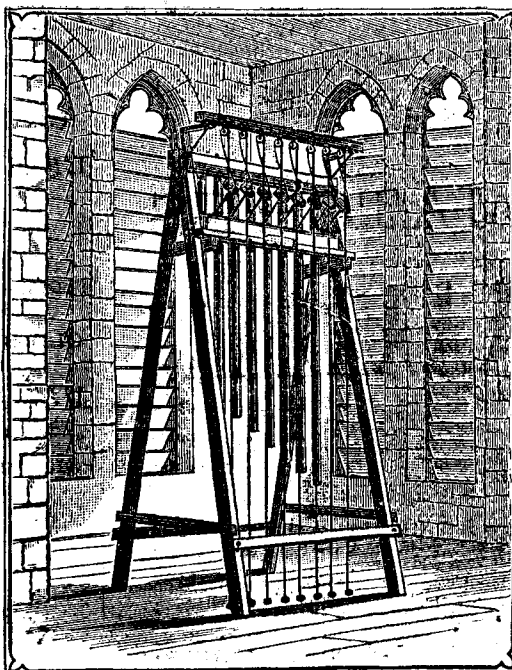
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ST. MARTIN'S GUILD OF CHANGE-RINGERS FOR BIRMINGHAM, ASTON, AND THE SURROUNDING DISTRICT.

This Guild is the result of an union between the St. Martin's Society of Birmingham, and the Holt Society of Aston, with a desire for a wider scope of practical usefulness in the cultivation of the science of change-ringing.

The terms of union having been mutually considered and agreed upon at a meeting of the two societies held on October 9th, the first general meeting of the Guild for the election of officers was held on Tuesday the 8th inst., at St. Martin's Mission Rooms, Birmingham, Mr. Henry Johnson, sen., being unanimously elected to preside.

Being so intimately associated with the towers of Birmingham and Aston parish churches, the rules provide permanent presidents in the incumbents of both parishes, and the following officers were appointed at this meeting:—Presiding Ringing Master—Henry Johnson, sen.; Ringing Master for St. Martin's—Henry Bastable, with J. Buffery as deputy; Ringing Master for Aston—William Kent, deputy, T. Russam; Trustees—J. Day and H. Bastable; Secretary—W. H. Godden; Steward for St. Martin's—W. Haywood; Steward for Aston—W. Jackson; Treasurer—H. Johnson, jun.

It may be interesting to recapitulate for the general body of our readers, some of the more interesting events in the history of the St. Martin's Youths during their long career of at least 133 years, compiled and read by Mr. Day at this meeting, as well as the eventful performances of the Holt Society during its short but brilliant career since its foundation by Mr. Kent in 1879.

The first peal recorded by the St. Martin's Youths in their peal-book is one of Bob Major in 1755, which was probably the first ever rung on the bells at St. Philip's, Birmingham. This naturally implies the existence of the society prior to that date.

In 1758 we find a new ring of ten bells at St. Martin's, when peals of Grandsire Caters and Bob Royal were rung. In 1771 or 1772 the ring was augmented to twelve, and the first peal of Grandsire Cinques was rung in 1773.

In 1789 we find the Youths beating record by a peal of Bob Major, 14,224, at Aston, and by a peal of Grandsire Caters, 8027, at St. Martin's. 1790 is memorable for the society's first peal of Stedman Caters, 5292, at St. Philip's, and this was the first peal of Stedman in the provinces, and the third and at that time the longest ever rang in the method.

In 1793 we find recorded a peal of 6000 Oxford (or old) Treble Bob Maximus; in 1815 a 5040 of Grandsire Maximus (which was for a long period supposed to have been the first of Maximus ever rung in that method, but it has since been discovered that one had previously been rung by the Cumberland Youths in 1792 at Southwark), and another longest on record—a 6000 of Grandsire Royal at Aston.

In 1817 a 5000 of Treble Bob Royal is recorded as rung at St. Martin's, when the memorable name of Thomas Thurstans, then in his twenty-second year, appears as ringing the tenor. This was no mean performance for a man of his years on a bell of 36 cwt.

April 1820 found the Society again beating record by a peal of 7,200 Kent (or new) Treble Bob Maximus (the tenor being again handled by Thurstans), and in December by a peal of 6600 Stedman Cinques, which was the second in the method on eleven bells ever rung.

St. Martin's bells were rehung in 1825, and in 1827 a peal of Treble Bob Maximus is recorded, and a few years later the only peal of Treble Bob Cinques ever rung.

In 1830 the St. Martin's Youths rang their first peal of Stedman Triples in Birmingham on the front eight at St. Martin's, and this peal is memorable as introducing us to the names of two performers who will probably be remembered as long as change-ringing exists, viz., Thomas Day, the composer of the peal, and Elijah Roberts, who assisted in it. This identical peal of Stedman Triples was the groundwork of the great improvements in the method afterwards made by Hudson, Thurstans, and Lates.

In 1846 was rung for the first time on the front eight at St. Martin's, Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples, the first peal ever composed with two common singles.

In 1848 record in Stedman Cinques was again beaten by a

peal of 7392, and in the same year is recorded a peal of Treble Bob Maximus, and one of Grandsire Cinques.

Although still steadily practising their art, nothing particularly notable occurs until February 28th, 1881, when, to commemorate Mr. H. Johnson's sen.'s 72nd birthday, a peal of 9238 Stedman Cinques, in which he took part, was rung at St. Martin's, and this still remains the premier peal in the method.

In 1887 on the occasion of the visit of the Queen to Birmingham to lay the foundation stone of the new Law Courts, the Society recorded the longest peal of Grandsire Cinques ever rung, viz., 9,020.

This brings the St. Martin's Youths most notable performances up to date, and although the Holt or Aston Society cannot claim such an honourable notoriety, its performances are eminently creditable to its short existence.

A Society connected with Aston was in existence during the last century, as evidenced by peal-boards in the Tower (one recording a peal of 15,360 Bob Major rung single handed, and composed and conducted by Joshua Short on October 1st, 1793), but this Society had long ceased to exist when in 1879 Mr. Kent founded the Holt Society. This was the third attempt made by Mr. Kent to found a Society with head-quarters at Aston, and when it is considered that he started with all young members who had never rung in a peal, it speaks volumes for his pluck and perseverance that the Society should have accomplished so much.

In its career of nine years, during which the Tower has been closed for three long periods during repairs, there have been recorded forty-one peals, comprising—two peals of Stedman Cinques (one in hand), seven peals of Stedman Caters (two in hand), nine peals of Stedman Triples, seven peals of Grandsire Caters (two in hand), one peal of Grandsire Major, eleven peals of Grandsire Triples (two in hand), one peal of Treble Bob Royal, two peals of Treble Bob Major, and one peal of Plain Bob Major.

Of the seven peals on hand bells, which stamps this Society as one of the premier Societies in England for handbell change-ringing, the peal of Stedman Cinques was the third on record, and the only one performed out of London, and the peals of Stedman Caters also broke ground in the provinces.

Associated with these Societies have been such celebrated composers as Henry Cooper, Joshua Short, Thomas Day, Thomas Thurstans, J. J. B. Lates; and as a connecting link to the past; Henry Johnson, sen., who attains his 80th year on February 28th next. Mr. Johnson has been connected with change-ringing for nearly sixty years, his first peal being at Aston on January 12th, 1830. Wherever change-ringing is practised Mr. Johnson's name has become familiar through the variety, number, and merit of his compositions, and most of the eminent conductors in the kingdom and writers on our science have at some time or other been indebted to his services, and have drawn on his vast fund of information and change-ringing lore.

During the evening's proceedings, reference was made to the fact that the Guild had placed on record a desire to affiliate and assist neighbouring towers, and the Vicar of Hatton, the Rev. H. C. Courtney, expressed a wish that this portion of its duties might be earnestly taken up.

It may be as well to mention that any ringers visiting either of the towers will always find a cordial welcome. W. H. G.

ST. MARY'S, PENZANCE.

By the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. J. Symons, the change-ringers of this church—who are also members of the Devonshire Guild—spent a very pleasant evening at their house on Friday, January 18th. Fourteen, including two or three non-ringing guests, sat down to an excellent supper; and it was observed that the two or three guests, who would have found it impossible to ring a plain course in the belfry, did capital work in courses at the supper table. Later on an adjournment was made to the drawing-room, where the rest of the evening was spent in vocal and instrumental music, interspersed with touches of Grandsire and Stedman on the handbells. Mr. G. Sellers, jun., presided at the pianoforte most efficiently. At the close of the evening a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. and Mrs. Symons for their hospitality.

CROYDON, SURREY.

On Wednesday evening, January 9th, 1889, the Annual Dinner of the Ancient Society of Croydon Church Bell Ringers was held at the "Rose and Crown" Inn, Church Street, Croydon, the Vicar (Rev. J. M. Braithwaite), presiding, it being the custom to hold this dinner as near as possible on the anniversary of the date on which the church was re-opened after its destruction by fire twenty-two years ago. A capital dinner was placed on the table by Host Ellick, which gave great satisfaction. After the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given and duly honoured, the "Queen and Royal Family" being given by the Chairman, and the "Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces" by Mr. Johnston (of the firm of Gillett and Johnston, bell founders), and responded to by Sergeant Brooker, of the first Queen's West Surrey Regiment.

The Vicar then gave the toast of the evening, "The Ancient Society of Croydon Church Bell Ringers," and said that when he first came to Croydon one of the first things he did was to become an honorary member of the Society, and he was sorry to say at that time he found a very unsatisfactory state of things in the belfry, the ringers certainly not being recognised as church officials. The bells also were in a very unsatisfactory condition, and went very badly, it always taking to men to ring the tenor, and although they had been overhauled by several eminent firms, it was not until the firm of which Mr. Johnston was a member took them in hand that they were placed in anything like good going order, and he was pleased to add that last year the Society had been able to ring peals on them, the last, a peal of Union Triples, being rung on the last night of the old year, with only one man at the tenor, the first time for twelve years. The satisfactory condition of the bells was also owing to the fact that they had such an excellent steeplekeeper, who had evidently found the right kind of grease to suit even the obstinate tenor. Having referred to the presence of several of the St. Peter's (Croydon) Society at the dinner, the Vicar said that as they were a young Society he would advise them to follow in the footsteps of the older Society, and endeavour to become good change-ringers. He also referred to the number of peal boards that adorned the belfry of the parish church, and hoped soon to see one put up to commemorate the last peal of Union Triples. In conclusion, the rev. gentleman said he hoped the improvements that had been commenced in the belfry would be shortly completed, and he had much pleasure in coupling the toast with the name of Mr. W. J. Chambers, the Hon. Sec.

Mr. CHAMBERS, who was received in a very hearty manner, thanked those present for the kind way in which the toast had been received, and in alluding to the St. Peter's Society, pointed out to the Vicar and churchwardens the advisability of increasing the ring of eight to one of ten, so that the Society might still keep ahead—a suggestion that was received with marked approval.

Mr. CORBET ANDERSON, a well-known Croydonian, and a member of the College Youths, next proposed the toast of "The Surrey Association," and said that although he was not a ringing member, he had always taken a great interest in the science of bell-ringing, and he felt sure that the Surrey Association contained among its members men of great ability, including its Hon. Sec., Dr. Carpenter. This gentleman also gave a graphic description of how, when a boy, he had listened with delight on a Sunday morning to the sound of Tottenham bells as they were borne on the breeze across the fields, and concluded by congratulating the Society on having such a well-known ringer as Dr. Carpenter for its Hon. Sec.

In the absence of Dr. A. B. Carpenter, who had been called away immediately after dinner, the toast was responded to by the Rev. E. D. L. HARVEY, who was received with cheers, and who said that he joined the Association the same time as Dr. Carpenter, but he was almost ashamed to say that at the present time he was being far out-distanced by the Hon. Sec., who rang his 50th peal on the last night in the old year. In conclusion he referred with pride to the fact that the Association had rung twenty-six peals during the year, which was an advance of ten upon the preceding year, and which was very satisfactory.

Mr. S. ASH then proposed "The Clergy and Churchwardens," and after some suitable remarks gave "The Health of the Chairman," which was received with musical honours.

The Vicar then rose and said he was quite sure that they

had heard quite enough from him, and he would call on Mr. Churchwarden Flint to respond to the toast.

Mr. FLINT replied in a very neat speech, assuring the ringers of his hearty co-operation whenever it should be required.

The Rev. E. D. L. HARVEY then proposed "The Guests," and said he was pleased to see so many ringers from neighbouring belfries, and alluded to the energy of Mr. Brooker, leader of the St. Peter's Society, and also a member of the parish church Society, and concluded by coupling the toast with the name of Mr. Ash, who in his reply said it always gave him great pleasure to meet the ringers, and he hoped they would all be spared to meet again next year.

On the Vicar leaving, Mr. Corbet Anderson was voted to the chair, and a very pleasant evening was spent, the company not breaking up until a very late hour.

During the evening some capital songs were rendered by Messrs. Burt, Kitching, Kimber, Mayhew, Wing, Pearson, Sparrow, G. Russell, etc., a duet by Messrs. Kitching and Wing being received with much favour.

Mr. Johnston gave a selection of tunes on his peal of handbells, which greatly added to the pleasure of the company, while Mr. Clark presided at the piano very efficiently.

DEAL, KENT.

The Annual Dinner was held at the "Liverpool Arms" on January 9th. The room was tastefully decorated, and at the head of the table was placed. "The compliments of the season to Captain Coleman. Long may he live to hear the sound pealed forth from the bells which he so kindly had recast and presented to the church." The health of "the host" having been proposed and drank, Mr. Burton briefly responded. The ringers gave a few selections of tunes on their handbells, which were admired by all. The health of "The ringers" having been proposed, Mr. G. Glennes briefly responded. Mr. G. Parker proposed "The health of the visitors," coupling with it the name of Mr. Gaunt, who briefly responded. The rest of the evening was spent in some capital songs both by the ringers and visitors, and after a most thoroughly enjoyable evening was spent, it was brought to a close by singing "Auld Lang Syne," and the National Anthem.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

On Saturday last, January 19th, a ringing meeting in connection with the above branch took place at the parish church, Haslingden, when about thirty ringers attended from Ramsbottom, Helmshore, Waterfoot, Newchurch, Bacup, Rawtenstall, and Haslingden, and took part in the ringing, which commenced about 5.30. During the evening several 504's of Grand-sire Triples was rung by mixed bands. The meeting in the school was presided over by the Rev. Canon Champneys, Rural Dean, who in a suitable speech welcomed the members to his tower, and congratulated them on the great good the Association had done, and he said that he hoped it and similar Associations would continue to do even more in the future. Two new ringing members were proposed, and it was resolved that the next ringing meeting be held at St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, early in February. Votes of thanks to the chairman for presiding over the meeting, and to the wardens for the use of the tower, brought the proceedings to a close, after which the bells were again set going till about 9 o'clock.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting will be held at Saffron Walden, on Saturday, February 2nd. The tower will be open for ringing during the afternoon. Business meeting at the parish room adjoining the church, at 4.30 p.m. Tea (price 6d. each to members) immediately afterwards at the "King's Arms" Inn. The Great Eastern Railway Company will grant tickets at reduced fares to members who produce their receipt for the current year's subscription. Those who wish to avail themselves of this privilege should inform the Secretary of their intention by Wednesday, January 30.

Writtle, Chelmsford.

T. L. PAPILLON, Hon. Sec.

THE LEEDS (YORKSHIRE) PARISH CHURCH COMPANY.

On Friday evening, January 4th, the members of this company were entertained to dinner by Mr. and Mrs. William Snowdon, at their residence. There were also present the Vicar of Leeds, Rev. Canon Jayne, D.D. (Bishop-designate of Chester), and Mr. Embleton, churchwarden of the parish church.

Before leaving the table Mr. Snowdon took the opportunity of saying what a pleasure it had been to Mrs. Snowdon and himself to see them all, and more especially pleased were they that their worthy Vicar, Dr. Jayne, had been able to spare time to meet them. Personally it was always pleasant to meet brothers bound together by such an interesting art as change-ringing, but it was all the more gratifying to have in his own house those whom he had been in the habit of meeting in the House of God. He was quite sure that their establishing a Sunday once a month on which they met as a full company at Divine Service had brought about good results, and was it not comforting to remember that on the last occasion on which their late brother, Mr. West, had been expected, although not at his bell-rope, he was at the foot of the tower ready to enter the church with them, so that the full attendance of the company should not be broken. He was fully convinced that the kind and ready help both from the Vicar and the churchwardens towards providing for Mr. West's widow and family, arose from their being able to enter into more friendly feeling with men whose faces were beginning to be known inside the church at service time. That contrary results were brought about by contrary behaviour, Mr. Snowdon instanced the fact that at certain churches the bells were silent, not as he believed that money could not be raised, but that Church people did not take an interest in providing the trifling funds for men who never were seen at service. Members of a society of ringers, meeting Sunday after Sunday, had necessarily a strong influence over one another's lives, either for good or evil. If the better men of a company would only be firm and pleasant, they would win in the end. All levelling must be upwards, there must be no levelling down. A good man was, to say the least, anxious to leave the world better than he found it, and it should be the special duty of ringers to guide those into whose hands they were eventually to leave their rope, in the truer paths, eradicating the bad habits which unfortunately so often cling round their art. In conclusion, Mr. Snowdon, on behalf of those present, bade God-speed to Dr. Jayne in the work connected with the high office he was called upon to fill, instancing the kind interest he had taken in ringing matters—whether taking the service at the grave side of one of his ringers—or joining them on such occasions as the present.

Dr. JAYNE, in replying, expressed his thanks for the kind things that had been said of him, and stated that he was sure that there was and would always be sympathy where people could be brought into contact with one another. That want of knowledge of one another's troubles was often the hindrance that stopped many acts of kindness. He thought Mr. Snowdon had acted as a bridge which had linked them in such a way, that they were beginning to know more of one another. Whilst not wishing to anticipate any thing that Mr. Lockwood might wish to say, he felt he could not but express his thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Snowdon for the evening's entertainment, which they had so thoughtfully provided.

Mr. Tom Lockwood then followed and said that he thought the life-work of Mr. Jasper Snowdon—followed by what his brother was endeavouring to do—was without doubt raising the standard of ringers, and closed by supporting the vote of thanks.

The remainder of the evening was enlivened by tunes and courses on the handbells, and performances on the pianoforte and banjo. The company separated at a late hour, having spent a most enjoyable evening.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Gainsborough, to-day Saturday, Jan. 26th. Tea will be provided at the Coffee Tavern at 5 o'clock.
JOHN W. WATSON,
15, Knight Street, Lincoln. Hon. Sec.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

On Monday, January 14th, the Redenhall ringers celebrated the 153rd anniversary of their society of change-ringers. The proper day should have been the 13th, but that fell on the Sunday this year. During the day they rang with friends touches of Stedman, Grandsire Triples, Oxford Treble Bob, and Double Norwich Court Bob. There were present the following clergymen: the Ven. Archdeacon Perowne (rector), who kindly presided at the dinner; the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, rector of Stanhoe, a well-known ringer and writer in "THE BELL NEWS" on the subject of bell-ringing; the Rev. H. Morley Smith, rector of St. Cross; the Rev. C. F. Blyth, rector of Wetheringsett; the Rev. G. A. Blyth, rector of St. Philip's, Heigham, Norwich, two brothers well-known as fine ringers; the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, Secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association; the Rev. H. Fitch, curate of Redenhall; the Rev. W. J. Pilter, curate of Needham and Harleston; Captain Moore, W. H. Read, Esq., Charles Candler, Esq., and ringers from the following places: Norwich, Eye, Beccles, Bungay, Kenninghall, Plumstead, and Wingfield, besides those belonging to the Redenhall company. There was some capital ringing, and everybody seemed to enjoy themselves.

BISHOPS STORTFORD, HERTS.

On Wednesday, January 16th, the Bishops Stortford company had a dinner, to commemorate the peal of Bob Major rung by them on New Year's Eve. A touch of 560 Canterbury Pleasure was rung on the church bells. W. J. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; C. Prior, 3; H. Prior, 4; F. W. Chapman, 5; G. Prior, 6; P. Springham, 7; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 8. First attempt in the method by all. An adjournment was made to the house of the conductor, where about twenty ringers and friends sat down to an excellent dinner, which was kindly prepared by Mrs. Tucker. After dinner the handbells were brought into requisition, and with touches and tunes, songs and music, a very pleasant evening was spent. Thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Tucker for the trouble they took to make the company enjoy themselves, and especially to Mrs. Tucker, for the admirable way in which the dinner was served up.

ST. CHAD'S, SHREWSBURY.

On Monday evening, January 7th, the Rev. E. C. Carpenter, Vicar of St. Chad's, entertained the ringers of the parish with a first-class supper at his residence, Claremont House. The chair was taken by the Vicar, and the vice by the Rev. E. V. Dunop, Curate. After supper a pleasant hour or two was spent in the inspection of pictures and a number of curiosities and interesting relics.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting of this Association will take place in the National Schoolroom, Cradley, near Stourbridge, to-day, Saturday, Jan. 26th, at 5 p.m. prompt. Mr. S. Spittle, Master, will preside. The Rev. J. H. Thompson, Vicar, has kindly offered the use of the tower and bells for the occasion. All contributions are due at this meeting, and the Hon. Sec. requests that all companies in union hand over the same according to rule 10. The members of the Association will be pleased to meet any ringing friends.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MEETING AT LIVERSEDGE, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH, 1889.

The Committee has pleasure in announcing that by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. W. Fowler, M.A., and with the friendly co-operation of the Liversedge change-ringers, the next meeting will be held as above, *i.e.*, on the second Saturday in February.
WM. SNOWDON, President.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Hoghton, near Preston, to-day, Saturday, January 26th. Belfry open at 2.30; meeting at 5.30.
JAMES HORROCKS, Sec.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1888, AND PUBLISHED IN THIS PAPER.

	Jan. to Nov.	Decr.	Total.	Treble Bob Methods.	Grandsire.	On Six Bells.	Plain Methods.	Double Methods.	Surprise Methods.	Stedman.	Total.	Position in 1888.	Position in 1887.
1. Ancient Soc. of Coll. Youths..	82	14	96	15	50	—	11	5	—	15	96	3rd.	2nd.
2. Sussex County Association..	62	16	78	6	27	8	34	—	1	1	78	9th	1st
3. Mid. Counties' Association..	67	5	72	10	24	—	5	9	12	12	72	1st	5th
4. Oxford Diocesan Guild ..	57	9	66	1	22	1	2	9	10	21	66	2nd	4th
5. Essex Association ..	46	9	55	16	29	1	8	1	—	—	55	19th	10th
6. Lancashire Association ..	44	3	47	13	25	—	9	—	—	—	47	4th	6th
7. Norwich Diocesan Guild ..	31	5	36	8	11	2	10	3	—	2	36	6th	8th
8. Yorkshire Association ..	29	2	31	23	2	1	2	1	—	2	31	5th	3rd
9. Surrey Association ..	20	6	26	4	10	1	6	—	—	5	26	15th	15th
10. Glostr. & Bristol Association..	23	2	25	—	18	—	4	—	—	3	25	21st	11th
11. United Counties' Association..	22	3	25	24	—	—	1	—	—	—	25	8th	12th
12. Royal Cumberland Youths ..	19	3	22	4	11	—	3	—	1	3	22	11th	9th
13. Soc. for Archdeaconry Stafford	18	4	22	—	19	—	2	—	—	1	22	18th	14th
14. Worcester & Districts Assn.	13	8	21	—	11	1	9	—	—	—	21	28th	17th
15. Kent County Association ..	15	4	19	—	14	—	5	—	—	—	19	10th	13th
16. Hertford Association ..	14	4	18	—	6	—	3	2	3	4	18	13th	21st
17. Salisbury Diocesan Guild ..	15	1	16	—	12	—	3	—	—	1	16	22nd	20th
18. St. James' Society, London..	14	1	15	1	11	—	1	—	—	2	15	7th	7th
19. The Holt Society ..	11	1	12	1	4	—	—	—	—	7	12	16th	22nd
20. Winchester Diocesan Guild ..	9	1	10	1	4	4	—	—	1	—	10	14th	16th
21. Hertford College Youths ..	7	—	7	—	3	1	—	1	—	2	7	—	—
22. Liverpool Youths' Society ..	6	—	6	3	2	—	—	—	—	1	6	17th	26th
23. Trinity Youths ..	5	1	6	2	3	—	1	—	—	—	6	—	—
24. St. Martin's Soc. Birmingham..	3	1	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	18th
25. Devonshire Guild ..	3	1	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	24th	24th
26. Birmingham Amal. Society ..	3	1	4	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	4	12th	27th
27. All Hallows Soc., Tottenham..	3	—	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3	—	—
28. Waterloo Society, London ..	3	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	23rd
29. Bedford Association ..	2	1	3	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	3	27th	19th
30. Eastern Counties' Guild ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	29th	28th
31. Stoke-on-Trent Association ..	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
32. Durham & Newcastle Asso. ..	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	25th	25th
33. Bath and Keynsham Asso. ..	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
34. Chester Diocesan Guild ..	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
35. North Lincoln Association ..	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	29th
Independent Societies ..	81	4	85	19	46	4	13	1	—	2	85	—	—
Less peals entered under 2 Assos.	733	110	843	152	378	26	138	32	28	89	843	—	—
	71	13	84	21	35	0	16	5	2	5	84	—	—
Total	662	97	759	131	343	26	122	27	26	84	759		

The above peals were rung in the following methods: London Surprise Major, 4; New Cumberland Surprise Major, 1; Cambridge Surprise Major, 9; Superlative Surprise Major, 12; Double Oxford Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 19; Stedman Cinques, 5; Stedman Caters, 28; Stedman Triples, 51; Duffield Royal, 4; Duffield Major, 3; Treble Bob Maximus, 3; Treble Bob Royal, 12; Treble Bob Major, 113; Prince Albert Major, 1; Violet Major, 2; Grandsire Caters, 50; Grandsire Major, 2; Grandsire Triples, 275; Grandsire Doubles (5040), 16; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1; Canterbury Pleasure Triples, 5; Court Bob Triples, 3; Oxford Bob Triples, 11; Union Triples, 8; Bob Maximus, 1; Bob Royal, 3; Bob Major, 42; Bob Triples, 29; Bob Doubles (5040), 1; Place Triples, 1; in seven Minor methods on six bells, 31; in fourteen ditto (10,080), 1; in two ditto, 1; in one ditto, 3; in fourteen methods on five bells, 2; in six ditto, 5; total 759. Greatest number of changes in one peal, 15,041; number of peals containing 10,000 changes or upwards, 8; over 6000, 5; under 6000, 746; Quickest 5000 on church bells, 2 hrs. 27 mins.

The 275 peals of Grandsire Triples are made up as follows: Holt's Original, 80; Holt's ten-part and its variations, 102; Holt's six-part, 13; Taylor's-bob-and-single, 19; Hollis's one-part, 2; Hollis's five-part, 9; Davies' ten-part, 5; Davies' five-part, 10; Penning's one-part, 1; other peals, 34. The 51 peals of Stedman Triples: Thurstans', 25; Brook's, 21; other peals, 5. The 131 Treble Bob peals: 121 in the Kent Variation; 7 in the Oxford; 1 Prince Albert; 2 Violet. The time occupied in ringing the 759 peals was 2321 hours, or 96 days and nights. The average for each peal being 3 hrs. 3½ mins.

CONDUCTORS OF FOUR PEALS AND UPWARDS: J. W. Washbrook, 60; H. H. Chandler, 17; J. Motts, 15; G. Newson, 14; J. M. Hayes, 13; F. Wickens, S. Woods, and H. C. Woodward, 12; F. G. Newmaa, A. P. Heywood, J. Griffin, C. Sillitoe, and W. H. L. Buckingham, 11; T. Blackburn, J. W. Taylor, jun., and A. E. Wreaks, 10; Dr. A. B. Carpenter, 9; H. Bastable, C. Mee, S. Reeves, J. Sholicar, and G. Williams, 8; W. Baron, F. Birtwistle, Rev. F. E. Robinson, D. Wightman, and W. Wakley, 7; H. Burstow, H. Baker, J. Carter, G. Hughes, C. H. Hattersley, C. F. Winny, and F. E. Ward, 6; G. W. Cartmel, R. French, W. W. Gifford, G. Hayward, F. London, J. Prescott, A. J. Perkins, and J. Sidebotham, 5; E. Bennett, F. Brierley, W. L. Catchpole, W. A. Cooper, G. C. Hammond, J. Holden, D. Jordan, J. Jagger, J. C. Mithell, J. R. Pritchard, R. Ridyard, H. Springall, C. Tyler, and J. S. Wilde, 4. In addition to these there were twenty-two who conducted three peals, thirty-eight who conducted two peals; and 152 who conducted one peal. One peal non-conducted; one conducted by six conductors; and one published without the conductor's name, making a total of 266 persons who acted as conductors during the year.

Peals on church bells, 717; on handbells, 42. They were rung as follows:

January, 52.	March, 60.	May, 53.	July, 39.	September, 41.	November, 84.
February, 72.	April, 98.	June, 57.	August, 40.	October, 66.	December, 97.

Increase during the past twelve months upon 1887, 113.

The following table shows the continued increase in peals rung annually since the publication of "THE BELL NEWS":—

1881	from January to December	156	1885	from January to December	500
1882	"	244	1886	"	356
1883	"	330	1887	"	646
1884	"	419	1888	"	759

GEORGE F. ATTREE, Brighton.

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 LETTER TO "FREE LANCE."

SIR,—In "THE BELL NEWS" for July 7th, 1888, you were kind enough to notice the account, written by myself, of the re-hanging of the bells of St. Peter's church, Woking; and to express your good wishes for our future efforts. Perhaps therefore you may be interested to hear an account of our year's work. At the same time, however, I write in fear and trembling owing to the rebuke you so lately administered to those who, in your opinion, made too much of small doings. In my account which appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of June 30th, I told you how our band was created, a year ago: "when in the first week of 1888, the nine newly appointed ringers met for the first time to practice with the clappers tied, the prospect was not 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." It is now exactly a year since the bells were re-hung, and the new ringers have in that time learnt to ring. I cannot imagine what we should have done without our instructor, Fred. Arnold, a ringer from Betchworth, now living at Woking, and forming one of the band. I dare say it is no uncommon thing for an instructor to be the only man in the belfry who understands the method he is teaching; but when all the ringers are not only learning the method, but are also learning to handle the bells, the difficulties are increased to a hundred-fold. When, in ringing Grandsire Doubles, the tenor exhibits a feverish anxiety to be turned in, and, quite unwillingly, hurries down to lead; or the ringer of number 5, who shall be leading, is hanging to the sally in mid-air, then indeed an instructor needs a good supply of patience. Of the eight men whom our instructor had to teach, seven have managed to do 120 changes of Grandsire Doubles; and of these seven, six rang on Sunday last for the morning service, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each 120 being called differently. On this occasion we had to depend on ourselves, as our instructor was not in the tower; and in the evening although present he kindly rang the tenor; so as to allow the five working bells to try for another 720, which was accomplished without mishap. On Christmas Day, again without our instructor, we rang another 720 and a 360 of Doubles at 7 a.m., and for the morning service another 720; so I think we may now say that we can walk alone. The ringers were W. Furlonger, 1; W. C. Ryde, 2; C. B. Ryde, 3; F. C. Ryde, 4; A. J. W. Pardue, 5; A. Saunders, 6. I do not trouble you with these trifling achievements because we are very proud of them; but to shew what may be done in a village church, with good bells it is true, but under every disadvantage as to the amount of skill possessed by the ringers. If any young ringer reads this who has had the advantage of learning with a band in which he was the only learner, let me beg of him to think what he has to be thankful for; let such a ringer do what he can to prevent a band of learners ever being forced to learn all at once. A man who has, so to speak, got to the top of the first ladder, ought certainly not to stop there; but he ought also to help others up after him. Our belfry we do not mean to stop, nor do I think we shall as long as each one is not only anxious to become a good ringer, but is still more anxious that the Woking ringers should be in front, and if possible a long way in front, of the ringers of any of the villages round us.

WALTER C. RYDE,

Churchwarden and Ringer of St. Peter's, Woking.

"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"

SIR,—As one experienced in the welfare of our journal from its commencement, I cordially agree with everything that "A Tenor Ringer" says respecting its value in extending the practice of ringing. There is one little matter, however, not of much consequence, perhaps but which I'll just mention. It has been thought by many with whom I have been acquainted that the title of our paper is hardly distinctive, and there's a sound of *Bell's Life* about its name. The second title is good enough, of course, but the first seems rather vague—"not sufficiently distinctive" is the best phrase I can use to explain my meaning. There is no doubt that a much better and more distinctive title could be found.

A FREE LANCETTE.

THE WELLS STREET PEAL.

SIR,—I quite agree with your comment at the foot of the letter signed "W. S." on the above subject. In fact all letters making such queries should have the name and address of the writer attached (otherwise the best place for them is the W. F. B.), the parties concerned would then know how to answer them, at least they would be able to judge if "W. S." or "S. W." were persons capable of knowing when a bob is missed, or being able to tell if any bells are shifted.

With reference to the letter published on December 15th, signed "Conductor," I am very much surprised that any one would write on hearsay evidence only. I have only to add that for the future, I for one hope that the valuable space of our paper may not be taken up with such rubbish.

ONE OF THE BAND.

FORMATION OF A CHANGE-RINGERS' ASSOCIATION IN CUMBERLAND.

SIR,—With reference to the remarks made by "Free Lance" in your issue of the 19th inst., I beg to thank him on behalf of the ringers of St. Stephen's for his good wishes, which I can assure him we all appreciate. As suggested by him, I would be glad if you could give me the names and addresses of two or three Hon. Secretaries of Associations so that I may write and ask them for particulars for conducting the Association. I shall also be glad to receive information from any ringers, such as copy of rules, mode of payment, etc. The belfries in Cumberland I may here state, are much scattered, and consequently it will be rather difficult to send out conductors and arrange for meetings. We shall always be glad to see any of the Exercise who may be passing through our ancient city, and, if possible, arrange for a "pull."

L. W. JENNINGS, Hon. Sec.

MR. DORAN'S THANKS.

SIR,—Within the last two or three months there appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" an appeal to the benevolent on my behalf; that appeal has been most liberally responded to, and succeeded better than I expected, for which I now beg to return my heartfelt and sincere thanks to all friends. I owe a deep debt of gratitude to my ringing brethren for their sympathy in my present time of distress, whose kind response to this appeal has enabled me to get over Christmas fairly well, having obtained for myself and family many necessities which we could not have had without this kind assistance. The only thing I regret is I am not able to say my health has improved very much, as the nature of my complaint will not allow me to hold out much hope of getting back to work for some time, as the complaint which I am suffering from is chronic bronchitis. I cannot close this letter without thanking Mr. Dains and Mr. Randall for their kind efforts on my behalf in receiving the various donations and forwarding them on to me, and also yourself for kindly acknowledging from week to week the same in your columns.

West Ham.

WILLIAM DORAN,

THE OLD YEAR OUT AND THE NEW YEAR IN.

SIR,—I was sorry to learn from your correspondents that the time-honoured custom of ringing the old year out and the new year in, is being encroached upon by the new-fangled custom of holding watch-night services in the church. My object in writing is not to decry the watch-night service (although I could say much against it), but to point out how it may be conducted so as not to interfere with the ringing of the bells. During the incumbency of our present rector, Archdeacon Long, watch-night services have been held. The bells commence to ring at 10.45 on New Year's Eve, the service commencing at 11.15, and the sermon is concluded about five minutes to twelve. The bells then ring for ten minutes, while the worshippers have an opportunity for solemn thought or silent prayer. Then the Te Deum is sung, and the prayer for the Church Militant brings the service to a close. The Lord's Supper is afterwards administered to those who choose to remain. The bells may be rung down either at five minutes after midnight, on while the non-communicants are leaving the church. It will thus be seen by our practice here, that if we must have these services, they need not interfere materially with our ringing custom. Let us hope that everywhere in future arrangements may be made whereby a larger audience than that assembled in church may be able to hear us ring the old year out and the new year in.

THOMAS HUDSON,

Bishopwearmouth.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—The first course of the 15,041 of Stedman Caters should be called by bobs at 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 16, not 5, 6, 7, 9, 16. You have omitted the call at 2, effecting 5, 9, 7.

[Not us Mr. W., but yourself omitted the 2.—ED.]

NOTICE OF PEAL.—The Bradford parish church society intend attempting a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal (5040), in honour of the silver wedding of their esteemed conductor, Mr. J. H. Hardcastle, on Saturday next, February 2nd, commencing about three o'clock.

WANTED immediately a set of handbells, not less than 12, apply with full particulars and cash price to H. T. JAMES, 11 Mill Lane, West Hartlepool.

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.

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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, JANUARY 26, 1889.

The demand upon our columns this week prohibits the indulgence of the usual editorial comment. This, however, on the present occasion at any rate, cannot be regarded as a drawback. The present number contains a varied amount of most interesting intelligence: Mr. ATTREE'S Annual Schedule of performances, analysed as they are with great diligence, will be perused with no small amount of eagerness. Mr. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD also commences a few short papers upon a subject in which, in more quarters than one, great interest is exhibited, and those who have a penchant for Double Norwich will be sure to become wiser after hearing what that gentleman has to say on the matter. We again appeal to our friends to forward their communications as

early in the week as possible, and we are rather surprised that this frequent appeal is so little taken notice of. No less than six peals reach us this week just as we are going to press, all of which could easily have been sent four days before. We shall in an early number issue a portrait, with memoir, of a distinguished ringer.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 12, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, PIMLICO,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

JAMES PETTIT Treble.	JOHN M. HAYES 5.
RICHARD T. WOODLEY .. 2.	SAMUEL E. JOYCE 6.
WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 3.	EDWIN HORREX 7.
FRANCIS E. DAWE 4.	G. T. McLAUGHLIN .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

This is the first peal of Stedman ever accomplished on the bells, also the first since they were lowered some twenty-seven feet about eighteen months ago; and instead of the very great oscillation previously experienced, their removal to a lower stage proves that they can now be handled with the greatest possible ease and comfort. The well-kept state of the whole tower reflects the highest possible credit on Mr. Teesdale, the verger, to whose care and attention the pleasure of ringing here is entirely due.

The Provinces.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE EASTBOURNE BRANCH.)

On Friday, January 11, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

W. CLEMENTS† Treble.	H. COLBRAN 5.
T. M. SMITH 2.	*A. PIPER 6.
W. SIGGS 3.	J. SHARP 7.
F. HARDING 4.	G. H. HOWSE Tenor.

Conducted by T. M. SMITH.

†First peal. *First peal with a bob bell. First in the method by numbers 5 and 7. First peal conducted by Mr. Smith. Mr. Siggs is a member of the All Saints, Eastbourne Society.

ILKLEY, YORKSHIRE.

On Wednesday, December 26, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

C. STEPHENSON Treble.	F. PELL 5.
W. COOK 2.	W. BEANLANDS 6.
C. BARKER 3.	J. BEANLANDS 7.
W. G. COOK 4.	W. E. WALAND Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD and Conducted by J. BEANLANDS.

*First peal of Triples by all. W. G. Cook hails from Chesterfield.

APPLETON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, January 11, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

FREDERICK WHITE Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 6.
THOMAS SHORT 2.	JESSE AVERY 7.
WILLIAM FINCH 3.	WILLIAM BENNETT 8.
SAMUEL HOUNSLOW 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 9.
BENJAMIN BARRETT 5.	GEORGE HOLIFIELD .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

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

On Friday, January 18, 1889, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE LITTLE ROOM, ST. PETER'S STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

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

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

Umpire—Mr. Arthur Hull.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE EASTBOURNE BRANCH.)

On Friday, January 18, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 9½ cwt.

W. CLEMENTS Treble.	J. SHARP 5.
F. HARDING 2.	T. M. SMITH 6.
A. PIPER 3.	G. H. HOWSE 7.
H. COLBRAN 4.	J. LUXFORD Tenor.

Conducted by F. HARDING.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 19, 1889, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5075 CHANGES.

ARTHUR PLOWMAN Treble.	ARTHUR B. CARPENTER .. 6.
JOHN BRANCH 2.	GEORGE WELLING 7.
SAMUEL GREENWOOD .. 3.	*JOHN HARDING 8.
CHARLES MARTIN 4.	JAMES TRAPPITT 9.
EDGAR BENNETT 5.	WILLIAM BURKIN Tenor.

Composed by the late H. W. HALEY, and Conducted by EDGAR BENNETT.

The above peal has the 5th and 6th behind the ninth, and is thought to be the first time it has been rung. The composition was given to the conductor some years ago by the composer, and has never been published.

*First peal of Caters with a bob bell.

WILLENHALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Sunday, January 20, 1889, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

CHARLES BARRETT Treble.	WILLIAM JOHNSON 5.
STEPHEN PITT 2.	WILLIAM F. HARTSHORNE .. 6.
THOMAS LEES 3.	HARRY HARTSHORNE 7.
JABEZ APPLEBY 4.	JOSEPH HUSSELBEE Tenor.

Composed by the late NOAH BENNETT, of Stourbridge, and Conducted by W. JOHNSON.

This peal is now rung for the first time, and is J. Husselbee's first peal, who is over sixty-two years of age.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.—THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 19, 1889, in Three Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6048 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP Treble.	HENRY COOPER 5.
WILLIAM HARROP 2.	THOMAS WILDE 6.
JOHN SIDEBOTHAM 3.	JOSEPH MALONEY 7.
SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN. .. 4.	JOHN PYE, JUN. Tenor.

Compsed by SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN., and Condu&ed by JOSEPH MALONEY.

J. Sidebotham hails from Mottram; Wilde from Hyde; the rest are local men

STALEYWOOD, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, January 19, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5012 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

HARRY HEAP Treble.	WILLIAM JAKEMAN 5.
SAMUEL TAYLOR 2.	THOMAS TAYLOR 6.
JOHN POWNALL 3.	GEORGE LONGDEN 7.
ABEL FEILDEN 4.	ISAAC SCHOFIELD Tenor.

Composed by STEPHEN HILL, and Conducted by GEORGE LONGDEN.--(Vide Shipway.)

Messrs. Heap, the brothers Tay'or, Jakeman and Longden hail from Ashton; the rest belong to the local company.

EAST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE BRIGHTON BRANCH)

On Saturday, January 19, 1889, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

GEORGE A. KING Treble.	HARRY WESTON 5.
GEORGE F. ATTREE 2.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 6.
ARTHUR A. FULLER 3.	JAMES SEARLE 7.
JOHN REILLY 4.	EDWARD BUTLER Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES SEARLE.

The above is the first peal in the method on these bells, and the only peal rung at East Grinstead since 1843.

WOODBIDGE, SUFFOLK.—THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 19, 1889, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 28 cwt.

WILLIAM WARD Treble.	WILLIAM CAMPIN 5.
WILLIAM A. ARNOTT* .. 2.	*EDWARD SHERWOOD 6.
HENRY BURCH 3.	*JOHN HOWARD 7.
WILLIAM BURCH 4.	*CHARLES W. CUTTING .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WARD.

*First peal in the method. †First peal.

BATLEY CARR, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, January 19, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:

ARNOLD'S VICTORY, CITY DELIGHT, LONDON SCHOLARS' PLEASURE, COLLEGE PLEASURE, DUKE OF YORK, VIOLET AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB.

Tenor 12 cwt.

JNO. HY. SCOTT* Treble.	*JNO. BLACKBURN 4.
W. H. STEAD* 2.	†WALTER IDLE 5.
SQUIRE MITCHELL 3.	†GEO. HY. SIMON Tenor.

Conducted by SQUIRE MITCHELL.

*First peal. †Members of the Yorkshire Association. Twenty-one years have elapsed since a 5000 was rung on these bells. First 5000 by the local band.

BIRSTALL, YORKSHIRE.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 19, 1889, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

DAVID WILSON Treble.	W. STAINTHORPE 5.
WALTER BANHAM 2.	G. H. HARDY 6.
JOHN CLAYTON 3.	B. A. DODSON 7.
GEORGE THORNTON 4.	*W. H. HOLMES Tenor.

Composed by G. H. HARDY, and Conducted by W. STAINTHORPE.

*First peal. G. H. Hardy hails from Earlsheaton, near Dewsbury; the rest are of the local company.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

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

On Monday, January 21, 1889, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt.

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

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

Mr. Betteridge hails from Drayton, Oxon, and this is his first peal in the method.

TENTERDEN.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(TENTERDEN BRANCH.)

On Monday, January 21, 1889, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF VICARS' SIX-PART. Tenor 30 cwt. in Db.

JOHN BARTLETT* Treble.	ROBERT EDWARDS 5.
GEORGE CRAMP 2.	A. EDGAR NUNN 6.
HARRY G. RUMMEY 3.	GEORGE NEVE 7.
JAMES SHARP 4.	HENRY HOLDSTOCK Tenor.

Conducted by A. EDGAR NUNN.

*First peal of Grandsire. The above is the quickest peal on the bells by fourteen minutes.

HOLBECK, YORKSHIRE.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 22, 1889, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

THOMAS HARRISON Treble.	JOSHUA WOODHEAD 5.
HENRY HUBBARD 2.	JOSEPH HUTCHINSON .. 6.
HENRY MOSS 3.	HERBERT W. NEEDHAM .. 7.
STEPHEN BASNETT 4.	DAVID YORKE Tenor.

Composed by TOM LOCKWOOD and Conducted by H. W. NEEDHAM.

This peal contains all the 8-6-7's and the 6-7-8's, and is a two-part one. Messrs. Hubbard, Hutchinson, and Needham hail from Leeds; the rest are of the local company.

PRESTBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 22, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES,

REV. C. P. DAVIES' TEN-PART (No. 6). Tenor 14 cwt.

DANIEL DAVIS Treble.	REV. C. W. BASSANO .. 5.
FRANCIS E. WARD 2.	WILLIAM T. PATES .. 6.
GEORGE H. PHILLOTT .. 3.	THOMAS DAVIS 7.
T. R. HOOPER 4.	THOMAS COMPTON Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS E. WARD.

Farewell peal to Mr. Ward, who is removing to Newport, Monmouthshire.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Monday, January 14th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 9 mins. H. Rippon, 1; G. Toplis, 2; *A. Seaman, 3; J. Hunt, 4; D. Farthing, 5; A. Knights (conductor), 6; John Goodwin, 7; *Geo. Rippon, 8. Composed by John Carter of Birmingham. Tenor 23½ cwt. *Longest touch.

TREWESBURY ABBEY (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday evening, January 17th, a date touch of Union Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. and 6 mins. W. Hampton, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hale, 4; C. W. Dyson, 5; T. Devereux, 6; J. Wathen (composer and conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8.

Miscellaneous.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, January 15th, for practice at the parish church, a 720 of Duke of York. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all. The bells were lowered in the queens change. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Tuesday, January 15th, at the parish church, a 144 of Oxford and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs.) R. Arnold, 1; F. Bridger, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Sanders, 4; E. Moses, 5; W. Sadler (conductor), 6. Also 144 in the same method, with J. Robinson on the treble, the others standing as before. And a 120 of Stedman Doubles. W. Sadler, 1; E. Moses, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Sanders, 4; R. Arnold, 5; J. Robinson, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

RAMSBOTTOM.—On Tuesday, January 15th, for practice, at S. Paul's for evening service, and on Sunday, January 20th, before evening service, a 1036 of Grandsire Triples. J. Dawson, 1; H. H. Nutter (conductor), 2; J. Wolstenholme, 3; A. Clegg, 4; J. H. Haydock, 5; J. T. Rostron, 6; J. W. Laycock, 7; J. Tattersall, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Monday, January 21st, at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, an attempt was made to ring a peal in seven different methods, but it was lost after ringing 720 of Kent Treble Bob, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 720 of Double Court Bob, in 1 hr. and 16 mins. J. Cavill, 1; W. Watts, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. This was an attempt as a birthday peal to the conductor. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ROSS (Herefordshire).—On Thursday, January 10th, at St. Mary's church, half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr and 37 mins. J. King, 1; J. Wall (conductor), 2; H. Bird, 3; J. Adkins, 4; J. H. Bussell, 5; J. Clark, 6; A. Bird, 7; R. Clark, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Tuesday, January 15th, at All Saints' Church, two 518's of Grandsire Triples. S. V. Salisbury, 1; H. Jennings (conductor), 2; W. Jennings, 3; W. Ward, 4; J. Norris, 5; A. Williams, 6; R. Ward, 7; A. Ward, 8. The following took part in the second 520. P. Derrick, 1; H. Jennings (conductor), 2; O. Coombes, 3; W. Ward, 4; R. Ward, 5; W. Jennings, 6; E. Hatcher, 7; A. Ward, 8. Also 168 (all singles). S. V. Salisbury, 1; W. Ward, 2; J. Norris, 3; A. Williams, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; O. Coombes, 6; W. Jennings, 7; P. Derrick, 8. And on Thursday, January 17th, an attempt was made for a half-peal, but unfortunately came to grief after ringing 1460 changes. R. Ward, 1; H. Jennings (conductor), 2; W. Jennings, 3; W. Ward, 4; O. Coombes, 5; J. Norris, 6; E. Hatcher, 7; A. Ward, 8. Tenor 26½ cwt.

THE WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WORDSLEY (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, January 19th, six members of the above Association paid a visit to Wordsley parish church, near Stourbridge, and rang a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor in 24½ mins. G. Dukes, 1; H. Woodall, 2; J. A. Meredith, 3; C. Daniel, 4; C. Beasley, 5; H. Mason (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells. A 720 of Grandsire Minor was also attempted but was lost owing to the bad go of the bells. H. Mason hails from Old Hill, the rest from Cradley. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, January 8th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). F. Hull, 1; M. Warwick (conductor), 2; W. Hall, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6. Also two 120's of Stedman Doubles, conducted by N. Warwick.

SHARNBROOK (Beds).—On Saturday, January 12th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; C. Allen (first 720 in the method), 2; L. Bell, 3; E. Coleman, 4; A. J. Barcock, 5; W. Page, 6. Also 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. W. Clarke, 1; C. Allen, 2; A. J. Barcock, 3; E. Coleman, 4; L. Bell, 5; W. Page (conductor), 6. Also a plain course of College Single, and Stedman Doubles. Also on Wednesday, January 16th, 720

of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). J. Dickens, 1; C. Allen, 2; L. Bell, 3; E. Coleman, 4; A. J. Barcock, 5; W. Page (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, January 19th, 720 of College Single Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. Allen, 1; C. W. Clark, 2; L. Bell, 3; E. Coleman, 4; A. J. Barcock, 5; W. Page (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all, except C. W. Clarke. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). J. Dickens, 1; C. Allen, 2; E. Coleman, 3; L. Bell, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; A. J. Barcock (conductor), 6. And a 120 of Grandsire Doubles. J. Dickens, 1; C. Allen, 2; E. Coleman (conductor), 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; W. Page, 5; L. Bell, 6. C. W. Clarke hails from Bedford, the remainder belong to the Sharnbrook company.

ARELEY KINGS (Worcestershire).—On Monday, January 7th, at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor. F. Hinton (first 720), 1; T. Elcox, 2; T. Fowles, 3; W. Martin, 4; T. Griffiths, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6. And on Monday, January 14th, for practice, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor, in 24½ mins. T. Elcox, 1; W. Martin, 2; T. Fowles, 3; J. Reynolds, 4; T. Griffiths, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all, and the first in the method on the bells.

BRISLINGTON (near Bristol).—On Thursday, January 17th, at St. Luke's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. C. Waters, 1; C. H. Gordon, 2; A. Anderson, Esq., 3; G. Stowell, 4; J. Davies (conductor), 5; C. Tompkins, 6.

BRISTOL.—On Wednesday, January 16th, at St. Stephen's church, 630 of Grandsire Triples. H. Pring, 1; A. Anderson, Esq., 2; S. Lawrence, 3; G. Colston, 4; S. Phillips, 5; J. Hinton (conductor), 6; W. Emery, 7; W. Colston, 8. S. Lawrence hails from Salisbury. It was intended to ring a quarter-peal but it was brought round half way owing to the 7th rope stranding.

COLN (ST. ALDWYN'S).—On Christmas morning, at the parish church 720 of Bob Minor. J. Tennant, 1; R. Jefferies, 2; C. Bate, 3; J. Kitchener (conductor), 4; A. Tennant, 5; T. Smith, 6. J. and A. Tennant hail from Willesden, the rest belong to the local company.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Thursday, January 10th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, 546 of Grandsire Triples. G. Burt, 1; W. J. Chambers, 2; W. C. Palmer, 3; H. Brooker (conductor), 4; R. E. Pearson, 5; C. H. Kitching, 6; A. Bruce, 7; A. E. Collins, 8.

GOSBERTON (Lincolnshire).—On Monday evening, January 14th several ringers from Pinchbeck and Spalding, by invitation, visited Gosberton, and rang touches of Bob Doubles, and three 6-scores of Grandsire, each called differently. J. Burrows, 1; G. Skeef, 2; J. W. Jarvis, 3; G. Ladd, 4; Robert Jarvis, 5. Also six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Doubleday, 1; T. Ladd, 2; G. Ladd, 3; J. W. Jarvis, 4; G. Skeef, 5. After which Bob Doubles were rung by the following local company, with the visitors. J. Burrows, J. Sellers, J. B. Grayham, E. Farr, W. H. Crosby, J. H. Grayham, A. Caswell, and F. Woods (Pinchbeck). After ringing an adjournment was made to the "Bell Inn," where a pleasant hour was spent, W. Doubleday giving selections on the piano. The visitors wish through "THE BELL NEWS" to thank their Gosberton friends for the hearty welcome they gave them, and assure them of a welcome at the next meeting at Pinchbeck in a fortnight's time.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Thursday evening, January 17th, at St. Nicholas church, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. C. W. Miller (first quarter-peal), 1; F. W. J. Rees, 2; Garforth, 3; F. Bennett, 4; J. J. Jones (first quarter-peal), 5; G. E. Barnett, 6; W. Groves (first quarter-peal) (conductor), 7; W. Loveland, 8. Messrs. Barnett and Garforth came over from Farnham, the rest are local men.

HACKNEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, January 20th, at the parish church, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal (1260 changes), of Stedman Triples, in 46 mins. F. Rumens, 1; W. B. Manning, 2; G. J. Smith, 3; H. T. Scarlett, 4; T. Page, 5; W. D. Smith (conductor), 6; A. S. Battrell, 7; H. Spencer (first quarter-peal), 8.

HATHEROP (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday evening, December 23rd, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. T. Barnett, 1; C. Bate, 2; J. Kitchener (conductor), 3; H. Griffin, 4; A. Tennant, 5; T. Smith, 6. A. Tennant hails from Willesden.

HECKINGTON (Lincolnshire).—On Monday evening, January 14th, the Sleaford company paid a visit to Heckington, and rung 350 and 180 of Grandsire Triples. J. Holmes, 1; W. Bean, 2; Skinner, 3; N. E. Snow, 4; J. E. Picker, 5; T. H. Holdich (conductor), 6; H. H. H. 7; W. Townsend and C. Gould, 8.

HATFIELD (Herts).—On Tuesday, January 1st, at the church of St. Etheldreda, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Kentish, 4; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 5; H. Rowe, 6; J. Hollingsworth, 7; F. Stocks, 8. The above was taken from Holt's Original. Also on Tuesday, January 8th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. J. Rumney, 1; W. Powers, 2; J. Shepherd, 3; J. Richardson, 4; J. Kentish, 5; H. G. Rowe (conductor), 6; J. Hollingsworth, 7; G. Smith, 8. Composed by H. J. Tucker. And 672 in the same method with H. G. Rowe (conductor), 5; J. Hollingsworth, 6; J. Kentish, 7; the rest as before. And on Sunday, January 13th, for Divine Service, 308 of Grandsire Triples. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. Kentish, 3; W. Powers, 4; A. Shepherd (conductor), H. Rowe, 6; J. Hollingsworth, 7; G. Smith, 8.

KEMERTON (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday evening, January 20th, at the parish church, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 45 mins. G. Baldwin, 1; W. Payne, 2; H. Payne (conductor), 3; J. Atkins, 4; A. Attwood, 5; J. Greenway, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. The ringers of 1, 2, 4, and 5 belong to Overbury, and 6 to Ashchurch.

KEYSTON (Hunts).—On Saturday, January 13th, at the parish church, for practice, a 120 of Grandsire Doubles. F. Barlow, 1; J. Martin, 2; C. Braybrook, 3; F. Braybrook, 4; J. Twelvetree (conductor), 5. Also a 6-score each of Bob and Canterbury Doubles. F. Smith, 1; C. Dunkley, 2; J. Twelvetree, 3; J. Martin, 4; W. Richards (conductor), 5. Also a 120 of Grandsire Doubles. J. Twelvetree, 1; W. Richards, 2; E. B. Howell, 3; F. Braybrook, 4; J. Martin (conductor), 5. Also a 120 of St. Simon's Doubles. F. Barlow, 1; W. Richards, 2; J. Martin, 3; F. Braybrook, 4; J. Twelvetree (conductor), 5. F. Smith, E. B. Howell, C. Dunkley, W. Richards, hail from Bythorn, the rest belong to the local company.

LANGOLLEN.—On Sunday, January 13th, at the parish church, 518 of Grandsire Triples. A. James, 1; T. Williams, 2; D. E. Evans, 3; Jas. Davies, 4; J. W. Davies (conductor), 5; R. Hopwood, 6; Thos. Davies, 7; R. Maxwell, 8. This is the longest touch by R. Maxwell, T. Williams, and A. James, to whom great credit is due as he is but twelve years of age.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Christmas morning, a well-struck touch of Bob Major. 1680 changes, being the first part of Annables three-part peal, in 1 hr 3 mins. J. Slater, 1; P. C. S. Scott, 2; A. Symonds, 3; S. Slater, 4; W. Duce, 5; H. Smith, 6; O. Garwood, 7; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 8. Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

LOWICK (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, December 8th, for practice, at St. Peter's church, a 6-score of Bob Doubles. R. Dunkley, 1; J. Guess (conductor), 2; W. Fox, 3; C. Swan, 4; G. March, 5. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. Fox, 1; E. Curtis, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; C. Swan, 4; G. March (conductor), 5. Also a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. G. March, 1; R. Dunkley, 2; W. Fox, 3; E. Curtis, 4; C. Swan (conductor), 5. Also a 6-score each, of St. Simon's, Stedman's Slow Course, Canterbury, and New Doubles. J. Guess, 1; C. Swan (conductor), 2; G. March, 3; R. Dunkley, 4; W. Fox, 5. Also on Monday, December 10th, a 6-score each of Grandsire and New Doubles. R. Dunkley, 1; C. Swan, 2; W. Fox, 3; B. Meadows (Islip), 4; G. March (conductor), 5. Also two 6-scores of St. Simon's Doubles, and a 6-score of Stedman's Slow Course. C. Swan, 1; G. March (conductor), 2; R. Dunkley, 3; B. Meadows, 4; W. Fox, 5. Also a 6-score each of Stedman and Canterbury Doubles. B. Meadows (conductor), 1; E. Curtis, 2; G. March, 3; R. Dunkley, 4; C. Swan, 5. Also three 6-scores of St. Simon's Doubles. J. Guess, 1; R. Dunkley (conductor), 2; C. Swan, 3; W. Fox, 4; G. March, 5. Also on Monday, December 17th, a 6-score of Stedman's Slow Course, and a 6-score St. Simon's Doubles. G. March, 1; E. Curtis (conductor), 2; R. Dunkley, 3; B. Meadows, 4; C. Swan, 5. Also on Sunday, January 6th, for evening service, a 6-score of Bob Doubles. W. Richards, 1; G. Guess, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; E. Curtis, 4; G. March (conductor), 5. Also a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. C. Dunkley, 1; E. Curtis, 2; G. Guess, 3; R. Dunkley, 4; W. Fox (conductor), 5. *Handbell Ringing.*—At the house of Mr. G. Styles, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. R. Dunkley, 1-2; C. Dunkley, 3-4; W. Richards (conductor), 5-6. Also a 6-score each of the following methods: Grandsire, Canterbury, St. Simon's, and Bob Doubles. H. Chapman, 1; C. Dunkley, 2; R. Dunkley, 3-4; W. Richards (conductor), 5-6.

MANCHESTER.—On Monday, January 14th, at St. Philip's church, Hulme, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 25 mins. H. Dobbs, 1; A. Barry, 2; H. Wood, 3; T. Wilson (first 720 on a bob bell), 4; J. O'Brien, 5; T. Heald (conductor), 6.

ROWLEY REGIS (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, January 12th, for practice, 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins (thirty-four bobs and two singles). D. Woodhouse, 1; W. H. Bate, 2; J. Oakley, 3; H. Bennett, 4; R. Baker, 5; S. Mills (conductor), 6.

NEWSBURY (Berks).—On Wednesday, December 26th, for practice at St. Nicholas church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. J. Powers, 1; C. Swain, 2; G. Batt, 3; D. Geater (conductor), 4; J. Lawrence (Whit-church, Oxon), 5; H. D. Adams (Salisbury), 6; J. Hussey, 7; R. Sawyer, 8. Also on Sunday, January 13th, for evening service, a 518 of Grandsire Triples. E. Stillman, 1; J. Powers, 2; C. Swain, 3; D. Geater (conductor), 4; G. Batt, 5; F. E. Couch, 6; J. Hussey, 7; R. Sawyer, 8.

RAYLEIGH (Essex).—On Sunday, January 13th, at the parish church, a 720 of Double Court, in 25 mins. H. Smith, 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. Haslam, 4; F. Brewer, 5; H. Deal (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

STOKE PRIOR (Worcestershire).—On Sunday morning, January 13, at the church of St. Michael, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. O. Stanworth, 1; G. Lucas, 2; Jos. Thompson, 4; Hy. Thompson, 4; W. Lewis, 5; Jno. Mason (conductor), 6.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Saturday, January 12th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. H. Scarlett (conductor), 1; H. Nunn, 2; H. Nunn, 3; J. Nunn, 4; T. Wood, 5; J. Marks, 6. The above was rung in honour of the Annual Dinner that night.

WAKEFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, January 13th, at the parish church, for service, a 701 of Grandsire Caters. W. Milnes, 1; G. Firth, 2; R. Wrigley, 3; J. Moorhouse, 4; W. Scott, 5; T. Prince, 6; J. T. Hollis (conductor), 7; T. Ormond, 8; T. Moorhouse, 9; J. Styles, 10. Also on Sunday morning, January 20th, for service, 700 of Grandsire Triples. W. Milnes, 1; J. Moorhouse, 2; R. Wrigley, 3; J. T. Hollis (conductor), 4; W. Firth, 5; T. Ormond, 6. T. Moorhouse, 7; J. Styles, 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Arundel Branch at Arundel.—On Saturday, January 12th, 720 of Plain Bob Minor (forty-two singles). Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 1; F. Luxford, 2; C. Blackman, 3; E. Ede, 4; G. Balchin, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, January 13th, 720 of Plain Bob Minor. G. Treagus, 1; G. Smart, 2; W. Challen, 3; F. Luxford, 4; G. Balchin, 5; C. Blackman (conductor), 6. And a quarter-peal (1260) of Grandsire Triples. W. Challen, 1; C. Blackman, 2; S. Long, 3; F. Luxford, 4; G. Balchin, 5; E. Ede, 6; G. Smart (conductor), 7; R. Goatcher, 8. Also 700 of Grandsire Triples. G. Treagus, 1; G. Baker, 2; O. Overshed, 3; G. Smart, 4; C. Blackman, 5; G. Balchin, 6; F. Luxford (conductor), 7; A. Mills, 8. G. Smart hails from Steyning.

By the Angmering Branch at Angmering.—On Monday, January 7th, 720 of College Single, in 26 mins. E. Parsons, 1; C. Clear, 2; F. Hills, 3; T. Sinfield, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all the ringers. Also on Thursday, January 12th, 720 of College Single by the same band. And on Saturday, January 13th, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. E. Parsons, 1; J. Hills, 2; F. Finch, 3; T. Sinfield, 4; C. Clear, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6.

By the St. Peter's Branch at Brighton.—On Sunday, January 20th, a quarter-peal (1260) of Stedman Triples, in 41 mins. G. F. Attree, 1; J. Reilly, 2; J. Jay, 3; E. C. Merritt (first quarter-peal in the method), 4; G. Thwaites, 5; J. Searle (conductor), 6; G. A. King, 7; H. Tugwell (first quarter-peal), 8. Also 504 of Grandsire Triples. D. Ross, 1; G. F. Attree (conductor), 2; A. A. Fuller, 3; H. Weston, 4; E. C. Merritt, 5; G. A. King, 6; G. Thwaites, 7; W. F. Vernon, 8.

By a Mixed Band at Crawley.—On Saturday, December 29th, 3348 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr and 59 mins. J. Akehurst, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Wadey, 3; E. Jordan, 4; R. Jordan, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; H. Burstow, 7; F. Wickens (conductor), 8. This was an attempt for a peal.

By the Cuckfield Branch at Cuckfield.—On Tuesday, January 1st, a date touch (1889) of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. and 12 mins. L. Gibb, 1; R. Nash, 2; W. Fox, 3; H. Mitchell, 4; W. Gibson, 5; H. Bowell, 6; F. Hounsell (composer and conductor), 7; F. Smith, 8.

By the Henfield Branch at Henfield.—On Sunday, January 20th, a date (1889) of Grandsire Doubles, in 1 hr. and 5 mins. T. Woolgar, 1; R. Summersell, 2; W. Pierce, 3; J. Blake, 4; T. Stringer, 5; T. West, 6.

By the Steyning Branch at Steyning.—On Thursday, December 20th, 720 of Plain Bob. F. Brooks, 1; C. Chambers, 2; J. Smart, 3; J. Matthews, 4; G. Gatland, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, December 23rd, 720 of Duke of York. J. Smart, 1; G. Smart, 2; C. Chambers, 3; F. Morris, 4; G. Gatland, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Woodbine. J. Matthews, 1; G. Gatland, 2; C. Tyler, 3; C. Chambers, 4; F. Morris, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. And on Christmas Day, 720 of Plain Bob. J. Matthews, 1; C. Chambers, 2; J. Smart, 3; G. Gatland, 4; F. Morris, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6.

THE PEAL OF MAXIMUS AT NORWICH IN 1817, WAS IT DOUBLE NORWICH OR NOT?

By A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

I.

"Monday, January 20th, 1817, were rung in this steeple 5016 of that most ingenious and intricate peal, Norwich Court Bob Maximus, in 4 hours and 2 minutes without miss of a bell, or repetition of a single change. This peal very much resembles Norwich Court Royal on ten; there being very short dodging on the bells before and behind, and tenth's place at the bob. The ingenuity of its composition, and the bold and regular striking reflects 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 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 }

Thus much information is afforded by the tablet erected in the tower of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, to commemorate this celebrated performance. Of late years doubts have arisen as to whether the peal was rung in the Double Norwich method or in some other variation. It is important that these doubts should be set at rest in the case of an achievement that must always rank as one of the greatest in the art of change-ringing, and more especially is it needful at the present time when the talented Ipswich company are turning their attention to accomplishing a peal of Double Norwich Maximus themselves.

I shall, therefore, make no further excuse for occupying the pages of "THE BELL NEWS" with what I conceive to be, so far as the materials available will permit, an exhaustive consideration of the question. From information in my possession I am led to believe that the original note-book of Samuel Thurston, the composer of the peal, is yet in the possession of a member of his family. If so, it is highly probable that there exists a decisive solution of the doubt which may eventually come to light. In the meantime, however, I think that the evidence I shall be able to adduce will prove conclusively that a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Maximus has been already achieved.

To avoid repetition I may here state to what treatises and editions I propose to refer.

The Clavis—(Reeves 1788), Original Edition.

Campanologia—(Shipway, 1816), reprint.

Art of Ringing—(Hubbard, fourth Edition, 1876).

Double Norwich—(Snowdon, first Edition, 1884).

In all cases the pages on which the quotations are to be found will be given in order to facilitate corroboration.

The consideration of the subject may be conveniently arranged under four heads which are presented in the form of statements. Such testimony as militates against them will be carefully considered as well as that in their favour. If the truth of these statements is proved, it will be impossible to doubt that the peal was rung in the Double Norwich method.

1.—Of the "Court" methods on eight bells, none but London Court and Norwich Court are known to have been practised.

2.—There is no record of either of the above methods having been practised on eight bells in other than their "Double" form.

3.—Of "Court" methods on ten bells Norwich Court in its "Double" form is the only one known to have been practised.

4.—If no single "Court" methods have ever been practised on eight or ten bells, nor Double London Court on eight bells at Norwich or on ten anywhere, it is impossible (seeing that is stated on the peal tablet that the method on twelve "very much resembles" the method on ten) to resist the conclusion that the method rung on twelve at Norwich was Double Norwich Court.

(To be continued.)

HANDBELLS WANTED.—The Vicar of Leafield, Witney, wishes for eight hand-bells for the bell-ringers.—second-hand.

A VISIT TO BEDFORD.

On Wednesday, December 26th, by the kind permission of the Rev. L. Woodard, vicar of St. Paul's, the Raunds (St. Peter's) ringers paid a visit to the above place for the purpose of having a friendly meet together, and a pull on the fine peal at St. Paul's. Arriving there about 11 o'clock, they were met by some members of the Bedford company, and also a company from Sharnbrook, which soon made a fair number of ringers: so after the Raunds company had warmed themselves and attended to the inner man, the peal at St. Paul's was set going. Then part of the ringers went to that nice little ring of six at St. Mary's. Touches in Minor methods was rung on these bells, and at St. Paul's touches in the following methods were rung during the day; Bob Triples, Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, and two single courses of Stedman Triples. The evening was spent at the Stanley Arms in tune-playing and change-ringing upon handbells, but had soon to be brought to a close, as the journey back was a long one, and the weather cold. The ringers wish through "THE BELL NEWS" to thank both the Vicars for the use of the bells, and the two steeple-keepers for having everything ready for them, and also to all who took pains in making this outing so comfortable for them. The following were the Raunds company: A. Coles, J. Stubbs, H. Stubbs, W. J. Gilbert, F. Gilbert, F. Slade, R. Pendered, G. Kirk, W. A. Hall, J. Willmott, and A. H. Martin, J. B. Martin, and W. Parker (Higham Ferrers); R. Dunkley and C. Swan (Lowick).

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Boxing-Day a visit was made by the Cuckfield branch to Chichester Cathedral at the invitation of Archdeacon Mount. The party, numbering eleven, were very kindly received by the Archdeacon, who was their late vicar. After Morning Service a start was made for the splendid ringing-chamber, and a 504 of Grandsire Triples was brought round in 20 minutes. A few other touches were rung up to one o'clock, when an adjournment was made to replenish the inner man, Archdeacon Mount kindly entertaining the ringers at the Chantry. The Cathedral having been viewed previous to the afternoon service, a visit was again paid to the belfry, and a start made for a Date Touch of 1888, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 1660 in 1 hr. and 7 mins. The return journey was shortly afterwards made, everyone expressing himself as satisfied with his visit.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The Next Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held on Saturday, February 16th, at the "Arden Arms," Millgate, Stockport. Members are hereby requested to note that the business meeting which will precede the dinner, will commence at 3.30, and dinner at 5 o'clock. Dinner tickets 1s. 6d. each. Those companies intending being present at dinner will greatly oblige by sending in their number to Mr. Fletcher, "Arden Arms," Millgate, Stockport, on or before Thursday, February 14th. Members are further requested to note that the annual subscriptions are due. The bells of St. Mary's parish church (8), have been kindly placed at the disposal of the members.

JAMES S. WILDE, } Hon. Secs.
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE, }

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

The next ringing meeting of the above branch will take place at St. Mary's church, Rawtenstall, on Saturday, February 2nd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting in the school at 6.

J. T. STOTT, Local Sec.

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The above association will hold the annual meeting at the Rochdale parish church, Saturday, February 2nd. Bells ready at 3.0 p.m., meeting to be held at 5.0 p.m. in the old school, Church Lane. Hoping there will be a good number present.

J. HOGGARD, Sec.

ERECTION OF A PEAL-BOARD AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, OSSETT, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, January 19th, the ringers connected with this church ascended the tower to witness the erecting of a peal-board, after which the ringers rung a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. The company then adjourned to the "Red Lion" Inn, where the evening was spent in hand-bell ringing, singing, and reciting, and a laughable farce entitled "The Lost Snuff Box." The board was presented by the Churchwarden, and was written by Alfred Liversedge, painter, and sign writer, Ossett. It is a fine one, having a black ground and gilt letters.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A District Meeting will be held at Guildford, on Thursday, February 7th. The belfry of S. Nicholas will be open for practice, from 3.30 to 5 p.m., and from 6.30 to 9 p.m. All ringers will be welcome. A meat tea will be provided at S. Nicholas Parish Room at 5 p.m., at One Shilling each, for all who send word to the Secretary before February 4th. Committee Meeting will be held at 5.30, and at the same place for election of members, and other business.

H. A. SPYERS, Hon. Sec.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the above will be held at Birmingham on Saturday, February 9th. The tower of S. John's Deritend will be opened for ringing at three o'clock, after which a meeting will be held at the "Swan" Hotel, Edmond Street, at six o'clock prompt. All members are earnestly requested to attend, as there is most important business to be brought forward.

Park Road, Harborne.

E. PARKER.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The members of the above Society will hold a meeting at the "Swan Hotel," Edmond Street, on Saturday, February 9th, at six p.m., when all members are earnestly requested to attend.

11, Tennant Street.

W. BROOK, Sec.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR MR. F. BATE.

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Wright (Borough)	0 2 6
Mr. Twelves	0 2 0
Mr. Brice	0 2 0
Mr. Bond	0 2 0
Mr. Abliitt	0 2 0
Mr. Sliper	0 1 0
Mr. Bland	0 1 0
Mr. Borlase	0 0 6
Mr. Underhill, Walworth	0 2 0
Mr. Berry, Blackman Street	0 2 0
A Lady, per Mr. Berry	0 2 0
Mr. Bordman, St. George's Church	0 1 0
Mr. Stunt, Union Street	0 2 6
A Friend, per Mr. Codlin	0 1 0
E. M. Bedford..	0 2 0

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received by Mr. B. Buckmaster, 46, Newington Batts, S.E., or by Mr. Codlin, 18, Cole Street, Borough, S.E.

THE DUCKLINGTON BELL FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Amount Advertised	10 14 9
St. Nicholas Society, per Mr. Boniface	0 5 0
Miss Dunham, Bournemouth	0 1 0
Mr. T. Belben	0 1 0
Mr. Grist	0 1 0
Miss Mc Lelland (extra)	0 1 0
Total	11 3 9

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received and acknowledged by W. J. Fisher, Great Western Hotel, Paddington.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

Something attempted, something done,
Hath earned a night's repose.

Among the events of my life in connection with the writing of these notes, none are so pleasing to me as the many letters which I receive privately through the Editor respecting my comments. I am also happy to say that so far they have all been couched in very friendly terms, which fact tempts me to think that my endeavours to put things "fair and straight" before the Exercise are not unappreciated. I would just take this opportunity of asking my friends who favour me with their ever-welcome letters, not to take affront if I should not refer to them all in my notes there and then. I assure them that their communications, however small or unimportant, are always read by me with pleasure, and considered with the greatest interest.

* * * * *

The circumstance which has given rise to the preceding remarks is a communication to hand from Mr. Ryde, of Woking. This letter I have returned to the Editor with the request that he will kindly insert it in full, as it is deserving of more than a mere cursory review. Mr. Ryde need have no fear of rebuke on the ground of "making too much of small things," as his letter evidences that it is not rebuke but hearty commendation which he and his band fully deserve. The story of the struggles of a young company in mastering the art is always pleasant reading to those who have surmounted the preliminary obstacles to their progress, while at the same time it must be encouraging to those who are just commencing to ascend the ladder. As I anticipate that our Editor will favour us with a reproduction of Mr. Ryde's letter on Saturday, I will leave it to tell its own good story. There are, however, in it two points to which I would briefly refer. The first is the difficulty the Woking men experienced, in having but one amongst them who knew or could instruct them in "the mysteries of half-pull." The position of Mr. Fred Arnold I can fully understand and appreciate, as my own ringing career was commenced under similar circumstances—or, if anything, rather worse—for not one of us knew anything of change-ringing when we begun, or had any one able and willing to instruct us. I have been in a similar position to Mr. Arnold several times since then, and, like very many more of our friends in various parts, will fully agree with Mr. Ryde's acknowledgment of that gentleman's good services, from personal experience. The other point to which I would allude is his remarks respecting the duty which a young ringer who is fortunate enough to have a good band to train him owes to the Exercise in doing his best to help along others as he has been helped before. I do hope Mr. Ryde's remarks will be taken to heart, and that the ambition of the Woking men in the direction of progress and efficiency will be emulated by all who have been fortunate enough by the help of their seniors in "getting to the top of the first ladder."

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Whatever could have induced anyone to perpetrate such an ultra-attempt at an hoax as reported on page 534? Whether the motive was simply to "have a lark," or if emanating from spiteful feelings, matters little; such tricks are deserving of the severest condemnation. Besides that, this individual who has been attempting to play the fool in such an idiotic manner should be mindful of the fact that in signing any other person's name he renders himself liable to the penalties prescribed by the Acts relating to forgery. The foolish fellow would be rightly served, if found out, were he to be compelled to make some amends by apologising publicly to Mr. Hayes for his folly.

Reports of ringers' festivities still continue to roll in, as is quite natural at this time of the year. It is undoubtedly a sensible plan to combine pleasure with business, and the accounts of these convivial gatherings at least shew that harmony and good feeling exists amongst us. While not wishing to be invidious, I would compliment our new friends, "The Copley Scholars," on the success of their "Social." This form of friendly gathering is fast becoming a feature of the age, and I am pleased to see it appearing amongst us. There can be no doubt, as the chairman observed, that ringers' wives have had good cause to complain of their husband's habit of keeping their pleasant evenings to themselves, and I most certainly do think that if this plan of holding "Socials" were more general amongst us there would be none of that complaining among the women folk about being neglected and left "out in the cold," as they have been in the past.

* * * * *

"W. J. P." gives us an account of their labours in accomplishing the first peal of Grandsire Triples at Caerleon, which he thinks will not be uninteresting. He is certainly right there. While complimenting the Caerleon men on their first peal (which I hope is only the precursor of many others) I would observe that their performance appears in a numerous company of similar premier achievements. In fact, our peal record of last Saturday literally bristles with these first peals. Southgate, Warnham, Heywood, Widford, Saxmundham, Sleaford, Hagley, and Rowley Regis, each contribute one to the number. The new year has thus started well in this respect, and if this feature should be maintained until Christmastide is once more amongst us, *Anno Domini* 1890 will have a hard task to beat its predecessor.

* * * * *

I was pleased to read the manly appeal made by the Vicar of Holbeck for funds to remunerate the ringers of his parish church. We—or many of us—well know how that the annual salary for the ringers (insignificant, almost, though it is to each ringer personally) is a heavy charge on the revenues of a church; and such being the case, where the officials are not "of a musical turn of mind" we too often find them desiring to dispense with the ringers altogether. The good Vicar of Holbeck is evidently not one of these, he seems to be proud of his bells; and while I have no doubt for one moment that the necessary funds will be forthcoming, I would venture to say to the ringers in the meantime—"Your Vicar has shewn his sympathy for your work in a practical way; he has also in the most public manner possible paid you a great compliment as to your standing and respectability, he has shewn that he means to stand by you and encourage your work. You ought therefore in common fairness to stand by him and keep on your ringing. Whatever be the result of his appeal, the mere fact of his having made it in such a manner should incite you to make every endeavour to keep the bells going. The high estimation in which I am accustomed to hold Yorkshire ringers will be much shaken if you don't. But I fully believe you will."

* * * * *

By the way (and I had almost forgot it), this reference to Yorkshire brings to my mind a solemn fact. That county Association has actually scored a peal this year. Would it be believed? But it is a fact, I assure you.

FREE LANCE.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.
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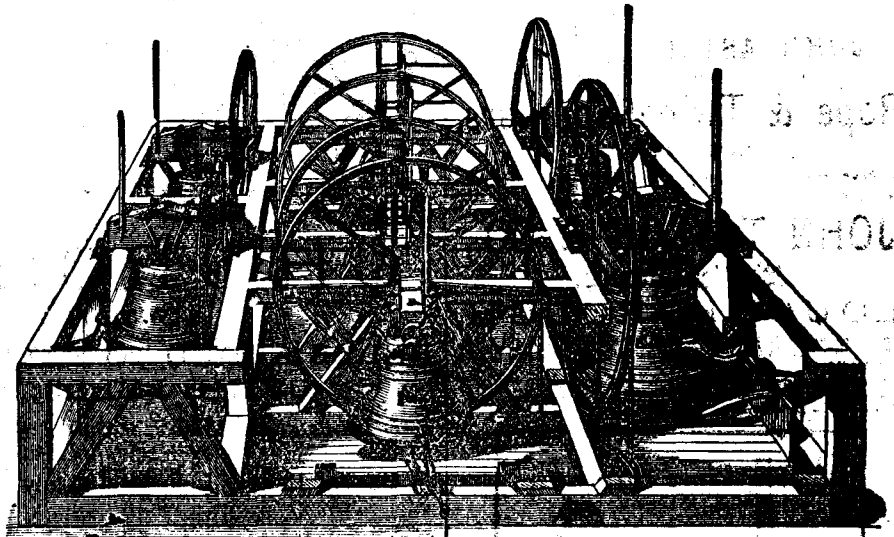
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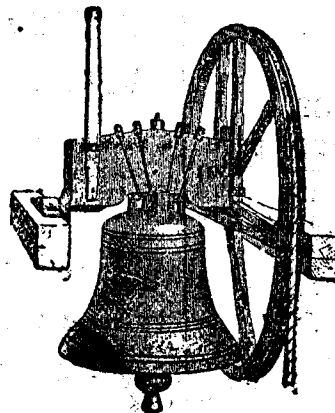
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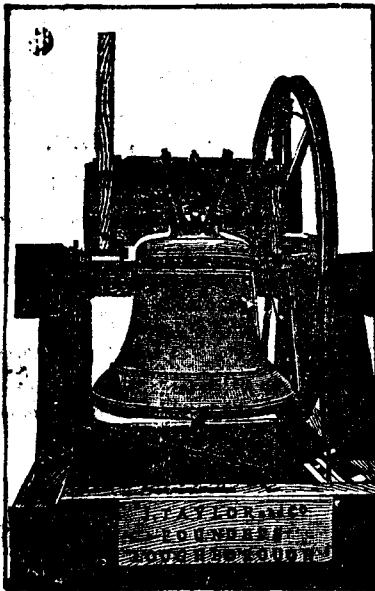
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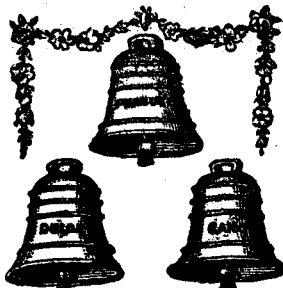
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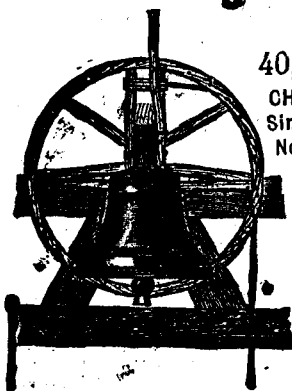
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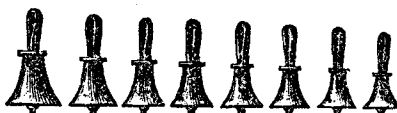
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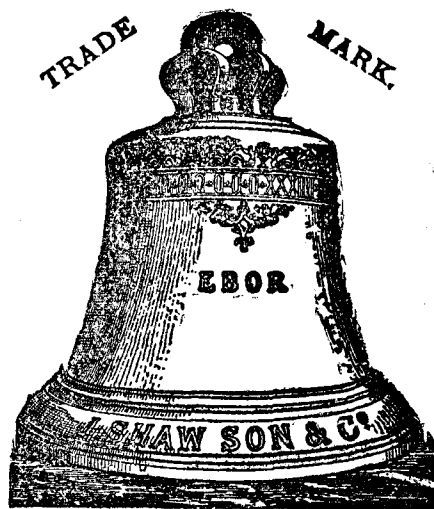
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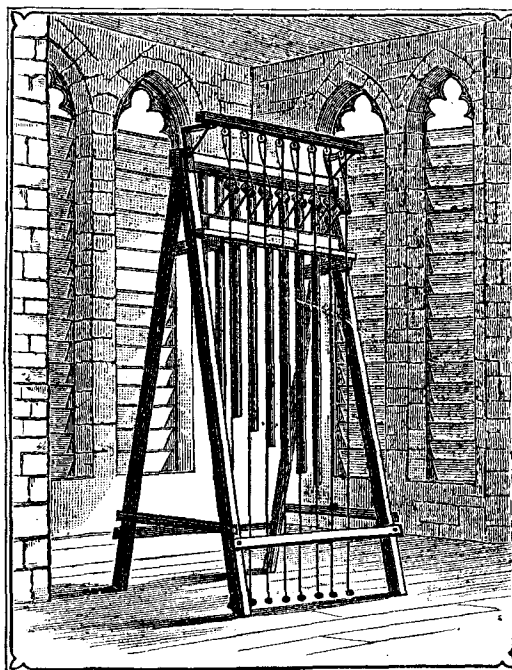
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THE PEAL OF MAXIMUS AT NORWICH IN 1817, WAS IT DOUBLE NORWICH OR NOT?

By A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

II.

The four statements with which the last paper concluded will now be taken one by one and the evidence upon each examined.

I.—Of "Court" methods on eight bells none but London Court and Norwich Court are known to have been practised.

In the *Clavis* (p.p. 112, 115) will be found a description of these two methods. No mention is made of any other Court method. Shipway (Part 1, pp. 55, 56) states that the Court system is divided into two methods, the London ringers preferring one, the Norwich the other, but goes on to say that he does not agree in either of them being the correct derivative of the original six-bell method, and therefore introduces a third and novel Court method. There is no record that this method was ever rung, as it never appears in the work of any subsequent writer. Hubbard, who came to Norwich about 1823, would have been sure to have mentioned it in his writings had such a method been known in that neighbourhood. Snowden (p. 48) gives good reasons for believing that a peal was rung in 1764 at Whitechapel in some sort of variation of London Court. This seems strange, but even if correct, the circumstance has no bearing on the present case, as the method, whatever it was, clearly never came into general use or it would have assuredly been mentioned in either the *Clavis* or "Shipway." It may therefore be taken as certain that of "Court" methods on eight bells, for it is of Major only that I at present treat, none but London Court and Norwich Court received permanent attention.

II.—There is no record of either of the above methods having been practised on eight bells in other than its "Double" form.

Having now reduced the enquiry within the limits of the two Court methods, London and Norwich, I shall present evidence in support of the second statement.

Snowdon (p. 45) mentions that a lead of the method now known as Double Norwich is to be found in a manuscript in the Downing College Library. This information is simply of value as tending to confirm the ample testimony that the double method is the original one. In the *Clavis* (p.p. 112, 115) will be found, as already mentioned, a lead of each of two methods entitled "London Court Bob" and "Norwich Court Bob," these being the methods now known as Double London Court and Double Norwich Court respectively. The appellation of "double" was perfectly familiar to the author of the *Clavis* as denoting a variation of a standard method in which the duty of each bell was doubled by causing it, in addition to that devolving on it at the treble's whole pull in front, to do similar work, but in reverse, at the treble's whole pull behind. "Double Grandsire" and "Double Bob Major" will thus be found explained. It is, therefore, fair to conclude that, had there been in existence any London Court or Norwich Court method of which the Court methods given in the *Clavis* were the double variations, the author would have added to the methods described the title of "Double." But it is not necessary to dwell upon this point, for it is clear from Shipway's own writings that it was he who first extended the two known Court methods to nine, adding a new method, and dividing each into the three variations of single, reverse, and double. (See again Shipway, Part 1, p.p. 55, 56.) In Part 1, p. 65, this author writes: "It is a remarkable circumstance that all the Court Bobs that have hitherto been rung are double." Again, in Part 2, p. 214, we find: "The single method of either the London or the Norwich systems, I may venture to say, has never been rung;" and in Part 3, p. 198: "It has been noticed already, that, of the three systems of Court (the original on six bells excepted) the double method on eight and ten bells of the Norwich and the double method on eight in the London are the only peals that have been rung, consequently the greatest part of Court Bob is entirely new." It is therefore evident that at the time Shipway wrote (1813 to 1816) London Court and Norwich Court were only practised in their double form and that he himself bestowed on them the title of "Double." (See also Snowden p. 45). To follow the history of these methods beyond the date of the peal of Maximus is scarcely necessary, but the fact that

Hubbard, who long resided at Norwich, writing between 1840 and 1850, gives (pp. 26, 34, 37, 38) totally different single Court methods, while his double ones are identical with Shipway's, would forcibly point to the conclusion that the latter's single methods were never rung, at all events at Norwich. Where Hubbard obtained his single Court methods it is impossible to say; one thing however is clear, that, whether he constructed them himself or not, they are the ignorant productions of a person who thought that single methods were deduced from double ones by taking the work of the first half of each lead as in the double, and then omitting it all in the last half, letting every bell run a plain hunt to the end of the lead. This is, of course, not what is ordinarily understood as a method at all, nor is it likely that the Norwich ringers, who are known to have rung peals of Double Norwich Major in 1815 and 1817 (Snowdon, pp. 51, 52) ever troubled themselves to learn such rubbish. That these two peals were recorded as of "Norwich Court Bob Major" shews that a single method was unknown or, at all events, unrecognised. Nor does the fact that the peal rung at Saffron Walden, also in 1817 (Snowdon, p. 52), was recorded as "Double Norwich Court Bob" (Major) much affect the case, for it is more than likely that Shipway's classification was allowed due weight in a locality not only nearer to the metropolis, but where there would not be the same conservative feeling as doubtless existed in Norwich as to the proper title of a method which had been practised for many years by the Norwich ringers.

It would, therefore, appear to be abundantly clear that no single Court methods on eight bells have ever gained a standing.

I have hitherto purposely confined the enquiry to eight bell methods because I consider the fact that no Single London Court or Single Norwich Court are known to have been practised, at all events within the last hundred years, strongly confirms the contention that the same is true of these methods on ten and twelve bells for it would be totally at variance with all historical precedent to suppose that any company of ringers practised a method on ten or twelve bells before they had mastered it on eight. That a peal of "Court Ten In" should have been rung at Norwich, as it probably was (Snowdon p. 48), two years before the first recorded peal of Major in the same method, might appear to point to a contrary conclusion. When, however, it is remembered that the peal of Major was one of 6720 changes, the inference seems strong that the method was well known on eight bells, and that a 5000 had probably been rung previously to the peal of Royal, though no record of such a performance remains.

(To be continued.)

THE NORTH MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

The first quarterly meeting of the above Association was held at Hendon on Wednesday, January 16th. Members and visitors to the number of seventy-three were present, and ringing was freely indulged in. Several 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles were rung, also various touches of Bob Minor. A splendid tablet, about to be fixed in the ringing-chamber, and recording the first 720 rung by the Association, was on view. It has been executed by one of the members—Mr. W. Russell—upon whom it reflects great credit.

A business meeting was afterwards held, Mr. T. Card, Master of the Association for the current year, presiding, and at which eight new members were elected. The Finchley branch gave notice that their tower would be open to members after evening service on the last Sunday in each month. The Hendon branch also gave notice that they had come to a similar arrangement for the first Sunday in each month. Two members volunteered, and their services were accepted, as instructors to the Edgware branch. It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Edgware on Friday, April 12th, of which meeting due notice will be given.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the Master for presiding, terminated the proceedings.

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THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The third Quarterly meeting of the year was held at Leicester, on Saturday, January 26th. Committee meeting took place in St. Margaret's Schools at 4.45. General Meeting at St. Margaret's Coffee House at 5.30, when 52 members were present. One Honorary member, 17 Ringing members, and 2 Life members were proposed and carried unanimously.

The President (A. Percival Heywood, Esq.) occupied the chair and congratulated the Society on its position for the year 1888, ranking as it does, second only for the number of peals rung, and practically the first as to methods. He also referred strongly to the criticism *re* the peal of London Surprise rung at Fulham by the St. Paul's society, and congratulated them on its achievement, also the Loughborough branch on the accomplishment of the peal of Treble Bob Major, 9120 changes, rung at Quorndon, and especially the Ashby band on the accomplishment of their first peal of Grandire Triples.

At the close of the President's address, Mr. S. Maskery proposed, and Mr. H. C. Woodward seconded, "That the remarks made by the President *re* the peal rung at Fulham be endorsed by this meeting, knowing as they do that the St. Paul's company would not publish anything that was false." This was carried unanimously.

The Hon. Sec. proposed an alteration to Rule 12, as per notice given, which was carried, and in future notice of the meetings will only be given through "THE BELL NEWS," and circulars placed in the different towers.

Mr. Stephen Cooper and Mr. Alfred Millis were unanimously elected to audit the accounts of the Society. It was also considered desirable that the names of the local officer's for their respective districts for the year 1889 should appear in the coming report, and Mr. Maskery proposed, and Mr. Needham seconded the following resolution, viz.: "That the local societies of each district be asked to hold their meetings for the election of district officers at once, and communicate their names to the Hon. Sec. on or before Saturday, February 9th, 1889. The usual vote of thanks to the clergy and churchwardens for so kindly placing their bells at the disposal of the Society, and a very hearty vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding, brought the meeting to a close.

ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, STRATFORD, BOW, LONDON.

On Thursday, January 24th, thirty members and friends sat down to the Annual Dinner of the above society at the "Bow Bells," Bow Road, E., the spread being placed on the table in the well-known excellent style of the proprietor, Mr. J. Gibbs. The dinner was served in the fine billiard-room of the above house, which was tastefully decorated with some fine and large palms and other plants by Mr. A. G. Tyrrell, one of the honorary members of the society.

After the cloth had been removed, the members all gathered around the festive board for the enjoyment of harmony and the social talk, the chair being occupied by Mr. R. J. Turner, and the vice by Mr. T. Baker. After the toast of "The Queen and Royal Family" had been duly honoured, the harmony was started by a selection for violin and Pianoforte by Messrs. Tyrell and Green. Then followed a first-rate song, "Nil Desperandum," rendered by the Chairman, after which the toast of "The Bow Society of Change-Ringers" was received with great gusto by the company, and responded to by the much respected secretary of the Society, Mr. D. J. Sutton. Song and sentiment then became the order of the day, and the time for parting having arrived, the company all joined hands in singing "Auld Lang Syne" and "God save the Queen" which finished a most enjoyable evening, long to be remembered by all who had the good fortune to be present.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the above will be held at Birmingham on Saturday, February 9th. The tower of S. John's Deritend will be opened for ringing at three o'clock, after which a meeting will be held at the "Swan" Hotel, Edmond Street, at six o'clock prompt. All members are earnestly requested to attend, as there is most important business to be brought forward.

Park Road, Harborne.

E. PARKER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

The annual meeting of the Chester Branch was held in the Schools, St. Mary's-on-the-Hill, on Wednesday evening week, the Ven. Archdeacon Barber presiding. Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from the Rev. J. H. Acheson and the Rev. H. Grantham. The Secretary and Treasurer (Mr. Pease) read the report, which was encouraging, and also presented the balance sheet. Mr. Freman Ball was re-elected chairman of the branch, and Mr. Pease secretary and treasurer; the other members of the committee are nominated by the several belfries in the union. An application for an instructor from Tarvin was read, and the secretary was requested to endeavour to make the necessary arrangements for three months, the branch being responsible for half the cost. The following resolution was then moved and carried unanimously: "That this branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers would hail with satisfaction the augmenting of the number of the Cathedral bells so as to form a peal of ten; so that the mother church might possess at least as large a peal as any church in the diocese." It was stated that the cost would probably not exceed £80. The chairman remarked that extensive repairs at the north-west corner of the Cathedral demanded instant attention, and would probably prevent the Dean and Chapter from taking the bells in hand at present. Mr. H. A. Heywood, the secretary of the Guild, was present at the meeting, and requested application to be made to him through Mr. Pease for cards of membership. A hope was expressed that more honorary members would be induced to join, and that the belfries of Aldford, Christleton, and Pulford might soon be in union with the Guild.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On New Year's Eve the ringers of St. Andrew's, Bishop Auckland, were entertained at supper at the house of the Rev. C. Sutton, Mr. W. Scott, Churchwarden, being present also. After ample justice had been done to the good things provided, the ringers proceeded to the church and rang touches of Plain Bob Major, and the old year out and the new one in. An attempt for a peal of Bob Major on January 1st came to grief after ringing 1,130 changes, owing to two bells shifting. T. Bowyer, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; W. Charlton, 3; A. J. B. Waldron, 4; J. Pallister, 5; J. Cleminson, 6; F. Charles, 7; E. Titt (conductor), 8. On Monday, January 7th, a 720 Bob Major, standing as above; Sunday, January 13th, 704 of Bob Major, standing as above, with the exception of E. Titt, 6; J. Cleminson (conductor), 8. On Tuesday, January 15th, 1,120 Bob Major, standing as above: Sunday, January 20th, 720 Plain Bob Minor, with the eighth covering. T. Bowyer, 1; W. Charlton, 2; A. J. B. Waldron, 3; J. G. Pratt, 4; F. Charlton, 5; J. Pallister (conductor), 6; H. C. Mayne, 7.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A District Meeting will be held at Guildford, on Thursday next, February 7th. The belfry of S. Nicholas will be open for practice, from 3.30 to 5 p.m., and from 6.30 to 9 p.m. All ringers will be welcome. A meat tea will be provided at S. Nicholas Parish Room at 5 p.m., at One Shilling each, for all who send word to the Secretary before February 4th. Committee Meeting will be held at 5.30, and at the same place for election of members, and other business.

H. A. SPYERS, Hon. Sec.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MEETING AT LIVERSEDGE, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH, 1889.

The Committee has pleasure in announcing that by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. W. Fowler, M.A., and with the friendly co-operation of the Liversedge change-ringers, the next meeting will be held as above, *i.e.*, on the second Saturday in February.

WM. SNOWDON, President.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

Members are requested to attend the meeting on Wednesday next, February 6th, to transact some important business.

8, Francis Street, Waterloo Road.

GEO. WILD, Sec.

ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, WHITCHURCH, OXON.

On Monday last, January 28th, six members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and the above Society paid a visit to two of the eight bell towers of Wiltshire, viz: Bishopstone and Aldbourne. Journeying by G.W.R., Shrivenham (thirty miles), was reached by 10.15, and from this station a drive of two miles brought the party to Bishopstone, a picturesque little village, where plenty of watercress grows in the curious valleys to be found here. Permission having previously been obtained from the Rev. Herbert Ault, vicar, the belfry was reached, the bells raised in peal, and 240 of Grandsire, and 180 of Bob Minor brought round in fine style with 7-8 covering. J. Nicholls, 1; W. Pocock, 2; W. Lawrence (conductor), 3; C. Pocock, 4; A. C. West, 5; E. Bushnell, 6; R. Maisey, 7; W. Lawrence, jun., 8. Tenor 17 cwt. This was the first attempt on eight bells by several of the Whitchurch band. A peal-board was now handed over to the Vicar recording the peal of Grandsire Triples rung here on December 6th last, by members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. R. Maisey is a member of the local band, and W. Lawrence from Aldbourne. At neither of these villages is change-ringing practised, although the go of this peal is very fair, widely different from the long draught of the peal at the next village, which was reached about 1.30 after an hour's drive over the hills. All were now entertained to dinner at the house of Mr. Walter Lawrence, and afterwards a new peal of handbells, tenor No. 15 in C, were opened with a touch of 240 of Bob Minor with 7-8 behind. J. Nicholls, 1; C. Pocock, 2; W. Lawrence (conductor), 3; W. Pocock, 4; A. C. West, 5; G. Bushnell, 6; W. Lawrence, 7; Miss C. Lawrence, 8. This peal was presented to the Aldbourne ringers on this day by the conductor in memory of a late brother who was particularly fond of bells, ringing, &c., to encourage the local band to achieve the art of change-ringing. After hearing the chimes, which played every third hour play the "Sicilian Mariners" hymn, at 3 o'clock the bells were raised and several attempts made, but neither touch brought round, owing to the heavy go of the bells, and one constantly casting her rope. The visitors then proceeded to the vicarage by invitation, and performed on the new handbells (leaving them in the vicar's charge), touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob, standing much the same as before with two covers. After tea the band left for Hungerford (on the branch line), and Pangbourn was reached at 9.35, after a busy but most enjoyable day.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The members of the above Society will hold a meeting at the "Swan Hotel," Edmund Street, on Saturday, February 9th, at six p.m., when all members are earnestly requested to attend.
11, Tennant Street. W. BROOK, Sec.

THE DUCKLINGTON BELL FUND.

Amount Advertised	£	s.	d.
St. Nicholas Society, per Mr. Boniface	10	14	9
Miss Dunham, Bournemouth	0	5	0
Mr. T. Belben	0	1	0
Mr. Grist	0	1	0
Miss Mc Lelland (extra)	0	1	0

Total £11 3 9

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received and acknowledged by W. J. Fisher, Great Western Hotel, Paddington.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR MR. F. BATE.

Amount already acknowledged	£	s.	d.
Mr. Mathews, Borough	1	5	6
Mr. Jones, Brierley Hill	0	1	0
Mr. Webb, Worcester	0	2	0
Mr. Ferry, London	0	2	6

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received by Mr. B. Buckmaster, 46, Newington Butts, S.E., or by Mr. Codlin, 18, Cole Street, Borough, S.E.

ST. GEORGE'S, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

No doubt many readers of "THE BELL NEWS" will remember the inauguration of a new set of fifteen handbells on July 6th, the Guild of about twenty-five members being formed a short time previous. Early in August the first 120 of Grandsire Doubles was accomplished on the handbells, and after a few practices it was got through on the tower bells; then they lost one of the six through a severe illness, lasting over two months. However, not lacking in number, another was got to fill his place. The old year was rung out with three 6-scores, called differently, with the bells muffled, and after the New Year had arrived, and the buffs taken off, more ringing was indulged in. A. E. Thomas, 1; A. Knight, 2; A. Turner, 3; H. Thomas, 4; H. Howell (conductor), 5; J. Starkes, 6. And on handbells several 6-scores, and a few plain courses of Grandsire Triples. A. Turner, 1-2; H. Howell, 3-4; H. Thomas, 5-6; W. Lansdowne, 7-8. And a few plain courses of Minor. On Tuesday, January 1st, six 6-scores called differently in 27 mins. A. E. Thomas, 1; A. Turner, 2; H. Howell, 3; A. Knight, 4; H. Thomas, 5; J. Starkes, 6. Also some Bob Doubles. On Thursday, January 17th, seven 6-scores called differently. A. E. Thomas, 1; H. Howell, 2; A. Turner, 3; A. Knight, 4; H. Thomas (conductor), 5; R. Cousins, 6. The second bell was rung without a stay. Messrs. Knight, A. E. and H. Thomas, and A. Turner never having handled a rope before the Guild was formed, having so many and all anxious to ring, made steady progress difficult. In the next report they hope to have a 720 of Minor.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The meeting of the Rochdale branch of this Association to be held at Heywood, is postponed until Saturday, February 9th. Bells ready at 2 p.m. Meeting in the belfry at 5 p.m.

FRANK BIRTWISTLE, Sec.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The next meeting of the Liverpool Diocesan branch of this Association will be held at Huyton, on Saturday, February 16th. Further particulars next week. JOHN R. PRITCHARD, 40, Lowther Street, Liverpool. Branch Secretary.

Obituary.

JOSEPH BUTCHER.

It is with regret that we record the death of this gentleman, who expired at his residence, Ivy Place, New Hampton Road, Wolverhampton, on Monday, January 21st. He had given up change-ringing some years owing to failing health, but might frequently have been seen in his garden on summer evenings listening to the music of the bells. He was Churchwarden of St. Andrew's church for several years. He was the composer and conductor of several peals of Triples, Major, and Caters, only two of which there is a record in the tower of St. Peter's church, viz.: two peals of Grandsire Caters, one of 7290 changes, in 4 hrs. 57 mins., the other, 5291 changes, in 3 hrs. 20 mins. At the usual weekly practice on Thursday last, the local company rang with the bells half-muffled, several courses of Grandsire Triples. On Saturday they were met by Mr. J. Fowler, one of the deceased's fellow-ringers (who is himself seventy years of age), and Mr. B. Dalton, of Tettenhall, but owing to being short-handed nothing worthy of note was done. The deceased was interred at the Wolverhampton cemetery on Friday, January 25th. He was eighty-three years of age.

The following is taken from a local paper. It should be understood there is only a ring of six at Horsell, therefore it is plain that the local band must be a set of very clever fellows:—

THE NEW YEAR.—The Horsell Guild of Church Bell Ringers rang out the old and rang in the new year in three merry peals on New Year's Eve. They completed peals of Grandsire Triples and Stedman's Triples, and to usher in the New Year they rang a peal of Stedman's Bob Doubles. The ringers were Messrs. E. and A. Spooner, T. Stockley, S. Daborn, F. Warner, H. Hart, J. Daborn, W. Steer, and G. Biles.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The Annual Meeting of the East Berks and South Bucks branch of this Guild has recently been held at Bray. Some good ringing was done both at Bray and at All Saints, Boyne Hill, during the afternoon and evening, and the meeting, both in numbers and interest, showed that this valuable and useful Guild of Church officers is making rapid progress in this diocese and doing good work. Among the clergy present were the Master of the Guild (Rev. F. E. Robinson), the Branch President and Secretary (Revs. A. H. Drummond and R. P. Newhouse, Boyne Hill), Revs. C. A. Raymond and T. H. Wrenford (Bray), Rev. J. Daubeney (Winkfield), Rev. J. E. Norris (Marlow), and Rev. St. John Methuen (Wycombe), and about fifty lay members also took part in the proceedings. After an excellent tea in the schoolroom, provided by Mr. Spindler, the President opened the business of the meeting with a short address. He said that the branch was in a very prosperous condition from every point of view. There was a large accession of honorary and ringing members; more bands had availed themselves of the services of the instructors, and consequent progress had been made in the art, and three peals of Grandsire rung—at Boyne Hill, Beaconsfield, and Marlow—as against one in 1887. Two of them had been conducted by Mr. J. W. Wilkins (Boyne Hill), to whom the President paid a well-deserved compliment. He also urged the formation of junior or supplementary bands in every town, to extend the practice of change-ringing and supply any vacancies which might occur. He next drew attention to the position of ringers as Church officers and examples in every way to their parishes, as consistent and God-fearing men. Hence he impressed upon them the necessity of regular and devout attendance at the services of the church to which by their work they summoned others, and also the evil and disastrous results of any jealousy or rivalry amongst ringers with respect to individual proficiency in the art. He concluded by expressing his satisfaction at the unusual number of clergy present, and his hope that no tower would be represented on the branch list without its incumbent, and no incumbent become or be a member without his ringers following his lead.

The Rev. R. P. Newhouse then read the balance-sheet and gave a short account of the work of the branch during the past year. Noticing with satisfaction the increased expenditure for instruction, he hoped that yet more towers would place themselves under the instructors, that neighbouring towers would combine for this purpose, and thus more methods would be mastered and more progress made. He urged all probationers to lose no time in qualifying as change-ringers, and advised the establishment of a belfry fund in every tower for local and incidental expenses. He concluded by expressing a hope that in all cases the representatives of the belfries would send a prompt reply to communications which they might receive from him.

The balance-sheet was then adopted by the meeting, and the President, officers, and committee having retired from their respective offices, were unanimously re-elected in each case, with the addition of a member of committee for High Wycombe junior band.

Mr. Hanlon (Bray) expressed the thanks of his band to Mr. A. Garraway for his careful and valuable instruction during the past year.

After a few pointed remarks by the Master, on topics already touched upon by previous speakers, and on the general efficiency of the Guild, the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Master for his sermon (by anticipation), and the Vicars of Bray and Boyne Hill for the use of their churches and bells.

The whole of the members then adjourned to Bray church for evensong, at which an excellent and appropriate sermon, dealing chiefly with the proper cultivation of the spiritual life amongst ringers, and admirably illustrated by reference to the use of church bells and ringing, was preached by the Master of the Guild.

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The above association will hold the annual meeting at the Rochdale parish church, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells ready at 3.0 p.m., meeting to be held at 5.0 p.m. in the old school, Church Lane. Hoping there will be a good number present.

J. HOGGARD, Sec.

ST. WERBURGH'S, BRISTOL.

On Saturday, the 19th ult., the ringers of this church were kindly entertained at a capital dinner by the newly-instituted Rector, the Rev. H. Denning, at the mission-hall, Mina-road.

At the conclusion of the repast, Mr. Kebby, one of the sidesmen, proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector for his hospitality, and remarked that it was the first time he had had the pleasure of sitting down with the Rector at the ringers' annual dinner, and he hoped it would not be the last. He thought such social gatherings improved the society of the young men of the neighbourhood, and he hoped the Rector would live long enough to attend very many of such pleasant meetings.

Mr. Baynham seconded the vote of thanks, adding that it was the first ringers' dinner he had ever attended, but he fondly hoped it would not be the last. He had been connected with ringers about thirty years, and remembered the time when they were looked upon as a low dissipated class of men, but he was pleased to say that the contrary was now the case, for ringers of the present day were among the most respectable and intelligent of the whole community, and their character in this respect was still improving. The Associations throughout the country were doing an immense amount of good, and he would like to see every tower which had a peal of bells having also its own company of ringers, in order to abolish that monopoly which existed in many places where several towers were controlled by one band. He was glad to see that there was a likelihood of a society to be founded having for its object the relief of distressed ringers, and hoped it would be carried to a successful issue. He would be very pleased indeed to propose their worthy Rector as an honorary member of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, and he thanked him on behalf of his brother-ringers for his kind hospitality that day.

The Rector, in acknowledging the vote, said he was at any time pleased to hear the bells, and always glad to meet the ringers. Bellringing was good exercise for the mind as well as the body. Young men had always some spare time at disposal, and it was better to spend some of that time in the belfry than in a worse place. He was a great advocate for any kind of athletics, and therefore he was glad to be there that evening, and pleased to see the attendance of so many young men. He hoped to be spared many years to attend similar gatherings.

The remainder of the evening was spent in tune-playing and ringing upon the handbells.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

The quarterly meeting in connection with the above Society was held on Saturday, January 12th, at All Saints, West Bromwich, when the following places were represented: West Bromwich, Darlaston, Tipton, Aston, Walsall, Perry Barr, Lichfield, Willenhall, &c., and touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, Grandsire Caters, Stedman Caters, and a plain course of Grandsire Cinques were rung. At 5 o'clock a short service was conducted in the church by the Rev. M. M. Connor, after which a committee meeting was held, when there were four new ringing members elected, and it was also arranged to hold the next meeting at Sedgely, in April. Tea being ready, about thirty-six members and friends sat down and did full justice to the good things provided, when a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the Vicar of All Saints for his very excellent address in the afternoon, and a touch of Grandsire Triples on the handbells brought the proceedings to a close.

THE ST. ALBANS CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of this Society was held at the Rectory on Tuesday evening, January 22nd, the President (the Ven. Archdeacon Lawrance) in the chair. The report and balance-sheet were produced and passed, the latter shewing a balance in the hands of the treasurer. Mr. R. Fowler and Mr. H. L. Waddington were re-elected treasurer and secretary respectively, and Mr. W. G. Cartmel was appointed by the Archdeacon to be conductor for the ensuing year. Mr. W. Battle and Mr. T. Grant were elected committeemen, and they with the three ex-officio members form the committee.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 26th, a Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Cradley. There were upwards of forty members present from Bromsgrove, Brierley Hill, Cradley Clent, Dudley, Hagley, Netherton, Old Hill, Stourbridge, Tipton, and Wollaston. Touches of Bob Triples, Bob Major, 434 of Grandsire Triples, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major, and a course of Stedman Triples were rang on the tower bells.

The business meeting was held in the Schoolroom, presided over by the Master, Mr. Samuel Spittle, Dudley, who in his opening remarks briefly alluded to the analysis of Mr. G. F. Attree for the past year. He said he was pleased that the Association was making such progress in the number of peals rang, although they were in only two methods, viz.: Grandsire and Plain Bob, but hoped during the present year some peals in the more intricate methods would not only be attempted but accomplished. In conclusion he wished the members one and all success in their undertakings, and hoped they would have a bright and prosperous new year.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the usual business of the Association was transacted. Twelve new members were elected. In the course of the miscellaneous business the Hon. Sec. remarked that although twenty-one peals were credited to the Association by Mr. Attree, he had only received fourteen for insertion in the peal-book. He hoped when the Annual Meeting came that the conductors or secretaries of the various companies would not complain at the peals not being inserted. If rule ten had been carried out no cause of complaint could have been made in this respect, and he hoped that in the course of a week or two at the latest the peals would be forwarded to him so that they might appear in proper order.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Rev J. H. Thompson, Vicar, for the use of the Schoolroom, tower, and bells, and also to the Master for presiding, who suitably responded. It was arranged to hold the next committee meeting at Hagley, on Saturday, March 16th, 1889.

GRIMSBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

On Wednesday, January 16th, the Annual Dinner of the St. James's ringers was held at the "White Hart" hotel, when about twenty-five members and friends sat down to a substantial repast provided by Host Heyhoe. After ample justice was done to the good things provided, Mr. J. Hewson (churchwarden) took the chair, and Mr. Barton the vice-chair.

The Chairman proposed "The Health of the Queen and Royal Family," and the Vice-chairman "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," which was responded to by the Rev. C. Claze, who made some suitable remarks respecting the pending prosecution of the Bishop of Lincoln.

"The Health of the Churchwardens" was proposed by Mr. D. Seamer, and drunk with musical honours.

During the evening songs were sung by Messrs. Heyhoe, Slingsby, Chaffer, and Jackson of Hull. Previous to the dinner a 742 of Grandsire Triples (the last of Holt's ten-part peal) was rung by the following: C. Jackson (conductor), 1; —. Stockdale, 2; A. Bramall, 3; A. Shepherd, 4; W. Heyhoe, 5; G. Wheldon, 6; —. Southwick, 7; J. Lamb, 8. The treble, 2nd and 7th men hail from Hull; the rest are local men.

WENHASTON, SUFFOLK.

On Tuesday evening, January 8th, the ringers and chimers of this parish held their annual dinner at the "Carpenters Arms," where a good spread was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Bell. At the close of the dinner the ringers proceeded to the tower, and several touches of Grandsire and Bob Minor were rung on the bells by the following band: W. Danford, 1; F. Lambert (conductor), 2; T. Smith, 3; R. Spalding, 4; G. Eastaugh, 5; C. Linsdale, 6. After leaving the tower handbell ringing and songs brought to a close a most pleasant evening.

WANTED immediately a set of handbells, not less than 12, apply with full particulars and cash price to H. T. JAMES, 11, Mill Lane, West Hartlepool.

RINGERS' SUPPER AT ST. ALBANS.

The members of the St. Peter's Society held their annual supper on Wednesday, January 23rd, at the house of Mr. T. Waller, Church Green. An excellent repast was put upon the table by Mrs. Waller, which received ample justice, and, on the removal of the cloth, "go" was called by the conductor for a start on the song-and-toast course, which lasted for some hours. After "The Queen and Royal Family," and "The City and Trade of St. Albans" had been duly honoured, the chairman, Mr. E. P. Debenham, proposed the toast of the evening, "Success to the St. Peter's Society of Change-Ringers," and in the course of his speech congratulated the members upon the progress they had made in the art during the past year, and acknowledged the invaluable assistance which had been rendered by the honorary members, coupling with the toast the names of Mr. Lewis and Mr. Waller, who responded in suitable terms. The next was that of "The Honorary Members," which drew Messrs. G. W. Cartmel, W. H. L. Buckingham, A. Barnes, and W. H. Buckingham upon their feet in response. The good wishes of all present towards the President and chairman of the evening having been expressed, the toast of "Kindred Societies" was then dealt with by Mr. Debenham, who alluded to the advance in change-ringing that was being made in the county, referring to the Hatfield, Northaw, Baldock and Hitchin bands in particular as cases in point, and further evidenced by the increasing number of members in the county Association.

Mr. Cartmel, the newly-appointed conductor of the Cathedral Society, responded.

Mr. Lewis having claimed attention for the "Host and Hostess and their family," "The Visitors and the Umpires of the local handbell peals" followed, while the value of Mr. Conley's services at the piano during the evening was not overlooked, he having been kept busy nearly the whole time. The authorised programme was not got through until the first notch after midnight had been scored, although "stand" was not finally called until old Father Time had sent the small hand of the clock some way further on Thursday's first round of the dial. Songs were sung during the evening by nearly all present, Mr. Conley, as before-mentioned, kindly accompanying on the piano.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.

On Wednesday, January 16th, the ringers of St. Nicholas' parish church had their annual supper at the house of Mr. Winter, to which about a dozen sat down to the good things provided. After satisfying the inner man, the rest of the evening was spent in tunes and change-ringing by H. Horwood, J. Clarke, T. W. Chapman, and G. Winter, and a few good songs by Messrs. W. Rowley, E. Rowley, J. Clarke, and T. W. Chapman, Mr. T. Matthews presiding at the piano. After singing the National Anthem the party broke up, all having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE Next Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held on Saturday, February 16th, at the "Arden Arms," Millgate, Stockport. Members are hereby requested to note that the business meeting which will precede the diuner, will commence at 3.30, and dinner at 5 o'clock. Dinner tickets 1s. 6d. each. Those companies intending being present at dinner will greatly oblige by sending in their number to Mr. Fletcher, "Arden Arms," Millgate, Stockport, on or before Thursday, February 14th. Members are further requested to note that the annual subscriptions are due. The bells of St. Mary's parish church (8), have been kindly placed at the disposal of the members.

JAMES S. WILDE, } Hon. Secs.
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE, }

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

The next ringing meeting of the above branch will take place at St. Mary's church, Rawtenstall, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting in the school at 6.

J. T. STOTT, Local 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.
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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.

ADDRESS WANTED.—The Rev. W. PEARSON, formerly of Syston, Leicestershire. G. P. C.—Your whereabouts.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1889.

THE steps which MR. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD is about to take for the celebration of MR. HENRY JOHNSON's eightieth birthday has the combination of utility and pleasure. The latter in more ways than one, certainly, for it will be a pleasure not only to honour the worthy veteran of the art, but also to enjoy the society of the leading members of the Exercise who will be congregated together in response to the invitation of the worthy Squire of Duffield. It is to be hoped that the generous instincts of MR. HEYWOOD will be taken advantage of in a manner worthy of the event; whether the idea may be to give honour to whom honour is due, or to take advantage of such a reunion which the occasion will afford. The former object would appear to us the main reason for attending, though the advantages accruing to the Exercise from the latter cannot be too lightly esteemed. MR. JOHNSON has been such a central figure, as it were, of the Art for so many years, that by us he is looked upon as the Father of the Exercise, and it is by reason of such feelings towards him that we initiated, some time ago, the proceedings which resulted in that pleasing ceremony which afterwards took place.

We have said that the proposed celebration may have its utilitarian side. May we hope that among the assembled counsellors some efforts may be suggested to weld firmly together in one compact organisation the ringers of the entire neighbourhood. The St. Martin's Society is about to enlarge its borders and strengthen its stakes, could they not be persuaded to consider seriously a connection with the Association of that diocese in which the town of Birmingham is the metropolis? There are many societies within this diocese whose proceedings we scarcely hear of; and there are also many excellent peals very rarely heard. Could the St. Martin's Society lead the way to a better state of things? We think they could

if they chose. We hope this hint will be met in a right spirit by them, and that when celebrating the natal day of their old and rightly-valued friend they will be of opinion that a very good plan of immortalising the eightieth anniversary of his birth will be to extend the value of his teachings, his example, his abilities, and his private worth into those parts of the Worcester diocese not so favoured as Birmingham.

The Metropolis.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Thursday, January 24, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 18 cwt.

ARTHUR JACOB Treble.	EDWARD E. RICHARDS .. 5.
JOSEPH BARRY 2.	WILLM. T. COCKERILL .. 6.
THOMAS TITCHENER 3.	FREDK. G. NEWMAN .. 7.
WILLM. L. CHAMBERLAIN 4.	PHILIP GAYMER Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

The above peal was rung on the occasion of the thirty-eighth birthday of Mr T. Titchener, the ringers wishing him many happy returns.

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

On Saturday, January 26, 1889, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 25 cwt.

SAMUEL J. REED Treble.	EDWARD DUFF 5.
JOHN M. HAYES 2.	HENRY S. ELLIS 6.
HENRY R. NEWTON 3.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE .. 7.
AUGUSTUS F. INGERFIELD* 4.	WILLIAM CARTER Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY R. NEWTON.

*First peal.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 26, 1889, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, FULHAM,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5002 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

FREDK. G. NEWMAN Treble.	E. P. DEBENHAM 6.
WILLIAM CECIL 2.	EDWIN HORREX 7.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 3.	GEO. T. McLAUGHLIN .. 8.
RICHARD T. WOODLEY .. 4.	JAMES W. DRIVER 9.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 5.	SAMUEL HOW Tenor.

Composed by JOHN NELMS, and Conducted by
FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

The Provinces.

LYMINGE, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES UPON SIX BELLS;

Being Seven 720s of Bob Minor.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

SIDNEY FINN (aged 17) .. Treble.	G. FINN 4.
C. LAKER 2.	A. TANTON 5.
J. ANDREWS 3.	J. H. CHEESMAN Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN HERBERT CHEESMAN.

The above was rung on the 17th birthday of the conductor.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.—THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 24, 1889, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 20½ cwt.

JOHN BUTTON Treble.	ALBERT LINCOLN 5.
HENRY J. BUTTON 2.	THOMAS E. SHEARING .. 6.
RICHARD W. STANNARD .. 3.	THOMAS G. STAULKEY .. 7.
FREDERICK WILSON 4.	GABRIEL LINDOFF Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN COX, and Conducted by
G. LINDOFF.

This is the first peal in the method by all, and the first peal of Treble Bob by Leiston men.

HAGLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.—WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 24, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 9½ cwt.

FREDERICK WRIGHT Treble.	*CHARLES BOUGHTON 5.
HARRY MORRIS 2.	†WILLIAM SHORT 6.
THOMAS LEES 3.	THOMAS BARBER 7.
JOSEPH SMITH 4.	*WILLIAM BOUGHTON Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. The first four belong to the local band, the others to Client.

STALYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.

On Thursday, January 24, 1889, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

JOHN LAWTON Treble.	SAMUEL HILL 5.
HUGH SHAW 2.	SAMUEL WOOD 6.
JOHN SIDEBOTHAM 3.	JAMES BRADLEY 7.
THOMAS BRADDOCK 4.	MATTHEW PAILTHORP Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

LOUGHTON, ESSEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Thursday, January 24, 1889, in Three Hours and 38 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6016 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt.

A. H. GARDOM Treble.	EDWIN BARNETT 5.
JOHN GOBBETT 2.	BENJAMIN FOSKETT .. 6.
JAMES PRIEST, JUN. .. 3.	HUGH SCARLETT 7.
EDWARD CHAPMAN 4.	*WILLIAM LEBBON Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by A. H. GARDOM.

*First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. This peal, which is now rung for the first time, has the 5th and 6th their extent wrong and right, and was rung on the occasion of the 23rd birthday of Mr. W. Lebbon, the ringers wishing him many happy returns.

BACUP, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(THE ROCHDALE AND ROSSENDALE BRANCHES.)

On Saturday, January 26, 1889, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

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

F. BIRTWISTLE Treble.	JOHN MILLETT 5.
JOHN SWEPPHERD 2.	A. EDWARD WREAKS .. 6.
ABRAHAM WHITE 3.	GEORGE HOYLE 7.
JAS. B. TAYLOR 4.	JOHN CROPPER Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE HOYLE.

*First peal at first attempt.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 26, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13½ cwt.

JOHN AKEHURST* Treble.	ROBERT JORDAN 5.
JOSEPH NEWNHAM* 2.	ALFRED F. HILLIER .. 6.
EDWIN JORDAN 3.	DAVID JORDAN 7.
ALFRED D. MILLS 4.	FREDERICK WICKENS Tenor.

Composed by O. LANG and Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

*First peal of Major. Messrs Newnham and Hillier were elected members of the Winchester Guild before starting for the peal.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 26, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
REEVES' VARIATION. Tenor 18½ cwt.

WILLIAM E. EMERY Treble.	ALFRED TARBUN 5.
REV. T. L. PAPILLON .. 2.	ARTHUR EDWARDS .. 6.
GEORGE C. SCOWEN* .. 3.	WILLIAM LINCOLN .. 7.
FREDERICK RADLEY 4.	WILLIAM J. PIPER Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM LINCOLN.

*First peal. Mr. Scowen hails from Brentwood; Messrs. Tarbun and Piper from Wiford; the rest belong to the local company.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 26, 1889, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lbs.

JOHN SIDEBOTHAM Treble.	JAMES S. WILDE 5.
RALPH PRICHARD 2.	THOMAS WILDE 6.
JAMES SHAW 3.	JOSEPH MALONEY 7.
SAMUEL WOOD 4.	JOHN PYE, JUN. Tenor.

Composed by JAMES S. WILDE, and Conducted by
JOSEPH MALONEY.

The above peal was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect for the twenty-three men and boys who were killed at the Hyde colliery explosion on January 18th, 1889. Messrs. Maloney and Pye hail from Glossop; Wood from Ashton-under-Lyne; Sidebotham from Mottram; the rest belong to the local company.

HUNSDON, HERTS.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 26, 1889, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

EDWARD CAINS* Treble.	STEPHEN KNIGHT 5.
EDMUND HOLIFIELD .. 2.	MATTHEW ELLSMORE .. 6.
JAMES JAUNCEY 3.	HERBERT BAKER 7.
REV. CANON WIGRAM .. 4.	CHARLES LADLEY Tenor.

Conducted by MATTHEW ELLSMORE.

*First peal of Triples. E. Cains and C. Ladley were elected members of the above companies before starting. This is the first peal the conductor has called.

GUISELEY, YORKSHIRE.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 26, 1889, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 10½ cwt.

C. RALPH Treble.	G. BOLLAND 5.
D. E. RHODES 2.	J. YEADON 6.
H. DEMAIN 3.	L. CAWOOD 7.
S. BROWN 4.	J. BADDWIN Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by LISTER CAWOOD.

Messrs. Ralph and Cawood hail from Otley; Bolland from Tong; the rest are of the local company.

FAREHAM, HANTS.—WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 26, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 ANNABLE'S SIX-PART.

D. J. JEFFERY* Treble.	GEORGE BATTS 5.
JOHN STAPLES† 2.	†GEORGE WILLIAMS 6.
GEORGE GRAHAM† 3.	†JOHN W. WHITING 7.
FRED HILL† 4.	*JAMES BATTS Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal. First peal in the method on the bells, also first attempt at the method by all except the conductor. †Cumberland Youths.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, January 28, 1889, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.
 Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

GEORGE MAXIM Treble.	HENRY DUCE 5.
SAMUEL SLATER 2.	†HARRY SMITH 6.
OLIVER GARWOOD 3.	CHARLES SILLITOE 7.
ARTHUR SYMONDS* 4.	JOHN LEE Tenor.

Composed by J. BARKER and Conducted by CHARLES SILLITOE.

*First peal. †First peal in the method. This peal, which is in two parts, has the sixth twenty-two times right and twenty-two times wrong. Messrs. Symonds and Smith hail from Lavenham; Slater and Garwood from Glemsford; Maxim and Lee from Foxearth; Sillitoe from Sudbury; Duce from Melford.

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.
SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, January 28, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
 AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 13½ cwt.

GEORGE MITCHISON Treble.	GEORGE SMITH 5.
WILLIAM CARTE† 2.	*WILLIAM E. SMITH 6.
WILLIAM LONG 3.	WILLIAM COOPER 7.
CHARLES WILLIAMS† 4.	CHARLES FLUCK Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM E. SMITH.

*First peal as conductor, aged 17. †First peal with a bob bell. The ages of the ringers of the first, second, and fourth bells, is 17 and 18 respectively. The above is the quickest peal on the bells.

ROTHERHAM.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, January 28, 1889, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,
 AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5016 CHANGES.
 Tenor 32 cwt.

CHARLES BOWER Treble.	CHAS. HY. HATTERSLEY 6.
WILLIAM DAVIES 2.	JOHN HALE 7.
FRED COATES 3.	TOM LEE 8.
WALTER COATES 4.	ALFRED RODGERS 9.
TOM WHITWORTH 5.	WILLIAM HURST Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

This peal has the 6th in 2nd's place throughout, with the 5th its extent behind the 9th (by the use of bobs only), and the treble never in that position. Mr. William Davies hails from Liverpool.

BRISTOL.—GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 30, 1889, in Three Hours Thirty-Three Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY DE REDCLIFFE,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 TAYLOR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 48 cwt. in B.

C. H. GORDON* Treble.	A. BAWN 5.
G. COLSTON 2.	†F. PRICE 6.
F. W. ELLES 3.	J. HINTON 7.
S. PHILLIPS 4.	W. COLSTON } Tenor.
	J. PALSER }

Conducted by F. PRICE.

*First peal as conductor. †First peal. The above is the first peal of Triples on the bells, which have recently been rebung by Messrs. Taylor.

BROMBOROUGH, CHESHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, January 26, 1889, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.
 Tenor 24 cwt.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD Treble.	HENRY COLEY 5.
WILLIAM JAMES 2.	GEORGE FISHER 6.
WILLIAM BOOTH 3.	WILLIAM DAVIES 7.
JOHN ASPINWALL 4.	THOMAS HAMMOND Tenor.

Composed by JOHN R. PRITCHARD, and Conducted by THOMAS HAMMOND.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells, and the ringers here desire to thank the Rev. E. Dyer Green, rector, for his permission; and Mr. E. Griffiths, steeple-keeper, for having everything in readiness for them.

HAMBLEDON, HANTS.—THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD AND THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, January 27, 1889, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
5040 CHANGES IN FOUR DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

BEING 720 OF OXFORD, TWO 720'S OF KENT TREBLE BOB, TWO 720'S OF OXFORD SINGLE BOB, AND TWO 720'S OF BOB MINOR.

JAMES BATTS* Treble.	CHARLES TRIBE 4.
GEORGE BATTS 2.	WILLIAM SELBY 5.
GEORGE WILLIAMS 3.	*JOHN W. WHITING Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First 5040 on six bells. The above is the first 5040 on the bells. Messrs. G. Batts, Williams, Tribe, and Selby, hail from Midhurst; Whiting from Fareham; J. Batts is of the local company. The above band wish to thank the Rev. Dr. White, through the medium of this paper, for granting permission for a peal, and also for his kindness in entertaining them to tea after the performance.

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MANCHESTER.—On Monday, January 21st, at the Cathedral, a date touch of Grandsire Caters (1889 changes), in 1 hr. and 14 mins. J. Grimshaw, 1; G. E. Turner, 2; J. Gratrix, 3; T. Thorpe, 4; Rev. H. J. Elsee, 5; H. Chapman, 6; J. Rogers, 7; J. Thorpe, 8; J. Eachus (conductor), 9; J. Parkinson, 10. Composed by G. Hayward, of Bromsgrove.

THE UNITED COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

MOSSLEY (Lancashire).—On Thursday, January 24th, a date touch of Treble Bob Major, 1889 changes, in the Kent Variation, in 1 hr. and 10 mins. J. J. Brierley, 1; John Holden (conductor), 2; J. Turner, 3; H. Mayall (first date touch), 4; E. Buckley, 5; M. Bradbury, 6; S. B. Dickens, 7; E. Wood, 8. Composed by A. Sykes, of Huddersfield. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SKIPTON (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, January 27th, for service at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1889 changes, in 1 hr. and 11 mins. F. Anderson, 1; J. Boothman, 2; J. W. Stirk, 3; W. Wellock, 4; W. Mason, 5; H. Horner, 6; W. Billows (conductor), 7; W. D. Hillary, 8. Composed by A. Sykes, of Huddersfield. The above touch appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of January 7th.

BRAMLEY (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, January 26th, the following ringers from Moorside paid a visit to Bramley and rang at St. Peter's church, a date touch of 1889 changes in the following Minor methods: 689 Oxford; 600 Violet; and 600 Woodbine. J. Thackray, 1; J. Cooper (conductor), 2; A. Windsor, 3; T. Haynes, 4; John Thackray, 5; J. Guy 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

BLOXWICH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, January 13th, eight Walsall ringers rang on the Jubilee bells (after evening service), a date touch of Stedman Triples, 1889 changes, in 1 hr. and 7 mins. F. Halls-worth, 1; W. Walker, 2; J. Astbury, sen., 3; D. Chapman, 4; E. Lightwood, 5; J. Lawton, 6; J. Astbury, jun. (conductor), 7; E. Taylor, 8. Composed by A. P. Heywood, Esq.

GARSTON (Lancashire).—On Thursday, January 17th, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. and 7 mins. S. Gough, 1; *T. Ellison, 2; T. Morris, 3; Wm. Weaver, 4; C. Newton, 5; T. Allen, 6; F. Turner (conductor), 7; J. Alexander, 8. *Longest length.

LIVERSEDGE (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, January 27th, for evening service, 1889 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major (with all six place bobs), in 1 hr. and 6½ mins. J. W. Lang, 1; J. Knott, 2; A. Briggs, 3; S. Goodall, 4; H. Brooks, 5; M. Ramsden, 6; L. Illingworth, 7; W. Collins, 8. Composed by A. Sykes, of Huddersfield, and conducted by Sydney Goodall. Tenor 15 cwt.

MOORSIDE, OLDHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday, January 27th, for morning service at St. Thomas' church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1889 changes, in 1 hr. and 7 mins. A. Butterworth, 1; S. Stott, 2; W. Pitman, 3; J. Taylor, 4; W. Hall, 5; W. Sutcliffe, 6; L. Hampson, 7; J. Crossley, 8. Composed by J. Carter of Birmingham, and conducted by S. Stott of Oldham, all the others of the Moorside Company. W. Hall's first attempt of this length. It was rung in commemoration of the 60th birthday of Sally Dyson, our worthy hostess and landlady of the ringers, meeting house, "Bull's Head" Inn, Moorside, Oldham.

MIRFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, January 20th, a date touch (1889 changes), of Kent Treble Bob Royal, in 1 hr. and 13 mins. H. Collinson, 1; T. Crawshaw, 2; W. Holmes, 3; S. Peacock, 4; W. Peacock, 5; W. Barrowclough, 6; R. Ellis, 7; H. Hinchcliffe, 8; B. Robinson, 9; J. Peacock (conductor), 8. Composed by A. Sykes, of Huddersfield. Tenor 30 cwt.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Friday evening, January 18th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of (1889 changes), in 1 hr. and 11 mins, in the following methods, viz.: 449 Plain Bob Minor (composed by C. E. Wilson); 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor; 360 College Single Minor; 360 Oxford Treble Bob Minor; and 360 Grandsire Minor. J. Nightingale, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; W. J. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw, 6. Messrs Short, Rushden, Barton and Bradshaw hail from Bootle; Wilson and Nightingale belong to Walton. Tenor 9 cwt.

WOOLTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, January 26th, a mixed company from Garston and Grassendale visited the parish church, and rung a date touch of Plain Bob Triples, in 1 hr. and 11 mins. S. Gough, 1; J. Turner (longest length in any method), 2; T. Morris, 3; J. Alexander, 4; J. Allen, 5; W. Weaver, 6; F. Turner (conductor), 7; P. Roberts, 8. The above is the first date touch rung on these bells, and the first in the method on the bells. Taken from Hubbard's ten-part. The ringers wish to tender their thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells.

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

FARNHAM (Essex).—On Sunday, January 27th, at St. Mary's church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. C. Prior, 1; G. Prior, 2; W. Prior, 3; W. Dillow (first 720), 4; W. White, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. And 360 of Plain Bob Minor. G. Milting, 1; G. Prior, 2; J. Dillow, 3; W. Prior, 4; H. Prior (conductor), 5; C. Prior, 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

ROMFORD.—On Sunday morning, January 6th, at St. Edward's church, 840 of Grandsire Triples, including the last 700 of Holt's Original. L. Copsey, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; J. Roughton, 3; M. Myhill, 4; B. Keeble, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6; W. Nash, 7; L. James, 8. Also on Sunday, January 20th, the first part of Reeves's Variation (560 changes), with W. Page, 5. *Handbell Ringing.*—On Monday evening, January 21st, a short touch of Grandsire Triples, and a course of Caters, with J. Scowen, 1-2; also two courses of Grandsire Cinques, being the first of Cinques by five of the band. W. Pegrum, 1-2; B. Keeble, 3-4; M. Myhill, 5-6; W. Nash, 7-8; A. J. Perkins, 9-10; L. Copsey, 11-12.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Sunday evening last, January 27th, at the church of St. Werburgh, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins., as a mark of respect to the late vicar, who was a hon. member of the Association. J. Ridgway, 1; W. H. Poyser, 2; A. Taberer, 3; J. Newbold, 4; R. Redgate, 5; L. Lomas, 6; J. Howe (conductor), 7; G. Slack, 8.

THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

WORKSOP (Notts).—On Sunday, January 20th, for Divine Service at the Abbey church, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and 720 of Violet. S. Tomlinson, 1; D. Russon, 2; J. Marshall, 3; W. Hargreaves (con-

ductor), 4; G. Barrowcliff, 5; R. Beestin, 6. Tomlinson, Russon, and Hargreaves hail from Shire Oak. The remainder belong to Worksop.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

HUGHENDEN (Bucks).—On Saturday, January 19th, for practice at the parish church, 1036 of Grandsire Triples. S. Goodchild, 1; F. Biggs, 2; W. Goodchild, 3; R. Biggs, 4; F. L. Free, 5; J. Evans (conductor), 6; H. Stratford, 7; B. Page, 8.

THE NORTH MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

HENDON.—On Wednesday, January 23rd, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob (sixteen bobs and six singles) in 26 mins. W. Russell, 1; F. Pratt, 2; T. Card (conductor), 3; J. Leach (Crickelwood), 4; C. Martin, 5; C. Crampton, 6. Tenor 16½ cwt. Also at Finchley on Sunday, January 27th, a 720 of Plain Bob (fourteen singles and four bobs), in 25 mins. H. Martin, 1; F. Sparks, 2; C. Martin, 3; J. Cornell, 4; C. Crampton, 5; T. Card (conductor), 6. Also several 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles, in which Messrs. Tubbs, Webb, Edmunds and Mulley took part. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, January 15th, for practice at Christ church, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. W. Ormerod, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; W. Smith (conductor), 5; A. White, 6. And on Sunday evening, January 20th, 720 of Oxford Single. W. Ormerod, 1; L. Lord, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6.

BLACKBURN (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, January 20th, at the parish church for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28½ mins. J. Horrocks (conductor), 1; H. Hayes, 2; J. Bentley, 3; J. Davison, 4; J. Smith, 5; W. Pattison, 6.

LISCARD (Cheshire).—On Saturday, January 19th, an attempt for Haley's Variation of Stedman Triples, was abandoned after ringing 1260 changes in 45 mins., owing to a change-course. J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 1; W. G. Mann, 2; T. Hammond, 3; W. James, 4; H. Coley, 5; G. Fisher, 6; W. Davies, 7; J. Aspinwall, 8. Afterwards 480 of Treble Bob Major, conducted by T. Hammond, treble and 2nd men changing places.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BAGSHOT (Surrey).—On Monday evening, January 14th, at St. Anne's church, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). W. Stevens, 1; H. Stapleton, 2; F. Francis, 3; O. Harding, 4; T. Gould, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all the band. Also the first 720 in the method on the bells. And on Thursday evening, January 17th, 120 of Stedman Doubles. H. Stapleton, 1; F. Francis, 2; W. Stevens, 3; O. Harding, 4; T. Gould (conductor), 5; W. Varndell, 6. Also 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, by the same band, with E. Spooner at the tenor, W. Varndell standing out. And on Tuesday, January 22nd, 720 of Grandsire Doubles. H. Stapleton, 1; T. Gould, 2; F. Francis (conductor), 3; O. Harding, 4; E. Spooner, 5; W. Harding, 6. And 360 of Bob Minor. W. Stevens, 1; T. Gould, 2; F. Francis, 3; O. Harding, 4; H. Stapleton, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. And 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles.) W. Stevens, 1; H. Stapleton, 2; F. Francis, 3; O. Harding, 4; T. Gould, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of Grandsire Minor by W. Stevens and O. Harding, who only started to learn ringing on the 25th January, 1888, and can now ring, Grandsire, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Stedman.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRANCEPETH.—On Monday, January 21st, on the occasion of the inauguration of the new peal of eight bells the following touches were brought home: 505 of Grandsire Triples. W. Reed (North Shields), 1; F. Lees (Newcastle), 2; W. Pick (Ripon), 3; E. Wallis (Newcastle, conductor), 4; A. Ingleby (Ripon), 5; C. J. Butterworth (Durham), 6; T. Clark (Ripon), 7; J. Bolton (Darlington), 8. And 292 of Stedman Triples. A. Pratt (Ripon), 1; W. Reed, 2; W. Pick, 3; A. H. Clark (Ripon), 4; A. Ingleby, 5; W. Story (Newcastle), 6; T. Clark (conductor), 7; D. Shipp (Staindrop), 8. And 1088 of Kent Treble Bob. F. Lees, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor; Stockton), 2; E. Wallis, 3; T. W. Waller (Stockton), 4; C. J. Butterworth, 5; J. Cleminson (Bishop Auckland), 6; R. S. Story (Newcastle), 7; W. Newton (Stockton), 8. And 504 of Grandsire Triples. T. Buzzard, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; W. Reed (conductor), 3; W. Charlton, 4; R. Pallister, 5; F. Charlton, 6; E. Pitt, 7; J. Cleminson, 8; all from Bishop Auckland except W. Reed. And 720 of Bob Major. T. Buzzard, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; W. Charlton, 3; J. Pallister, 4; H. C.

Mayne (Bishop Auckland), 5; J. Cleminson, 6; F. Charlton, 7; E. Pitt (conductor), 8. Also by the same company a 336, and 160 of Grandsire Triples.

DURHAM.—On Monday evening, January 21st, at the church of St. Oswald, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. C. Bradford, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; J. E. Avery, 3; W. G. Newton (first 720 in the method), 4; W. Prince, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6. And on Monday, January 14th, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. W. Liddle, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; W. G. Newton, 3; T. Wheatley (first in the method with a bob bell), 4; W. Prince, 5; J. E. Avery (conductor), 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MIDHURST.—On Thursday, January 17th, for practice, 720 of Oxford Single Bob. T. Ellis, 1; W. H. George, 2; G. Williams (conductor), 3; C. Tribe, 4; W. Selby, 5; G. Batts, 6. First 720 in the method by all except conductor.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

LONDON.—On Monday, January 21st, at the church of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes), in 1 hr. and 30 mins. W. H. Manning (Pinner), 1; W. W. Thorne, 2; A. Hayward, 3; W. H. George, 4; W. T. Cockerill, 5; W. Weatherstone, 6; R. French (conductor), 7; J. George, 8. Tenor 18 cwt. Mr. James George of Coventry, was elected a member previous to the starting. The above was rung in honour of the 21st birthday of Edith Caroline Cassin, third daughter of the Rev. Burman Cassin, M.A., rector of the above church. Also at the church of St. Stephen, Westminster, on Sunday, January 20th, for Divine Service in the evening, the following attempted a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 700 changes. H. Pryor, 1; J. Willshire, 2; S. J. Reed, 3; F. Inglefield, 4; W. Carter, 5; W. H. George, 6; H. S. Ellis (conductor), 7; J. George, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

BRISTOL.—On Monday evening, January 21st, at St. Peter's church for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). G. Staden, 1; E. Duckham, 2; W. Trevett, 3; W. Parsons, 4; J. Hinton, 5; F. Price (conductor), 6; J. Gould (first quarter-peal), 7; J. Falser, 8.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Wednesday, January 16th, at the parish church, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 26½ mins, with 7-8 covering. J. Ballard, 1; W. Bullpit, 2; T. Curtis, 3; G. Gasson, 4; J. R. Higgins, 5; H. White (conductor), 6; S. Wheeler, 7; W. Hatten, 8. And 360 (eighteen bobs and twelve singles.) H. W. Powell, 1; G. Gasson, 2; W. Bullpit, 3; T. Curtis, 4; J. R. Higgins, 5; H. White, 6; T. Wheeler, 7; W. Woods, 8. And two Plain Courses of Grandsire Triples. W. Hatten, 1; J. Ballard, 2; W. Bullpit, 3; T. Curtis, 4; G. Gasson, 5; J. R. Higgins, 6; H. White, 7; T. Wheeler, 8.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—On Sunday, January 20th, at St. Mary's church, 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles.) T. Townson (conductor), 1; T. Watson, 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. First 720 as conductor.

DUDLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday evening, January 22nd, at St. Thomas's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Fellows, 1; J. Henton, 2; J. Mills, 3; J. Fellows, sen, 4; W. Micklewright, 5; J. Fellows, jun, 6; S. Spittle (conductor), 7; J. Bayliss, 8. J. Henton hails from Coventry, and a member of the Bath and Keynsham United Deaneries Association.

GRASSENDALE (Lancashire).—On Sunday, January 27th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church in the evening, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Turner, 1; C. Newton, 2; J. Alexander, 3; W. Weaver, 4; T. Morris, 5; *J. Allen (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method as conductor.

HOGHTON.—On Saturday, January 26th, 720 of Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 28½ mins. J. Horrocks (conductor), 1; J. T. Dodd, 2; J. Bentley, 3; W. Hoghton, 4; W. Pattison, 5; T. Horrocks, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

PRESTWICH (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, January 22nd, at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor in 27½ mins. J. Hardman, 1; R. Fitton, 2; W. Warburton, 3; J. Brooks, 4; H. Percival, 5; J. Heywood, 6. Tenor 15½ cwt. The above was rung on the occasion of the birthday of R. Fitton, the ringers wishing him many happy returns. Warburton hails from Whitefield, the rest belong to the local company.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Saturday, January 26th, a 5120 of Kent Treble Bob Major was attempted, but it was unfortunately lost after ringing 4160 changes, in 2 hrs. and 35 mins. A. W. Barkus, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; A. P. Goddard, 6; H. D. Adams, 7; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 8. And on Wednesday, January 23rd, at St. Martin's church, 1536 of

Kent Treble Bob Major. A. W. Barkus, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; H. D. Adams, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; A. P. Goddard, 6; J. R. Jerram, 7; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 8.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Thursday, January 17th, for practice at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). T. J. Watts, 1; I. Hammond, 2; I. Cavill, 3; W. Watts, 4; G. Gray, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. And a plain course each of the following methods: Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob, College Single, and Plain Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; W. Watts, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill, 6. And on Thursday, January 24th, 720 of Plain Bob Minor. T. J. Watts, 1; *W. Watts (conductor), 2; I. Hammond, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; I. Cavill, 6. And on Sunday, January 27th, for afternoon service, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; I. Cavill, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Hammond, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. *First 720 as conductor. Tenor 13 cwt.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday, January 20th, at the parish church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins. J. T. Adams (first quarter peal), 1; E. F. Strange, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; J. Waghorn, 4; H. A. Barnett (conductor), 5; J. Barber (first quarter-peal), 6; G. B. Lucas, 7; W. Martin (first quarter-peal), 8. Mr. Barber is from Clent, Worcestershire, and Mr. Martin was formerly of Erith, Kent. Also on Sunday, January 27th, for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. J. Waghorn, jun (conductor), 1; R. Elliott, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; G. B. Lucas, 4; W. P. English, 5; J. Barber, 6; J. Waghorn, 7; W. Martin, 8.

WORCESTER.—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday, January 26th, at St. Helen's Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 18 mins. H. B. Kingsford (first 720 on handbells), 1-2; S. Cotton (conductor), 3-4; W. Powell, 5-6. Also a 120 of Stedman Doubles. S. Cotton, 1-2; W. Powell, 3-4; H. B. Kingsford, 5-6. And a 300 of Plain Bob Minor. H. B. Kingsford, 1-2; W. Powell, 3-4; S. Cotton (conductor), 5-6.

WOLLASTON (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, January 15th, for practice at St. James' church, 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. W. Stinton, 1; J. H. Parsons, 2; W. Fryer, 3; Hy. Hartshorne, 4; J. Lewis, 5; H. Dakin (conductor), 6. Hy. Hartshorne hails from Brierley Hill, the others are local men.

WRAYSBURY (Bucks).—On Tuesday evening, January 22nd, for practice, the local company succeeded in ringing their first 720 of Grandsire Minor unaided, in 29 mins. E. Whatmore, 1; R. Shanks, 2; H. Shanks, 3; J. Mills, 4; R. Parker, 5; G. Whatmore, 6. Also another 720 their Vicar the Rev. J. H. Hindson, ringing the 5th, the rest standing as before. And on Sunday evening, January 29th, for Divine Service, another 720 in the same method in 28 mins., with J. J. Parker, of Farnham Royal, ringing the 4th, and the rest as before. The whole conducted by E. Whatmore, to whom some credit is due he being the youngest in the band. Tenor about 12 cwt.

WARWICK.—Handbell Ringing.—On Thursday, January 17th, a 216 of Bob Minor. B. Jealous, 1-2; J. Hardy, 3-4-5-6. Also some plain courses of Grandsire Triples. G. K. Walker, 1-2; B. Jealous, 3-4; J. Hardy, 5-6; W. J. Gee, 7-8. Also some 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles by the last three.

WREXHAM (North Wales).—On Monday, January 21st, 2520 of Stedman Triples, in 1 hr. and forty mins (Brook's Variation). R. Jones, 1; R. W. Evans, 2; J. Williams, 3; A. Lee, 4; J. Ellis, 5; T. Newall, 6; E. Rowland, 7; J. Kendrick, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. Longest length in the method by all the band.

THE STOCKTON-ON-TEES SOCIETY.

During the year 1888 61 peals of Minor have been rung on the bells of Stockton parish church, comprising: 15 of Kent Treble Bob; 12 of York Surprise; 7 of Oxford Treble Bob; 6 each of Durham, Worcester and London Surprise; 4 of Chichester Surprise; 2 each of Wells Surprise and Woodbine Treble Bob; and 1 of Grandsire Minor. The above list includes 3 peals rung on the occasion of the visit to Stockton of the association on Whitmonday, two of which were conducted by F. Harrison of Jarrow, and one by J. H. Whitfield, of Darlington; of the rest 2 were conducted by T. Burdon; 25 by G. J. Clarkson; and 31 by T. Stephenson. The members of the Stockton Society have noted with satisfaction that the strictures of "Free Lance" have not deterred other six bell companies from turning their attention to 5040s of Surprise Variations, and may fairly claim the credit of having been the first to draw attention to these intricate and musical methods after a lapse of nearly a century.

HANDBELLS WANTED.—The Vicar of Leafeld, Witney, wishes for eight handbells for the bell-ringers.—second-hand.

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."

CELEBRATION OF MR. HENRY JOHNSON'S 80th BIRTHDAY.

SIR,—Thursday, February 28th, is the 80th birthday of Mr. Henry Johnson. There are doubtless many who like myself would be loth to let the occasion pass without special notice. The great esteem in which this celebrated ringer is so widely held, not only on account of his remarkable talent but also for his unvarying courtesy to all, led, three years ago, to the establishment by the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, of an annual dinner in his honour. It seems to me, however, that Mr. Johnson's attainment of the age of 80 should receive a recognition of a more national character, and for this reason I, as president of the Midland Counties' Change-Ringers' Association, of which he is an honoured member, desire to ask my brother presidents of other Associations to join with me in forming a gathering at Birmingham representative of the chief ringing Societies throughout the country. With this object I purpose to give, on the date in question, a dinner to which I wish to invite the chief ringing officer of each County or Diocesan Association, or, where this gentleman may be precluded from accepting, such delegate as he may appoint. I should gladly write personally to the president of every society, but unfortunately I have no means of promptly obtaining the addresses. Will you, Sir, therefore allow me to send my invitation through your columns and to request an answer directed to the subjoined address. The outline of the programme which has been adopted is appended, this having been drawn up in consultation with friends from Birmingham and other parts. It is so seldom that an opportunity occurs of bringing together for a common object ringers from all directions, and the social intercourse of such meetings is so agreeable as well as so beneficial, that I trust a widespread endeavour will be made to make Mr. Johnson's 80th birthday the occasion of the most truly national gathering of ringers that has yet been assembled.

A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

Duffield Bank, near Derby, January 20th, 1889.

Johnson Celebration.

A full programme will in due course be published, in the meantime the following will give a general idea of what is proposed.

Thursday, February 28th, touch-ringing in the afternoon—Dinner at 5 o'clock, followed by speeches, after which arrangements will be made for peals at various towers on the following day.

Friday, February 29th, a number of towers will be open for peal or touch ringing in Birmingham and the neighbourhood. A social gathering will be held in the evening, preceded at 7 o'clock by a meat tea at 1/6 a head, after which arrangements will be made for any peals that may be desired on the following day.

The invited representatives of the various Associations will be presented with a ticket for the dinner on intimating to Mr. Heywood, (at his home address) their intention to be present.

Other ringers wishing to join the party are requested to apply for tickets (price 2/6 including wine) to W. H. Godden, Hon. Sec., St. Martin's Guild of Change-Ringers, Finch Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, to whom also any inquiries may be addressed.

All applications for dinner tickets (except from the invited guests) must be accompanied by a remittance and must be made between February 11th and February 23rd.

A REQUEST.

SIR,—Allow me through your columns to ask Mr. J. Wright, of Kingston-on-Thames, to kindly publish his date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1889 changes, for the benefit of

A YOUNG CONDUCTOR.

THE WELLS STREET PEAL.

SIR,—The reason for not answering your correspondents *re* the above peal, none of them had courage to attach their names. I think anyone asking questions through print ought to shew that respect. Referring to the advice "W. S." has given the Cumberland Society to enquire into the matter before entering in peal book, I beg to inform "W. S." that I can answer the enquiry with truth and satisfaction. Many thanks to "W. S." or "S. W." (this must be a change-course) for his kind advice. He seems to speak very feelingly, and must have had some experience of being held up to doubt and ridicule.

Hornsey.

A. JACOB.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

SIR,—I am reminded by several brother-ringers that I made at least three rather important omissions in the paper read by me at the meeting of the Birmingham St. Martin's Guild, held on January 8th, and published in your current number of "THE BELL NEWS." I very

much regret that I made them, and ask for a little space in your next issue to correct the same. They are as follows:—March 8th, 1859, a mixed band of the St. Philip's and St. Martin's Societies, Birmingham, rang at Aston, 10047 of Stedman Caters, in 6 hrs. and 16 mins. This peal held the first position in Stedman Caters for about twenty-five years, and was the crowning effort of the late Mr. W. Chatell, who did so much for the revival of the art in Birmingham forty-five years ago, and was conducted by one of his pupils viz.: Mr. J. Perks. In February, 1856, members of the St. Martin's Society rang at Aston, 5037 Stedman Major, and in October, 1876, 5184 Stedman Royal, these two latter peals conducted by Mr. H. Johnson, sen. and all composed by him; the only peals of Major and Royal ever rung in the method.

J. DAY.

A DISCLAIMER.

I beg to state that the 5075 of Grandsire Caters rung at Beddington on January 19th, was rung for the first time at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, on March 6th, 1880.

H. C. HALEY.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Brighton Branch at St. Peter's.—On Sunday, January 27th, a 504 of Stedman Triples. G. F. Attree (conductor), 1; J. Reilly, 2; E. C. Merritt, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; J. Jay, 5; H. Weston, 6; G. A. King, 7; H. Tugwell, 8. Also 504 of Grandsire Triples. D. Ross, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; A. A. Fuller, 3; G. A. King, 4; G. Thwaites (conductor), 5; E. C. Merritt, 6; J. Jay, 7; W. F. Vernon, 8. And at St. Nicholas church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Bleach, 1; J. Searle (conductor), 2; C. Painter, 3; A. Arnold, 4; J. Fox, 5; J. Boniface, 6; J. Reilly, 7; W. Davey, 8. C. Painter hails from Ringmer, and A. Arnold from Croydon.

By the Balcombe Branch at Balcombe.—On Thursday, January 17th, 720 of Duke of York. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Streeter, 2; H. Meads, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, January 24th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Bourn, 2; E. Streeter, sen., 3; R. Streeter, 4; T. Streeter, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Violet Treble Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Bourn, 2; E. Streeter, sen., 3; R. Streeter, 4; G. Streeter, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, January 27th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Streeter, 2; J. Gasson, 3; T. Streeter, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Cheeseman (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Violet Treble Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Streeter, 2; J. Gasson, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. And 360 of Plain Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Bourn, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; R. Streeter, 4; G. Streeter, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6.

By the Crawley Branch at Crawley.—On Monday, January 14th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Wickens, 1; J. Newnham, 2; J. Reilly, 3; F. Rice, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor. G. Wickens, 1; J. Reilly, 2; J. Newnham, 3; W. Collinson, 4; F. Rice, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method and hails from Brighton. Also on Saturday, January 26th, a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 2 hrs. and 3 mins. (For particulars see peal columns).

By the Chailey Branch at Chailey.—On Saturday, January 26th, a 720 of Plain Bob (nine bobs and six singles), in 26 mins. J. Reynolds, 1; J. Langridge, 2; A. Gorrings, 3; H. Cornwall, 4; W. Turner, 5; W. Pelling (conductor), 6.

By the Eastbourne Branch at Eastbourne.—On Sunday evening, January 27th, 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. W. Ticehurst, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; E. Baber, 3; J. Davey, 4; F. Fisher, 5; E. Willoughby, 6; F. Hounsell (conductor), 7; J. Parks, 8.

By the Steyning Branch at Steyning.—On Sunday, January 6th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Smart, 1; S. Searle, 2; G. Gatland, 3; J. Woolgar, 4; F. Morris, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Matthews, 1; F. Morris, 2; S. Searle, 3; C. Chambers, 4; G. Gatland, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, January 8th, 720 of Plain Bob. G. Gatland, 1; C. Chambers, 2; J. Smart, 3; J. Matthews, 4; S. Searle, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, January 10th, 720 of Woodbine. J. Smart, 1; S. Searle, 2; G. Gatland, 3; C. Chambers, 4; G. Smart, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, January 20th, 720 of Woodbine. J. Matthews, 1; S. Searle, 2; J. Woolgar, 3; C. Chambers, 4; F. Morris, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Smart, 1; F. Morris, 2; S. Searle, 3; C. Chambers, 4; G. Gatland, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, January 8th, 720 of Plain Bob. J. Smart, 1; F. Brooks, 2; C. Chambers, 3; J. Matthews, 4; S. Searle, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Woodbine. J. Smart, 1; S. Searle, 2; G. Smart, 3; C. Chambers, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; G. Gatland (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, January 10th, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. F. Brooks, 1; C. Chambers, 2; J. Smart, 3; G. Gatland, 4; S. Searle, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Steadily marching on."

You spoke correctly, Mr. Editor, when you observed that last Saturday's number contained "a varied amount of most interesting intelligence." From first page to last there is scarcely a break in it, and most certainly there is much food for thought in their contents.

The principal item is, of course, the outcome of Mr. Attree's yearly labour of love, in the shape of his analysis for the past twelve months' peal ringing. I would not run the risk of giving offence to that gentleman by attempting to pass any compliments on the valuable page which he gives us. He will, I doubt not, comprehend to some extent the estimation in which we hold his work in this matter, and which has now become a recognised and thoroughly-appreciated "institution" among us. We can, at any rate, without fear of laying ourselves open to the charge of fulsome flattery, heartily thank him once more for his statistics.

It would be superfluous for me to enter into any lengthy examination of the details of this analysis; I imagine it will have been very carefully "conned" in many places ere this. But I would just refer to two or three points which it reveals. The first thing one notices is the relative positions of the various Associations as compared with the two previous years. It will thus be seen that while last year the Sussex men held the premier position, they have this time taken second place, beating the Midland Counties' by six in the last month of the year. The Essex men have also "pulled up" well, rising from the 19th in 1886 to the 10th in 1887, and still further up to the 5th of last year. The Yorkshire Association, which two years ago stood 5th, and last year 3rd, has now dropped to the 8th on the list. The St. James' Society, which for two years past has held 7th place, has this time dropped into the 18th. With these exceptions, the totals appear pretty near similar to previous ones, or rather, I should say, there is no notable difference in them; and it therefore appears that if there has been no "flush" in the work of peal-ringing, at the least, it is a decided advance. The gross totals for the past eight years form also a very satisfactory portion of this return. They shew a steady and unbroken increase year by year, from 156 in 1881 to 759 in 1888, the greatest increase upon the previous return appearing last year. Not to speak of the "long lengths" and record-beating which 1888 furnishes us, the simple fact of the increase shewn is very pleasing.

"With these few remarks" (to quote an oft-repeated phrase) I will leave the consideration of this analysis, and don't think I need commend it to the careful consideration of the Exercise, as doubtless it will have received that already.

Pressure of time, and the fear of encroaching too much on the space at our Editor's disposal, prevented me last week from referring to "Tenor Ringer's" letter of the previous Saturday. I would only say that I quite agree with his remarks. When I come across a band in my travels, my first enquiry is "Do you get 'THE BELL NEWS'?" I am hardly ever answered in the negative; but when I ask how many copies they subscribe for, the replies are, of course, very varied. From personal observation I find "Tenor Ringer's" remarks quite correct, that the greater the amount of support given to our paper, the more flourishing are ringing matters. In fact, I have begun to take

that as a sort of barometer, which has never deceived me yet: and I am pleased to know that my ideas on the subject are so amply corroborated by your correspondent.

By the way, "A Free Lancette," writing on this subject, seems to have a lurking desire to alter the name of our paper. But if he thinks the title is not distinct enough why does he not suggest a better? Of course we might find many other names equally—or perhaps even more—appropriate. I don't say that had I been entrusted with the duty of finding a name for our paper at its commencement, I should have decided upon its present title. Perhaps "Free Lancette" will favour us with a further expression of his ideas and suggestions on the subject.

Mr. Jennings, in referring to my remarks arent the proposed Cumberland Association, has committed a rather serious oversight: he has neglected to furnish us with his postal address. If he will supply that, I do not doubt that he will be furnished direct with all information from those able to give it. He and the St. Stephen's band may rely upon our heartiest sympathies and help.

Two "Ancient" Societies have been celebrating their anniversaries this month. I don't know exactly how far back in remote antiquity it was that the Croydon Society was established, but the Redenhall band has certainly proved its title by its 153rd celebration. Both events appear to have passed off in a very enjoyable manner. That is one good thing, for whatever occurs in the meantime, our anniversaries should be occasions of unalloyed pleasure, accompanied with renewed expressions of goodwill one towards another.

It was a happy thought on the part of the President of the Yorkshire Association to entertain his Vicar (the Bishop-designate of Chester) along with the ringers of his parish church, to dinner together. It is most earnestly to be hoped that Dr. Jayne will carry with him to his new diocese pleasant recollections of this gathering, and that when he has got settled down to his work, the Chester Diocesan Guild will find in him a powerful help, as well as a warm-hearted, energetic spiritual father. We shall all be glad to see during Dr. Jayne's episcopate the Chester Guild growing stronger, healthier, and as an increasing power both from a scientific point of view and an organisation for the good of the Church to which it belongs.

Our Birmingham friends seem fairly on the way of amalgamation. Although they are doing now what I think they ought to have done years ago, yet, somewhat tardy, their efforts in this direction are no less praiseworthy. Unfortunately my personal acquaintance with Birmingham ringing affairs is much too limited, but I certainly do think they might accomplish much more even yet in that desirable direction of unity. They appear to have plenty of scope in this, seeing the many different societies and organisations which exist amongst them. Anyhow, I hope this fusion of the St. Martin's Guild and the Holt Society is but the forerunner of further schemes for united action, so that in the near future, as this embryo city is well named the capital of the Midlands, it may be in reality the headquarters of the Exercise in that important part of the country.

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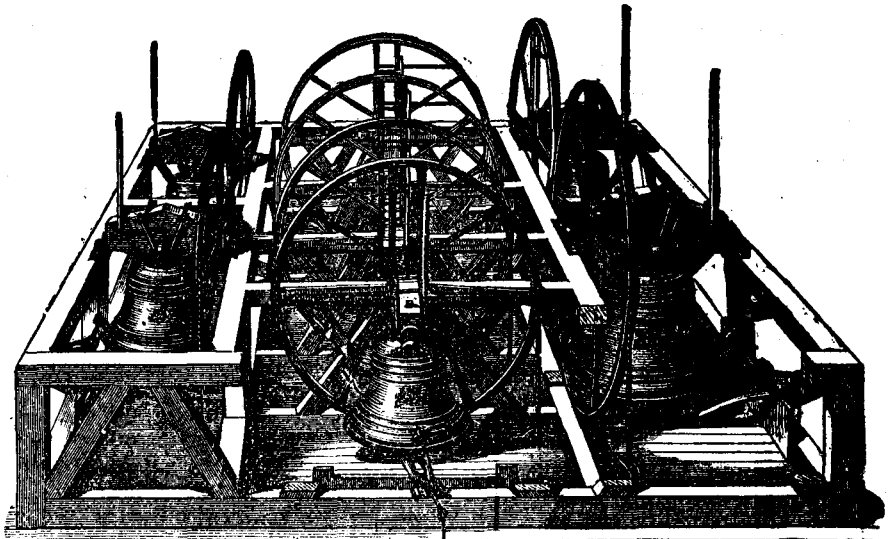
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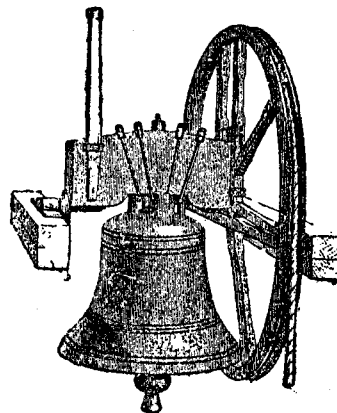
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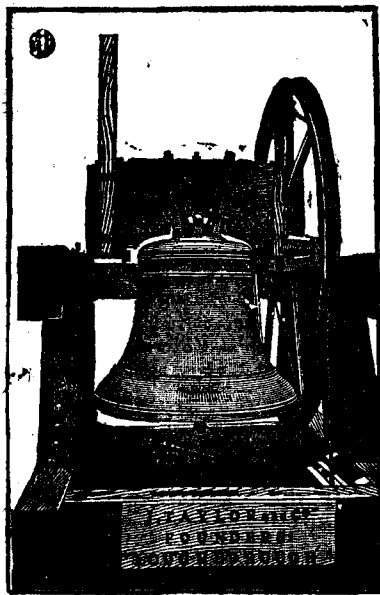
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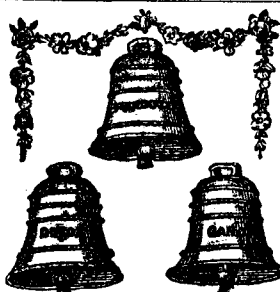
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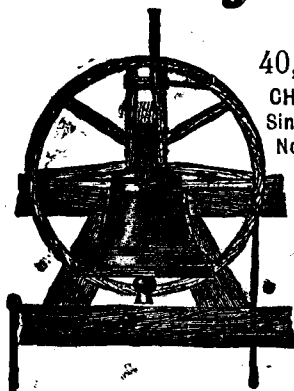
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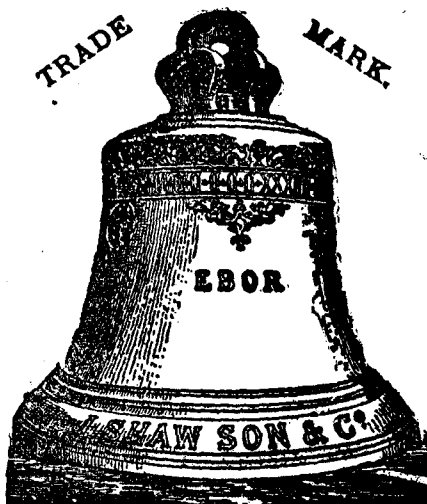
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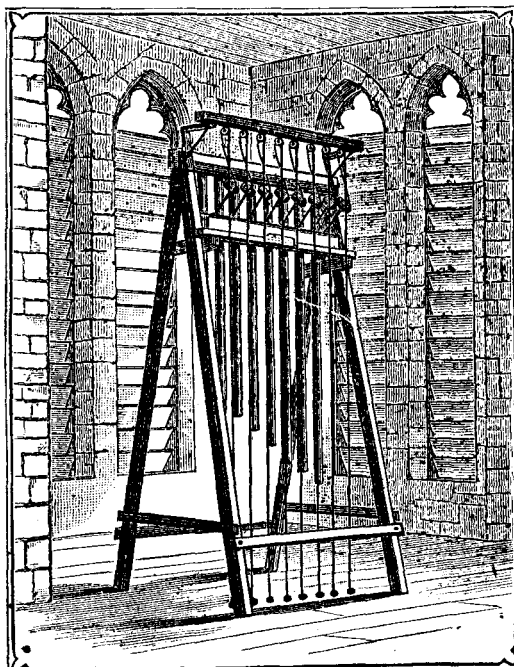
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THE PEAL OF MAXIMUS AT NORWICH IN 1817,
WAS IT DOUBLE NORWICH OR NOT?

By A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

III.

Having shewn, I hope conclusively, that there is positively no evidence whatever that any Court methods have received attention on eight bells except London and Norwich in their double forms, I will now pass on to the consideration of the statement that of "Court" methods on ten bells Norwich Court in its double form is the only one known to have been practised.

In the *Clavis* (pp. 222, 223) will be found a lead and description of a method there termed "Court Bob Ten In," which on inspection is recognisable as the Double Norwich Royal of today. The author takes up some space in attempting to prove that, when extended to ten bells, the methods of London and Norwich (double) Court Bob merge into one, and he consequently entitles the method simply "Court Bob." The argument is entirely fallacious, but it all events goes to prove that only one "Court" Method on ten bells was known. On p. 225 we find that "the first and only peal rung hitherto in the above method was by the St. Peter's Company, in the City of Norwich, on the old peal of ten bells, which formerly occupied that steeple." Snowden (p. 46) gives it as his opinion that there is no reason to suppose this peal was not actually rung, because in the "Osborne Manuscript" (British Museum) it is stated that the Double Norwich Royal method was invented by Thomas Porter, a trunk maker, residing in the Market Place, Norwich, and that the first performance was a peal of Ten In, rung in Norwich in 1769. The evidence of the *Clavis* is ample to shew that the peal in question was one of Double Norwich Court Bob Royal.

Shipway (part 3, pp. 198, 199) after mentioning that of Court methods on ten bells Double Norwich was the only one that had ever been rung, states in reference to two peals of it that were achieved in London in 1801, in the second of which he himself took part, that they were the first in the method. He was thus evidently unacquainted with the Norwich peal of 1769. This however may be accounted for by the fact that the performance was one of which no definite record had been preserved. I have lately heard that some information with regard to this peal has been discovered. Be that however as it may, it hardly affects the present argument, as all that I am concerned to shew is that the "Court Ten In" which was practised at Norwich was Double Norwich. Snowden (p. 47) mentions that Hubbard told him that he had heard old ringers say that Chesnutt (who called the peal of Maximus) was able when a schoolboy to ring St. Peter's tenth to Court Ten In, and that between 1817 and 1821 the company used to practise this method on Sunday mornings during the summer season. Seeing that there is no doubt that Double Norwich Royal was practised at Norwich about 1770 under the title of "Court Ten In" there is little doubt that the "Court Ten In" of 1820 was the same method. Doubtless the full title at that time was "Norwich Court Bob Ten In," and "Norwich" was omitted in common parlance, not necessarily for the reasons stated in the *Clavis*, but for brevity, just as nowadays we drop the "Court" and speak simply of "Double Norwich."

Further corroboration of "Court Ten In" being Norwich in its double form may be found in the same fact as that noticed in regard to Double Norwich Major, namely that Hubbard (p. 34) gives as Single Norwich Royal an entirely different method to the one arranged by Shipway, this single method being, strictly speaking, no method at all.

Enough has now been advanced to prove the accuracy of the third statement that Double Norwich is the only Court method known to have been practised on ten bells. I proceed, therefore, to the final statement that if no single Court methods have been practised on eight or ten bells, nor Double London Court on eight bells at Norwich or on ten anywhere, it is impossible (seeing that it is stated on the peal tablet that the method on twelve "very much resembles" the method on ten) to resist the conclusion that the method rung on twelve at Norwich was Double Norwich Court.

The *Clavis* throws no light on Maximus Court methods

beyond the remark (p. 254) that Court Bob is not a method adapted for twelve bells. Shipway, though unaware of any Court method being practised on twelve bells (part iii., page 198) gives (part i. p. 72) a lead of Double Norwich Maximus. He inserts peals of Maximus (of his own composition) in the various Court methods, but except in regard to Double Norwich, leaves his readers to evolve for themselves the methods on twelve bells from those on ten. Hubbard, however, gives four twelve bell Court methods in full, the consideration of which I will defer to the next paper.

(To be continued.)

ALL SAINTS' COMPANY, MAIDSTONE.

On Monday evening, January 21st, the members and friends of this company dined together at "The Globe" inn, when host Potter catered in excellent style. The chair was taken (in the absence of the Vicar through indisposition) by the Rev. Dr. Spear (senior curate), the vice-chair by the conductor, Mr. A. Moorcraft. The cloth being removed,

The Chairman gave the toast of "The Queen and Royal Family," accompanied by appropriate remarks. This was received with enthusiasm, and

The Vice-Chairman gave "The Archbishop and Clergy of the Diocese," which was duly responded to by the rev. Chairman, who afterwards proposed "Success to the All Saints' company." He was pleased to be with them that evening, and he was sure the Vicar would also have been had his health permitted. He was aware that the company's practices had been much interfered with during the past two years on account of illness near the church in the first place, and now on account of a cracked fifth bell, which however he hoped would soon be replaced by a new one.

Mr. G. Pawley responded. He thanked the rev. gentleman for his kindness in taking the chair that evening, and hoped he would do all in his power to get the new tenor bell.

Other toasts were drunk, and some excellent selections of music were given by a few military friends, handbell performances, and vocal harmony. Altogether a most pleasant evening passed too quickly.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Gainsborough on Saturday, the 26th ult., the Rev. Canon Williams, Vicar of Gainsborough, presiding. There were present: Sir Charles Anderson, Bart., Rev. C. E. Cockin, and other honorary members, also ringing members from Lincoln, Grimsby, Stow, and Retford.

The Chairman expressed his regret at being about to leave Gainsborough, and wished the Association every success in the future. He also availed himself of that opportunity to thank F. F. Linley, Esq. (who is Vice-President for the Gainsborough centre of the Association) for the very active part he has taken in the belfry of the parish church.

Sir Charles Anderson, Bart. expressed his satisfaction at the good work done by the Association, and gave some very interesting particulars of the bells of this district and other famous peals.

On the motion of the Rev. C. E. Cockin, a vote of sympathy with the Lord Bishop of the diocese in his present trials was unanimously accorded. Five honorary and eleven ringing members were elected.

After the meeting several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the bells of the parish church by mixed bands.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

A large clock has just been erected upon Farley Hall stables, by Messrs. John Smith and Sons, of the Midland Steam Clock Works, Derby. It strikes the hours and half-hours, and has two dials. The same firm are making a large Cambridge clock for Matlock, one for Bradwell, near Buxton, one for Byrkley, and others.

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

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—DISTRICT MEETING AT SEAFORD.

The first of a series of District Meetings fixed for the present year was held at the old Cinque Port town of Seaford on Saturday, January 26th, and was attended by representatives from branches at Alfriston, Angmering, Arundel, Brighton, Cuckfield, Crawley, Ringmer and Seaford. The programme comprised the usual arrangements such as luncheon, business meeting, special service with address to the ringers, tea and change-ringing between the hours of 11 o'clock and 7.30, excepting when the members were otherwise engaged. The vicar of Seaford (the Rev. H. Meed Buck), kindly acted as president for the day, and he was supported at the luncheon, business meeting and tea by the Revs. J. Puttick, vicar of Alfriston; R. F. Tompkins, vicar of Tortington; C. D. P. Davies, of Ringmer. — Robinson, of Seaford; and between twenty and thirty members. The usual formal business being passed, the following fresh active members were duly elected:—A new branch connected with the parish church of Eastbourne, seven members; five additional to the Steyning branch; four to Hénfield: four to Warnham; one to Arundel; one to Angmering; one to Alfriston; two to Seaford; and four active independent members, making a total addition of twenty-nine. Eastbourne was then selected as the town at which the next eight bell-tower meeting for East Sussex should be held, and it was decided that that six bell tower meeting at Chailey (East Sussex), should take place on Easter Monday. It was next proposed that the Hon. Secretary should write to two or three gentlemen well-known to the Exercise, asking them to kindly formulate a scale by which peals rung by branches in different methods should be scored in the yearly competition for the Sussex County Challenge bell. A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman for kindly presiding and delivering his address, and a vote of thanks to Mr. T. Hervy Beams, the local Secretary, for kindly arranging the details, brought the meeting to a close. The following touches were brought round:—a 518 of Grandsire Triples. C. Hills, 1; G. F. Attree (conductor), 2; H. Rann, 3; E. Dewey, 4; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 5; H. Boniface, 6; A. A. Fuller, 7; E. Butler, 8. Also 504 of Stedman Triples. J. Searle, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; G. A. King, 3; G. Merritt, 4; H. Jones (first 504 in the method), 5; G. F. Attree, 6; Rev. C. D. P. Davies (conductor), 7; T. Miller, 8. And a 720 of Bob Minor. Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; J. Searle, 3; G. A. King, 4; J. Jay, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6; C. Golds and T. H. Beams, covering. Also a 518 of Grandsire Triples. C. Hills, 1; C. Golds, 2; F. Hounsell, 3; J. Jay (conductor), 4; E. Dewey, 5; G. A. King, 6; J. Searle, 7; G. F. Attree, 8. And 504 of Stedman Triples. G. F. Attree, 1; G. A. King, 2; A. A. Fuller, 3; C. Painter (first 504 in the method), 4; Rev. C. D. P. Davies (conductor), 5; J. Jay, 6; J. Searle, 7; C. E. Golds, 8.

The following are the forthcoming meetings as fixed for the first half of the present year:—February 23rd—Angmering, West Sussex, six-bell tower; April 22nd—Chailey, East Sussex, six-bell tower; May (date not fixed); Bolney, West Sussex, eight-bell tower; June 10th, Brighton (Annual General Meeting), central, eight-bell tower, date not yet fixed; Eastbourne, East Sussex, eight-bell tower.

GEO. F. ATTREE, } Hon. Sec.
JAS. E. WORSSELL, } Ass. Hon. Sec.

ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, FULHAM.

The annual general meeting of the above will take place on this day, Saturday, February 9th, 1889. Tower open at 3 p.m. Special Service at 5.30 p.m. Address by Rev. F. H. Fisher, President of the Society. Tea at Church Room 6.30 p.m. Business and Social gathering afterwards. Tickets 9d. each. All ringers welcome.

C. E. KELLEY, Hon. Sec.
104, High Street, Fulham.

NOTICE OF PEAL.—By the kind permission of the Vicar and Churchwardens of Rowley Regis, eight members of the Birmingham Amalgamated Society will make an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Major, containing 10,176 changes, on Monday, February 25th. The same peal was rung in 1883, on hand-bells retained in hand by four members of the above society.

HAMBLEDON, HAMPSHIRE.

By the kind invitation of the rector, the Rev. Dr. White, the Midhurst branch of the Sussex County Association visited the above place on Sunday, January 27th. They left Midhurst by the 7.15 train for Petersfield, and there chartered a wagonette and had a beautiful drive of ten miles through some of the most lovely scenery in Hampshire, arriving at Hambledon about 9.30, the sun shining brightly all day, which was greatly appreciated after so much dark and dull weather. Being met here by Mr. J. Whiting, of Fareham, and the local ringers, they proceeded to the church, and having raised the bells, rang a 120 of Bob Doubles, 120 of Grandsire Doubles, and touches of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob for Morning Service, some of the local ringers standing in.

Having partaken of an excellent dinner kindly provided for them by Mr. J. Batts, one of the local men, they again proceeded to the church, and at half-past one started for a peal of 5040 in four different methods, which as seen in last week's peal column, was successfully brought round at six minutes past four. On leaving the tower the rector met them, and having heartily congratulated them on their success, kindly invited them to the rectory to tea, the rector's wife herself kindly doing the honours of the tea table. After thanking the rector and his wife for their kindness in inviting them and providing tea, and also Mr. J. Batts for his kindness, they left for Midhurst at half-past five, which place they safely reached at half-past eight, all having spent a most enjoyable day. This is the first 5040 ever rung on these bells, which are a good peal of six, and were rehung by Mears and Stainbank about two years ago.

Hambledon is noted as being the place where cricket was first played in England, and a Hambledon eleven used formerly to play and beat an All England eleven. And here also is Berry House, where King Charles hid when fleeing from his pursuers and trying to escape to France.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BLACKBURN BRANCH.—On Saturday, January 26th, a ringing meeting of the above branch was held at Hoghton. There were thirty members present from the following places: Blackburn, Church, Hoghton, Oswaldtwistle and Preston. Touches of Grandsire Minor, Grandsire Triples, and a 720 of Plain Bob Minor were rung during the afternoon. A meeting was held in the belfry, over which Mr. Walker, of Blackburn, presided. Nine new members were elected, one of which is under thirteen years of age, namely, John Vogwill, jun., of Hoghton. The meeting closed with the usual vote of thanks to the Vicar and Wardens for the use of the belfry, and likewise to the Chairman.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.—On Saturday, January 26th, a meeting of the above branch was held at All Saints' church, Whitefield. About forty members attended from the following places: Ramsbottom, Heywood, Bury, Radcliffe, Manchester, Eccles, and Bolton. The bells were started shortly after four o'clock, and touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, Bob Major, and Treble Bob Major, were rung during the evening. A meeting was held at the "Church" inn, the chair being occupied by the Rev. H. J. Elsee, of Manchester. Three new members were elected, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Pendlebury and Swinton on Saturday, February 23rd, at four o'clock. The evening closed with handbell ringing and singing, which was enjoyed by all present. Votes of thanks for the use of the bells, and to the Chairman for presiding, were then passed.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting will be held at Hertford on Saturday, February 23rd. The towers of St. Andrew's and All Saints' churches will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Tea at 5.0 p.m. at the coffee tavern, followed by the business meeting. Arrangements will be made with the Great Northern Railway company for the issue of cheap tickets to members attending the meeting, if they will inform me not later than Wednesday, the 20th instant, of the stations from which they intend to travel. The railway authorities will require members to produce their receipts for the current year's subscription at the booking offices at the time of applying for the tickets.

E. P. DEBENHAM, Hon. Sec.

ST. JOHN AT HACKNEY (MIDDLESEX) SOCIETY.

The Annual Dinner took place on Wednesday, January 30th, at 44 Spurstowe Road, Hackney, when the President, the Rev. F. Evelyn Gardiner, rector, presided, and W. J. Woods, Esq., senior churchwarden and vice-president, occupied the vice-chair. A more successful gathering in every way could not be wished for.

After the removal of the cloth, the toast of "The Queen and Royal Family" was given by the Rector in very appropriate terms, and responded to by the company singing a verse of the National Anthem.

The next toast was that of the "President and Vice-President," proposed by the Secretary. Mr. W. D. Smith. In responding to which,

The Rector thanked them for his reception that evening. He could not let the opportunity pass without expressing his gratification for the very hearty welcome the ringers gave him when he came to Hackney a few months ago. He was pleased to find such a society of ringers in the parish, and not only hoped that their efforts would be crowned with success, but that they would continue in the same state of unity as at present for many years to come.

In responding for the Vice-President, Mr. Woods said the Rector had so clearly defined all that he (Mr. Woods) thought and felt, that nothing was left for him to say, and he thanked the company for their good wishes.

"The St. John at Hackney Society" was then given by the Chairman in eulogistic terms. He drew attention to the responsible and almost unique position of a ringer's calling: at one time the bells being used for rejoicing, at another for sorrowing; and even to a ringer recalling scenes of long ago, and buried animosities, reminding each and everyone that time was still rapid in its flight, and in due course would number the present with the byegones.

The Secretary, in responding, pointed out the difference of the standard of present bell-ringing societies with some of their predecessors, and of the decided improvement from stoney to half-pull ringing that had taken place in the parish of Hackney. He thanked the senior churchwarden for the kind manner in which he had listened to his appeal *re* the bad go of the tenor, which had now happily been rectified. The Society now numbered thirty-two actual ringing members and it was upon a sound basis of co-operation and unity.

Among other toasts which followed was the "Host and Hostess" (Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Smith) given by Mr. J. Page, with musical honours, who commented upon the excellent and capital which the dinner was served, and for which great credit was due.

Mr. Smith, in response, remarked that the pleasant faces and satisfaction which seemed so general among those present was sufficient to guarantee to him that he had succeeded in doing what he considered a very pleasing duty.

Several toasts followed, interspersed with some capital harmony, and midnight was nearly reached before the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" brought one of the most enjoyable and ever to be remembered evenings to a close. It should be stated that the rector and churchwardens have promised to become subscribers to "THE BELL NEWS." D.

BETCHWORTH, SURREY.—MARRIAGE FESTIVITIES.

On Saturday, January 26th, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Randall to Miss Wilkins, the ringers assembled in the belfry and rang 720 and 360 Bob Minor, 720 and 360 Oxford Single Bob Minor, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, and 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor. The ringers that took part in the above were: F. and R. Arnold, F. Bridger, E. Moses, W. Sadler, F. Saunders, and J. Robinson. The foregoing are all members of the Surrey Association. In the evening, the ringers, choir, sexton, and postman, were entertained by the bride's mother to an excellent supper, to which ample justice was done, each course coming up true.

After the cloth was removed, singing was the order of the day, in which some excellent songs were sung, when about 11.30 p.m. the conductor called the familiar call "that's all" and "stand," then each guest went his way home much pleased with the evening's festivities.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—DISTRICT MEETING AT SAFFRON WALDEN.

A District Meeting of the Essex Association was held on Saturday, February 2nd, at Saffron Walden, the tower of the parish church, with the fine peal of eight bells, being placed at the disposal of the Association by the Vicar, the Rev. T. Stevens. Some of the visitors arrived early, and during a great part of the day touches in various methods were being rung. The business meeting had been fixed for 4.30 p.m., to be followed by tea, but as the Hon. Secretary, owing to railway delays, was unable to reach Saffron Walden till after 5.0., it was decided to hold the meeting after tea, which was served at the "King's Arms" hotel immediately after his arrival. Thirty-seven sat down, the vicar being in the chair, supported by the Hon. Secretary to the Association (Rev. T. L. Papillon). Tea being disposed of, the minutes of the last meeting (held at Loughton in October) were read, and the following provisional elections were then confirmed; Messrs J. Barry, Walthamstow; W. Allen and F. Furr, Hatfield; A. C. Fussell, Slough; G. Garnett, Romford; E. F. Strange, Tottenham; H. Smith and A. Symonds, Lavenham; F. W. Thornton, Greenwich. The following were also proposed and elected as members of the Association: Honorary: Rev. Canon Cromwell, Stisted; Ringing members: Messrs T. Crozier, Broomfield; A. G. Coe, W. Marshall, and A. Pitstow (Probationer), Saffron Walden; C. French, H. Jermy, F. Perrin, H. Perrin, sen., and H. Perrin, jun., Harlow; H. Baldwin and W. T. Smith, Holy Trinity, Barking Road. The Hon. Sec. gave notice that at the annual meeting he should move that part of the cost of entering peals in the peal-book be paid by the bands who ring them, the number of peals now rung by the Association being so large as to make the full cost of entry an undue strain upon the funds. The meeting closed with a cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Ringers were present during the day from Saffron Walden, Elmdon, Cambridge, Sudbury, Bishops Stortford, Sawbridgeworth, Stanstead, Harlow, West Ham, and London; among them being Messrs. J. M. Hayes, C. F. Winny, and R. T. Woodley, of the College Youths; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury); N. and J. Tarling (Sawbridgeworth); H. Randall (West Ham); J. F. Penning, N. J. Pitstow, F. Pitstow (Saffron Walden); to the last named of whom the thanks of all present are due for his care to make the meeting as pleasant and satisfactory as possible. Saffron Walden possesses one of the grandest churches and one of the finest peals in Essex, and has long been a noted home of ringing; and though in so remote a corner of the county as to be from many parts of it almost inaccessible for a day's visit, it can generally attract, upon such occasions, a fair gathering of ringers.

The next meeting will be held on the Saturday after Easter—probably at Harlow.

THE BOLSTERSTONE SOCIETY, YORKSHIRE.

On Thursday, January 24th, this society, at the kind invitation of the Earl and Countess of Wharnclyffe, paid their second annual visit to Wortley Hall. The party, after a pleasant walk of about an hour under a beautiful starlight sky, arrived at the Hall at 8.30 p.m., to find a substantial supper ready for them, in which they were joined by the servants. After they had kept remarkably good time (as all musicians should do) with the viands, and had a short rest, they were summoned to appear before the Earl and Countess, and a distinguished company of guests who were assembled in the stately large billiard-room. There the company then played a selection of tunes upon the handbells, comprising "Men of Harlech," with variations; "Home, Sweet Home," with variations; "The Queen's Jubilee;" and by desire of his lordship, "Here's a health to all good lasses." The Earl and Countess and company expressed themselves greatly pleased with the performance, and his lordship congratulated their conductor, Mr. D. Brearley, on the improvement they had made during the past year, and expressed a wish that he might see them all again next year. After the Earl had given them practical sympathy in the shape of a liberal subscription to their funds, the ringers adjourned to the servants' hall, where the "light fantastic toe" was tripped to the strains of the "Holly Schottische," played upon the bells. The visitors then bade adieu to their friends and departed for home.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Let us take counsel together."

I very cordially reciprocate your remarks, Mr. Editor, respecting the proposed gathering at Birmingham. There can be no doubt about it that Mr. Heywood's generous invite will be largely taken advantage of, and thus the assembly which meets together on Thursday, the 28th instant, be one not only creditable, but of great importance to the Exercise.

Of course the great and primary object of this meeting is to celebrate the birthday of our venerable and esteemed friend, Mr. Johnson. That this pleasant duty will be carried out in a manner pleasing and creditable to the Exercise we cannot doubt; we may therefore for the present leave it without further comment. But, as the Editor well puts it, the proposed celebration may have its utilitarian side. No doubt about it. And it will be the very reverse of disrespectful to Mr. Johnson, if the representatives present "make the most of their opportunities" while together, and discuss some at least of the many questions now before us. It may be many years before such an equally representative meeting is held again; and I think I shall not be overstepping the bounds of a fair and candid reviewer, if I press this matter most earnestly before those who will have the great privilege of being present on that occasion.

What then, are these subjects which I consider ripe for discussion? Well, it is an old maxim that "Charity begins at home," and on this principle I cordially re-echo our Editor's concluding words of last Saturday's "leader." There is in Birmingham most abundant scope for labours of love in the direction of acquiring that great element of success—unity. If all the societies in that town and neighbourhood were brought together into one organisation, and became a large and powerful branch of what may become "The Worcester Diocesan Guild!" It is well known, I believe, that our Editor is a native of the above-named city, and I for one know that he possesses a fond regard for the place of his birth, and would fain see the Exercise in his native city shine as in days of yore. If the large-hearted men of Birmingham were to throw in their lot and combine with their friends of the present Worcester Association, 'twould I believe prove to the full to both parties that "unity is strength." The Midland metropolis is in the diocese of Worcester, as I believe is the whole county of Warwick—there's a splendid opportunity therefore, now, for revising and improving the present Association by the junction of Birmingham spirit and enterprise. Men of Birmingham: see ye to it. If all private and personal jealousies, squabbles, or illfeeling (should such exist) were put on one side, and a combined effort made for such an advancement of the Exercise—both in its scientific and social aspects—would that not be a commemoration of Mr. Johnson's "fourscore" more enduring than marble, brass, or painted oak, and infinitely more gratifying to him in whose honour it is done.

Then leaving these "home affairs," and looking round, one is almost bewildered by the number of "burning questions" which are disturbing the atmosphere of the Exercise, and which, sooner or later, will have to be dealt with. Subjects which—although we may, ostrich-like, "bury our heads in the sand," and put off the evil day of having to deal with them, will force themselves upon us in course of time in a manner which will brook no further procrastination. There is the question of some tangible bond of union between our County Associations,

whether in the form of a national union or any other shape. There is the problem, how to keep these organisations in pace with the times; how to still further develop those which have outgrown the original designs of the founders; how to effectually render help to those which may unfortunately suffer reverses, and thus prevent their possible annihilation. There is the question as to the advisability of forming two departments within these Associations; one for the special business of organisation; the other for dealing with the scientific part of our work. Then also we have the subject so recently discussed in these pages—the formation of a Benefit Society amongst us.

And so I could go on, almost *ad libitum*, but time presses, and the folio on the top of the page warns me that I am getting well on to the "end of my tether;" so I must call stand before completing the touch, and leave it in the hands of our friends for their consideration.

On glancing through the lengthy list of peals, I am much pleased to see the performances of more of our young ones. At Lyminge, Sidney Finn rings the treble for seven 720s of Minor, conducted by John H. Cheesman, both of whom are but 17 years old. At Perry Barr another youth of the same age, William E. Smith, conducts a 5040 of Grandsire Triples, in which George Mitchison, William Carte, and Charles Williams also take part, the oldest of whom has only passed his 18th birthday. Well done, lads. I would like right well to shake hands with you, and speak to you personally words of praise and encouragement. You have won your spurs young—so much the better. I was older than you when I first learned how to handle a bell-ropes, and my first few years of ringing were passed amid a cloud of difficulties that prevented me from so early accomplishing my first peal. But let me earnestly press upon you to study well the words of Mr. Ryde, which appeared last week; and if you act upon them you will find, should you—like Mr. Johnson—attain the ripe old age of four-score, that the remembrance of your ringing days will be pleasant, and you will have that proud satisfaction which none can feel but those who have nobly done their duty.

FREE LANCE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE Next Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held on Saturday, February 16th, at the "Arden Arms," Millgate, Stockport. Members are hereby requested to note that the business meeting which will precede the dinner, will commence at 3.30, and dinner at 5 o'clock. Dinner tickets 1s. 6d. each. Those companies intending being present at dinner will greatly oblige by sending in their number to Mr. Fletcher, "Arden Arms," Millgate, Stockport, on or before Thursday, February 14th. Members are further requested to note that the annual subscriptions are due. The bells of St. Mary's parish church (8), have been kindly placed at the disposal of the members.

JAMES S. WILDE, } Hon. Secs.
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE, }

NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

The next meeting of the above Association will be held at St. Swithin's church, East Retford, on Saturday, March 2nd, at 4 p.m., by kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. A. F. Elsworth.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The members of the above Society will hold a meeting at the "Swan Hotel," Edmund Street, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 9th, at six p.m., when all members are earnestly requested to attend.

11, Tennant Street.

W. BROOK, Sec.

Obituary.

ROBERT TUKE.

It is with feelings of the deepest sorrow that we announce the decease of this gentleman, which sad event occurred at the city of Philadelphia (U.S.), on Wednesday, January 30th, after a very short illness, caused by an accident to his foot, through which blood poisoning supervened, and medical skill was powerless to save him. Mr. Tuke commenced to ring at Ilkley along with the late Mr. Jasper Snowden, between whom the most devoted attachment existed, ending only in death. When the scheme for establishing the Yorkshire Association was brought forward, he entered into it with great earnestness, being elected Hon. Treasurer at its foundation. This post he held for a few years until the Association had got firmly established, when owing to the failing health of his father he removed to Bradford and joined the firm, which necessitated his relinquishing the duties of the treasurership for a time. His successor however, finding himself unable to carry on the work, the office became vacant, and Mr. Tuke resumed it. He also acted as chairman of the Committee in the matter of the presentation which was made to the late president, and after the lamentable death of his old friend, undertook the duties of secretary along with Mr. Whitaker to the memorial fund which culminated in the stained window being placed in Ilkley parish church. This window, however, he was not spared to see, for in the early part of 1887 he sustained severe injuries through being thrown from his trap, his coachman also being badly bruised. Becoming convalescent, in accordance with medical advice he decided to travel for a while. He accordingly left in May for America, visiting some of his relatives near the Niagara Falls, and friends in various other parts. Arriving at Philadelphia, he found the climate so exhilarating that he resolved to settle there for a time. In that city he found a peal of eight bells at Christ Church, the ringers of which never attempted anything more intricate than rounds and call-changes. This state of things he set about to improve, being supported by the Rector, the Rev. Dr. Foggo. In a recent letter to a friend he wrote: "Thank you very much for 'THE BELL NEWS,' which I continue to receive regularly. We do not make much progress with ringing at Christ Church, as the men are continually leaving, and there is an old set at the church who are opposed to scientific ringing. We practise on Thursdays *loud*, and I have another class with tied bells on Tuesdays and Saturdays. The latter are progressing favorably, but we can only ring Bob Doubles yet. I think I shall get permission at St. Peter's here (a nice ring of eight, tenor 17 cwt.), and I send 'THE BELL NEWS' regularly to the Rector's wife, who is doing her best to help us on, but the Churchwardens think the tower unsafe."

It will be seen from this extract how heartily he was endeavouring to improve ringing matters during his stay the town of Philadelphia. We cannot tell what results may accrue from his efforts to establish the practice of scientific ringing in the western world, but it is to be hoped that the seed sown by him will in due season bear fruit, and an abundant harvest reaped. Whoever lives to see or hear of the Exercise flourishing upon American soil, may with reason declare that its pioneer thereon was ROBERT TUKE.

His last letters home being couched in such sanguine terms, and his health having become entirely restored, it will be readily imagined with what dismay the tidings were received on Wednesday, the 30th ult., by cablegram, of his accident, accompanied by the alarming intelligence that he was "only just alive." But still there was hope—perhaps he was not so bad as was feared. This hope, unhappily, was dispelled the following day by another message which flashed across the Atlantic—"Robert died last evening." Thus at the comparatively early age of forty-four has passed away one who by his zeal, his unflagging perseverance, and kindness of heart and manner, endeared himself to all who knew him.

Another and abler pen will in the next number do justice to his memory. We who had the pleasure of his acquaintance, and had been his guest when visiting Bradford, record our high opinion of him as a true ringer and hospitable gentleman, quiet, affable, and courteous to all. There is truly one melancholy resemblance in his death and that of his friend the late Jasper

Snowdon. It was Mr. Tuke who advised us from time to time of the progress of the disease to which his friend succumbed, and the fatal telegram from him announcing that all was over was in phraseology almost identical with the one announcing his own demise. The circumstances of his death excites some sad reflections. No doubt he had previous to his last accident looked forward to many years of life, and very many seasons of pleasant intercourse with his brethren of the Yorkshire Association. We can well imagine what direction his meditations would have taken lately as he journeyed homewards after giving ringing lessons to the "youths" of Philadelphia. Visions of the belfry of old St. Peter's, Bradford; of the welcome which would be accorded him when he returned, his health restored, to dwell at home; of a loving friendship, alas! split asunder by death; of a pilgrimage he would devoutly pay to a quiet grave in Ilkley churchyard. These and other kindred subjects we may well imagine he would ponder over, and look forward to the realisation of those which were capable of attainment. It was, however, not to be. His sun went down ere it was yet noon. The bells of Yorkshire will now "ring out in muffled power, their plaintive requiem for untimely death;" for Robert Tuke is no more. *Requiescat in pace.*

SAMUEL JONES.

It is also our painful duty to record the death of Mr. Samuel Jones, of Swindon, who died on Tuesday, January 22nd, at the age of seventy-six, and was buried on Saturday, January 26th. Till recently he spent most of his time in Bristol, where he was known and very much respected amid ringing circles. He had taken part in peals of Grandsire, Stedman, and Treble Bob, at most of the Bristol churches. On Thursday, January 24th, the bells of St. Thomas' church, Bristol, were rung muffled, and also at St. Philip's on Saturday, January 20th, when touches of Grandsire were rung by the Ancient Society of St. James's.

BRANCEPETH, DURHAM.—INAUGURATION OF A NEW RING OF EIGHT BELLS.

A new ring of eight bells, tenor 13 cwt., has recently been erected in this church by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, at the cost of Viscount Boyne, of Brancepeth Castle. After some little difficulty as to the date for opening the bells, and an interview between Lord Boyne and Mr. Clarkson, the Hon. Secretary of the Diocesan Association for Durham and Newcastle, the inauguration was finally fixed for Monday, January 21st, Lord and Lady Boyne having consented to postpone their arrangements to visit the South in order to secure a good attendance of ringers, who turned up from Bishop Auckland, Darlington, Durham, Newcastle, North Shields, Ripon, South Shields, Staindrop, and Stockton, between twenty and thirty of whom, including the local band, were hospitably entertained at the Castle.

The bells were tested with a course or two of Kent Treble Bob in the morning, and then remained silent until the short special service at two o'clock, which was attended by the party from the Castle and many parishioners. At the conclusion of the prayers, the bells were rung in rounds for a short time, followed by a hymn and the Benediction. At the close of the service the bells were at once taken possession of by the assembled ringers, and several well-struck touches were brought home. The bells are a very handy and pleasing peal of eight, and gave great satisfaction, in fact they are a great acquisition to the list of ringable peals in the county of Durham. During the day ringers visited the Castle and rang in the great hall a course of Grandsire Caters, followed by one of Grandsire Triples.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the above will be held at Birmingham to-day, Saturday, Feb 9th. The tower of S. John's Deritend will be opened for ringing at three o'clock, after which a meeting will be held at the "Swan" Hotel, Edmond Street, at six o'clock prompt. All members are earnestly requested to attend, as there is most important business to be brought forward.

Park Road, Harborne.

E. PARKER.

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.

C. L. ROUTLEDGE.—Not received.

P. SADLER (Norwich).—We are sorry we cannot give you the information.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1889

"Always keep right with the parson." This has been, as long as we can recollect, a favorite axiom of ringers. Churchwardens come and go; but the incumbent remains, therefore it is excellent policy for ringers to keep on the right side of him. This we say has been the teaching of old-seasoned ringers, strategic time-honored veterans, during the whole of our experience. And very good logic it is.

On reading the above the question would naturally arise—"What is the best mode to always have on the side of the ringer the influence of the clergyman?" The best way certainly would be to try and conform to his ideas in every possible way, though it may not always be palatable. There are cases to be found, no doubt, where even a clergyman has acted in a very inconsistent manner towards the ringers, his conduct to them even bordering an tyranny, but such cases are few, we verily believe. Our object is to point out as forcibly as we are able that in order to enjoy the free and uncontrolled practice of our art it is absolutely necessary that we should be constantly in the good graces of those who have the power to prevent this enjoyment. Because whatever position we may take up; whatever claim we may imagine we have upon incumbents and churchwardens by reason of our ability as ringers—the only competent persons to ring bells when they are required to be rung—the fact remains that where proper regulations exist we have the full entry to the steeple of the church, to enjoy ourselves in the practice of our art, in most cases not only free and uninterrupted, but protected by the incumbent himself from any fussy interference.

Then it is hardly necessary to ask: "What shall we do to secure the continued enjoyment of such a privilege?" And here we may draw attention to the very temperate letter which appears in this number from the REV. T. L. PAPILLON. This gentleman—a practical ringer by the

way—labours unceasingly to promote good ringing. Both in the pulpit and out of it his utterances breathe a most kindly spirit to his ringing brethren when impressing upon them their duties as ringers. The letter to which attention is now drawn is one of the very same character; temperate, but to the point. He speaks of facts within his own knowledge; of circumstances which have been vividly brought to his notice while performing the duties of Secretary to an important County Association. We beg our readers to weigh well his remarks, and apply them with profit where necessary. If we keep right with the clergy, of whom shall we be afraid?

We have alluded to the safety of that policy of merely refraining from running counter to the known wishes of the clergyman, but it is not to be gathered that we advocate anything improper where he is supine or indifferent to what goes on in the belfry. Let us all try to attain as high a standard of excellence as possible in every conceivable shape. We can then laugh to scorn the libels of those who labour under a vulgar error of our work and procedure; and court that strict enquiry and examination which those set over us in the Church may at any time consider it expedient to institute.

The Metropolis.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 2, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

JAMES PETTIT Treble.	THOMAS MAYNARD 5.
WILLIAM B. MANNING .. 2.	HENRY SPRINGALL 6.
GEORGE GRIMWADE* .. 3.	SAMUEL E. JOYCE 7.
MATTHEW A. WOOD 4.	WILLIAM CROCKFORD .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

*First peal of Stedman. This was the first peal in the method on the bells.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

On Saturday, February 2, 1889, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, WATERLOO ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM BARON, JUN. .. Treble.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. 5.
WILLIAM W. THORNE .. 2.	WILLIAM L. CHAMBERLAIN 6.
ALBERT E. CHURCH .. 3.	GEORGE WILD 7.
GEORGE C. HAMMOND .. 4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER of Birmingham, and Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Tuesday, February 5, 1889, in Three Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

J. R. HAWORTH Treble.	F. DAVEY 6.
H. LANGDON 2.	W. WEATHERSTONE .. 7.
F. G. NEWMAN 3.	W. DAVIES 8.
A. E. CHURCH 4.	R. FRENCH 9.
W. JONES 5.	J. BARRY Tenor.

Composed by JOHN ROGERS, and Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

The above was rang with the bells half muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. James Hodges, many years a much respected vestryman of St. Clement's, who was buried that day. F. Davey hails from Exeter; and W. Davies from Liverpool.

The Provinces.**REIGATE, SURREY.****THE SURREY ASSOCIATION AND THE REIGATE SOCIETY.***On Wednesday, January 30, 1889, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES'S FIVE-PART (No. 2). Tenor 21 cwt in Eb.

WILLIAM BONE Treble.	EDWARD MOSES 5.
FRANCIS T. HOAD 2.	WILLIAM ARGENT 6.
GEORGE H. CROUCHER .. 3.	EDGAR KENWARD 7.
WILLIAM WEBB 4.	JAMES ROBINSON Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS T. HOAD.

This peal was rung to commemorate the birthday of Thomas Brown, member of the Reigate Society and the Surrey Association.

HERTFORD.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.*On Thursday, January 31, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 16 cwt.

HARRY BOTTRILL Treble.	MATTHEW ELLSMORE .. 5.
WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON* 2.	HERBERT BAKER 6.
JOHN KENTISH† 3.	JOSEPH CULL 7.
JAMES JAUNCEY 4.	WILLIAM GOODCHILD .. Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT BAKER.

*First peal. †First peal inside. Messrs Richardson and Kentish hail from Hatfield, Herts.

SALISBURY, WILTS.**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Thursday, January 31, 1889, in Two Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,*

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

WALTER S. WISE 1-2.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 5 6.
THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 3-4.	HENRY D. ADAMS 7 8.

Conducted by THOMAS BLACKBOURN.

Umpires—Mr. A. P. Goddard, Messrs Lush, Lawrence and Clements.

DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION (DERBY BRANCH), AND THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.*On Thursday, January 31, 1889, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW LITCHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in E flat.

WILLIAM SHARDLOW .. Treble.	JOHN W. THOMPSON .. 5.
CHARLES DRAPER 2.	ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 6.
HARRY C. WOODWARD .. 3.	CHARLES HART 7.
THOMAS ALTON 4.	†GEORGE MOTTASHAW .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD, and Conducted by GEORGE MOTTASHAW.

*First peal with a bob bell. †First peal as conductor. Rung on the occasion of Mr. H. C. Woodward's birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

HANBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.**WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, February 2, 1889 in Three Hours,*

AT THE CHURCH OF THE VIRGIN MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S FOUR-PART. Tenor 17 cwt.

SAMUEL COTTON Treble.	*H. BRUCE KINGSFORD .. 5.
WILLIAM POWELL 2.	ALFRED MOORE 6.
GEORGE HOBBS 3.	†WILLIAM PAGE 7.
LIONEL LONGNEY 4.	THOMAS MALIN Tenor.

Conducted by LIONEL LONGNEY.

*First peal. †First peal of Triples. ‡First peal of Triples as conductor, and hails from Croom; A. Moore is a local man; and the rest are of the St. Helen's Society, Worcester.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

(THE STEYNING BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 26, 1889, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT MINOR METHODS UPON SIX BEDLS;*Being 720 each of the following:*

WOODBINE, KENT TREBLE BOB, OXFORD TREBLE BOB, YORKSHIRE COURT, COLLEGE SINGLE, OXFORD SINGLE BOB AND PLAIN BOB.

Tenor 12 cwt.

J. MATTHEWS Treble.	C. CHAMBERS 4.
T. SEARLE 2.	J. WOOLGAR 5.
G. GATLAND 3.	G. SMART Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE SMART.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

(THE STEYNING BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 2, 1889, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT MINOR METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;*Being a 720 each of the following:*

DUKE OF YORK, WOODBINE, KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB, YORKSHIRE COURT, COLLEGE SINGLE AND CANTERBURY PLEASURE.

Tenor 12 cwt.

G. GATLAND Treble.	F. MORRIS 4.
T. SEARLE 2.	J. WOOLGAR 5.
C. CHAMBERS 3.	G. SMART Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE SMART.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, February 2, 1889, 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.

E. WILLOUGHBY Treble.	W. ALLFREY 5.
P. ALLFREY* 2.	T. LEWIS 6.
H. RANN* 3.	†A. BENNETT 7.
T. HART 4.	*C. BRABAN Tenor.

Conducted by A. BENNETT.

*First peal. *First peal as conductor. Messrs P. and W. Allfrey, H. Rann and Bennett hail from St. Paul's Society, Brighton, the rest belong to the St. Mary's, Eastbourne Branch. The above is taken from the Clavis and has the seventh for observation.

RADCLIFFE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(MANCHESTER AND ROCHDALE BRANCHES.)

On Saturday, February 2, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty 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.	A. EDWARD WREAKS .. 6.
ERNEST BISHOP 3.	WILLIAM FIELDING .. 7.
ARTHUR BARRETT 4.	JAMES SCHOLEY Tenor.

Composed by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq., and Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS.

This peal was rung on the occasion of Mr. Bishop's birthday.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

The next Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held, by the kind permission of the vicar, on Saturday, February 16th at St. Mark's, Preston. The tower will be open for ringing at two o'clock, after which a meeting will be held in the school-room at five o'clock.

JAMES HIGSON, Sec.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 2, 1889, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

THOMAS WILDE	Treble.	CHARLES HAGUE	5.
RALPH PRICHARD	2.	JOSEPH MALONEY	6.
WILLIAM HARROP	3.	SAMUEL WOOD	7.
JESSE B. HIBBERT	4.	JOHN PYE, JUN... .. .	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

KELSALE, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, February 2, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

EDWARD PAGE	Treble.	*GEORGE NOYE	5.
WILLIAM DREW*	2.	ISAAC COLEMAN	6.
GEORGE HARDY*	3.	WILLIAM FISHER	7.
FREDERICK PAGE*	4.	FENTON THOMPSON	Tenor.

Composed by E. FRANCIS of Norwich, and Conducted by WILLIAM FISHER.

In this peal the 2nd and 3rd are never in 6th's place at a course-end, and it was rung at the first attempt. *First peal.

WOOD GREEN, WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, February 2, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BIDDLESTONE'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 17 cwt.

W. GRIFFIN*	Treble.	WM. JOHNSON	5.
W. H. HORTON*	2.	GEO. HUGHES	6.
JNO. ASTBURY, SEN.	3.	BENJ. GOUGH	7.
WM. CHESHIRE	4.	D. CHAPMAN	Tenor.

Conducted by WM. JOHNSON.

*First peal. Messrs. Griffin, Chapman, and Astbury hail from Walsall; Gough, Horton, and Cheshire, from Coseley; Hughes from Tipton; and Johnson from Darlaston. Mr. J. Astbury is in his 69th year.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 2, 1889, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, STAFFORD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5130 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

THOMAS HORTON	Treble.	WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT	6.
WILLIAM R. SMALL	2.	CHARLES TIMMS	7.
SAMUEL REEVES	3.	REUBEN HALL	8.
JOHN R. FRISBY	4.	CHARLES PRICE	9.
ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT*	5.	*WILLIAM C. HALL	Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY BOOTH of London, and Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

*First peal on ten bells. This is the first peal rung on these bells, which were augmented from eight to ten in the Jubilee Year by Messrs Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon. R. Cartwright hails from Wombourne; W. Micklewright from Dudley; W. C. Hall from Stafford, and the rest of the band from West Bromwich.

HATFIELD, HERTS.—THE HATFIELD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, February 4, 1889, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ETHELDREDA,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION.

Tenor 28 cwt.

JAMES G. RUMNEY	Treble.	WALTER POWERS	5.
JOHN SHEPHERD	2.	HENRY J. ROWE	6.
JOHN KENTISH	3.	THOMAS GATHARD	7.
JOSEPH HOLLINGSWORTH	4.	RICHARD STOCKS	Tenor.

Conducted by H. J. ROWE.

First peal by the conductor, and first by Messrs Rumney, Shepherd, Hollingsworth, Powers and Stocks. This is the first peal by a local band since 1790.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

Recently, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. THOMAS, "CROWN" INN, STAMFORD STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

WILLIAM JAKEMAN	1-2.	HARRY HEAP	5-6.
GEORGE LONGDEN	3-4.	SAMUEL TAYLOR	7-8.

Composed by GEORGE LONGDEN, and Conducted by WILLIAM JAKEMAN.

Date Touches.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

STAPLEHURST (Kent).—On Monday, January 28th, at All Saints' church, a date touch of 1889 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 5 mins. J. Woolgar, 1; J. G. Tillmon, 2; W. Pope, 3; W. E. Pope, 4; H. G. Pope, 5; A. Palmer, 6; E. Pops (conductor), 7; T. Colvin, 8.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL (Yorkshire).—On Wednesday, January 23rd, at St. James' church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 4 mins., on the occasion of the marriage of Henry Smith, Esq., with Miss Alice Robbins. G. M. Brownrigg, 1; T. Stockdale, 2; J. F. Maliaby, 3; J. Pollard, 4; C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 5; W. Southwick, 6; R. Chaffer, 7; J. Dixey, 8.

Huddersfield (Yorks).—On Saturday, February 2nd, at the parish church of St. Peter, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Royal, in the tittum position. J. Stead, 1; J. Barrowclough, 2; H. Ellis, 3; G. Clay, 4; T. Stead, 5; R. Hill, 6; J. W. Cudworth, 7; F. Schofield, 8; T. Haigh (composer and conductor), 9; W. Brogden, 10. Tenor 18 cwt. Time 1 hr. 17½ mins.

SHIPLEY (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, February 3rd, for evening service at St. Paul's church, a date touch (1889 changes) of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 10 mins. Thos. Lilley, 1; G. A. O. Nettleton, 2; J. S. Clark, 3; W. Wilks, 4; J. Lilley, 5; J. A. Ross, 6; G. Bolland (conductor), 7; J. Haley, 8. Messrs. Bolland and Haley hail from Tong; the rest are members of the local company. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LIVERPOOL.—On Thursday, January 31st, at the church of St. Luke, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 12 mins. R. S. Mann (conductor), 1; F. W. Moore, 2; P. Barton, 3; W. G. Mann, 4; J. Aspinwall, 5; W. James, 6; J. R. Pritchard (composer), 7; Robert Gowans, 8.

Miscellaneous.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CROYDON.—On Tuesday, January 29th, for practice at St. John the Baptist church, 546 of Plain Bob Triples. R. E. Pearson, 1; G. Russell, 2; W. J. Chambers, 3; H. Brooker, 4; Dr. A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 5; A. Bruce, 6; T. Verrall, 7; F. G. Hermon, 8.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WORCESTER.—On Tuesday, January 22nd, at St. Helen's church, 1344 of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. H. T. Knowles, 1; W. Powell, 2; H. B. Kingsford, 3; S. Cotton, 4; R. G. Knowles, 5; L. Longney (conductor), 6; W. Page, 7; T. Malin, 8. Messrs. Knowles hail from Malvern; L. Longney from Croome.

BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday evening, January 13th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 29 mins. *W. James, 1; T. Allbutt, 2; G. Bourne, 3; O. James, 4; G. Hayward (conductor), 5; W. Rea, 6. Also on Sunday evening, January 27th, for Divine Service, 1150 Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. G. Moore, 1; T. Allbutt, 2; O. James, 3; G. Hayward (conductor), 4; W. James, 5; A. Moore, 6; G. Bourne, 7; W. Rea, 8. And a touch of Bob Major, standing as before. Messrs. Moore hail from Hanbury.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Tuesday, January 29th, on the occasion of the marriage of Captain F. Mathews and Miss Price, 336 of Grandsire Triples was rung for early celebration of the Holy Communion. In

the afternoon, after some excellent firing, 1036 and 644 Grandsire Triples, taken from the Original. Afterwards, by invitation of R. G. Price, Esq., J.P., the band partook of an excellent dinner at the "Golden Lion" Hotel. In the evening, after an attempt for Holt's Original, which came to grief through a change-course, A. J. Perkins' quarter-pearl of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 42 mins. L. W. Copsey, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; G. Roughton, 3; A. J. Perkins, 4; B. Keeble, 5; M. L. Myhill, 6; W. Nash, 7; S. James, 8. Conducted by A. J. Perkins.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Monday, January 33rd, at the parish church for practice, 720 Plain Bob. H. Digby (first 720), 1; G. Hayes, 2; W. Martin, 3; F. Ring, 4; J. Broom, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. And 720 Plain Bob, with M. Digby, 1; the rest as before. And a 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Broom, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. Ring, 3; F. Hayes, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT (Staffordshire).—On Friday, February 1st, at Mr. Austin's house, 230 Goodman Street, on handbells, retained in hand, a date touch of Stedman Triples (1889 changes), in 54 mins. W. J. Smith, 1-2; J. Jagger, 3-4; L. Bullock, 5-6; J. Austin, 7-8. Composed by A. Percival Heywood, Esq., and conducted by John Jagger.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, January 27th, for Divine Service in the morning, the local company rang 336 of Grandsire Triples, and in the evening 504 in the same method, in 18 mins. J. R. Wood, 1; F. W. Cook, 2; J. W. Warren, 3; H. Hollingsworth, 4; G. C. Tunnicliff, 5; J. Vickers (conductor), 6; G. A. Fish, 7; M. E. Fryer, 8. Also a course of Oxford Bob Triples, the ringers standing as above. The annual collections were made on the above date for the ringers' fund.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WIRRAL (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, January 28th, the Bromborough company rang 720 Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. *J. Pickin, 1; J. Dillon, 2; *F. Jones, 3; T. Hughes, 4; C. Gittens, 5; E. Griffiths (first 720 as conductor), 6. *First 720.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

SLOUGH.—On Tuesday, January 29th, for practice at the parish church, a quarter-pearl of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. W. Leader, 1; A. Andrews, 2; R. Flaxman, 3; W. Wilder, 4; A. Garraway, 5; F. Sinkins, 6; A. Fussell (conductor), 7; T. Leader, 8. Also 252 Bob Triples. W. Leader, 1; F. Sinkins, 2; R. Flaxman, 3; A. Andrews, 4; W. Wilder, 5; A. Garraway, 6; A. Fussell (conductor), 7; T. Leader, 8.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LEISTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, January 19th, eight members of the above Association attempted a 5024 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, but after ringing 4608 changes, in 2 hrs. 53 mins. it unfortunately came to grief. H. Button, 1; F. Wilson, 2; R. Stannard, 3; R. Wells, 4; A. Lincoln, 5; T. Shearing, 6; T. Staulkey, 7; G. Lindoff (conductor), 8. Tenor 20½ cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On Monday, February 4th, at St. Mary's church for practice, 518 Grandsire Triples, in 20 mins. A. Whatmore (first 500), 1; E. Reeves (conductor), 2; I. Swain (first 500), 3; C. Chapman, 4; F. Hopgood, 5; H. Blisset, 6; W. Newell, 7; W. Higgs, 8. Tenor 28 cwt.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MATHON (Herefordshire).—On Sunday evening, December 16th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. J. Alford, 1; J. Thomas, 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; H. Jeanes, 4; W. Powell, 5; C. Layton (first 720 as conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. Also several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with Messrs. Kings and Hadley, of Cradley, and C. Greening and R. Thomas, of Coddington.

CRADLEY (Herefordshire).—On Saturday, December 19th, some ringers from Coddington and Mathon paid a visit to St. James's church, and various 120's were rung. Also 720 Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. J. Alford, 1; C. Layton, 2; J. Thomas, 3; H. Jeanes, 4; W. Taylor, 5; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

CODDINGTON (Herefordshire).—On Monday, January 21st, at the church of All Saints, the first 720 was rung on the bells by H. Jeans (first 720 as conductor), 1; J. Thomas, 2; C. Greening, 3; C. Layton, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; A. Layton, 6. Time 26 mins. Also another 720 in 25 mins. R. Thomas (first 720), 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; J. Thomas, 3; H. Jeans, 4; A. Layton, 5; C. Layton (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

BOSBURY (Herefordshire).—On Saturday evening, January 26th, at the church of the Holy Trinity, a numerous meeting of neighbouring and local ringers took place, and several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles by various bands were rung. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. C. Greening, 1; J. Thomas, 2; C. Layton, 3; H. Jeanes, 4; A. Layton, 5; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt. This is the first 720 of Minor on these bells, which are very difficult to manage. Credit is due to the first five ringers for their striking, their ropes falling in a straight line, causing them some trouble.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BAGSHOT (Surrey).—On Thursday evening, January 31st, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 27 mins. W. Stevens, 1; H. Stapleton, 2; F. Francis, 3; C. Harding, 4; T. Gould, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. Also 240 Stedman Doubles. F. Francis, 1; T. Gould, 2; W. Stevens, 3; H. Stapleton, 4; E. Spooner (conductor), 5; W. Varodell, 6. On Monday evening, February 4th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Stevens, 1; T. Gould, 2; F. Francis, 3; C. Harding, 4; H. Stapleton, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. Also 360 Bob Minor (nine bobs). C. Harding, 3; F. Francis, 4; the rest standing as before.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

Bow (Middlesex).—On Sunday, February 3rd, for morning service at St. Mary's church, 960 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 34 mins. H. Springall (conductor), 1; L. Green, 2; A. Cutmore, 3; *E. Hall, 4; S. Joyce, 5; Y. Green, 6; R. Turner, 7; S. Hayes, 8. And at the church of St. Dunstan, Stepney, for evening service, 1330 Stedman Caters, in 54 mins. H. Springall (conductor), 1; J. Pettit, 2; W. Tanner, 3; W. Cecil, 4; S. Joyce, 5; C. Lee, 6; *Y. Green, 7; *R. Turner, 8; *S. Hayes, 9; *T. Baker, 10. *Longest touch in the methods.

AUGHTON (Lancashire).—At Christ Church, on Friday, January 25th, for practice, a touch of 216 Stedman Triples. *Rev. D. Jones (conductor), 1; *C. Sharples, 2; J. Taylor, 3; *W. Benthall, 4; H. Eastham, 5; R. Foster, 6; N. Spencer, 7; H. Cave, 8. Also at the same time and place a touch of 504 in the same method, conducted by N. Spencer, *J. Benson ringing the tenor; the others standing as before. The above are all members of the local company, and these two touches are the longest yet rung in the method by all except H. Eastham and N. Spencer, who had previously rung a touch of 504. *Members of the Liverpool Diocesan branch of the Lancashire Association.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, January 27th, for evening service, by the St. Stephen's Juniors, 504 Stedman Triples. H. Pring, 1; C. Trevett, 2; C. Burden, 3; G. Colston, 4; T. Elles, 5; S. Phillips, 6; J. Hinton (conductor), 7; W. Colston, 8. First 504 by H. Pring and C. Burden.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Sunday morning, February 3rd, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, the local company succeeded in ringing their first 6-score of Grandsire Doubles on the back six. T. Collinson, 1; J. Prickett, 2; G. Watkins, 3; J. Powell, 4; J. Morley (conductor), 5; C. Davies, 6. Tenor 21 cwt. in E. This is the first six-score by all except the conductor, and the first on the bells since they were rehung by in December last by Warner and Sons, London, and the go of them are very satisfactory.

COLN ST. ALDWYN (Gloucestershire).—On Monday evening, January 28th, at the parish church, for practice, 512 Bob Major. T. Barnett, 1; J. Kitchener (conductor), 2; R. Jefferies, 3; G. Smith, 4; C. Bate, 5; H. Griffin, 6; T. Mitchell, 7; T. Smith, 8. First touch of Bob Major by all.

COTGRAVE (Notts).—On Friday, January 18th, previous to a concert for the benefit of the ringers, a quarter-pearl of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), in 49 mins. W. White, 1; F. J. Mensing, 2; W. E. White, 3; F. R. White (conductor), 4; T. Squires, 5. This is the first quarter-pearl by all except the ringer of the 3rd, and the first on the bells of which any record can be found.

FRAMLINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday, January 26th, Messrs. W. Florry, J. Tarrant, J. Heffer, sen., J. Heffer, jun., A. Moore, and R. H. Hayward met at the house of Mr. H. Davey, Double Street, for handbell practice, and rang several courses of Bob Major, Grandsire Caters, and Bob Royal.

HOLME PIERREPOINT (Notts).—On Saturday, January 26th, 659 Grandsire Doubles, in 22 mins. W. White, 1; F. J. Mensing, 2; W. E. White, 3; F. R. White (conductor), 4; T. Squires, 6. This is the longest touch on the bells since they were re-cast in 1875 by Messrs. Taylor and Co.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Sunday, January 16th, for evening service at the parish church, 672 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; A. Palmer, 8. This is the longest touch by the local band.

PINCHBECK (Lincolnshire).—On Wednesday, Jan. 23rd, for practice at the parish church, four 6-scores of Bob Doubles and two of Grandsire Doubles. On Sunday, January 27th, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles and a 6-score of Bob Doubles. W. Doubleday, 1; T. Ladd, 2; T. Laxton, 3; T. Fisher, 4; G. Ladd (conductor), 5.

POSLENGFORD (Suffolk).—On Monday, February 4th, for practice at the parish church, a 6-score each of Stedman Doubles, Gog Magog St. Simon's, Bob Doubles, Grandsire, April Day, and Old Doubles. W. Atkinson, 1; D. Gridley (conductor), 2; C. Rawlinson, 3; H. Burling, 4; C. Howe, 5. It is the first 120 of Stedman by all, and the first 120 of St. Simon's by C. Rawlinson.

SADDLEWORTH (Yorkshire).—On Wednesday, January 23rd, at the house of Mr. J. J. Brierley, Wool Road, on handbells, retained in hand, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. A. Buckley, 1; J. Pilling, 2; K. Brierley (aged 13 years), 3; S. Brierley (aged 16 years), 4; J. A. Lawton, 5; J. Hinchliffe, 6. This was the first attempt by the two youths at a 720 of Oxford. The other four are members of the United Counties' Association.

SALTAIRE (Yorks).—On Tuesday evening, February 5th, during practice, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). T. B. Kendall (first 720), 1; R. Eccles, 2; G. Whitaker, 3; B. T. Copley, 4; F. London, 5; A. Riley (conductor), 6.

STAFFORD.—On Tuesday, January 29th, at St. Mary's church for practice, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 30 mins. T. Cartwright, 1; W. Micklewright, 2; W. Fellows, 3; R. Perry, 4; T. Guest, 5; T. Perry (conductor), 6; J. Fellows, 7; W. C. Hall, 8.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday, February 3rd, for service at the parish church, 1360 Plain Bob Major, in 48 mins. J. Adams, 1; H. A. Barnett, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; J. Waghorn, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; J. Barber, 6; J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 7; W. Pye-English, 8. Also 490 Oxford Bob Triples. J. Adams, 1; J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 2; T. C. Grove, 3; J. Waghorn, 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; W. Pye-English, 6; G. B. Lucas, 7; W. Martin, 8. On Tuesday, February 5th, for practice, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Waghorn, jun., 1; G. Griffin, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; J. Waghorn, 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; J. Barber, 6; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 7; W. Pye-English, 8.

WAKEFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, January 29th, at the Cathedral Church, 1040 Kent Treble Bob Royal. W. Mills, 1; J. Moorhouse, 2; R. Wrigley, 3; C. H. Hattersley (conductor), 4; W. Scott, 5; J. T. Hollis, 6; W. Firth, 7; T. H. Ormond, 8; W. Davies (Liverpool), 9; T. Moorhouse, 10. Also 395 Grandsire Caters, with G. Firth, 2; J. Styles, 10; the others standing as above.

WREXHAM (North Wales).—On Monday evening, January 28th, eight members of the local company rang with the bells half-muffled the usual whole pull and stand, followed by a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), as a tribute of respect to the late Bishop of St. Asaph. T. Catherall, 1; R. W. Evans, 2; R. Jones, 3; J. Williams, 4; J. Ellis, 5; T. Newell, 6; E. Rowland, 7; T. Roberts, 8. Conducted by J. Ellis. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

WHITCHURCH (Oxon).—On Sunday, January 27th, at the parish church for morning service, 240 of Grandsire and 120 of Bob Doubles. For evening service, 360 Bob Minor, and 120 Grandsire Doubles. T. Pocock, 1; W. Pocock, 2; W. Lawrence (conductor), 3; C. Pocock, 4; A. C. West, 5; E. Bushnell, 6. H. Bushnell rang the tenor in the Doubles. This was rung as farewell touch to A. C. West, who leaves for an engagement in Kent, and his brother-ringers wish him every success. This was rung on the 30th birthday of C. Pocock who was complimented by the band.

WINTERTON (Norfolk).—On Tuesday evening, January 29th, at the parish church for practice, 720 Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. W. J. Empson, 1; W. G. Empson, 2; J. King (conductor), 3; R. Brown, 4; B. Popay, 5; W. P. Molyneux, 6. This is the first 720 by the treble and 5th ringers, the former being only eleven years and four months old.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.—Mr. George Mash has removed to 30, Newcomen Street, Borough, Southwark, S.E.; and Mr. A. Edward Wreakes desires that all future correspondence to him should be sent to 14, Miller Street, Newbold, Rochdale.

HANDBELLS WANTED.—The Vicar of Leafeld, Witney, wishes for eight handbells for the bell-ringers.—second-hand.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Angmering Branch at Angmering.—On Thursday, January 31st, 720 of Yorkshire Court, in 25 mins. E. Parsons, 1; J. Hills, 2; T. Linfield, 3; C. Clear, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all. Also on Saturday, February 2nd, 720 of College Single, in 26 mins. C. Clear, 1; F. Finch, 2; J. Hills, 3; T. Linfield, 4; †T. Parsons, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. †First 720 in the method.

By the Brighton Branch at St. Paul's.—On Sunday, January 13th, 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. P. Allfrey, 1; H. Rann, 2; G. Hill, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; F. Hill, 5; T. Stepney, 6; W. Allfrey (conductor), 7; J. Salmon, 8. Also for evening service, 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. H. Eves, 1; H. Rann, 2; P. Allfrey, 3; G. Hill, 4; J. Salmon, 5; G. Biggerstaff, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; W. Allfrey, 8. And on Thursday, January 17th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. P. Allfrey, 1; H. Rann, 2; J. Salmon, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; W. Allfrey, 5; T. Stepney, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; E. Parsons, 8. E. Parsons hails from Bolney. Also on Sunday, January 20th, a quarter-peal (1260) of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. H. Eves, 1; H. Rann, 2; G. Hill, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; P. Allfrey, 5; J. Salmon, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; W. Allfrey, 8. And on Thursday, January 24th, for practice, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 17½ mins. P. Allfrey, 1; H. Rann, 2; G. Hill, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; T. Stepney, 5; J. Salmon, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; W. Allfrey, 8. Also on Sunday, January 27th, 1050 of Grandsire Triples, in 35 mins. H. Eves, 1; H. Rann, 2; G. Hill, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; P. Allfrey, 5; T. Stepney, 6; A. Bennett, 7; *W. Allfrey (conductor), 8. *Longest touch called on the tenor. And at St. Peter's on Monday, February 4th, 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. A. Fuller, 1; *E. C. Merritt, 2; J. Reilly, 3; G. A. King, 4; G. Thwaites, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6. *First touch in the method.

By the St. Mary's Branch at St. Mary's, Eastbourne.—On Monday, January 21st, 504 of Union Triples, in 17½ mins. L. Huggett, 1; T. Willoughby, 2; E. Willoughby, 3; C. Harfeff, 4; N. Avann, 5; T. Lewis, 6; T. Hart (conductor), 7; J. Lewis, 8. Also on Thursday, January 24th, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1889 changes, in 1 hr. and 7 mins. T. Hart, 1; J. Davey, 2; H. P. Bennett (conductor), 3; L. Huggett, 4; N. Avann, 5; E. Willoughby, 6; T. Lewis, 7; J. Lewis, 8. J. Davey hails from All Saints, Eastbourne. And on Tuesday, January 29th, a quarter-peal of Union Triples, in 43 mins. J. Rollinson, 1; T. Willoughby, 2; C. Harfeff, 3; L. Huggett, 4; E. Willoughby, 5; T. Lewis, 6; T. Hart (conductor), 7; J. Lewis, 8. Also by a mixed band on Saturday, February 2nd, a peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes (for particulars see peal column).

By the Henfield Branch at Henfield.—On Thursday, January 31st, 720 of Grandsire Doubles, in 25 mins. J. West, 1; T. Stringer, 2; W. Stringer, 3; W. Peirce, 4; H. Freeman (conductor), 5; T. West, 6. Also on Sunday, February 3rd, for evening service, 720 of Grandsire Doubles, in 25 mins. J. Boniface, 1; W. Pierce, 2; W. Stringer, 3; T. Stringer, 4; H. Freeman (conductor), 5; T. West, 6.

By the Steyning Branch at Steyning.—On Saturday, January 26th, 5040 changes in seven different Minor methods. (For particulars see peal column). Also on Saturday, February 2nd, 5040 changes in seven different Minor methods. (For particulars see peal column).

THE DUCKLINGTON BELL FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Amount Advertised	10	14	9
St. Nicholas Society, per Mr. Boniface	0	5	0
Miss Dunham, Bournemouth	0	1	0
Mr. T. Belben	0	1	0
Mr. Grist	0	1	0
Miss McLelland .. (extra)	0	1	0
Proceeds of Entertainment at Ducklington	1	10	0
Miss Macray	0	10	0
Total	£13	3	9

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received and acknowledged by W. J. Fisher, Great Western Hotel, Paddington.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR MR. F. BATE.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	1	5	6
Mr. Mathews, Borough	0	1	0
Mr. Jones, Brierley Hill	0	2	0
Mr. Webb, Worcester	0	2	6
Mr. Ferry, London	0	2	6

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received by Mr. B. Buckmaster, 46, Newington Butts, S.E., or by Mr. Codlin, 18, Cole Street, Borough, S.E.

ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

On Saturday, January 19th, through the kind indulgence of the Rector, the Rev. Canon Bridges, the members of the above society, with friends, numbering in all about twenty, sat down to the annual supper at "The Plough" inn, Dr. A. B. Carpenter presiding, Mr. Plowman acting as vice-chairman. In the afternoon ten of the company met at the church to attempt a peal of Caters, their efforts being crowned with success, as will be seen from the report of the performance published at the time. The company afterwards met at the above-named hostelry, where they sat down to an excellent repast provided by host Wilkinson. On the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given from the chair.

In proposing the toast of "The Rector," the Chairman said that he was deputed by the rev. gentleman to inform them that though he (the Rector) was forbidden by his medical adviser to be with them that evening, his thoughts and best wishes were with them, and he hoped they would thoroughly enjoy themselves. The toast was drank from flowing glasses with musical honours.

The next toast was "The St. Mary's Society," to which was coupled the name of Mr. Edgar Bennett. Without doubt the success that has attended this company during the past ten years is chiefly due to the indefatigable exertions of this gentleman, who is the conductor of the society.

Other toasts were given, and some capital songs were sung, the company breaking up about 11 o'clock, after having enjoyed a very pleasant evening.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—LIVERPOOL
DIOCESAN BRANCH.

The next monthly meeting of this branch will be held at Huyton on Saturday, February 16th. The bells (six) will be open to visitors from 2 p.m. Meeting in the schools at 5 p.m. By kind permission the bells of St. Mary's church, Prescot (eight) will be open for ringing after the meeting at Huyton. It is particularly requested that all change-ringers in the diocese will avail themselves of this meeting and be present.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD, Branch Secretary.

40 Lowther Street, Liverpool.

P.S.—A meat tea will be provided at 1s. per head; all who wish to avail themselves of this will please communicate with the secretary not later than Tuesday, February 12th.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting will be held at Swanscombe on Monday, February 25th. Committee Meeting at the National School at 12.15. The churches of Dartford, Gravesend, and Milton may be visited. Those who wish to attend should acquaint the Secretary. At the committee meeting at Ashford on the 26th ult., it was decided to divide the county into five different districts, with local committees, who are to elect their own secretaries. Representatives from each district to sit on central committee. The proposal to raise the standard was not accepted. The amended rules will be in the hands of members shortly, and will be proposed for adoption at the Annual General meeting, which is to be held this year at Canterbury.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MEETING AT
LIVERSEDGE, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH, 1889.

The Committee has pleasure in announcing that by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. W. Fowler, M.A., and with the friendly co-operation of the Liversedge change-ringers, the next meeting will be held as above, *i.e.*, to-day, Saturday, February 9th.

WM. SNOWDON, President.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The meeting of the Rochdale branch of this Association to be held at Heywood, is postponed until to-day, Saturday, Feb 9th. Bells ready at 2 p.m. Meeting in the belfry at 5 p.m.

FRANK BIRTWISTLE, Sec.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 2nd, 1889, a band of ringers in connection with the above Society met at Dudley Port Railway Station, and journeyed by the 2.16 fast train to Stafford, arriving there at about 3 o'clock, and at once made their way to St. Mary's Church, the bells of which were already ringing to the tune of Grandsire Triples by the home band, as a kind of welcome to the visitors, but on reaching the belfry, the bells at once stopped, and after the usual greeting, a plain course of Grandsire Caters was rung, after which some adjourned for a few minutes, when, on their return, the first peal of Grandsire Caters ever rung in Stafford was finished at the first attempt, a report of which will be found in the proper place. The band then made their way as quickly as possible to the nearest refreshment house, and paid due attention to the inner man, after which they met the local band (among them being Mr. William Micklewright), when some courses on the handbells brought up the time for getting to the station to make the return journey, which was completed by 10.35, all being very much pleased with the afternoon's outing. In conclusion they wish to thank the Vicar of St. Mary's for the use of the bells, and also the local band for the trouble they took in getting all things in readiness, so that they had no loss of time. Through the kindness of the Stafford band a tablet is to be erected in the belfry to record the performance.

S. R.

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 DISASTER.

SIR,—I am sorry to inform you that last night the sixth bell at Tottenham parish church fell from its bearings, and now lies on the floor of the bell-chamber. It will, no doubt, soon be again in position, but meanwhile, by inserting this notice in "THE BELL NEWS," you may save intending visitors a fruitless journey.

T. C. GROVE, Sec. of All Hallows' Society, Tottenham.
February 6th, 1889.

A RINGERS' BENEFIT SOCIETY v. A RINGERS' DISTRESS FUND.

SIR,—There cannot be a shadow of doubt in the minds of those in the habit of keeping their "weather eye" open, and know a little of the working of friendly societies, but to the scheme suggested by Mr. Holden and supported by "Free Lance," with a few minor alterations, is the only feasible one that can possibly prove of advantage to the ringing community. I do not assert this because I have any desire to throw the slightest drop of cold water upon any proposal which might prove of any real benefit to my fellow working man, but simply because I see, in my humble opinion, the utter impracticability of attempting to bring about the formation of what some of your correspondents have termed a "Ringers' Benefit Society." My reasons for supporting Mr. Holden are, first: that because of great inconvenience in working such the advantages would be *nil*. Second: that inasmuch as it could not prove of any material benefit to the Exercise (except to the unthrifty and unthoughtful) there is no special need for such. Third: that the amount of contributions required to be paid in order to make the Society rank as a Benefit Society would be too heavy to many of the present generation of ringers who contribute to other societies. Fourth: that the amount of sick pay would prove of so small advantage to those belonging to modern or reformed societies that it would fail to be a real benefit except to those who do not provide for a rainy day. Fifth: apathy of the Exercise at large. The inconvenience of working has already been fully dwelt with by "Free Lance" and others, there is no need for me to raise a single point to support that part of the question. As to the need, where is there a fair-sized village that has not a lodge of one of the orders of Odd Fellows, some Court of Foresters, or some well-known society which is within easy distance of a town which, having a population of say eight or nine thousand, has three or four, and even in some seven or eight good sound enrolled societies with local or district secretaries, from whom a member draws upon declaring on the funds his weekly sick pay. Hence there is plenty of choice for all thoughtful working men who desire to provide for the time of sickness, and little if any need of a ringers' society. With respect to the sick pay question doubtless some of the ancient fossils will be desirous of knowing how I make good my case, for there are still some, happily only a few, that

allow "spongers" to have a turn pretty frequently at the funds, and we sometimes hear of a man receiving more in sickness than when at work. In modern societies and in those reformed, there is however a limitation upon a member's sick pay which is not allowed to exceed his weekly, or to cover more than in some cases five-sixths of his earnings. Thus those belonging to a society would have their sick pay reduced, consequently would not reap any substantial benefit, while the scale of contributions in order to meet the demands of those not belonging to any other society would have to be drawn too high for a majority of the Exercise to support. My last point will no doubt be considered a sweeping accusation, made by a novice, but it is true to the core. Probably I need only refer to the National Association question, the failure to establish due first to apathy, secondly, because it was misunderstood. I admit the Masons to be a body a little before my time, but the scheme suggested by "Free Lance," which in some respects is similar to a newspaper press fund, appears workable, and might, if carried out, prove a benefit to ringers when in distress, or to their widows and orphans. In a newspaper press fund with which I am connected, our annual subscription is 10s. 6d., supplemented by life and honorary donations. Loans or gifts can be applied for and granted according to circumstances of the applicant by a very small committee, or the whole amount is repayable at a certain age, or in case of death upon application from relatives with such sum added as the Committee are enabled and consider meets the justice of the case. Surely some similar scheme is practicable among ringers. All friendly societies have a limit to the period of their sick allowance, and in cases of disease of long standing there would be something to fall back upon just as the shoe began to pinch, and thus prove a real benefit. The amount of annual subscription suggested by "Free Lance" is within the powers of one and all, and the amount would doubtless be increased by some if it was made from 1s. and upwards. That is however a matter of detail, just as the means of obtaining assistance, which appears rather a roundabout system. I would suggest that a member desiring assistance should obtain a form from the district secretary to be filled in by the clergyman of his parish, one member of his company and the district secretary, the official secretary to put the case before say about eight or nine members of the Committee, and grant the average amount voted. I hope to see that some of our prominent ringers will take the matter in hand with the determination to carry it out with success.

B. KEEBLE, Sec. Romford Branch United Patriots.

THE CLERGY AND CHANGE-RINGING.

SIR,—We sometimes lament that change-ringing is not more encouraged by the clergy. May I point out one cause that occasionally alienates them, viz., the tendency to think little of, or neglect, what is after all the first duty of ringers and the very reason for the existence of church bells, viz.: the ringing for Divine Service? If a clergyman finds that his ringers are careless in their Sunday duties, but eager about meetings for practice and peal-ringing, no wonder if he begins to think that change-ringing is not worth encouraging. I am not speaking without book in this matter. Within the last month I have been consulted by at least two parish clergymen with respect to their ringers. One says: "I cannot help feeling that here the ringers do not attach anything like due importance to ringing in connection with Church services or Church seasons." Another—a clergyman who really wishes to encourage change-ringing—says, "Bells are not essential to a church; and I sometime feel inclined to close the belfry entirely." In this latter case, it is fair to add, there was a more serious trouble than irregularity of attendance, viz., the support accorded by the ringers to one of their number whom the clergyman had dismissed for immorality; a cause which, in a third case that has come under my notice, led to the break-up of a band, the withdrawal of their clergyman from the Association to which he and they belonged, and the complete extinction for the time (perhaps for many years) of change-ringing in that parish. My position as Secretary to a County Association gives me some opportunity of learning the feelings of the clergy about change-ringing, and their reasons for encouraging or discouraging it; and it is certainly not always they who are to blame for its discouragement. Few of them—thanks to the revival that has taken place in the art itself and in the status of ringers, and to the efforts of the various ringing Associations—are now actively opposed to it; but the majority are still indifferent; and indifference may easily be converted into hostility by mistakes or misconduct on the part of ringers. Some clergymen do not see how change-ringing can be worked "on Church lines;" some think that, so long as the bells are rung, and the ringers are respectable, it is quite immaterial whether rounds or call-changes or changes proper are heard; some prefer chiming for service, and rather than be bothered with the trouble that ringers often give, would go in once for all for a chiming apparatus and desire nothing more. We have to make head against all this dead-weight of indifference; and the only way is for all ringers to feel and show that they feel, their duty to the Church. If they want the

parson to support them and their art, they must support him; and above all they must bear in mind the feeling expressed by one of my correspondents above-mentioned—a feeling which I know to be almost universal among the clergy—"If ringers are not men of sound character, they are really a hindrance to Church work in a parish; and we should be better without them." I need hardly point out that policy, if no higher motive, should make ringers desire and deserve the co-operation of the clergy. We cannot ring without bells; with very few exceptions bells hang in church towers; and over the church tower and the bells in it the clergyman is by law supreme. No one, not even the churchwardens, can ring, or cause the bells to be rung without his sanction, and conversely, no one but himself can stop the ringing for which he has given permission. As between ringers and clergy, each has something to gain from friendly co-operation and mutual respect; both have much to lose from anything that keeps them apart.

T. L. PAPILLON,

Hon. Sec. Essex Association.

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford, Feb. 1st, 1889.

CELEBRATION OF MR. HENRY JOHNSON'S 80TH BIRTHDAY.

SIR,—You will perhaps find space again to insert this letter which is of the nature of a formal notice. Thursday, February 28th, is the 80th birthday of Mr. Henry Johnson. There are doubtless many who like myself would be loth to let the occasion pass without special notice. The great esteem in which this celebrated ringer is so widely held, not only on account of his remarkable talent but also for his unvarying courtesy to all, led, three years ago, to the establishment by the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, of an annual dinner in his honour. It seems to me, however, that Mr. Johnson's attainment of the age of 80 should receive a recognition of a more national character, and for this reason I, as president of the Midland Counties' Change-Ringers' Association, of which he is an honoured member, desire to ask my brother presidents of other Associations to join with me in forming a gathering at Birmingham representative of the chief ringing Societies throughout the country. With this object I purpose to give, on the date in question, a dinner to which I wish to invite the chief ringing officers of each County or Diocesan Association, or, where this gentleman may be precluded from accepting, such delegate as he may appoint. I should gladly write personally to the president of every society, but unfortunately I have no means of promptly obtaining the addresses. Will you, Sir, therefore allow me to send my invitation through your columns and to request an answer directed to the subjoined address. The programme which has been adopted is appended, this having been drawn up in consultation with friends from Birmingham and other parts. It is so seldom that an opportunity occurs of bringing together for a common object ringers from all directions, and the social intercourse of such meetings is so agreeable as well as so beneficial, that I trust a widespread endeavour will be made to make Mr. Johnson's 80th birthday the occasion of the most truly national gathering of ringers that has yet been assembled.

A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

Duffield Bank, near Derby, February 4th, 1889.

Johnson Celebration.

PROGRAMME.

Thursday, February 28th.—St. Martin's (12 bells) and other towers will be open for touch ringing from 2.30 till 4.30. Dinner at 5 o'clock, followed by speeches, after which arrangements will be made for peals at various towers on the following day.

Friday, March 1st.—A number of towers will be open for peal and touch ringing in Birmingham and the neighbourhood. A social gathering will be held at the St. Martin's Hotel in the evening, commencing with a meat tea (1/6) at 7 o'clock. Arrangements will then be made for any peals that may be desired on the following day.

A reception room, where any enquiries may be made, will, for the convenience of visitors, be open at the St. Martin's Hotel from 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. on Thursday, and from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday. In order to facilitate the meeting of friends it is particularly requested that visitors, on arriving in Birmingham, will at once proceed to the reception room and enter their names in the book provided for the purpose.

The stewards of the meeting (who will wear a red rosette) will be ready to give to visitors any information or assistance in their power.

The invited representatives of the various Associations will be presented with a ticket for the dinner on intimating their intention to be present to A. Percival Heywood, Esq., Duffield Bank, nr. Derby. Other ringers wishing to join the party are requested to apply for tickets (price 2/6 including wine) to the Hon. Sec., Mr. W. H. Godden, Finch Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, to whom also any enquiries may be addressed. All applications for dinner tickets (except from invited guests) must be accompanied by a remittance, and must be made between February 11th and February 25th.

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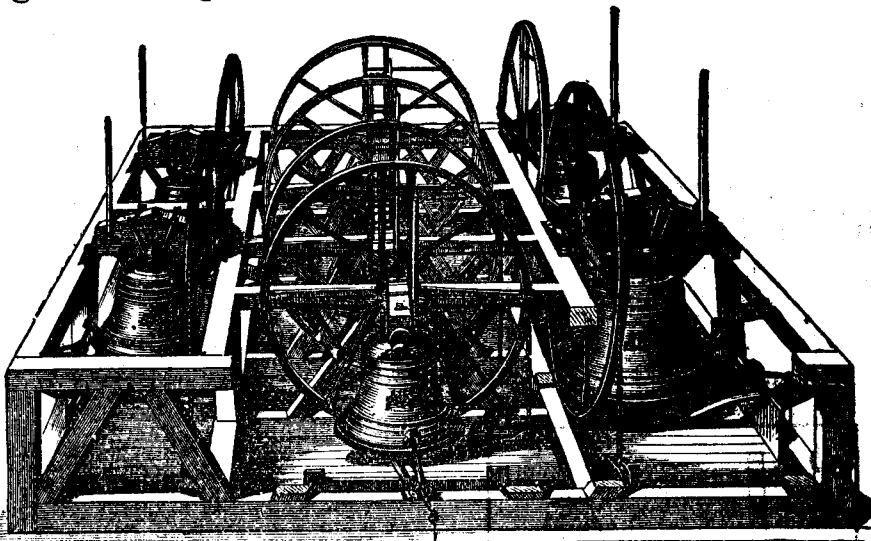
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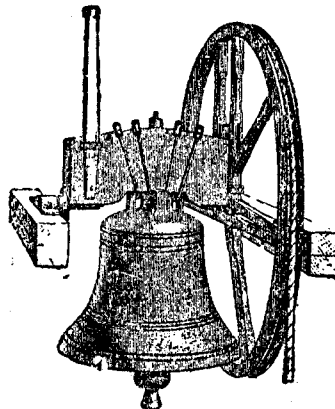
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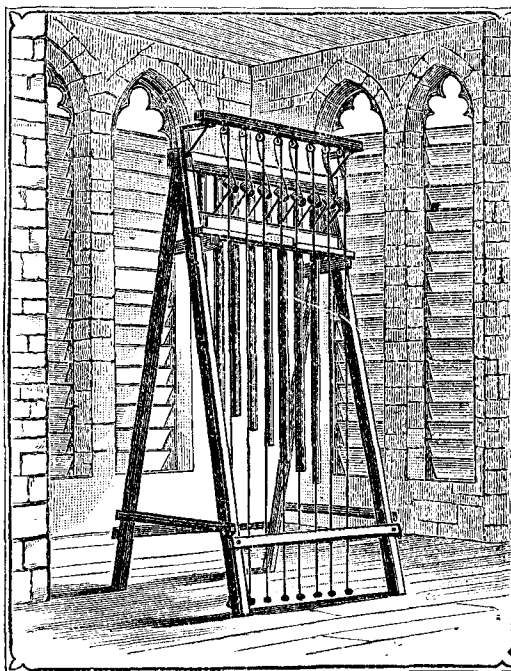
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THE PEAL OF MAXIMUS AT NORWICH IN 1817,
WAS IT DOUBLE NORWICH OR NOT?

BY A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

IV.

The four Maximus methods given by Hubbard (pp. 37, 38) are Single and Double Court and Single and Double Norwich Court. It is stated on the peal tablet recording the peal of Maximus that the method was "Norwich Court Bob." This is of itself sufficient to decide that at all events the peal was in some Norwich Court variation. So hazy, however, were both Shipway and Hubbard as to the real distinction between Norwich Court and other Court methods that I have thought it best to be at the trouble of treating the question as if the mention of "Norwich" on the tablet were not in itself sufficiently decisive.

The whole of the Court methods, by whatever author, are arranged on the rigid plan of quadruple and triple changes alternately. When the triple change is made two bells must of necessity lie still. If these are always the first and the last a plain hunt of all the bells is the result. Therefore to produce a method some of the lying still, or places, must be located inside. It is the position and number of these inside places that determine the method and also absolutely fix the hunting and dodging. Further, it is a recognised principle, from which no accepted method departs, that the places in the second half of a lead are always the exact converse of those in the first half, and that what constitutes a double method is the conversivity of the second *quarter* of the lead to the first *quarter* in addition to the conversivity of the two halves. Now the principle of Double Norwich Major is easily enunciated. When the treble strikes in 2-3, fourths place, and when in 4-5, thirds place is laid. These first four changes absolutely determine the rest, for as the method is a double one the next four will be the converse of the former, and sixths and fifths be laid as the treble pauses through 4-5, 6-7. The second half of the lead is again the converse of the first half, and fifths and sixths followed by thirds and fourths are made as the treble passes respectively through 7-6, 5-4, and 5-4, 3-2. It will on examination be seen that the same bell makes both of the pair of places that are laid following one another, such as thirds and fourths. This causes the bells to be unaffected in the *direction* of their travel. The London Court methods, on the other hand, never permit a bell to lie more than one place at a time; consequently the direction of travel is reversed. The difference therefore between Norwich Court and London Court is that in the former a bell makes two places and goes forward eventually in the direction it was previously travelling, whereas in the latter a bell makes one place and turns back to where it came from.

A further distinction between the two methods is that the accepted bob, though in both cases on the three last bells, is made in Norwich Court Major by sixths place being laid instead of eighths, while in London Court Major eighths is laid instead of sixths. Both the *Clavis* and "Shipway" suggest for each a fourths place bob, which however never seems to have received support. I have based the above remarks upon the standard methods of Double Norwich Major and Double London Court Major. All authors give them alike, and it is only when we come to variations and extensions that we find a difference between the writers. Therefore there is no question of the correctness of the distinction I have drawn. The plan of extending Double Norwich to ten and twelve bells is most simple. Fourth and thirds are made while the treble is in 2-3-4-5 as on eight, and places a corresponding distance from behind when the treble gets up, namely eighths and sevenths in Royal and tenths and ninths in Maximus. The same, of course, in converse as the treble comes down. As the number of inside places remain constant while the number of changes in the lead is increased it is clear there will be less dodging, for it is the inside places that cause the dodging. Thus we find that the double dodge before and after the whole pull in front and behind, which is the "full work" of Double Norwich Major, is reduced in Royal to a single dodge on each side, and in Maximus to a single dodge one side only of the whole pull.

A little study will shew how beautifully this method adapts itself to any even number of bells, a quality which is borne out by the fact that there is no difference of opinion between authors as to the way in which Double Norwich Royal and Maximus should

be pricked. Keeping in mind that the double places made by one bell (which I shall for the future call "Norwich Places"), are the signs of which the absence precludes any variation from being considered as belonging to the Norwich family, we are now in a position to consider Hubbard's four Maximus methods. The last of the four (p. 38) is the true Double Norwich Court Bob Maximus as given by Shipway, in which Norwich places are made in fourths and thirds, also in tenths and ninths, as the treble goes up, and the same places in reverse as it comes down. Here I will draw attention to the statement on the peal tablet that "this peal very much resembles Norwich Court Royal on Ten, there being very short dodging on the bells before and behind and tenths place at the bob." Evidently the company who rang the peal were so anxious to leave no doubt as to the method that, not content with giving the full title by which it was locally known, they were at the trouble of writing up a description of it. It is possible, indeed probable, or Shipway would have heard of it, that the method on twelve had not been long practised, but that the great abilities of the St. Peter's band of that time fired them with a desire to achieve a peal of Maximus. Where did they get the method from? In all probability the extension from ten to twelve bells was arranged by some Norwich ringer as the extension from eight to ten had been in earlier years by Thomas Porter (Snowdon p. 46). Shipway, as we have seen, evolved it for himself, and so clear is the procedure that, having in view the principles of the extension from eight bells to ten, no person of ordinary ability could well fail to arrive at the correct solution. Seeing, therefore, that the method on twelve was doubtless arranged at Norwich and had not been previously practised there to a sufficient extent at all events to reach the ears of the London ringers (although the peal at St. Peter Mancroft was increased to twelve in 1775) we are able to understand why the somewhat unusual course of describing the method on the tablet was adopted. Bearing in mind that the method on eight bells entails double dodging on each side of the whole pulls in front and behind, on ten single dodging on each side, and on twelve single dodging on one side only, is not the description of "very short dodging in front and behind" peculiarly appropriate? We may well fancy that a ringer of Double Norwich Royal would consider the dodging short as composed with Major, while he would naturally feel the dodging on twelve shorter still, and term it in consequence "very short."

Let us now turn to Hubbard's second method (p. 37). This is a most curious production, and, to understand it, a short preliminary explanation will be necessary. Shipway gives as Single Norwich a method which does not contain "Norwich places" at all (part i. p. 68). He apparently failed to see that the real distinction between a Norwich variation and other Court methods lies in these "Norwich places." In London Court, as already remarked, the places are made singly, and reverse the travel of the bell making them. I will term these "London places," and would direct attention to the mischievous effect they produce on the coursing of the bells, so much so that in Double London Court there are only two places where bobs can be called without parting the tenors. Now not only does Shipway make in his Single Norwich the mistake referred to, but he also gives under the title of Double Court (part i. p. 60) a Major method which is clearly recognisable as Norwich. True Single Norwich has never been given by any author, but in these more enlightened days it will easily be understood that it would properly consist in retaining only the place-making in 3-4. Again Single Norwich Reverse would consist in retaining the hinder place-making, while that in 3-4 would be abandoned. If Shipway's Double Court Bob Major be examined, the first half of the lead will be seen to be Single Norwich, and the last half Single Norwich Reverse. It is thus apparent that in the second half of the lead the work is not, as in a legitimate method, that of the first half done *backwards*, but *forwards*.

From this most curious method Hubbard's second Maximus method is doubtless taken, for it is a simple extension of the same to twelve bells in which "Norwich places" are made in 3-4 as the treble goes up, and in 9-10 as it comes down. The abnormal nature of the arrangement appears amply sufficient to make it certain that it originated with Shipway alone, in which case it certainly had nothing to do with the method rung at Norwich, for the reasons already given at length in the second

of these papers. It is to be noted that Hubbard retains the name, given to the method by Shipway, of "Double Court Bob," a fact which still further confirms its origin.

We now come to the first and third of Hubbard's Maximus methods (pp. 37, 38). In my second article I exposed the absurd nature of Hubbard's Single Court methods. From the two we have been noticing he deduces, after the same fashion he adopts in treating Major and Royal, single methods by taking the first half of the lead as in the double, and in the second half letting the bells all run a plain hunt. To the argument that no sensible company would have rung such methods, especially one containing such able composers as the Norwich band of that time, may be added the following consideration. Hubbard obtained, as we have seen, his idea for Double Court Bob Maximus from Shipway. The same hand that evolved from it the above insane single method was clearly the one that treated Double Norwich Maximus in a similar way, and thus produced Hubbard's third method. As (excepting Banister, who copies Hubbard) no other author suggests this treatment, and as no record appears to exist of such a method having been rung, there is a strong inference that Hubbard was the person in question. In any case the connection of this treatment with one of Shipway's methods makes it tolerably certain that it was not worked out till a date subsequent to the peal of Maximus. Of Hubbard's four Maximus methods, then, we may with confidence select Double Norwich Court Bob as the one in which the celebrated Norwich peal was rung.

(To be continued.)

OMBERSLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

This picturesquely-situated village, distant about seven miles from Worcester, has a ring of six bells at the parish church. For very many years the parish has boasted of some good six-bell ringers, and at the present time the company appears to be in a prosperous condition. On Wednesday evening, January 30th, the members and their friends met at the "Sandys Arms" hotel, when nearly forty sat down to an excellent supper provided by host Stanton, a quantity of game kindly sent by Lord Sandys making a very welcome addition to the usual joints. Among those present were Messrs. Geach, Burrow, Page, King, Barker, Reynolds, Hundley, Brown, Goodwin, Norman, Rea, and Taylor; and Mr. H. Wilks of the Worcester society. After the loyal toasts had been duly honoured Mr. Geach proposed "Success to the Ombersley Ringers," to which Mr. B. Rea responded, and who then proposed the health of Lord and Lady Sandys, thanking his lordship for his fine present of game, and for the kindly interest he takes in everything connected with Ombersley. The toast was received with "three times three," and "one more for Lady Sandys," and the hearty singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow." Other toasts were "The Chairman" (Mr. Geach), proposed by Mr. Page, and "Our Host and Hostess." Singing by various members of the company greatly enhanced the pleasure of the evening, which was most enjoyable throughout, and terminated with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," one and all hoping that the ringers would make the supper an annual fixture.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE Next Annual Meeting of the above Association will be held on Saturday, February 16th, at the "Arden Arms," Millgate, Stockport. Members are hereby requested to note that the business meeting which will precede the dinner, will commence at 3.30, and dinner at 5 o'clock. Dinner tickets 1s. 6d. each. Those companies intending being present at dinner will greatly oblige by sending in their number to Mr. Fletcher, "Arden Arms," Millgate, Stockport, on or before Thursday, February 14th. Members are further requested to note that the annual subscriptions are due. The bells of St. Mary's parish church (8), have been kindly placed at the disposal of the members.

JAMES S. WILDE, } Hon. Secs.
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE, }

WANTED Man and Wife (without encumbrances), to live in Vicarage, as Gardener and General Servant. Wife must be Good Plain Cook. Rev. H. A. COCKEY, Oldland, Bristol.

FROME, SOMERSETSHIRE.

On Saturday last, February 9, the ringers of the parish church of St. John the Baptist, Frome, Somersetshire, assisted by a few ringers from Buckland, Dinham had an outing, the place selected being the Parish Church, Warminster, Wilts. A start was made from Frome in a well-horsed break about three in the afternoon, and Warminster was reached just after four, being a distance of about seven miles. The church contains a capital ring of eight bells in good going order, and the ropes fall in a good circle, but are very close to the wall which necessitates one to stand in anything but a comfortable position while ringing and certainly handicaps a band of learners. Grandsire Doubles was the order of the afternoon, the striking being remarkably good. In the evening the visitors were met by the Warminster band, who also rung some Grandsire Doubles. As both bands are young beginners at change-ringing triples could not be attempted, but it is hoped that by the next meeting they will be able to do so. The Frome ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar for granting permission to use the bells, and also thank Dr. Wilcox and G. B. Mundy, Esq., also the steeple-keeper and the rest of the Warminster band for having everything in readiness.

W. S. F.

SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, February 2nd, the ringers of Christ Church and a few friends met together at the "Farriers' Arms" to celebrate the winning of the United Counties' Association six-bell cup by the ringers of the above church. About fifty sat down to an excellent tea, provided by the landlord, Mr. Jackson. After tea Mr. Joseph Shaw was voted to the chair, being supported by Messrs. Buckley and Turner. Previous to the tea a 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung by father, four sons, and a nephew, in 26 mins. James Dicken (conductor), 1; Samuel Dicken, 2; William Dicken, 3; Frederick Dicken, 4; Thomas B. Dicken, 5; J. T. Dicken, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. In the course of the evening songs were sung by J. D. Shaw, J. W. Shaw, J. F. Carter, J. J. Buckley and others. The Leesfield handbell ringers were also present and went through a series of tunes, consisting of the "Blue Bells of Scotland" with variations, "Caller Herrin," "Three Bonny Lads," and several others. Courses were also rung on the bells by members from Mossley and Lees combined. The best thanks of the meeting were given to the host and hostess for the manner in which they had provided the tea. Mr. John Holden, the President of the United Counties' Association, brought the meeting to a close by moving a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was seconded by Mr. John Buckley, who suitably responded.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting will be held at Hertford on Saturday, February 23rd. The towers of St. Andrew's and All Saints' churches will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Tea at 5.0 p.m. at the coffee tavern, followed by the business meeting. Arrangements will be made with the Great Northern Railway company for the issue of cheap tickets to members attending the meeting, if they will inform me not later than Wednesday, the 20th instant, of the stations from which they intend to travel. The railway authorities will require members to produce their receipts for the current year's subscription at the booking offices at the time of applying for the tickets.

E. P. DEBENHAM, Hon. Sec.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting will be held at Swanscombe on Monday, February 25th. Committee Meeting at the National School at 12.15. The churches of Dartford, Gravesend, and Milton may be visited. Those who wish to attend should acquaint the Secretary. At the committee meeting at Ashford on the 26th ult., it was decided to divide the county into five different districts, with local committees, who are to elect their own secretaries. Representatives from each district to sit on central committee. The proposal to raise the standard was not accepted. The amended rules will be in the hands of members shortly, and will be proposed for adoption at the Annual General meeting, which is to be held this year at Canterbury.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A very successful District Meeting of this Guild was held on Thursday, February 7th, at Guildford, and was attended by ringers from Alton, Betchworth, Bletchingley, Billingshurst, Bramley, Capel, Catherington, Dorking, Farnham, Godalming, Gosport, Havant, Leatherhead, Shalford, Weybridge, Woking, and Guildford. The programme for the afternoon and evening was the ringing of touches at St. Michael's from 3.30 to 5.0, and from 6.30 to 9.0. At five o'clock the members adjourned to the St. Nicholas' parish room for a meat tea, followed by a business meeting, at which twenty-six members were present. Twenty-two members were elected by the Committee. During the afternoon and evening the following touches were brought round:

A 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. T. H. Colburn, 1; W. C. Ryde, Esq., 2; H. Browne, 3; F. Bennett, 4; T. J. Jones, 5; G. Smithers, 6. And 168 of Grandsire Triples. J. Heathorn, 1; C. Mitchell, 2; W. Faithfull, 3; P. Beale, Esq., 4; F. Bennett (conductor), 5; W. Groves, 6; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 7; E. Stone, 8. Also 168 of Grandsire Triples. Rev. F. Whyley, 1; W. Sadler, 2; W. Groves, 3; J. Hewett, 4; J. Staples, 5; D. Jordan, 6; S. Brooker (conductor), 7; G. H. Barnett, 8. And 280 of Grandsire Triples. J. Heathorn, 1; W. Wade, 2; W. Sadler, 3; F. W. J. Rees, Esq., 4; W. Groves, 5; F. Bennett, 6; S. Brooker (conductor), 7; H. Brown, 8. Also 342 of Grandsire Triples. E. Dodd, 1; F. Bennett, 2; J. Hewett (conductor), 3; J. Staples, 4; T. Bashford, 5; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 6; W. Groves, 7; C. W. Miller, 8. And 378 of Grandsire Triples. T. H. Colburn, 1; J. Hewett, 2; G. H. Barnett, 3; F. W. Rees, Esq., 4; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 5; J. Staples, 6; S. Brooker (conductor), 7; W. H. Poole, Esq., 8. Also 504 of Grandsire Triples. J. Hewett, 1; J. Staple, 2; J. Heathorn, 3; W. Sadler, 4; T. J. Jones, 5; F. Bennett (conductor), 6; W. Groves, 7; H. E. Hart, 8. And 360 of Grandsire Minor (by the Bramley Band). G. Martin, 1; W. Roe, 2; A. Hook, 4; F. Martin, 4; H. Brown (conductor), 5; G. Smithers, 8. Also 336 of Grandsire Triples (by the Guildford Band). C. W. Miller, 1; T. H. Colburn, 2; T. Heathorn, 3; F. W. J. Rees, Esq., 4; F. Bennett (conductor), 5; T. J. Jones, 6; W. Groves, 7; H. E. Hart, 8.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 2nd, the members of the St. Thomas Society, Stourbridge, with a few friends, met at the tower, and a 352 of Bob Major was rung. W. A. Pugh, 1; A. Orford, 2; C. Barrett, 3; H. Deakin, 4; H. Hartshorn, 5; W. F. Hartshorn, 6; H. Harris, 7; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 8. Also a touch of Bob Triples. C. Barrett, 1; H. Deakin, 2; W. A. Pugh, 3; J. Parsons, 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; H. Harris, 6; W. F. Hartshorn, 7; J. Crump, 8. The company afterwards adjourned to the "Waggon and Horses," where they sat down to a good substantial supper, which was admirably served by the worthy host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. John Baker, and to which ample justice was done. The cloth being drawn, Mr. Barrett was voted to the chair, and Mr. Pagett vice-chairman, when, after a few remarks from each, harmony was the order of the evening, song and sentiment being interspersed with changes and tunes on the handbells. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the host and hostess, which brought a very pleasant and convivial evening to a close, the whole company having enjoyed themselves heartily. The visitors represented Brierley Hill, Belbroughton, Hagley, Wordsley and Woolaston.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN BRANCH.

The next monthly meeting of this branch will be held at Huyton on Saturday, February 16th. The bells (six) will be open to visitors from 2 p.m. Meeting in the schools at 5 p.m. By kind permission the bells of St. Mary's church, Prescott (eight) will be open for ringing after the meeting at Huyton. It is particularly requested that all change-ringers in the diocese will avail themselves of this meeting and be present.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD, Branch Secretary.

NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

The next meeting of the above Association will be held at St. Swithin's church, East Retford, on Saturday, March 2nd, at 7 p.m., by kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. A. F. Elsworth.

ST. MARY CRAY, KENT.

Change-ringing in this village, which has been held somewhat in abeyance for nearly a year through illness and absentees, has recently been revived through the return to the parish of the late conductor, Mr. H. Blackwell. His latest efforts have been so successful that on Thursday evening, January 7th, a well-struck performance was rung by some younger members of the band, comprising six 6-scores of Bob Doubles in 28 mins.; and on Sunday evening, February 3rd, for Divine Service, the same band rang their first 720 of Grandsire Doubles, being six 6-scores each called differently, in 27 mins. A. E. Wise (age 15), 1; H. Cornish, 2; I. Emery, 3; J. Emery, 4; H. Blackwell (conductor), 5. This performance will be recorded and placed in the belfry with one so recorded in 1886. The band hope now to practise other methods, in order to achieve a 720 in six separate methods. Our correspondent adds:—"We are in urgent need of a new treble to make up six, our bells being rather too heavy for a ring of five, and we hold £17 towards this object."

On Thursday evening, February 7th, the annual supper to the ringers was held at the Vicarage. The company previously met at the church and rang for about an hour, when they were joined by their late captain, the Rev. S. B. Welch, curate of St. John's, Red Lion Square, London, who spent the evening with them. At the vicarage they were bountifully entertained by the Vicar and his wife, among the party present being Mr. G. Berens, son of G. Berens, Esq., of Kevington Hall. After supper, the remainder of the evening was spent in innocent conviviality, and the usual vote of thanks brought the festivities to a close.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

THE GENERAL MEETING due to be held at Hurworth on February 25th, has been postponed to Monday, March 4th. Dinner at the "Bay Horse" at two o'clock; 1s. to members. Dinner tickets should be applied for as early as possible to the Secretary. The Committee will meet at the "Bay Horse" at one o'clock. Hurworth Church is one mile from Croft Station, and three miles from Dinsdale. Peal of six, tenor 17 cwt.

16 Finkle Street, Stockton-on-Tees. G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BLACKBURN BRANCH.—The next meeting will be held at the parish church, Oswaldtwistle, on Saturday, February 23rd. Belfry open at 2.30. Meeting at 5 o'clock. J. HORROCKS, Sec.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

The Quarterly Meeting which was intended to be held at St. Mark's, Preston, on Saturday, February 16th, will be held at Chorley instead, owing to one of the bells breaking on Monday night last at Preston.

JAMER HIGSON, Sec.

57 Chorley Road, Blackrod.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association will be held at Angmering (West Sussex six-bell tower), details of which will be sent to each member.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

JAS. E. WORSELL, Ass. Hon. Sec.

N.B.—In the account of the District Meeting held at Seaford, it was in error printed that a new branch had been opened at Eastbourne parish church; it should have read "Easebourne."

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR MR. F. BATE.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	1 5 6
Mr. Mathews, Borough	0 1 0
Mr. Jones, Brierley Hill	0 2 0
Mr. Webb, Worcester	0 2 6
Mr. Ferry, London	0 2 6

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received by Mr. B. Buckmaster, 46, Newington Butts, S.E., or by Mr. Codlin, 18, Cole Street, Borough, S.E.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The February meeting of this Association was held on Saturday, February 9th, at Liversedge, at which, in spite of the severity of the weather, there was a fairly good attendance of members and friends. A well-struck touch of Kent Treble Bob Major on the fine ring in the parish church tower by the Bradford members commenced the active proceedings of the day, and from that time till a late hour in the evening the bells were kept going in various methods.

At four o'clock the committee met in Mill Bridge schoolroom, for the transaction of business, when forty-five new members were elected, and Mr. C. H. Hattersley chosen as the representative of the Association on the occasion of the Johnson celebration at Birmingham.

At five o'clock the members sat down to a very substantial meat tea in the same schoolroom, when the appetites of the visitors having been sharpened by the keen bracing air which swept across the Spen valley, full justice was done to the well-cooked viands.

This pleasant part of the proceedings being over, the president (Mr. William Snowden) opened the business meeting, supported by the Rev. W. Fowler, Vicar of Liversedge, Messrs. W. H. Howard (York) and G. Bolland (Tong), vice-presidents; Mr. W. Stainthorpe (Birstall), Hon. Treasurer; Mr. W. Whitaker, (Leeds) Hon. Secretary; Mr. B. T. Copley (Bradford), Steward; and Messrs. T. Haigh (Huddersfield), J. T. Hollis (Wakefield), J. H. Hardcastle (Bradford), A. Spurr (Ossett), J. Broadley (Bradford), and F. London (Shipley), Committeemen; there being also present a large number of members and friends, including several ladies.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed,

The President referred briefly to the position of the Association and the Exercise generally, strongly advising all to study well the leading article and Mr. Papillon's letter in that day's "BELL NEWS." After thanking the worthy Vicar for the kind manner in which he had treated him in reference to this meeting, which kindness and proffered hospitality he considered was given through him to the whole of the members, he adverted to the loss which the Association had sustained by the death of its late Treasurer, Mr. Robert Tuke. "THE BELL NEWS" of that day having given so good a report of this lamentable occurrence, he felt he need not enter into details, but proposed a motion expressing their deepest regret at the sad event, their recognition of Mr. Tuke's services in the past, and their condolence with the family and the Bradford members in their bereavement.

Mr. W. Whitaker, in seconding this motion, said he did so with the deepest regret. It carried his mind back to 1874, when they were working together arduously in forming the Association. Mr. Tuke spared no time, energy, or expense in that work, and his enthusiasm, coupled with that displayed by "dear old Jasper," surmounted every difficulty and carried all before them. As years rolled on, and the Association grew larger, more comprehensive, and more powerful, Mr. Tuke's interest seemed to grow along with it—he was never weary in well-doing. As Hon. Secretary, he (the speaker) of course was necessarily much more in Mr. Tuke's company than the ordinary members as a rule, and he could honestly say that no one could possibly have striven more earnestly to build up the Yorkshire Association than did Jasper Snowden and Robert Tuke. Then when he left them for a tour in a foreign land their regrets and well-wishes went with him, and they looked forward to the time when he would be amongst them again. But such was not to be; and when he heard of Mr. Tuke's death he received the news very incredulously, it seemed too sudden to be true. Had Mr. Tuke been at home instead of in a far-off land, and they had been able to see him during his last brief illness, they might have grasped the melancholy fact, but being so far away, and not knowing any news of him but good news, it was only natural that they were so inclined to doubt the veracity of the news. However, there could be no doubt of it, reluctant though they might be to credit it, and it was to him especially a sorrowful duty to perform in seconding that motion when he remembered how some time ago he was himself nigh at death's door, when it

seemed likely as if it would have fallen to the lot of Mr. Tuke to perform the duty towards him which he himself had to perform towards his old friend that day.

The motion was carried in silence, all present rising from their seats.

Mr. Ezra Keighley, on behalf of his local company, then gave a cordial invitation to the Association to hold its June meeting at Calverley, at the same time promising a hearty reception to the Vicar of Liversedge if he could make it convenient to attend. This invitation was unanimously accepted.

Mr. W. H. Howard, in a few well-chosen words, proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. W. Fowler for the use of bells and schoolroom during the day.

Mr. G. Bolland seconded the motion, which was carried amid loud cheers.

The Rev. W. Fowler, in responding, gave the Association a very cordial welcome to Liversedge. Although, like the Dean of York, he could not boast of a practical knowledge of change-ringing, yet he knew the difference between good and bad ringing, he also knew what "jumbling out" meant. In the course of a very amusing speech, he observed that ringers were a funny set of folk; their technical terms were also very contradictory. After they had rung rounds a minute or two, the conductor called "go," but instead of going everyone stuck to their ropes and commenced change-ringing; then they were told to "dodge," which he thought was a bad habit, and particularly within the precincts of a church tower; although there might not be a ringer whose christian name was Robert, yet the conductor would be continually calling out "Bob;" and if all the ringers were married men, sure as ought he would cry "single;" at other times he would call for an "extreme," while they would all agree with him that such measures were in almost all cases to be avoided. Then at the finish, he would give the order to "stand all," when as a matter of fact every man of them was standing already, and had been during the whole of the ringing. He well remembered how some little time after he came to Liversedge (nearly a quarter of a century ago) he enquired of an old and talented ringer and composer there, Mr. Barker, how they contrived to ring the bells in changes. The reply he got was "Oh, they go from front to behunt, and then from behunt to front again." He thought this very curious, so the next practice-night he went up into the belfry to see this extraordinary performance, but he said, he could see no going "from front to behunt," and back again, for every man stuck to his own rope and rung his own bell to the finish. Leaving the humorous side of the question, he said he thought more attention should be given by authors and writers on ringing to the strictly elementary portion of the subject. He had studied geology, and in fact many other "ologies," in every case of which copious explanations and glossaries were furnished as to the meaning of technical terms, but in ringing this very essential point seemed to be too much lost sight of. Ringers, of course, would understand them, but he thought there were many clergymen and others like himself who had not the opportunity of learning the practical part of ringing, who would be very glad to study the theory if they could only get works which treated the subject from its very commencement. There was also another point which he would like to mention. No doubt the ringers had had it drummed into their ears over and over again of the duty of going into church and taking part in the services. He did not wish the ringers to do this simply from a sense of duty, he thought they ought to have a pleasure in so doing, and he had no doubt that frequent attendance at the Church's services would make it a pleasure to those who participated in them. He concluded a most humorous and at the same time practical speech by advising all his ringers to join the Association, as its aims were good, and it was calculated to be of benefit to all who belonged to it, and he hoped it would not be long before they had again the pleasure of meeting each other at Liversedge.

Mr. W. Stainthorpe then proposed, and Mr. J. T. Hollis seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to the Liversedge company for their generous efforts for the comfort of the members, and also to the ladies who had so kindly and efficiently prepared the tea and presided at the tables. This was carried with loud applause.

The Rev. W. Fowler said he had been asked to respond. He

company, although good ringers, were no speakers, and while thanking the assembly on their behalf for the vote, humorously remarked that if the ringers felt themselves unable to perform that duty, they might have asked one of their wives to do it for them.

A vote of thanks to the President brought the proceedings to a close.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A very successful meeting was held at Chipping Sodbury on the 30th of last month, being the occasion of the anniversary of the above Association. The proceedings commenced, according to unvarying custom, with a short service in the parish church of Chipping Sodbury, when an excellent address was given by the Rev. W. H. Harvey, Vicar. The other clergy present in the church were the Revs. Pitt Eykyn, Vicar of Magor, Mon., and Hon. Sec. of the Association, who read the lesson; A. Pontifex, Vicar of Yatè; and H. A. Cockey, the newly-appointed Vicar of Oldland-by-Biton.

The dinner was served at "The Portcullis" hotel, when the Vicar presided. The loyal toasts were well received, after which, "Success to the Association" was given, to which C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., Local Secretary for the Bristol district, suitably responded. The Rev. Pitt Eykyn gave "The Vicar and Churchwardens of Chipping Sodbury;" and "The worthy local Secretary of the district, Mr. Frank Howell," of Thornbury, was given from the chair, and responded to by him.

Afterwards the business meeting was held. Regret was felt at the resignation of F. E. Ward, Esq., of the Mastership, owing to his removing to live at Newport, Mon. The Mastership having been offered to C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., of Bristol, on the nomination of Mr. Johnson Hern, that gentleman begged to be allowed to nominate the Rev. H. A. Cockey, whose fame in bellringing circles was so widely known, instead. Upon Mr. Boutflower's adhering to his wish, and Mr. Cockey being found willing to undertake the office, he was duly elected Master for 1889. The Hon. Secretary was then unanimously re-elected; and the Hon. Treasurer, Henry Hatherly, Esq., of the National Provincial Bank of Gloucester, was re-elected.

In the unavoidable absence of the Treasurer, the Hon. Sec. read his statement to the meeting, showing a balance on the right side of £26 12s. 4d.

Mr. F. Howell was duly authorised to instruct in behalf of the Association at Wotton-under-Edge, and other business of minor importance was also transacted.

Mr. Howell had breaks in readiness, and soon bands of ringers were at work in the steeples of Chipping Sodbury, Yatè, and Iron Acton. Various methods were rung by members from Bristol, Bitton, Dymock, Brockworth, Cranham, Newnham, Iron Acton, and Thornbury.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

It having been decided to augment the peal in the new tower of St. Michael's church in this town from ten to twelve, the tender of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank for the new bells and framework has been accepted. The tower is finished except the roof, and the floors are laid down, and it is hoped the bells will soon be in position, and all ready for ringing. On Monday, February 7th, the Ashton company held a meeting, at which it was resolved to form an united society under the above title, comprising the ringers of St. Michael's and St. Peter's churches as ordinary members. It was also further resolved to admit any ringing friends who are not resident in the town as honorary members on payment of a fee of 2s. 6d., which will constitute them life members of the society. It is requested that in future all communications be sent to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. John Hopwood, 25, Egerton-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association (for ringing only) will be held at Mortlake, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Saturday, February 23rd. Tower open for ringing during the evening and later part of the afternoon. Any ringers will be welcome.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 7th, the Midhurst branch of the above Association visited Easebourne, by invitation of the local ringers, for the purpose of opening a new set of handbells, recently purchased by the Easebourne ringers from Mr. G. Welch, of Bankside, Southwark, London. On arriving at the church they were met by the local company, and the bells being raised, a few plain courses of Bob Doubles was rung, some of the local band taking part. After this a 120 of Stedman Doubles, two 120's of Bob Doubles, and a 120 of Grandsire Doubles were rung by the following Midhurst ringers: G. Williams, W. Selby, C. Tribe, J. Lee, G. Batts, W. H. George, T. Ellis, and W. Court. An adjournment was then made to the village Club Room, where light refreshments, kindly provided by the local band, were partaken of. After this the handbells were brought out and opened with a well-struck plain course of Grandsire Triples, double-handed; 480 Bob Major, and touches of Stedman Triples. The Midhurst ringers expressed their entire satisfaction of both the musical qualities and the excellent finish of the bells, they having recently purchased a set from the same maker. The Easebourne band have now joined the above Association, and have secured the services of Mr. G. Williams as instructor. They have a nice little ring of five, tenor 10 cwt., and hopes are entertained that another bell may shortly be added.

The Midhurst band also visited Harting recently, and rang a 720 Bob Minor, it being the first 720 in any method ever rung on these bells.

LOUGHTON, ESSEX.

On Saturday, January 19th, the St. John's (Loughton) branch of the Essex Association held their annual dinner at the "King's Head" hotel, when forty ringers and friends sat down to an excellent repast, the rector, Rev. J. W. Maitland, presiding, Mr. Churchwarden Clements occupying the vice-chair. After the removal of the cloth, the chairman spoke highly of the progress made by the society, assuring them of his earnest support, and wished them success. After giving an interesting account of Loughton bells from the year 1700 down to the present time, the rev. gentleman gave the toast—"The St. John's Society of Change-Ringers," which was heartily drank. In responding,

Mr. W. Lebbon thanked the company for the manner in which they had received the toast. He said that if the society were allowed to go on peacefully, they intended being at the top of the tree before long. They had already rang several peals of Grandsire Triples, and hoped before long to have a peal of Stedman. He concluded by proposing "The healths of the Rector and Churchwardens." This toast was received with musical honours.

The remainder of the evening was spent in harmony of various kinds—singing, handbell ringing, tune-playing, etc. "The health of Mr. Lebbon," "the hostess," and a few other toasts were given and responded to, and the company broke up just as the clock struck twelve.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

On Saturday, February 2nd, a ringing meeting of the above branch took place at St. Mary's Church, Rawtenstall; ringing was commenced at three o'clock, and continued till six, when a short meeting was held in the schoolroom, presided over by the Vicar, who welcomed the members of the Association to his church and new peal of bells, which were formally opened last December, and are from the foundry of Messrs. Mears & Stainbank. They are a splendid peal of eight, tenor about 14 cwt. The Vicar intimated that the bells would soon be at liberty for peal-ringing, after the Newchurch and St. Saviour's Societies have rung their first peal on them. About thirty ringers attended from Bacup, Waterfoot, Haslingden, Ramsbottom and Newchurch, Heywood and Bolton, who expressed their good opinion of the bells, and splendidly-fitted ringing-room. Votes of thanks to the Vicar for presiding, and to the Vicar and Wardens for the use of the tower were passed, Bacup (Christ Church) being fixed upon for the next meeting. Ringing was afterwards continued till 9.30.

HANDBELLS WANTED.—The Vicar of Leafield, Witney, wishes for eight handbells for the bell-ringers.—second-hand.

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. EACHUS.—No date is affixed to your notice.

G. F. ATTREE. G. H. PHILLOTT, I. S. ALEXANDER, and others.—Next week.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1889.

NINE peals in five days! So runs the record to be found on page 584 of this number. And performances of a very high character, not even flavoured with the slightest taste of "common" Grandsire. In the five days alluded to, the Midland Counties' Association have scored a most extraordinary list: three peals of Double Norwich; three of Stedman; one of Superlative; one of Duffield Royal; and one of Treble Bob Royal. This is at the rate of two per day less one, therefore such a record can only be superseded by ringing two peals every day for five days in methods of a character equally as complex as those just performed. Such a list almost takes away one's breath when reviewing it; the record occupies one page nearly of our paper, and we can well imagine the surprise and amazement which a perusal of this page will create as "THE BELL NEWS" gets handed from one to the other of a company.

We understand that this five days' work is owing chiefly to arrangements effected by Mr. JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN., of Loughborough. There is too great a demand on our space this week to give a descriptive account of these arrangements, and the proceedings which were the result of them; we shall do so next week. Meanwhile we cannot help pointing out that such a grand show and by such influential members of the Exercise must prove of great assistance in that work of extension for which we are all so desirous. Scarcely a week passes without we hear of an incumbent wanting to know what the art is, and such displays as the one conceived by Mr. TAYLOR must help to hasten the time when the art of ringing will be regarded as the first of all intellectual pursuits of a recreative character.

The number of peals rung this week is the greatest we have yet had to record in one issue. Of late this part of the paper has shown up more than usual, indicating beyond doubt that increased exertions are being made to obtain the coveted honor of a good record from a numerical point of view. The REV. F. E. ROBINSON this week scores his two-hundredth peal; Mr. H. BAKER, of Hertford, half that amount, and we may reasonably expect the latter gentleman's record to exceed, at no very distant

date, that of his rev. colleague. People who read of these extraordinary feats will be tempted to inquire what course of physical training they enter into, or what description of patent food ringers absorb into their constitutions to enable them to sustain such prolonged exertions.

WHAT BEFELL A CURATE.—"A good story," says the Gentleman, "comes from a south-western suburb of a remarkably righteous rector, who became suddenly aware of the profane nature of his bell-ringers. He took counsel with his curates. The end of it was that the bell-ringers were discharged, and the curates and a few of the choir men agreed next Sunday morning to take their places. Now, none of these willing helpers had ever attempted bell-ringing before, and it was with some feelings of apprehension that each took his place and firmly grasped a rope. Slowly they began, and curious were the resulting sounds, till suddenly one of the curates, giving a more vigorous tug than usual, and keeping at the same time a firm grip of his rope, was entwined in the curling coils, and, with face whiter than his surplice, he was carried up as a whirlwind among the rafters. The friends he left below had hardly time to mourn his disappearance before, with lightning-like rapidity, he rejoined them on earth, severely damaged and bleeding. The good rector, who had happened to come in at the moment of the upward flight, and had begun words of solemn warning about unseemly pantomime tricks, realised that his remarks were not appropriate. All ropes were, you may be sure, speedily let go, doctors and stretchers were fetched, and peaceful churchgoers met with the unpleasant sight of the wounded man being carried from the silent church. The curate, I am glad to say, has recovered, and has expressed, in emphatic tones, his conviction that if a mau has a thick skull and cat-like activity, and is willing to engage in such foolhardy occupation as bell-ringing, you should not mind his morals."

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 9, 1889, in Three Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5014 CHANGES.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	ARTHUR JACOB 7.
BENJAMIN FOSRETT 2.	HENRY HOPKINS 8.
JOHN ROGERS 3.	HARRY RANDALL 9.
THOMAS TITCHENER 4.	*ALBERT E. CHURCH .. 10.
JAMES HANNINGTON 5.	HENRY DAINS 11.
WILLIAM L. CHAMBERLAIN* 6.	GEORGE WILD Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN COX, and conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

*First peal in the method.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS AND THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Tuesday, February 12, 1889, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 30 cwt. in D.

HARRY W. GROUT Treble.	EDWARD E. RICHARDS .. 5.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 2.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 6.
WILLIAM BEDWELL 3.	WILLIAM H. FREEMAN .. 7.
THOMAS TAYLOR 4.	ABRAHAM G. FREEMAN .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE.

*The previous peal rang on these bells was in the year 1824—sixty-five years ago.

The Provinces.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, January 28, 1889, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Treble.	SAMUEL HOUNSLOW 5.
ALBERT J. KIMBREY 2.	EDWIN HUMFREY 6.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON 3.	HAROLD HUMFREY 7.
WILLIAM ADKINS 4.	THOMAS SHORT Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

ROSS, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 22, 1889, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 25 cwt.

H. BIRD	Treble.	J. H. BUSSELL	5.
J. WALL*	2.	J. CLARK	6.
E. TURNER	3.	A. BIRD	7.
J. ADKINS	4.	R. CLARK	Tenor.

Conducted by J. WALL.

*First peal as conductor.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 9, 1889, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS THE MARTYR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES

HOLLIS'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

GEORGE C. SCOWEN	Treble.	ARTHUR EDWARDS	5.
WALTER PEGRUM	2.	REV. THOMAS L. PAPILLON	6.
WILLIAM NASH	3.	WILLIAM LINCOLN	7.
ACKLAND J. PERKINS	4.	SAMUEL JAMES	Tenor.

Conducted by ACKLAND J. PERKINS.

Messrs. Pegrum, Nash, Perkins and James hail from Romford; the Rev. T. L. Papillon, and Messrs. Edwards and Lincoln from Writtle; Mr. Scowen belongs to the local company. This is the first peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells, which were opened last November with a peal of Treble Bob Major.

ST. ALBANS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Odd Fellows' peal.

On Saturday, February 9, 1889, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION.

Tenor 30 cwt.

GEORGE W. CARTMEL	Treble.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM	5.
EDWARD HULL	2.	ARTHUR GODMAN, SEN., P.G.	6.
JOHN C. MITCHELL	3.	THOMAS WALLER	7.
RICHARD M. PRATT, P.G.	4.	HENRY L. WADDINGTON	Tenor.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

This peal was rung on the occasion of the 21st anniversary of the Lord Bacon Lodge of Oddfellows, and is the first peal rung by all Oddfellows, it being also the conductor's 60th peal.

ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.

On Saturday, February 9, 1889, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being 720 each of the following:

ARNOLD'S VICTORY, COLLEGE PLEASURE, DUKE OF YORK, NEW LONDON PLEASURE, KENT, VIOLET, AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB.

Tenor 16 cwt. 14 lbs.

FREDERICK HANCOCK†	Treble.	†GEORGE NORMAN	4.
WILLIAM PRICE*	2.	GEORGE MARSDEN	5.
EDWIN JAMES*	3.	THOMAS LUNN	Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE MARSDEN.

This is the first 5040 on these bells. Marsden, Price, and Lunn, took part in the last 5040 rung on the old bells, on January 27th, 1866. *First 5040. *Members of the Yorkshire Association.

We respectfully ask any of our friends who are in want of back numbers to send direct to the publisher, and not to our office. If they neglect this precaution disappointment is likely to ensue. We also give notice that in future letters insufficiently stamped will not be taken from the postman. And all should recollect that the addition of the writer's name and address to communications is only the barest courtesy. It is necessary for our own security and credit to know who our correspondents are. The number of peals reported in this number necessitates the postponement till next week of several matters.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 29, 1889, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

Tenor 20 cwt.

STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. <i>Treble.</i>	DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. 5.
WILLIAM G. CRICKMER .. 2.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, SEN. 6.
GEORGE PERRY 3.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN .. 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. <i>Tenor.</i>

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and conducted by

DAVID G. WIGHTMAN.

First peal of Oxford by all excepting the fifth, sixth, and tenor men. This peal is a two part without a call at middle. Messrs Perry and Thurlow hail from Framsdon; Crickmer from Earl Soham; the rest from Creetingham.

CRAYFORD, KENT.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 9, 1889, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 12½ cwt. in F.

RICHARD FRENCH	Treble.	WILLIAM MARTIN	5.
FREDERICK HAYES	2.	GEORGE HAYES	6.
GEORGE CONYARD	3.	WILLIAM HARPER	7.
CHARLES HAMMANT	4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN	Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by

FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

This is the first peal of Treble Bob Major by the Kent County Association, and is the first by all the band with the exception of Messrs Newman and French. The Hayes Brothers, Harper and Martin hail from Swanscombe; Hammant from Woolwich; Conyard from Crayford; Newman and French from London.

CARSHALTON, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 11, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

ARTHUR J. PLOWMAN	Treble.	JAMES W. TRAPPITT	5.
CHARLES E. MALIM	2.	ARTHUR B. CARPENTER	6.
JOHN BRANCH	3.	CHARLES BANCE	7.
JOHN HARDING	4.	JOHN HARTLEY	Tenor.

Conducted by DR. A. B. CARPENTER.

This peal is a variation of Holt's Original, with thirty-five bobs cut out, and is now rung for the first time.

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

On Monday, February 11, 1889, in Two Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE REFRESHMENT ROOMS, GEORGE STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

ALFRED BARNES	1-2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM	5-6.
E. PERCY DEBENHAM	3-4.	THOMAS WALLER	7-8.

Composed and Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

Umpires,—Messrs E. Hull and Little. This is the conductor's 30th handbell peal.

SHEFFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 12, 1889, in Three Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES.

Tenor 41 cwt.

G. O. DIXON	Treble.	T. DIXON	6.
W. BURGAR	2.	J. A. DIXON	7.
W. LOMAS	3.	G. HOLMES	8.
C. H. HATTERSLEY	4.	T. HATTERSLEY	9.
J. ATKIN	5.	A. BREARLEY	Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY and Conducted by GEORGE HOLMES.

BELGRAVE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 5, 1889, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qrs. 14 lbs. in F.

REV. W. W. C. BAKER*..Treble.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.. 5.
REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 2.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 6.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 3.	C. H. HATTERSLEY.. .. 7.
HERBERT BAKER 4.	J. W. WASHBROOK .. ..Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

First peal in the method on the bells. *First peal in the method.

LEICESTER.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 5, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 25 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs. in Eb.

C. H. HATTERSLEY .. ..Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 2.	REV. W. W. C. BAKER.. 6.
HERBERT BAKER 3.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 7.
J. W. WASHBROOK 4.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD ..Tenor.

Conducted by C. H. HATTERSLEY.

First peal in the method on the bells.

COLEORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 6, 1889, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lbs. in G.

REV. W. W. C. BAKER ..Treble.	J. W. WASHBROOK 5.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 2.	C. H. HATTERSLEY.. .. 6.
J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 3.	HERBERT BAKER 7.
REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 4.	W. WAKLEY .. .. ..Tenor.

Composed by the REV. H. EARLE BULWER, and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

First peal in the method upon the bells.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 6, 1889, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 23 lbs. in Eb.

REV. G. F. COLERIDGE ..Treble.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 5.
J. W. WASHBROOK 2.	C. H. HATTERSLEY.. .. 6.
A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. 3.	HERBERT BAKER 7.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 4.	W. WAKLEY .. .. ..Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by W. WAKLEY.

This peal is the first 5024 of Superlative ever rung, and it is the first peal in the method upon the bells, and also the first in the county of Leicester. The above is Rev. F. E. Robinson's 200th peal.

NOTTINGHAM.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 7, 1889, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt. 11 lbs. in E.

REV. W. W. C. BAKER ..Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
HERBERT BAKER 2.	C. H. HATTERSLEY.. .. 6.
REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 3.	*R. LANE 7.
J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 4.	J. W. WASHBROOK .. ..Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

First peal in the method on the bells. *First peal in the method.

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

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 7, 1889, in Three Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

AMOS CRESSER .. ..Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 6.
HERBERT BAKER 2.	*REV. W. W. C. BAKER.. 7.
C. H. HATTERSLEY 3.	R. LANE 8.
W. A. TYLER 4.	REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 9.
J. W. WASHBROOK 5.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN... ..Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by J. W. TAYLOR, JUN.

*First peal of Royal.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 8, 1889, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qrs. 26 lbs. in F.

C. H. HATTERSLEY*.. ..Treble.	*W. E. TYDEMAN 6.
J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. 2.	G. HINGLEY 7.
HERBERT BAKER 3.	*REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 8.
J. W. WASHBROOK* 4.	*W. A. TYLER 9.
B. SUGDEN 5.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD ..Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

The above peal is now rung for the first time. *First peal in the method. The above is Mr. Herbert Baker's 100th peal, and his first peal of Duffield Royal.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 8, 1889, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES.

Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qrs. 26 lbs. in F.

C. H. HATTERSLEY .. ..Treble.	*W. E. TYDEMAN 6.
J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. 2.	*REV. W. W. C. BAKER.. 7.
HERBERT BAKER 3.	*H. MIDGLEY 8.
B. SUGDEN 4.	J. W. WASHBROOK 9.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.	W. A. TYLER .. .. ..Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by C. H. HATTERSLEY.

*First peal of Stedman Caters. The above is now rung for the first time.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 9, 1889, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5010 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

AMOS CRESSER .. ..Treble.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. 6.
J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. 2.	REV. W. W. C. BAKER.. 7.
W. A. TYLER 3.	J. W. WASHBROOK 8.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 4.	HERBERT BAKER 9.
C. H. HATTERSLEY 5.	E. WIGHTMAN .. .. ..Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

The above peal is now rung for the first time.

SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 9, 1889, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5083 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY .. ..Treble.	JAMES H. SHAW 5.
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE 2.	JOSEPH WOOD 6.
FRANKLIN BRIERLEY.. .. 3.	EDWARD WOOD.. 7.
JONATHAN PILLING* 4.	*WILLIAM SCHOFIELD ..Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by FRANKLIN BRIERLEY.

*First peal.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Friday, February 8, 1889, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, DERITEND,

A PEAL OF FORWARD MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

JOHN CARTER Treble.	CHARLES CARMELL 5
JOHN T. PERRY 2.	CHARLES BARNACLE 6.
WILLIAM BROOK 3.	ALBERT HACKLEY 7.
JAMES JONES 4.	FRANK H. JAMES Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

This is the first peal ever rung in the method, and it contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th fifty-three times in 6th's place at a course-end, and I never has two calls together throughout. An account of the method will be given in next week's issue.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 2, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

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

WILLIAM LAWRENCE .. Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
WILLIAM ADKINS 2.	THOMAS SHORT 6.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 3.	ERNEST NAPPER 7.
ALBERT J. KIMBREY 4.	WILLIAM NAPPER Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

Mr. Lawrence belongs to Whitchurch.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 9, 1889, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT MINOR
METHODS UPON SIX BELLS:

Being a 720 each of the following:

DUKE OF YORK, WOODBINE, KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB, YORKSHIRE COURT, OXFORD SINGLE BOB AND COLLEGE SINGLE.

Tenor 12 cwt.

JAMES MATTHEWS .. Treble.	CHARLES CHAMBERS .. 4.
THOMAS SEARLE 2.	JAMES WOOLGAR 5.
GEORGE GATLAND 3.	GEORGE SMART Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE SMART.

The above was rung on the occasion of Mr. Searle's birthday.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 7, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

SHIHWAY'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 9½ cwt.

THOMAS M. SMITH .. Treble.	GEORGE F. ATTREE .. 5.
JOHN REILLY 2.	GEORGE H. HOWSE .. 6.
FREDERICK W. HARDING .. 3.	GEORGE A. KING 7.
JOHN SHARP 4.	JAMES SEARLE Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES SEARLE.

The above was the first in the method by all the band.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 9, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 10½ cwt.

HARRY WESTON .. Treble.	GEORGE A. KING 5.
JOHN REILLY 2.	JOHN JAY 6.
EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 3.	JAMES SEARLE 7.
GEORGE F. ATTREE 4.	EDWARD BUTLER Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES SEARLE.

*First peal in the method.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.—WORCESTER AND
ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 29, 1889, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5093 CHANGES,

Tenor 22 cwt.

EDWARD FELLOWS, JUN.* .. Treble.	EDWIN FELLOWS, SEN. .. 6.
FRED FELLOWS† 2.	SAMUEL SPITTLE 7.
JOSEPH FELLOWS, SEN. .. 3.	†WM. MICKLEWRIGHT, JUN. 8.
JOHN MILLS* 4.	†JOHN GOODMAN 9.
JOSEPH FELLOWS, JUN.† .. 5.	*THOMAS HILL Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by SAMUEL SPITTLE.

*First peal. †First peal of Caters.

MOSSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 9, 1889, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES,

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt. in F sharp.

JOHN HOLDEN .. Treble.	JOSEPH L. BUCKLEY .. 5.
JAMES WRIGLEY 2.	JAMES RADCLIFFE 6.
JAMES DICKEN 3.	THOMAS B. DICKEN .. 7.
HERBERT MAYALL* 4.	JOHN T. DICKEN Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, and conducted by JOHN HOLDEN.

*First peal, he never having seen inside a church tower previous to the opening of the bells last Easter at Mossley. Messrs. Wrigley, Buckley, and Radcliffe hail from Saddleworth; The Brothers Jas. and J. T. Dicken from Friezeland, Saddleworth; the rest belong to the local company.

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

On Tuesday, February 12, 1889, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES,

PENNING'S ORIGINAL ONE-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

HERBERT BRAZIER .. Treble.	WILLIAM LINCOLN .. 5.
ARTHUR EDWARDS* 2.	CHARLES WASKETT .. 6.
WILLIAM J. PIPER 3.	EDWARD SCOTCHER .. 7.
ALFRED TARBUN 4.	JAMES BLOMFIELD .. Tenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR EDWARDS.

*First peal as conductor. Messrs. Edwards and Lincoln are from Writtle; Piper and Tarbun from Widford; the rest belong to the local company.

SALISBURY, WILTS.—THE ANCIENT OF COLLEGE
YOUTHS AND THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 9, 1889, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

WALTER S. WISE .. Treble.	THOMAS BLACKBURN .. 5.
SYDNEY LAWRENCE 2.	ALFRED P. GODDARD .. 6.
HENRY D. ADAMS 3.	JAMES R. JERRAM .. 7.
CHARLES A. CLEMENTS .. 4.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM W. GIFFORD.

First peal in the method by all excepting W. W. Gifford, and is the first peal of Treble Bob ever rung in the county.

HARBORNE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, February 2, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 12 cwt in F.

GEORGE FARMER .. Treble.	CHARLES CARMELL .. 5.
GEORGE HITCHMAN† .. 2.	JOHN T. PERRY 6.
JAMES JONES 3.	ISSAC HILLS 7.
CHARLES W. CLARKE .. 4.	*JOHN E. SCOTT Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

*First peal. †First peal on a bob bell. C. W. Clarke and I. Hills hail from Redford and they wish to thank Mr. J. Carter for making arrangements.

Date Touches.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

SHIRE OAKS.—On Tuesday, February 5th, at St. Luke's church, a date touch (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 6 mins., in the following methods: 449 New London Pleasure, 720 Oxford, and 720 Violet. S. Tomlinson, 1; D. Russon, 2; E. Russon, 3; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 4; G. Barrowcliff, 5; R. Beestin, 6. The fifth and sixth ringers hail from Workop; the rest belong to Shire Oaks.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHIPLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday, February 3rd, at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. T. Lilley, 1; G. A. O. Nettleton, 2; S. Clark, 3; W. Wilks, 4; J. Lilley, 5; J. A. Ross, 6; G. Bolland (conductor), 7; J. Haley, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. Messrs. Bolland and Haley hail from Tong; the rest are of the local company.

BLECHINGLEY (Surrey).—On Thursday, February 7th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 5 mins. J. Tidey, 1; L. Killick, 2; T. Smith, 3; W. Mayne, 4; G. Potter, 5; J. Bashford jun. (conductor), 6; W. Hawkins, 7; J. Balcombe, 8. Composed by John Carter, of Birmingham.

HIGHER WALTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, February 5th, at All Saints' church, a date touch (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 15 mins., in the seven following methods: 29 Kent Treble Bob, 60 Canterbury Pleasure, 360 Lancashire Delight, 360 Coronation Exercise, 360 London New Bob, 360 College Single, and 360 Oxford Bob. G. Thornley (conductor), 1; J. Harwood, 2; H. Hunt, 3; H. Brewer, 4; J. Eccles, 5; J. Mather, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs.

HURSTPIERPOINT (Sussex).—On Thursday, February 7th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 8 mins. H. Sayers, 1; T. Mansbridge, 2; W. Lander, 3; D. Davey, 4; A. Pierce, 5; A. Davey, 6; H. Reeves (conductor), 7; W. Davey, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. Mr. Reeves is a member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild; the rest belong to the Sussex County Association.

Miscellaneous.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS.—Chiming.—On Sunday, February 10th, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, 576 Bob Major and 252 Bob Triples. H. Lewis, 1-2; E. P. Debenham (conductor), 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BITTON.—On Tuesday evening, February 5th, at the parish church, six members of the old St. James's society, Bristol, rang a 720 Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. C. Waters, 1; C. Gordon, 2; J. Davies, 3; C. Tomkins, 4; C. E. Boutflower, Esq., 5; Rev. H. A. Cockey (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—On Wednesday evening, January 23rd, an attempt was made for Holt's three-part peal of Bob Major, but after ringing 2736 changes in 1 hr. 40 mins., it came to grief. J. G. Pratt, 1; J. Pallister, 2; W. Charlton, 3; A. H. Clark (Ripon), 4; H. C. Mayne, 5; J. Cleminson, 6; F. Charlton, 7; E. Titt (conductor), 8. On Monday, January 28th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor and 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Pallister, 1; W. Charlton (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; H. C. Mayne, 3; E. Titt, 4; F. Charlton, 5; J. Cleminson (conductor), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SEAL.—On Saturday, February 2nd, five members of the Wrotham band, with F. Shoobridge, of Ightham, paid a visit to the above place, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor at the parish church in 25 mins. W. Hosmer, 1; G. Barham, 2; W. Taylor, 3; F. Shoobridge, 4; R. Edge, 5; C. Taylor (conductor), 6. First 720 on the bells since the addition of the new treble.

SPELDHURST (Kent).—On Sunday morning, January 27th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 360 Plain Bob Minor in 12 mins. R. Pelling, 1; J. Baker, 2; G. Turley, 3; F. Still, sen., 4; G. Card, 5; F. Still (conductor), 6. And for afternoon service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. R. Pelling, 1; J. Baker, 2; F. Still, 3; G. Turley (conductor), 4; F. Still, sen., 5; G. Card, 6; F. Still, jun., 7; H. Edwards, 8. Also on Sunday morning, February 3rd, for Divine Service, 336 Bob Major. R. Pelling, 1; J. Baker, 2; J.

Maynard, 3; G. Turley, 4; F. Still, sen., 3; G. Card, 6; F. Still, 7; F. Still, jun. (conductor), 8. And for afternoon service, 504 Grandsire Triples in 15 mins. R. Pelling, 1; F. Still, 2; J. Baker, 3; G. Turley (conductor), 4; F. Still, sen., 5; G. Card, 6; H. Edwards, 7; F. Still, jun., 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Thursday, January 10th, for practice, 168 Grandsire Triples. J. Woolford, 1; O. Fasey, 2; J. W. Wilkins, 3; F. Dentry, 4; A. Hoskins (first touch as conductor), 5; W. Ayres, 6; S. Quintin, 7; J. Todd, 8. Also several 120's of Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles, in which the Rev. R. P. Newhouse rung the treble. Conducted by J. W. Wilkins. Also on handbells, 120 Grandsire Doubles, with W. Dentry on the treble. This was his first attempt at ringing. On Monday, January 14th, for practice, several 120's of Stedman Doubles, by Messrs. Wilkins, E. Rogers, H. Rogers, E. Rogers, J. W. Washbrook, and J. Woolford. Conducted by J. W. Washbrook. Also on handbells, 252 Stedman Triples. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1; O. Fasey, 2; A. Hoskins, 3; J. W. Wilkins, 4; H. Rogers, 5; E. Rogers, 6; E. Rogers, 7; H. Gilding, 8. Also 360 Plain Bob Minor. J. W. Washbrook, 1; J. W. Wilkins (conductor), 2; H. Rogers, 3; E. Rogers, 4; E. Rogers, 5; A. Hoskins, 6. First touch in the method by the local band. On Monday, January 21st, 350 Grandsire Triples by F. Dentry, H. Rogers, E. Rogers, J. W. Wilkins, J. W. Washbrook, S. Quintin, A. Hoskins (conductor), J. Woolford. On Thursday, January 24th, 168 Grandsire Triples, conducted by S. Quintin, his first touch as conductor. On Saturday, January 19th, on the occasion of the annual meeting of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Guild, at Bray, the following ringing was done at All Saints' church: 300 Plain Bob Minor. H. Gildings, F. Dentry, A. W. Garraway, E. Rogers, E. Rogers, J. W. Wilkins (conductor), took part. Also several 120's of Grandsire Doubles, with the Rev. R. P. Newhouse at the treble. Conducted by E. Rogers.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Sunday, February 3rd, for evening service at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. O. Gregory, 1; A. Gregory, 2; J. Gardner, 3; A. Bunce, 4; C. Page, 5; F. May (conductor), 6. Also seven six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in which T. Gregory, G. Money, and W. Maisey took part.

BRAY (Berks).—On Saturday, January 10th, at St. Michael's church, 120 Stedman Doubles, by Messrs. Hoskins, H. Rogers, Garraway, Wilkins (conductor), Flaxman, and Brown. And 720 Grandsire Minor, in 29½ mins. A. Hoskins, H. Rogers, J. Parker, W. A. Garraway (conductor), S. Quintin, and R. Flaxman. This is the first 720 by S. Quintin and A. Hoskins.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BARKING (Essex).—On Saturday, February 2nd, an attempt was made for Hollis's five-part peal of Grandsire Triples, which unfortunately came to grief through a change-course. W. Nash, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; B. Keeble, 3; E. E. Richards, 4; M. L. Myhill, 5; W. Bedwell, 6; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 7; E. A. Davis, 8. Afterwards, for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal. W. Nash, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; B. Keeble, 3; M. L. Myhill, 4; W. Bedwell, 5; E. E. Richards, 6; A. J. Perkins (composer and conductor), 7; E. A. Davis, 8.

FOXEARH (Essex).—On Thursday, January 31st, at the parish church of SS. Peter and Paul, 720 Bob Major. J. Lee, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; R. Mingay, 3; F. Wells, 4; W. Gridley, 5; O. Garwood, 6; G. Maxim (Cavendish), 7; *Geo. Maxim (conductor), 8. *First time as conductor.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Saturday, February 2nd, at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. F. Wells, 1; R. Mingay, 2; C. Honeybell, 3; S. Slater (conductor), 4; G. Maxim, 4; Geo. Maxim (Foxearth), 6.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CRADLEY.—On Tuesday, January 29th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. G. Dukes, 1; R. Beasley, 2; C. Daniel, 3; H. Mason, 4; H. Woodall, 5; W. F. Hartshorne, 6; J. A. Meredith, 7; A. E. Parsons, 8. Messrs. Mason and Parsons hail from Old Hill; Hartshorne from Harts Hill; the rest belong to the local company.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

TWICKENHAM (Surrey).—On Saturday, February 2nd, a band met short for a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, and rang the following: 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. E. F. Strange, 1; A. B. Carpenter, 2; E. F. Cole, 3; S. Greenwood, 4; J. Fayers, 5; G. Welling (conductor), 6. And a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins. E. F. Strange, 1; E. F. Cole, 2; S. Greenwood, 3; A. B. Carpenter, 4; G. Gray (first quarter-peal in the method), 5; G. Woodis (conductor), 6; G. Welling, 7; J. Fayers, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PAISWICK.—On Saturday, January 26th, at the parish church, eight members of the above rang 1008 Grandsire Triples. H. G. Gardner (Gloucester), 1; E. King, 2; W. Ryland, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; J. Nash (Stroud), 5; J. Everatt, 6; F. Stephens (Stroud), 7; A. Trigg, 8. Also two courses of Caters. A. Trigg, 1; J. Wager, 2; W. Ryland, 3; D. Marmont, 4; J. Nash, 5; W. Hale, 6; E. King, 7; H. Gardner, 8; F. Stephens, 9; F. Wright, 10.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, January 22nd, 720 Bob Minor, nine bobs and six singles. H. Sharp (first 720 of Minor), 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; W. Hall, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. Pass, 6. At St. Paul's church, on Thursday, January 24th, a 1008 of Bob Major, in 40 mins. F. Sharp, 1; C. Pass, 2; F. Smith, 3; W. Allen, 4; W. Hall, 5; F. Keech, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 8.

SHARNBROOK (Beds).—On Saturday, January 26th, at St. Peter's church for practice, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. W. Clarke, 1; C. Allen (first 720 in the method), 2; L. Bell, 3; E. Coleman, 4; A. J. Barcock, 5; W. Page (conductor), 6.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday evening, February 3rd, at the church of St. John Deritend, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins. J. Harper, 1; E. Pickles, 2; J. Jones, 3; J. Walker, 4; C. Carmell, 5; J. T. Perry, 6; F. H. James, 7; C. F. Vickers, 8. Conducted by J. T. Perry. The above was rung with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late Miss Ryland, of this town. Also a 518 in the same method, conducted by C. Carmell. J. Harper, E. Pickles, and C. F. Vickers hail from Wolverhampton; the rest are local men.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, February 10th, at the parish church, the local company rang 720 Oxford Treble Bob, on the occasion of the sixty-first birthday of Mr. Joe Shaw, who has been a member of the above company for forty-two years, and has taken part in six 5040's, viz., at Eckington on March 28th, 1858; Killamarsh, April 15th, 1860; Beighton, March 27th, 1864; Beighton, November 6th, 1864; Eckington, January 27th, 1866; and at Shire Oaks on June 13th, 1869; the last five was conducted by George Marsden. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; J. Shaw, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6.

FINCHLEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, February 3rd, at St. Mary's church, for Divine Service in the afternoon, 720 Plain Bob Minor (twenty bobs and ten singles), in 25 mins. W. Russell, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; T. Card, 3; C. Martin, 4; N. Alderman, 5; G. Griffin, 6.

FRAMLINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday, February 9th, at the house of Mr. W. Flory, Bridge Street, on handbells, retained in hand, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles). R. H. Hayward, 1-2; J. Tarrant, 3-4; W. Flory (conductor), 5-6.

GRANTHAM (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, February 2nd, three of the Sleaford company paid a visit to Grantham. They were met by some of the local company, Messrs. J. B. Fenton and D. W. Brown (Lincoln), and J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq. (Loughborough). After the bells had been raised an attempt was made for Carter's date touch of Grandsire Triples, but this came to grief owing to a mis-call after 196 changes had been rung. Another start was made, but collapsed owing to another mis-call, after 600 had been rung. A 504 Grandsire Triples was then rung. J. Holmes, 1; N. E. Snow, 2; J. B. Fenton, 3; T. H. Holdich (conductor), 4; W. Cawton, 5; D. W. Brown, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., 7; T. W. White, 8. After service an attempt was made for a quarter-peal, but it collapsed owing to a mis-call, after about 600 had been rung. A fresh start was made, and it was successfully brought round in 47 mins. J. Holmes, 1; N. E. Snow, 2; J. B. Fenton, 3; H. Parker, 4; W. Cawton, 5; D. W. Brown, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 7; T. White, 8. Also 336 in the same method. J. Holmes, 1; N. E. Snow, 2; H. Parker, 3; J. B. Fenton, 4; T. H. Holdich (conductor), 5; J. Challands, 6; H. Lounds, 7; D. W. Brown, 8.

HENDON (Middlesex).—Sunday, February 3rd, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. H. Martin, 1; N. Alderman, 2; T. Card, 3; G. Griffin, 4; C. Crampton, 5; J. Hannington (conductor), 6. After service 720 in the same method (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 minutes. N. Alderman, 1; G. Griffin, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; F. Pratt, 4; T. Card, 5; C. Crampton, 6. Also several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. C. Prachett, 1; F. Sparks, 2; C. Martin (conductor), 3; J. Barrett, 4; F. Pratt, 5; J. Edmunds, 6. Tenor 16½ cwt.

HIGHAM FERRERS (Northants).—Handbell Ringing.—On Sunday, January 13th, at the residence of Mr. A. H. Martin, 476 Bob Triples. J. Baily, 1; S. Middleton, 2; A. E. Chapman, 3-4; A. H. Martin, 5-6;

J. B. Martin (conductor), 7-8. Also 720 Bob Minor. A. E. Chapman, 1-2; A. H. Martin, 3-4; J. B. Martin (conductor), 5-6. And 360 College Single. G. Brown, 1; A. H. Martin, 2-3; A. E. Chapman, 4-5; J. B. Martin (conductor), 6. *First 720 double-handed.

IPSWICH (Suffolk).—On Thursday evening, January 31st, at the residence of Mr. H. Howell, a 720 Bob Minor. A. Howell (aged 14, first 720 on handbells), 1-2; H. Howell, 3-4; W. P. Garrett (conductor), 5-6. On Friday evening, February 1st, at St. Clement's church, 360 Bob Minor. H. Howell, 1; A. Howell, 2; C. Saul, 3; J. Collet, 4; W. Motts, 5; W. P. Garrett (conductor), 6. *First 360 on a bob bell.

KEMERTON (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday, February 6th, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. C. Smith, 1; A. Devereux, 2; H. Payne, 3; E. Devereux, 4; A. Attwood, 5; E. Wallace (Ashchurch, conductor), 6. This 720 was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last token of respect to Miss Holland, whose funeral took place that day at Cannes, France.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—On Sunday, February 3rd, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, 917 Grandsire Caters. G. Naish, 1; W. E. Garrard, 2; Hy. Parslow, 3; Jos. Parslow, 4; J. W. Kelly, 5; Jas. Nicholls, 6; Jas. Strutt (conductor), 7; Geo. Gray, 8; J. Wright, 9; Chas. Slade, 10.

OLD WINDSOR (Berks).—On Monday, January 28th, at St. Peter's church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles in 28 mins. H. Reeves (conductor), 1; T. Gosling, 2; G. Williams, 3; W. Ralph, 4; J. Gutteridge, 5; F. Waites, 6. Messrs. Reeves and Waites belong to the Grenadier Guards, and hail from Windsor; the rest belong to Old Windsor.

PUDSEY (Yorks).—On Tuesday, February 5th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. R. Farrow, 1; W. Bateman, 2; S. Langstaff, 3; J. Smith, 4; G. Bolland (conductor), 5; F. Birks, 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Saturday, January 26th, at the parish church, 120 Stedman Doubles. W. J. Gilbert, 1; A. H. Martin, 2; F. Gilbert (conductor), 3; J. B. Martin, 4; R. Dunkley, 5; H. Stubbs, 6. Also 360 Double Court, and 408 College Little by the above. And on handbells 504 Bob Triples. W. Gilbert, 1-2; A. H. Martin, 3-4; F. Gilbert, 5-6; H. Stubbs (conductor), 7-8. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. F. Gilbert, 1; W. Gilbert, 2; A. H. Martin, 3; R. Dunkley, 4; F. Slade (conductor), 5-6. And a course of Bob Major. F. Slade, 1-2; J. Heath, 3; J. Stubbs, 4; A. E. Chapman, 5-6; A. H. Martin, 7-8. *First 120 in the method.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—On Tuesday, January 22nd, at the parish church, 720 College Single. J. Bailey, 1; W. Hall (conductor), 2; A. E. Chapman, 3; C. Green, 4; A. H. Martin, 5; F. Clayton, 6. And 360 Yorkshire Court. J. Bailey, 1; A. H. Martin, 2; J. B. Martin, 3; A. E. Chapman, 4; F. Clayton, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. Also on Sunday, January 13th, on handbells, 720 Bob Minor. J. Baily, 1; A. E. Chapman, 2-3; J. Heath, 4; A. H. Martin (conductor), 5-6. And 360 London Single. J. Baily, 1; J. Heath, 2; A. E. Chapman, 3-4; A. H. Martin (conductor), 5-6. Also on Monday, January 23th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Clayton, 1; W. Hall, 2; J. Heath, 3; A. E. Chapman, 4; C. West, 5; A. H. Martin (conductor), 6. And 360 London Single. J. Baily, 1; A. H. Martin (conductor), 2; J. Heath, 3; C. Green, 4; W. Hall, 5; F. Clayton, 6.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, February 3rd, at the parish church of St. Mary the Virgin, for Divine Service in the morning, 360 Court Single. J. Cavill, 1; W. Watts, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, February 7th, for practice, 720 Court Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). T. J. Watts, 1; W. Watts, 2; I. Cavill, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all the band, also the first in the method on the bells. Also 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). †T. J. Watts, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; J. Luckey, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, February 10th, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and eighteen singles). Composed by Mr. N. J. Pitstow, of Saffron Walden. T. J. Watts, 1; I. Hammond, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. †First 720 in the method. Tenor 13 cwt.

SYSTON (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, February 5th, for practice at the parish church, 1260 Grandsire Triples. W. Baily, 1; G. Freeman, 2; J. Pickard, 3; A. Swann, 4; G. Walton, 5; J. H. Hall, 6; J. North (conductor), 7; J. Freeman, 8. The above is the first quarter-peal by all the above.

WEST HAM (Essex).—Recently, after evening service at the church of the Holy Trinity, Barking Road, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 24 mins. W. T. Smith, 1; E. Wright, 2; W. H. Dallimore (conductor), 3; H. Baldwin, 4; R. Lowe, 5; A. White, 6. All the above are members of the Essex Association with the exception of the fifth man.

THE YORK MINSTER SOCIETY.

On Saturday, February 2nd, the members of the above Society had their annual dinner, it being the 60th anniversary of the burning of York Minster by Jonathan Martin. In the evening they met at the house of one of their members, Mr. G. Breed, "The Sun" inn, Acomb, where several "courses" of a splendid dinner was partaken of, served in excellent style.

The Chairman (Mr. Howard) proposed the usual loyal toasts, also "The Health of the Archbishop, Dean and Chapter," and in a few well-chosen remarks referred to the kind way in which the Dean was always willing to assist the ringers on any occasion.

The Vice chairman (Mr. Thompson) proposed "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," to which Private G. Worth, of the 1st V.B. (P.W.O.) West Yorkshire Regiment, responded. Other toasts followed, including "The donors and friends."

Mr. Morrell proposed "The Officers of the Society," and thanked them on behalf of the members for the way in which they carried on their work.

Mr. Howard responded, and said it was a pleasure to him to do his best to promote the success of the Society, and hoped it would not be long before they would have the opportunity to ring peals as their brother-ringers were doing throughout the country.

The Chairman proposed "The Health of the conductors," to which Mr. Haigh replied.

Mr. Long, in proposing "Success to 'THE BELL NEWS,' and the health of the Editor," said it gave him much pleasure to do so on that occasion, as "THE BELL NEWS" was of great service to ringers throughout the country, and he hoped that the Editor would long be spared to carry on the excellent work which contributed to the success of the paper.

Mr. Cundall proposed "The Health of the Host and Hostess," which was received with musical honours. During the evening several courses and tunes were rung on the handbells, and songs sung by the company, after which the party separated, having spent a most pleasant and enjoyable evening.

LEDBURY, HEREFORDSHIRE.

At the parish church of Ledbury on Saturday evening, the 2nd inst., a numerous meeting of ringers took place, mostly members of the Hereford Diocesan Guild from neighbouring parishes. Permission to ring was very kindly given by the Rev. J. Jackson, the rector, and the bells were raised in peal at 7.20, and lowered again at 9.30 p.m. They are an excellent-toned peal of eight, tenor 24 cwt., originally cast in 1690 by Rudhall, of Gloucester. Five have been recast at subsequent dates. Several well-struck courses of Grandsire Triples and a 720 of Minor was rung, one or two of the local ringers in the tower shewing some interest therein. The peal rings fairly well considering the state of the fittings, and so on; the ropes are very defective, having been in use ten years. Several of the visitors had never before rang on eight bells, and with the exception of the instructor are only six-bell men. They are deserving of credit for the manner in which they rung. The towers represented and the names of the men are appended; the keen interest in the visit shewn by them can readily be imagined when it is remembered that there was a heavy fall of snow, and the weather all that night was rough, and they all had a distance of four or five miles to walk. E. J. Beatley, J. Field, T. Marshall, Colwall; A. Layton, C. Layton, Mathon; C. Greening, H. Jeans, R. and J. Thomas, Coddington; J. Haynes, W. H. Fussell, Bosbury.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

ESTABLISHED 1868.

At the General Meeting of this Society, held on Wednesday, February 6th, the following members were unanimously re-elected as officers for the ensuing year: Master, Mr. William Baron; Steward, Mr. William Baron, jun.; Treasurer, Mr. Charles E. Malim; Secretary, Mr. George Wild. Members are requested to note that for the future the meeting time for practice at Waterloo is at 8.15 every Wednesday; and at St. Margaret's, Westminster every alternate Friday at 8 p.m. sharp.

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."

CELEBRATION OF MR. HENRY JOHNSON'S 80th BIRTHDAY.

SIR,—I notice in my letter on the above subject which you were good enough to print in your last issue a slight misprint which may lead to some confusion. I wish, in the absence of any means of obtaining all the addresses, to take advantage of your columns to invite the chief ringing officer (not "officers" as printed, for this would be beyond my power) of each County or Diocesan Association to a dinner which I purpose to give on the 28th inst. in Birmingham, and of which the particulars will be found in the annexed programme. I need not again enter into the reasons which have prompted my action, for my last letter stated them in full. With regard to the dinner, it was my original intention to have made it entirely an invitation gathering, but it was represented to me that many other ringers besides those included in my invitation would be desirous of attending, and thus swell the company to a number in excess of what I could well entertain privately. Under these circumstances it was thought better to make arrangements so that those not coming within the scope of the invitation might purchase tickets, and thus give me the pleasure of meeting friends of whose presence we should otherwise have been deprived. Where the chief ringing officer of an Association is unable to attend may I ask that he will depute a representative to whom, on receiving his address, I shall be happy to forward a ticket. Those who do not come within the terms of the invitation and who wish to honour us with their presence will please apply for their tickets to Mr. Godden, who has kindly undertaken the duties of secretary to the meeting, and whose address, together with full directions for application, will be found in the programme. We shall be glad to receive as early intimation as convenient after February 11th from those who propose to join us, and no tickets can be issued after February 25th.

A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

Feb. 11th, 1889.

Johnson Celebration.

PROGRAMME.

Thursday, February 28th.—St. Martin's (12 bells) and other towers will be open for touch ringing from 2.30 till 4.30.

The Dinner will be held at the Colonnade Hotel, New Street (near the station), at 5 p.m. The chair will be taken by A. Percival Heywood, Esq. Speeches will follow, after which arrangements will be made for peals at various towers on the following day.

Friday, March 1st.—A number of towers will be open for peal and touch ringing in Birmingham and the neighbourhood. A social gathering will be held at the St. Martin's Hotel in the evening, commencing with a meat tea (1/6) at 7 o'clock. Arrangements will then be made for any peals that may be desired on the following day.

A reception room, where any enquiries may be made, will, for the convenience of visitors, be open at the St. Martin's Hotel (adjoining the Church), from 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. on Thursday, and from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday. In order to facilitate the meeting of friends it is particularly requested that visitors, on arriving in Birmingham, will at once proceed to the reception room and enter their names in the book provided for the purpose.

The stewards of the meeting (who will wear a red rosette) will be ready to give to visitors any information or assistance in their power.

The invited representatives of the various Associations will be presented with a ticket for the dinner on intimating their intention to be present to A. Percival Heywood, Esq., Duffield Bank, near Derby. Other ringers wishing to join the party are requested to apply for tickets (price 2s. 6d., including wine) to the Hon. Sec., Mr. W. H. Godden, Finch Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, to whom also any enquiries may be addressed. All applications for dinner tickets (except from invited guests) must be accompanied by a remittance, and must be made between February 11th and February 25th.

PEAL CENTENARIANS.—It is recorded in the proper place that the Rev. F. E. Robinson has just scored his two hundredth peal, and Mr. Herbert Baker his one hundredth. The former gentleman's are made up as follows:—Stedman Triples 66, conducted 14; Stedman Caters 31, conducted 24; Double Norwich 25, conducted 5; Grandsire Triples 27, conducted 8; Grandsire Caters 16, conducted 1; Superlative Surprise 14, conducted 6; Cambridge Surprise 7, conducted 1; Treble Bob Major 6, conducted 2; Treble Bob Royal 2; Double Oxford Bob Major 1; Union Triples 1; College Single Triples 1. Mr. Herbert Baker's score is—Grandsire Triples 27; Grandsire Major 1; Grandsire Caters 6; Stedman Triples 18; Stedman Caters 8; Kent Treble Bob Major 7; Kent Treble Bob Royal 2; Plain Bob Triples 1; Plain Bob Major 5; Duffield Major 1; Duffield Royal 1; Double Norwich Court 12; Superlative Surprise 7; Cambridge Surprise 1; Seven methods on six bells 3.

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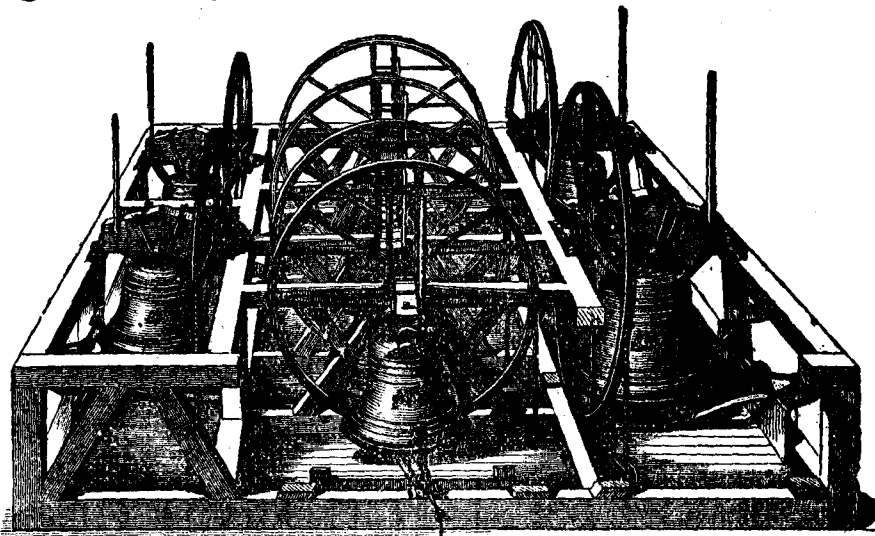
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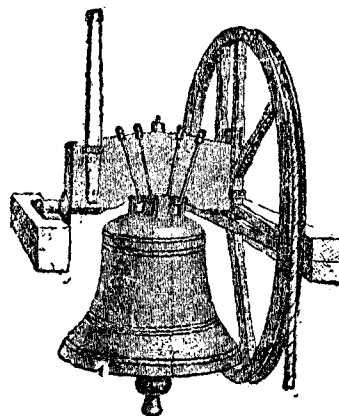
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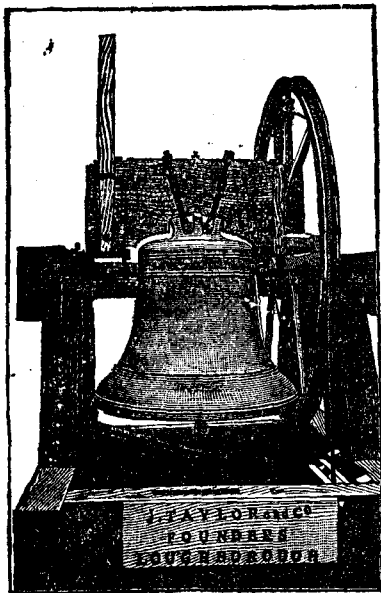
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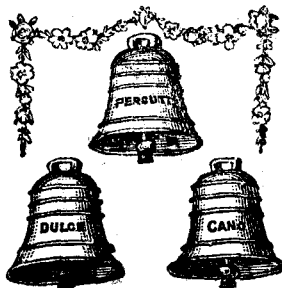
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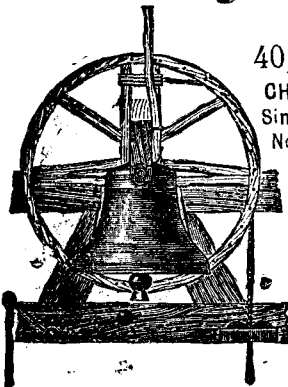
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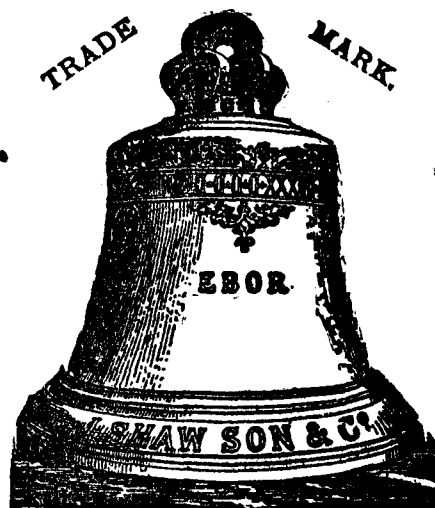
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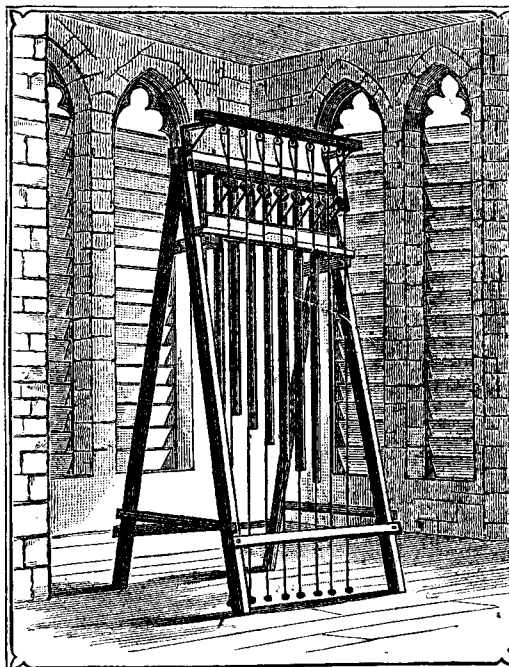
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THE PEAL OF MAXIMUS AT NORWICH IN 1817, WAS IT DOUBLE NORWICH OR NOT?

BY A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

V.

So far as we have gone, whatever may be considered the weight of evidence in favour of Double Norwich as the method in which the peal of Maximus was rung, there has been absolutely none adduced that would lead to the inference that it was rung in any other variation. I come now, however to one or two points which are difficult to comprehend. Snowden (p. 69) says:—"Concerning this peal (the Maximus) I learnt from Henry Hubbard that it was composed by S. Thurston, and that Thomas Hurry presented Thurston with a silver medal and clasp for ringing the tenor in this peal. Mr. Hubbard could not be certain about the method, but thought it was one of the methods given on page 37 or 38 in the fourth edition of his book. Mr. Hubbard added that he had never heard any Court twelve rung, as it was six years after the peal had been rung that he became acquainted with the company, and at that time six of those who assisted in it had left the Society." It is certainly a very remarkable circumstance that Hubbard, living for years at Norwich, never got information from any one of the six remaining performers as to the identity of the method. It would seem, however, from what is still within the recollection of old Norwich ringers now living, that there was some jealousy with regard to the peal which caused it to be avoided as a subject of conversation. In what this aversion originated I, of course, am unable to determine, but there are among ringers so many petty jealousies in regard to their art that it is not difficult to surmise reasons for the unpleasantness in question. The choosing of the band, and perhaps the exclusion from it of some ringer who thought he should have been in, or some ill-natured saying with regard to the striking, or some doubt as to the truth of the composition; any of these might give rise to strong feeling resulting in a disinclination to discuss the performance. A curious saying got about in the town with regard to the method, namely that it was "Bob Major spoilt." If we remember how quick the bells run in Double Norwich Maximus compared to Major and Royal, it is possible to understand the above as the expression of a listener's opinion; nor would any of the variations we have been noticing be, when heard outside, so markedly different, to other than a skilled observer, as to be more deserving of this derogatory title, although in actual fact it would be far more justly applicable to them. With any question as to the correctness of the ringing or composition I am not concerned, for there is apparently no evidence as to this but that of the peal tablet. I have simply undertaken to present testimony as to the method in which the peal, whether true or false, was rung. At the same time, with the exception of any doubt which may be considered as contained in the feelings expressed at Norwich, there would appear to be nothing tending to invalidate the performance, nor indeed any sufficient weight in such sayings as to give them appreciable influence upon the credibility of a long recognized achievement.

Another point to be noticed will be found at p. 143 of Hubbard's work. In giving peals suitable for the four Maximus methods which we have been considering he states, that of three peals which follow, "the third will do for either the second or third methods of Court," that is to say, his Double Court or Single Norwich (pp. 37, 38). This peal is by T. Hurry. Thomas Hurry, the same doubtless as the person referred to in the last quotation from Snowden, rang in the peal of Maximus, at which time he was thirty-four years of age. He rang also in the peal of Double Norwich Major recorded by Snowden (p. 52) as rung at North Elmham three months after the peal of Maximus, for clearly "Harry" is a misprint for "Hurry," as the next name "Labbock" is for the Joseph Lubbock who also took part in the great peal. Are we then to suppose that Hurry had on his own account turned his attention to composition in these curious and illegitimate variations? If so, a *prima facie* case would be established that these methods were at least known to Norwich ringers. It is however not necessary to go so far. The weight of evidence already adduced on the other side permits us to look for a different solution. Hurry may have assisted Hubbard by composing peals for him; this however is

not very probable, as in such a case he would probably have been confidential enough to communicate definite information about the peal of Maximus. It is more likely that Hubbard, having by him this peal of Hurry's which would be one of Double Norwich, applied it to the two methods in which he was short of a peal. This course would simply necessitate the alteration of the number of the leads at which the bobs are called. The probability of this being the correct explanation is indicated by Hubbard's saying that Hurry's peal "will do" for either the second or third method, the peal in question being one which would "do" for pretty nearly any method.

I believe I have now placed before the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" all the evidence with regard to the method in which the peal of Maximus was rung that is to be found in any published work. That there are undoubtedly circumstances which are adverse to the conclusion that Double Norwich was the method is not to be controverted, but the extent and importance of these is so small compared to the mass of testimony in its favour that there would appear to be no valid cause for doubting or misinterpreting the record of the peal tablet. Can we choose some other method, and, assuming it to be the one in which the peal was rung, adduce in its favour anything like the amount of evidence that exists for Double Norwich? If we take every one of the Court variations and exhaust them by the process of "the survival of the fittest" we shall certainly arrive at Double Norwich as the remainder. The preponderance of present testimony distinctly points to the peal as one of Double Norwich Court Bob Maximus, and, until the doubts that obtain with respect to it are supported by a largely increased accession of proof, it is likely that the Exercise generally will be content to place full credence in the tablet which records this remarkable performance.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1889.

	Jan.
Sussex County Association	10
Essex Association	10
Ancient Society of College Youths	9
Lancashire Association	6
Yorkshire Association	5
Norwich Diocesan Guild	5
United Counties' Association	4
Oxford Diocesan Guild	4
Worcester and adjoining Districts Association	4
Surrey Association	3
Kent County Association	3
Hertford Association	3
Winchester Diocesan Guild	3
Midland Counties' Association	2
Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association	2
Royal Cumberland Youths	2
St. James's Society, London	2
Birmingham Amalgamated Society	2
Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford	1
Salisbury Diocesan Guild	1
Hereford Diocesan Guild	1
Hertford College Youths	1
All Hallows' Society, Tottenham	1
North Lincoln Association	1
Independent Societies	8
Less peals entered under two Associations	94
Total	83

The above peals were rung in the following methods: London Surprise Major, 1; Stedman Cinques, 1; Stedman Caters, 3; Stedman Triples, 4; Treble Bob Major, 13; Grandsire Caters, 4; Grandsire Triples, 32; Oxford Bob Major, 1; Union Triples, 1; Bob Major, 12; Bob Triples, 3; in seven Minor methods on six bells, 4; in four ditto, 3; in three ditto, 1. Total 83.

The eight peals by independent societies were as follows; In Staffordshire, 3; Cheshire, 2; Lancashire, Monmouth, and Yorkshire, 1 each.

Total for January, 1888, 52; January, 1889, 83; increase, 31.
Brighton.
GEO. F. ATTREE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX BELL RINGERS.

On Saturday, February 16th a quarterly meeting of this Association took place at the parish church, Chorley, when the following places were represented; Blackwood, St Andrew's, Leyland, St. James Leyland, Eccleston, and Chorley. Ringing was commenced shortly after three o'clock, and during the afternoon and evening several 720's of London Single Bob and Plain Bob Minor was rung. At five o'clock the company adjourned to a private room at the "White Horse" inn, where the business meeting was held, Mr. George Higson, Vice-President, in the absence of Mr. William Bowling, President, occupied the chair, supported by Mr. Bamber, churchwarden of the parish church, Chorley. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, and other business of minor importance transacted, Mr. J. Milner in a few well-chosen words proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Bamber for his kindness in favouring the meeting with his presence.

Mr. J. Banister seconded the motion, which was carried amid loud cheers.

Mr. Bamber in responding gave the Association a very cordial welcome to Chorley. He said he was at any time pleased to hear the bells and always glad to meet the ringers, and that he always did his best to keep the bells in good going order, and keep the belfry comfortable for the convenience of the ringers.

After a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding, and to the Treasurer and Secretary for their services, it was unanimously agreed that the next annual meeting be held on Whit-Saturday at St. Andrew's, Leyland.

A vote of thanks to the Rector, Rev. E. G. James, for the use of the bells terminated the proceedings. The evening up to eight o'clock was afterwards spent in a few touches of Bob Minor on the hand-bells, when all separated for home.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting will be held at Swanscombe on Monday, February 25th. Committee Meeting at the National School at 12.15. The churches of Dartford, Gravesend, and Milton may be visited. Those who wish to attend should acquaint the Secretary. At the committee meeting at Ashford on the 26th ult., it was decided to divide the county into five different districts, with local committees, who are to elect their own secretaries. Representatives from each district to sit on central committee. The proposal to raise the standard was not accepted. The amended rules will be in the hands of members shortly, and will be proposed for adoption at the Annual General meeting, which is to be held this year at Canterbury.

GREAT BENTLEY, ESSEX.

On Thursday, February 7th, Mr. W. J. Nevard, of the above place, invited a few ringing friends to his residence to partake of a substantial dinner of roast beef and plum pudding, to which ample justice was done. After the removal of the cloth, Mr. Nevard thanked his guests, one and all, for the assistance they had given him during the past year in ringing for Divine Service at the parish church. Afterwards the company indulged in handbell ringing and singing, Messrs. J. Taylor, Fuller, Hazell, Balls, A. Taylor, with their host, contributing to the general harmony. After singing the National Anthem the company dispersed.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting will be held at Hertford on Saturday, February 23rd. The towers of St. Andrew's and All Saints' churches will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Tea at 5.0 p.m. at the coffee tavern, followed by the business meeting. Arrangements will be made with the Great Northern Railway company for the issue of cheap tickets to members attending the meeting, if they will inform me not later than Wednesday, the 20th instant, of the stations from which they intend to travel. The railway authorities will require members to produce their receipts for the current year's subscription at the booking offices at the time of applying for the tickets.

E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN BRANCH.

The usual monthly meeting of the above was held at Huyton, on Saturday, February 16th, when members were present from Aughton, Liverpool, Prescot, Sefton, and Southport. During the afternoon and evening several short touches were rung on the bells, which are a very heavy peal, tenor reputed about 27 cwt.

At 5.30 the numbers present numbering about twenty, sat down to an excellent meat tea, which was presided over by the Rev. O. H. L. Penrhyn, Vicar. Tea being over, the vicar welcomed the members of the Association to Huyton, and promised that on their next visit to his church, the tower would be an eight bell tower, instead of six as at present.

The Rev. Mr. Tyrer also expressed his gratification at meeting the members then present.

The Rev. D. Jones (Aughton), responded on behalf of the Association.

The business meeting was presided over by Mr. John Martin, Churchwarden of Sefton, who in the course of his remarks, suggested that a circular be sent to each clergyman, warden, and sidesmen in the diocese, inviting them not only to join the Association, but also to take a personal interest in the working of it. He also suggested that the managers of the National Schools in the diocese should provide handbells, and that the older ringers should constitute themselves teachers to bring the older and most intelligent scholars out as change-ringers, so that at some time or other they could be more actively utilized as practical ringers.

Nine new members were elected, including three Honorary, viz., Rev. O. H. L. Penrhyn, vicar of Huyton; Rev. E. Horley, rector of Sefton; Mr. R. Musker, Churchwarden of Sefton; and six performing, which included the Rev. H. F. Lloyd, curate of Wigan.

It was decided to hold the next Meeting at Ormskirk on Saturday, March 16th. Further particulars will appear in due course.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

THE GENERAL MEETING due to be held at Hurworth on February 25th, has been postponed to Monday, March 4th. Dinner at the "Bay Horse" at two o'clock; 1s. to members. Dinner tickets should be applied for as early as possible to the Secretary. The Committee will meet at the "Bay Horse" at one o'clock. Hurworth Church is one mile from Croft Station, and three miles from Dinsdale. Peal of six, tenor 17 cwt.

16 Finkle Street, Stockton-on-Tees. G. J. CLARKSON, *Hon. Sec.*

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.—A ringing meeting of this branch will be held this day, Saturday, February 23rd, at Christ Church, Pendlebury, and St. Peter's church, Swinton. The bells of both towers will be ready at four o'clock. A meeting will be held at 7.30 in Pendlebury schoolroom. JOHN EACHUS, *Branch Sec.*

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday, February 27th, 1889, at 12 o'clock, in the private room of Messrs. Bolingbroke, Woodrow, and Co.'s office, St. Giles-street, Norwich. The business to be transacted is of importance.

N. BOLINGBROKE, *Hon. Sec.*

NOTE.—On the above date the Rev. F. E. Robinson and Mr. Washbrook are expected to join in a peal at St. Peter's; also on that day there are late trains to several stations near Norwich.

THE ANNIVERSARY AT APPLETON, BERKS.

This Anniversary will be held as usual on Monday, March 4th. There will be a peal of Stedman Caters attempted at 8 a.m., and another at 12, method to be arranged at the time. Dinner at 4 o'clock. People wishing to attend, please communicate with F. White, Appleton, Abingdon.

HANDBELLS WANTED.—The Vicar of Leafeld, Witney, wishes for eight handbells for the bell-ringers.—second-hand.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BLACKBURN BRANCH.—The next meeting will be held at the parish church, Church (not Oswaldtwistle), to-day, Saturday, February 23rd. Belfry open at 2.30. Meeting at 5 o'clock.

J. HORROCKS, Sec.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association (for ringing only) will be held at Mortlake, by the kind permission of the Vicar, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 23. Tower open for ringing during the evening and later part of the afternoon. Any ringers will be welcome.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

Correspondence.

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

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

A FALSE PEAL.

SIR,—On Thursday, February 7th, by invitation of the Christ Church Eastbourne band, four members of the Brighton branch of the Sussex County Association visited their church to ring the first peal of Major upon the bells. At the last moment, owing to another member being prevented from taking part, Mr. Searle was asked to conduct. Unfortunately he selected Shipway's 5-part peal, containing 5120 changes, which was rung in two hours and fifty minutes, and it was not for some days after that it was discovered that the calling as published in "Shipway's Reprint" is false. I have stated the above facts in the hope that some competent ringer may be found, willing to give the time and labour in collecting and publishing in our paper, "THE BELL NEWS," a list of all false peals that have been published in recognised campanological works. This would, I feel sure, prove a boon to many, who, at present, are in the risk of travelling many miles as we did last week, to succeed in accomplishing what we attempted, and then to discover after all our labour had been in vain.

Brighton.

GEO. F. ATTREE.

THE BELLS OF ST. PETER'S, SHAFTESBURY, DORSET.

SIR,—Would you allow me, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to bring to the notice of all interested in bells and bell-ringing, the bells of St. Peter's, Shaftesbury, which are now down in the body of the church, and there I am afraid will remain until sufficient funds are raised that they may be rehung. Donations amounting up to the present time to about £390 have been received; these added to £390, the net proceeds of a bazaar, held in February, 1887, have enabled the committee to thoroughly restore the tower, the foundations of which have been underpinned, while all the decayed stone of the tower has been cut out and replaced by new, and the mortar from the joints raked out and the tower grouted in cement. Three courses of iron bars have also been let into the tower walls, and Mr. Crickmay, the architect, reports that the work has been thoroughly well done, and that the tower is now stronger than it has ever been, done at a cost of about £745, leaving a balance of about £35 in the hands of the Committee. The cost of rehanging the fine peal of six bells will be about £150, so that the Committee are anxious to raise another £120. Towards this amount about £20 have already been promised, and the Committee make a further appeal to the public for the £100 which will enable them to complete the work which has been begun. Donations however small, will be most thankfully received and acknowledged by the Hon. Sec., the

REV. T. PERKINS, M.A., F.R.A.S.

The Grammar School, Shaftesbury, Dorset.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR MR. F. BATE.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged
Mr. Mathews, Borough	1 5 6
Mr. Jones, Brierley Hill	0 1 0
Mr. Webb, Worcester	0 2 0
Mr. Ferry, London	0 2 6
	0 2 6

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received by Mr. B Buckmaster, 46, Newington Butts, S.E., or by Mr. Codlin, 18, Cole Street, Borough, S.E.

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

THE JOHNSON CELEBRATION.—PROGRAMME.

Thursday, February 28th.—St. Martin's (12 bells) and other towers will be open for touch ringing from 2.30 till 4.30.

The Dinner will be held at the Colonnade Hotel, New Street (near the station), at 5 p.m. The chair will be taken by A. Percival Heywood, Esq. Speeches will follow, after which arrangements will be made for peals at various towers on the following day.

Friday, March 1st.—A number of towers will be open for peal and touch ringing in Birmingham and the neighbourhood. A social gathering will be held at the St. Martin's Hotel in the evening, commencing with a meat tea (1/6) at 7 o'clock. Arrangements will then be made for any peals that may be desired on the following day.

A reception room, where any enquiries may be made, will, for the convenience of visitors, be open at the St. Martin's Hotel (adjoining the Church), from 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. on Thursday, and from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday. In order to facilitate the meeting of friends it is particularly requested that visitors, on arriving in Birmingham, will at once proceed to the reception room and enter their names in the book provided for the purpose.

The stewards of the meeting (who will wear a red rosette) will be ready to give to visitors any information or assistance in their power.

The invited representatives of the various Associations will be presented with a ticket for the dinner on intimating their intention to be present to A. Percival Heywood, Esq., Duffield Bank, near Derby. Other ringers wishing to join the party are requested to apply for tickets (price 2s. 6d., including wine) to the Hon. Sec., Mr. W. H. Godden, Finch Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, to whom also any enquiries may be addressed. All applications for dinner tickets (except from invited guests) must be accompanied by a remittance, and must be made between February 11th and February 25th.

ADDITIONAL NOTICE.

It having been represented that inconvenience may be caused by the issue of tickets ceasing on February 25th, it has been determined to issue them up to the time of the dinner, but applicants are particularly requested to apply before the 25th if possible.

Obituary.

JOHN GILLINGS.

We regret to announce the decease of this well-known north country ringer, which occurred after a brief illness on Monday, January 7th, at the age of sixty-two. The funeral took place on the 10th prox. at Gateshead Cemetery, and was attended by a numerous gathering of relatives and friends, among the latter being several of the ringers of the district. The bells of All Saints, Newcastle, were rung muffled during the same evening to his memory. The deceased ringer learnt to handle a bell upwards of forty-two years ago, and had been one of the selected ringers at the Cathedral church of St. Nicholas since 1850. When Newcastle and Gateshead boasted of a numerous band of ringers and of its ancient societies, John Gillings was one of the most active and respected members. When the Association for the Durham diocese started, he took a warm interest in its welfare, and was a member for many years. He had rung in several peals of 5000, his last being a peal of Grandsire Triples at Christ Church, North Shields, which he covered in beautiful style. He was well-known and respected in the two northern counties, and his genial face and hearty manner will be greatly missed in the belfry and elsewhere where his form was familiar.

JOSEPH ZEALEY.

It is with regret that we have to announce the death of the above-named ringer, who was killed at Sevenoaks on Saturday, February 9th, by being thrown from a pony carriage, by which he sustained a severe fracture of the base of the skull. Deceased was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Surrey Association, and was one of the original company at St. Mary's, Beddington, that studied change-ringing, and had rang about sixteen peals in all in the following methods: Grandsire Triples and Caters, Plain Bob Triples and Major. He left Beddington about four years ago to take up residence as gardener at Morants Court, Chevening, near Sevenoaks! He was laid to rest on Thursday, February 14th, at Chevening churchyard, being borne to the grave by Messrs. Crabb, Holms, Terry, Rivers, Reeves, add Ashdown, of the St. Nicholas society, Sevenoaks, assisted by J. W. Trappitt, of the Beddington company. In the evening the bells of St. Nicholas, Sevenoaks, Kent, and St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey, were rung deeply muffled, as the last tribute of respect to a departed brother-ringer.

FOR SALE.—A Good Musical Box, cost £24 new. Plays six well-known sacred tunes, with an organ accompaniment. Just been thoroughly done up. Price £8. R. Elliott, Springfield Road, Walthamstow.

A WEEK'S RINGING IN THE MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Early in the new year, Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., of Loughborough, invited several well-known ringers to pay him a week's visit for the purpose of ringing peals. Monday, February 4th, was the date named; and early in the afternoon of that day the visitors began to arrive. The first on the scene were Mr. Herbert Baker and the Revs. G. F. Coleridge and W. W. C. Baker, who had met at Leicester, and thence travelled together to their destination. They were quickly followed by Mr. C. Hattersley from Sheffield. All were heartily greeted by their host, who soon began to express surprise at the non-appearance of his other two expected guests, the Rev. F. E. Robinson and Mr. J. W. Washbrook. However, as the party made their way towards All Saints' church, where it had been arranged to commence the business of the week at 5.15 p.m., they were gratified by seeing their well-known figures coming up the street from the station.

As soon as Evensong was over, the party entered the church, where they were courteously welcomed by the Rector, the Rev. Thomas Pitts, who ascended the tower with them. The efforts of the Messrs. Taylor to promote belfry reform and good ringing are evidently appreciated in Loughborough, as the various gifts recently made for the adornment of the belfry sufficiently testify. The matchboarding round the walls is the gift of the Mayor; the linoleum on the floor a present from another friend; while we believe we are not wrong in saying that the very effective lighting arrangement is due to the generosity of Mr. Heywood, of Duffield. Altogether the ringing-chamber may be pronounced a model of what such a place should be.

These points having been duly admired, a start was made for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, with the assistance of three of the local band, Messrs. A. Cresser, W. A. Tyler, and R. Lane. All went well for nearly two hours, when unfortunately a slip on the part of the conductor compelled him to call "stand." It was too late to start again for the peal, so the rest of the evening was spent in practising Double Norwich and Stedman Caters, after which the company dispersed to seek repose in preparation for the labours of the morrow.

Nine o'clock the next morning saw them all at the station ready to take train for Leicester. At the latter station they were joined by Mr. Heywood, and thence they proceeded by train to Belgrave, a suburb of Leicester, where it had been arranged that the first ringing of the day should be done. At the church they were met by the Rector and some of the Leicester ringers, who expressed a fear lest illness in the neighbourhood should prevent the ringing. Fortunately it was found upon enquiry that there was nothing sufficiently serious to stand in the way, and soon the bells were going in Double Norwich under the leadership of Mr. Washbrook. After one false start nothing occurred to mar the progress of the work, and in a few minutes over the three hours, the first of what was destined to be a long series of peals was successfully brought round.

No time was lost in getting back into the town, where the wants of the inner man were supplied at one of the numerous coffee taverns which seem to show that in Leicester at all events the temperance cause is winning its way in a very practical fashion. As quickly as possible St. Saviour's church was reached. This is a spacious building of red brick, the interior of which presents several features of original treatment, particularly the light piers at the intersection of the choir and transept. On a somewhat dull day, the church had rather a heavy look, but no doubt when lighted up would be very different. The bells, a ring of eight in E flat, were generally considered to be among the best from the Loughborough foundry. Here Stedman Triples was the order of the day, and in 2 hrs. 58 mins. from the start Brook's peal was brought round, conducted by Mr. C. H. Hattersley.

After receiving the congratulations of Messrs. Buttery and Millis, and others of the local company, the visitors returned to Loughborough, well satisfied with the success that had so far attended their efforts, and hoping for a repetition of the same good fortune on the following day. Nor were they disappointed. Meeting at the foundry at 9 o'clock, they drove ten miles to the pretty little church of Coleorton, two miles from Ashby-de-la-Zouch. Here everything had been got in readiness by one of

Messrs. Taylors' men, who had preceded the party, taking with him new ropes in case any should be found worn or likely to give way. Mr. Wakley from Burton-on-Trent was waiting for the arrival of the Loughborough contingent, and no time was lost in getting to work. Mr. Wakley called a peal of Double Norwich, which after some very good ringing was brought to completion in 3 hrs. 2 mins.

A move was now made to Ashby-de-la-Zouch, in company Mr. A. Percival Heywood, who had arrived at Coleorton during the ringing of the peal, and had listened to the latter part of it.

The church at Ashby is interesting as being the burial-place of the Countess of Huntingdon, the foundress of the Huntingdon connexion. At 4.30 eight of the party prepared to ring a peal of Superlative Surprise. At first the long draught of rope seemed likely to militate against good striking, and was apparently the cause of the first attempt coming to grief. Starting again however, the striking became much better, and a good peal was brought round in 3 hrs. 12 mins. This was a noteworthy peal in several particulars. It is the first 5024 of Superlative ever rung; the first in the method in the county of Leicester; and last, but not least, it was the 200th peal rung by the Rev. F. E. Robinson. The Exercise at large will join with his fellow-ringers on this occasion in hoping that the energetic Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild may see the accomplishment of many more "centuries." He can hardly hope to improve the quality of the peals of which they are composed, as the analysis given last week will show. It is a curious fact that of the 200 peals exactly 100 have been rung in Stedman's method.

The long drive back to Loughborough was enlivened with various amusing reminiscences of ringing experiences, and the party separated under strict injunctions not to be late in the morning. For Thursday, the 7th, was to be a busy day, the programme including three peals, viz., at Nottingham, Beeston, and Loughborough. Though circumstances prevented the carrying out of this in full, yet enough was done to make it equal to the other days of this memorable week. An early start by the 7.15 a.m. train landed the travellers at Nottingham by 8 o'clock. The hungry condition of several naturally prompted a quotation of the historical enquiry, "How be we going on?" When this had been satisfactorily answered, All Saints' church was reached, and as soon as all above was pronounced in good order, a third peal of Double Norwich was started for. This was perhaps, the gem of the week for good striking, and what Mr. Washbrook justly termed "finished ringing." Great credit is due to the ringer of the 7th, this being his first peal in the method.

No time was lost in getting back to Beeston, when it was proposed to go for a peal in the afternoon, but on arriving there it was found that a band could not be made up, as Mr. Taylor was obliged to return to Loughborough for an important engagement, and Mr. Heywood, who had been waiting there some hours, could not stay for a peal, as he was engaged at Duffield in the evening. Under these circumstances it was reluctantly decided to abandon the feature at Beeston and return to Loughborough for another attempt for the peal of Treble Bob Royal that was lost on Monday evening. The afternoon was spent in looking over the foundry, and in the evening the peal of Royal, as duly recorded, was successfully rung. Though rather slow it was considered a most excellent peal by Mr. Taylor, sen., who indeed went so far as to say he thought it the best peal ever rung in Loughborough. The score now standing at six peals in three days great interest began to be felt as to the possibility of maintaining such a high rate up the end of the week.

Friday, the 8th, found the party bound for Duffield, on the kind invitation of Mr. Heywood, illness at Quorndon preventing ringing there as originally intended. While waiting at the station the astounding discovery was made that Mr. C. H. Hattersley's weight was twenty stone! Indeed how much more than this it really was could not be found out, as the register stopped at this figure! But perhaps Mr. Washbrook will explain this difficulty as he did so many others during the week.

At Derby the Rev. G. F. Coleridge was obliged to leave the party to the general regret, and while he returned to Oxfordshire, the rest went on to Duffield. Here they were met by Mr. Heywood, who had arranged the proceedings of the day with the utmost kindness and forethought. Refreshments were ready on

the arrival of the party at a house near the church, and when these had been enjoyed, ten of the party started for a peal of Duffield Royal. The method having been but little practised by several of the band, there were a couple of false starts, but after that no hitch occurred, and a peal was brought round with some very good striking, especially in the last hour. Dinner at Mr. Heywood's house followed, and then a peal of Stedman Caters was started for, the Rev. W. W. C. Baker ringing instead of Mr. Heywood. This too, conducted by Mr. Hattersley, was brought round, and then after again partaking of Mr. Heywood's hospitality, the party set out to drive back to Derby, full of gratitude to the President of the Midland Counties' Association for the kindness with which he had treated them throughout the day.

Eight peals in four days had now been rung, thus equalling the score of the Hertfordshire week in February, 1888. Would the last attempt on the following morning be equally successful, and thus distance all previous exploits?

It is not out of place to again mention that the peal in the morning of Duffield Royal completed Mr. Herbert Baker's 100 peals, a complete analysis of which has already appeared.

Saturday morning at 9 o'clock was the time fixed for the last attempt of the week, and punctually at that hour Mr. Heywood arrived at Loughborough from Duffield to call a peal of Stedman Caters. After ten minutes' ringing a hitch occurred, and another start was made, this to the satisfaction of all proved a success, and the ninth peal in five days was truly and completely rung. These performances have all been duly recorded in the proper place.

At the churchyard gates the party separated to return to their various homes. It is needless to say that all were highly delighted with the unprecedented success of the week, and it was felt that their heartiest thanks were due to Mr. Taylor not only for the hospitable manner in which he had entertained his guests and made most complete arrangements for their creature comforts, but also for the care and forethought with which every detail connected with the week's plans had been mapped out beforehand, so that such a long programme was carried through with the minimum of fatigue and discomfort. Indeed on all sides the feeling was expressed that whether looking to the quantity and quality of the peals rung, or to the social enjoyment arising from the meeting of ringers from so many parts of the country, the success of the week was, to use a word frequently on the lips of one of the band, simply "immense."

CHELTENHAM.

A farewell supper was recently given at the "Eight Bells" hotel, Cheltenham, by Mr. F. E. Ward, late Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, on the occasion of his leaving Cheltenham for Newport, Monmouthshire, where he has just now removed. The local company, together with several friends in the neighbourhood, were invited, the chair being occupied by Mr. J. Belcher, of Cheltenham. Supper being concluded, and the usual loyal toasts duly honoured, a course of Grandsire Cinques was rung, and the evening was agreeably spent in handbell ringing and singing, interspersed with various speeches. Mr. Ward, in returning thanks for the toast of his health, said he should always look back upon his Cheltenham days with pleasure, not unmixed with regret: with pleasure to think of the time he had spent there and the ringing he had taken part in, with regret to think that he was now leaving for a district where change-ringing was not so much practised as in Cheltenham, and also for parting with so many friends.

As however, Mr. Ward at Newport is "within measurable distance" of Cheltenham, the local companies hope to have the pleasure of his society from time to time, and an occasional peal together.

The proceedings terminated with the air, "Home, Sweet Home," played as a solo on the handbells by Mr. W. T. Pates.

THE ASHTON PEAL.—The peal on handbells rung at Ashton, was rung on Saturday, February 2nd, at the house of Mr. Thomas Tumelty. The umpire was Mr. John Crabtree.

DEDICATION OF A NEW PEAL AT NEWCASTLE.

On Sunday evening, the 10th instant, the new peal of bells at St. George's church, Jesmond—the fashionable quarter of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, was dedicated by the Bishop of Newcastle. The entire church, which is a magnificent and capacious structure, a parish hall, and a caretaker's lodge, have been given solely by Mr. Charles Mitchell, one of the partners in Lord Armstrong's works. The gift is one of the most handsome that has been given to the town since Lord Armstrong presented Jesmond Dene; and the fact that the church was on Sunday made a parish church, the living being placed in the hands of the Bishop, will show the disinterested motives of the donor. Visitors to the Newcastle exhibition will remember the magnificent communion-table and steps, and the pulpit, all of which were of the finest marble, and the other fittings of the church are of the same costly character, and in every way complete. The church consists of a nave and chancel, without transepts, the bell-tower being built at one side, near the chancel, and distinct from the church. It is quite a campanile, being a great height, and without a spire or turrets, simply having a pyramidal roof.

The bells are a peal of eight by Taylor, of Loughborough, tenor 18 cwt., and are most pleasing in every respect, the great height at which they are placed adding to their natural sweetness. They appear to be exceedingly well hung, as they go capitally, the only disadvantage being that the trebles cannot be heard in the ringing-chamber as one would desire.

The church was crowded in every part, and after the Bishop had conducted the service with reference to the declaration of the church as a parish church, and after the ordinary evening service, the dedication of the bells took place, and rounds and Queen's change were rung for two or three minutes. After the sermon a touch of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. J. C. Butterworth, of Durham, was rung instead of the organ voluntary, and then 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major, conducted by Mr. R. S. Story, after which the bells were lowered in peal. The following ringers also took part in the proceedings: Messrs. W. G. Routledge, J. Simm, F. Lees, W. Story, H. Ferguson, E. Wallis, L. Newton (Durham), T. Clark (Ripon), and F. Harrison (Jarrow).

On the previous Wednesday night a short practice was held, when a 168 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by R. S. Story, and a course of Kent Treble Bob Major were rung, after which the Vicar and Churchwardens very kindly entertained the ringers to supper in the adjoining parish room, when the toast—"The Health of the donor of the peal" was heartily drunk. In proposing the health of the president of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, the Vicar (Rev. E. Pennefather) wished every success to it, and in replying, Mr. Story congratulated the Vicar and Churchwardens on having a most satisfactory and sweet peal of bells. The toasts of the Vicar and Churchwardens followed, and were suitably replied to.

THE "LORD BACON" LODGE OF ODD FELLOWS.

On Saturday, February 9th, eight members of the above-mentioned lodge, which was formed at St. Albans on the 18th January, 1868, and consequently attained its majority this year, rang at St. Alban's Cathedral a peal of Grandsire Triples in honour of the event, particulars of which were published among the peal records of last week. An attempt for the peal was made on the actual anniversary, but was without success. There being a vast number of ringers belonging to Odd Fellows' lodges throughout the kingdom, besides other benefit societies, perhaps it will not be out of place to mention the status of the St. Albans lodge, of which its members are justly proud. Starting on the date above-named with 16 members, the now actual number of participators in the lodge is 345. The capital for the year ending 31st December last was £4670; increase during the last year, £480; average funds per member, £14. The interest from invested capital for the year 1888 amounted to £180, which has paid all the sickness, funeral claims, levies, etc., and leaves a balance of £14. The surplus fund is about £1000 over and above the liabilities.

WANTED Man and Wife (without encumbrances), to live in Vicarage, as Gardener and General Servant. Wife must be Good Plain Cook. Rev. H. A. Cockey, Oldland, Bristol.

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, FEBRUARY 23, 1889.

THE first analysis of peals for the present year, compiled by MR. ATTREE, appears upon another page, and from it we learn that the increase upon the corresponding month of last year is no less than thirty-one. This points to the fact that more energy is still being shown so far as peal-ringing is concerned, and the week's record still further establishes it. If peal-ringing is to extend much further, we shall have to consider the propriety of an enlargement of our paper, for we are compelled to postpone nearly every week either touches or reports of meetings, to make room for what will be considered the most important, viz., the publication of peal reports. MR. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD's chapters on Double Norwich have come to an end, and our readers will agree with us that they have been interesting, and that he has amply proved his case. MR. CARTER introduces his new method to the notice of the Exercise, and apparently invites criticism upon it. A greater vitality than usual seems to have pervaded the ringing world, and the energy displayed in its pursuit is more pronounced. Let us hope this condition of things will continue, that it may in fact improve more and more.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 16, 1889, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 25 cwt.

JOHN W. MANSFIELD .. Treble.	CHARLES E. MALIM .. 5.
WILLIAM W. THORNE .. 2.	ALBERT E. CHURCH .. 6.
WILLIAM BARON, JUN. .. 3.	WILLIAM BARON, SEN. .. 7.
WILLIAM L. CHAMBERLAIN 4.	WILLIAM LAMB .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BARON, SEN.

This peal was rung to commemorate the 60th birthday of William Lamb, steeple-keeper at the above church, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns.

LAMBETH, SURREY.—THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

On Saturday, February 16, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt.

ARTHUR SWETMAN .. Treble.	DAVID STACKWOOD .. 5.
FRANCIS L. DAVIS .. 2.	GEORGE WILD .. 6.
WALTER PARTINGTON .. 3.	FREDK. G. NEWMAN .. 7.
GEORGE C. HAMMOND .. 4.	WILLM. T. COCKERILL .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDK. G. NEWMAN.

CAMBERWELL, SURREY.—THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.

On Saturday, February 16, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

HENRY W. FLOWER .. Treble.	WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 5.
RICHARD FRENCH .. 2.	JOSEPH BARRY .. 6.
WILLIAM JONES .. 3.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE .. 7.
FRANK DAVEY .. 4.	*JAMES GEORGE .. Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

*First peal. Mr. James George hails from Coventry, and Mr. Davey from Exeter.

The Provinces.

ARUNDEL, SUSSEX.—SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 9, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

W. TWIGG* .. Treble.	*E. EDE .. 5.
C. BLACKMAN* .. 2.	H. H. CHANDLER .. 6.
F. LUXFORD .. 3.	W. SHORT .. 7.
G. BALCHIN* .. 4.	*C. HAYLER .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY H. CHANDLER.

*First peal in the method. Rung on the occasion of Mr. W. Short's 29th birthday. Messrs Chandler and Short hail from Warnham; the rest belong to the local band.

WEST BROMWICH.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 9, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ONE-COURSE. Tenor 14 cwt.

THOMAS HORTON .. Treble.	*CHARLES WILLIAMS .. 5.
THOMAS REYNOLDS .. 2.	REUBEN HALL .. 6.
SAMUEL REEVES .. 3.	*WILLIAM LONG .. 7.
WILLIAM SMITH* .. 4.	CHARLES FLUCK .. Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

*First peal of Stedman Triples. This peal, which is now rung for the first time by this Society, has a single in each of the last two courses. Messrs. Reynolds and Fluck, hail from Aston; Smith, Williams and Long from Perry Barr; and the rest from West Bromwich.

SALISBURY, WILTS.

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

On Wednesday, February 13, 1889, 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.

ALFRED P. GODDARD .. Treble.	SYDNEY LAWRENCE .. 5.
THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 2.	HENRY D. ADAMS .. 6.
WALTER S. WISE* .. 3.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 7.
ARTHUR W. BARKUS .. 4.	*CHARLES A. CLEMENTS .. Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER S. WISE.

*First peal as conductor.

ERITH, KENT.—THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

On Thursday, February 14, 1889, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

GEORGE CULLEM .. Treble.	GEORGE CONYARD .. 5.
WILLIAM PEAD .. 2.	EDWARD E. RICHARDS .. 6.
FREDERICK CULLEM .. 3.	JOHN GARARD .. 7.
WILLIAM BEDWELL .. 4.	*DAVID BARNES .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BEDWELL.

The bells were rung muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mr. Robert Owen aged 86, who was for many years a ringer at the above church. *First peal.

SHARNBROOK, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 16, 1889, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS
UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following :

OXFORD TREBLE BOB, COLLEGE SINGLE, COURT BOB, OXFORD BOB,
COLLEGE LITTLE, PLAIN BOB, AND GRANDSIRE MINOR.

Tenor 12½ cwt in G

CHARLES W. CLARKE Treble.	*EDWARD COLEMAN 4.
CHARLES ALLEN* 2.	†ALBERT J. BARCOCK 5.
LEONARD BELL* 3.	*WILLIAM PAGE Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

*First 5040. †First 5040 on a bob bell. C. W. Clarke hails from Bedford; the remainder belong to the Sharnbrook company, which have only received instruction in the art since last November by C. W. Clarke; the ringer of the second could not pull a bell at that time. The ages of the second and fourth ringers are 14 and 16 respectively.

CODDENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 16, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 16 cwt.

JAMES MOTTS Treble.	WILLIAM P. GARRETT 5.
WILLIAM MOTTS 2.	*ALBERT E. DURRANT 6.
HENRY BOWELL 3.	ISAAC S. ALEXANDER 7.
HAWKINS ENGLISH* 4.	FREDERICK TILLET Tenor.

Composed by the late H. HUBBARD and Conducted by J. MOTTS.

H. English belongs to the local company; the rest are members of the St. Mary-le-tower Society, Ipswich. *First peal in the method.

WORTH, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION,
On Saturday, February 16, 1889, in Two Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT MINOR
METHODS UPON SIX BELLS ;

Being 720 each of the following ;

WOODBINE, VIOLET, OXFORD AND KENT TREBLE BOB, PLAIN BOB,
COURT BOB AND OXFORD SINGLE BOB.

BENJAMIN PAYNE Treble.	EDWARD STREETER 4.
WILLIAM DENMAN 2.	ALFRED F. HILLIER 5.
WILLIAM COLLISON 3.	FREDERICK W. RICE Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK W. RICE.

Messrs. Collison and Hillier hail from Crawley; the rest belong to Worth.

HATFIELD, HERTS.—THE HATFIELD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 16, 1889, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ETHELDREDA,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES ;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 28 cwt.

WILLIAM J. RUMNEY Treble.	†JOHN KENTISH 5.
JOHN SHEPHERD 2.	HENRY G. ROWE 6.
WALTER E. POWERS 3.	THOMAS GATHARD 7.
JOSEPH HOLLINGSWORTH 4.	*GEORGE SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY GEORGE ROWE.

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

OTLEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 16, 1889, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5424 CHANGES.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

CHAS. RALPH Treble.	LISTER CAWOOD 5.
SAML. BROWN 2.	TOM LOCKWOOD 6.
W. D. CLOUGH 3.	JAMES HORNER 7.
FRED MARSTON 4.	DAVID RHODES Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by TOM LOCKWOOD.

This peal has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right. Messrs. Brown and Rhodes hail from Guiseley; T. Lockwood from Leeds; the rest belong to Otley.

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

On Saturday, February 16, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. G. W. CARTMEL.

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND.

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5000 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.	

Composed and Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

Umpires—Messrs A. Hull and W. Little.

BATLEY CARR, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, February 16, 1889, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS
UPON SIX BELLS,

Being 720 each of the following :

MORNING STAR, DARTON NEW PLEASURE, COLLEGE EXERCISE, ARNOLD'S
VICTORY, COLLEGE PLEASURE, CITY DELIGHT AND LONDON SCHOLARS'
PLEASURE,

Tenor 12 cwt.

JNO. HY. SCOTT Treble.	JNO. BLACKBURN 4.
WILSON H. STEAD 2.	WALTER IDLE 5.
SQUIRE MITCHELL 3.	GEO. HY. SIMON Tenor.

Conducted by GEO. HY. SIMON.

BOLTON, DRADFORD.—SOCIETY OF COPLEY SCHOLARS
AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 16, 1889, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES ;

SHIPWAY'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN SUGDEN Treble.	ALFRED RILEY 5.
BENJAMIN T. COPLEY 2.	JAMES COTTERELL 6.
JAMES MAWSON 3.	JAMES W. CUNDALL 7.
GEO. TITTERINGTON 4.	SAM PALFRAMAN Tenor.

Conducted by BENJAMIN T. COPLEY.

This peal was rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the memory of Mr. Robert Tuke. It is also J. Cotterell's fourth peal, who first commenced learning to ring just twelve months ago.

ROTHWELL.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 16, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS
UPON SIX BELLS,

Being 720 each of the following :

TULIP, PRIMROSE, COLLEGE TREBLE, COLLEGE EXERCISE, CITY
DELIGHT, LONDON SCHOLARS, AND ARNOLD'S VICTORY.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

J. G. VERITY Treble.	W. ABBISHAW 4.
JNO. CHAPMAN 2.	STEPHEN STACEY 5.
ALF. CHAPMAN 3.	J. M. CHADWICK Tenor.

Conducted by W. ABBISHAW.

These seven methods of Minor form the first half of fourteen Minor methods which this company intend shortly to attempt for 10,080 changes.

BRIGHOUSE, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, February 16, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES ;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

J. F. PEARSON Treble.	W. WOOD 5.
F. CROSSLEY 2.	*S. STOCKS 6.
C. NEILD 3.	F. PRINCE 7.
G. LAWTON 4.	*H. MARSHALL Tenor.

No conductor mentioned.

*First peal. G. Lawton and F. Prince are members of the Yorkshire Association

WIDFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 16, 1889, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

WILLIAM J. PIPER Treble.	*JOSEPH J. EVERARD 5.
JOHN DAINS 2.	ALFRED TARBUN 6.
ABRAHAM SHUTTLEWORTH .. 3.	ARTHUR EDWARDS 7.
REV. THOMAS L. PAPILLON* 4.	WILLIAM LINCOLN Tenor.

Composed by C. W. CLARKE, of Bedford, and Conducted by WILLIAM LINCOLN.

*First peal of Major. This peal has the 6th twenty-four times right and twenty times wrong. (See "THE BELL NEWS" of January 7th, 1888, p. 497).

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 16, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT's TEN-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

R. NASH* Treble.	P. ALLFREY 5.
A. BENNETT 2.	*T. STEPNEY 6.
H. RANN 3.	W. ALLFREY 7.
F. HOUNSELL 4.	*H. BOWLES Tenor.

Conducted by A. BENNETT.

*First peal. Messrs. Bowles, Hounsell, and Nash, hail from Cuckfield.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 16, 1889, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 12 cwt. 25 lbs.

WILLIAM HORTON* Treble.	JOHN GOODMAN 5.
HARRY MASON 2.	SAMUEL JESSON 6.
HARRY MILLS 3.	GEORGE HUGHES 7.
EDWARD GOODREDS 4.	WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE HUGHES.

William Horton hails from Coseley; Harry Mason from Old Hill; John Goodman from Dudley; the rest belong to the local company. *First peal in the method.

EPSOM, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 18, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 16 cwt.

ALFRED E. BASSETT .. Treble.	JAMES EASTON 5.
STEPHEN BROOKER 2.	THOMAS MILES 6.
HARRY PEDERICK 3.	JESSE HAWKINS 7.
WILLIAM SANDERS 4.	GEORGE PEDERICK Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS MILES.

This is a six-part peal, containing 144 bobs and fourteen plain lead singles, and is the first peal of Union Triples by all except Mr. S. Brooker.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.—SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 18, 1889, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN FOURTEEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS,

Being a 360 each of the following:

NEW LONDON PLEASURE, DUKE OF YORK, COLLEGE EXERCISE, LONDON SCHOLARS' PLEASURE, WOODBINE, OXFORD AND KENT TREBLE BOB; DOUBLE OXFORD, DOUBLE COURT, GRANDSIRE, YORKSHIRE COURT, PLAIN BOB, COLLEGE SINGLE AND CANTERBURY PLEASURE.

Tenor 12 cwt.

THOMAS SEARLE Treble.	CHARLES CHAMBERS .. 4.
GEORGE GATLAND 2.	JAMES WOOLGAR 5.
GEORGE SMART 3.	CHARLES TYLER Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES TYLER.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 18, 1889, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

PERCY C. STEARN SCOTT Treble.	HENRY DUCE 5.
AMOR AMBROSE 2.	HARRY SMITH 6.
JAMES BIRD 3.	ARTHUR SYMONDS 7.
SAMUEL SLATER 4.	GEORGE MAXIM Tenor.

Composed by JOHN HOLT and Conducted by ARTHUR SYMONDS.

The above peal, which is numbered 14 in Snowdon's "Account of the Society of Union Scholars," contains the fewest omits possible. Messrs. Symonds (who now scores his first peal as conductor), and Smith, hail from Lavenham; Slater from Glemsford; and Maxim from Foxearth.

WARNHAM.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 18, 1889, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF COLLEGE SINGLE MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES.

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

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and Conducted by HENRY H. CHANDLER.

This is supposed to be the first peal ever rung in the method. The same band attempted the peal on Saturday, 16th, but was lost after ringing 2000, the only practice they have had in the method. This peal has the 4th and 6th their extent in 6th's place.

BRADFORD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 19, 1889, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 27 cwt.

J. HARDCASTLE, JUN. .. Treble.	†J. W. CUNDALL 6.
SIDNEY CLARK* 2.	J. ANGUS 7.
H. RAISTRICK 3.	J. H. HARDCASTLE .. 8.
THOS. POLLITT 4.	B. F. LAMB 9.
J. COTTERELL* 5.	FRED LONDON Tenor.

Composed by THOS. POLLITT and Conducted by J. H. HARDCASTLE.

*First peal. †First peal in the method. This was rung with the bells half-muffled in respect to the memory of the late Mr. Robert Tuke.

STAFFORD.

On Tuesday, February 19, 1889, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

THOMAS CARTWRIGHT* .. Treble.	THOMAS GUEST 5.
WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT .. 2.	THOMAS PERRY 6.
WILLIAM FELLOWS 3.	*JAMES FELLOWS 7.
RICHARD PERRY 4.	WILLIAM C. HALL Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by THOMAS PERRY.

*First peal.

BRISTOL.

On Tuesday, February 19, 1889, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt. in C.

SAMUEL PHILLIPS* .. Treble.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 6.
CHARLES GORDON* 2.	WILLIAM PARSONS* .. 7.
GEORGE COLSTON* 3.	TOM HIBBERT 8.
EDMUND DUCKHAM* 4.	JAMES HINTON 9.
GEORGE DALTRY* 5.	*J. RICHMOND & *J. PALSER Tenor.

Composed by J. CARTER, of Birmingham, and Conducted by J. HINTON.

*First peal of Caters. W. W. Gifford hails from Salisbury; and T. Hibbert from Reading. It is nineteen years since the last peal of Caters was rung upon the bells.

Date Touches.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Wednesday, February 13th, at the church of St. Dunstan, Stepney, a date touch of Grandsire Caters (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 16 mins. T. Baker, 1; W. Tanner, 2; W. Jones, 3; W. Greenleaf, 4; Y. Green, 5; R. Woodley, 6; H. Springall (conductor), 7; R. Turner, 8; S. Hayes, 9; S. Joyce, 10. Composed by J. Bradley, of West Ham.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, February 12th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 12 mins. J. S. Wright, 1; G. Skeef, 2; G. Ladd, 3; J. W. Jarvis, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6; R. Jarvis, 7; E. Jarvis, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Monday, February 11th, at the residence of Mr. Austin, 230, Goodman Street, Carter's date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 54 mins. W. J. Smith, 1-2; J. Jaggar, 3-4; L. Bullock, 5-6; J. Austin (conductor), 7-8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROSSENDALE.—On Sunday, February 10th, for afternoon service at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 9 mins. J. Bolton (conductor), 1; J. Curtiss (Bolton, composer), 2; J. Ashworth, 3; W. Maden, 4; J. B. Taylor, 5; G. Lord, 6; J. T. Stott, 7; W. Whittaker, 8. The above was rung as a farewell touch with Mr. W. Maden, who is leaving the district for a foreign home, his brother ringers wishing him a pleasant voyage.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL (Yorks).—On Tuesday, February 12th, at the church of the Holy Trinity, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 15 mins., with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Robert Tuke, Esq., late Hon. Treasurer of the above Association. T. Stockdale, 1; J. F. Mallaby, 2; J. Highfield, 3; A. B. Shepherd, 4; H. Jenkins, 5; D. Seamer, 6; C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 7; J. Dale, 8. The above touch, which is in three parts, contains the twenty-four 6-7's. D. Seamer and A. B. Shepherd hail from Grimsby; the rest are local men.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ABINGDON.—On Sunday evening, February 3rd, for Divine Service at St. Helen's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 5 mins. A. Burgess, 1; J. H. Viner, 2; E. Aldworth, 3; E. Humfrey, 4; A. J. Kimbrey, 5; T. Short (conductor), 6; H. Humfrey, 7; W. Spires, 8. Composed by Mr. J. Carter, of Birmingham. This is the first date touch ever rung in Abingdon.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Sunday evening, February 17th, for Divine service at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. F. Dentry, 1; H. Rogers, 2; A. Hoskins, 3; F. Bissley, 4; R. Smith, 5; S. Quintin, 6; J. W. Wilkins (conductor), 7; J. Woolford, 8. Composed by J. W. Washbrook.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

STOCKPORT.—On Monday, February 11th, for practice at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. H. Meakin, 1; J. Booth, 2; J. Meakin, 3; S. Meakin, 4; *J. Shallcross, 5; L. Meakin, 6; T. Marshall (conductor), 7; W. Sharples and J. Mitchell, 8. *Longest length. Composed by Mr. John Carter, of Birmingham.

CAERLEON (Monmouthshire).—On Wednesday, February 6th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 8 mins. F. Green, 1; H. Shearn, 2; E. Davies, 3; W. H. Arnold, 4; L. Stafford, 5; J. W. Jones, 6; F. E. Ward (conductor), 7; H. Evans, 8. Composed by Mr. John Carter, of Birmingham, and published in "THE BELL NEWS" of January 12th. Mr. Ward has lately come to reside at Newport, and is the ex-Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

GIGGLESWICK (Yorks).—On Wednesday, February 13th, at the parish church, for practice, a date touch of Bob Minor (1889 changes), with different calls, in 1 hr. 5 mins. J. L. Bulcock (Giggleswick), 1; W. C. Hardacre (conductor, Settle), 2; J. Parker (Giggleswick), 3; S. James (Giggleswick), 4; W. Fell (Giggleswick), 5; J. Morphet (Giggleswick), 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

HENLEY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, February 12th, at the parish church, a date touch (1889 changes), in the following methods: 89

Stedman Doubles, and three 6-scores of each of the following: Stedman Doubles, Stedman Slow Course Doubles, St. Simon's Doubles, Grandsire Doubles, and Bob Doubles. R. Chittock, 1; J. Silburn, 2; J. Creasey (conductor), 3; H. Plummer, 4; F. Jordan, 5. Tenor 9 cwt. in A. This is the longest touch on these bells for more than ten years, and is the longest but one ever known to have been rung on them.

HOLBECK (Yorks).—On Saturday, February 16th, at the parish church of St. Matthew, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. T. Harrison, 1; H. Hubbard, 2; H. Moss, 3; J. Whitaker, 4; J. Woodhead, 5; F. Woodhead, 6; H. W. Needham (conductor), 7; J. Hutchinson, 8. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of Robert Tuke, Esq., late Hon. Treasurer to the Yorkshire Association.

HANLEY CASTLE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, February 17th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1889 changes), each 6-score called differently, in 1 hr. 11 mins. G. Newman, 1; E. B. James, 2; W. Tarling, 3; A. Pitt, 4; R. G. Knowles (conductor), 5; J. Baldwin, 6. Longest length by the treble and tenor men. Messrs. Newman and James belong to the Malvern Priory Church company.

KIRKBURTON (Yorks).—On Sunday, February 3rd, at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1889 changes). D. Copley, 1; H. Kay, 2; J. Pickering, 3; R. Hill, 4; J. Copley, 5; H. Pickering, 6; H. Shaw, 7; H. Booth (conductor), 8. Composed by A. Sykes, of Huddersfield.

LEEDS (Yorkshire).—On Wednesday, February 6th, at the parish church on the light eight, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1889 changes) in 1 hr. 14 mins. H. Hubbard, 1; T. Lockwood (composer and conductor), 2; H. Lockwood, 3; J. Hutchinson, 4; R. Binns, 5; H. W. Needham, 6; W. Walker, 7; W. Snowden, 8. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of Robert Tuke, Esq., late Hon. Treasurer of the Yorkshire Association.

LEESFIELD (Lancashire).—On Thursday, February 7th, at the church of St. Thomas, a date touch (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. Shaw, 1; F. Crosland (conductor), 2; E. B. Shaw, 3; T. Egerton, 4; J. Bailey, 5; J. Priestley, 6; J. Hilton, 7; J. Platt, 8.

OVERBURY (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, February 14th, at the parish church, a date touch (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 14 mins., being nine 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and eighty-nine odd changes with plain leads in, and six 6-scores with extremes in. G. Baldwin, 1; W. Payne, 2; H. Payne (conductor), 3; J. Atkins, 4; A. Attwood, 5.

ROWLEY REGIS (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, February 16th, at the church of St. Giles, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Bate (conductor), 1; H. Bennett, 2; B. Lowe, 3; R. Baker, 4; J. Oakley, 5; J. Hall, 6; S. Mills, 7; W. H. Bate, 8. Composed by J. Carter, of Birmingham. J. Hall hails from West Bromwich.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, February 17th, for Divine Service at the parish church, Carter's date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes). W. J. Piper, 1; J. J. Everard, 2; A. Edwards, 3; F. Kadley, 4; W. Hawkes, 5; W. Lincoln, 6; A. Tarbun, 7; A. Bonnington, 8. Messrs. Piper and Tarbun hail from Widford; Hawkes from Springfield; the rest belong to the local company.

Miscellaneous.

THE HORNSEY GUILD.

HORNSEY.—On Thursday, January 17th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Blain Bob Minor in 27 mins. E. King, 1; J. Ward, 2; W. Dixon, 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; G. Griffin, 6. And another 720 Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. Ward, 1; W. Dixon, 2; A. Howell, 3; G. Griffin, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; T. Titchener, 6. Also on Thursday, January 31st, 720 Plain Bob in 27 mins. E. King, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; J. Barber, 3; A. Howell, 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Griffin, 6. And 720 Plain Bob Minor. E. King, 1; T. Titchener, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Barber, 5; G. Griffin, 6. Also on Sunday morning, February 10th, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob Minor. E. King, 1; J. Ward, 2; W. Dixon, 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; G. Griffin, 6. And after evening service 720 Plain Bob Minor (thirty-four bobs and ten singles) in 26 mins. E. King, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; T. Titchener, 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Barber, 5; G. Griffin, 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles) in 26½ mins. E. King, 1; G. Griffin, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Barber, 5; T. Titchener, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

PANGBOURNE (Berks).—On Saturday, February 9th, at the parish church of St. James, 720 Plain Bob Minor in 27 mins. B. White, 1; E. Evans, 2; W. Lawrence (Whitchurch), 3; T. Hibbert, 4; J. Hands, 5; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 6. And 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Nscholls (Pangbourne), 1; A. E. Reeves, 2; A. E. Evans, 3; J. Hopgood, 4; C. Chapman, 5; T. Hibbert (conductor), 6. The visitors then wended their way across the bridge over the Thames to try for a 720 on the bells of St. Mary's, Whitchurch; this was not however accomplished, but a shorter touch of Grandsire Minor was well struck, and as the Readingites departed to catch their train, the local band, with J. Bower, of Goring, rang 200 Grandsire Doubles.

READING (Berks).—On Tuesday, February 5th, for practice at the church of St. Lawrence, 575 Grandsire Caters. B. W. White, 1; W. H. Holloway, 2; A. Reeves, 3; F. Hopgood, 4; J. F. Tarrant, 5; W. Goseltine, 6; J. Williams, 7; W. J. Potter (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; W. Higgs, 10.

TILEHURST (Berks).—On Wednesday, February 6th, at the parish church, for practice, 518 Grandsire Triples. C. Smith, 1; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 2; J. Swain, 3; H. Goodger, 4; C. Chapman, 5; F. Hopgood, 6; W. Newell, 7; R. Haynes, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DURHAM.—On Saturday, February 9th, eight members of the above Association started for a peal of Grandsire Triples at the Cathedral, but owing to a change-course it had to be called round half-way. W. Newton (Stockton), 1; W. Story (Newcastle), 2; L. Newton (Durham), 3; T. Clark (Ripon), 4; R. S. Story (Whitley), 5; C. J. Butterworth (conductor, Durham), 6; G. J. Clarkson (Stockton), 7; F. Harrison (Jarrow), 8. And on Sunday, February 3rd, for Divine Service at St. Oswald's church, 720 Oxford Bob. W. Liddle, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; W. G. Newton, 3; C. Bradford, 4; J. E. Avery (conductor), 5; *W. Prince, 6. *First 720 in the method.

BRANCEPETH (Durham).—On Thursday, January 31st, at the church of St. Brandon, 720 Oxford Bob. W. Liddle, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; W. G. Newton, 3; C. Bradford, 4; J. E. Avery, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6; G. Hinchley, 7; R. Wylde, 8. Also 504 Bob Triples. W. Liddle, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; W. G. Newton, 3; C. Bradford, 4; J. E. Avery, 5; W. Prince, 6; L. Newton (conductor), 7; G. Hinchley, 8. Also two six-scores of Bob Doubles, with J. Gill, 1; T. Cleghorn, 2. This is the first 720 of Oxford Bob, and also the first touch of Bob Triples by all the above, and the first 120 by T. Cleghorn. With the exception of Messrs. Gill, Cleghorn, and Wylde, who are local ringers, all the above hail from Durham.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

TWYFORD (Hants).—On Tuesday, February 5th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, several 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles. C. Hawkins, 1; G. Smith, 2; Rev. C. Buston, 3; F. Hewlett (conductor), 4; W. West, 5; A. Ashford, 6. After which Messrs. G. Brown, sen., and W. Neville, took part in various touches of Grandsire Minor and Doubles. Also on Sunday evening, February 10th, for Divine Service, 360 Grandsire Minor. W. Neville, 1; G. Smith, 2; G. Brown, jun., 3; W. West, 4; A. Ashford, 5; F. Hewlett, 6.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Thursday, January 31st, at the church of All Saints, an attempt was made for a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 2450 changes in 1 hr. 37 mins., owing to a mis-call. A. R. Ward, 1; H. Jennings (conductor), 2; W. Jennings, 3; W. E. Ward, 4; J. Norris, 5; A. Williams, 6; E. Hatcher, 7; A. Ward, 8. Tenor 26½ cwt. Longest touch by all the band.

THE NORTH MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

HENDON (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, February 17th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Doubles, being six 6-scores each called differently. H. Martin (conductor), 1; J. Paradine, 2; C. Martin, 3; F. Pratt, 4; C. Crampton, 5; J. Edmonds, 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening 720 of Grandsire and Bob Bob Doubles, standing as before, with the exception of F. Pratt, 3; C. Martin, 4. And 120 Grandsire Doubles. C. Pratchett, 1; J. Paradine, 2; C. Martin, 3; J. Barrett, 4; F. Pratt, 5; J. Edmonds, 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

WINSHILL, BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Saturday, February 2nd, for practice at St. Mark's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. J. Morley, 1; W. Wylde, 2; W. Smith, 3; R. Logie, 4; L. Bullock (conductor), 5; C. Golder, 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight and twenty-two singles), in 26 mins. J. Rice, 1; W. Wylde, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; W. J. Smith (conductor), 4; J. Woodward, 5; L. Bullock, 6. And on Saturday, February 9th, 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Rice, 1; J. Woodward, 2; J. Austin, 3; J.

Walker, 4; L. Bullock, 5; C. Golder (conductor), 6. Also a 720 Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. Morley, 1; J. Austin, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; W. Wylde, 4; L. Bullock (conductor), C. Golder, 6.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Saturday, February 16th, at the parish church, eight members of the above Association rang the last half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 28 mins. W. Adler, 1; J. H. Swinfield, 2; J. Clarke, 3; G. Winter, 4; T. W. Chapman, 5; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 6; H. Horwood, 7; T. Bates, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lbs. in E. This is the longest length by all the above except the conductor. A. R. Aldham hails from Barwell, Leicestershire; and J. H. Swinfield from Earl Shilton, Leicestershire.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP.—On Sunday morning, February 10th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 720 Plain Bob (forty-two singles). W. Ormerod, 1; J. Hardman, 2; Z. Lord, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday evening, February 12th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. Z. Lord, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday evening, February 17th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Smith (conductor), 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; Z. Lord, 6.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, February 5th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Oxford Bob Minor (forty bobs and two singles). J. Spencer, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; W. Hall, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; F. Sharp, 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. F. Sharp (first 120 in the method), 1; I. Hills, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; J. Spencer, 6. And 120 Bob Minor, standing as before, with F. Sharp (conductor), 1.

SHARNBROOK (Beds).—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday, February 9th, at the house of Mr. J. Dickens, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 18 mins. F. Dickens (aged 11, and first 720), 1; E. Coleman, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3-4; A. J. Barcock, 5; W. Page, 6. Also at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). C. Allen, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; L. Bell, 3; E. Coleman, 4; W. Page, 5; A. J. Barcock, 6. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday evening, December 11th, for practice at the parish church, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies's 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 27 mins., conducted by A. A. Waite. Also on Tuesday, December 18th, another 720 of Plain Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs), in 25 mins., conducted by H. Mitchell. And on Tuesday, January 22nd, 720 in the same method (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins., conducted by H. Mitchell. All the above was rung by the following members; H. Mitchell, A. A. Waite, J. Yeates, G. Miles, H. Barnes, D. J. Aston, H. G. Gardner, W. Peglar, F. Hannis, and H. Downham. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MATHON.—On Thursday, January 24th, at St. John's church, for practice, a 720 Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. E. S. King (first 720, Cradley), 1; C. Layton, 2; D. Greening, 3; J. Thomas, 4; W. Powell, 5; A. Layton (conductor), 6.

CODDINGTON.—On Wednesday, January 30th, at the church of All Saints, 720 Grandsire Minor in 26½ mins. R. Thomas, 1; J. Thomas, 2; C. Greening, 3; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 4; E. J. Beatley, 5; H. Jeans, 6. Also a 720 in the same method in 26 mins. H. Jeans (conductor), 1; E. J. Beatley, 2; J. Thomas, 3; C. Layton, 4; J. Field, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

LEDBURY.—On Saturday evening, February 2nd, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor on the back six, in 30 mins. E. J. Beatley, 1; H. Jeans, 2; J. Thomas, 3; C. Layton, 4; A. Layton, 5; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 6. Tenor 24 cwt.

BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Tuesday evening, February 12th, during practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, on the front six. B. F. Lamb, 1; H. Raistrick, 2; S. Clark, 3; T. Pollitt (conductor), 4; *J. Cotterell, 5; *J. W. Cundall, 6. *First 720 in the method.

BRISTOL.—Recently, at the church of St. Mary-le-port, a 720 Treble Bob Minor. G. Coulston, 1; J. Bawn, 2; F. Elles, 3; S. Phillips, 4; F. Price, 5; C. Burden (conductor), 6.

BOLTON (Bradford).—On Friday evening, February 16th, during practice, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). B. E. Howe, 1; James Cotterell (conductor), 2; G. Whitaker, 3; G. Titterington, 4; B. T. Copley, 5; J. W. Cundall, 6.

CAYTHORPE (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, January 26th, the Sleaford company visited this place to ring on the fine peal of eight at the parish church. After the bells had been raised in peal a 602 Grandsire Triples was rung. J. Holmes, 1; N. E. Snow, 2; S. Skinner, 3; E. Bristow, 4; W. Cawton (Grantham), 5; J. B. Fenton (Lincoln), 6; T. H. Holdich (conductor), 7; J. E. Picker, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. Also 350 and 168 in the same method, standing as above. And several 120's of Grandsire Doubles. C. Gould, 1; W. Maxey, 2; S. Skinner, 3; —, Hilton, 4; W. Cawton, 5; N. E. Snow, 6; E. Bristowe, 7; —, Jackson, 8.

COLN ST. ALDWYN (Gloucestershire).—On Monday evening, February 18th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. R. Jefferies, 1; H. Griffin, 2; C. Bate, 3; J. Kitchener (conductor), 4; T. Witchell, 5; T. Smith, 6.

FULHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, February 17th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 43 mins. J. G. Green, 1; J. W. Kelley, 2; C. E. Kelley, 3; F. W. Kelley, 4; F. Davey, 5; J. Nicholls, jun., 6; W. E. Garrard (first quarter-peal as conductor), 7; S. How, 8. On Sunday morning, January 27th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes), in 46 mins. *A. S. Gough, 1; J. W. Driver, 2; W. E. Garrard, 3; J. W. Kelley (conductor), 4; F. W. Kelley, 5; J. Nicholls, jun., 6; F. Davey, 7; C. F. Winny, 8; *S. Eales, 9; S. How, 10. Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb. *First quarter-peal of Caters.

GREAT BENTLEY (Essex).—On Sunday, February 3rd, for Divine Service in the evening, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. A. Humm, 1; J. Taylor (Great Bromley), 2; A. Taylor, 3; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 4; G. Humm, 5. On Thursday evening, February 7th, for practice, two 6-scores of St. Simon's Doubles, one each of Plain Bob Doubles, and Grandsire Doubles. W. Howell (Little Bentley), 1; J. King (Great Bentley), 2; A. Fuller (Little Bentley), 3; W. J. Nevard (Great Bentley, conductor), 4; J. Taylor (Great Bromley), 5. The first 6-score of St. Simon's by all.

GREAT BROMLEY (Essex).—On Wednesday, February 6th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Howell, 1; G. Bowell, 2; A. Fuller, 3; W. Millbank, 4; W. J. Nevard, 5; J. Taylor (conductor), 6. Howell, Fuller, and Millbank hail from Little Bentley, and it is their first 720 of Bob Minor, having only started to learn the method since Christmas; W. J. Nevard from Great Bentley; Bowell and Taylor belong to the local company.

GRIMLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, January 22nd, the funeral of the late Mr. Charles Freeman took place at the parish church, the coffin being borne to the grave by his brother-ringers, who at the conclusion of the service rang, with the bells muffled, the usual whole pull and stand, fifty-four times, being the number of years deceased had lived, and during the evening several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung by E. Wainwright, G. Taylor, A. Callow, T. Bullock, H. Pheasant, and H. Wilkes. Before morning service on Sunday, January 27th, with the bells muffled, several 6-scores of Doubles was rung by the local company, assisted by H. Wilkes. Deceased had been a ringer of this parish for nearly forty years. His father was for many years parish clerk. Messrs. Pheasant and Wilkes belong to the Worcester Cathedral company.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday, January 20th, at the church of St. Nicholas, for Divine Service, 360 Grandsire Minor. C. W. Miller, 1; T. H. Colburn (longest touch with a bob bell), 2; W. Groves, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; F. Bennett (conductor), 5; J. J. Jones, 6. On handbells, in the afternoon, 720 Bob Minor, in 23 mins. C. W. Miller, 1; F. W. J. Rees, 2; W. Groves, 3; T. H. Colburn, 4; F. Bennett (conductor), 5; J. J. Jones, 6. First 720 by all. And on Friday, January 25th, some of the company visited Godalming, and rung 504 Grandsire Triples. C. W. Miller, 1; T. H. Colburn (first 504), 2; F. Bennett (conductor), 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; J. Jones, 5; W. Groves, 6; G. Manfield, 7; G. Riddle, 8. On Saturday, January 26th, an attempt was made to ring Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but it unfortunately came to grief after ringing 1 hr. 10 mins. C. W. Miller, 1; H. White (conductor), 2; F. Bennett, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; T. Stedman, 5; G. Barnett, 6; W. Groves, 7; W. Loveland, 8. H. White hails from Basingstoke; T. Stedman from Capel; G. Barnett from Farnham; the rest belong to the local company. On Sunday, January 27th, for Divine Service in the morning, 504 and 168 Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Groves. And in the evening 504 in the same method. C. W. Miller, 1; T. H. Colburn, 2; J. Heathorn (first 504), 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; J. Jones, 5; F. Bennett (conductor), 6; W. Groves, 7; H. E. Hart, 8. These are the first 504's by the local band. On Wednesday evening, February 6th, on handbells, 120 Stedman Doubles. *E. Heathorn, 1; *T. H. Colburn, 2; F. W. J. Rees, 3; *F. Bennett, 4; *W. Groves, 5-6. *First attempt at Stedman.

OLD HILL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, February 16th, at Holy

Trinity church, a start was made for a peal of Stedman by a mixed band, but it came to grief after about a quarter had been rung. A quarter-peal of Mr. John Carter's new method, Forward Major, was then brought round (1440 changes), in 56 mins. J. Jones, 1; R. Bird, 2; W. Brook, 3; R. E. Grove, 4; J. Carter (composer and conductor), 5; H. Cartwright, 6; A. Hackley, 7; A. H. Bassano, 8. Ringers of 2nd, 3rd, and 6th are of the local band; of 4th from Kidderminster; and the rest from Birmingham, the Amalgamated Society. The Stedman will be attempted again on Saturday, February 23rd.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Wednesday, February 6th, at St. Martin's church, 720 Double Court Minor. C. A. Clements, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; A. P. Goddard, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6. On Friday, February 8th, on handbells, a half-peal of Bob Major (2576 changes), composed by York Green. A. P. Goddard, 1-2; T. Blackburn, 3-4; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 5-6; W. S. Wise, 7-8. On Friday, February 15th, another 2576 in the same method. A. P. Goddard, 1-2; W. S. Wise, 3-4; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 5-6; H. D. Adams, 7-8.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Thursday, February 14th, for practice at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, 720 Double Oxford Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. T. J. Watts (first 720 in the method), 1; W. Watts, 2; I. Hammond, 3; J. Luckey, 4; G. Gray, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25½ mins. T. J. Watts (first 720 in the method), 1; I. Hammond, 2; I. Cavill, 3; W. Watts, 4; G. Gray, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, February 17th, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (twelve bobs and twenty-four singles), in 25 mins. T. J. Watts, 1; I. Hammond, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; I. Cavill (composer and conductor), 6. For afternoon service, 720 in the same method (forty-two singles, composed by J. F. Penning, Saffron Walden), in 24 mins. T. J. Watts, 1; G. Gray, 2; I. Hammond, 3; W. Watts, 4; J. Luckey, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, February 3rd, at St. Edward's church, 600 Grandsire Triples. L. W. Copsey, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; G. Roughton, 3; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 4; B. Keeble, 5; M. L. Myhill, 6; W. Nash, 7; S. James, 8. And a 720 of Bob Minor, on the back six. L. Copsey, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; W. Nash, 3; B. Keeble, 4; G. Roughton, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—At the parish church, on Sunday, February 10th, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Waghorn, jun., 1; T. C. Grose, 2; J. Waghorn, 3; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; W. P. English, 6.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Tuesday, February 12th, at Christ Church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. J. King, 1; W. Smith, 2; A. H. Gardom, 3; G. Cornell, 4; J. Marks, 5; E. Barnett (conductor), 6.

WOOLTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, February 16th, the St. Peter's Society rung for practice three touches of 168 Grandsire Triples. H. Richardson, 1; P. Leatherhead, jun., 2; H. Fyler, 3; R. Roughley, 4; R. Leather, 5; P. Ball, 6; T. Kay, 7; J. Edwards, 8. And three more touches. H. Richardson, 1; P. Leather, jun., 2; J. Edwards, 3; G. Hyslop, 4; R. Leather, 5; P. Ball, 6; T. Kay, 7; J. Peters, 8.

WEST HAM (Essex).—On Thursday, February 14th, at Holy Trinity church, Barking Road, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (each called differently), in 24 mins. W. T. Smith, 1; E. Wright, 2; A. White (conductor), 3; H. Baldwin, 4; R. Lowe, 5; —, Dickerson (first 720), 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. H. Baldwin (first 720 of Minor), 1; E. Wright, 2; W. H. Dallimore, 3; A. White, 4; R. Lowe, 5; H. Randall (conductor), 6. Tenor 7½ cwt.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Sunday, January 27th, 720 Superlative Surprise, in 25 mins. G. Byde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garrot, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 3rd, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 24 mins. A. Garrot (conductor); the rest as before.

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Mr. T. Belben	0	1	0
Mr. Crist	0	1	0
Miss McLelland .. (extra)	0	1	0
Proceeds of Entertainment at Ducklington	1	10	0
Miss Macray	0	10	0
Mr. D. Fisher, Oxford	0	2	0
Total	£13	5	9

"FORWARD:"

A NEW METHOD FOR AN EVEN NUMBER OF BELLS.

BY JOHN CARTER.

I.

An account appeared in last week's issue of this paper of the ringing of a peal of "Forward" Major. This is a new method I have produced; and I give it this title because the word is the motto of the city of Birmingham, in which place the method was first rung. I now lay it before the Exercise.

A short time ago in writing out a lead of Treble Bob, I noticed the musical qualities contained in the first lead, but on getting towards the centre of the course the music became lost when the 7th and tenor are in front, which occurs in the third and fourth leads. I then arrived at the conclusion that if the tenors were kept together more music could be obtained, which brought me to work out the method, given in the following courses:—

Plain Course of Minor.

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 2 3 4 5 6

Bob (Before) Single (Out).

4 2 6 1 5 3

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

4 6 5 2 1 3
6 4 5 2 3 1 Bob—2nd
makes bob.

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

6 5 2 4 1 3
5 6 2 4 3 1 Single—3rd
makes single

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

2 4 5 1 6 3

Plain Course of Major.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Bob (before in plain course).

6 4 8 2 7 1 5 3

6 8 4 7 2 5 1 3
8 6 4 7 5 2 3 1
6 8 7 4 2 5 1 3
8 6 7 4 5 2 3 1 Bob—
2nd
makes
bob

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

7 5 8 2 6 3 4 1

Royal.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0
2 1 3 4 6 5 8 7 0 9
1 2 4 3 5 6 7 8 9 0
2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7 0 9

2 4 1 6 3 8 5 0 7 9
4 2 1 6 8 3 0 5 9 7
2 4 6 1 3 8 5 0 7 9
4 2 6 1 8 3 0 5 9 7 Bob

4 6 2 8 1 0 3 5 7 9
6 4 2 8 0 1 5 3 9 7
4 6 8 2 1 0 3 5 7 9
6 4 8 2 0 1 5 3 9 7

6 8 4 0 2 5 1 9 3 7

Maximus.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 e t
2 1 3 4 6 5 8 7 0 9 t e
1 2 4 3 5 6 7 8 9 0 e t
2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7 0 9 t e

2 4 1 6 3 8 5 0 7 t 9 e
4 2 1 6 8 3 0 5 t 7 e 9
2 4 6 1 3 8 5 0 7 t 9 e
4 2 6 1 8 3 0 5 t 7 e 9 Bob

4 6 2 8 1 0 3 t 5 7 9 e
6 4 2 8 0 1 t 3 7 5 e 9
4 6 8 2 1 0 3 t 5 7 9 e
6 4 8 2 0 1 t 3 7 5 e 9

6 8 4 0 2 t 1 7 3 e 5 9

The foregoing are built upon the system of that musical method, "Duffield," which Mr. Heywood said was only a bit of a course of 48 changes. This has only 32; but by this system we can produce what is impossible in the long courses of Treble Bob (besides doing away with those unmusical third and fourth leads), viz.: produce a peal of 11,520 changes with the tenors together throughout. We can also get all the 6-7-8s behind in a touch of 1920, and by using bobs at home, which answer the same as singles, a peal of 5000, containing all the 6-7-8s behind of the 40,320.

I first arranged that the bobs should be made in front, as in Superlative, but Mr. Heywood having drawn my attention to the bob-making in "Duffield," and shown me its advantages, I adopted the same plan, and a great improvement in the method is thereby effected.

The ringing of the method requires but very little instruction. It will be seen by the foregoing figures that there is single dodging in all places up and down except in 3-4, where thirds and fourths are made in going up, and fourths and thirds in coming down. Bobs are made on the last bells as in "Duffield." The bell dodging in 5-6 up in Major when a bob is called makes sixths place and dodges in 5-6 down, and the two bells behind make an extra double dodge. In Royal the bell dodging in 7-8 up makes eighth place and dodges in 7-8 down, the two bells behind making an extra double dodge as in Major. In Maximus the bell dodging in 9-10 up makes tenths place, and dodges in 9-10 down, the two bells working behind as in Major and Royal.

Any band who can ring Treble Bob ought to be able to ring a peal in this method. But although ringing the method is so simple, the conductor of a peal will find that he has a hard task to perform, as there is so much calling.

Next week I will give a few musical touches and peals.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday evening, the 31st ult., the West Malling branch of the above Association, accompanied by Messrs. R. Simmons and A. H. Woolley, of Maidstone, and Messrs. G. Bell and G. Newman, of Mereworth, paid a visit to Sevenoaks, and by kind permission of the Rector, rang a 1736 of Grandsire Triples at the parish church of St. Nicholas, in 1 hr. 5 mins. The ringers were: J. Worsley, 1; G. Bell, 2; E. Baldock, 3; R. Simmons, 4; G. Newman, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6; A. H. Woolley, 7; D. Hall, 8. A course of Bob Major was afterwards rung, time not allowing for more on account of service being held. The visitors were, after the bells were lowered, entertained to refreshments by the churchwardens, several of the local band sitting down also. The chair was taken by A. Laurie, Esq., people's warden, Mr. Pearce, of the Sevenoaks company, being the vice-chairman. After supper, the usual loyal and complimentary toasts were given and duly honoured, the toasts being interspersed with songs, etc. The evening was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

The next meeting of the above Association will be held at St. Swithin's Church, East Retford, and St. Michael's Church, West Retford, on Saturday, March 2nd, at 4 p.m., by kind permission of the Vicar and Rector thereof.

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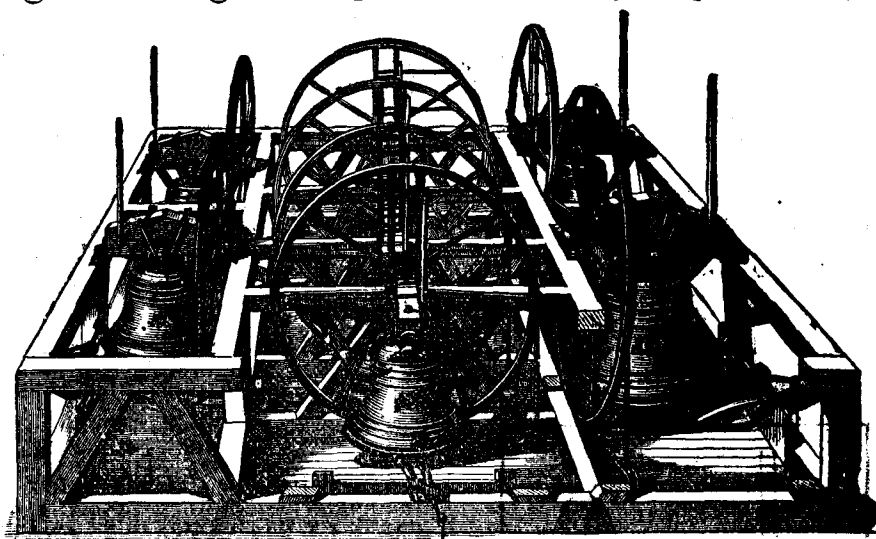
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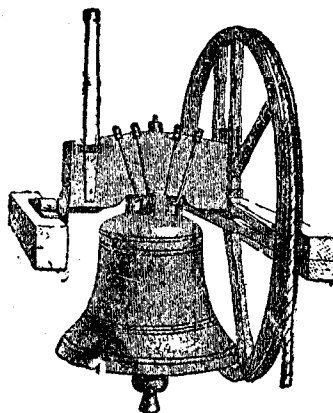
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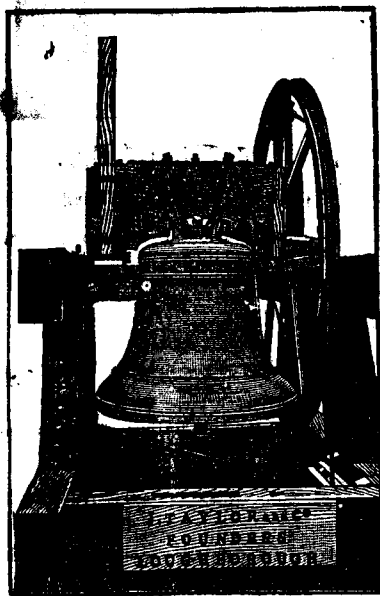
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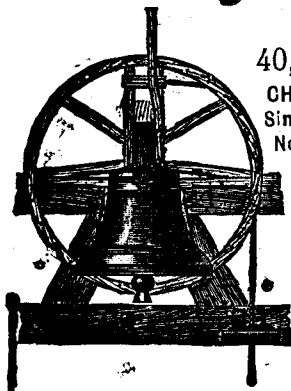
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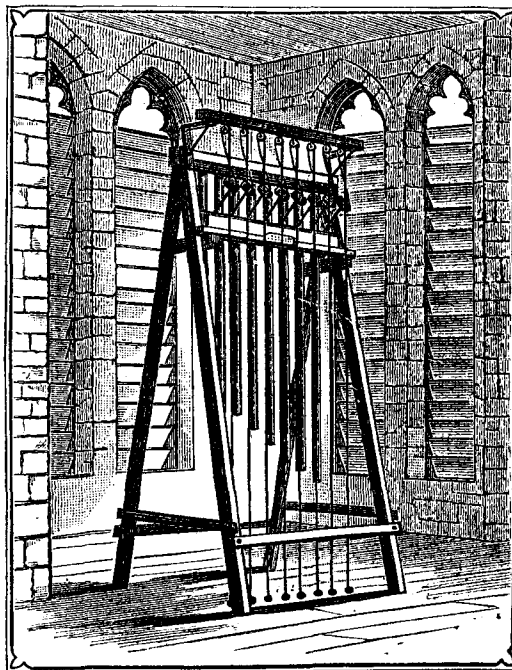
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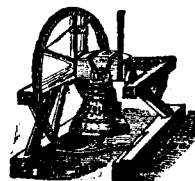
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ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, FULHAM.

The annual general meeting of the above Society took place on Saturday, February 16th. Members and friends began to assemble soon after 3 p.m., and a touch of Grandsire Triples on the steeple bells opened the proceedings of the day. Gradually the number of ringers, changes and methods increased. After various touches, conducted by J. W. Kelley, J. W. Driver, C. F. Winny, and J. M. Hayes respectively were, successfully accomplished, the whole party assembled in the noble church of All Saints, where a most interesting address was delivered by the Rev. F. H. Fisher, Vicar of Fulham and president of the Society. The following is a summary of the Vicar's address:

"Brother ringers: Your presence here this afternoon goes to prove that a great change has taken place in the position of a ringer, viz.: from "contempt" to "respect." A ringer should be respected quite as much as a singer or choirman, for the bells are God's consecrated vessels quite as much as the organ. There are four simple yet valuable lessons to be learnt from bellringing; self-control, charity, obedience, and punctuality. From these lessons many spiritual benefits may be derived. A text for ringers may be found in Isaiah. 'Be ye clean ye that bear the vessels of the Lord.' Alter *bear* into *ring* and it becomes very appropriate."

After service an adjournment was made to the Church Room, where a substantial tea was in readiness, and ample justice done to the same. The visitors then repaired to the belfry, while the All Saints' company transacted necessary business. Handbell ringing and songs brought a very successful and enjoyable day to a close. Many prominent members of the metropolis were present, including Messrs. Winny, Hayes, Newton, Cockerill, Wright, Duff, McLaughlin, etc.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.

On Monday, February 4th, the Steyning branch of the above Association had their annual outing. Crawley was the place selected, and permission was obtained for the use of the musical peal of eight bells in the tower of the parish church. Ringing was commenced at 10 o'clock and kept up until 1, when an adjournment was made to the "Railway Hotel," where host Bowden had prepared an excellent repast. The chair was taken by the Vicar of Steyning, the Rev. A. Pridgeon. Ample justice having been done to the good things set before them, another visit was made to the church, when several touches were rung, including a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Matthews, 1; F. Morris, 2; W. N. Holt, 3; C. Chambers, 4; G. Smart, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. And 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Matthews, 1; T. Searle, 2; C. Chambers, 3; G. Gatland, 4; F. Morris, 5; G. Smart, 6; J. Woolgar, 7; C. Tyler (conductor), 8. After tea had been partaken of, and a few more touches on the bells, the members started on the journey home, having spent a very enjoyable day. They wish through the medium of this paper to thank the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells.

MIDDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, February 23rd, the ringers of St. Leonard's church, along with their wives and a few friends, met together at the "Lamb" inn to celebrate the 70th birthday of Mr. Thomas Arrowsmith, sen., one of the old ringers, and sat down to an excellent tea. After tea, Mr. T. Holt was voted to the chair, and was supported by Mr. J. Arrowsmith, jun. Previous to the tea a date touch of 1889 changes was rung, in 1 hr. 9 mins. W. Taylor, 1; J. Scholey, 2; F. Morris, 3; T. Holt, 4; W. Schofield, 5; J. Arrowsmith, jun., 6. Tenor 12 cwt. During the evening songs were sung by T. Holt, J. Scholey, J. Arrowsmith, and others. Several courses on the handbells were also rung. The best thanks of the meeting were given to the host and hostess for the manner in which they provided the tea, and a vote of thanks to the chairman brought the meeting to a close.

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THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION AND THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, February 9th, the members of these Societies held their annual meeting at the "White Swan" hotel, Edmund Street, when there was a good attendance of members from Bromsgrove, West Bromwich, Harborne, and Darlaston. After the meeting had been duly opened by the vice-president, Mr. C. Carmell, the balance-sheets were read and found very satisfactory. The next business of the meeting was to combine the two societies together, to be called "The Birmingham and District Amalgamated Society," as it was considered the business would be carried on with more unity than before, and with four meetings instead of eight annually. The new rules, which were formed at a meeting a short time ago, were read and approved of by the members present. The election of officers was then proceeded with, as follows: Rev. Canon Bowlby, President; Mr. C. Carmell, Vice-president; Mr. W. Brook, Secretary; Mr. J. Carter, Treasurer; Mr. J. Carter, Ringing Master; and J. T. Perry, deputy. The late Secretary of the District Association tendered his resignation in favour of the Amalgamated Secretary, as one would be able to manage the business of the two Societies. He was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his able services during the past year. Several new members were elected. It was decided that the annual meetings should be held in July of each year instead of February. The progress of the Society during the past year has been very satisfactory, but the members are sorry to state that the bells of St. Phillip's church, the headquarters of the Society, are not ringable, but hopes are entertained that they will shortly be rehung. The members were all agreed that the Society was in a more prosperous condition than ever, and are of opinion that if all the ringers in Birmingham would form one body, it would be more beneficial to all parties. A vote of thanks to the officers and tower-keepers for their able services brought the meeting to a close.

MONEWDEN, SUFFOLK.

On Friday evening, February 15th, the Monewden handbell change-ringing Society held their weekly practice at the Rectory, by invitation from the Rev. C. A. Sinclair, who takes a great interest in ringing matters. This Society was started afresh in October last, having been broken up three years ago by members leaving the parish, whose places are now filled up by young beginners who are making rapid progress. There are only three bells at the parish church, so all has to be done on the handbells. They were joined at the rectory by Messrs. Heffer and Flory, of Framlingham. A course of Bob Major was then rung. R. H. Hayward, 1-2; E. W. Brook, 3-4; W. Flory, 5-6; J. Heffer, jun., 7-8. Another course, with D. Hunt ringing 7-8. A well-struck course of Bob Royal, by R. H. Hayward, J. Tarrant, A. Moore, W. Flory, and J. Heffer, much to the amusement of the ladies, who honoured them with their presence during the ringing of this course. Also three leads of Oxford Treble Bob Royal and a course of Grandsire Caters. Refreshments were kindly provided by the Rector, who thanked all present for their attendance there that evening, and spoke in high terms of "THE BELL NEWS," and the good work it was doing.

HANDBELL CONCERT.

On Saturday last the Micklehurst Handbell Ringers held their Annual Tea Party and Concert, in the Co-operative Hall, Mossley. After tea Mr. John Holden, President of the United Counties' Association, presided, about 250 persons being present. A varied programme was successfully gone through, consisting of glees and songs by an efficient quartette party, violin solos, and tunes and selections by the Handbell Ringers, which were greatly appreciated. Much merriment was caused by the very excellent way in which the ringers and friends performed two comical dialogues: "The Barber's Courtship," and "Old Fat Joss." Great interest was taken in the ringing, and in what the chairman said about bells and ringing. He urged them to support and encourage the handbell ringers, and hoped that, with constant and regular practice, Mossley would not only be noted for its football players, but for its ringers, both on the handbells and in the steeple. The usual formalities closed a most enjoyable entertainment.

THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.

The annual dinner of this society was held on Saturday, February 23rd, at "The Victoria" restaurant, Victoria-street, Westminster, Mr. W. Burdett-Coutts, M.P. presiding. There were also present the Rev. W. M. Sinclair, B.D. (president of the society), the Rev. A. J. Carlyle and Mr. R. F. Isaacson (vice-presidents), and others.

The Chairman having proposed the customary loyal toasts, which were duly honored,

Mr. J. Pryor proposed "The Chairman, President, and Vice-Presidents." He felt the greatest pleasure in proposing that toast, and he was very glad that the society had such good supporters as the gentlemen referred to, and he was quite confident that the society would never go far wrong whilst it had such gentlemen at its back. The toast was received with three times three.

The Rev. W. M. Sinclair responded. In the course of his remarks he said he was an advocate of thorough military training in schools as tending to the development of muscular power, stability, fibre, and stamina in the young people of the country, and spoke in high terms of the great advantages to be derived from the old English custom of bellringing. A proposition had been made to add two new bells to the present peal in the tower of St. Stephen's in honor of the jubilee of Her Majesty, and hoped that at no very distant date the scheme might be carried into execution. He also spoke very highly of the kindness of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts.

The Chairman then proposed "The St. Stephen's Society." In doing so he said there was nothing he loved better to hear than the sound of church bells; there was something in the sound which recalled beautiful memories and scenes of the past. He then gave a short history of church bells during the progress of Christianity, dovetailing into it some very humorous points. Reverting to the society, he said that great praise was due to the members for the skilful manner in which they handled the bells, and he heartily wished the best success to the society. This toast was received with vociferous cheering.

Mr. H. R. Newton, the Master of the Society, responded in appropriate terms. Four of the company—Messrs. Oxborrow, Newton, Hayes, and Ellis, gave an exhibition of change-ringing upon the handbells, and others enlivened the proceedings by vocal harmony.

The Rev. W. M. Sinclair proposed the toast of "Absent Friends," including in his remarks some very appreciable items anent the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, to which Mr. Burdett-Coutts briefly responded.

A vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding having been given, a very enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

BELLS IN ZULULAND.

Mr. R. W. Battle, of St. Albans, has forwarded to us the following extract of a letter, which he recently received from a friend who is working in the mission field with Bishop Mackenzie at Isandlalwana in Zululand:—

"I have been reminded of you very often by the peal of bells here, twelve in number, in capital condition, but no one to perform on them, I believe the best and only peal of bells in Zululand, so we have something to be proud of, and I wish that before I left old England I had asked you to give me a few lessons on handbell ringing. We have another 'peal' of one bell, which rouses us with its merry clang at 5.30 a.m., it is about three feet across the mouth, and the belfry is thirty yards from the cathedral (a sketch of the belfry is here given), four large beams support a kind of dog kennel, which shields the bell from the inclement weather: the boys are constantly pulling it over, but I suppose it wants a bar across to prevent that. I had a try at the handbells with the others, and they got blisters on their fingers from the leather. Do not pull the rope too much, and if you want roasting come to Africa (temperature 97 degrees in the shade)."

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. John Smith, late of Kingston-on-Thames, has removed to 166, Graham Road, Hackney.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

A meeting of the members of the above Guild was held at Pinchbeck and Spalding on Saturday, February 23rd. There was a very good number of ringers present, and touches were rung on the bells at the parish churches at both places. The dinner was held at the "Bull" inn, Pinchbeck, and was well attended, a first-class spread being provided. The chair was taken by the Rev. F. F. Wayet, who submitted the usual toast of "Church and Queen." Dr. Seccombe proposed "The Bishop of Lincoln," and in so doing averted to the present prosecution which was pending. He claimed that in the proceedings which had been instituted against Dr. King, the opening clause of the Magna Charta—that the Church of England should be free—had been entirely ignored, and spoke of the Bishop as a model for the clergy, and one of the grandest clergymen in England. Mr. Mackman proposed "The Health of the Chairman," and alluded to his courtesy and kindness in coming amongst them, and he went on to speak of the progress of change-ringing in the locality.

The Rev. F. F. Wayet responded for himself and his ringers, and the meeting subsequently proceeded to dispose of some matters of business in connection with the Guild. Upon the proposition of the Rev. J. M. Coates (Hon. Secretary), seconded by Dr. Seccombe, it was resolved that Mr. W. G. Crosse, of Lynn, should be elected co-secretary, he taking the Lynn district, and the Rev. J. M. Coates the Spalding district. Some new members were proposed, and it was decided that the next meeting—in four months' time—should be held at Whaplode and Holbeach. The gathering throughout was of a very successful character.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

The next meeting will be held at St. Alphege, Greenwich, on Thursday, March 7th, instead of the Tuesday previous.
Greenwich, S.E. FREDERICK W. THORNTON, Hon. Sec.

THE ANNIVERSARY AT APPLETON, BERKS.

This Anniversary will be held as usual on Monday, March 4th. There will be a peal of Stedman Caters attempted at 8 a.m., and another at 12, method to be arranged at the time. Dinner at 4 o'clock. People wishing to attend, please communicate with F. White, Appleton, Abingdon.

THE DUCKLINGTON BELL FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Amount Advertised	10	14	9
St. Nicholas Society, per Mr. Boniface	0	5	0
Miss Dunham, Bournemouth	0	1	0
Mr. T. Belben	0	1	0
Mr. Grist	0	1	0
Miss McLelland .. (extra)	0	1	0
Proceeds of Entertainment at Ducklington	1	10	0
Miss Macray	0	10	0
Mr. D. Fisher, Oxford	0	2	0
Miss Bavey (card)	1	0	0
Miss Ravenor, Witney	0	5	0
Total	£14	10	9

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received and acknowledged by W. J. Fisher, Great Western Hotel, Paddington.

"CENTURY" PEAL.—The peal rung at Tipton, Staffordshire, recorded in its proper place, is the One Hundredth peal rung by Mr. W. R. Small, the steeplekeeper. These peals are made up as follows:—Stedman Cinques, 7; Stedman Caters, 8; Stedman Triples, 20; Grandsire Cinques, 3; Grandsire Caters, 9; Grandsire Major, 4; Grandsire Triples, 31; Kent Treble Bob Royal, 2; Kent Treble Bob Major, 5; Plain Bob Royal, 3; Plain Bob Major, 6; Plain Bob Triples, 1; Of four methods, 1.

NOTICE.—J. E. Worsell, Assistant Secretary, Sussex Association, would feel glad if all independent members (those not affiliated to any Association tower) would forward their present address as early as possible.

THE BELLS OF SEVILLE, SPAIN.

We have been favoured with the following by a valued contributor to this journal, whose effusions our readers hail with pleasure at Christmastide:—

"Bells are rung at Seville in a peculiar way. There is a very high stock, slightly arched, above the gudgeons, and carrying a counterpoise equal to a third of the weight of the bell. There is no wheel, but the ringer allows the rope to coil round the axle of the stock, and he can also hitch it on to the upper part when he wishes to check the bell. The bell is made to revolve several times very slowly until the rope is used up, and then winds itself up again by its own momentum, striking twice in each revolution. There are very few good bells in the south of Spain. I think the best I have heard are the clock bells at Malaga, bearing the names of Mears and Stainbank. They are of all sizes, shapes, and ages, and bear no relation to each other in respect of harmony. Some of them are very ornamental, and interesting from an antiquarian point of view. Only the smaller bells, up to 15 cwt. or so, are rung in the manner I have described. The large bells are always clocked. There are some bells here with a number of holes, each about three inches square, cut in the shoulder where the inscription runs. This is done, they said, to make the bells more sonorous. There are twenty-four bells in the tower of the cathedral of Seville. In the upper story there is a quadrangular gallery with open windows or arches about fifteen feet high. Most of the bells are hung in these arches, so as to be visible from below. At different stages on the way up there are habitations in which the ringers live and pursue their trades. The head ringer, an old blind man, was very civil, and gave me much information when I told him that I also was a *campanero*. One of his band performed for my benefit a very alarming feat. He allowed himself to be taken up by the rope, jumped upon the stock while the bell was in motion, and swung himself out into space. They told me that this young man had once fallen from the tower into a procession which was passing below, and escaped from having his fall broken by the big drum. In fact he had the appearance of having met with a serious accident, and from the manner in which the story was told I am inclined to believe it. The drop would be about 200 feet."

C. P.

Obituary.

JOHN BERESFORD.

It is with regret that we announce the death of this well-known ringer of the Midland Counties' Association—Derby Branch—which occurred on Wednesday, February 20th, at the age of forty-six years. The bells of St. Andrew's, Litchurch, were rung the next evening half-muffled, as a last token of respect. The deceased was one who took a very great interest in belfry reform, and was well-known and respected by all the members of the Association, with which he was connected for some years.

SAMUEL CLARKE.

It is with regret that we have to announce the death of the above-named ringer, who met with an accident at Mexborough on Saturday, February 9th, whilst following his employment as goods guard on the Midland Railway, and was conveyed to the Sheffield Dispensary, at which institution he succumbed to his injuries on Tuesday, February 19th, in his thirty-seventh year. The deceased was a member of the Midland Counties' Association, and had been since its formation, also the St. Lawrence's society, Long Eaton, at which church he was interred on Saturday, February 23rd, in the presence of a large concourse of people. He was borne to the grave by eight of his brother ringers, Messrs. Barrow, Bradley, Ward, Dicken, Gilson, Hickton, Truman, and Hexter, the remainder of the company following, and as the procession was nearing the church, the bells were rung deeply muffled by friends from Derby and Loughborough. After the interment a course of Grandsire Caters was rung at the grave side by Messrs. Ward, Dicken, Widdowson, Barrow, and Gilson, and in the evening a muffled peal of Treble Bob Major was attempted by seven of the local company, assisted by Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., of Loughborough, but after ringing one hour it came to grief, owing to a misunderstanding on the part of the sexton. Mr. Clarke had rung seven peals of 5000 and upwards of Grandsire, Treble Bob, and Plain Bob, and his last peal was at Long Eaton, on November 14th, 1887. By his untimely decease his company have lost a valuable member, as he was always to be found at his post when off duty, and his genial face will be missed in the surrounding belfries, as he was well known in the Midland Counties.

A VISIT TO LONDON BY TWO COUNTRY RINGERS.

I, James Woods, of Kenninghall, with my son, left home on December 27th, at 10.30.; booked for London by the 11.50 train, and arrived at Kentish Town Station quite safe at 3.10. We soon made our way to Highgate New Town, and after having tea with our family friends, we went to find our old friend, Mr. Thomas Titchener (who, by the way, lives in the same street as our own friends do), and, finding him at home, we had a chat about ringing matters, and he played a few tunes on the handbells. Then we retired for the night. Next morning we had a walk over to Hampstead, and called and saw our friend Mr. Edward Chapman, who kindly entertained us to lunch with him, for which we return our thanks. Being informed that it was the meeting night of the Cumberlands, at head quarters, we, in company with Mr. Titchener, paid a visit to St. Martin's tower, and there we met many old friends, including Mr. Dains, A. Jacob, H. Hopkins, W. Baron, G. Newson, J. Smith, also the master, Mr. J. Hannington, B. Foskett, the worthy steeple keeper, Mr. Mansfield, and a great many more that I cannot recollect. After ringing was over we made our way to the meeting-house, and my son was made a member of the Cumberland society, and a peal arranged at St. Anne's, Highgate, to be attempted on the next day, Saturday, in which my son was to take part, being his first attempt at a peal. A start was made for a 5040 of Bob Major, which was brought round in 3 hrs. 4 mins., a report of which has been published in "THE BELL NEWS." On the Sunday morning I paid a visit to St. Stephen's, Hampstead, and, with the local company rung a good touch of Grandsire Triples for morning service. On Monday evening we met at St. Anne's, Highgate, and rung a touch of Grandsire Triples, my son taking part in it, and then I had a good touch of Kent Treble Bob with the local band. They then very kindly invited us to join them at their annual supper, which invitation we accepted, and for which we wish to return our best thanks. Then it was arranged for my son to stay at Highgate, to ring the old year out and the new one in, which they did with a good touch of Grandsire Triples. I myself had to bid a hurrying farewell to my old friends, Mr. G. Newson and A. Jacob, and Mr. E. Chapman, as they were short of one for ringing at the Chapel of Ease, Islington. Mr. J. Hannington asked me to go over with him to ring the old year out and the new one in, which we did with a good touch of a Treble Bob, and we met again on Tuesday morning at the same tower, as is the custom there, and rung a good touch of Grandsire Triples. Our visit was now getting to a close, but our friends did not think that we had had enough ringing, and wanted us to stay another day, and try another peal, but our time being up for our holiday, we had to say farewell. Next day we started for home, where we arrived quite safe, and wish to thank all our friends that took part in trying to make this visit a pleasant one.—J. Woods, Kenninghall, Norfolk.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR MR. F. BATE.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	1 5 6
Mr. Mathews, Borough	0 1 0
Mr. Jones, Brierley Hill	0 2 0
Mr. Webb, Worcester	0 2 6
Mr. Ferry, London	0 2 6

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received by Mr. B. Buckmaster, 46, Newington Butts, S.E., or by Mr. Codlin, 18, Cole Street, Borough, S.E.

A LONG LINE OF SEXTONS.—With the death of James Winterbottom there occurs a break in a line of sextons at All Saints' Church, Glossop, which has reached through one family for 200 years. Deceased was seventy-three years old. At one time he was organist, an office he held for twenty years.

EXPLANATIONS.—The 5088 that was rung at Brighouse on Saturday, February 16th, was composed by Wm. Goodall, and conducted by F. Prince. Also the date touch rung by the Leesfield ringers on Thursday, February 7th, and published in last week's "BELL NEWS," was Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), and was composed by Mr. Charles Jackson, of Hull.

TWERTON (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, February 23rd, for practice at St. Michael's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). W. Lanham, 1; G. Temple, 2; W. Davies, 3; J. Smith, 4; J. Holman, 5; H. Wotton (conductor), 6; J. Wotton, 7; W. Dicks, 8. And two courses of Stedman Triples and two well-struck courses of Grandsire Major. J. Smith, 1; G. Temple, 2; W. Davies, 3; W. Lanham, 4; H. Wotton, 5; J. Wotton, 6; J. Holman, 7; W. Dicks, 8.

HANDBELLS WANTED.—The Vicar of Leafield, Witney, wishes for eight handbells for the bell-ringers.—second-hand.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association was held at Hertford, on Saturday, the 23rd ult., at which were present: Messrs. H. Baker, J. Staples, M. Ellsmore, J. G. Crawley, and F. G. Crawley, Hertford; Messrs. H. Lewis, E. R. Debenham, R. A. Fowler, G. W. Cartmel, W. H. L. Buckingham, and H. Brewer, St. Alban's; Messrs. Robt. Jackson, J. Phillips, G. T. Spicer, and Richard Jackson, Baldock; Messrs. H. G. Rowe, A. Shepherd, J. Kentish, and J. Hollingsworth, Hatfield; and Mr. C. Ladley, Hunsdon. During the evening touches of Grandsire Caters and Triples were rung at All Saints', and Bob Major and Grandsire Triples, and some plain courses of Stedman Triples, at St. Andrew's churches. At five o'clock "stand" was called for an adjournment to the coffee tavern for tea, and, when that course had been got through without a mishap, the meeting for business was entered upon, and, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Proctor, the respected President, Mr. Baker was voted to the chair. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, the provisional elections, as members, of Mr. A. Percival Heywood, the Rev. H. A. Cockey, and Mr. J. W. Taylor, Junr., and those of Messrs. C. F. Winny, G. T. McLaughlin, J. W. Driver, and W. E. Garrard, of London, Mr. A. Godman, senr. (of St. Alban's), Mr. H. Bottrill (of Hertford), and Mr. C. Ladley (of Hunsdon), were duly confirmed; and Messrs. T. Conley, and W. Little (of St. Albans), were also elected as joining members.

On the proposition of Mr. Buckingham, seconded by Mr. Phillips, St. Albans was selected as the place for holding the Annual Meeting on Easter Monday. After the usual votes of thanks had been passed and acknowledged, a move was again made towards All Saints' Church, where the party was joined by the Messrs. Holifield, and other members belonging to the local company, and a couple of touches of Stedman Caters were struck off, followed by the feature of the day, which was a 560 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, rung under the conductorship of Mr. Baker, in which there were three "firsts in the method." Plain courses of Bob Royal and Grandsire Caters were then rung, and by that time the railway station had to be sought by the visitors, in order to catch the last train, which leaves at the early hour of 8.15. When it is mentioned that the majority of the visitors had never before had the opportunity of ringing Caters or Royal, it may be taken for granted that the outing proved a pleasurable one to them, apart from the universal expression of opinion to the same effect. The Secretary desires to express his thanks to Mr. Baker and Mr. Staples for their kind assistance to him in carrying out the programme, and also to the Hertford company generally for the cordial reception that was given to all.

UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of this Association was held at Stockport, on Saturday, February 16th, 1889. The meeting for the election of officers was held at the house of Mr. Fletcher, "Ardern Arms," Millgate. Members attended from Ashton, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Dinting, Glossop, Garton, Hayfield, Hyde, Leesfield, Mossley, Mottram, Saddleworth, and Whitfield. The President, Mr. John Holden, occupied the chair, and Mr. Geo. Ford the vice-chair, and read the committee's report and balance-sheet, which were unanimously adopted by the meeting. During the year 27 peals have been rung, being eight more than in 1887. The number of members have increased during the year from 164 to 179, and several new members were admitted at the meeting. The balance-sheet shows an adverse balance of £4 8s. 11½d. When all the subscriptions due are collected in this balance will be cleared off. The next business was the election of officers. The President, and Vice-President and Treasurer were re-elected. Mr. Joseph Radcliffe was re-elected Financial Secretary, and Mr. John Sidebottom, Mottram, elected Corresponding Secretary in place of Mr. James S. Wilde, who resigned. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Wilde for his past services, and great regret expressed that his other numerous engagements had rendered it necessary for him to do so. The following were elected on the committee:—Messrs. Geo. Longden, Ashton; G. Hibbert, Chapel-en-le-Frith; John Booth, Dinting; Samuel Stott, Glodwick; J. Maloney, Glossop; John Blakeley, Gorton; J. T.

Dicken, Royal George; Joseph Brocklehurst, Hayfield; Thomas Wilde, Hyde; Fred. Crossland, Leesfield; Moses Bradbury, Mossley; M. Williamson, Mottram; Edgar Buckley, Saddleworth; Hugh Shaw, Stalybridge; J. B. Hibbert, Whitfield; and T. Marshall, Stockport. Messrs. D. Heap (Ashton), and J. Sellars (Glossop), were re-elected Auditors. It was also decided to make Ashton-under-Lyne the head quarters for the next twelve months, at which place all committee meetings are to be held. It was also agreed that the next ringing meeting be held at Glossop, in May, and also one at Friezeland, Saddleworth (six-bell tower), in September; and the annual meeting at Ashton-under-Lyne, in January, 1890; and the May meeting for that year at Mottram. After the business meeting the members sat down to a very excellent repast, prepared by Mr. Fletcher, which gave general satisfaction. Short touches of Treble Bob Major were rung on the bells of the parish church. After dinner the meeting was enlivened by songs, recitations, and courses on the handbells. The meeting terminated about ten o'clock with votes of thanks to the host, the Stockport ringers for their kindness and courtesy towards the visitors, and to the authorities for the use of the bells.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROCHDALE BRANCH.—On Saturday, February 9th, the above branch held a meeting at St. Luke's Church, Heywood. There were about 30 members present. Ringing was done in the following methods:—Grandsire Triples, Union Triples, and Stedman Triples, the bells being kept in motion till 9 p.m. The usual meeting was held in the vestry, the Vicar (the Rev. R. W. P. Circuit) in the chair, when he gave a lengthy address to the ringers, and gave the Association a hearty welcome to Heywood, and assured them he had the good of the Association at heart, and hoped that they would soon hold another meeting at his church in larger numbers, when he would be most happy to provide them all who sent in with a good meat tea; and, if at any time the church selected could not be got, he should only be too glad to allow them the use of the splendid peal in St. Luke's tower. A hearty vote of thanks was given to the Vicar for his kind invitation, and also for the bells and room for meeting, and so ably presiding over it.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.—On Saturday, February 23rd, the usual monthly meeting was held at Christ Church, Pendlebury. Ringers attended from Whitefield, Manchester, Eccles, Swinton, Worsley, and Bolton, and rang touches in various methods (it was intended to ring at Swinton, but, owing to the committee deciding to hold the quarterly meeting at Swinton, on April 27th, it was abandoned). A meeting was afterwards held in Pendlebury School, presided over by the Rev. E. Harries, Vicar, who, in a very cordial manner, welcomed the ringers, and brought before them their duties as such. Mr. J. Redford, the secretary, also addressed the meeting, and stated that over 100 members had joined since the annual meeting in October, also that Mr. A. Holme, M.A., Vice-President, was appointed to attend the Johnson celebration at Birmingham. Votes of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and presiding, were passed. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Holy Trinity Church, Stratford Road, Manchester, on March 16th. Two ringing members joined the Association, and the Vicar of Pendlebury, as an honorary member.

BLACKBURN BRANCH.—On Saturday, February 23rd, a ringing meeting of the above Association was held at the parish church, Church. There was a moderate attendance of members from Accrington, Blackburn, Church, Colne, Oswaldtwistle, and Whalley. Several peals of Bob Minor was rung, also a touch of Kent Treble Bob. A meeting was held at "The Thorn" inn, which was presided over by Mr. A. E. Porter, of Accrington, who very ably officiated. The meeting closed with the usual votes of thanks to the rector, churchwardens, and chairman.

NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

The next meeting of the above Association will be held at St. Swithin's Church, East Retford, and St. Michael's Church, West Retford, on Saturday, March 2nd, at 4 p.m., by kind permission of the Vicar and Rector thereof.

"FORWARD :"

A New Method for an Even Number of Bells,

BY JOHN CARTER.

II.

I will first give the mode of pricking the Major method, which is divided into divisions of four changes each, and is pricked down as in Duffield by the first change :—

12345678

Plain division 24163857
 Bob " 24163578
 Single " 24163587

A Single will be very seldom required, as every division contains two in-course changes and two out-of-course changes, obliquely. In taking the first division it will be seen that the first 7-8 and the last 8-7 are in-course changes; and the last 7-8 and the first 8-7 are out-of-course changes.

A TABLE OF COURSE-ENDS.

I	B	O	F	No. of courses	Changes	
325416	-	-	-	...	3	...
532416	-	-	-	...	2	...
452316	-	-	-	...	5	...
435216	-	-	-	...	5	...
312456	-	-	-	...	3	...
432156	-	-	-	...	2	...
413256	-	-	-	...	3	...
163254	-	-	-	...	3	...
463152	-	-	-	...	2	...
462351	-	-	-	...	5	...
362154	-	-	-	...	5	...
465312	-	-	-	...	4	...
365214	-	-	-	...	3	...
562314	-	-	-	...	4	...
462513	-	-	-	...	3	...
241635	Home	...	...	6	...	24
536142	Middle with a double.	...	...	...	...	...

6th at home

6th away

It will be seen by the above that the calls run the same as in "Duffield," and repeat the same number of times. "In," "before," "out," and "5ths," do not interfere with the tenors whatever. At "middle with a double" both the tenors make a bob, but the courses of the changes are still kept, though it cuts away the 7-8 behind. "Home" causes the tenors to remain behind, and so produces an out-of-course course-end, the same as if a Single had been called.

In proving the method anyone carefully studying Mr. Percival Heywood's book on "Duffield," will see at a glance how to prove "Forward."

The following are a selection of musical touches.

48.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	H I B O F
4 6 2 5 1 3	2
5 3 6 1 4 2	- - - -
1 2 3 4 5 6	2
48.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
2 4 1 6 3 5	I
6 5 4 3 2 1	- - - -
1 2 3 4 5 6	3

64.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	H M
1 2 3 4 5 6	2 2
64.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	M H
1 2 3 4 5 6	2 2
72.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	H I B O F
4 6 2 5 1 3	- - - -
5 3 6 1 4 2	- - - -
1 2 3 4 5 6	2
72.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
4 6 2 5 1 3	2
5 3 6 1 4 2	- - - -
1 2 3 4 5 6	- - - -
128.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	I B O
3 1 2 4 5 6	-
4 2 5 1 3 6	-
Repeated.	
128.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
4 3 5 2 1 6	- -
5 4 3 2 1 6	-
Repeated.	
160.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	B O
4 1 3 2 5 6	-
2 4 3 1 5 6	-
3 2 4 1 5 6	-
4 3 2 1 5 6	-
1 2 3 4 5 6	-
160.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
3 1 2 4 5 6	-
2 3 1 4 5 6	-
4 1 3 2 5 6	-
2 4 3 1 5 6	-
1 2 3 4 5 6	-
192.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	B O
4 1 3 2 5 6	-
2 3 1 4 5 6	-
Twice repeated.	
192.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
4 3 2 1 5 6	-
1 4 2 3 5 6	-
Twice repeated.	
200.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	H I B O F
4 6 2 5 1 3	2
5 3 1 2 4 6	- - - -
2 1 4 3 5 6	- - - -
4 2 1 3 5 6	- - - -
3 1 2 4 5 6	- - - -
2 3 1 4 5 6	- - - -
1 2 3 4 5 6	-

200.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	H I B O F
2 4 1 6 3 5	I
6 5 3 1 2 4	- - - -
1 3 2 5 6 4	- - - -
2 1 3 5 6 4	- - - -
5 3 1 2 6 4	- - - -
2 5 1 3 6 4	- - - -
3 1 5 2 6 4	- - - -
1 2 3 4 5 6	I
288.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	B O
4 3 2 1 5 6	- -
2 4 3 1 5 6	- -
3 2 4 1 5 6	I
Twice repeated.	
288.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
4 3 2 1 5 6	- -
1 4 2 3 5 6	- -
3 1 2 4 5 6	-
Twice repeated.	
320.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	B O
4 3 2 1 5 6	- -
2 4 3 1 5 6	- -
1 3 4 2 5 6	- -
4 1 3 2 5 6	-
3 4 1 2 5 6	-
Repeated.	
320.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
4 3 2 1 5 6	- -
1 4 2 3 5 6	-
3 2 4 1 5 6	- -
1 3 4 2 5 6	-
2 1 4 3 5 6	-
Repeated.	
384.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	I B O
4 5 2 3 1 6	- - -
3 2 1 5 4 6	- -
5 1 4 2 3 6	- -
2 3 1 4 5 6	- - -
Twice repeated.	
384.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
4 3 5 2 1 6	- -
2 1 3 5 4 6	- - -
5 3 4 1 2 6	- -
1 4 2 3 5 6	- -
Twice repeated.	
480.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	J B O
4 3 5 2 1 6	- -
2 5 1 3 4 6	- -
3 1 4 5 2 6	- -
5 4 2 1 3 6	- -
1 3 4 2 5 6	- - -
Twice repeated.	
480.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
4 5 2 3 1 6	- - -
3 1 5 2 4 6	- - -
2 4 1 5 3 6	- - -
5 3 4 1 2 6	- - -
1 4 2 3 5 6	- -
Twice repeated.	

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

WITH NEXT WEEK'S NUMBER WILL BE PUBLISHED,
A PORTRAIT
OF
MR. HENRY JOHNSON, SEN.,
OF BIRMINGHAM.

The proceedings at the celebration of Mr. Johnson's Eightieth birthday will be fully reported in the same number, and it is at the request of many of our readers that we issue a portrait of the distinguished veteran.

The Portrait will appear on a separate page, and will be executed by the same process as the last one issued. The price of the number with portrait will be TWOPENCE.

Orders for copies should at once be given to News Agents.

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 2, 1889.

THE Vicar of All Saints, Fulham, Middlesex, has publicly stated in his church that "a ringer should be respected quite as much as a singer or choirman." Such a statement as this is what we should naturally expect from such a gentleman as the Rev. F. H. FISHER, though it will have the effect of alarm and dismay upon the feelings of many a "choirman." For it is well-known that many of these gentlemen—we mean the "singers or choirmen"—imagine themselves the chief people in the services of the Church, and aspire in many instances to dictate to the incumbent himself as to what form or order the service shall take. This is a fact, and many who read these lines will testify to it. The choirman performs his duties in sight of the whole congregation, frequently with all the unction peculiar to him; the ringer is generally out of sight, and as a natural consequence, out of mind. The latter cannot while performing his duties take the advantage of feigning a pious humility before the congregation; this is denied him, the natural result is that he must be considered as a meaner subject altogether than the fortunate choirman. We say "fortunate," for is not the singer, though he may not be able to tell one letter of the alphabet, or know which is the right side up of a piece of music, petted and caressed if he happens to be blessed with a good voice and ear?

It will not be disputed that even among well-intentioned people a contrast between the ringers and the

singers would, in most instances, be in favour of the latter. We admit this will occur only in cases where the ringer's work is not thoroughly understood, for no one can imagine the existence of an actual ringing clergyman who would, among the staff of church workers, relegate the ringers to the second place in his estimation. But ringing clergymen, though increasing, are yet few and far between, and the position ringers enjoy under such circumstances is therefore by no means universal. Whenever the incumbent is a ringer the phrase above quoted may admit of being reversed, for the ringers, not the choirmen, will, with him at any rate, have the first place in his affections. And in this instance certainly a ringer would be respected *more* than a singer or choirman.

The fact that ringers are not held in such respect as the choirmen is a very humiliating one. Especially is this felt when it is remembered that to attain perfection as a ringer requires as much—to say the least—perseverance and brain-power as a knowledge of music. This a competent authority once thought, and in the pulpit gave expression to his opinions. We must strive to gain the respect now enjoyed by the choirman—not his respect merely, because in many instances we shall never get it, and it may not be worth having. But the respect of those who are appointed to rule over us in the Church—the clergy. With Mr. Fisher's assertion we cordially agree; a skilled intelligent ringer should certainly be respected quite as much as a singer or choirman. If intelligence is to be a criterion, we think the ringer is entitled to more.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BRIDE, FLEET STREET,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt. in Db.

FRANCIS E. DAWE Treble.	GEORGE DORRINGTON .. 7.
MATTHEW A. WOOD 2.	SAMUEL E. JOYCE 8.
JAMES PETTIT 3.	CHARLES A. CLEMENTS .. 9.
WILLIAM COOTER 4.	WILLIAM D. SMITH .. 10.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 5.	EDWIN HORREX 11.
GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN 6.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

Mr. C. A. Clements hails from from Salisbury. He returns home much pleased at having succeeded in the performance which had been specially arranged in honour of his birthday, he having attained the age of 21 years on the above day. This is the first peal Mr. F. E. Dawe has ever called in the City of London. He has now rung every bell round in a ring of twelve for a peal of Stedman Cinques, Mr. M. A. Wood being the only other ringer who has ever done so.

OLD BATTERSEA, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 26, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 16 cwt.

ARTHUR SWETMAN Treble.	WILLIAM W. THORNE .. 5.
EDGAR BENNETT 2.	HENRY S. THOMAS 6.
WILLIAM BARON, SEN. .. 3.	JOHN M. HAYES 7.
SANTLEY BAKER 4.	HENRY A. HOPKINS .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BARON, SEN.

The above was rung to celebrate the 38th birthday of Mr. H. S. Thomas, and the 48th of Mr. J. M. Hayes, their brother-strings wishing them many happy returns. Messrs. Swetman and Baker were elected members before starting.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 19, 1889, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 23 lbs. in Ep.

WILLIAM LIGGINGS Treble.	WILLIAM OWEN 5.
HERBERT CANNER 2.	JOHN JAGGAR 6.
JOHN H. DUNMORE 3.	THOMAS JACQUES 7.
JAMES HOPKINS 4.	WALTER CANNER Tenor.

Composed by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq., and Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

The calling of this peal will be found on page 27 of Midland Counties' Association 1887 report, and is the first in the method by all the band, also the first peal of Major by all except the conductor.

SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE,
THE YORKSHIRE AND UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATIONS.

On Tuesday, February 19, 1889, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

FRANK BRIERLEY Treble.	JOSEPH L. BUCKLEY 5.
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE 2.	EDGAR BUCKLEY 6.
JOHN HOLDEN 3.	EDWARD WOOD 7.
JAMES H. SHAW 4.	JOHN T. DICKEN Tenor.

Composed by F. J. BRIERLEY and Conducted by FRANK BRIERLEY.

The peal was rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Robert Tuke.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 21, 1889, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 26 cwt.

EDWARD I. STONE Treble.	THOMAS HOLMES 5.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	GEORGE ROBINSON 6.
WILLIAM WAKLEY 3.	WALTER CANNER 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	ARTHUR WAKLEY Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

Mr. Canner is from Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and this is his first peal in the method. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the memory of Samuel Clarke, of Long Eaton, Derbyshire, one of the earliest members of the Midland Counties' Association and a prominent member of the Long Eaton Company.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.
SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thursday, February 21, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' TWO-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN CARTER Treble.	WILLIAM SMITH 5.
THOMAS HORTON 2.	JOHN ASTBURY 6.
WILLIAM R. SMALL 3.	SAMUEL REEVES 7.
THOMAS REYNOLDS 4.	SAMUEL JESSON Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells, and is also Mr. W. R. Small's. One Hundredth peal.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.—The next ringing meeting of this branch will take place at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday, March 9th. Bells ready at 2-30; meeting in the school at 6.30.
J. T. STOTT, Local Sec.

ROCHDALE BRANCH.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at St. James's church, Milnrow, on Saturday, March 9th. Bells ready at 3 p.m., meeting at 5 p.m. in the schools.
FRANK BIRTWISTLE, Branch Sec.

LIVERPOOL.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, February 21, 1889, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

RICHARD S. MANN Treble.	JOHN R. PRITCHARD 5.
PETER BARTON 2.	WILLIAM JAMES 6.
WILLIAM G. MANN 3.	THOMAS HAMMOND 7.
FREDERICK W. MOORE* 4.	JOHN ASPINWALL Tenor.

Composed by JOHN R. PRITCHARD, and Conducted by RICHARD S. MANN.

Rung as a compliment to the Rev. T. J. Madden, on his appointment as Vicar. This is the first peal in the method on the bells for upwards of forty years, it is also J. R. Pritchard's 50th peal, of which number he has composed and conducted 14. *First peal of Major.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, February 22, 1889, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

HARRY STRATFORD Treble.	RALPH BIGGS 5.
FREDERICK GEORGE BIGGS 2.	JOHN EVANS 6.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK 3.	GEORGE BUNCE 7.
FREDERICK LIBERTY FREE 4.	BENJAMIN PAGE Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

The above is the first peal by all except Mr. Washbrook, who hails from Oxford; the rest belong to the local company.

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

On Saturday, February 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5002 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD Treble.	WILLIAM J. SEVIER 6.
GEORGE DAWSON 2.	GEORGE HINGLEY 7.
SAMUEL JOHNSON 3.	HENRY MIDGLEY 8.
JOHN HOWE 4.	BENJAMIN SUGDEN 9.
EVAN MORETON 5.	WILLIAM HICKLING Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, was to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the dedication of the bells. In it either the 5th or 6th are always behind the 9th.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 26, 1889, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

DAVID G. WIGHTMAN Treble.	*WALTER WHITING 5.
G. WIGHTMAN 2.	*HARRY PEPPER 6.
GEORGE PERRY 3.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, SEN. .. 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COX and Conducted by DAVID G. WIGHTMAN.

*First peal of Oxford. This peal (in one main course) contains the 6th its extent wrong and right, the 4th its extent in 6th place, and the 5th its extent at home; and has a bob at home throughout.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The Sixth Annual Report, with performances, balance-sheet, and list of members, is now ready for distribution, at the price of 2d. each to ringing members whose subscriptions are paid up. As this is not more than half cost price, it is hoped that a large number will be sold. Members requiring copies will please communicate with their local secretaries. Single copies sent by post for 2½d., on application to

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.
Wykeham House, Bedford Park, Croydon.

WALLINGFORD, BERKS.

THE ST. LAWRENCE'S SOCIETY, READING.

On Saturday, February 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' TEN-PART (No. 2). Tenor 21½ cwt.

BENJAMIN WHITE Treble.	JAMES POTTER 5.
WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS .. 2.	TOM HIBBERT 6.
WILLIAM H. HOLLOWAY .. 3.	WILLIAM NEWELL 7.
ALBERT E. REEVES 4.	CHARLES CHAPMAN Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS.

This is the first peal ever rung on the bells.

LEEDS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

HENRY HUBBARD Treble.	JOHN WHITAKER 5.
TOM LOCKWOOD 2.	ROBERT BINNS 6.
SIMEON LONGSTAFF 3.	HERBERT W. NEEDHAM .. 7.
JOSEPH HUTCHINSON 4.	WILLIAM SNOWDON Tenor.

Composed by To LOCKWOOD and Conducted by HERBERT W. NEEDHAM.

This peal which is in three parts, contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th nine times each way in 5-6, and was rung on the front eight. This peal was rung in honour of the elevation of Dr. Jayne, Vicar of Leeds, to the Bishopric of Chester.

MARLOW, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 16 cwt.

ALFRED COCKS, ESQ.* .. Treble.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 5.
HENRY COLLINS 2.	†JOHN C. TRUSS, SEN. .. 6.
SYDNEY GOODCHILD 3.	CHARLES SMITH 7.
RALPH BIGGS 4.	*ARTHUR W. TRUSS Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal. †First inside. The ringers of the 3rd and 4th belong to Hughenden; the rest to Marlow.

RINGMER, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE RINGMER BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 23, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES,

A VARIATION OF HOLT'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

THOMAS MILLER† Treble.	HENRY JONES 5.
ALFRED WASHER* 2.	GEORGE WASHER 6.
ALBERT SLARKS! 3.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 7.
CHARLES PAINTER 4.	FREDERICK BANKS* Tenor.

Arranged and Conducted by THE REV. C. D. P. DAVIES.

First peal by the local company. *First peal. †First peal with hunting bell. ‡First peal with a bob bell. The figures of this hitherto unpublished variation will be given in "THE BELL NEWS."

BOLNEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE CUCKFIELD BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

L. GIBB* Treble.	G. WALDER 5.
R. NASH† 2.	†H. BOWELL 6.
W. GIBSON* 3.	F. HOUNSELL 7.
H. MITCHELL* 4.	*F. SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK HOUNSELL.

The above is the first peal by the Cuckfield Branch. *First peal. †First peal on a bob bell. Also the first peal conducted by Mr. Hounsell. Mr. Walder belongs to Bolney; the rest hail from Cuckfield.

CHARLWOOD, SURREY.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE CRAWLEY BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 23, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN MINOR METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following;

Woodbine, Violet, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob and College Single.

Tenor 16 cwt.

ALBERT ELLIS Treble.	FREDERICK W. RICE .. 4.
WILLIAM COLLISON 2.	ALFRED F. HILLIER .. 5.
BENJAMIN KING 3.	FREDERICK WICKENS .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

DISS, NORFOLK.—THE NORWICH ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 25, 1889, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. J. SOUTER,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

ELLIS HAYWARD 1.	JOHN SOUTER 5-6.
GEORGE ARCHER 2.	EDWARD BATRUM 7-8.
ELIJAH BROOME 3-4.	WILLIAM IRELAND 9-10.

Composed by J. REEVES and Conducted by JOHN SOUTER.

Umpire—Mr. James Rudd. First peal on handbells by all. First peal of Royal by the first five, and first peal by 2nd and 3rd men.

ROWLEY REGIS, STAFFORDSHIRE.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Monday, February 25, 1889, in Six Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 10,272 CHANGES.

Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

JOHN CARTER Treble.	CHARLES CARMELL 5.
JAMES JONES* 2.	*FRANK H. JAMES 6.
THOMAS HORTON* 3.	ALBERT HACKLEY 7.
WILLIAM BROOKS 4.	JOHN T. PERRY Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

The peal is in six parts, and contains the 120 course-ends with the tenors together throughout, and is the longest peal ever rung in the method. This is the first peal rung by the members since the Birmingham Amalgamated Society and the Birmingham and District Association have been joined together. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and Churchwardens for their kindness in granting them the use of the bells and also to Mr. Bennett, Steeple-keeper, for getting everything in apple-pie order. *First peal in the method.

CRADLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 26, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

A SIX-PART PEAL.

Tenor 12 cwt.

GEORGE DUKES Treble.	HARRY MASON 5.
HARRY WOODHALL 2.	CALEB BEASLEY 6.
ROBERT BEASLEY 3.	JOSEPH MERIDETH 7.
CHARLES DANIEL 4.	WILLIAM WOODHALL .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY BURSTOW and Conducted by HARRY MASON.

First peal in the method by all, and first in the method on these bells. This peal was rung at the first attempt, and is the first peal rung in this method by this Association. Harry Mason hails from Old Hill; the rest are of the local band.

Date Touches.

BRIGHOUSE (Yorks).—On Tuesday, February 12th, at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Major (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. H. Wilson, 1; F. Crossley, 2; J. F. Pearson, 3; G. Lawton, 4; W. Wood, 5; S. Stocks, 6; C. Neild (composer and conductor), 7; F. Prince, 8.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, February 23rd, at the parish

church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 8 mins. A. Haig, 1; W. Preston, 2; A. Ring, 3; W. Cooke, 4; G. Lindoff (conductor), 5; J. Tulett, 6; W. Haigh, 7; W. Evans, 8. A. Ring and J. Tulett hail from Rochester. Composed by John Carter of Birmingham.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Saturday, February 23rd, at St. Peter's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 15 mins. J. Harper, 1; B. Dalton, 2; J. Astbury, sen., 3; E. Nicholls, 4; R. Scofield, 5; D. Chapman, 6; J. Fowler, 7; J. Pardoe and C. F. Vickers, 8. Composed by E. Nicholls, and conducted by J. Fowler. Messrs. Astbury and Chapman hail from Walsall; Dalton from Tettenhall; Scofield from Sedgley; the rest are of the local company. Tenor 29½ cwt.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—On Tuesday, February 12th, on the birthday of F. Charsley, Esq., the donor of the new bells, a start was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to the breaking of a bolt in the bearings of the seventh, the bells were called home at the half-way, in 1 hr. 29 mins. W. Leader, 1; F. Sinkins, 2; A. Andrews, 3; A. Fussell, 4; W. Wilder, 5; A. Garraway (conductor), 6; R. Flaxman, 7; T. Leader, 8.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Sunday, February 17th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 6 mins. J. Bennett, 1; G. Salter, 2; H. Williams, 3; J. Bennett, jun., 4; W. H. Smith, 5; J. T. Salter (conductor), 6; J. Crane, 7; S. Walters, 8. Composed by J. Carter, of Birmingham.

Miscellaneous.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHURCH KIRK.—On Wednesday evening, February 13th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 28½ mins. J. Horrocks (conductor), 1; H. Hayes, 2; J. Bentley, 3; G. Lord (Newchurch), 4; W. Pattinson, 5; T. Horrocks, 6.

HUYTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, February 16th, at St. Michael's church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 30 mins. R. Hill, 1; J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 2; E. Coley, 3; P. Barton, 4; J. Broughley, 5; J. Aspinwall, 6. R. Hill belongs to Southport; J. Broughley to Sefton; the remainder belong to Liverpool.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BROCKWORTH.—On Sunday, February 17th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. G. Price, 1; E. Sonart, 2; F. Hannis (conductor), 3; H. Waite, 4; W. Gregory, 5; H. Downham, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—On Thursday, February 14th, a start was made for a peal of Plain Bob Triples, which came to grief owing to a mis-call. H. T. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; F. W. Chapman, 3; H. Prior, 4; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 5; G. Prior, 6; P. Springham, 7; T. Newman, 8. T. Newman was elected a member of the above Association previous to starting for the peal. This is the longest touch of Bob Triples by all, and was rung on the occasion of the marriage of L. D. Wigan, Esq.

HARLOW (Essex).—On Saturday, February 16th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure, in 28 mins. T. Newman, 1; G. Prior, 2; F. W. Chapman, 3; H. Prior, 4; P. Springham, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Also 720 College Single, in 28 mins. T. Newman, 1; F. W. Chapman, 2; H. Prior, 3; G. Prior, 4; P. Springham, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. This is the first attempt in the method by Messrs. T. Newman, F. W. Chapman, and P. Springham. Also 224 Bob Major. — Perrin, 1; G. Prior, 2; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 3; W. Morris, 4; C. French, 5; H. Prior, 6; T. Ellis, 7; F. W. Chapman, 8. Messrs. G. Prior and H. Prior hail from Stanstead; W. Morris and P. Springham from Sawbridgeworth; H. J. Tucker and F. W. Chapman from Bishops Stortford; the rest belong to the local company.

RAYLEIGH (Essex).—On Sunday, February 3rd, for evening service at the parish church, 720 Woodbine. H. Smith, 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. Haslam, 4; F. Brewer, 5; H. Deal (conductor), 6. First in any Treble Bob method by H. Smith, and first in the method by F. Brewer. On Sunday, February 10th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor. H. Deal (conductor), 1; F. Haslam, 2; J. Johnson, 3; J. Collins, 4; G. Smith, 5; F. Strugnell, 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Tuesday, February 12th, at St. John's church, 720 Double Oxford Bob Minor in 27 mins. W. Patton, 1; J. Little, 2; H. S. Taylor, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; W. D. Lister, 5; J. H. Whitfield (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, February 17th, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Bolton, 1; J. Little, 2; W. Patton, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; H. S. Taylor, 5; J. H. Whitfield (conductor), 6. And for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins., with F. A. Teasdale, 1; the rest standing as above.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday, February 3rd, at St. Hilda's church, 720 Plain Bob Minor. R. Hopper, 1; J. Moffitt, 2; R. Scafton, 3; J. Crawford, 4; J. Hopper, 5; *Jos. Hopper, jun., 6. *First 720 in any method. And on Sunday, February 10th, 720 College Single, standing as before. First 720 in this method by J. Crawford and J. Hopper, jun. Also on Sunday, February 24th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure, standing as before. First 720 in this method by J. Hopper, jun.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOMBOURN.—On Wednesday, February 6th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 26 mins. G. Deans, 1; H. Deans, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; J. E. Claridge, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. This is the first 720 in the method by all, and the first upon the bells.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MIDHURST.—On Thursday, February 7th, for practice, 720 College Single. T. Ellis, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; W. H. George, 3; W. Court, 4; C. Tribe, 5; W. Selby, 6. First in the method and on the bells by all except the conductor. Also 120 Stedman Doubles by the same band.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, January 22nd, for practice, 720 Double Oxford. On Sunday evening, January 27th, after Divine Service, 720 Double Court. On Tuesday evening, January 29th, for practice, 720 Yorkshire Court. On Sunday evening, February 3rd, after Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob. The following ringers took part in the above. Rev. G. F. Coleridge, T. Newman, H. Smith, J. Hands, G. Essex, E. Menday, H. Simmonds. Conducted by T. Newman, G. Essex, and E. Menday. Tenor 17 cwt.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Thursday, February 14th, for practice at All Saints' church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. O. Fasey, 1; F. Bissley, 2; A. Hoskins, 3; W. Ayres (first 720), 4; J. W. Wilkins (conductor), 5; S. Quintin, 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday, February 17th, at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Gransbury, 1; E. Baldock, 2; G. Bell, 3; A. H. Woolley, 4; G. Newman, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6. And another 720, with E. Baldock, 1; J. Gransbury, 2; G. Bell (conductor), 3; the rest as above. Messrs. G. Bell and G. Newman hail from Mereworth; A. H. Woolley from Maidstone; Gransbury from Staplehurst; E. Baldock and J. Leonard belong to the local company.

STAPLEHURST.—At All Saints' church, on Monday, February 11th, 672 Grandsire Triples, 312 Stedman, 252 Bob Triples, and 224 Bob Major. J. Woolgar, W. Walters, W. Collison, W. Pope, W. C. Pope, H. G. Pope, A. Palmer, E. Pope (conductor), W. Legge.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Monday, February 25th, at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor. S. Nicholls (first 720), 1; W. Cooke, 2; G. Hayes, 3; J. R. Rayner, 4; A. Cornford, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. S. Nicholls hails from Bobbing; W. Cooke from Gillingham; the rest belong to Swanscombe.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Wednesday, February 13th, at St. Peter's church, 559 Grandsire Triples. G. Hackett, 1; G. Grafham, 2; F. Hill, 3; C. Privett, 4; D. J. Jeffery, 5; G. Passingham, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; C. Greenstock, 8. And 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Passingham, 1; C. Privett, 2; J. W. Whiting, 3; D. J. Jeffery, 4; G. Hackett, 5; F. Hill (conductor), 6; G. Grafham, 7; C. Greenstock, 8. Also another 504. C. Privett (conductor), 1; G. Grafham, 2; F. Hills, 3; D. J. Jeffery, 4; G. Hackett, 5; G. Passingham, 6; J. Whiting, 7; C. Greenstock, 8. And on Monday, February 18th, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Linter, 1; D. J. Jeffery, 2; G. Hackett, 3; F. Hill (conductor), 4; C. Privett, 5; G. Passingham, 6; A. Millard, 8.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, February 24th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins. C. W. Miller, 1; *T. H. Colburn (conductor), 2; *J.

Heathorn, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; J. J. Jones, 5; F. Bennett (conductor), 6; W. Groves, 7; *E. Stone, 8. Tenor 22½ cwt. This is the first quarter-peal rung in Guildford by a local company for very many years. *First quarter-peal.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Saturday, February 16th, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). H. W. Grout, 1; E. Barnett, 2; W. Bedwell, 3; J. Crowder, 4; W. Watchorn, 5; G. Cornell, 6; F. J. French, 7; D. Barnes, 8. Composed by H. J. Tucker and conducted by E. Barnett.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

TUTBURY (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, February 23rd, Messrs. R. Logie, L. Bullock, W. J. Smith, J. Austin, and J. Jaggar paid a visit to this ancient town, and with the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. T. Chippendall, rang on the bells (5) of the parish church several 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles, afterwards listening to the Tutbury handbell ringers, who played several selections on their fine handbells, in capital style. Then a touch of Grandsire Triples by W. J. Smith, 1-2; J. Jaggar (conductor), 3-4; L. Bullock, 5-6; J. Austin, 7-8, brought a very pleasant afternoon's outing to a close. This is the first time 120 changes has been rung on the bells of this church.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—On Wednesday, 13th, at All Saints' church, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Caters, but it came to grief after ringing 1800 changes. A quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was then rung in 47½ mins. *J. W. Driver, 1; *Rev. H. Shears, 2; *W. E. Garrard, 3; G. Woodiss, 4; G. Gray, 5; J. Strutt, 6; J. Wright (conductor), 7; G. Naish, 8. *First quarter-peal of Stedman Triples.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Thursday, February 21st, for practice at St. Peter's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. R. E. Pearson, 1; W. C. Palmer, 2; H. Brooker (conductor), 3; W. J. Chambers, 4; G. Burt, 5; C. Kitching, 6; F. G. Hermon, 7; A. Collins, 8. Also 518 Oxford Bob Triples. G. Burt, 1; W. J. Chambers, 2; R. E. Pearson, 3; H. Brooker, 4; A. Bruce, 5; W. States (composer and conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; F. G. Hermon, 8.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHARNBROOK (Beds).—On Wednesday, February 20th, at St. Peter's church, 720 College Little in 24 mins. J. Dickens, 1; C. Allen, 2; E. Coleman, 3; L. Bell, 4; A. J. Barcock, 5; W. Page (conductor), 6. Also three 6-scores Stedman Doubles. A. J. Barcock, 1; C. Allen, 2; L. Bell, 3; W. Page (conductor), 4; E. Coleman, 5; J. Dickens, 6. And a 6-score Grandsire Doubles, with T. Bransom, 1. Also on Saturday, February 23rd, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). J. Dickens, 1; W. Page, 2; L. Bell, 3; E. Coleman, 4; A. J. Barcock, 5; W. G. Biggs (conductor), 6. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Page, 1; C. Allen, 2; E. Coleman, 3; L. Bell, 4; A. J. Barcock, 5; W. G. Biggs (conductor), 6. Also 6-score Stedman Doubles. A. J. Barcock, 1; C. Allen, 2; W. G. Biggs, 3; W. Page (conductor), 4; E. Coleman, 5; J. Dickens, 6.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LEEDS.—On Sunday, February 24th, after evening service at the parish church, a touch of Stedman Caters (1035 changes), in the titium position, in 45 mins. T. Lockwood (conductor), 1; J. Hutchinson, 2; H. Lockwood, 3; P. Snowden, 4; W. Walker, 5; H. Hubbard, 6; H. W. Needham, 7; W. Snowdon, 8; R. Binns, 9; G. Fothergill, 10. Rung on the occasion of the consecration of Dr. Jayne, Vicar of Leeds, as Bishop of Chester, at the Minster, York.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—On Thursday, February 14th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure, with 7-8 covering. W. T. Prior, 1; F. W. Chapman, 2; H. J. Tucker, 3; G. Prior, 4; W. Prior, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6; T. Newman, 7; F. Harris (first 720), 8.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, February 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 London Surprise Minor, and 240 Cambridge Surprise. T. Watson, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; S. Hammond, 3; *F. Bumpstead, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. *First 720.

BYTHORN (Hunts).—Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, February 18th, at the Reading Room, 120 each of Plain Bob and Canterbury Doubles. A. Howell, 1; E. B. Howell, 2; C. Dunkley, 3-4; W. Richards (conductor), 5-6. Also two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. E. B. Howell, 1-2; C. Dunkley, 3-4; W. Richards, 5-6.

COLN ST. ALDWYNS (Gloucestershire).—On Monday evening, February 11th, at St. John the Baptist church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. R. Jefferies, 1; H. Griffin, 2; C. Bate, 3; J. Kitchener (conductor), 4;

T. Wittchell, 5; T. Smith, 6. On Monday, February 18th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. R. Jefferies, 1; T. Wittchell, 2; C. Bate, 3; J. Kitchener (conductor), 4; G. Smith, 5; T. Smith, 6.

DISS (Norfolk).—On Sunday, February 17th, on handbells, a date touch of 1889 Bob Major, in 1 hr. 1 min. J. Rudd, 1; G. Archer, 2; E. Broome, 3-4; J. Souter (conductor), 5-6; E. Hayward, 7-8. Composed by B. Francis, Bressingham. And 1000 Bob Royal. A. Jolly (Oakley), 1-2; G. Archer, 3; J. Souter (conductor), 4; E. Broome, 5-6; E. Batrum, 7-8; E. Hayward, 9-10. Also 396 Grandsire Cinques. E. Hayward, 1-2; E. Broome, 3-4; J. Souter (conductor), 5-6; J. Rudd, 7-8; E. Batrum, 9-10; G. Archer, 11-12.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, February 24th, for Divine Service in the evening, 672 Grandsire Triples. A. Harris, 1; W. Preston, 2; A. Haigh (conductor), 3; W. Cooke, 4; W. Evans, 5; J. Baker, 6; W. Haigh, 7; A. Hore, 8. On Saturday, February 23rd, for practice, several courses and a 112 of Forward Minor. W. Cooke, 1; A. Ring, 2; G. Lindoff (conductor), 3; A. Haigh, 4; W. Haigh, 5; J. Tulett, 6.

HARROGATE (Yorks).—On Sunday, February 10th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. Robinson, 1; H. Brown, 2; J. Vickers, 3; J. Ireland, 4; A. Atkinson, 5; W. Turner (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 17th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 in the same method (nine bobs and six singles). H. Brown, 1; W. D. Lister (Darlington), 2; J. Vickers, 3; J. Ireland, 4; A. Atkinson, 5; W. Turner (conductor), 6. For evening service, 360 in the same method (nine bobs). H. Robinson, 1; the rest as before.

HINDLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, February 17th, at St. Peter's church, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 25 mins. R. Calland, 1; E. Brown, 2; J. Brown, 3; E. Prescott, 4; P. Baxter (Leigh), 5; T. Tickle, 6; J. Prescott (conductor), 7; G. Lang, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. The above was rung on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the opening of the bells.

KETTLEBURGH (Suffolk).—Handbell Ringing.—On Sunday evening, February 17th, at the house of Mr. A. Moore, 1080 Bob Royal in 41 mins. R. H. Hayward (conductor), 1-2; J. Tarrant, 3-4; A. Moore, 3-6; Wm. Flory, 7-8; Jas. Heffer, jun., 9-10. Tenor 15 size in F.

NEWTON ST. LO (near Bath).—On Sunday afternoon, February 24th, six of the Twerton company paid a visit to this place, and rang five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. Lanham, 1; G. Temple, 2; J. Wotton, 3; J. Holman, 4; H. Wotton (conductor), 5; S. James, 6. And two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles, and a 720 of Grandsire Minor, supposed to be the first 720 on the bells. *W. Dicks, 1; *W. Lanham, 2; G. Temple, 3; J. Holman, 4; H. Wotton, 5; J. Wotton (conductor), 6. *First 720.

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Sunday, February 17th, at the house of Mr. Slade, on handbells, retained in hand, Shipway's quarter-peal of Bob Triples, taken from "Rope-Sight," in 38 mins. F. Slade, 1-2; A. E. Chapman, 3-4; A. H. Martin, 5-6; J. B. Martin (conductor), 7-8. Also 840 Bob Triples, by the above, and 336 Bob Major, in which T. Stubbs took part.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—Handbell Ringing.—On Thursday, February 21st, 1061 Grandsire Caters. A. P. Goddard, 1-2; W. W. Gifford, 3-4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5-6; W. S. Wise, 7-8; H. D. Adams, 9-10. And on Sunday evening, February 24th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, 1260 Stedman Triples. A. W. Barkus, 1; H. D. Adams, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; J. Hallett, 8.

SEDGLEY (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, February 17th, at the parish church, 672 Grandsire Triples. J. Goodman, 1; R. Scofield, 2; J. Pardoe, 3; E. Nicholls, 4; D. Bruce, 5; S. Bunn, 6; W. Mills, 7; C. F. Vickers, 8. Also 364 in the same method, with C. F. Vickers, 1; B. Fullwood, 8. And on Tuesday evening, February 19th, for practice, 672 Grandsire Triples. J. Goodman, 1; W. Mills, 2; R. Scofield, 3; *C. F. Vickers, 4; E. Screen, 5; S. Bunn, 6; D. Bruce, 7; B. Fullwood, 8. Messrs. Pardoe, Nicholls, and Vickers hail from Wolverhampton; the rest belong to the local company. *Longest touch with a bob bell in any method.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday, February 17th, for Divine Service in the evening, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Waghorn, jun., 1; H. A. Barnett, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; J. Waghorn, 4; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 5; J. Barber, 6; W. Pye-English, 7; W. Greenleaf, 8. On Tuesday, February 19th, for practice, 704 in the same method. J. Waghorn, jun., 1; G. Griffin, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; J. Barber, 6; J. Waghorn, 7; W. Pye-English, 8. The sixth bell, to which an accident happened recently, has been rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

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Correspondence.

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

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

THE PROGRESS OF THE SCIENCE.

SIR,—In your last issue you say scarcely a week passes without enquiry as to what the Art is. I have hopes that one of the results of the forthcoming "Johnsonian Conference" will be to stir up the whole of the ringing community to united action to make the Art still more widely appreciated. Ringers who have never had an opportunity of hearing bells well struck in changes, have no idea of the desirability of learning it; and on the other hand I am led to believe that the majority of change-ringers have no notion of the difficulties of learning without the aid of one who has had practical experience. Perhaps I may be excused for mentioning my own case as an example, believing as I do that there are hundreds of parallels ones. For many years the extent of my knowledge was "Churchyard Bob," and although I endeavoured to rise higher, did not succeed. Troyte's was the only book that I was acquainted with, and that I read, re-read, until I was "confusion worse confounded," in fact the author states therein that little can be learnt from it without personal assistance, which I could not get. Removing to another part of the county, I fell in with a band of "professing" change-ringers who taught me to ring the plain course of Grandsire Doubles (the extent of their knowledge) by learning by heart which bell to follow; here I stuck until I was disgusted with the "science." At last some neighbours came to the tower, and discovering we had not learnt *Rope-Sight*, they kindly put us on the road, which soon led to victory. Now, Sir, I venture to think that if the experiment were tried of sending out a few circulars to the "un-enlightened" districts, explaining to the clergy and ringers what *change-ringing* is, and ascertaining from them whether or not they would like to learn the Art, some good might be done through the post by informing them how to proceed, and advising them from time to time, as difficulties arise, how to get over them. "Tenor Ringer" very truly said change-ringing flourishes where "THE BELL NEWS" is regularly taken in, but alas! there are too many ringers who have as yet never heard of this valuable paper. I frequently forward mine to my friends, and would that others would do likewise. Might not the public too be educated as to the merits of the Art through the medium of the Press; a few such powerful articles as that by the Rev. T. L. Papillon, which appeared in the *Guardian*, would, I am convinced, gain for us a little more credit for our energies than we at present get. Merely advocating the Art in these columns will not I am afraid be of much use in dispelling the "darkness" which exist outside our midst. I have written the above without any expectation that the suggestions will be warmly taken up, but with a hope that they will be the means of drawing forth others more worthy of consideration.

W. J. P.

February 19th, 1889.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—I read in last week's "BELL NEWS" the interesting account of the five days' ringing done by the Midland Counties' Association, and as one reads through it, you will see the following sentence: "It is the first 5024 of Superlative ever rung." Now we have the same conductor on this occasion as on January 26th, 1888, at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, when a peal was rung in the same method and the same number of changes, was published in "THE BELL NEWS" of February 4th, 1888, and a footnote thus:—"This peal, which is the first 5024 ever rung in this method, has the 5th and 6th their extent home, and is the first peal composed with these qualities in this number of changes. Composed by N. J. Pitstow." I hope you will excuse me correcting this slight mistake.

C. W. CLARKE.

11 St. Leonard Street, Bedford.

STREATHAM PARISH CHURCH BELLS.

SIR,—It may be interesting to some of the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" to know that at the beginning of this year we formed an Association for the purpose of once again ringing the bells of our ancient church. For eleven years past they have been silent, or at any rate, have only been chimed, and when hearing the bells of Emmanuel Church, Streatham Common, on New Year's Eve, we could not help lamenting the fact of the parish church being so far behind. On January 15th, after obtaining the consent of the rector, and the necessary financial support of the churchwardens, we essayed on our first practice with the bells lashed; and under the tuition of Mr. S. Greenwood (a very able ringer), we have been able in four weeks from

that date, to invite Dr. Carpenter, of Croydon, and five others, to come and open our bells. I would not infer of course, that we (who are all amateurs), can do much more than round ringing, although since Tuesday, February 12th, we have successfully accomplished the simple hunt course, but we hope with constant practice, and attention to what we are taught, to be able to ring in a Sunday or two. We have a set of eight handbells, supplied by Messrs. Warner and Co., which assist us very much, and help to make it more interesting. Any society that may be in this neighbourhood, and desirous of trying our bells, should apply to

F. A. BELLAMY, Hon. Sec., S.B.A.

MR. CARTER'S METHOD, "FORWARD."

SIR,—Mr. Carter cannot have any claim for producing the above method. On examining his Minor method, I find that the *plain course* is simply a *plain lead* of Association Exercise, split into fours, and brought into rounds. I published this method in *Church Bells* of January 30th, 1885, and it has since been rung at Capel (Surrey); Barnwood (Gloucestershire); and at Brathay (Cumberland). Mr. Carter says any band ought to be able to ring it. In that respect I thoroughly endorse his opinion, as I gave the rule to ring it by, which, for the plain course is simply this:—when at the front, snap, whole pull and snap, 3rds and 4ths and up. When behind, snap, whole pull and snap, 4th and 3rds and down. Bobs to be made in 4ths place, thereby causing extra place-making in 3-4; and extra dodging in 5-6. Mr. Carter has altered the method by his mode of making the bob. I made it with the treble in front. Some time after I extended the method to eight bells, and published it in the paper above-named. It is the same as Mr. Carter's, with the exception of the work of the treble in 5-6. I made the treble to *make* 5th and 6ths, whereas Mr. Carter makes it to *dodge* there. I trust that Mr. Carter will take these remarks as written in a friendly manner.

M. EILSMORE.

Hertford.

SIR,—The new method called "Forward" that appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" last week, is a peal which I have called Association Minor, which was left at Hayfield on Good Friday, 1886, by William Walsley, of Macclesfield. The same can be rung in the order as Oxford or Kent, with the treble in front. Perhaps my friend will tell you more about it.

THOS. WHITEHEAD.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—Can you explain how it is that in Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire, all peals rung on six bells are rung without *leads*, where in the south of England they are rung with *leads*. I was ringing in a touch of Oxford Treble Bob the other night, when some were giving and some were not. It was not very musical to the ear, or pleasant to the ringer. Perhaps some of my brother-strings in the counties above-named (and there are many good and true), will have something to say on the subject.

TOWER.

A QUESTION.

SIR,—Seeing the great strides that change-ringing is taking in these latter days both in quantity and quality, and will rise to a much higher pitch of perfection, your paper some few years since gave a statement of 40,000 church bells hung all ready for ringing, and since that time many more have been added to the number. This leads me, and by your permission, I will put two questions before the Exercise. 1st.—Why have bells from three to twelve been placed in our English and National church towers? 2nd.—Why are the sons of Britain so fond of scientific change-ringing, while the sons of other nations enter not into the Exercise, and know nothing of its joys?

BOB.

NOTICE OF LONG PEAL.—All being well, eight members of the Essex Association hope to attempt T. Day's long peal of Treble Bob Major on the bells of the parish church, Foxearth, Essex, to-day, Saturday, March 2nd. Meet at the church at 8 a.m.

G. MAXIM, Steeplekeeper.

Several touches are unavoidably left over until next week. We hope to clear off all arrears in the next number. We beg to call particular attention to the issue of Mr. Johnson's portrait, as it will be impossible to obtain copies after next week. Orders should be given without delay to local booksellers and newsagents.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.—"SIX BELLS" has not sent his name or address. A touch from Westminster without name or address; and others.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

All, all is still, and o'er the hill
 The moon is shining soft and bright,
 And from the tower tolls forth the hour
 Upon the startled ear of night.
 Down in the vale, the nightingale,
 Alarmed and startled at the sound,
 Suspends his song, that all night long
 Had charmed the list'ning country round.
 Hark! from yon turret high,
 Close to the starry sky,
 Hark! what a concord of melody swells:
 Hark! to the clanging rhymes,
 Made by the silv'ry chimes
 Made by the chimes of the beautiful bells.
 The sun is high, and, from the sky,
 Looks on the market's busy life,
 Whilst from the crowd comes harsh and loud
 The din of their discordant strife,
 Calm and serene above the scene,
 The chimes ring sweetly as before;
 So will their sound still echo round
 When time with us shall be no more.
 Hark! from yon turret high,
 Close to the sunny sky,
 Hark! what a concord of melody swells:
 Hark! to the clanging rhymes,
 Made by the silv'ry chimes
 Made by the chimes of the beautiful bells.

WM. CARTWRIGHT NEWSAM.

Once more there has been a break in the continuity of my weekly jottings, and no doubt the question has been asked—What is the cause of my sudden disappearance? Well, this time my explanation is one which—while being peculiarly satisfactory to me, is ample justification in itself. The fact is, our Editor has for the last two weeks been literally at his wit's end—such heaps of "copy" rolling in day by day. So I have been summarily "elbowed out," to make room for more important matter. For the sake of ourselves, as well as our paper, I should be glad if this was the case every week. There can be no doubt about it, that from the very commencement of this year, interesting news has been largely on the increase. May it keep long in the same path!

Whoever wrote that report of the week's ringing in the Midland Counties is to be complimented on the plain terse manner in which he has told us the story. The event was deserving of a well-written record, and which it has not gone without. I rather imagine I could name some worthy individuals (turning the scale at from twenty stone upwards—I mean downwards) who would sleep soundly on Saturday evening, the 9th of this month.

We live most assuredly in an age of surprises. Every week end as I open my "BELL NEWS" I instinctively begin to wonder what is to be the next great fact recorded in its pages? So now that last year's unique Hertfordshire week has lost its characteristic, the question once more arises—What next?

I am right pleased in being able to congratulate my brother Oddfellows of St. Albans not only on the achievement of their "coming of age" peal, but also on the great success which has attended the Lord Bacon lodge since its formation. This account comes to us very aptly just now when the question of a Ringers' Benefit Society is on the tapis; it shews also what can be achieved by a friendly society when good men are at the helm, loyal brethren in the ranks, and as a natural consequence, the business is thoroughly and efficiently conducted.

It was with much curiosity that I awaited the promised appearance of Mr. Carter's new method. His system is, beyond all question, simplicity in the extreme, so far as ordinary ringing is concerned, and that also without forfeiting good musical

qualities. But I hope Mr. Carter will not take offence if I confess that my predilections are more in favour of the "Duffield" method, on which lines it is built. Then, with all due deference to my esteemed friend, I venture to suggest would it not have been as well if he had—like Mr. Heywood—left out the Minor of it altogether?—seeing that the bob-making is so very different to that of the larger numbers. But apart from this *minor* consideration (excuse the pun), I believe Mr. Carter's system will commend itself to many, and that ere long we shall read of touches—if not peals—having been successfully brought round in it. I mean to have a "handful" in it myself on the first opportunity.

The sympathies of the Exercise will go with our friends of the Yorkshire Association in the loss which it has recently sustained in the sad and painful death of its late Treasurer, Mr. Robert Tuke. Two of the principal founders of that Association,—Jasper Snowdon and his bosom friend Robert Tuke—have thus gone to their rest, but the work which they inaugurated still lives and prospers, and will ever remain a monument to their energy and zeal for the good of our cause.

Last Saturday's issue furnishes us with the concluding portion of Mr. Heywood's ably written and interesting paper on the hitherto dubious question concerning the peal of Norwich Court. I say "hitherto dubious," because after Mr. Heywood's arguments and facts I cannot conceive how any doubt can exist on the matter. He was certainly very severe on the Single Court system, and not altogether without reason. We may, however, now consign that disputed point to the company of the many others of the past which have been first doubted, then cleared up. In this case, it has been solved by a master hand; we are thus under another of the many debts of obligation which we owe to the worthy President of the Midland Counties' Association.

Before I write again, the Johnson celebration will have become a thing of the past. My most earnest hope is that it will be so successful in every way as to exceed the most sanguine anticipations of the respected host and chief in the affair. I also trust those who are privileged to take part in it will not separate without having discussed the many points of interest which are at the present before the Exercise; and that this gathering will be memorable in our own history both as fittingly honouring a worthy brother, and proving of lasting good to us as a body, is the warmest desire of your humble servant,

FREE LANCE.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.

On Saturday, February 9th, eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association met at St. Peter's church, Colchester, and to celebrate the birthday of Mr. Nevard, of Great Bentley, they attempted to ring Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to the heavy go of the tenor only half the peal was rung, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Motts (conductor), 1; W. Motts, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; W. Garrett, 4; W. Nevard, 5; H. Bowell, 6; W. Catchpole, 7; R. H. Brundle, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

Afterwards the company adjourned to the "Sea Horse" inn, where they rang upon Mr. Nevard's handbells courses of Kent Treble Bob Royal, Grandsire Cinques, Grandsire Caters, Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, and a touch of Grandsire Triples; and a course of Bob Major with Mr. Jno. Kettle. This gentleman, who rang 3-4 in very good style, without striking a false blow throughout, is totally blind. Altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent.

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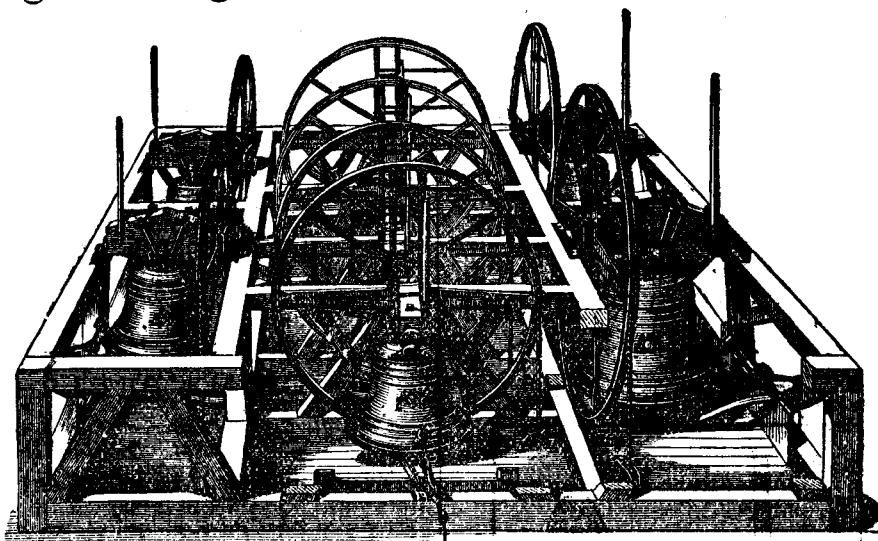
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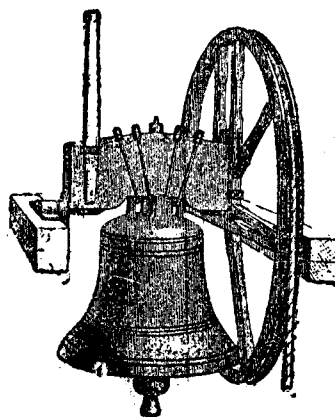
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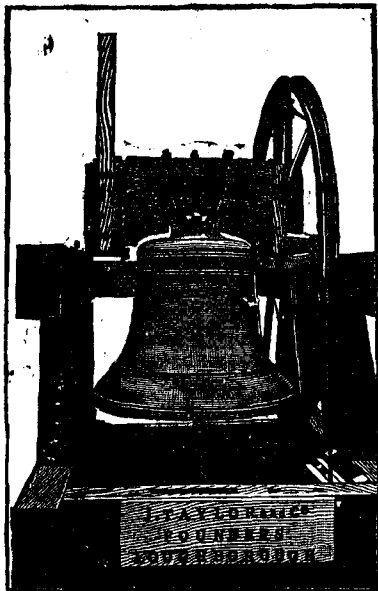
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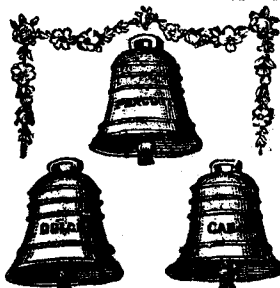
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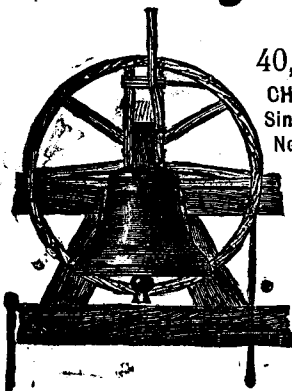
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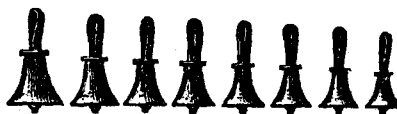
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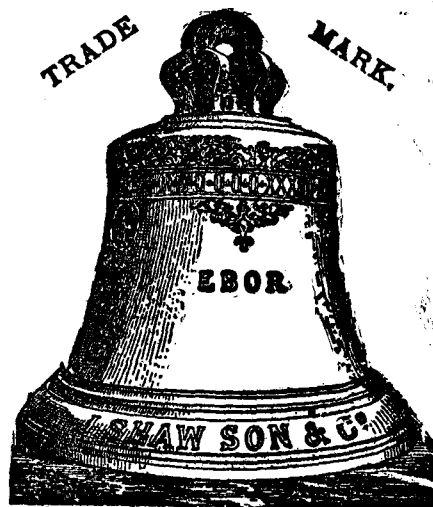
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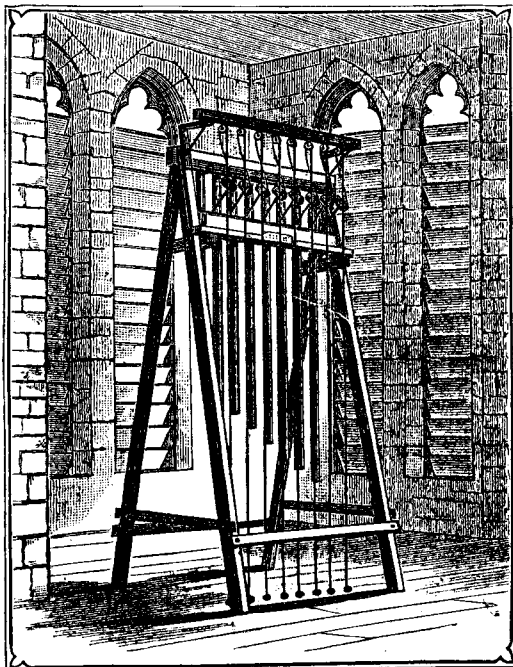
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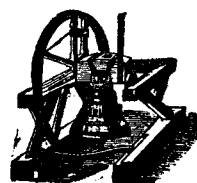
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THE JOHNSON CELEBRATION.

For years past the 28th of February has been looked forward to with some interest as the occasion of a gathering of some of the principal ringers in the kingdom to celebrate the birthday of Mr. Henry Johnson, sen., of Birmingham. The creation of this feeling dates, we believe from the 28th of February, 1881, his 72nd birthday, when, as many of our readers remember, he rang the 6th in a peal (composed by himself) of Stedman Cinques at St. Martin's, comprising 9238 changes, and occupying six hours and forty-eight minutes in its execution. This performance, which has not yet been superseded, created no small amazement at the time, and in reporting the achievement "THE BELL NEWS" of the day alluded to the remarkable capabilities of Mr. Johnson at such an advanced age, and pronounced him "truly a wonder." After this feat it was determined—chiefly we believe through the instrumentality of Mr. C. H. Hattersley—to perpetuate his natal day by an annual dinner, and thus the occasion has we believe since been commemorated.

A still keener interest is attached to this last birthday from the fact that it is the eightieth, and that Mr. A. Percival Heywood, President of the Midland Counties' Association, had, through the ringing papers, invited representatives from all the ringing societies in the kingdom to accept of his hospitality, and honour the eminent composer at a three days' gathering in the "hardware city."

The Secretary of the Yorkshire Association, Mr. Whitaker, was the first to put in an appearance on the Wednesday, and he was followed early on Thursday by the representative of the Ancient Society of College Youths, Mr. Dawe; and Mr. Phillott, of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Although the local committee did not anticipate any arrivals before mid-day, by the time the reception-room was advertised to open the success of the meeting was amply assured by the trooping in of representatives from Brighton, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Manchester, Hyde, Burton-on-Trent, and less distant ringing centres.

Unfortunately the ringing on the bells at St. Martin's was soon put an end to by a message from the friends of a sick parishioner, and local ringers were doomed to the keen disappointment of being unable to afford the visitors the opportunity of indulging in a peal on the famous ring of twelve, or on the rings at Aston and St. Philip's; the former having been closed since Christmas through illness in the neighbourhood, and the latter being out of repair and in an unringable condition. The best was, however, made of the short interval before the evening gathering by ringing on the peals at St. Chad's (R.C.) Cathedral and Bishop Ryder's and St. John's (Deritend) churches.

Shortly after 5 o'clock, an assembly of about ninety was seated at dinner in the banqueting-room of the Colonnade hotel, under the presidency of Arthur Percival Heywood, Esq., and a glance at the following names of the many present will convince our readers of the representative nature of the gathering: the Revs. F. L. Fawcett (St. Martin's, Birmingham), G. F. Coleridge (Caversham), C. D. P. Davies (Ringmer), H. A. Cockey (Oldlands, Bristol), C. B. Brickwell, H. C. Courtney (Hatton); and Messrs. F. E. Dawe (Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths), W. H. Thompson (College Youths), A. H. Gardom and H. S. Thomas (Royal Cumberlands), W. Whitaker and C. H. Hattersley (Yorkshire Association), R. S. Story (Durham and Newcastle), H. Baker and L. Procter (Hertford), A. E. Holme (Lancashire), J. Wilde (United Counties'), J. Searle (Sussex), J. W. Taylor, sen., J. W. Taylor, jun., W. Wakley, J. Griffin (Midland Counties'), S. Spittle (Worcester), S. Reeves (Stafford), the officers of the St. Martin's Guild, and the Birmingham and District Amalgamated Society.

At the close of an excellent dinner the CHAIRMAN rose, and having referred to letters of apology for non-attendance, some of which were read, from several of the local clergy, and such noted ringers as the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Mr. William Snowdon, the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS," the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Dr. Carpenter, Rev. T. L. Papillon, Rev. W. W. C. Baker, and Mr. F. E. Ward, many of whom congratulated Mr. Johnson on attaining his eightieth birthday, and referred in the kindest manner to his eminent services as a composer, then briefly stated

the objects of the gathering. Speaking of the many compositions in nearly every known method which had made Mr. Johnson's fame as a composer, and assisted in developing the science of change-ringing to the position it now occupied, he believed it was largely owing to Mr. Johnson's continual urging on that we are in possession of the peals of Stedman Triples composed by Thurstans and Lates.

The toast, "Queen, Church, and State," by the CHAIRMAN, then followed; after which, in a short and feeling speech,

MR. HATTERSLEY proposed "The Health of MR. HENRY JOHNSON, Senr.," referring to his own early connection and experience with Mr. Johnson, and another celebrated Birmingham ringer, Mr. Chattell. This having been responded to, with musical honours,

MR. JOHNSON thanked the meeting, wishing them health, and a hearty "God bless you all!"

A capital touch of five courses of Stedman Cinques, 649 changes, on handbells, then followed by T. Russam, 1-2; W. Kent, 3-4; T. Miller, 5-6; H. Bastable (conductor), 7-8; B. Witchell, 9-10; H. Johnson, Junr., 11-12; and was enthusiastically applauded.

The toast of "The Visitors" was then proposed by MR. JOHN DAY, who stated that he never at any time in his long career of nearly 50 years dreamed that Birmingham should ever see such a large and nationally-represented gathering of ringers as were now met together.

MR. DAWE humorously responded to this toast, delivering a hearty message of congratulation and respect to Mr. Johnson from the Ancient Society of College Youths, and thanking Mr. Heywood for affording him the opportunity of meeting so many ringing friends.

MR. J. W. TAYLOR proposed "The Health of the Clergy," reminding his audience how necessary it was, in the furtherance of the science, to secure the co-operation of the clergy, and stating that he very frequently found that where peals of bells existed, but were silent, the hitch arose through some difference between the clergy and ringers.

THE REV. F. L. FAWCETT suitably replied, apologising for the absence of the Rector of St. Martin's, Canon Wilkinson.

"The Health of the Birmingham Ringers" was given by MR. WILLIAM WAKLEY, and responded to on behalf of the St. Martin's Guild and the Birmingham and District Amalgamated Society, by MR. A. THOMAS.

THE REV. H. C. COURTNEY proposed "The Ringing Papers," stating how much was owing to their careful management for stimulating the Ringing Exercise. To this toast the REV. C. D. P. DAVIES responded on behalf of "Church Bells," referring to Mr. Harvey Reeves (editor of "THE BELL NEWS"), and the kindly feeling which existed between the two papers.

"The Health of the Chairman" was then proposed by MR. W. R. SMALL (Tipton), and most enthusiastically received, and drank with musical honours.

In replying, MR. HEYWOOD, after thanking the audience for their hearty reception of the toast, reminded them that "Progress" was the demand of the present day, and that it behoved them to take all needful steps for pushing forward their science. After briefly alluding to the work begun by the late Mr. Jasper Snowdon, he referred to the fact that composition in change-ringing by such men as Mr. Johnson, who were unassisted by the higher and more abstruse researches in mathematics, had yet attained such a degree of excellence that very little in all the existing standard methods was left for the coming generation to accomplish. Speaking of his left-hand supporter, MR. W. H. THOMPSON (who, a few years ago conclusively demonstrated by mathematical reasoning, that a peal of Grandsire Triples could not possibly be obtained by common bobs only), he pointed out that the theory of the science was now under such serious investigation by such men as Mr. Thompson, the Rev. C. D. P. DAVIES, and the Rev. H. E. Bulwer, that it might be expected to make equal progress with its practice. He invited them to a careful discussion and consideration of the several resolutions which would be brought before them that evening, reminding them that the results would go forth to the ringing world with the impress of the authority of that great and representative meeting.

The following resolutions were then submitted to the meeting,



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MR HENRY JOHNSON SENR

and, after a discussion, in which most of the leading ringers present joined, unanimously adopted:—

National Ringers' Association.—That this meeting, whilst failing to see the advantages of a National Ringers' Association, is of opinion that great benefit would accrue to the Exercise if a committee, consisting of one or more selected members from each association, could meet from time to time to consider and decide such ringing matters as are a cause of perplexity.

Ringers' Benefit Society.—That this meeting is of opinion that the advantages attending the establishment of a General Ringers' Benefit Society would not be great enough to outweigh the immense difficulty of collecting and administering the funds in a satisfactory manner.

Ringling Phraseology.—That, in the opinion of this meeting, the indefiniteness of many of the terms at present in use, more especially in the scientific treatment of campanology, imperatively demands the attention of the Exercise with a view to their revival and improvement.

Recording of Peals.—That this meeting, approving the wholesome rivalry which has been established between the various ringing associations, in the matter of the number of peals annually recorded by each, is of opinion that the registration (in the tabular list of peals) of any performance in the name of more than one such association is destructive of fair comparison.

Ringling Peals.—That this meeting considers it eminently desirable that there should be some authoritative definition as to the extent of departure from absolute correctness of ringing which may be permitted in a true peal.

The resolutions having been carried, the Chairman thanked the meeting for their attention, adding that the unanimity of opinion in so representative a gathering was a good augury for the future of the art of change-ringing.

On the day following the dinner a mixed band, composed of some of the representatives and local ringers, journeyed by an early train to Warwick, and there rung a peal of Stedman Caters, recorded upon another page; whilst others engaged in touch-ringing at the various towers in Birmingham.

At seven, some thirty again assembled, at Mr. Heywood's invitation, to a knife and fork tea at the St. Martin's Hotel, and a pleasant evening was spent in social conversation, enlivened with Stedman Caters on the handbells, by H. Bastable, 1-2; J. Carter, 3-4; A. P. Heywood, 5-6; T. Miller, 7-8; W. Kent, 9-10; and tune-ringing.

MR. HEYWOOD, after wishing everyone a hearty good-bye, and expressing the pleasure it had given him to preside over such a hearty and enthusiastic gathering, started homeward.

Messrs. Story, Baker, Searle, and Wilde, remained until the Saturday, and an unsuccessful attempt for another peal was made at Harborne in the afternoon.

It is sincerely to be hoped that the opinions of such an influential gathering, expressed in the resolutions referred to, may bear fruit in such a way as permanently to benefit the Exercise.

In our Christmas number for the year 1882 we gave a portrait of Mr. Johnson, with a short biographical sketch of his ringing career, and our readers are referred to that number for these interesting particulars. His performances up to that time were rather considerable, as the following extracts from that sketch will show:—

"*Grandsire*: 20 peals of Triples, 2 peals of Major, 11 peals of Caters, 2 peals of Royal, and 2 peals of Cinques. *Oxford and Kent Treble Bob*: 9 peals of Major, 1 peal of Caters, 6 peals of Royal, 1 peal of Maximus. *Stedman's Principle*: 14 peals of Triples, 1 peal of Major, 50 peals of Caters, 1 peal of Royal, and 12 peals of Cinques. Of these performances, upwards of 50 have been called by MR. JOHNSON. An analysis of the foregoing summary of achievements would reveal the fact that many of them are of a very high order. The peals of Stedman on an even number of bells, and the peal of Treble Bob on an odd number, are rare productions, and sufficiently indicate the possession of great ability by this veteran composer. Many of his works in this direction have peculiar and distinguishing characteristics. He has produced two peals of Grandsire Triples without a plain lead throughout, i.e., with a call every lead; a peal of Caters in the same method having the shortest length which can be obtained with the 6th her extent wrong and right, a peal of Stedman Caters with the 5th and 6th each twenty-four courses behind the 9th; a peal in the same method with the 6th her extent wrong and right, in the inverted

tittum position; a 5003 of Grandsire Caters, having the 6th her extent wrong and right, without an 89 or a 978 being called throughout; and others, with varying features."

The portrait issued with this number is an excellent likeness of the veteran, and has produced the warmest encomiums from all who have seen it. As in future this style of portraiture will be adopted by us, we recommend our friends to provide themselves with portfolios for the keeping of these portraits, which are supplied by Mr. B. Keeble, of Romford, Essex, particulars of which are announced in another column.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

The long peal of Canterbury Pleasure Major rung at Warnham on Friday, March 1st is we are informed, the longest peal ever rung in the county of Sussex, and the second peal of Major ever rung in the method. Great credit is due to our old and esteemed friend, Mr. H. Burstow, who rang the 7th in the peal. He is in his 63rd year. It was intended that he should sit in the ringing-chamber during the peal, but owing to a mistake in the arrangements one of the band did not get there. The conductor of the peal then invited him to make one of the band, and he did so. The treble-man was then found to be missing, and so another had to be found. One false start was made, but at 9.36 the bells were well off and everything went on capitally till 3.30, when a slight hitch occurred, which was however, soon rectified, and the welcome words, "that's all" were spoken at 5.21, every man appearing to have had enough. H. H. C.

ST. MARTIN'S, SALISBURY, WILTS.

On Wednesday, February 27th, the ringers at this church resolved to attempt to ring a peal in each of the four standard methods, viz.: Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob, and Stedman Triples, before Lent, and as there were only two evenings in which peals could be attempted in the tower, viz.: Wednesday, February 27th, and Saturday, March 2nd, two of the peals could only be attempted on handbells; so, on Wednesday, 27th February, a peal of Stedman Triples was started for in the tower, but was lost after ringing 4116 changes. On Thursday, 28th February, Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples was successfully brought round on handbells, in 2 hrs. and 22 mins. On Friday, 1st March, Mr. York Green's peal of Bob Major, 5152, was likewise brought round in 2 hrs. and 30 mins., and on Saturday, 2nd March, Brook's 5040 Stedman Triples was successfully accomplished in the tower in 3 hrs. and 4 mins., thus making three out of four of the standard methods in three days. This may not seem of much importance to some after the extraordinary performances which have lately appeared, viz., nine peals in "cramp" methods in five days, still, for a place like Salisbury, where change-ringing was unknown a few years ago, it is no doubt worthy of note.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.—The next ringing meeting of this branch will take place at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday, March 9th. Bells ready at 2.30; meeting in the school at 6.30. J. T. STOTT, *Local Sec.*

ROCHDALE BRANCH.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at St. James's church, Milnrow, on Saturday, March 9th. Bells ready at 3 p.m., meeting at 5 p.m. in the schools.

FRANK BIRTWISTLE, *Branch Sec.*

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The Sixth Annual Report, with performances, balance-sheet, and list of members, is now ready for distribution, at the price of 2d. each to ringing members whose subscriptions are paid up. As this is not more than half cost price, it is hoped that a large number will be sold. Members requiring copies will please communicate with their local secretaries. Single copies sent by post for 2½d., on application to

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Wykeham House, Bedford Park, Croydon.

THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

It may be interesting to some of the readers of this paper to know that the ringers of North Notts. formed an Association a short time ago, and a meeting was held at Retford, on Saturday, March 2nd, when the following members were present: G. Brown, C. Lindley, J. Swindin, F. Durdy, J. Holgate and G. Stevenson from Everton; R. Beeston, G. Barrowcliffe, and F. Watkinson from Worksop; W. Hargreaves, D. Russon, E. Russon, and S. Tomlinson from Shireoaks; J. Briggs, S. Hunt, G. Skelton, W. Drake, R. Potter, W. Kipling, N. G. Hunt, H. Haigh, J. W. Clark, W. Skelton, H. Warburton, and F. Mackie from Retford. Ringing commenced at St. Michael's church at 2.30, and was kept up until 8.30, the most creditable performances being a 720 of Violet Treble Bob, and two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, by the following: S. Tomlinson, 1; D. Russon, 2; C. Russon, 3; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 4; G. Barrowcliffe, 5; R. Beeston, 6. This was a 720 of Oxford. The next 720 was rang by the following, and was a 720 of Violet. C. Lindley, 1; F. Durdy (conductor), 2; J. Holgate, 3; J. Swindin, 4; G. Stevenson, 5; G. Brown, 6. The time of each 720 was 25 mins. The bells of St. Swithin's did not commence to ring until four o'clock, when a good-struck touch of Grandsire Triples, 504 changes, was brought round by H. Warburton, 1; W. Skelton, 2; W. Kipling, 3; W. Drake (conductor), 4; N. G. Hunt, 5; J. W. Clark, 6; H. Haigh, 7; R. Beeston, 8. Tenor 25½ cwt. At 5 o'clock a move was made for the "Newcastle Arms," where Host Tallents, having everything ready, a company of twenty-six rang a good peal with knives and forks, in forty minutes, viz., a meat tea. The bobs, dodges and singles made in this peal are too numerous to mention, and was conducted by the Rev. Watkin Homfray, in grand style. After tea was over the chairman addressed the ringers, and in the course of his remarks said he was pleased to see such a gathering as this, and to know that mirth, harmony, and goodwill existed amongst them, and that scientific change-ringing had been taken up by the ringers in the way it should be, during the last few years. He remembered the time when many evil things were done in belfries, and ringers were looked upon as a low class of men, but he was pleased to say that the contrary was now the case, and amongst them was the most respectable and intelligent of men, and they were still improving. He considered that ringers ought fully to realise the dignity of their work. That their ringing was part of God's worship, and he hoped they carried that motive into it, and he believed in forming this Association that they played a very important part. The bells and the tower were to the people generally what the preacher and the pulpit were to the congregation; they taught lessons of Christian love and sympathy, and warned the people to meet their God; and whenever the ringers were ringing on joyful or sorrowful occasions he hoped they would remember the belfry in which they rang was as much the sacred part of God's edifice as the interior below. With reference to the band of ringers at Blythe, he wished to say he had had an interview with the Rev. Canon Gray, when he pointed out the objects and importance of his ringers becoming members of the Association. He could not say definitely whether they would join, but believed they would, and he thought all those present were members; if not he hoped they would be. In conclusion he hoped by unity and perseverance the objects of the North Notts. Association would flourish in the future as well as it was doing at the present time.

Mr. Haigh, in reply to the chairman, said he had great pleasure in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. Canon Ebsworth and the Rev. Watkin Homfray, for placing the bells at their disposal. He was also pleased to say it was by the latter gentleman's kindness that had been the means of bringing about such a successful gathering. Speaking for himself, he thought such meetings as these was the one good road to friendliness and goodfellowship amongst ringers, and he hoped to have similar gatherings, and to be spared to meet the same familiar faces as those gathered around him. In conclusion, he wished the Association every success.

The Chairman, in response, said he should only be too pleased to grant any branch of the Association the use of the bells, but it must be understood that when the bells were kept going until a late hour the public made complaints.

Mr. R. Beeston proposed, and Mr. H. Haigh seconded that a

vote of thanks be given to the chairman for presiding and providing such an excellent repast, which was carried unanimously.

The tower was then made for, and the bells set swinging to the tune of Oxford Treble Bob, and in 25 mins. the last 720 was brought round by the following: H. Haigh, 1; F. Durdy, 2; J. Swindin (conductor), 3; J. Swindin, 4; G. Stevenson, 5; F. Mackie, 6. The ringers afterwards adjourned to the "Newcastle Arms," to arrange where the next meeting was to be held. Mr. W. Skelton proposed, and Mr. Hargreaves seconded that the next meeting be held at Everton, on Easter Monday, which was carried by twelve votes to eight.

Mr. H. Haigh next proposed "The Health of the Visitors."

After some capital songs by H. Haigh, junr., Durdy, J. M. Clark, and others, a thoroughly pleasant and enjoyable evening was brought to a close by singing the "National Anthem."

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION—DISTRICT MEETING AT ANGMERING.

A well-attended and successful meeting, being the second for the year 1889, was held on Saturday, February 23rd, at Angmering, a village in West Sussex, containing an ancient parish church, with a musical ring of six bells, cast in the year 1782, with a tenor 12 cwt. in F. Members began to arrive early from various parts of the county, and when dinner-time was announced, representatives were present from the following branches:—Angmering, Arundel, Brighton St. Nicholas and St. Peter's, Fittleworth, Goring, Heene, Midhurst, and Seaford. The Rector of Angmering (Rev. J. B. Orme) presided at the luncheon, which was held at the Lamb Hotel, as also at the business meeting which followed, and was supported by the Rev. H. A. Spyers, of Purbrook, and Rev. R. F. Tompkins, of Torington. Six additional active members (two to the Brighton St. Peter's branch, and four to the Eastbourne, Christ Church branch) were elected. Midhurst and Gorin were suggested as suitable places for holding the next six-bell meeting at, in West Sussex, the former being selected on being put to the vote. The Hon. Secretary then stated that business engagements would prevent his accepting the kind invitation of A. P. Heywood, Esq., to attend the Johnson Celebration at Birmingham. The question of the association sending a delegate was discussed, and it was unanimously resolved, upon the motion of Mr. Hills (Angmering), seconded by Mr. Tribe (Midhurst), that Mr. J. Searle should attend at Birmingham on the Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, as a delegate from the Sussex County Association; that all expenses incurred thereby be defrayed by the association. The district meeting at Bolney (8 bell West), was fixed for Saturday, July 6th, and a vote of thanks was given to the Rector of Angmering for presiding, and for kindly arranging a special service, with address, which was held during the afternoon in the parish church. The ringing included the following 720's, besides numerous touches, with which the bells were kept in motion from 9 a.m. till 9 p.m., with the exception of those times when the members were occupied with the before-mentioned engagements:—a 720 of Bob Minor, in 23 mins. Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 1; C. Tribe, 2; C. Clear, 3; G. Batts, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. A 720 of Yorkshire Court, in 25 mins. E. Parsons, 1; J. Hills, 2; T. Lindfield, 3; T. Parsons, 4; C. Clear, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6; and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Jay, 1; G. Batts, 2; C. Tribe, 3; G. F. Attree, 4; J. Searle (conductor), 5; C. Hills (his first in the method), 6. A band visited Arundel in the evening, and attempted a peal of Union Triples which, unfortunately came to grief, after which a 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung. W. Short, 1; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 2; H. Miles, 3; F. Luxford, 4; J. Searle, 5; C. Blackman, 6; J. Jay, 7; W. Twigg, 8. The following are the fixtures as at present arranged:—April 22nd, Chailey (six-bell tower), East Sussex; June 10th, Brighton (annual general meeting, eight-bell tower), central; July 6th, Bolney (eight-bell tower), West Sussex; August (date not fixed), Eastbourne (eight-bell tower), East Sussex; September (date not fixed), Midhurst (six-bell tower), West Sussex.

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

JAS. E. WORSSELL, *Assist. Hon. Sec.*

FOR SALE.—A Good Musical Box, cost £21 new. Plays six well-known sacred tunes, with an organ accompaniment. Just been thoroughly done up. Price £8. R. Elliott, Springfield Road, Walthamstow.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

5040.

752634 ¹	453276 ¹	476253 ¹	756324 ²	536247 ⁵
657423 ⁵	254637 ⁵	274365 ⁵	437256 ¹	235764 ⁵
236745 ²	372465 ²	372546 ⁵	234675 ⁵	472635 ¹
642357 ³	473526 ⁵	573624 ⁵	632547 ⁵	354267 ²
736542 ¹	574632 ⁵	735624 ⁴	756432 ¹	673425 ²
537264 ⁵	435726 ³	247563 ²	457263 ⁵	476532 ⁵
375264 ⁴	674235 ¹	352647 ¹	634725 ²	254376 ¹
273456 ⁵	746235 ⁴	473265 ²	256473 ²	542376 ⁴
642573 ¹	637452 ³	274536 ⁵	452367 ⁵	345627 ⁵
546327 ⁵	246537 ¹	572643 ⁵	734652 ¹	643752 ⁵
345762 ⁵	372654 ²	675324 ⁵	347652 ⁴	276543 ¹
743256 ⁵	253746 ³	436275 ¹	473652 ⁴	432657 ²
357462 ³	532746 ⁴	754623 ²	354726 ³	574263 ²
243657 ¹	675432 ¹	657342 ⁵	753642 ⁵	275346 ⁵
572364 ²	536724 ³	746523 ³	657234 ⁵	542763 ³
435672 ¹	475236 ¹	547362 ⁵	346725 ²	745326 ⁵
634257 ⁵	274653 ⁵	345276 ⁵	743562 ⁵	637245 ¹
456372 ³	532467 ²	573462 ³	547236 ⁵	236574 ⁵
674523 ³	675243 ²	245673 ¹	735462 ³	452736 ¹
356274 ¹	276354 ⁵	732564 ²	247635 ¹	s 324567 ³
253467 ⁵	652743 ³	537426 ⁵	732456 ³	753624 ¹
672345 ²	376452 ¹	375426 ⁴	437625 ⁵	467253 ¹
376524 ⁵	653724 ³	643275 ¹	634572 ⁵	s 234567 ¹

In laying the accompanying peal of Grandsire Triples before the Exercise, I do not wish to lay claim to any originality in the matter, but state simply that it is a variation of Holt's Original, obtained by cutting out 35 bobs. This process is performed in the manner indicated by Mr. W. H. Thompson in the end of his "Note on Grandsire Triples," by plaining the seven Q sets, of which the following are members, one of each, viz. :—

2 7 4 3 6 5	Since each Q set consists of five members,
2 7 6 3 5 4	the whole number of
2 6 5 4 3 7	bobs eliminated is 35,
2 3 6 4 5 7	and the number of calls
2 5 6 4 7 3	is reduced from 150 to
2 6 3 5 4 7	115.
2 3 4 7 5 6	

While working at this it was suggested to me that I should endeavour to discover the exact relation (if any) subsisting between Holt's Original and Mr. Penning's one-part peal. At first sight there did not appear to be much similarity, as changes occur at bobs in Mr. Penning's which turn up at plain leads in Holt's, as e.g. tittums (in the peal on page 101 of "Grandsire"). However, it will be found, by any one who takes the trouble to try it, that this peal may be obtained from Holt's Original by a three-fold variation, in the following manner.

(1). Plain these two Q sets following :—

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

That is, let each of these treble leads be followed by a plain lead instead of a bob (as in the original). This cuts up the peal into ten pieces, which come together in a new order, and further note that rounds now turns up at a plain lead instead of a bob.

(2). Shift the singles to a new place.

The B block tacked on to the peal by the singles consists of the following in-course treble leads :—

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

and it is obvious that there might be three places in the peal where they could be introduced, viz. : by calling a single where a bob would produce 234567, as in the original, or where a bob would produce 647253, or again, 573624. Now the last of these changes does occur at a bob in the original, and this is

the place to which they must be shifted. The effect, then, is this, which shows that the same changes are introduced in this way, as by calling the singles at the end.

Backstroke.	Handstroke.
S 7 5 3 6 2 4	7 5 6 3 4 2
- 4 6 7 2 5 3	6 4 2 7 3 5
- 3 2 4 5 6 7	2 3 5 4 7 6
S 5 7 3 6 2 4	5 7 6 3 4 2

(3). Now transpose the whole peal by commencing the calling after the singles, which throws them back into the original form at the end of the peal, and Mr. Penning's peal on page 101 of "Grandsire" is obtained. By operating on this last peal in a somewhat similar manner, we may obtain the next peal, that on page 103.

(1). Plain these two Q sets :—

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

It will be noticed that the effect of plaining the second set is to bring up rounds at a plain lead, and that the first one causes the incorporation of the B block into the bulk of the peal; and, at the same time, causes the omission from it of the P block, beginning with 3 4 5 2 7 6.

(2). Introduce this P block into the peal by a plain-lead single at 3, after the bob 3 7 5 6 4 2, followed by another plain-lead single at 5, which brings up 3 4 2 5 6 7.

(3). Commence the calling from this last change.

The peal on page 104, containing 160 calls, may also be obtained from Holt's Original by reversing the calling, bobbing two Q sets, and transposing as before.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER.

"AND THE WISE MEN CAME FROM THE EAST."

Our contemporary, the *South West Suffolk Echo*, seems to be trying to trench upon our own particular domain. In its issue of the 2nd instant it gives a paragraph concerning a muffled peal rung at Foxearth: "On the 21st instant a muffled peal was rung on the tower of St. Peter and St. Paul's Church, on the occasion of the funeral of one of the oldest campanologists in this village, Chas. Lee, who died in the 58th year of his age. The details of the science of bell ringing is not of any public interest. The number of changes got through in a specified time being merely in accordance with practice and muscular strength. The Poland-street handbell ringers, with their properly toned bells, are real professional players, the same as the celebrated Walford Family, and if they should visit this neighbourhood will certainly surprise the local campanologists by the music of their bells. The playing of national airs being far in advance of mere change ringing, which is but the elements of the art."

Now, the writer of the above lines is evidently a modest genius who is hiding his very shining light under a bushel. Ever since we started this modest sheet in the interests of the science and art of Bellringing, we have been heavily handicapped for the want of just such a gentleman as this on our permanent staff. Such a profound knowledge of the beauties, to say nothing of the intricacies and vast capabilities of the science of computations, is very rarely evinced more than in one or two instances in a generation. This gentleman is evidently the one of the present age; let not, therefore, any feelings of false modesty prevent him from calling at our office and claiming the post which has been awaiting him so long. Our circulation is, alas! but small, and our name is neither Levy-Lawson or Gordon Bennett, but if a modest £500 a year will content him, we should consider him very cheap at the price.

A correspondent writing under the *nom de plume* of "College Youth," says: "In your issue of March 2nd, I see the College Youths rang a peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, called by F. E. Dawe, with a foot-note stating it's the first peal he's called in the City of London, and also informing the public that he has accomplished the feat of ringing every bell round in a peal of twelve. He could not have done this performance if every ringer had the ambition to do the same thing. The Salisbury Family have produced three Prime Ministers of England from the reign of Queen Elizabeth, but they never put it to music."

SALISBURY.—Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, February 25th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. S. Wise, 1-2; W. W. Gifford, 3-4; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 5-6.

A WEEK'S RINGING IN THE EASTERN COUNTIES.

ON Monday, February 25th, the Rev. F. E. Robinson and Mr. Washbrook, on the invitation of the Rev. J. F. Hastings, curate of Great Yarmouth, paid a visit to the Eastern Counties. At 5.30 p.m. they were met in the belfry of Chelmsford by eight members of the Essex Association, and with them rang Mr. Cox's 5021 of Grandsire Caters. They were kindly housed by the Rev. T. L. Papillon, of Writtle, and joined him early in the morning in a peal of Bob Major on his bells. After rest and refecting they proceeded to Ipswich, and had the pleasure of greeting the well-known and accomplished band of the Tower church. Some excellent Stedman Cinques were discoursed for upwards of an hour, when one of the larger bells suddenly left the track, causing an awkward gap in 4-5, one of the men having (as he said) to dodge in a "hoole" there, and producing general confusion and collapse; the rest of the evening being occupied with Double Norwich Royal, a specialite of the company. An early start was made on the 27th, Diss being reached at 8.5 a.m. After breakfast, kindly provided by the Curate, and a period of waiting for No. 8, a 5184 of Oxford Treble Bob was pulled off with ease and precision. After a hasty repast, the travellers proceeded by the 3.9 train to Norwich, where they were welcomed by the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, who kindly provided hospitality for them. The lower ten of St. Peter's were ere long giving forth their glorious tones according to the method of Kent Royal, and a peal for a long time seemed a certainty; but alas! after three hours of good ringing, one or two of the smaller bells differed as to the order of their precedence, eliciting from the conductor the baneful word "stand," instead of the last bob but one at W. A real disappointment! inside the tower and out, amongst the audience—then, for consolation, a course of Grandsire Cinques.

Thursday, February 28th, an eventful day at Birmingham, was a busy one for the Oxonians; "book to Harleston, where the Captain will meet you" was the order given. And true to his promise the gallant Captain was there sure enough with a carriage and pair, *en route* for Redenhall. After admiring the stately tower there for a short time, the visitors essayed a peal of Double Norwich with a mixed band from Norwich, etc., which was accomplished in due course, the Captain being stationed at his old favourite—the tenor. Trains being few on the Waveney valley line, Bungay had to be reached by road, and its pretty little ring of eight were soon swinging merrily to the tune of Stedman Triples. Failure in this method is almost impossible with Mr. Washbrook at the helm, and on this occasion the seven at Bungay had to go through all their possible revolutions. Then tea at the Vicarage, and a drive to Beccles, and train to Yarmouth station, where Mr. Hastings rejoined his brethren. Friday morning was spent in looking at the various points of interest in the church and town, but at 4.30 the belfry was the rendezvous, and our old friend, Grandsire Caters, the method employed—a well-struck 5093, bringing out very completely the exquisite harmony of this beautiful ring of ten. "We must try for a peal of Stedman on them before we leave;" so the belfry was re-visited early in the morning of Saturday, March 2, and Thurstans' peal began. The prospect of a peal was first fair, then good; but, in the 36th course, one of the larger bells could not be induced to conform to the rules of the method, and failure was the result. The visitors desire to thank Mr. Hastings very specially for his excellent arrangements and kind hospitality, and the various ringers who were so good as to meet them at the several towers. Their object in these towers is to please others as well as themselves, and (as far as they can) to help their brethren to make progress in their art.

F. E. R.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.—The next meeting of this branch will be held on Saturday, March 16th, at Holy Trinity Church, Stretford Road, Manchester. Ringing to commence at 4 o'clock; meeting at 7 o'clock.

JOHN EACHUS, *Branch Sec.*
3, Hayden Street, Queen's Road, Manchester.

ST. JOHN'S, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

On Sunday morning, the 3rd instant, the bells were rung at the above church by six of the ringers, and they succeeded, after several futile attempts, in ringing four "peals" of that intricate method known as "Bob Doubles." The striking was certainly below the average, but considering the fact that the ringers only learned to pull a bell about ten years ago, this may be considered by the Exercise as very satisfactory.

The conductors of the above wonderful peals, by a judicious and skilful manipulation of the calling, brought out the full beauty of the method in a manner worthy of our greatest composers, and too much praise cannot be given to the ringer of the treble: the manner in which he manipulated his bell and guided it through the maze of changes is beyond the power of pen to describe; it called for general admiration, and it was particularly noticed that it did not drop more than 100 times during the ringing. The skilful manner in which this gentleman handles his bell is only equalled, in fact, by the precision with which he plays on that sweet and melodious instrument—the bassoon.

Not the least feature of the morning's performance was the manner in which the respective peals were covered. Even greater things are expected from this promising band.

W. GEE HARR.

SEFTON PARISH CHURCH BELFRY.

On Monday evening, the 25th inst., the Rev. Donald Jones, accompanied by ten ringers from Aughton, and by Mr. John R. Pritchard (of St. Luke's belfry, Liverpool), Hon. Sec. of the district branch of the Lancashire Association of change-ringers, paid a visit to this belfry where they were received by the churchwardens and the ringers. Several short peals were rung, after which an adjournment was made to the schoolroom where tea and other refreshments were dispensed by ladies connected with the congregation. Several changes illustrating different methods were rung on the handbells, and after a few remarks as to the pleasure afforded to all present, the proceedings were brought to a close.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, LONDON.

ON and after March 18th, 1889, the business meeting of this Society will be held after the ringing at St. Clement's at the "Essex Head," Essex Street, Strand. Members are requested to attend the next meeting. G. T. McLAUGHLIN, *Hon. Sec.*

Obituary.

GEORGE PARSONS.

We regret to announce the death of the above-named ringer, who expired on Sunday, February 24th, at Pangbourne, Berks, at the good old age of seventy-four. The interment took place on Wednesday, February 27th, the Rev. Robt. Finch, rector, officiating. Several nice wreaths were offered by relatives and friends, and a specially good one from the ringers, who took part in the procession as it neared the grave. The deceased was born at Pangbourne, and lived quite close to the church. The usual whole pull and stand, with the tenor then alone, was rung seventy-four times before the service, with the bells deeply muffled, and as the procession left the churchyard, a 360 of Grandsire Doubles was rung very slow.

THOMAS DAY.

The above ringer who was a member of the Ely company, died a few days ago, and was buried in Ely Cemetery on Friday, March 1st. The Burial Office was said by the Rev. K. H. Smith, and at the conclusion of the service a short touch was rung by the ringers of St. Mary's church on the handbells. Afterwards the ringers proceeded to the tower and rang a dumb peal, and again in the evening, with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect and esteem for their departed comrade. Mr. Day was universally respected, and has died in his sixty-eighth year with an unsullied character. As he came in, so he went out; and if a steady and consistent life is to meet with reward, no doubt our departed friend's future will be a happy recognition of his humble unassuming Christian life.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. George Newson has removed to 31 Oak Village, N.W.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1889.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—LONDON.

On Saturday, March 2, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES, CRIPPLEGATE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	HENRY SWAIN 7.
BENJAMIN FOSKETT 2.	*WILLIAM W. THORNE .. 8.
HENRY DAINS 3.	HARRY RANDALL 9.
JOHN ROGERS 4.	HENRY HOPKINS 10.
ARTHUR JACOB 5.	WILLIAM BARON 11.
JAMES HANNINGTON 6.	JOSEPH BARRY Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

*First peal of Stedman Cinques.

FULHAM.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE ALL SAINTS SOCIETY.

On Saturday, March 2, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

FREDERICK W. KELLEY .. Treble.	WILLIAM CARTER 5.
NORMAN E. SNOW* 2.	WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. 6.
JOHN W. KELLEY 3.	JAMES W. DRIVER 7.
FRANK DAVEY 4.	SAMUEL HOW Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN W. KELLEY.

*First peal. Rung in honour of the conductor's birthday.

SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX. THE ALL HALLOWS (TOTTENHAM) SOCIETY, AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 4, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HUBBARD'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 25 cwt.

H. A. BARNETT Treble.	J. WAGHORN, SEN. 5.
T. C. GROVE 3.	*J. BARBER 6.
G. B. LUCAS 4.	J. WAGHORN, JUN. 7.
	W. PYE-ENGLISH Tenor.

Conducted by H. A. BARNETT.

*First peal with a bob bell. It was arranged to meet for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, but as one of the band did not arrive in time, a start was made for the above. This is the first peal of Bob Triples on the bells.

The Provinces.

ABINGDON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, February 28, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART.

W. H. ADKINS Treble.	E. HUMFREY 5.
E. ALDWORTH 2.	*T. SHORT 6.
A. BURGESS 3.	H. HUMFREY 7.
A. J. KIMBREY 4.	W. CARTER Tenor.

Conducted by T. SHORT.

*First peal as conductor. The above is taken from the *Clavis*, and is the first peal ever rung in Abingdon by a local band.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ASHBY PARISH CHURCH SOCIETY.

On Thursday, February 28, 1889, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 23 lbs. in Eb.

WILLIAM LIGGINGS Treble.	WILLIAM OWEN 5.
HERBERT CANNER 2.	JOHN H. DUNMORE 6.
THOMAS JACQUES 3.	WALTER CANNER 7.
JAMES HOPKINS 4.	*GEORGE THORNLEY Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER CANNER.

*First peal.

CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 25, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt.

ARTHUR EDWARDS Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 6.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 2.	WILLIAM HAWKES 7.
WILLIAM ROWLAND 4.	REV. T. L. PAPILLON .. 8.
ALFRED TARBUN 4.	WILLIAM LINCOLN 9.
REV. J. F. HASTINGS .. 5.	WILLIAM J. PIPER Tenor.

Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

The Rev. J. F. Hastings, of Great Yarmouth, was elected a member of the Essex Association before starting for the peal.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 26, 1889, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

RICHARD C. BURRELL .. Treble.	WILLIAM LINCOLN 5.
REV. J. F. HASTINGS .. 2.	REV. T. L. PAPILLON .. 6.
ARTHUR EDWARDS 3.	*REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
FREDERICK RADLEY* .. 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Tenor.

Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal in the method.

DISS, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 27, 1889, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

J. W. WASHBROOK* .. Treble.	*REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
FRED DAY 2.	ELLIS HAYWARD 6.
W. IRELAND 3.	ABEL HART 7.
W. SALTER† 4.	JOHN SOUTER Tenor.

Composed by T. LOCKWOOD, and Conducted by

J. W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal in the method *First peal.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 28, 1889, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

E. SMITH Treble.	FRED SMITH 5.
JOHN BENTLEY 2.	J. W. WASHBROOK 6.
F. KNIGHTS 3.	JAMES SOUTER 7.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 4.	CAPTAIN MOORE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by 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.

BUNGAY, SUFFOLK.

On Thursday, February 28, 1889, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor about 13 cwt.

E. SMITH	Treble.	F. KNIGHTS	5.
J. W. WASHBROOK	2.	JOHN SOUTER	6.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON	3.	†CAPTAIN MOORE	7.
A. WEBBER*	4.	*D. HAYWARD	Tenor.

Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal in the method. †First peal with a working bell. The above is the first peal in the method on the bells.

GREAT YARMOUTH, NORFOLK.

On Friday, March 1, 1889, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5093 CHANGES;

Tenor 31 cwt.

R. CHRISTIAN	Treble.	A. WEBBER	6.
D. HAYWARD	2.	R. T. TOOLEY	7.
W. BLYTH	3.	J. SKINNER	8.
MATTHEW LONG	4.	J. W. WASHBROOK	9.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON	5.	REV. J. F. HASTINGS	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY, AND THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 1, 1889, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE "CROWN INN," STAMFORD STREET, ASHTON,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES.

WILLIAM JAKEMAN	1-2.	HARRY HEAP	5-6.
GEORGE LONGDEN	3-4.	SAMUEL TAYLOR	7-8.
JOSEPH MELLOR		9-10.	

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by GEORGE LONGDEN.

Umpires—Messrs. Crabtree and Harrison. The above was the first peal in the method on handbells by all who rang in it, and also the first by the above Society and Association.

WARNHAM.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE WARNHAM BRANCH.)

On Friday, March 1, 1889, in Seven Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE MAJOR, 13,440 CHANGES.

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

Composed by A. KNIGHTS of Chesterfield, and Conducted by HENRY H. CHANDLER.

This peal was rung to commemorate the twenty-fifth birthday of Mr. Chandler, also the forty-first of Mr. Knights, whose was the day before. It was rung as a farewell peal to Mr. Harry Cook, who is leaving the neighbourhood. This is the longest peal ever rung in Sussex, and is the 200th peal by the Sussex County Association since its formation in January, 1885.

DEWSBURY.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 2, 1889, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

A. SPURR	Treble.	J. A. IDLE	5.
W. BIRCHAM	2.	W. DIXON	6.
W. AINLEY	3.	W. BYROM	7.
G. CRAWSHAW	4.	D. STEPHENSON	Tenor.

Composed by G. H. HARDY and Conducted by G. CRAWSHAW.

Messrs. Spurr, Bircham, Crawshaw, Dixon, and Stephenson hail from Ossett; Byrom from Earlsheaton; Ainsley and Idle belong to Dewsbury.

TUE BROOK, LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN BRANCH).

On Saturday, March 2, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION.

Tenor 20 cwt.

EDWARD COLEY*	Treble.	THOMAS HAMMOND	5.
JOHN ASPINWALL	2.	WILLIAM BOOTH	6.
JOHN R. PRITCHARD	3.	GEORGE FISHER	7.
HENRY COLEY	4.	*JAMES MARTIN	Tenor.

Composed by JOHN R. PRITCHARD and Conducted by

WILLIAM BOOTH.

*First peal.

ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 2, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being 720 each of the following:

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

Tenor 16 cwt. 14 lbs.

FREDERICK HANCOCK	Treble.	DAVID BREARLEY	4.
WILLIAM PRICE	2.	HERBERT MADIN	5.
EDWIN JAMES	3.	ARTHUR BREARLEY	Tenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR BREARLEY.

Messrs. Hancock, Price and James hail from Eckington; Messrs. Brearley from Sheffield; and Madin from Staveley.

WARNHAM.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE WARNHAM BRANCH.)

On Sunday, March 3, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Composed by WALTER CHARMAN and Conducted by THOMAS ANDREWS.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 4, 1889, 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.	CHARLES MEE	5-6.
THOMAS BLACKBOURN	3-4.	SAMUEL TILLET	7-8.

Composed by H. HUBBARD and Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

Umpire—Mr. Frederick Mee. Mr. T. Blackbourn hails from Salisbury.

STAPLEHURST.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 4, 1889, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 21½ cwt.

J. WOOLGAR	Treble.	H. G. POPE	5.
W. COLLISON*	2.	A. PALMER	6.
W. POPE	3.	†E. POPE	7.
W. E. POPE	4.	T. G. COLVIN	Tenor.

Conducted by E. POPE.

This is Messrs. Woolgar and Palmer's first peal. *First peal with a bob bell. †First peal as conductor.

SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 19, 1889, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICOLAS,
A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

JAMES S. WRIGHT* Treble.	GEORGE L. RICHARDSON .. 5.
GEORGE SKEEF† 2.	*RICHARD MACKMAN 6.
GEORGE LADD* 3.	*ROBERT JARVIS 7.
JOHN W. JARVIS* 4.	EDWIN JARVIS Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD MACKMAN.
*College Youths. †Cumberland Youths.

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

On Wednesday, February 27, 1889, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.
Tenor 17 cwt.

GEORGE DAWSON Treble.	GEORGE HINGLEY 5.
JOHN HOWE 2.	WILLIAM HICKLING 6.
SAMUEL JOHNSON 3.	BENJAMIN SUGDEN 7.
EVAN MORETON 4.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

In this peal, which is now rung for the first time and is the conductor's tooth, the 2nd and 3rd are never in 6ths place.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND
THE HERTS AND ESSEX ASSOCIATIONS.

On Thursday, February 28, 1889, in Two Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,
AT THE GEORGE STREET REFRESHMENT ROOMS,
ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

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

Conducted by GEORGE W. CARTMEL.
Umpire; Mr. J. W. Brewer.

GUISELEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 2, 1889, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 10½ cwt.

CHARLES RALPH Treble.	DAVID E. RHODES 5.
JOHN STRODDER 2.	JOSEPH YEADON 6.
HARRY DEMAINE 3.	LISTER CAWOOD 7.
SAMUEL BROWN 4.	JAMES BALDWIN Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by LISTER CAWOOD.

The peal which is in one part was rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect for Robert Tuke, Esq., late Treasurer of the Yorkshire Association. Ralph and Cawood hail from Otley; Strodder from Ripon; the rest belong to the local company.

BARKING, ESSEX.

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

On Saturday, March 2, 1889, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 22 cwt. in E.

HENRY SPRINGALL Treble.	YORK GREEN 5.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 2.	SAMUEL HAYES 6.
HENRY R. NEWTON 3.	JOHN M. HAYES 7.
SAMUEL E. JOYCE 4.	EDWARD A. DAVIES .. Tenor.

Conducted by J. M. HAYES.

Mr. Samuel Joyce was elected a member of the above Association previous to starting for the peal. This peal was rung to celebrate the completion of the tower repairs, also the recasting of the second bell.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, March 2, 1889, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ONE-COURSE.

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs.

JOHN CARTER Treble.	WILLIAM R. SMALL 5.
GEORGE WALKER* 2.	REUBEN HALL 6.
SAMUEL REEVES 3.	*CHARLES PRICE 7.
THOMAS HORTON 4.	JAMES HALL Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

*First peal in the method. This is the first peal of Stedman Triples on these bells, and was rung to celebrate the eightieth birthday of Mr. Henry Johnson, of Birmingham. Mr. J. Carter hails from Birmingham; G. Walker from Nottingham; the rest belong to the local band. Mr. G. Walker was elected a member of the above society previous to starting for the peal.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.—WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 2, 1889, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 22½ cwt.

T. H. COLBURN* Treble.	HENRY WHITE 5.
F. BENNETT* 2.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 6.
JOHN STAPLES 3.	*W. GROVES 7.
F. W. J. REES 4.	*C. W. MILLER Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal. This is the first peal in the method on the bells. Mr. Williams came over from Midhurst; Staples from Havant; White from Basingstoke; the rest are members of the local band.

SALISBURY, WILTS.

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

On Thursday, February 28, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. GIFFORD, DEVIZES ROAD, SALISBURY,
ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

WALTER S. WISE 1-2.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 5-6.
ARTHUR W. BARKUS .. 3-4.	HENRY D. ADAMS 7-8.

Conducted by WALTER S. WISE.

Umpire—Mr. W. E. Ramshaw. Rung to celebrate the 19th birthday of W. S. Wise.

SALISBURY, WILTS.

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

On Friday, March 1, 1889, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES.

ALFRED P. GODDARD* .. 1-2.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 5-6.
WALTER S. WISE 3-4.	HENRY D. ADAMS 7-8.

Composed by YORK GREEN, and Conducted by WILLIAM GIFFORD.

Umpire—Thomas Blackburn. *First peal on handbells.

SALISBURY, WILTS.

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

On Saturday, March 2, 1889, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 15 cwt.

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

Conducted by THOMAS BLACKBOURN.

*First peal in the method with a bob bell.

DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, March 2, 1889, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW LITCHURCH,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

WILLIAM SHARDLOW Treble.	ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 5.
JOHN W. THOMPSON 2.	HARRY C. WOODWARD .. 6.
GEORGE MOTTASHAW .. 3.	*CHARLES HART 7.
THOMAS ALTON 4.	CHARLES DRAPER Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES HART.

*First peal as conductor. Rung on the occasion of the opening service of the New Church of St. Dunstan's-by-the-Forge, Derby.

APPLETON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, March 4, 1889, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN C. TRUSS Treble.	JESSE AVERY 5.
WILLIAM BENNETT 2.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 6.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 3.	FREDERICK WHITE 7.
GEORGE HOLIFIELD 4.	RICHARD BENNETT Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

This is the quickest peal ever rang on the bells, and was exceedingly well struck.

APPLETON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, March 4, 1889, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5093 CHANGES.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN C. TRUSS Treble.	CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. 6.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 2.	JESSE AVERY 7.
GEORGE HOLIFIELD 3.	WILLIAM BENNETT 8.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 4.	HENRY TUBB 9.
FREDERICK WHITE 5.	RICHARD BENNETT Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

This is the first peal on ten bells by Messrs. Truss, Tubb, and R. Bennett. Mr. Truss belongs to Great Marlow, Bucks.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 4, 1889, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN MINOR METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following;

Duke of York, Woodbine, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire, Yorkshire Court, and Canterbury Pleasure.

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN SMART Treble.	CHARLES CHAMBERS .. 4.
THOMAS SEARLE 2.	GEORGE GATLAND 5.
JAMES WOOLGAR 3.	GEORGE SMART Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE SMART.

CAERLEON, NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

On Tuesday, March 5, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART (No. 1).

Tenor 7½ cwt.

R. LE VESCONTE Treble.	LOT STAFFORD 5.
HY. SHEARN 2.	JNO. W. JONES 6.
EVAN DAVIES 3.	FRANCIS E. WARD 7.
FRANK GREEN 4.	HAMILTON EVANS Tenor.

Conducted by F. E. WARD.

WARWICK.

On Friday, March 1, 1889, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES.

C. H. HATTERSLEY Treble.	H. BAKER 6.
A. H. BASSANO 2.	R. S. STOREY 7.
J. W. TAYLOR 3.	T. WILDE 8.
G. SEARLE 4.	T. MILLER 9.
J. W. CARTWRIGHT 5.	A. THOMAS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by C. H. HATTERSLEY.

The above peal was rung to commemorate the 80th birthday of Mr. H. Johnson, which was celebrated in Birmingham on February 28th, by a National Meeting of ringers. C. H. Hattersley hails from Sheffield; A. H. Bassano from Old Hill; J. W. Taylor from Loughborough; G. Searle from Brighton; J. W. Cartwright, Miller and Thomas from Birmingham; H. Baker from Hertford; R. T. Storey from Newcastle-on-Tyne and T. Wilde from Hyde.

GRIMSBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.—THE LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 4, 1889 (no time mentioned),

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

H. WOOD* Treble.	*W. H. HEYHOE 5.
C. JACKSON 2.	*G. WELDON 6.
A. BRAMALL† 3.	*D. SEAMER 7.
A. B. SHEPHERD* 4.	*J. LAMB Tenor.

Conducted by C. JACKSON.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. C. Jackson hails from Hull, the rest are local men. First peal in the method upon the bells.

Date Touches.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HEMPSTED.—On Wednesday, February 27th, at the parish church, with the bells half-muffled, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. A. Smart, 1; W. Dadge, 2; E. E. Bewick, 3; W. T. Pegler (conductor), 4; G. Taylor, 5; E. Davis, 6.

THE NORTH MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

FINCHLEY.—On Sunday morning, March 3rd, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 3 mins. W. Russell, 1; F. Sparks, 2; J. Cornell, 3; W. Webb, 4; T. Card (conductor), 5; W. Mulley, 6. The above is the longest length on the bells, also by the ringers.

HENDON.—On Sunday morning, March 3rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 12 mins., being eight 6-scores with extreme leads, the other plain, each called different. H. Martin (conductor), 1; J. Paradine, 2; C. Martin, 3; F. Pratt, 4; C. Crampton, 5; F. Kirby, 6. This is the longest touch ever rung by a local company.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

PUDSEY (Yorks).—On Sunday, March 3rd, for evening service, at the church of St. Lawrence, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1889 changes, in 1 hr. and 10 mins. S. Langstaff, 1; Henry Oddy, 2; Wm. Bolland, 3; J. A. Ross (composer), 4; J. Lilley, 5; S. Clark, 6; Geo. Bolland (conductor), 7; J. Haley, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

ST. MICHAEL'S SOCIETY, CHESTER.

On Tuesday evening, February 26th, at the parish church, on hand-bells, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 57 mins. Walter Cross, 1-2; Jas. Moulton (conductor), 3-4; Alfred Cross, 5-6; Wm. Povey, 7-8. Composed by Mr. J. Carter, of Birmingham. Umpire, Mr. H. Gibson.

MAISEMORE (Gloucestershire).—On Friday, March 1st, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 1 min. A. Price, 1; C. Powell, 2; B. Etheridge (conductor), 3; C. Etheridge, 4; W. Wickes, 5; W. Bankes, 6. Rung to commemorate the seventieth birthday of C. Etheridge, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

WICKHAM MARKET (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, February 24th, the local company met at All Saints' church and rang a date touch of 1889 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins., in the following methods: 714 Kent Treble Bob, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 360 College Single Bob, and 95 Plain Bob. J. Reeve, 1; G. Reeve, 2; W. Reeve, 3; F. Reeve, 4; E. Todd, 5; E. Sherwood (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP.—On Tuesday evening, February 26th, for practice at Christ Church, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 27 mins. A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; A. Chew, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MIDHURST (Sussex).—On Sunday, February 3rd, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. On Thursday, February 7th, for practice, 720 College Single. T. Ellis, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; W. H. George, 3; W. Court, 4; C. Tribe, 5; W. Selby, 6. First 720 by all and the first on the bells in the method. On Thursday, February 14th, 720 Kent Treble Bob, with W. Staples from Havant on the 4th. On Tuesday, February 19th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. On Thursday, February 21, 720 Kent Treble Bob. On Sunday, February 24th, for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob by the same band, conducted by G. Williams.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CRADLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, February 19th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Canterbury Pleasure Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. G. Dukes, 1; R. Beasley, 2; H. Woodhall, 3; C. Daniel, 4; H. Mason (composer and conductor), 5; C. Beasley, 6; J. Merideth, 7; G. Hatton, 8. First quarter-peal in the method by all and on the bells. G. Hatton hails from Lye; H. Mason from Old Hill.

HAGLEY (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, February 28th, for practice at the parish church, 768 Kent Treble Bob Major. H. Morris, 1; W. Short (conductor), 2; W. F. Hartshorne, 3; J. Smith, 4; C. Boughton, 5; A. Orford, 6; H. Harris, 7; H. Hartshorne, 8. Also a course of Oxford Treble Bob Major. W. Short, 1; H. Morris, 2; W. F. Hartshorne, 3; J. Smith, 4; C. Boughton, 5; A. Orford, 6; H. Harris, 7; H. Hartshorne, 8. And a course of Canterbury Pleasure Major. W. Short, 1; H. Morris, 2; W. F. Hartshorne, 3; J. Smith, 4; C. Boughton, 5; A. Orford, 6; H. Harris, 7; H. Hartshorne, 8. The Messrs. Hartshorne hail from Brierley Hill; Orford and Harris from Stourbridge; Short and Boughton from Clent; the rest are of the local company.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—On Wednesday, February 27th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. M. Shilcock, 1; W. Boughton, 2; G. Workman, 3; H. Morris, 4; W. Huxley, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. M. Shilcock, 1; W. Boughton, 2; G. Workman, 3; H. Morris, 4; J. Smith, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. And 720 College Single. M. Shilcock, 1; W. Boughton, 2; G. Workman, 3; H. Morris, 4; J. Smith, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LONG ASHTON (Somerset).—On Thursday, March 21st, six members of this Association rang at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 29 mins. This is the first 720 known to have been rung upon the bells, and it was conducted by the Master of the Association. C. Waters (Bristol), 1; C. Gordon (Bristol), 2; J. Davies (Bristol), 3; C. H. Tomkins (Bristol), 4; C. E. Boutflower, Esq. (Long Ashton), 5; Rev. H. A. Cockey (Bitton), 6. All the above are members of the Old St. James's Society, Bristol. Tenor 35½ cwt.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

TIVERTON.—On Wednesday, February 20th, for practice at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandeire Triples in 46 mins. *J. Hart, 1; E. Munday, 2; F. Taylor, 3; B. Grater, 4; W. Grater, 5; J. Grater, jun., 6; Jas. Babbage (conductor), 7; T. Harvey, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. *First quarter-peal.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

FOXEARH (Essex).—On Friday, February 22nd, at the parish church, on the occasion of the funeral of Charles Lee, one of the oldest ringers of the village, who died on Sunday, February 17th, in his fifty-eighth year, a 1056 of Bob Major was rung with the bells deeply muffled. Also 672 in the same method with the bells half-muffled. W. Gridley, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; S. Slater, 3; F. Wells, 4; O. Garwood, 5; R. Mingay, 6; G. Maxim (Cavendish), 7; G. Maxim (conductor), 8. *Handbell Ringing*.—A 720 of Bob Minor. S. Slater (conductor), 1; W. Gridley, 2; Geo. Maxim, 3; F. Wells, 4; O. Garwood, 5; D. Inch (first 720), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

NEWBURY (Berks).—On Sunday evening, February 24th, for Divine Service at St. Nicholas' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples,

in 49 mins. E. Stillman, 1; J. Powers, 2; C. Swain, 3; G. Batt, 4; D. Geater (conductor), 5; T. C. Couch, 6; J. Hussey, 7; R. Sawyer, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. This is the first quarter-peal accomplished entirely by this branch.

READING (Berks).—On Thursday, February 14th, at St. Giles' church, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. H. Smart, 1; J. F. Tarrant, 2; A. H. Evans, 3; J. Hands, 5; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor, in 26½ mins. H. Dibley, 1; H. Blissett, 2; J. Hands, 3; F. Hoggood, 4; C. Chapman, 5; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 6. On Thursday, February 21st, at St. Mary's parish church, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Brooker (first 500), 1; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 2; J. Swain, 3; F. Hoggood, 4; H. Blissett, 5; C. Chapman, 6; R. Swain, 7; T. Harvey, 8. On Friday, February 22nd, 546 Grandsire Triples. A. Whatmore, 1; F. Hoggood, 2; J. Swain, 3; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 4; C. Chapman, 5; H. Blissett, 6; W. Newell, 7; W. Brooker, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. (4th omitted in first 720.—Ed.)

WHITCHURCH (Oxon).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Thursday, February 28th, a touch of Grandsire Minor. W. Lawrence, 1-2; J. W. Washbrook, 3-4-5-6. And 120 Stedman Doubles. J. W. Washbrook, 1-2-3-4; W. Lawrence, 5-6. Also 720 Bob Minor. *T. Pocock, 1; *W. Pocock, 2; W. Lawrence (conductor), 3; *C. Pocock, 4; J. W. Washbrook, 5; *C. Bushnell, 6. *First 720 in the method. And on Sunday evening, March 3rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, 360 Bob Minor (nine bobs). J. Nicholls, 1; T. Pocock, 2. This was T. Pocock's first attempt with a bob bell.

STREATLEY (Berks).—On Tuesday evening, February 26th, the Whitchurch band paid a visit to the above place to have a pull on the bells of St. Mary-the-Virgin, and amongst other touches a 720 of Bob Minor was started for, but on the 56th change being reached, the tenor cast her rope. Afterwards touches were rung with some of the Goring men, and one of the Streatley band, viz., Herbert Mundy, rang his first 6-score of Grandsire Doubles.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Saturday, February 23rd, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples by six visiting ringers and two local men, but failed after about 1300 had been rung, in 48 mins. T. Clark (conductor), 1; C. L. Routledge (Newcastle), 2; A. Ingleby, 3; —Pratt, 4; R. S. Story (Newcastle), 5; A. H. Clark, 6; —Flowers, 7; —Metcalfe, 8. The rest of the evening was pleasantly spent in practising Duffield Major. On Monday, February 25th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. H. Ferguson, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; S. Power, 3; J. Simm, 4; W. Egglestone, 5; E. Wallis (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

AYLESFORD, NEAR MAIDSTONE (Kent).—On Saturday, February 23rd, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 43 mins. H. Pearce, 1; T. Durban, 2; A. Moorcraft, 3; T. Mannering, 5; J. Gransbury, 5; A. H. Woolly, 6; *E. Price (conductor), 7; W. Harris, 8. *First quarter-peal as conductor. Also 559 Grandsire Triples. H. Pearce (conductor), 1; E. Price, 2; T. Mannering, 3; W. Wilson, 4; J. Gransbury, 5; A. H. Woolley, 6; A. Moorcraft, 7; J. Mitchell, 8. Messrs. Pearce, Woolley, Moorcraft, Gransbury and Mannering hail from Maidstone; Price, Durban, Harris, Mitchell and Wilson, from Aylesford.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Tuesday evening, February 19th, for practice at St. Margaret's church, 720 Treble Bob, in 25 mins. G. Rayner, 1; A. Ring, 2; G. Chantler, 3; J. Rayner (first 720 of Kent), 4; W. Baker, 5; G. Lindoff (conductor), 6.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

STOW (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, February 2nd, a company from Gainsboro visited the above place, and rang at St. Mary's church 720 Grandsire Minor in 25½ mins. W. W. Bust, 1; W. D. Tinker (conductor), 2; F. F. Linley, Esq., 3; W. Pattison, 4; C. Brewin, 5; F. W. Atkinson, 6. Tenor 10½ cwt. The bells have recently been rehung and augmented to six, and are an excellent peal, and this is the first 720 on them.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, February 24th, for Divine Service a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins., with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Samuel Clarke, who was a member of the above company. R. Hickton, 1; A. Widdowson, 2; G. Bradley, 3; J. C. Dicken, 4; W. Gilson, 5; J. Ward, 6; J. Barrow (conductor), 7; T. Wragg, 8.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Thursday, February 21st, at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). T.

Verrall, 1; *G. Burt, 2; †W. C. Palmer, 3; R. E. Pearson, 4; A. Bruce, 5; H. Brooker (conductor). 6; †F. G. Hermon, 7; †A. E. Collins, 8. †First quarter-peal. *First quarter-peal with a bob bell. Rung to celebrate the seventy-second birthday of Mr. T. Shonfeld, an old and esteemed friend of the St. Peter's society.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Monday, February 25th, in the belfry of St. Peter's church, 120 Stedman Doubles. H. Lewis, 1; E. P. Debenham, 2; H. Brewer, 3; J. W. Brewer, 4; T. Waller, 5-6. Also some plain courses of Stedman Triples. H. Lewis, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; H. Brewer, 5; J. W. Brewer, 6; T. Waller, 7-8.

THE HORNSEY GUILD.

HORNSEY.—On Thursday, February 14th, at the parish church, 720 Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. W. Dixon (first 720), 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; T. Titchener, 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Barber, 5; G. Griffin, 6. And 720 Plain Bob Minor (twenty bobs and ten singles), in 26½ mins. G. Griffin, 1; J. Barber, 2; W. Dixon, 3; A. Howell, 4; T. Titchener, 5; J. Hannington, 6. Also on Thursday, February 28th, 720 Plain Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and four singles), in 26 mins. J. Ward, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; W. Dixon, 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Barber, 5; G. Griffin, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

TERRINGTON.—The recent ringing at St. Clement's church has comprised the following 720's, viz.:—December 18th, December 22nd, two on Sunday, December 23rd, December 31st, 1888, 19th and 22nd January, 1889, by the following members: Dr. Seccombe, J. Wright, Robt. Howling, F. Easton, W. Mallett, Jno. Green, and J. Herring.

TILNEY (Norfolk).—On Monday, January 14th, at All Saints church, the Terrington company rang 720 Bob Minor. A young company has been under training for some weeks under the care of Dr. Seccombe, and as they have already mastered the plain course and several bobs, they hope soon to record a 720; they will then join the above Guild.

WALPOLE (Norfolk). At St. Peter's church on Thursday, February 21st, 720 Grandsire Minor and 720 Oxford Treble Bob were rung on the steeple bells, and three courses of Grandsire Triples on the handbells by H. Merrishaw, W. Day, H. Hill, H. Allen, Dr. Seccombe, J. Brett, and W. Wright.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ASPLEY GUISE (Beds).—On Saturday, March 2nd, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. W. Smith, 1; Chas. Herbert, 2; *Cyril Herbert (Woburn), 3; W. Mynard, 4; M. Lane (conductor), 5; Rev. W. W. C. Baker (Milton Bryant), 6. *First 720, and first time of attempting. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Smith, 1; Chas. Herbert, 2; W. Mynard, 3; E. Lewin, 4; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 5; M. Lane (conductor), 6.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Sunday, January 20th, for Divine Service in the afternoon at St. Michael's church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. After service 720 Plain Bob Minor, conducted by R. Hutton. Also on Wednesday, February 23rd, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob, and 720 Plain Bob Minor, conducted by R. Hutton. On Tuesday, January 29th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob, conducted by R. Hutton. On Saturday, February 16th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob, conducted by R. Hutton. Also 720 Plain Bob Minor, conducted by J. Hinchley. The following took part in the ringing: R. Hutton, G. Smith, sen., J. Hilling, A. Dunnett, G. Smith, jun., J. Hinchley, J. Fox, J. Cullum, R. Ackins, E. Coleman, G. Websdell.

DERBY.—On Thursday, February 21st, at St. Andrew's, Litchurch, a touch of Oxford Bob Triples. W. Shardlow, 1; H. C. Woodward, 2; G. Mottashaw, 3; T. Alton, 4; A. Thompson, 5; J. Thompson, 6; C. Hart (conductor), 7; C. Draper, 8. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to Mr. S. Clarke (Long Eaton), and Mr. J. Beresford (Derby), both members of the Midland Counties' Association.

FRAMLINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, February 26th, at the house of James Heffer, sen., Woodbridge Road, on handbells, retained in hand, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 19 mins., and 720 Single Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 13 mins. J. Heffer, 1-2; J. Heffer, sen., 3-4; W. Flory (conductor), 5-6. Tenor 16 size in B.

HACKNEY (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, February 27th, for practice at the church of St. John, seven courses of Forward Major. W. D. Smith (conductor), 1; F. Rumens, 2; G. Smith, 3; T. Page, 4; G. Page, 5; W. Burkin, 6; A. S. Barrell, 7; H. T. Scarlett, 8. This is believed to be the first in the metropolis.

HENDON.—On Sunday evening, March 3rd, for Divine Service at

the parish church, 720 Grandsire Doubles. H. Martin (conductor), 1; J. Paradine, 2; C. Martin, 3; J. Barrett, 4; —. Edmonds, 5; F. Kirby, 5. Time 27 mins. Also after Divine Service two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Pratchett, 1; J. Paradine, 2; F. Pratt, 3; C. Crompton, 4; C. Martin, 5; J. Edmonds, 6. And a 6-score. C. Tucker, 1; J. Paradine, 2; W. Webb, 3; F. Sparks, 4; C. Martin, 5; F. Pratt, 6. And two 6-scores. W. Russell, 1; J. Paradine, 2; F. Sparks, 3; W. Webb, 4; F. Pratt (conductor), 5; C. Martin, 6.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, February 24th, for Divine Service, 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. For evening service, 720 College Single, in 25 mins., standing as before, conducted by J. Wood.

PRESTWICH (Lancashire).—On Thursday, February 21st, for practice at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor in 27½ mins. *F. Barlow, 1; J. Gratrix, 2; J. Brooks, 3; Wm. Warburton (conductor), 4; H. Percival, 5; J. Heywood, 6. And on Sunday afternoon, February 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor in 28 mins. W. Pyle, 1; T. Worall, 2; S. Morriss, 3; J. Brooks, 4; W. Warburton (conductor), 5; J. Heywood, 6. J. Gratrix hails from Manchester; Pyle and Worall from Pendlebury; Morris and Warburton from Whitefield; the rest belong to the local company. *First 720. And for evening service, on Sunday, February 24th, 720 Bob Minor in 28 mins. W. Pyle, 1; R. Fitton, 2; T. Worall, 3; J. Brooks, 4; H. Percival, 5; J. Heywood, 6. Tenor 15½ cwt.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Thursday, February 21st, at the parish church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, six of the local company rang 720 Plain Bob Minor, for practice (four bobs and fourteen singles), in 25 mins., taken from "Rope Sight." T. J. Watts, 1; I. Hammond, 2; I. Cavill, 3; W. Watts, 4; G. Gray, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 24th, for morning service, N. J. Pitstow's 720 of Plain Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 25 mins. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. On Thursday, February 28th, for practice, 720 Double Court Bob, in 25 mins. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. Also 360 Oxford Bob, standing as before, and 360 Plain Bob Minor. T. J. Watts, 1; I. Cavill, 2; I. Hammond, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, March 3rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). W. E. Emery, 1; W. J. Piper, 2; A. Edwards, 3; J. J. Everard, 4; W. Lincoln (conductor), 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; A. Tarbun, 7; F. Radley, 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."

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—In "THE BELL NEWS" of February 9th there was an account of a district meeting of the Sussex County Association, at which meeting a resolution was carried "that a scale of points should be arranged so that peals rung by branches for the Association Challenge Bell might be judged in order of merit, or, in other words, to give quality the preference to quantity." Now, sir, I think this a very reasonable and good plan, and one which will commend itself to all concerned; but I should like to ask the Hon. Sec. of the Association whether he thinks it possible, in the event of such a scheme, for us six-bell branches to compete with the eight-bell men? I admit that, under the present arrangement the six-bell men have the advantage, as we have to find but six instead of eight men; but with such a plan so that proposed, I think that we should be placed entirely in the cold as far as our chances of success were concerned. If I may make a suggestion, since it has been arranged to have both six and eight-bell meetings, in order to suit the requirements of all, why not, I suggest, have two challenge bells—one for six, and the other for eight bells—making a separate competition and scale of points for each. I have an opinion that such an arrangement would be only fair, and would give general satisfaction, while the extra expense incurred would be very little. I give below a scale of points for six bells, which I have tried to put on as broad lines as possible:

For 5040, in one Method	1 Point.
" " in one to four Methods	2 "
" " in four to seven Methods	3 "
" " in seven Treble Bobs	4 "
" " in seven Surprise	5 "
	SIX BELLS.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Looking forward, onward, upward!"

The eyes of the Exercise will doubtless have been turned towards the "capital of the Midlands" during the last week, for most assuredly at Birmingham the great event of interest has been transpiring. Those of us who, through various causes, were not able to join in the festivities which so fittingly commemorated Mr. Johnson's four-score have to content ourselves with reading the report which will be given us on Saturday. Nevertheless, although not joining *in propria persona*, we absent ones may—and I am quite certain do—reciprocate the many congratulatory and laudatory expressions which have emanated during the celebration. Mr. Heywood's desire was evidently that the affair should be more of a representative than of a demonstrative character, and in this I believe his wish has been amply realised—as, indeed, it ought to have been.

According to a letter which I have just received from an old and valued friend of mine who was one of the privileged ones, I gather that the dinner party on Thursday must have been one of a character unparalleled in the annals of change-ringing. The ninety gentlemen who there assembled came from all points of the compass; and they represented as fully as it were possible the whole of the Exercise. Clergy and laity were there sitting side by side, representing their various constituencies, and met with the purpose of giving honour to one who had so well earned this great compliment; as well as to effect an interchange of views and opinions, the good results of which will shew themselves in the time to come.

The most prominent shining light of the Exercise was also there in his proper place at the head of the table. This left nothing wanting to complete the successful issue of the celebration; and I feel that all—from the worthy President downwards—as they wended their way homewards at the termination of this happy event, would feel satisfied in their minds that everything necessary had gone off with proper *eclat*, and last but not least (as the old saying goes) our old friend Mr. Johnson's declining years will be rendered bright and sunny by the remembrance of what took place last week.

Birmingham has also been to the fore during the last week or two in another direction. I allude, of course to the production of Mr. Carter's new method, "Forward." It seems rather unfortunate for that gentleman that his invention has not met with that acceptance of originality as was accorded to the previous one of "Duffield." I rather imagine he will by this time have been reminded of the old saw—"There's nothing new under the sun," for not only is his Minor portion challenged almost in its entirety, but his Major as well, so far as its main features are concerned. Of course, I leave him and Mr. Ellsmore to "have it out" themselves, but a correspondent (who is evidently too bashful to write direct to the Editor and have his communication reduced to print) calls my attention to the circumstance that the Major method which Mr. Ellsmore says he produced in 1885 appears to be the same as one given by Mr. Sottanstell in his work published in 1866, and therefore that in turn loses its claim to originality. I have looked over this method referred to (page 875), and it certainly does answer the

description given by Mr. Ellsmore. So things in this direction look like getting a bit mixed; further communications on the subject will therefore be interesting.

There is yet another "Birmingham point" which I cannot refrain from noticing, namely the 10,272 of Grandsire Major rung at Rowley Regis on the 25th ult. Although, like many others, I have no fancy for the tenor being "turned in" in the Grandsire method, I have no doubt, from the description given, that it would have been on the whole a fairly musical length. Apart from this consideration, I would compliment the performers on their achievement from the fact of its being the first to celebrate the union of the Amalgamated Society and the District Association. We all of us agree that "unity is strength," and I am therefore always glad to note efforts made to unite hitherto separate bodies, especially when this is done with a view to "enlarging their borders and strengthening their stakes." As I before observed, there seems to be ample ground in that part of the country for carrying out still further the principles of "unity and good fellowship," and any further steps in this direction will be hailed with pleasure by all true friends of the Exercise.

"The Squire and his men," I see, have been celebrating the fifth anniversary of the opening of their bells in Duffield church tower. What a transformation has taken place in connection with this little Derbyshire village during that time. A little over five years ago it was practically unknown, save to the inhabitants of the immediate vicinity; unseen by strangers, except perhaps a passing glimpse which they might obtain as the train rushed by on the Midland main line, on its journey between London and the north. Now, it is the possessor of a sweet-toned and handy ring of ten; from its louvres have come the sounds of many a peal; while its name itself has furnished the title for a new system of change-ringing. It has been visited by the greatest of our brethren, and may be fairly said to be the best known tower amongst us. So the Duffield men had good cause for ringing joyously on the 23rd ult.

The story which you reprinted from the *Gentleman* the other week seems to have amused many of our friends, both clergy and laity. I heard of a local company just recently, who on entering the belfry for practice, found this same cutting pasted up on their notice board; on the margin was written—"With the vicar's kindest regards. The cobbler should stick to his last." *Apropos*, wasn't it? FREE LANCE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A Committee Meeting of the above will be held in St John the Baptist school-room, Hagley, near Stourbridge, at 5.30 p.m., prompt, on Saturday, March 16th. The Rev. W. C. Gibbs, rector, has kindly consented to preside. All delegates are earnestly requested to be present. Owing to it being the season of Lent, the rector informs me he is willing for us to have the use of the tower bells, providing we ring them muffled. JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

37 Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

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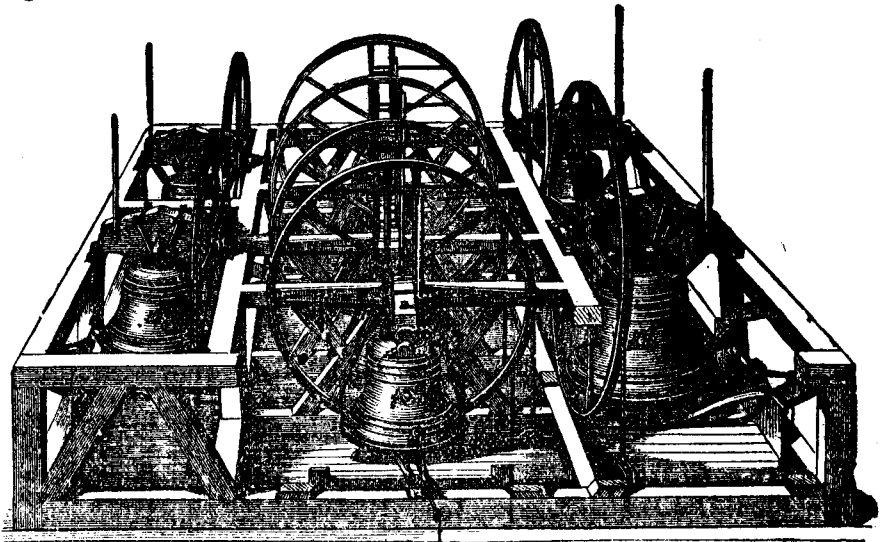
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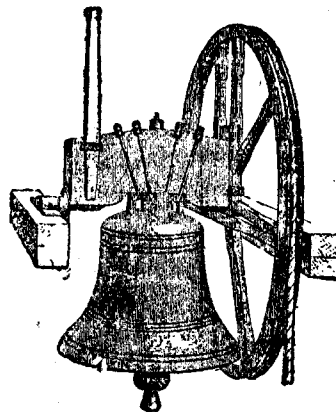
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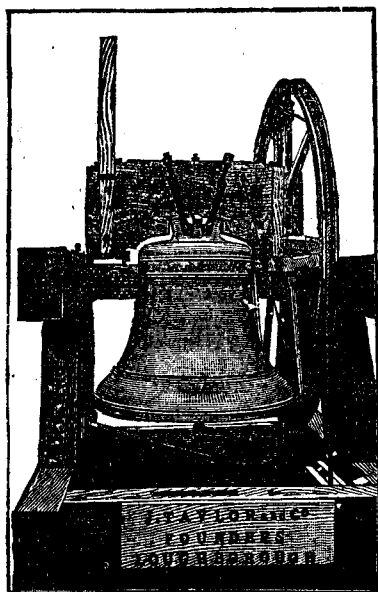
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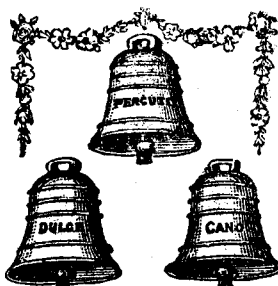
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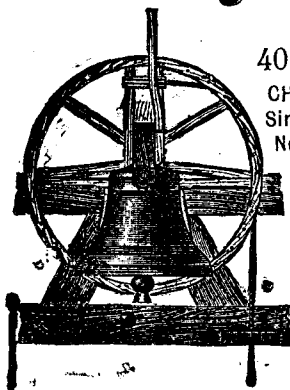
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No. 363.—VOL. VII.

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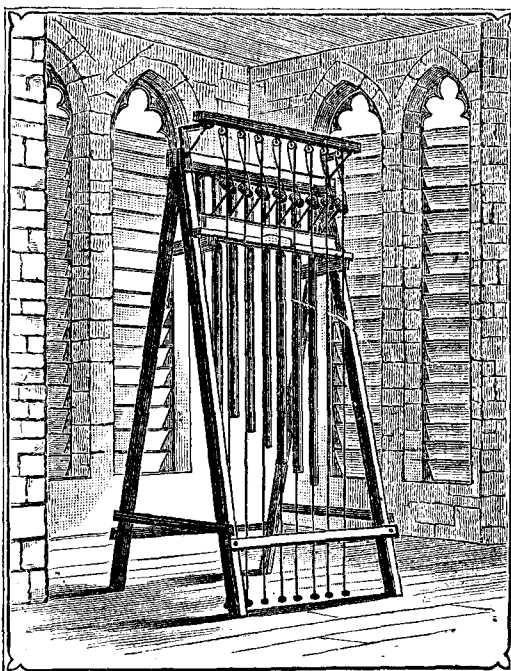
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LEEDS PARISH CHURCH, YORKSHIRE.

On Tuesday evening, March 5th, the Wardens generously entertained at a sumptuous dinner the change-ringers, together with the Vergers and others, whose work connected them with the Divine Services of the church. In this gathering not even the police on Sunday duty at the gates were forgotten. At 7.30 p.m. the large dining room of the "Old Royal Oak" hotel, Kirk-gate, presented a busy scene, where preparations had been made for the assembled guests—nearly forty in number. In order to spare the feelings of those not present the menu is purposely suppressed, suffice it to say that when, after nine o'clock, the seasonable and modest pancake made its appearance, there were no powers of attack left. Of the eight wardens the following were present: Mr. J. S. Newstead, Mr. C. L. Mason, Mr. Joseph Banks, Mr. H. C. Embleton, Mr. R. Wilson, and Mr. Chas. Appleton, Mr. Newstead taking the chair in the absence of the two senior wardens, Mr. Henry Nelson and Mr. C. R. Chorley. The guests included the Rev. Wynn Healey, the Precentor, and Mr. Wm. Snowdon, President of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers.

The Chairman, after giving the usual loyal toasts, which were duly honoured, stated on behalf of his brother wardens that they felt that a gathering of this sort would form a suitable part of the festivities which had taken place in connection with the recent clerical changes, and he trusted that the meeting would cement together in friendship those who were thus linked round the mother church of the town.

Mr. Mason then gave "The Health of the Vicar and Clergy," fittingly referring to the great men who had filled the Vicariate, and to the new Vicar whom they were so soon to welcome. Speaking also of the arduous duties of the clerical staff, he trusted that one night at death's door might be once more restored to health and strength.

The Rev. Wynn Healey, in replying, pointed out that however wishful the clergy might be to call people to church, they could hardly be expected to do so as effectually as the ringers could with their bells, neither could the wardens by themselves, cope with the great numbers who required to be shown to seats: hence the value of an energetic staff of vergers anxious to see no one turned away from the doors.

Mr. Chas. Appleton then gave "The Health of the Ringers, Vergers and other guests," coupling it with the name of Mr. Wm. Snowdon.

In replying, Mr. Snowdon made special reference to the art of change-ringing, reading from a copy of "THE BELL NEWS" the amusing story of "What befel a Curate," amply proving however—the absurd joke notwithstanding—that all model clergymen were fully alive to their responsibilities in their belfries and that in many cases, they, and often the Squire of the parish were ringing side by side in the church towers with the skilful members of the Exercise, proving his points by giving many names well known to the ringing world. Continuing, he clearly showed that many other valuable qualities, in addition to the before-mentioned "thick skulls and cat-like activity" were necessary before a man could become proficient in the intellectual science of change-ringing. Mr. Snowdon also trusted that the good attendance at their monthly church parade, now fully established by the parish church ringers, would be kept up, as it was a pleasant thing to meet at Divine Service on those occasions in their full numerical strength.

During the early part of the evening the wardens, in the name of those present, telegraphed to the Lord Bishop of Chester, congratulating him on his enthronement that day, and before the company separated, a reply came to hand, thanking the meeting for their good wishes, and expressing a hope that their evening was proving a pleasant one.

Mr. Wilson gave in good Yorkshire style a recitation in that dialect, and the Rev. W. Healey following with "Over the hill to the Poor House," while the ringers contributed to the harmony of the evening with tunes and courses on the handbells.

"The Health of the Wardens" was heartily received and given with musical honours, the company afterwards separating, after having taken part in a very gratifying evening's entertainment.

HOLT'S SIX-PART PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

A NEW VARIATION BY THE REV. C. D. P. DAVIES.

Everyone is familiar with the description of Holt's six-part peal given in the *Chavis*. "First, there are twenty bobs in the course (or 'part,' as we should nowadays say), there is one called every time the seventh is before, which is ten in number, she is likewise twice in the hunt five leads each; the fifth is called five times before, the two last of which is when the seventh goes in and out of the hunt; and to conclude, the sixth is never called before throughout the peal."

For what reason I scarcely know, but somehow or other, perhaps because I find I am more liable to miss calling a bob before, I always try when conducting to arrange that my observation bell shall not be called in this position. At Ringmer I have dropped into ringing the seventh, and being anxious in conducting our first local peal to call one that I had never previously conducted, I bethought me of the following arrangement of Holt's six-part.

It will be seen that the fifth works as in the Original, the work of the sixth and seventh being interchanged, there being a bob whenever the sixth is before, but never when the seventh is there. The part-ends are identical with those of the original peal, though in a different order. The chief point of interest in connection with it lies in the singles. The part-ends occur at a bob, which is better than at a plain lead for many reasons, but especially for this, that the singles at mid-way and end are Holt's bob singles, as in the ten-part. By this means two calls are eliminated, the peal containing 120 calls in all, in lieu of 120 bobs and two singles as in the Original. Another testimony, if it were needed, is thus given to the efficacy of these all-important singles. In fact for my own part I never like to employ any others. The variety of peals to be got with these two (with these four individual rows, and no others, viz.: 325476—235476 and 324567—234567) is simply endless.

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

First part to be twice repeated. Fourth part to be twice repeated. First rung at Ringmer on February 23rd, 1889, conducted by the variator.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A Committee Meeting of the above will be held in St John the Baptist school-room, Hagley, near Stourbridge, at 5.30 p.m., prompt, on Saturday, March 16th. The Rev. W. C. Gibbs, rector, has kindly consented to preside. All delegates are earnestly requested to be present. Owing to it being the season of Lent, the rector informs me he is willing for us to have the use of the tower bells, providing we ring them muffled.

JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

37 Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

MIDHURST, SUSSEX.

On the occasion of the opening of a new Coffee Tavern at the above place, an opportunity was taken of presenting to the Rev. J. L. Cother, late curate of Midhurst, but now vicar of Yapton-cum-Ford, a handsome testimonial, subscribed for by the parishioners, etc., which consisted of a purse containing £100. It was presented to him by the Countess of Egmont. This gentleman has belonged to the above branch of the Sussex County Association, and was presented by them with those excellent ringers' books, "Shipway's Reprint," and Snowdon's "Grand-sire," as a token of respect. During the presentation the ringers rang several touches of Minor, etc., while the Earl of Egmont paid them a visit in the belfry, and upon his Lordship stating he used to be a bit of a ringer, he was asked to stand in, which he did, and rang the third, striking it well through a fair length of Churchyard Bob. The ringers then rang a touch of Minor, when his Lordship expressed himself pleased with the ringing, and placing a gold medallion of Her Majesty in the hands of the ringers, left the belfry.

THE BAGSHOT SOCIETY, SURREY.

On Friday evening, February 15th, eight ringers of the above church journeyed by brake to Hawley, Hants, for the purpose of having a pull at Holy Trinity church, which contains a peal of six, tenor about 17 cwt. After the usual greeting the bells were raised, and two 120's of Grandsire Doubles were rung by W. Stevens, 1; T. Gould, 2; F. Francis, 3; O. Harding, 4; H. Stapleton, 5; W. Harding, 6. And 720 Bob Minor. W. Stevens, 1; T. Gould, 2; F. Francis, 3; O. Harding, 4; H. Stapleton, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. An attempt was made for a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor by the same band, but it was lost after ringing over 600 changes. It being too late for another start, the Hawley band rang some plain courses of Doubles. Afterwards they adjourned to the "White Hart," where a social hour was spent in singing, etc., till the host cried "go," at 10 o'clock, Bagshot being reached about 11 p.m. The Bagshot ringers wish to thank the Vicar, through the medium of this paper, for the use of the bells, and also to Mr. Butler, the Sexton, for having everything ready.

SWANSCOMBE, KENT.

On Saturday evening, March 2nd, the whole of the Swanscombe band, with F. Hayes, of Milton, and C. Waterman of Shorne, met in the tower of the parish church, Swanscombe, and had a very pleasant meeting. After a few touches of Plain Bob, Mr. Martin, the Hon. Sec. of the Swanscombe band, presented to Mr. Harper (on behalf of the ringers), an address in a neat oak frame, and a polished walnut writing desk, the plate on the desk stating: "Presented to Mr. W. Harper, by his brother ringers, Swanscombe." Mr. Harper, in a few well-chosen words, returned thanks, and hoped the good feeling would continue among the company and himself for years. The bells were then set going, and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung, and 720 of Oxford Treble Bob—the Kent conducted by W. Harper, and the Oxford by G. Hayes, it being the first time as conductor of the method by G. Hayes. The bells were kept going until shortly after nine, when the company separated, having spent a very enjoyable evening together.

THE CHURCH BELLS, CUCKFIELD, SUSSEX.

The bells of the parish church having undergone a thorough overhauling and received repairs, which consisted of having new bearings to all of them, and new shrouding to six of the wheels, the frame strengthened, &c., were again put in motion on a recent evening when a 504 was brought round. On Saturday evening an 840 was rung in 32 mins. These trials proved satisfactory, the striking being much truer, and the going of the bells much smoother than before. The work has been inspected by the Churchwardens, and Mr. Edward Anscombe, one of the old band of Cuckfield ringers, and pronounced satisfactory. The present band hope soon to report a 5040 on the same.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROCHDALE BRANCH.—On Saturday last the above branch held a meeting at St. James' Church, Milnrow. The bells were set in motion at four o'clock p.m., and were kept going until nine o'clock, when touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, and also touches of Bob Major, and a plain course of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung to help on those who were desirous of advancing the art. Also at the close a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung by the following: C. B. Shaw, 1; Samuel Stott, 2; Joseph Grimshaw, 3; George Hoyle, 4; John Harrison, 5; Frank Birtwistle (conductor), 6. Time, 30 mins.; tenor, 20 cwt. in E. The meeting was held in the schoolroom, and would have been presided over by the Vicar had he not been suffering from a severe cold. Mr. George Hoyle was elected chairman. The next meeting is to be held at Oldham parish church on Saturday, the 6th of April. The meeting closed with the usual votes of thanks to the Vicar and Wardens, and also to the chairman for presiding.

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.—On Saturday, March 9th, a ringing meeting of the above branch took place at Christ Church, Bacup, when members from Bacup, Waterfoot, Ramsbottom, Rawtenstall and Newchurch attended. During the afternoon and evening several touches of Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Minor were rung. At the meeting in the school it was proposed to hold the next ringing meeting at Ramsbottom. Two new members were proposed, and a hearty vote of thanks to the new Vicar, the Rev. J. S. Doxey, for presiding, brought the meeting to a close.

RE-OPENING OF THE BELLS AT CHRIST CHURCH, CHALFORD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Thursday, March 7th, the bells of Christ Church, Chalford, were re-opened after undergoing some satisfactory repairs. There was a short service in the church in the evening, the sermon being preached by the Rev. Mr. Doherty, Vicar of Oakridge, after which five ringers from the church of the Holy Trinity, Minchinhampton, rang several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Boulton, 1; J. Boulton, sen. (conductor), 2; A. Window, 3; G. Pincott, 4; A. Cowley, 5; H. Boulton, 6. Afterwards the ringers adjourned to the company's meeting-house, where had been prepared by host Matthews an excellent supper. After the cloth was removed, the evening was spent in innocent harmony.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

The Annual Supper of this Society will take place at the "Green Man" inn, St. Martin's Lane, London, W.C., on Friday, the 5th proximo, at 8 o'clock p.m. Members desirous of being present will please signify the same in the usual form at the next meeting there, or to
HENRY DAINS,
147, Barnsbury Road, N.
Hon. Sec.

THE PEAL AT WARWICK.

A local resident writes to the *Warwick Advertiser* respecting the peal rung there last week:—

"SIR,—A paragraph appeared in your local news on Saturday last, referring to a peal rung upon St. Mary's bells on the previous day, in which you say, 'This is the first peal which has been rung in this method in St. Mary's tower for upwards of twenty years.' I, and some of my friends, have a lively recollection of the 'peal' rung last week, and perhaps you will allow me to express a hope that it will be upwards of twenty years before the method is again repeated. To residents near the church, and especially to those engaged in business, the ringing of the bells is an intolerable nuisance. Surely it is enough to endure when anything in the town requires (?) it to be done, without strangers coming for the purpose of amusing themselves in such a noisy manner. This practice appears to be on the increase; but I trust the authorities, whoever they may be, will not allow it to continue.
X. Y. Z."

AN OMISSION SUPPLIED.—The peal rung at St. James', Grimsby, should read "North Lincolnshire Association; time occupied 3 hrs. 9 mins.; tenor 18½ cwt. First peal with a bob bell by D. Seamer."

WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK.—A VETERAN RINGERS' BIRTHDAY.

ON Saturday, March 2nd, the ringers of St. Mary's church met at the belfry to celebrate the eightieth birthday of their respected townsman, Mr. W. M. Meadows, who has been a member of the society for fifty-eight years. Several touches of Stedman, Grandsire Triples, and Bob Major, etc., were rung, in which the veteran took an active part. The company afterwards adjourned to their club room at the "White Horse," to partake of the hospitality of Mr. Meadows, whose health it is needless to say, was heartily received, wishing him many happy returns of the day. Mr. Meadows has never missed being among the company and ringing the Old Year out and the New Year in since joining. He still enjoys excellent health, and is quite as active as most men at sixty years old.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The Sixth Annual Report, with performances, balance-sheet, and list of members, is now ready for distribution, at the price of 2d. each to ringing members whose subscriptions are paid up. As this is not more than half cost price, it is hoped that a large number will be sold. Members requiring copies will please communicate with their local secretaries. Single copies sent by post for 2½d., on application to

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.
Wykeham House, Bedford Park, Croydon.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN BRANCH.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Ormskirk, to-day, Saturday, March 16th. Bells ready from 2 p.m. By kind permission the bells of Christ Church, Aughton, will also be at the disposal of visiting ringers during the afternoon. A meat tea at 1s. a head will be provided in the Vicarage Schoolrooms at 5 p.m., to be followed by the business meeting. At 6.30 a short service with address by the Vicar, the Rev. J. E. Woodrow, will be held in the church. It is earnestly hoped as many of the members as possibly can will attend the meeting, and also ringers from other churches who have not up to the present attended any of these meetings.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD, Branch Secretary.
40, Lowther Street, Liverpool.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.—The next meeting of this branch will be held to-day, Saturday, March 16th, at Holy Trinity Church, Stretford Road, Manchester. Ringing to commence at 4 o'clock; meeting at 7 o'clock.

JOHN EACHUS, Branch Sec.
3, Hayden Street, Queen's Road, Manchester.

AN EXTRAORDINARY BEQUEST.

An annuity of about ten pounds was bequeathed to the bell-ringers of Bath Abbey, by Lieut.-Col. Nash, "provided they should muffle the clappers of the bells of the said abbey, and ring them with doleful accentuation from eight a.m. to eight p.m. on each anniversary of his wedding-day, and during the same number of hours, only with a merry peal, on the anniversary of the day which released him from domestic tyranny and wretchedness.

OUR NEW COMPOSITOR (log.)—MIDNIGHT, THURSDAY.

The weary comp., with eyeballs round and red,
Stand to his case, but mournful, dreams of bed.
The figures are all dancing 'fore my eyes,
Those wretched peals of Stedman and Surprise.
Whatever does it mean? a bob before,
I think I'd better "bob" outside the door.
Since first I finger'd type I'm sure such stuff
I never saw before; 'Tis sure enough
This shop is full of lunatics; I'll get my screw,
And to "THE BELL NEWS" make my last adieu.

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."

SEVEN BELL PEALS.

SIR,—I see by your last week's issue that our Tottenham friends have been ringing another peal on seven bells, thus again destroying the good music obtainable on eight bells. What does their discarded brother-string "Bob Roper" think of it? I don't mean a fictitious "Bob Roper," but the one who treated us to the "Billingsgate" effusion over the previous seven-bell peal rang at Tottenham. I think seven-bell peals would be a good subject for discussion by the proposed Committee as recently suggested at the Johnson Festival at Birmingham. By ringing such a peal at Southgate, they evidently adapted it to the requirements of the inmates of Colney Hatch, for which institution they are thus qualifying themselves.

RICHARD T. WOODLEY.

THE HENRY JOHNSON PORTRAIT.

SIR,—It is impossible to speak too highly of the above as a correct and really "speaking" likeness of our esteemed veteran. Speaking personally, I consider it the most successful printed portrait I have ever seen, and our Birmingham friends who have frequent opportunities of seeing Mr. Johnson think it perfect. I trust you may be equally successful with any future portraits, when your readers will be able to form a most interesting collection of the "Lions" of the exercise. I have no doubt that many ringers will be ordering Mr. Keeble's Albums in view of such a collection, but I know of instances where frames and mounts are in requisition.

W. H. GODDEN,
Birmingham, March 12th, 1889.

Hon. Sec., St. Martin's Guild.

THE FIRST 5024 OF SUPERLATIVE.

SIR,—Mr. Clarke is quite right in his statement, though the fact that I had already conducted a peal of the same number in this method had quite escaped my memory. I thank Mr. Clarke for calling attention to the matter, and would at the same time apologise to Mr. J. W. Taylor and the other gentlemen who took part in the peal at Ashby, for having unwittingly misled them.

Waterloo St., Burton-on-Trent.

WM. WAKLEY.

GOOD FRIDAY AND MUFFLED RINGING.

SIR,—With your kind permission I would like to say a few words in reference to the above subject. I have often wondered why it has not been a general custom to have the bells fully muffled on Good Friday above all other occasions, for I suppose there are occasions—such as the anniversary of a celebrated ringer, or someone who has benefited a particular church in some way, where muffled peals or touches are rung; and though I quite agree with this, yet I consider that (so far as our duty as Christian ringers is concerned), there is no comparison whatever between ringing on such occasions and, say for church service, on the anniversary of the death of Him who not only loved us, but died for us, that we through Him might have eternal life. Of course I take it that the vicar's permission would be granted and that there would be those in every belfry who would willingly assist in muffling and unmuffling the bells; and that for once a year the question of payment would not be allowed to stand in the way. Might I invite the attention of the clergy, churchwardens, and officers of the various ringing societies to this subject, for I feel sure that if some of those whom I have mentioned (especially those clergy who take such a deep interest in ringing matters), were to say a few words in favour of it, along with a kind word or two from yourself, the custom would be at once adopted.

St. Luke's, Liverpool.

WM. G. MANN.

Obituary.

THOMAS TAYLOR.

We regret to record the death of the above ringer, of Bourne-Lincolnshire, which took place on the 16th ult., at the advanced age of eighty-three years. His name appears in some of the very earliest numbers of "THE BELL NEWS" when it came out monthly instead of weekly. Mr. Taylor was a first-rate six-bell ringer, and rang many 720's in his time of Treble Bob, London Single, Bob Minor, and other six-bell methods. The funeral took place at the cemetery on the 20th ult., his body being borne to the grave by some of his brother-ringers. In the evening a 720 Bob Minor was rung upon the abbey bells with the bells deeply muffled, as a last mark of respect to his memory.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 4th, this Association held their General Meeting at Hurworth, the place in the counties covered by the Association where the art of change-ringing was first revived. Change-ringing had been previously known at the parish church of Darlington and at St. Nicholas' (Newcastle) and Bishopwearmouth; but had practically died out. Representatives were present from Darlington St. John's, Durham St. Oswald's, Heighington, Stockton, Middlesbrough, Chester-le-Street, and Hurworth; and in the morning the full peal of six bells was rung through in various ways by companies made up of visitors and the local ringers.

At two o'clock a capital dinner was excellently served at the "Bay Horse," and to this ample justice was done by the company. The Rector, the Rev. J. Irwin, presided, Mr. G. J. Clarkson, Hon. Sec., being in the vice-chair, and being supported by Mr. Story, of Newcastle, president of the Association, and Mr. Hudson, of Sunderland.

After dinner the Chairman proposed the toast of "Church and Queen," and Mr. Story (who had now taken the vice-chair) proposed "The Bishop and Clergy of the two Dioceses," who fully supported the Association both in their endeavours to improve the belfries and for the advancement of bell-ringing. He coupled the toast with the name of the chairman.

The Chairman thanked the company very cordially for so kindly receiving the toast. Their bishop was beloved by all in the diocese, and he had a European fame. He was very pleased to see that his lordship described his progress towards recovery as satisfactory, and to think that before long he would be restored to the diocese to continue the labours he had carried on so successfully. He bade them a warm welcome to that parish. He understood that was the first time they had paid Hurworth a visit, but he had had the pleasure of accompanying the Association to some of their meetings, which had always been enjoyable. Before that Association was started many towers were in a very sad condition, and bellringers were not a very steady class, but under that Association bell-ringing had attained a high position in that diocese. The bells at Hurworth had been rehung and were very sweet in tone, and they who had been ringing on them that morning had rung them in a most harmonious and sweet manner. He had remarked in some places that the ringers—who called other people to worship—did not themselves attend the service, and he thought that was scarcely right. If they could not attend the service after ringing the bells, he thought they should not be seen walking away from the church, but should rather sneak down into the cellar until the service was over. He hoped their Association would long flourish under the management of their able Secretary, Mr. Clarkson, to whom they owed a deep debt of gratitude.

The Hon. Sec. then proposed Viscount Boyne as an honorary life member; the Rev. S. Bucknell, Vicar of Newburn-on-Tyne, as an honorary member; Messrs. R. C. Hudson, T. Hudson, jun., and W. Morton, of Bishopwearmouth, as performing members; Mr. Joseph Hopper, jun., of South Shields; Messrs. Joseph Simpson, George Garbutt, Brewster Robinson, and James Temple, of Hurworth; E. E. Bozzard, Bishop Auckland; G. H. J. James, West Hartlepool; G. Chambers, J. Sayers, J. Scott, J. Colling, H. Walker, J. Walker, jun., T. Ransom, A. Robson, and W. Spaven, of Heighington, as performing members. These were all accepted. The Hon. Secretary then proposed a vote of thanks to the rector and churchwardens for their hearty welcome of the Association and their kindness in permitting the use of the bells. They had never but once met with a refusal when they asked for the use of the bells in any parish, and that exception was at Durham Cathedral, when they first applied there. Since then they had had no difficulty in obtaining permission to use the bells of Durham Cathedral.

The Chairman, in acknowledging the compliment, said the oftener the Association came there the better.

Mr. Story then gave some interesting details with reference to his visit to Birmingham to take part in the gathering of representatives in celebration of the 80th birthday of Mr. Henry Johnson, who had done so much to raise bellringing to a higher level.

On the motion of Mr. Thompson (Chester-le-Street), a hearty

vote of thanks was accorded to the President of the Association and the Hon. Sec.

The company then returned to the tower and the bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1889.

	Jan.	Feb.	Total.
Sussex County Association	10	12	22
Ancient Society of College Youths	9	11	20
Essex Association	10	9	19
Midland Counties' Association	2	14	16
Yorkshire Association	5	7	12
Norwich Diocesan Guild	5	5	10
Oxford Diocesan Guild	4	4	8
Lancashire Association	6	2	8
United Counties' Association	4	4	8
Worcester and Districts' Association	4	3	7
Hertford Association	3	4	7
Surrey Association	3	3	6
St. James's Society, London	2	3	5
Birmingham Amalgamated Society	2	3	5
Royal Cumberland Youths	2	2	4
Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford	1	3	4
Kent County Association	3	1	4
Salisbury Diocesan Guild	1	3	4
Winchester Diocesan Guild	3	0	3
Gloucester and Bristol Association	2	0	2
Trinity Youths	0	2	2
Waterloo Society, London	0	2	2
Hertford College Youths	1	0	1
All Hallows' Society, Tottenham	1	0	1
Lichfield and Salop Diocesan Association	1	0	1
Bedford Association	0	1	1
Eastern Counties' Guild	0	1	1
North Lincoln Association	1	0	1
Hereford Diocesan Guild	1	0	1
Independent Societies	8	11	19

Less peals entered under two Associations	11	14	25
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Total 83 96 179

The above peals were rung in the following methods:—London Surprise Major, 1; Superlative Surprise Major, 1; Double Oxford Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 4; Duffield Royal, 1; Forward Major, 1; Stedman Cinques, 3; Stedman Caters, 6; Stedman Triples, 12; Treble Bob Royal, 3; Treble Bob Major, 23; Grandsire Caters, 9; Grandsire Major, 2; Grandsire Triples, 59; Oxford Bob Major, 1; Union Triples, 4; Bob Royal, 1; Bob Major, 24; Bob Triples, 4; College Single Major, 1; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1; in fourteen minor methods upon six bells, 1; in seven ditto, 12; in four ditto, 3; in three ditto, 1. Total, 179.

The nineteen peals by independent societies were rung as follows:—Staffordshire, 5; Yorkshire, 3; Cheshire, 2; Suffolk, 2; and Herefordshire, Derbyshire, Hertfordshire, Gloucestershire, Berkshire, Lancashire, and Monmouthshire.

Peals rung in January, 1888	52
" " February, 1888	72

Peals rung in January, 1889	83
" " February, 1889	96

Increase on the two months	55
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N.B.—The monthly Analysis of Peals will, as far as possible, in future, be published in the first issue of "BELL NEWS" after the 15th of each month, and all peals not published in the issue prior to that date will be accounted for in the next analysis.

Brighton.

GEORGE F. ATTREE.

Mr. Geo. H. Simon, of 22 Mill Road, Batley Carr, Yorkshire writes:—"Will Mr. Thornley, of Higher Walton, Lancashire, have the kindness to send the writer a lead of Lancashire Delight, and New London Bob, who will feel extremely obliged for the same."

"FORWARD;"

A New Method for an Even Number of Bells.

By JOHN CARTER.

Since reading M. Ellsmore's letter in the last number but one I have obtained a copy of *Church Bells* for January 30th, 1885, which contains a full course of Association Exercise Minor, also a 720. I never saw this method before. The first lead is similar to Forward, but by 2nds place being made it becomes different. M. Ellsmore's method is on the Treble Bob principle, mine is on that of Duffield. He also says that he gave the rule to ring it by, thus:—

"When in front—snap, whole pull and snap, 3rds and 4ths and up. When behind, snap, whole pull and snap, 4ths and 3rds and down." This lesson would not be half sufficient to ring it by, as when the treble is at lead 2nds places are made, 3rds and 4ths twice, and triple dodging behind, so every ringer would have to look after the treble, as it is a set bell throughout.

In Forward each bell does the same work.

M. Ellsmore also says it had been rung at Capel, Barnwood, and Brathay, but if the ringers at these places rang the 720 by him, as published in the above-mentioned paper, they rung a false composition. He also says he extended it to Major with the exception of the treble making 5ths and 6ths; and that would be another method (Kent Treble Bob is Oxford except when the treble is in front).

With these rectifications I now leave my method to the Exercise.

A DATE TOUCH FOR THE PRESENT YEAR.

1889.

1 2 3 4 5 6	H	I	B	O	F
1 3 2 5 4 6	S				
2 6 4 3 1 5		-		-	
4 2 6 3 1 5			-		
3 6 2 4 1 5			-	-	
2 3 6 4 1 5			-		
4 6 3 2 1 5			-	-	
1 3 6 2 4 5		-	-		
2 6 3 1 4 5		-	-		
3 2 6 1 4 5		-	-		
1 6 2 3 4 5		-	-		
2 1 6 3 4 5		-	-		
6 2 1 3 4 5		-	-		

The last six courses three times repeated, produce—

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

These six courses four times repeated, complete the touch.

Start last change of a division instead of the first.

1 2 3 4 5 6	H	I	O
2 4 1 6 3 5	I		
6 2 1 4 3 5		-	
1 2 3 4 6 5		-	
2 4 1 5 3 6		-	

Four times repeated.

1 2 3 4 5 6	H	B	F
1 6 3 2 5 4			-
3 1 6 2 5 4		-	
2 4 1 5 3 6		2	

Four times repeated.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O	F
3 6 2 1 5 4		-	-	
2 3 6 1 5 4		-	-	
6 2 3 1 5 4		-	-	
5 3 2 1 6 4		-	-	
1 2 3 5 6 4		-	-	

Twice repeated.

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

Twice repeated.

1 2 3 4 5 6	H	I	B	O	F
4 6 2 5 1 3	2				
4 3 2 6 1 5			-		
4 5 2 3 1 6			-		
3 2 5 4 1 6		-	-		
5 3 2 4 1 6		-	-		
2 3 1 4 5 6		-	-		

Twice repeated.

1 2 3 4 5 6	H	I	B	O	F
2 4 1 6 3 5	I				
1 2 4 6 3 5		-			
4 1 2 6 3 5		-			
6 3 1 2 4 5		-	-		
1 6 3 2 4 5		-	-		
3 1 6 2 4 5		-	-		
1 2 3 5 6 4	I				

Twice repeated.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O	F
3 6 2 1 5 4		-	-	
1 2 5 6 3 4		-	-	
6 5 3 2 1 4		-	-	
2 3 1 5 6 4		-	-	
1 4 3 2 6 5		-	-	
3 5 4 1 6 2		-	-	
4 2 5 3 6 1		-	-	
5 1 2 4 6 3		-	-	

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

1 2 3 4 5 6	H	I	B	O	F
2 4 1 6 3 5	I				
6 3 4 1 2 5		-	-	-	
1 2 3 4 6 5		-	-	-	
3 1 2 4 6 5		-	-	-	
2 3 1 4 6 5		-	-	-	
4 1 3 2 6 5		-	-	-	
3 4 1 2 6 5		-	-	-	
2 1 4 3 6 5		-	-	-	
3 2 4 1 6 5		-	-	-	

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

640.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-	-
2 4 5 3 1 6	-	-	-
3 5 4 2 1 6	-	-	-
2 3 4 5 1 6	-	-	-

Four times repeated.

640.

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

Four times repeated.

800.

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

Four times repeated.

800.

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

Four times repeated.

960.

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

Four times repeated.

960.

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

Four times repeated.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

WITH NEXT WEEK'S NUMBER WILL BE PUBLISHED
A PORTRAIT
OF
MR. JAMES W. WASHBROOK,
OF OXFORD.

The Portrait will appear on a separate page, and will be executed by the same process as the last one issued. The price of the number with portrait will be TWOPENCE.

Orders for copies should at once be given to News Agents.

We particularly impress upon our readers to order copies from their booksellers not later than Monday next. Through this precaution not being observed, many were unable to obtain MR. JOHNSON'S portrait. We repeat.—Order of the bookseller at once.

These portraits are produced by the aid of a new photographic invention, and they therefore cannot fail to be perfect likenesses. We have received very many letters speaking highly of MR. JOHNSON'S portrait, one of which we publish. Booksellers should have it impressed upon them that our publisher is Mr. 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 16, 1889.

OUR old friend, in fact everybody's old friend, the ubiquitous "X.Y.Z.," this time of Warwick, is much exercised in his mind at the fact of a peal having been rung in that town, and he has been moved to write to the *Warwick Advertiser* expressing a wish that it may be again twenty years before another performance of the same kind takes place in the tower of St. Mary's church. This writer is a representative of, what we conceive to be, an infinitesimally small minority of the British public, or we; will venture a step further, and say of the English-speaking peoples. From our position it may be argued that we have naturally a certain amount of prejudice in favor of our Art, and cannot even, if we would, speak with strict impartiality upon such a subject, but we are of opinion that the love of the music of bells is so thoroughly ingrained in our race, that the outburst of the various "X.Y.Z.s" that occur at rare intervals may be disregarded with equanimity. It would take many pages of "THE BELL NEWS" to merely enumerate the names of English authors whose pages refer lovingly and reverently to the sound of the bells, and curiously enough most American writers of note have allusions to the same theme scattered thickly through their works; we say curiously because although the sound of bells is, we believe, to be heard in almost every town and even village throughout the United States, the Art of ringing them in musical changes that

prevails in our "Ringing Isle" is almost unknown upon that continent, so that the mere sound alone seems to satisfy a want that exists in our English nature.

On the other English continent, Australia, we are glad to be in a position to state that our Art is taking root; our pages have borne witness to this several times within this past two years in communications from friends under the Southern Cross, and at this moment there are in course of manufacture at Whitechapel a peal of twelve for Melbourne Cathedral.

We quite grant that the "X.Y.Z.s" are honest in their dislike. It is only a truism to assert that there exists not one thing upon this globe which some persons do not heartily dislike, but the "greatest happiness of the greatest number" being granted, we venture to think that could a poll be taken of the inhabitants of Warwick, or that portion of them that may have heard the ringing, our friend would kick the beam to that extent that his protest would be quite lost in the chorus of applause.

The historical church of St. Mary, Warwick, is well known to us. It possesses every desideratum for the performance of public worship, and is well-known and admired by many an ecclesiologist and antiquarian. Pilgrims from all parts come almost daily to the ancient shrine, to whom its many architectural and other interesting features are daily shown by obliging vergers. Its noble square tower is a commanding object for miles along the Avon, and it would be deplorable that the musical instrument possessed by this part of the fabric were condemned to silence. The want of scientific ringers in Warwick has long been deplored; the meeting of ringers from all parts of the county the other day will, we hope, do a great deal towards making the town a ringing centre, and we would recommend "X.Y.Z." to attach himself to the ringers of his town, promising him, should he attain a respectable degree of ability in the science, that when the evil spirit he evidently is troubled with possesses him, a good touch upon the ring of ten in the "high church" will effectually dispel it.

The Metropolis.

SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 9, 1889, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 25 cwt.

JAMES HANNINGTON Treble.	ALBERT PITTAM 5.
BENJAMIN FOSKETT 2.	THOMAS TITCHENER 6.
GEORGE B. LUCAS 3.	ARTHUR JACOB 7.
GEORGE GRICE 4.	GEORGE NEWSON Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

PUTNEY, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, March 11, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

F. DAVEY* Treble.	H. R. NEWTON 5.
C. F. WINNY 2.	W. T. COCKERILL 6.
H. LANGDON 3.	J. W. DRIVER 7.
W. GARRARD* 4.	S. HOW Tenor.

Conducted by C. F. WINNY.

*First peal in the method.

The Provinces.**BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.****THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, March 2, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,**AT THE PARISH CHURCH,***A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

REEVES'S VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

A. BENNETT.. .. .Treble.	*G. HILL 5.
W. ALLFREY† 2.	E. WILLOUGHBY 6.
H. P. BENNETT 3.	T. HART 7.
G. BIGGERSTAFF.. .. . 4.	J. ROLLINSON .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by W. ALLFREY.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. Messrs. H. P. Bennett, Hart, Rollinson and Willoughby hail from St. Mary's, Eastbourne.

MOSSLEY, LANCASHIRE.**THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.***On Thursday, March 7, 1889, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,***A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.**

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12¾ cwt. in F#.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY .. ..Treble.	JAMES SELLARS.. .. . 5.
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE 2.	EDGAR BUCKLEY 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY 3.	THOMAS WILDE 7.
JOHN HOLDEN 4.	JOHN PYE, JUN... .. .Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL and Conducted by JOHN HOLDEN.

The above was rung to commemorate the birthdays of Messrs. Sellars and Holden, their brother-strings wishing them many happy returns. Messrs. Brierley, Radcliffe, and Buckley, hail from Saddleworth; Bradley and Wilde from Hyde; Sellars and Pye from Glossop; Holden from Mossley.

TAMWORTH, STAFFORDSHIRE.**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.***On Thursday, March 7, 1889, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,**AT THE PARISH CHURCH,***A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 22½ cwt.

JOSEPH WINDRIDGE .. ..Treble.	JOSEPH WAINWRIGHT .. . 5.
JOSEPH TIMMS† (aged 18).. . 2.	CHARLES CHAPMAN .. . 6.
ALBERT EVERITT* 3.	GEORGE WOODS 7.
ROBERT BRINDLEY† 4.	*WILLIAM CHAPMAN .. .Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH TIMMS.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. ‡First peal as conductor. This peal was rung to celebrate the laying of the foundation stone of the new Municipal Buildings, which are being built as a Jubilee Memorial. W. Chapman was elected a member of the above society previous to starting for the peal.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.*On Friday, March 8, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,**AT THE "HALBERD" INN, NORTHGATE STREET,**ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,***A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES.**

Tenor 19 size in F.

WILLIAM MOTTS 1-2.	ALBERT E. DURRANT .. . 5-6.
CHARLES MEE 3-4.	THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. . 7-8.
FREDERICK TILLET 9-10.	

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

Umpire—Mr. Thomas Steward. Mr. T. Blackbourn hails from Salisbury; the rest belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich.

THE RINGERS' PHOTO GALLERY.—B. Keeble, Peal Book Manufacturer, 2 Vine Street, Mawneys, Romford, Essex. Portfolios specially manufactured in strong covers, so as to admit fifty photo plates. These cases will be made with guards upon which the plates can be fixed either with a little gum or paste, and when complete will form a handsome ringers' photo gallery. Free by parcels post for 2s. 6d. postal order.

SALISBURY, WILTS.**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Friday, March 8, 1889, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,**AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. GIFFORD, DEVIZES ROAD,**ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,***A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;**

ALFRED P. GODDARD .. 1-2.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 5-6.
WALTER S. WISE 3-4.	ARTHUR W. BARKUS .. 7-8.

Composed by YORK GREEN and Conducted by WILLIAM W. GIFFORD.

Umpire—Alfred J. Callaway.

BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE.**THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, March 9, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,***A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qrs. 21 lbs.

H. W. JACKSON .. ..Treble.	J. W. CRITCHLEY 5.
H. BENTLEY 2.	T. E. TURNER 6.
J. REDFORD 3.	W. HAMER.. .. . 7.
J. H. JACKSON 4.	R. LINDLEY .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by H. W. JACKSON.

This is the first peal on the new bells. The company belong to Holy Trinity Bolton.

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.—THE WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, March 9, 1889, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,**AT THE PARISH CHURCH,***A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;**

Tenor 20 cwt.

OLIVER JAMES .. ..Treble.	GEORGE HAYWARD 6.
GEORGE BOURN 2.	†JOHN MASON 7.
SAMUEL COTTON* 3.	ALFRED MOORE.. .. . 8.
THOMAS ALLBUTT 4.	†WALTER REA 9.
H. B. KINGSFORD* 5.	WILLIAM JAMES .. .. .Tenor.

Composed by GEORGE HAYWARD and Conducted by WALTER REA.

*First peal of Caters. †First peal on a bob bell. ‡First peal of Caters as conductor. Messrs. Cotton and Kingsford hail from Worcester.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.*On Saturday, March 9, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,***A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

W. LEADER .. ..Treble.	S. QUINTON 5.
F. SINKINS 2.	A. GARRAWAY 6.
W. WILDER.. .. . 3.	R. FLAXMAN 7.
J. BARKER 4.	*T. LEADER .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by A. GARRAWAY.

*First peal.

LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.*On Saturday, March 9, 1889, in Three Hours,**AT THE PARISH CHURCH,***A PEAL OF CUMBERLAND EXERCISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.**

Tenor 15 cwt.

J. W. LANG.. ..Treble.	H. BROOK 5.
J. KNOTT 2.	M. RAMSDEN 6.
A. BRIGGS 3.	L. ILLINGWORTH 7.
S. GOODALL 4.	W. COLLINS .. .. .Tenor.

Composed by WM. SOTTANSTALL and Conducted by LUKE ILLINGWORTH.

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

SHIPLEY.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 9, 1889, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

J. HARDCASTLE	Treble.	W. WILKS	5.
G. A. O. NETTLETON	2.	T. POLLITT	6.
H. RAISTRICK	3.	J. H. HARDCASTLE	7.
S. H. LONDON	4.	FRED LONDON	Tenor.

Composed by WM. GOODALL, of Liversedge, and Conducted by J. H. HARDCASTLE.

SHEFFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 9, 1889, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt.

C. H. HATTERSLEY	Treble.	CHARLES BOWER	5.
WILLIAM BURGAR	2.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY	6.
WILLIAM LOMAS	3.	HERBERT MADIN	7.
FRED COATES	4.	ARTHUR BREARLEY	Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY and Conducted by A. BREARLEY.

F. Coates hails from Rotherham, and H. Madin from Staveley.

RUISLIP, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Sunday, March 10, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three and $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

GEORGE NEWSON	Treble.	REUBEN FLAXMAN	5.
THOMAS TITCHENER	2.	ALBERT PITTAM	6.
BENJAMIN FOSKETT	3.	ARTHUR JACOB	7.
ALFRED C. FUSSELL	4.	WILLIAM H. MANNING ..	Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

This peal was rung in honor of the twenty-sixth anniversary of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales' Wedding. The ringers desire to express their best thanks to the Rev. T. M. Everitt for the use of the bells.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 10, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF JOHN CRABTREE, BLAMFORD STREET, ASHTON,

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

WILLIAM JAKEMAN*	1-2.	HARRY HEAP	5-6.
GEORGE LONGDEN	3-4.	*JOSEPH MALONEY	7-8.

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL and Conducted by WILLIAM JAKEMAN.

This is the first peal in the method by the Association. *First peal on handbells. Joseph Maloney hails from Glossop; the rest belong to Ashton. Umpires—Messrs. Samuel Taylor and John Crabtree.

ORMSKIRK.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN BRANCH.)

On Monday, March 11, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 25 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.

GEORGE PRESCOTT	Treble.	CHARLES SHARPLES	5.
JAMES PILKINGTON	2.	WILLIAM J. TAYLOR	6.
WILLIAM ELLIS	3.	WILLIAM BENTHAM	7.
JAMES SHOLICAR	4.	PETER H. HARVEY	Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES SHOLICAR.

Rung in honour of the 23rd birthday of Mr. P. H. Harvey.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 12, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

JAMES WILDE	Treble.	JAMES S. WILDE	5.
JOHN SIDEBOTHAM*	2.	THOMAS WILDE	6.
THOMAS BRADLEY*	3.	SAMUEL WOOD	7.
WALTER SLATER*	4.	*DAVID LEIGH	Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

*First peal in the method.

GISLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

5040 CHANGES ON SIX BELLS, BEING SEVEN 720's OF BOB MINOR.

EDWARD YOUNGS*	Treble.	GEORGE VINCENT	4.
THOMAS DAVEY*	2.	WILLIAM IRELAND	5.
GEORGE CATTERMOLLE* ..	3.	*CHARLES ELMER	Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM IRELAND.

*First 5040. Messrs. Youngs, Davey and Cattermole hail from Wickham Skeith, and W. Ireland from Diss.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE CRAWLEY BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, March 12, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FIVE-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

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

Conducted by WILLIAM COLLISON.

*First peal as conductor.

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WORSLEY.—On Saturday, March 9th, at St. Mark's church, eight members of the Manchester Branch of the above Association rang a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 11 mins. J. Eachus, 1; G. Lee, 2; G. E. Turner, 3; H. Chapman, 4; J. Welsby, 5; T. Derbyshire, 6; F. Derbyshire, 7; R. Ridyard (conductor), 8. Composed by J. Wilde, of Hyde, Cheshire.

BARLOW MOOR (Lancashire).—On Thursday, February 28th, at Christ Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. and 10 mins. W. Oaks, 1; J. Brickell, 2; G. Pearson, 3; W. Holbrock, 4; J. Wilde, 5; J. Darbyshire, 6; P. Brickell, 7; S. Brickell, 8.

LLANGOLLEN.—On Saturday, March 2nd, for practice at the parish church, Mr. John Carter's date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. Evans, 1; T. Williams, 2; D. Evans, 3; J. Davies, 4; J. W. Davies, 5; R. Horspool, 6; T. Davies, 7; R. Maxwell, 8. Tenor 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. Conducted by D. Evans. This is the first date touch by all the above.

SOUTHPORT (Lancashire).—On Thursday, March 7th, 1889, at Christ Church, the local company rang a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. and 5 mins. L. Whitmore, 1; Joseph Rimmer, 2; James Rimmer, 3; T. Fielding, 4; R. Hill, 5; L. Tyldesley, 6; D. E. Rimmer, 7; J. W. Rimmer, 8. Composed by Samuel Woods, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and conducted by D. E. Rimmer.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHESTER-LE-STREET (Durham).—On Tuesday, February 19th, at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung by the local

company, assisted by two ringers from Durham city, in 30 mins. *A. Meyers, 1; *W. Brown, 2; *J. Swinburne, 3; *W. Sheraton, 4; C. J. Butterworth (Durham, conductor), 5; L. Newton (Durham), 6. *First 720 in the method. And on Shrove Tuesday, March 5th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure in 29 mins. A. Meyers, 1; C. L. Routledge (conductor, Newcastle), 2; W. Brown, 3; T. Walker, 4; J. Huntly, 5; W. Sheraton, 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

DURHAM.—On Monday, February 18th, at St. Oswald's church, 720 Grandsire Minor. *W. Liddle, 1; W. H. Craggs, 2; *W. G. Newton, 3; *C. Bradford, 4; J. E. Avery (conductor), 5; *W. Prince, 6. *First 720 in the method. On Monday, February 24th, 720 Plain Bob. W. H. Craggs, 1; W. Liddle (first 720 on a bob bell), 2; C. Bradford, 3; W. G. Newton (conductor), 4; J. E. Avery, 5; W. Prince, 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday, March 3rd, at the parish church, 960 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Worsley, 1; J. Gransbury, 2; A. Moorcraft, 3; G. Bell, 4; G. Newman, 5; D. Hall, 6; A. Woolley, 7; J. Leonard (conductor), 8.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Sunday morning, March 3rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. W. Cooke, 1; W. Preston, 2; W. Evans, 3; J. Baker, 4; W. Haigh, 5; A. Haigh (conductor), 6. And for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. A. Harris, 1; W. Preston, 2; A. Haigh, 3; W. Cooke, 4; W. Haigh, 5; J. Tulett (conductor), 6; G. Lindoff, 7; W. Evans, 8. J. Tulett hails from Rochester.

HARTLIP (Kent).—On Saturday, March 2nd, six members of the above Association paid a visit to this place, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor at the parish church in 27 mins. A. Harris, 1; A. Ring, 2; W. Haigh, 3; W. Evans, 4; G. Lindoff, 5; A. Haigh (conductor), 6. Also 360 Grandsire Minor. A. Harris, 1; A. Haigh, 2; A. Ring, 3; W. Evans, 4; G. Lindoff (conductor), 5; W. Haigh, 6. A. Ring hails from Rochester; the rest belong to the Gillingham company.

SWANSCOMBE.—On Sunday, February 24th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Plain Bob. H. Digby, 1; L. Digweed, 2; W. Jackson, 3; F. Ring, 4; J. Broom, 5; G. Hayes (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 3rd, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Kent Treble Bob. L. Digweed, 1; A. Cornford, 2; F. Ring, 3; J. Broom, 4; W. Martin (conductor), 5; W. Harper, 6.

STAPLEHURST.—On Sunday, March 10th, at the parish church, 756 Stedman Triples. W. Walter, 1; W. E. Pope, 2; W. Pope, 3; J. G. Tillmon, 4; H. G. Pope, 5; A. Palmer, 6; E. Pope (conductor), 7; T. G. Colvin, 8. Also 216 Stedman Triples. W. Walter, 1; W. E. Pope, 2; W. Pope (conductor), 3; W. Collison, 4; H. G. Pope, 5; J. G. Tillmon, 6; E. Pope, 7; T. G. Colvin, 8.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—On Wednesday, February 27th, at the church of All Saints, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes), in 47 mins. G. Naish, 1; G. Welling, 2; J. W. Kelley (conductor), 3; Rev. H. Shears, 4; W. E. Garrard, 5; J. Nicholls, 6; J. Strutt, 7; G. Gray, 8; J. Wright, 9; C. Slade, 10. Tenor 33 cwt.

CROYDON.—On Tuesday, February 26th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, an attempt was made for Johnson's twelve-part peal of Oxford Bob Triples, but after ringing 4700 changes in 3 hrs. 7 mins., "stand" was called, owing to a change-course. G. Burt, 1; W. J. Chambers, 2; R. E. Pearson, 3; H. Brooker, 4; Dr. A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 5; A. Bruce, 6; T. Verrall, 7; W. Hill, 8. Tenor 32 cwt. in Eb.

BILSTONHINGLEY (Surrey).—On Sunday, March 3rd, at the parish church, 1288 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Bashford, 1; F. Smith, 2; J. Bashford, jun., 3; W. Burkin, 4; J. Tidey, 5; W. Webb, 6; T. Boniface, 7; W. Hawkins (conductor), 8. Also 480 Stedman Triples. J. Bashford, jun., 1; F. Linter, 2; G. Croucher, 3; W. Mayne, 4; W. Burkin (conductor), 5; W. Webb, 6; J. Tidey, 7; W. Meads, 8. And 294 Grandsire Triples. G. Brown, 1; G. Croucher, 2; F. Linter, 3; J. Bashford, jun. (conductor), 4; G. Potter, 5; J. Bashford, 6; W. Webb, 7; A. Wallis, 8. Also 408 Stedman Triples. J. Bashford, 1; F. Linter, 2; G. Croucher, 3; J. Bashford, jun. (conductor), 4; G. Potter, 5; T. Boniface, 6; W. Webb, 7; J. Balcomb, 8.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

PERRY BARR.—On Sunday morning, March 3rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 40 mins. G. Mitchison, 1; W. Carte, 2; W. Long, 3; G. Smith, 4; W. H. Godden, 5; H. Brown, 6; *C. Williams (conductor), 7; C. Fluck, 8. *First quarter-peal as conductor.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Thursday, February 21st, at the church of

St. Mary the Virgin, some members of the local society attempted Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, which unfortunately came to grief through a mis-call, after ringing 4,500 changes in 2 hrs. 55 mins. T. Webb, 1; E. Bray, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; J. Phillips, 5; G. Spicer (conductor), 6; R. Jackson, 7; G. Gentle, 8. And on Sunday evening, March 3rd, for Divine Service, 782 Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; E. Bray, 2; J. Smith, 3; J. Craft, 4; J. Phillips (conductor), 5; G. Spicer, 6; R. Jackson, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Also 252 Stedman Triples. T. Webb, 1; E. Bray, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Craft, 4; J. Phillips, 5; G. Spicer, 6; R. Jackson, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Conducted by T. Webb. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BAGSHOT (Surrey).—On Saturday evening, February 16th, at St. Anne's church, 720 Bob Minor. A. Harding, 1; T. Gould, 2; O. Harding, 3; F. Francis, 4; H. Stapleton, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. On Thursday, February 21st, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Stevens, 1; T. Gould, 2; F. Francis, 3; O. Harding, 4; H. Stapleton, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all the band and the first in the method on the bells.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Tuesday, February 26th, at the church of All Saints, for practice, 448 Grandsire Triples. S. V. Salisbury, 1; W. E. Ward (conductor), 2; A. R. Ward, 3; H. Jennings, 4; O. Coombes, 5; A. Williams, 6; G. Derrick, 7; A. Ward, 8. And on Sunday morning, March 3rd, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins. S. V. Salisbury (first quarter-peal), 1; W. E. Ward, 2; W. Jennings, 3; J. Norris, 4; H. Jennings (conductor), 5; G. Derrick (first quarter-peal), 6; A. R. Ward (first quarter-peal with a bob bell), 7; A. Ward, 8. Also for evening service 518 in the same method. S. V. Salisbury, 1; W. Jennings, 2; A. Williams, 3; H. Jennings (conductor), 4; G. Derrick, 5; A. R. Ward, 6; W. E. Ward, 7; A. Ward, 8.

SWANMORE (Hants).—On Wednesday, February 27th, at the church of St. Barnabas, 720 Grandsire Minor in 23 mins. J. Osman (first 720), 1; C. Privett, 2; J. Millard (first 720), 3; W. Linter, 4; R. Linter, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt. Messrs. Whiting and Privett hail from Fareham; the rest are of the local company.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BOLTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, March 2nd, at Holy Trinity Church, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 28½ mins. H. W. Jackson, 1; H. Bentley, 2; J. Redford, 3; R. Hill, 4; D. E. Rimmer, 5; W. Hamer, 6.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Sunday, February 24th, at St. Paul's church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 23½ mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; A. Potter, 4; J. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. Also on Sunday evening, March 3rd, 720 Bob Minor in 24 mins. W. Denner (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; A. Potter, 3; J. Williamson, 4; J. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

BACUP.—On Sunday evening, March 3rd, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. A. Downing, 3; Z. Lord, 4; A. White, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. And on Sunday evening, March 10th, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob (nine bobs and six singles). W. Ormerod, 1; Z. Lord, 2; A. L. Hardman, 3; J. Hardman, 4; A. A. Downing, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6.

RADCLIFFE.—On Saturday, February 16th, 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins. A. Barrett (conductor), 1; G. Hoyle, 2; A. Hardman, 3; J. Hardman, 4; W. Fielding, 5; F. Birtwistle, 6.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHARNBROOK (Beds).—On Saturday, March 2nd, at St. Peter's church, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; C. Allen, 2; E. Coleman, 3; L. Bell, 4; W. Page, 5; A. J. Barcock, 6. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor. Also two 120's of Stedman Doubles, and 120 New Doubles. E. Coleman, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; L. Bell, 3; A. J. Barcock, 4; W. Page, 5; T. Bramsome, 6. Also 120 New Doubles. T. Bramsome, 1; C. Allen, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; A. J. Barcock, 4; W. Page (conductor), 5; L. Bell, 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. A. J. Barcock, 1; C. Allen, 2; L. Bell, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; W. Page, 5; J. Dickens, 6. Also 120 Stedman Slow Course Doubles. J. Dickens, 1; C. Allen, 2; L. Bell, 3; A. J. Barcock, 4; W. Page (conductor), 5; T. Bramsome, 6. Also on Saturday, March 9th, 120 Stedman Doubles. A. J. Barcock, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; C. Allen, 3; E. Coleman, 4; W. Page, 5; T. Bramsome, 6. Also 720 Yorkshire Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Dickens, 1; C. Allen, 2; L. Bell, 3; E. Coleman, 4; A. J. Barcock, 5; W. Page (conductor), 6; first 720 in the method by all. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. C. Allen, 1; W. Page, 2; E. Coleman, 3; A. J. Barcock, 4; L. Bell, 5;

C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also 120 each of Stedman Slow Course and St. Simon's Doubles.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, February 28th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Spencer, 1; F. Smith, 2; W. Hall, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; F. Sharp (first 720 in the method as conductor), 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. C. W. Clarke, 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Sharp, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; F. Hull, 6. Also 120 Bob Minor. H. Sharp, 3; F. Smith (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, February 17th, at St. Paul's church, for morning service, 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Spencer, 1; C. Pass, 2; W. Allen, 3; F. Keech, 4; W. Hall, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; I. Hills, 7; J. N. Frossell, 8. Also, for evening service, 336 Bob Major. F. Hull, 1; W. Allen, 2; F. Smith, 3; C. West, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; C. Pass, 6; W. Baldwin (Southport), 7; I. Hills, 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. F. Hull, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; W. Allen, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; F. Smith, 5; C. Pass, 6; I. Hills, 7; F. Keech, 8. Also on Sunday evening, February 24th, 727 Grandsire Triples. J. Spencer, 1; C. Pass, 2; W. Allen, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; F. Keech, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; I. Hills, 7; F. Hull, 8. Also 224 Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Keech, 1; F. J. Cullip, 2; W. Allen, 3; W. Hall, 4; F. Smith, 5; J. N. Frossell, 6; T. Hills, 7; C. W. Clarke, 8. Also a Course of Stedman Triples. I. Keech, 1; J. N. Frossell, 2; F. Smith, 3; W. Allen, 4; W. Hall, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6; T. Hills, 7; W. Baldwin, 8. Also two courses of Grandsire Triples. W. Baldwin, 7.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Wednesday, February 20th, for practice at the parish church, 1008 Bob Major, with the tenors parted. A. Edwards, 1; J. Everard, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; F. Radley, 4; R. Wood, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; A. Tarbun, 7; W. Lincoln (conductor), 8. And on Sunday evening, March 3rd, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. W. Emery, 1; W. J. Piper, 2; A. Edwards, 3; J. Everard, 4; W. Lincoln (conductor), 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; A. Tarbun, 7; F. Radley, 8. Composed by A. Squires, of Hitchin, Herts.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Friday, February 22nd, for practice at the parish church, 1056 Bob Major. R. C. Burrell, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; A. Edwards, 4; W. J. Piper, 5; A. Tarbun, 6; W. Hawkes, 7; W. Lincoln (conductor), 8. And on Friday, March 1st, for practice, 504 Grandsire Triples. R. C. Burrell, 1; A. Edwards, 2; J. Dains, 3; A. Shuttleworth, 4; C. Boxall, 5; A. Tarbun, 6; W. Lincoln, 7; C. Houghton, 8. Also 504, with C. Elliott, 3; W. J. Piper, 8. *First 504. And on Sunday afternoon, March 3rd, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Major, and 405 Grandsire Triples. *E. Dains, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Edwards, 3; F. Radley, 4; W. J. Piper, 5; W. Hawkes, 6; A. Tarbun, 7; W. Lincoln (conductor), 8. *Longest touch of Major.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Thursday, March 5th, at the parish church of St. Mary the Virgin, 720 Stanstead Double Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 ever rang in this method. And on Saturday, March 9th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (forty-two singles). T. Newman, 1; W. Watts, 2; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Cavill, 5; F. W. Chapman, 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob (fifteen bobs), in 24½ mins. J. Cavill, 1; F. W. Chapman, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; J. Luckey, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. And 720 Stanstead Double Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). †T. Newman, 1; W. Watts, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; †H. J. Tucker (conductor), 5; I. Cavill, 6. Also on Sunday afternoon, March 10th, for Divine Service, 360 Canterbury Pleasure. J. Cavill, 1; W. Watts, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. †First 720 in the method. Messrs. Tucker, Chapman, and Newman hail from Bishops Stortford. Tenor 13 cwt.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

CHEADLE (Staffordshire).—On Monday evening, March 4th, at St. Giles' church, the local company rang 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. *J. Cartledge, 1; J. Burton, 2; S. Burton, 3; J. Shenton, 4; R. Bullock, 5; H. Booth (conductor), 6. *First 720. This is the first 720 on the bells ever rung by a purely local band. The bells are now in good going order, and should any brother-ringers wish to get a pull on the bells they will be heartily welcomed by the local company, if they would previously notify their intentions to J. Burton, High Street, Cheadle, Stoke-on-Trent.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, March 5th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. E. Jarvis, 1; J. W. Jarvis, 2; G. Ladd, 3; G. L. Richardson, 4; Dr. Seccombe (Terrington, first quarter-peal), 5; R. Mackman, 6; G. Skeef (conductor), 7; R. Jarvis, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

WINSHILL.—On Saturday, February 16th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Rice, 1; J. Woodward, 2; J. Jaggar, 3; W. Smith, 4; W. Wylde, 5; L. Bullock (conductor), 6.

SANDIACRE (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, March 10th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor in 26 mins. E. J. Norman, 1; J. Bonsall, 2; J. Hall, 3; G. Carrington, 4; H. W. Wilde (conductor), 5; R. T. Parkins, 6. The above is the first 720 of Minor by all, and it is also the first 720 of Minor ever rung on the bells by a local band. Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qrs. 14 lbs. in F.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

BRIERLEY HILL.—On Sunday, March 2nd, at the church of St. John the Baptist, a touch of 1120 Kent Treble Bob Major. R. Beasley, 1; W. Short, 2; H. Woodhall, 3; C. Boughton, 4; T. Lees, 5; A. Orford, 6; H. Harris, 7; W. F. Hartshorne (conductor), 8. This is the longest touch in the method by all.

CRADLEY.—On Tuesday, March 5th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor. G. Dukes, 1; R. Beasley, 2; G. Raybould, 3; C. Beasley, 4; A. Orford, 5; C. Daniel (first 720 as conductor), 6. G. Raybould hails from Halesowen; A. Orford from Stourbridge.

WORCESTER.—On Thursday, February 21st, for practice at St. John's church, 720 Grandsire Minor. G. Morton (first 720), 1; G. Hobbs, 2; S. Cotton (conductor), 3; W. Page, 4; B. Hill, 5; H. B. Kingsford, 6. And at St. Helen's church, on March 5th, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Davis, 1; L. Longney (conductor), 2; B. Hill, 3; S. Cotton, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; E. Sprague, 6; W. Page, 7; W. Bradley, 8. Also three courses of Stedman Triples. R. Passey, 1; H. B. Kingsford, 2; G. Hobbs, 3; S. Cotton, 4; E. Sprague, 5; L. Longney, 6; W. Page, 7; T. Penny, 8. *Handbell Ringing.*—A 504 Grandsire Triples, with the twelve 6-7's. H. B. Kingsford, 1-2; W. Page, 3-4; S. Cotton, 5-6; L. Longney (conductor), 7-8. Also 252 Plain Bob Triples, standing as above. E. Sprague hails from Malvern; the rest belong to the junior society, Worcester.

MALVERN.—On Thursday, February 28th, at the Priory church, the local band, with the assistance of some friends from Worcester, attempted Parker's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing nearly 1200 in 43 mins., it came to grief through the fifth casting rope. H. B. Kingsford, 1; F. Jelf, 2; G. Hobbs, 3; E. Peacey, 4; R. Knowles, 5; L. Longney (conductor), 6; W. Page, 7; W. Knowles, 8. Time not allowing for another attempt, some Minor, Major, and 336 Grandsire Triples, conducted by R. Knowles, was rung. G. Hobbs, 1; F. Jelf, 2; E. Peacey, 3; W. Knowles, 4; W. Page, 5; L. Longney, 6; R. Knowles, 7; H. B. Kingsford, 8.

CARLISLE AND CUMBERLAND ASSOCIATION.

CARLISLE.—On Tuesday, March 12th, for practice at St. Stephen's Church, 720 of Bob Minor, in 30 mins. (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Little, 1; J. Jefferson, 2; D. Starding, 3; W. Gregson, 4; J. Turner (first 720), 5; L. W. Jennings (first 720 as conductor), 6; F. Gibson, 8. Also a touch of Stedman Triples on handbells.

ALDEBURGH-ON-SEA.—On Tuesday, February 26th, for practice on handbells, a 720 of Bob Doubles. J. Ashley, 1; H. Gurling, 2; E. Gibson, 3; C. Smith (conductor), 4; G. Churchyard, 5; J. Lovett, 6. On Thursday, February 28th, 720 of Bob Doubles on the tower bells, with H. Drew on the treble. And on handbells, 180 Bob Minor. J. Ashley, 1; H. Gurling, 2; E. Gibson, 3; H. Drew, 4; G. Churchyard, 5; C. Smith, 6. And 360 of Doubles, with extremes, the first three standing as before. G. Churchyard, 4; C. Smith (conductor), 5; J. Lovett, 6. H. Drew hails from Kelsale. And on Tuesday, March 5th, 720 Bob Doubles. J. Ashley, 1; H. Gurling, 2; E. Gibson, 3; C. Smith, 4; G. Churchyard, 5; — Lovett, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in F#.

BELGRAVE (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, March 2nd, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, at the parish church, but after ringing over 2000 changes, in 1 hr. 20 mins., it came to grief through the tenor-rope breaking. J. Smith, 1; H. Clayton, 2; G. Burrows (conductor), 3; F. Jarvis, 4; W. H. Clayton, 5; J. Pole, 6; S. Pole, 7; W. Bennett, 8.

BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday evening, March 10th, for Divine Service at the parish church, an attempt was made for a date touch of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing about 900 the conductor called them round owing to a mishap. J. Thompson, 1; T. Allbutt, 2; W. James, 3; G. Hayward (composer and conductor), 4; J. Mason, 5; A. Moore, 6; G. Bourne, 7; J. Parry, 8. Afterwards several courses of Forward Major were rung. J. Mason, 1; E. Crump, 2; G. Hayward, 3; T. Allbutt, 4; W. James, 5; W. Rea, 6; O.

James, 7; G. Bourne, 8. Also a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Mason, 1; W. Rea, 2; G. Hayward (conductor), 3; T. Allbutt, 4; W. James, 5; A. Moore, 6; O. James, 7; G. Bourne, 8.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, February 3rd, at Stapleton parish church, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. *W. Tyley, 1; G. Colston, 2; *A. Pike, 3; *J. Bawn, 4; J. Holman, 5; J. Hinton (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. On Saturday, March 2nd, at St. George's church, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Waters, 1; C. H. Gordon, 2; G. H. Colston, 3; G. Stowell, 4; J. Davies (conductor), 5; C. H. Tomkins, 6.

BRISLINGTON.—On Sunday, March 3rd, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. C. H. Gordon (first 720 in the method), 1; G. H. Colston, 2; J. Davies, 3; F. W. Elles (first 720 as conductor), 4; W. Emery, 5; J. Hinton, 6. This was the first 720 in the method on the bells.

BYTHORN (Hunts).—On Sunday, March 3rd, at the house of Mr. L. Dunkley, on handbells, a course of Grandsire Triples. E. B. Howell, 1-2; C. Dunkley, 3-4; F. Smith, 5-6; W. Richards, 7-8. And a 120 of Plain Bob Doubles, with 6-7-8 behind. E. B. Howell, 1-2; C. Dunkley, 3-4; W. Richards, 5-6; E. Dunkley (conductor), 7-8. Also a 6-score each of Grandsire and Canterbury Doubles. H. A. Howell, 1; F. Smith, 2; E. B. Howell, 3; C. Dunkley, 4; W. Richards (conductor), 5. Also a course of Bob Minor. H. A. Howell, 1; F. Smith, 2; C. Dunkley, 3; E. B. Howell, 4; J. Martin, 5; W. Richards, 6. J. Martin hails from Keystone; the rest belong to the local company.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Tuesday evening, March 5th, for practice at St. Mary's church, the local company rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, on the back six, in 29½ mins. T. Collinson, 1; J. Prickett, 2; G. Watkins, 3; J. Powell, 4; J. Morley (conductor), 5; C. Davies, 6. Tenor 21 cwt, in E. Longest length by all the above.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—On Sunday, February 17th, for evening service at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-six bobs and twenty-four singles), in 24 mins. T. Stuart (first 720), 1; T. Townson, 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; J. Burrows, 5; T. Watson (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 3rd, for morning service, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles), in 24 mins. T. Jackson (first 720), 1; T. Townson, 2; J. Burrows, 3; M. Caddy, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; T. Watson (conductor), 6. And for Divine Service in the evening 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty bobs and thirty singles), in 25 mins. T. Jackson, 1; T. Watson (conductor), 2; J. Spencer, 3; M. Caddy, 4; J. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6.

FULHAM (Middlesex).—On Thursday, February 28th, at the church of All Saints, 504 Stedman Triples, being the first 504 by the society. J. W. Driver, 1; W. E. Garrard, 2; J. Nicholls, jun., 3; F. W. Kelley, 4; F. Davey, 5; J. W. Kelley, 6; C. F. Winny (conductor), 7; S. How, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Sunday, March 3rd, at the house of M. F. Slade, on handbells, retained in hand, the first half of Hubbard's ten-part peal of Bob Triples, in 1 hr. 15 mins. M. F. Slade, 1-2; A. E. Chapman, 3-4; A. H. Martin, 5-6; J. B. Martin (conductor), 7-8. This is the longest touch by all double-handed. On Monday, March 4th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Bob (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). F. Kirk, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; F. Slade, 5; A. H. Martin (conductor), 6. And 720 Double Oxford. F. Kirk, 1; W. Hall, 2; W. Gilbert, 3; A. H. Martin, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; *J. B. Martin (conductor), 6. Also 360 Woodbine Treble Bob. H. Stubbs, 1; G. Burton, 2; *W. Gilbert, 3; J. B. Martin, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; A. H. Martin (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

SALISBURY.—On Monday, March 4th, at St. Thomas's church, 559 Grandsire Triples. J. Judd, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; A. F. Goddard, 5; A. W. Barkus, 6; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 7; C. Gaisford, 8. And on Sunday, March 10th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, 1260 Stedman Triples in 41 mins. W. S. Wise, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; H. D. Adams, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 7; W. Tryhorn, 8.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Monday, February 25th, at the church of St. Thomas, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), with the tenor covering, in 30 mins. W. A. Pugh, 1; G. H. Pagett, 2; W. F. Hartshorne, 3; C. Barrett, 4; A. Orford, 5; H. Harris (composer and conductor), 6; J. Crump, 8. Also 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). C. Barrett, 1; W. A. Pugh, 2; G. H. Pagett, 3; W. F. Hartshorne, 4; H. Harris, 5; A. Orford (conductor), 6; J. Crump, 8. W. F. Hartshorne hails from Brierley Hill; the rest are locals.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, March 3rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1280 changes), in 45 mins. J. Waghorn, sen., 1; G. Griffin, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; J. Barber, 4; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 5; H. A. Barnett, 6; J. Waghorn, jun., 7; W. Pye English, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

UPCHURCH (Kent).—On Saturday, March 2nd, 1889, by the St. Michael's Society, Sittingbourne, assisted by Mr. Ransome, of Boughton, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Mann, 1; G. Page, 2; C. Willshire, 3; P. Simms, 4; G. Ransome, 5; S. Swelling, 6. This is the first recorded 720 on these bells, which are very ancient, and in bad condition. Several 120's were also rung with Mr. F. Hinkley, of Upchurch, on the tenor. The ringers wish to convey their thanks through "THE BELL NEWS" to the Vicar for the kind use of the bells.

WOLSTANTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, March 3rd, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. W. Fitchford, 1; T. Miller, 3; F. Grocott (first 720 with a bob bell), 4; W. Miller, 5; H. Fitchford (conductor), 6; A. Grocott, 7; W. Slater, 8.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Sunday, March 3rd, for evening service, at the church of St. Mary Magdalen, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 40 mins. J. Beaven, 1; F. Cullum (Erith), 2; C. Chooett, 3; J. C. Harvey (conductor), 4; W. Bedwell, 5; H. Harvey, 6; J. Garard (Erith), 7; R. G. Carter, 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Angmering Branch at Angmering.—On Thursday, February 28th, 720 of College Single, in 24 mins. T. Parsons, 1; C. Clear, 2; T. Linfield, 3; J. Hills, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Yorkshire, in 23 mins. F. Finch, 1; J. Hills, 2; T. Linfield, 3; T. Parsons, 4; C. Clear, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Plain Bob, in 22 mins. J. Hills, 1; F. Finch, 2; C. Clear, 3; T. Linfield, 4; T. Parsons, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. Also on Saturday, March 2nd, 360 of Yorkshire. E. Parsons, 1; F. Finch, 2; T. Linfield, 3; J. Hills, 4; C. Clear, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Kent Treble Bob. F. Finch, 1; J. Hills, 2; T. Linfield, 3; C. Clear, 4; T. Parsons, 5; C. Hills (conductor, first in the method), 6. Also 720 of College Single, in 24 mins. C. Clear, 1; T. Parsons, 2; J. Hills, 3; T. Linfield, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6.

By the Steyning Branch at Steyning.—On February 23rd, a 720 of Plain Bob. J. Parker, 1; G. Gatland, 2; J. Smart, 3; C. Chambers, 4; F. Brooks, 5; G. Smart, 6. On February 23rd, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob. J. Smart, 1; C. Chambers, 2; J. Woolgar, 3; J. Parker, 4; T. Searle, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. On February 24th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Smart, 1; C. Chambers, 2; W. N. Holt, 3; G. Gatland, 4; T. Searle, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6. On February 28th, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. F. Brooks, 1; W. N. Holt, 2; J. Smart, 3; J. Matthews, 4; C. Chambers, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6.

By the Midhurst Branch at Midhurst.—On March 3rd, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob for morning service, in 23½ mins. T. Elliss, 1; W. Court, C. Tribe, 3; W. Selby, 4; G. Williams (conductor), 5; L. Batts, 6. On March 3rd, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob, for evening service, in 23 mins. T. Elliss, 1; G. Batts, 2; C. Tribe, 3; J. Lee, 4; W. Selby, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6.

By the Balcombe Branch at Balcombe.—On Thursday, February 21st, a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Bourn, 2; E. Streeter, senr., 3; R. Streeter, 4; T. Streeter, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. On Saturday, February 23rd, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Bourn, 2; E. Streeter, senr., 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Violet Treble Bob. J. Gasson, 1; R. Streeter, 2; E. Streeter, senr., 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; T. Streeter, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. On Saturday, February 23rd, a 360 of Woodbine. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Bourn, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; R. Streeter, 4; H. Meads, 5; E. Streeter, senr. (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 24th, a 720 of Duke of York. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Streeter, 2; H. Meads, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of London Treble Bob. E. Streeter, jun., 1; R. Streeter, 2; E. Streeter, senr., 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; T. Streeter, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6.

By the Brighton Branch at St. Peter's, Brighton.—On Monday, February 25th, a date touch of Stedman Triples, in 1 hr. and 7 mins. J. Searle, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; E. Merritt, 3; G. A. King, 4; H. Weston, 5; J. Jay, 6; J. Reilly (conductor), 7; W. F. Vernon, 8.

By the Brighton Branch at St. Paul's.—On Sunday, 24th, evening service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 17½ mins. A. Bennett, 1; Rann, 2; P. Allfrey, 3; G. Hill, 4; F. Hill, 5; Stepney, 6; W. Allfrey (conductor), 7; Salmon, 8. On Sunday, March 3rd, morning service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 17 mins. A. Bennett, 1; H. Rann, 2; P. Allfrey, 3; Biggerstaff, 4; F. Hill, 5; G. Stepney, 6; W. Allfrey (conductor), 7; Salmon, 8. On March 3rd, for evening service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 17½ mins. P. Allfrey, 1; Rann, 2; Salmon, 3; Stepney, 4; F. Hill, 5; Biggerstaff, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; W. Allfrey, 8.

On Monday, February 25th, at Crawley, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples, which came to grief after ringing 2030 changes, in 1 hr. and 10 mins. W. Ward, 1; J. Newham, 2; W. Parsons, 3; A. Ellis, 4; F. W. Rice, 5; W. Collison (conductor), 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; E. Pearce, 8.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

I could wish my life—and all men's lives—be like the days,
Growing more beauteous as eventide descends apace.

I could wish my life—and all men's lives—like seasons be,
Of promise full in all the fair spring time of light and glee.

Like as when summer comes in all its range of varied tints,
My words and actions each shall moulded be in love's imprints.

Like as when autumns with their softened winds their wealth outpour,
The harvest that my conscience then shall reap, be of rich store.

That good words said, and also good deeds done, shall ripe like grain,
Till all the harvest stand in sheaves of gold across the plain.

I could wish my life—and all men's lives—should brighten on,
Gathering in splendour until in the dusk the light is gone.

As I write this week, Mr. Editor, your capital photo-litho of Mr. Henry Johnson is before me, and I seem to see him as he stood up to respond to his health in the banquetting room of the Colonnade Hotel, last Thursday week, and in imagination seem to hear him utter his heart-felt wish—"God bless you all!" May He in His infinite mercy do so, Mr. Johnson; and may your eventide be happy, and blessed also. May the remembrance of the events of your eightieth birthday cheer your declining years with the thought that your efforts for the good of the Exercise have not been in vain, or gone without that recognition which they so fully deserved.

Well, the celebration is now a part of our history; it thus behoves us to look at its results and see how they will have effect on our future. This will be best done by examining the resolutions which we are told were carried with unanimity. These were five in number, and although they did not by any means include *all* the "bones of contention" which exist amongst us, there can be no two opinions as to their embracing the principal ones. Neither do I imagine there will be a great difference of opinion with respect to the points thus laid down. We may therefore agree with Mr. Heywood that "the unanimity of opinions in so representative a gathering was a good augury for the future of the art of change-ringing."

Peal ringing is on the swing just now (or rather, perhaps, to be more correct, I should say the *bells* are) and no mistake. Thirty-six peals recorded last week! And one of them a 13440 of Canterbury Pleasure Major. If things go on in this manner, our friend Mr. Attree had best turn his analysis into a weekly instead of a monthly, for fear he gets mixed among the multitude, or is compelled to engage a clerk in order to keep pace with the increasing amount of work.

I really must compliment our friends of Warnham on their "long length." As the longest yet rung in their county; as commemorative of the birthdays of their talented (and I am sure respected) conductor, and the composer of the peal; as the exact 200th peal of their County Association; and (I am sorry to add) their farewell peal with one good brother who is perforce leaving them; I do think this peal well deserves recording on a good tablet in the belfry. It is very seldom we see a peal with such numerous characteristics; and I hope before long to read of the uncovering of a board recording its accomplishment.

The 5056 of Double Oxford rung at Duffield on the 27th ult., will I imagine be recorded in a similar manner on the walls of that belfry; seeing that by it Mr. Heywood has now joined that slowly but slowly increasing number who have successfully passed their first "century" of peal-ringing.

"Captain" Robinson and "Lieutenant" Washbrook have

been again on one of their favourite excursions. Six peals (almost seven) in five days is certainly busy work, and I have no doubt their excursion will have been a pleasant one to them and a profitable one to all concerned.

"Six Bells" goes in for a proposal which, although it immediately affects only the Sussex Association, yet opens out a subject which has been a few times touched upon in various ways in the columns of our paper. I refer to the relative "value" of peals rung. I know that in raising this point I may with truth be told that it bristles with difficulties; I may even be told that the surmounting of those difficulties would not be fully compensated for by the "value received" in return. But I will mention it; then you can say what you like in reply. We all of us know that in totalling up the peals rung, month by month, Mr. Attree can only give us quantity. Thus if a band were to ring an easy peal in some method which they were in the habit of ringing week after week, and then got through the same the following day, that would score just as much to their credit as if they had accomplished two peals in methods new to them and so intricate in construction as to necessitate months of continuous practice. So that through this reason the monthly returns are not so demonstrative of real progress made as they are of the energy displayed by the members in endeavouring to score another to their credit. Thus one Association may have to its credit but half the number scored by another, and yet actually have made much more progress in the Science. Well, it is generally easier to point out a fault than to suggest a remedy, and of course having been daring enough to commit the first offence I might be justly called upon to offer some suggestions in the way of remedial measures. But, although I have some (perhaps crude) notions on the subject, I would beg to be excused bringing them forth this week, and take the liberty of soliciting the ideas of my readers. My object in opening out this subject is, that some plan might be devised so that, quality may be given due consideration, and so taken into account that Mr. Attree's returns in the future, while being more complete, would at any rate shew progress as well as energy. For the present, I will conclude—like the weekly serial stories—with the words "To be continued."

FREE LANCE.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, March 2nd, on the occasion of the re-opening of the parish church of St. Martin, the local band, with the kind assistance of other members of the Archdeaconry of Stafford and Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association, rang before service 216 Stedman Triples. W. R. Small (conductor), 1; H. Mills, 2; B. Gough, 3; J. Goodman, 4; E. Goodreds, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes, 7; A. Law, 8. After service several touches of Grandsire Triples, conducted by G. Hughes. On Sunday, March 3rd, when special sermons were preached, ringing commenced before morning service with 588 Plain Bob Triples. W. R. Small, 1; W. Smith, 2; B. Gough, 3; H. Mills, 4; E. Goodreds, 5; H. Mason, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. Reynolds, 8. Before evening service, 672 Grandsire Major. E. Woodhall, 1; H. Mills, 2; J. Hall, 3; W. Smith, 4; W. R. Small, 5; S. Smith, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; J. Smith, 8. Also 350 Grandsire Triples. W. R. Small (conductor), 1; H. Mills, 2; J. Hall, 3; E. Woodhall, 4; S. Smith, 5; J. Smith, 6; G. Hughes, 7; W. Smith, 8. After service the following attempted A. Percival Heywood, Esq.'s. date touch of Stedman Triples, but it came to grief after ringing about 1000 changes. H. Mills, 1; W. R. Small, 2; B. Gough, 3; J. Goodman, 4; E. Goodreds, 5; W. Smith, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; J. Hall, 8. The above church has now the aisles laid with tiles of a neat pattern, the body of the church has been fitted with new seats, and by a re-arrangement of the heating apparatus made warm and comfortable.

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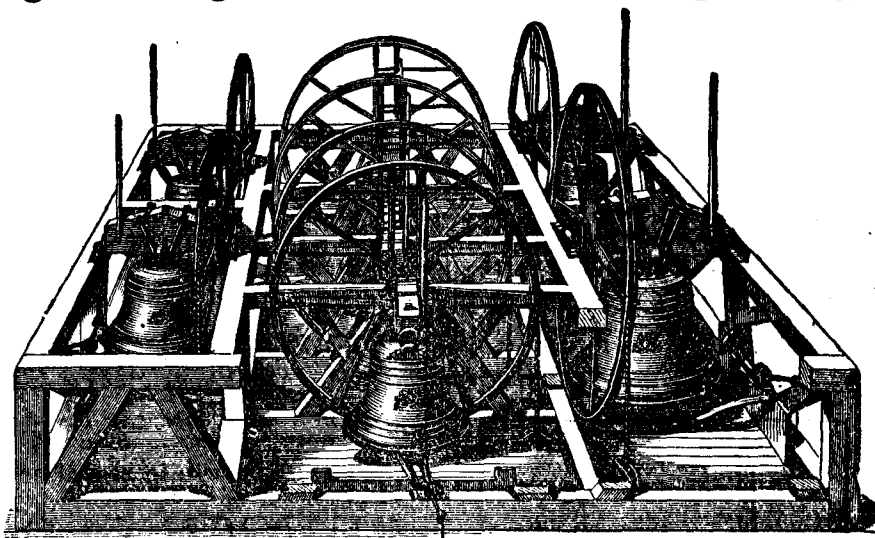
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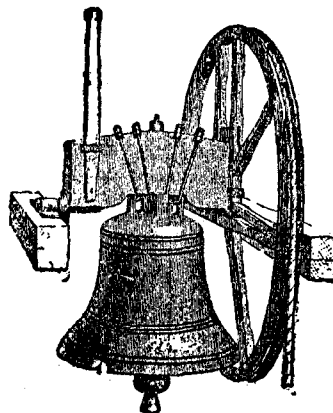
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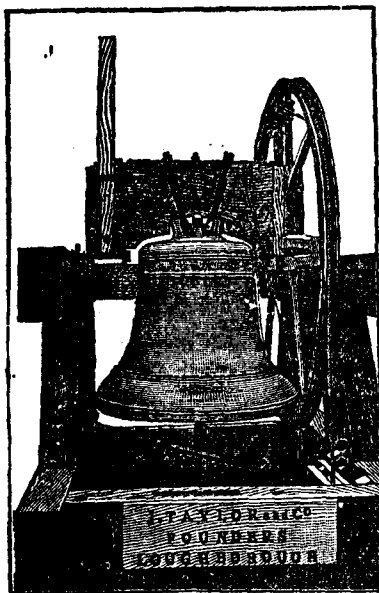
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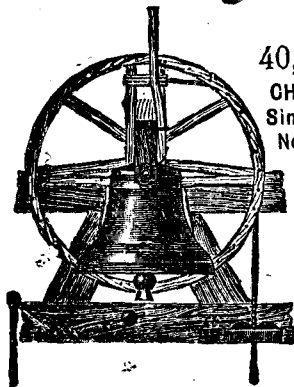
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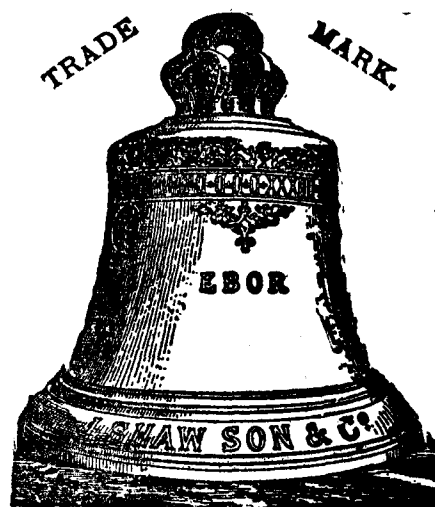
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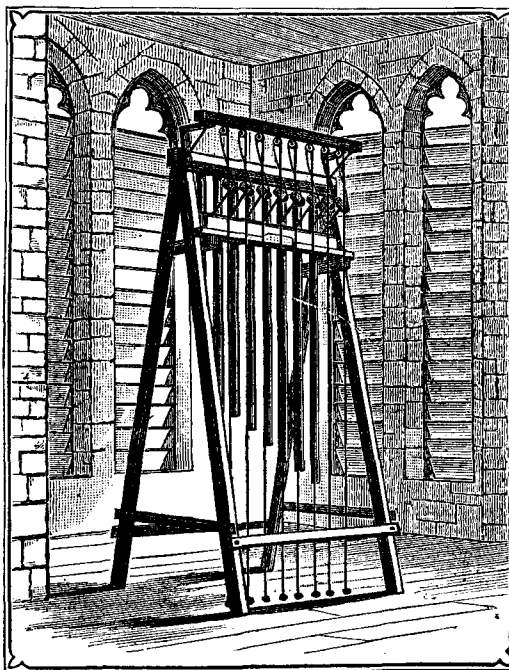
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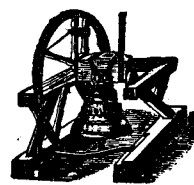
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MR. JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

[Vide Portrait.]

THE remarkable career of the ringer who is the subject of this brief memoir is well known to the readers of "THE BELL NEWS." Though he has not escaped the pitfalls to which the ambition of young composers are very apt to lead them, it may with propriety be said that what few mistakes he may have made in this direction is more than balanced by the abilities he has shewn both as a ringer and conductor. If the hypothesis is to hold good that when he is conducting a peal the attempt is almost sure to be successful, surely that will be further testimony to his skill and acumen. Enjoying the advantages of youth, and having a seemingly athletic frame, he is naturally fitted for those remarkable feats of which the power of endurance appears to be a most important factor; and the complex methods in which he has reaped success show that his mental capabilities are of the highest order.

Mr. Washbrook was born in the city of Oxford, close to the church of St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, on July 26th, 1864, consequently he is now in his 25th year. When a young lad he had a peculiar love for bells, and as early as his 8th year was able to pull a bell in rounds. He used to chime three bells for Divine Service at St. Thomas's twice a day, at the age of nine years, and toll for all funerals. Mr. Jaggar, who was an old schoolfellow, and now belonging to the Burton-on-Trent Society, was also to be found very often in the belfry. Many times have they surreptitiously taken the keys from behind the clerk's door, and spent the whole of the afternoon in pulling the bells with the clappers lashed, playing the truant from school, in fact, on purpose. However it was not till he had arrived at the age of 16 that he knew anything of change-ringing. About this time a curate of the parish, who had learned to pull a bell, presented each of the ringers of St. Thomas's with Troyte's work, and from that book they learnt to ring 6-scores of Grandsire and Stedman in a very short time, and about the middle of 1881 they were able to ring Minor fairly well. About this time the Oxford Diocesan Guild was formed, which opened up a field for eight and ten-bell ringing. On November 26, 1881, he rang his first peal, which was Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. C. Hounslow, and in which the Revs. Coleridge, Du Boulay, Hastings, and Child, then undergraduates of Oxford, took part. From this point he made rapid progress.

At this period there were two distinct societies in Oxford, and as usual the rivalry between them was not of the most friendly character. Mr. Washbrook thereupon looked about for young aspirants to ringing fame, and towers being easily got for practice he and his pupils soon got on, and was able to ring Stedman and Treble Bob well on eight and ten bells. He had succeeded in producing such a good company of young ringers that they were able, on Easter Monday of 1883, to attempt a peal on the heavy going peal of eight at Merton College, each ringer being under the age of twenty years. The peal, Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, progressed over half-way, when it was stopped by the authorities owing to a military drill going on hard by. This he was calling from the 7th, which bell went very badly. On March 13, 1883, he called his first peal, Holt's ten-part, at Christ Church Cathedral, and Holt's Original soon after on the same bells, which latter peal he has called since from every bell two or three times over. He called his first peal of Stedman Triples on December 8th, 1884 (Thurstans' composition), from a non-observation bell, and has since called this off every bell, and also Brook's Variation. He has likewise called Holt's Original, and Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples on handbells twice, ringing the trebles in each of the last-named performances, and these are the only times that

this composition has been rung in hand by provincial ringers. Up to the present he has rung 232 peals, in upwards of eighty different towers, conducting 178, and composing 70 of them. These peals have been rang in the following methods: Cambridge and Superlative Surprise, Double Norwich, Stedman, Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Grandsire, College Single, Oxford Bob, etc. The long peal of Stedman Caters, comprising 15,041 changes, and rung at Appleton on December 31st, 1888, was as is well known, composed and conducted by Mr. Washbrook. This peal occupied nine hours and sixteen minutes in execution, and was a fitting close to what will be regarded as a memorable year for long peals. Besides the peal just mentioned, his donation to the "long lengths" of the year 1888 comprised the following: 10,080 of Double Norwich, 12,041 of Stedman Caters, and 13,247 of Grandsire Caters, all of which he composed and called. Such performances alone certainly point him out as one of the most eminent men of the Exercise. Peals called by him may be found recorded in almost every issue of this paper, and we may safely prophesy that before his career is ended his list of peals may be the greatest, from a numerical point of view, of the nineteenth century.

He is a member of the following Associations: The Oxford Diocesan Guild (of which body he is the chief instructor), the Ancient Society of College Youths, the St. James's Society London, the Midland Counties' Association, the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, the Essex Association, the Surrey Association, the Winchester Diocesan Guild, etc.

Our portrait is an enlargement of a very successful photograph of this distinguished ringer.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—LIVERPOOL.
DIOCESAN BRANCH.

On Saturday, March 16th, the above branch held its usual monthly meeting at Ormskirk, which from all points of view was a highly successful and harmonious one. The bells of the parish church, as also those of Christ Church, Aughton, were rung during the afternoon, touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain and Treble Bob being rung. At 5.30 p.m. thirty-eight members sat down to an excellent meat tea, presided over by the Rev. J. E. Woodrow, vicar of Ormskirk, supported by the Rev. D. Jones (Aughton), Messrs. Martin and Musker, churchwardens of Sefton, etc. At 6.30 the vicar conducted a short service in the church, which was opened by the singing of the Old Hundredth. The address which was listened to with attention, urged upon the ringers present not to be content with calling others to church, but to attend themselves, thus shewing by their example that they are actually and truly Church workers. He also drew attention to the marked improvement that has of late years taken place in the relations between clergy, wardens, and ringers, and trusted the good work now begun may be followed up earnestly, and with good results. After service the business meeting was held in the vestry, the Rev. J. E. Woodrow in the chair. Eleven new members were elected, including two honorary, the chairman being one, and Mr. Birch, sidesman of Sefton, the other. It was decided to hold the next meeting at West Derby on April 13th. On the motion of the Rev. D. Jones (Aughton), seconded by Mr. R. Hill (Southport), a cordial vote of thanks to the vicar for his able address, and his kindness in presiding at the meeting was unanimously agreed to. In his reply he welcomed the Association to Ormskirk, saying he was a lover of bells, and looked on the ringers of them as brothers.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

NOTICE.—The Annual Supper takes place at the "Green Man," 54 St. Martin's Lane, W.C., on the 5th proximo. All members are cordially invited, and will please signify their intention to be present.

H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

BELL MOULDER WANTED.—Apply to GILBERT AND JOHNSTON, Croydon.



THE "BELL" STUDIO, 10, 12, & 14, N. 10TH ST., PHILA.

MR. JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 2nd, the vicar and churchwardens of Scotthorn provided a substantial supper for the ringers and their friends. The Rev. E. Milner Barry invited several of the Lincoln ringers to participate in the good cheer provided for the occasion. Unfortunately only Messrs. Maidens, Johnson, and Wells, of the Lincoln contingent, were able to take advantage of the invitation. The local band have been under the tuition of an instructor (Mr. Maiden), for some time, and can ring Bob Doubles very creditably. Scotthorn has a nice little ring of five, which were put in by John Taylor and Co. during Her Majesty's Jubilee year. The bells are now being augmented to six by the same firm. It is worthy of note that nearly the whole of the funds were raised by "social teas," the largest donation being five pounds. Miss Barry deserves a word of praise for the energy she has displayed, working indefatigably for the bell fund. Ringing was continued throughout the afternoon, and at 6.30 the ringers sat down to a good spread in the school-house, Miss Barry having beautifully decorated the rooms with flags, banners, plants, and appropriate inscriptions for the occasion.

After having satisfied the inner man, songs and tunes upon the handbells were indulged in till a late hour.

The Rev. E. Milner Barry expressed the pleasure it gave him to meet the ringers and their friends that evening. He trusted the ringers would not use those means which had cracked so many bells, but ring 720 changes when they had the sixth bell, which would be swinging in a week or two. The Vicar concluded his remarks by saying he hoped to see the Lincoln men on Easter Monday.

Mr. Seagrave proposed a vote of thanks to the vicar and churchwardens. Mr. Maidens seconded the vote, and congratulated the local band in having a vicar and churchwardens who thoroughly appreciated change-ringing, and studied their comforts. He trusted that they would continue in the future as they had done in the past.

The company dispersed after playing "God save the Queen," the Lincoln men having to walk home seven miles.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION—MANCHESTER BRANCH.

A very successful meeting of the above branch was held on Saturday, March 16th, at Holy Trinity church, Stretford Road, Manchester. The bells were set going shortly after the appointed hour, and touches in the following methods were rung during the evening:—Bob Minor, Bob Major, Treble Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, and Stedman Triples. Ringers attended from Ashton-under-Lyne, Whitfield, Worsley, Oldham, Northenden, Northwich, Eccles, and the following Manchester churches were represented: St. Phillip's, Chester Street; St. John's, Deansgate; Holy Trinity, Stretford Road; and the Cathedral. At nine o'clock a meeting was held in the belfry, the chair being occupied by the Rev. H. J. Elsee, who in a very neat speech congratulated the members on the progress such meetings as the present one were making for the association. Five new members were elected, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Christ Church, Barlow Moor Road, Withington, on Saturday, April 13th. The usual votes of thanks to the Rector, Churchwardens, and Chairman were passed, and the bells were then rung until 9 o'clock.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A COMMITTEE MEETING of the above took place on Saturday last in St. John the Baptist's schoolroom, Hagley. The rector, the Rev. W. E. Gibbs, presided. There was a good attendance of members present, and the usual business transacted. Several new members being added to the list, Mr. S. Spittle (Master), who was present at the celebration of Mr. H. Johnson, sen.'s eightieth birthday at Birmingham, spoke of the various resolutions which were passed at that meeting, and ventured to say that if the same were carried into effect, they would be beneficial to the ringing world, and suggested that at the Annual Meeting to be held at Easter, a delegate be appointed from this Association to form one on the council of ringers. A vote of thanks to the rev. Chairman thanking him for presiding, and also the use of the schoolroom, brought the meeting to a close.

Obituary.

CHARLIE BENNETT.

We regret to announce the death, somewhat suddenly, of the above ringer, of the Holy Trinity Church company, Hull, which took place on the 12th inst., at the age of 35 years. Mr. Bennett, who was born at Northwold, Norfolk, was a change-ringer at the age of 14, ringing his first 720 at his native place with his father, uncles, and brothers. He came to Hull at the age of 18, and joined the Yorkshire Association in 1880, and the Holy Trinity company in the following year, ringing his first peal of 5000 changes on the 6th of February, 1882, and his last on the 2nd of June, 1888. In the course of his career he rang fifty-two peals, made up as follows: 18 Grandsire Triples, 18 Bob Major, 12 Kent Treble Bob Major, 1 Grandsire Major, 2 Yorkshire Court Major, and 1 Stedman Triples. By his death the Hull members of the Association lose a thorough good ringer, who was highly esteemed by all with whom he came in contact. He had been in failing health for above twelve months, and it was eventually found that there was no cure for that dreadful disease, consumption. He requested his brother-ringers, only a week previous to his death, to call on him with a set of handbells, in order that he might have a little practice with them. This request was complied with, when he rang a course each of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major, but he only survived the visit two days. He was followed to his last resting-place by a large number of ringers and friends, on Sunday, the 17th inst., and his brother-ringers rang over their departed comrade a course of Grandsire Triples upon handbells. The service was performed by the Rev. A. E. Beddoe, Vicar of St. Andrew's, Hull, in whose parish the deceased resided. A muffled peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung to his memory at St. James's church, Hull, on the 14th inst., particulars of which will be found in the peal column.

RICHARD ASHCROFT.

ON Tuesday, March 12th, the remains of the above-named ringer, who for the lengthy space of 54 years was a well-known and highly respected member of the Eccles parish church company, were interred at the above church. Deceased was in his seventy-sixth year, fifty-five of which he had spent in one house, about a mile from the church. Deceased had rung many peals, mostly in Grandsire, Treble Bob, and Bob Major, and when he was in his 72nd year he rang three peals in nine days at Eccles and Bolton, but he did not keep a correct record of all his peals, so the number cannot be given. On Thursday, March 14th, a half-muffled peal of Bob Major was started for, composed by Mr. Pritchard, of Liverpool, but after ringing 1000 changes the sixth rope broke. J. Grimshaw, 1; J. Rogers, 2; G. Turner, 3; T. Thorpe, 4; J. Barratt, 5; J. Thorpe, 6; H. Chapman, 7; J. Eachus (conductor), 8. All the above are members of the Lancashire Association, of which deceased was also a member.

HOGHTON, NEAR PRESTON.

On Saturday, March 16th, by the kind invitation of the Rev. J. Shortt, Vicar of this parish, the local ringers and a few friends sat down to a substantial knife and fork tea, previous to which several good touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the peal lately added by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and which are in first-class going order. An adjournment was then made for tea at 6 p.m. at the "Boar's Head," and ample justice was done to the good things provided. After tea, Mr. J. Walker, instructor to the local company, was voted to the chair, and after a short address several toasts were drunk, including "The Queen" and "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese." The evening was enlivened with songs and recitations, interspersed with handbell ringing, until 9.40 p.m., when it was time for the visitors from a distance to depart. The proceedings were brought to a close by a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kindness, and also to the host and hostess, for the very able manner in which they had contributed to the comfort of all. The visitors departed highly delighted with their entertainment, and wish here to express once more their thanks for the kindness accorded them by one and all. The visitors included Mr. G. Appleby, of Burton-on-Trent, Messrs. J. Smith and J. Walker, jun., Blackburn, and J. Davidson, Liverpool.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"What man has done, man may do—and more."

Scarcely had the bells of Birmingham sounded their last notes in honour of the Johnson Celebration, when our brethren of Woodbridge assembled to do honour to another octogenarian brother who that Saturday completed his eightieth year. Although Mr. Meadows had not, like his contemporary at "Brum," achieved celebrity, yet he has evidently accomplished one very desirable thing—that of gaining the esteem of those around him. For fifty-eight years past he has never missed taking his part in ringing "out the old year, in the new," and if that is to be taken as a sample, we may be sure that during this long period as a ringer he has been a pattern of attention to duties. I join most heartily in the good wishes expressed by the Woodbridge men towards the hale and sprightly old gentleman, and hope he may be spared to hear the sweet sound of his village bells, and to assist in welcoming in many new years yet to come.

Another veteran's name—Mr. Thomas Taylor, of Bourne—also appears this week! but he has gone to rest, at the ripe old age of eighty-three.

Mr. W. G. Mann raises a question anent Good Friday ringing which I trust will receive due consideration. During the season of Lent last year, I referred to this subject myself, and certainly think Mr. Mann's remarks well-timed. Our bells are the outward voice of the Church, proclaiming its varying seasons. Does it not appear anomalous, then, in the very highest degree, that on the most solemn day in the Church's year the bells should be rung just as they are on the following Sunday morning, when we celebrate one of her highest festivals? We commemorate the death of our brethren in muffled tones, should we not all the more celebrate the death of our Lord and Master in like manner on the day appointed by the Church for the purpose? Either this should be done by ringing all the bells muffled, or else but one bell should be rung slowly, as is the case in many places with which I am acquainted. Let us, at any rate, be consistent in our professions and our practice.

I quite agree with Mr. Godden's remarks on the Johnson portrait, the execution of which left nothing to be desired. I am also much obliged to you, Mr. Editor, for the "private view" of our esteemed friend, Mr. Washbrook, which is timed to appear on the same date as these notes. The frequent issue of these representations of the features of prominent men amongst us is a very commendable thing, and I do not doubt will be very acceptable to the Exercise generally. While it is practicably impossible for us all to meet each other in *propria persona*, it will, to say the least of it, be very gratifying to us that we can by this means become acquainted with the features of those who have made their mark in our midst. And looking at it in another way, as this plan becomes established, and consequently an institution amongst us, the honour of having one's portrait included in this way among the "lions" of the Exercise will be something worth striving for. It may be hinted that this has in some way or other a tendency to the pandering of vanity, but I don't think anything of the sort; it may foster true pride in our profession, but there is a wide margin between that commendable feature and a desire for mere flattery. With Mr. Godden, I trust you, Mr. Editor, will "be equally success-

ful with any future portraits," and that Mr. Keeble will have a great run upon his albums for preserving the same.

Mr. G. H. Simon writes, asking for a lead of Lancashire Delight and New London Bob to be sent to him. I suggest, would it not be preferable if Mr. Thornley would oblige us with the same in the columns of "THE BELL NEWS"? We might thus all have the benefit of an inspection. I should also be glad of the sight of a lead (with bob-making) of Canterbury Pleasure Major, as I unfortunately have not that method in my collection, and likely enough, many others would be pleased to add it to theirs.

Joseph Timms, of Tamworth, has started early on his career as a conductor of peal-ringing, seeing that he is only yet in his "teens." But he is all the better for that. If he only studies the life history and endeavours to emulate the good qualities of those elders whose names have been prominent before us of late, by the time he reaches his four-score he will be able to reflect with pleasure on his ringing career, and to feel the proud satisfaction of one who has striven to do his duty, and thus earned the esteem of his fellows.

The Sheffield men, I see, have "pulled off" a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major on the heavy ring at their parish church. The tenor is put down as 14 cwt., but of course that must be an error, as according to Mears' catalogue, the figures should be reversed. I fancy Mr. Brearley will have felt perfectly satisfied with himself and mankind in general (except, perhaps, his inner man) after he had piloted his heavy bell through the 5184, as well as conducted the peal.

A friend of mine is anxious to know if it is possible to obtain a 12-score of Plain Bob Minor in the ordinary way, by the use of bobs only (no singles or other deviation from the strict method to be called into requisition). Can any one tell him?

FREE LANCE.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH PARISH CHURCH SOCIETY.

On Wednesday, March 13th, eight members of the above Society paid a visit to Staunton Harold, the seat of the Right Hon. Earl Ferrers, for the purpose of attempting a peal on the bells, which are a fine peal of eight by Mears, and are hung in the tower of his Lordship's private chapel. The visit was of much interest, owing chiefly to the fact that there had been only one peal rung on the bells, and that as far back as 1832, which is recorded in the belfry in the following manner:—

"Nothing is so difficult but diligence will overcome. On Sunday, June 3rd, 1832, the Burton-on-Trent Society of change-ringers rang a compleat peal of Grandsire Tripples, 5040, consisting of 98 bobs and 2 singles, in 2 hr. 58 mins., being the first peal compleated on the bells. Joseph Beale, 1; John Keates, 2; Joseph Hill, 3; David Allard, 4; Joseph Appleby, 5; David Gilbert, 6; William Merry, 7; Richard Roe, jun., 8. Conducted by D. Gilbert."

After the bells had been raised a start was made for Holt's ten-part peal, which was successfully brought round in 3 hrs. 8 mins., as reported in peal column. The party were then kindly entertained by his Lordship, who expressed his own and Lady Ferrers' entire satisfaction with the ringing of the peal. They then thanked his Lordship for so kindly placing the bells at their disposal, also for their hospitality, and started for home (which was reached about 10.30), highly delighted with their success, all having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

FOR SALE.—A Good Musical Box, cost £24 new. Plays six well-known sacred tunes, with an organ accompaniment. Just been thoroughly done up. Price £8. R. Elliott, Springfield Road, Walthamstow.

Correspondence.

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

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

THE JOHNSON CELEBRATION.

SIR,—In common, I have no doubt, with other members of the Exercise, who unfortunately were unable to be present at Birmingham on the 28th ult., I have to confess to a feeling of disappointment at the extreme meagreness of the report of the proceedings which has appeared in the ringing papers. The occasion was one so remarkable in its intention and scope, and so important in its possible results, to the future of campanology, that a far fuller and more complete account of the proceedings ought to have been made and recorded; and I am sure that the increased space and closer printing required for such a purpose would have been well bestowed. The report, as it stands at present, does not differ materially from any ordinary record of post-prandial oratory, the cream of the meeting, namely the discussion on the points covered by the resolutions having been carefully skimmed off, and withheld from the Exercise at large. It was just the opportunity afforded for this discussion which made the assembly unique in the annals of change-ringing, and it is the outspoken opinion of representative men on these points that we want to hear. Complimentary toasts and after-dinner speeches of the ordinary character we can hear any day; but a discussion on special and carefully selected subjects by competent men is of more than fugitive interest; and if it is not adequately reported is lost to all, save those who were privileged to listen to it. The report, as it stands, is all trifle and no plums; and I hope it may not be impossible even now to repair the omissions, and give us a *resumé* of the arguments used by the various speakers in support of the resolutions that were passed. H. EARLE BULWER.

[We regret to say this letter was overlooked last week.—ED.]

THE SEVEN-BELL PEAL AT SOUTHGATE.

SIR,—In your last issue there was a letter from Mr. R. T. Woodley, referring to the peal we recently rang at Southgate. Mr. Woodley asserts that by ringing that peal we are qualifying for admission to Colney Hatch. We readily admit that if Mr. Woodley is an authority on any thing, it would naturally be on matters connected with the above-named useful institution. But will he please take notice that the Tottenham Society do not recognise him as an authority on other matters, and, whether he like it or not, we intend ringing still another seven-bell peal when it suits our convenience. T. C. GROVE,

Secretary of the Tottenham Society.

SIR,—I suppose no one will think the vapid effusion of R. T. Woodley worth replying to, but there is one little matter which though not worthy of notice as coming from him may possibly bear allusion. It is the "Billingsgate" accusation. Here we have exemplified the old proverb about the pot and kettle. If Mr. Woodley is anxious to obtain that high respect among the ringing community which his three predecessors in the office which he proudly holds enjoyed, let me tell him to profit by the old maxim—"Speech is silver; but silence is golden." Unless he does take this adage to heart, and soundly act upon it, there will be a fall for him some day, the shadow of which is already looming in the distance. I can fully understand the impetuosity of youth, and can make allowance for it, but it ought to be regulated by older counsel. In trying to curb his tongue and temper, and remembering that he is but a mere unit in the Exercise, without the least claim to be an authority, he will comply with the advice of

A VERY OLD RINGER.

RINGERS' FESTIVALS, ETC., DURING LENT.

"Once more the solemn season calls
A holy fast to keep;
And now within the temple walls,
Let priests and people weep."

SIR,—Perhaps some of your readers will explain how ringers' festivals are in accordance with the teaching of the Church of England, of which they are workers, the teaching of the Church of England being that the forty days of Lent are to be observed as a fast. Also how it is that the Association which is so careful to see that the Prayer-Book is carried out to a letter does not look after those who turn what the Prayer-Book orders to be kept as a fast, into a festival, and satisfy the mind of

LOOKER-ON.

Review.

[BY SCRUTATOR.]

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD OF RINGERS: SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT.—(E. Roe and Co., Salisbury). This report, which is comprised in 16 pp. of large 8vo., states that the number of members is: Honorary, 64; Ringing, 286; being an increase of 40 on the previous year. In the matter of finances, the total receipts are £32 16s. 7d.; the expenditure £31 2s. 6d., which, including the sum of £18 13s. 11d., brought forward from the previous year, leaves a balance in hand of £20 7s. 10d., shewing a gain of £1 13s. 11d. During the year sixteen peals have been rung (not including, of course, one of Bob Major, which afterwards turned out to be false). These items, though brief, will give a fair indication of the position of the Guild, which, although not receding, or even standing still, does not appear to have made any great amount of progress during the past year. I must confess to experiencing a feeling of disappointment after glancing through the pages of this report. Although I fully recognise the many difficulties in the way of managing successfully our County Associations, yet, in this instance I do think better results ought to have been chronicled. The increase in numerical strength may, perhaps, be allowed to go as the exception to this rule, although even in that case the increase in ringing members is slightly less than that of the previous year. Scientifically, the report is positively disheartening. In union with the Guild there are eleven rings of eight bells, sixteen rings of six, and eight rings of five. The Guild has thus 286 performing members, and 35 rings of from five to eight bells. But what has been done in the way of peal-ringing? Of the fourteen on tower bells eleven were rung at St. Martin's, Salisbury; one at St. Thomas', in the same city; one at Christ Church, Hants.; and another at St. James', Trowbridge. Out of the 286 ringing members only twenty-five took part in the total number of peals, and, practically, had it not been for the members of the St. Martin's branch, this peal record must have been almost *nil*. Then, as to the methods rung, fourteen were of Grandsire Triples—Holt's Ten-Part being rung ten times, Hollis's Five-Part three times; Brook's Variation, once—and two of Bob Major. Leaving these ringing statistics, I turn to the balance-sheet. Here we find that, out of the total of £31 2s. 6d., no less a sum than £22 os. 6d. has been expended in riding and eating. Is this owing to the fact that the members are financially unable to pay their own expenses in connection with the meetings, or has it to be done as an inducement to get the members together, without which they would not attend? I hope, for the reputation of our common brotherhood, that the latter alternative is not the case; yet it does seem passing strange that of the total amount of their annual expenditure two-thirds go in this direction. As to the general "get up" of this report, I should have been very glad had I been able to say a word in its favour. Unfortunately, the reverse is the case, and in no measured degree either. As a sample of the art of printing how it could with anything like satisfaction be laid before such gentlemen as are enumerated in the list of patrons, president, and vice-presidents, passes my comprehension. In the first place, the pages are much too large to be comely—that fault in itself might be overlooked, were it all; but the fancy-grocer's-handbill style of type used in "displaying" the titles of the peals rung, together with the elaborate borderings used in some of them, is positively excruciating. I think the officials of the Salisbury Guild cannot have seen the annual reports of other associations, or they would not be satisfied with one of this character. In drawing this notice to a close, I most sincerely hope my criticisms will be accepted in the same spirit in which they are given. However severe I may be considered to have been, I assure our Salisbury friends that it has caused me more pain to write them than their perusal will be to those most immediately concerned. But I could not honestly do otherwise. At the same time, I must exonerate the officers in a very great measure from censure in respect to the unsatisfactory features of this report. It shows but too plainly that the struggle for improvement—if not for very existence—is left in few hands. It shows that the rank and file do not support their officers as they ought to do—as they are in duty bound to do. When men are striving for the good of a society it is but the lowest form of gratitude for self-denying services rendered by them that the members, for whose benefit this is done, should loyally support them, and endeavour in every possible manner, by mutual self-help and perseverance, to forward the work. Whatever lack of credit exists in this case is evidently to be laid to the charge of the ordinary members, and not to the officers; and I trust that my observations will be taken so well to heart by them that next year we may see an improvement all round—a state of things which will not only be creditable to themselves, satisfactory to their officers, but pleasing to their neighbours in other counties.

THE RINGERS' PHOTO GALLERY.—B. Keeble, Peal Book Manufacturer, 2 Vine Street, Mawneys, Romford, Essex. Portfolios specially manufactured in strong covers, so as to admit fifty photo plates. These cases will be made with guards upon which the plates can be fixed either with a little gum or paste, and when complete will form a handsome ringers' photo gallery. Free by parcels post for 2s. 6d. postal order.

"FORWARD;"

A New Method for an Even Number of Bells.

By JOHN CARTER.

In last week's issue the words at the bottom of the date touch should read: "The second six courses four times repeated," instead of "these six courses."

The following are some more musical touches:—

1120.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-	-
2 4 5 3 1 6	-	-	-
5 2 4 3 1 6	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 1 6	-	-	-
2 3 4 5 1 6	-	-	-
5 4 3 2 1 6	-	-	-
3 5 4 2 1 6	-	-	-

Four times repeated.

1160.

1 2 3 4 5 6	H	B	O	F
4 6 2 5 1 3	2	-	-	-
5 3 2 4 1 6	-	-	-	-
2 5 3 4 1 6	-	-	-	-
3 2 5 4 1 6	-	-	-	-
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-	-	-
2 4 5 3 1 6	-	-	-	-
5 2 4 3 1 6	-	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 1 6	-	-	-	-

Four times repeated.

1200.

1 2 3 4 5 6	H	I	B	O	F
4 6 2 5 1 3	2	-	-	-	-
5 3 1 2 4 6	-	-	-	-	-
1 5 3 2 4 6	-	-	-	-	-
3 1 5 2 4 6	-	-	-	-	-
4 5 1 2 3 6	-	-	-	-	-
1 4 5 2 3 6	-	-	-	-	-
5 1 4 2 3 6	-	-	-	-	-

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

Twice repeated.

1280.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-	-
2 4 5 3 1 6	-	-	-
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	-	-	-

Four times repeated.

1280.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-	-
2 5 1 3 4 6	-	-	-
4 1 5 3 2 6	-	-	-
5 1 2 3 4 6	-	-	-
2 1 4 3 5 6	-	-	-
5 4 1 3 2 6	-	-	-
1 4 2 3 5 6	-	-	-
2 4 5 3 1 6	-	-	-

Four times repeated.

1344.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-	-
3 2 1 5 4 6	-	-	-
5 1 4 2 3 6	-	-	-
2 4 3 1 5 6	-	-	-

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

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

Twice repeated.

1440.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	O
4 3 5 2 1 6	-	-
2 5 1 3 4 6	-	-
3 1 4 5 2 6	-	-
5 4 2 1 3 6	-	-
2 4 3 1 5 6	-	-

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

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

Twice repeated.

1440.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-	-
1 2 5 3 4 6	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 1 6	-	-	-
5 1 4 2 3 6	-	-	-
3 4 1 2 5 6	-	-	-

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

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

Twice repeated.

1728.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-	-
3 1 5 2 4 6	-	-	-
2 5 4 1 3 6	-	-	-
1 4 3 5 2 6	-	-	-
5 3 2 4 1 6	-	-	-

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

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

(Continued on next column.)

Continued—

	I	B	O
1 4 5 2 3 6	-	-	-
2 5 3 4 1 6	-	-	-
4 1 5 3 2 6	-	-	-
3 5 2 1 4 6	-	-	-
1 2 4 5 3 6	-	-	-
5 4 3 2 1 6	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

TWO 720's OF FORWARD MINOR.

By H. W. WILDE, Sandiacre.

720.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O
4 3 5 2 1 6	-	-	-
2 5 1 3 4 6	-	-	-
3 1 4 5 2 6	-	-	-
5 4 2 1 3 6	-	-	-
1 3 4 2 5 6	-	-	-

Five times repeated; with a single substituted for the bob at before in the third and sixth parts.

720.

1 2 3 4 5 6	I	B	O
4 5 2 3 1 6	-	-	-
3 1 5 2 4 6	-	-	-
2 4 1 5 3 6	-	-	-
5 3 4 1 2 6	-	-	-
1 4 2 3 5 6	-	-	-

Five times repeated; with a single at before at the end of the third and sixth parts.

A DATE TOUCH, TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By YORK GREEN, College Youths.

1889.

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

Round next change.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By GEORGE HAYWARD, Bromsgrove.

6160.

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

Repeated.

This peal contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent in 6th's place, the 2nd and 3rd being never there at a course-end.

DATE TOUCHES OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES FOR THE YEAR 1889.—Those date touches in this method sent for insertion by Mr. Peter Brickell, of Northenden, and Mr. Henry Parslow, of Kingston-on-Thames, are both false. Perhaps Mr. Wright of the latter place will make the coming round of his 1889 more plain.

GRANDSIRE CATERS.—We are unable to discover Mr. J. W. Kelley's peal of Caters from the figures sent. At present the large bells appear to be parted throughout—a fatal defect.

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.

G. SKEEF.—No one received it. We should think it would cost too much.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1889.

WE recollect reading some years ago that the late CHARLES DICKENS, while on a railway journey, was so annoyed by the excessive and uncomfortable oscillation of the carriage he was riding in, that at the first opportunity he left the train, and the officials of the company soon felt the effect of his indignation. A remonstrance against carelessness in making up a train coming from such a man would of course have some effect; and the fact that the circumstances of his unpleasant journey were published in the periodical controlled by him, and copied by every newspaper in the country, no doubt led to a remedy or improvement in railway-carriage couplings.

The inhabitants of the lovely town of Malvern have been recently honoured by a visitor whom it would seem has the idea that he has only to show his indignation (*a la Dickens*) of what he considers an evil—but what is in reality a popular English custom—to have it removed. This gentleman, though an author, is hardly a DICKENS, and his frothy jokes about the ringing of the bells at Malvern Abbey will fall "stale, flat, and unprofitable" upon the church people of the delightful Worcestershire town. He has in fact overdone it. The jokes about shooting the bellringers or hanging "every man of them with his own bell-rope" may suit the columns of the *Referee*, but we question whether the staid inhabitants of Malvern appreciate them. "JEARREZ" (as he used to sign himself), has never been credited with poverty of resource from a literary point of view, but it would appear that his imagination has become peculiarly bald while he has been enjoying a change of air.

It seems strange that the supposed detriment to the health of Malvern invalids caused by ringing practice or an occasional peal should be suddenly found out by a London journalist while on a brief visit. Are the inhabitants so obtuse that they have never discovered this before? Our friend's vapourings will we hope and believe have no effect in stopping the bells at Malvern Abbey. What are the bells there for? If they are such an annoyance, how is it that church-folk there very recently augmented (by subscription) the peal to eight. We advise our friend to try some other topic should he visit Malvern again.

LORD GRIMTHORPE.

THE following sketch of this nobleman appears in a recent number of that publication called *Vanity Fair*, accompanied by one of those extraordinary caricatures peculiar to that journal:

"Incredible though it may seem, Lord Grimthorpe was once upon a time an infant in arms. The year after the battle of Waterloo his godfathers and godmothers named him Edmund, after his father, Sir Edmund Beckett Denison, a sturdy Yorkshire Baronet, who for many years represented the West Riding in the House of Commons. At Eton he began and at Cambridge he continued the course of studies which, in his seventy-fourth year, he does not regard as by any means finished. He gained a scholarship at Trinity, and became a Bachelor at the age of twenty, when he turned aside into the arid paths of the law. Five years later he was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, and proceeded to practise before Parliamentary Committees, where he speedily gained a reputation for thoroughness, shrewdness, and hard common sense. It was about that time that the railway mania took possession of English speculators, and Mr. Beckett Denison reaped, in the form of fees, his share of the money which then circulated so freely. In 1854 he became a Queen's Counsel, and, as older men dropped out, his native force of character, allied with a dash of truculence and a thorough mastery of detail, fashioned him into the acknowledged head of the Parliamentary Bar. Weak Committees he dominated by strength of will; strong Committees he cajoled: until at length the promoter or opponent of a Private Bill who had taken the precaution to retain Sir Edmund Beckett—for he dropped the "Denison" on succeeding to the Baronetcy—felt that his case was already half won. Seven or eight years ago he retired from practice, and he has since become a Peer.

"Lord Grimthorpe is a many-sided man—a keen and somewhat bitter controversialist, a practical mechanic, a voluminous writer on diverse topics, a student of men and books, and Chancellor and Vicar-General of York. He is so high an authority on Church architecture that he is credibly reputed to know the difference between a gargoye and a flying buttress. Under his direction the new works at St. Alban's Cathedral have been carried out; and the bells and "Big Ben" at Westminster owe their parentage to his versatile talent. His treatise on "Clocks, Watches, and Bells" has delighted the soul of the British Horological Institute, over which he presides; bell-founders regard him as an oracle; and his antagonists in the correspondence column of the *Times* tremble at his name in print. Yet he has leisure which he has occupied in teaching astronomy without the aid of mathematics. He is the designer of his own quaint raiment as well as of a number of churches; he is reputed to be very rich; he dispenses charity on scientific principles; and he has firm faith in the Church of England as by law established, and in Lord Grimthorpe. Mentally and physically he is a very tough old gentleman. He married a daughter of Dr. Lonsdale, some time Bishop of Lichfield; and he has written his father-in-law's life. He is not a Radical."

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, March 5th, ten members of this Society paid a visit to St. Barnabas, Pimlico, for the purpose of opening a peal tablet, erected to commemorate the peal of Grandsire Caters rang by them on Thursday, September 20th, 1888, but upon their arrival the bells were found to be half-muffled, owing to the death, at the age of forty, of Mr. G. Burling, a near resident, so they rang the usual whole pull and stand, and a well-struck 700 of Grandsire Caters, the band standing as in the peal. W. Baron (conductor), 1; W. Lally, 2; W. Hoverd, 3; W. Jones, 4; C. E. Malin, 5; J. W. Mansfield, 6; W. W. Thorne, 7; A. E. Church, 8; H. Swain, 9; G. Chesterman, 10. Also two courses of Stedman Caters, and short touches of Grandsire, in which Messrs. Hopkins, Swetman and Ambrose took part. The tablet was presented by Messrs. Lally and Longhurst, and is of Gothic design, written in gold letters on a black ground, and is in character with the fine tower. The manner in which the belfry is kept, and also the go of the bells, gives great credit to Mr. Longhurst, the steeple-keeper.

A NATIONAL RINGERS' ASSOCIATION.

As might have been expected, the representative body of ringers who assembled to do honour to Mr. H. Johnson at Birmingham on February 28th, did not separate without formulating their views on one or two subjects of considerable importance to the ringing community generally; and I suppose the resolutions on the subjects of a Ringers' Benefit Society, and the formation of some authoritative body to control ringing matters, or at all events act as a final court of appeal in doubtful questions, will meet with the absolute approval of all who have the good of the Exercise at heart.

But with reference to the first of the resolutions, I think there may reasonably be some difference of opinion. It appears to me that the meeting first pronounced against a National Ringers' Association, and then proceeded to state three extremely strong arguments in favour of the existence of such an institution. The "committee" suggested corresponds exactly to what would be the Council of a National Association; and the other matters mentioned would in the ordinary course of things be among its principal duties.

Without going too much over old ground, I really think the Exercise has been over hasty in rejecting altogether the perhaps premature scheme which came to grief a year or two ago. I think it was due in a measure to the want of some definite idea of what a National Association would find to do. We may take the resolutions of the Birmingham meeting as a starting point, and see what additions can be made thereto.

Besides the powers of regulating peal-ringing mentioned in these proposals, there would be the large and complex question of the local jurisdiction of the various Associations to be dealt with. If this could be settled satisfactorily we should hear no more of the clashing of interests, as in the case of the Surrey Association and the Winchester Diocesan Guild, or the Worcester Guild and the Birmingham Association, to mention two out of several instances. And again, I think it would not be difficult to infuse a proper spirit of *esprit de corps* into the County Associations by doing away with the present system of multiple memberships—insisting that a ringer should belong to one Association only, and that by reason of a residential qualification, or after a continued probation of at least a year—a logical result being that peals in future could not be claimed by more than one society. The compilation of statistics of all kinds, antiquarian as well as campanological, would be another duty of the Council; which to take only one example, should thus relieve Mr. Attree of his self-imposed but valuable task; it would also bring a powerful influence to bear on the clergy and others concerned with belfry reform and construction.

I hold that the National Association should be exclusively a legislative and judicial body—peal-ringing not entering into the programme in any shape or form—but its duty should be to bring all the miscellaneous mass of raw material now spread about the country, into some regular system and order; and so place change-ringing on that level of excellence and popularity its intrinsic merits have always claimed but never yet received.

EDWARD F. STRANGE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

The usual Quarterly Meeting will be held at St. Martin's Mission Rooms, on Thursday, March 28th, at 8 o'clock in the evening. Chair will be taken by W. Jones, Esq. The attendance of all members is earnestly requested.

W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*

* * Correspondents are requested to notice that all communications not accompanied with the name and address of sender are disregarded.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 16, 1889, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5018 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt.

JOHN ROGERS† Treble.	JAMES HANNINGTON .. 7.
HENRY DAINS 2.	WALTER PARTINGTON* .. 8.
WILLIAM BARON.. .. 3.	HENRY SWAIN 9.
ARTHUR JACOB 4.	†GEORGE WILD 10.
C. E. MALIM* 5.	GEORGE NEWSON 11.
THOMAS TITCHENER 6.	HENRY HOPKINS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN ROGERS.

The above peal has the 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th bells in full Tittum position, regularly coursing each other throughout, and is the first peal of Cinques in any method on this plan ever rung. *First peal of Stedman Cinques. †First peal of Stedman with a bob bell. ‡First attempt at Stedman as conductor.

HACKNEY, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, March 16, 1889, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

E. MARRIOTT Treble.	A. CUTMORE 5.
F. RUMENS 2.	W. BURKIN 6.
G. J. SMITH 3.	A. S. BARRELL 7.
T. PAGE 4.	H. SPENCER Tenor.
	H. T. SCARLETT Tenor.

Conducted by W. BURKIN.

The Provinces.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 16, 1889, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. Treble.	WILLIAM G. CRICKMER .. 5.
GEORGE PERRY 2.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, SEN. 6.
GEORGE WIGHTMAN 3.	DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COX and Conducted by DAVID G. WIGHTMAN.

This is a one-part peal containing the 5th and 6th their extent wrong and right. For calling see Snowdon, Part II, page 50. This peal was rung in honour of the 121st anniversary of the 10080 of Bob Major rung in this tower in six hours and one minute.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.

On Thursday, March 14, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE "HALBERD" INN, NORTHGATE STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 19 size in F.

WILLIAM MOTTS 1-2.	WILLIAM P. GARRETT .. 5-6.
CHARLES MEE 3-4.	FREDERICK TILLET .. 7-8.
	SAMUEL TILLET .. 9-10.

Composed by DANIEL PRENTICE, of Ipswich, and Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

This peal, which is in one-part, has the 2nd and 4th each six courses at home, the 5th three courses wrong, and the 6th its extent in 5-6, and is now rung for the first time. All the above belong to The Ancient Society of College Youths and the Norwich Diocesan Association. Umpire—Mr. H. Bowell.

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. ALBANS.—THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, March 12, 1889, in Two Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE REFRESHMENT ROOMS, GEORGE STREET, ST. ALBANS,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

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. W. Little.

The above ringers also belong to the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Hertfordshire Association.

MARSHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 13, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 9 cwt.

FREDERICK KNIGHTS Treble.	THOMAS BLACKBOURN 5.
ARTHUR J. NEALE 2.	GEORGE MOY 6.
FREDERICK HOWCHIN* 3.	JAMES SKINNER 7.
FREDERICK H. KNIGHTS* .. 4.	ROBERT STACKWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS, of London, and Conducted by FREDERICK KNIGHTS.

F. Knights, J. Skinner, F. H. Knights, Jun., and F. Howchin are members of St. Peter's Mancroft Society, Norwich. Mr. T. Blackburn hails from Salisbury; the rest are local men. *First peal.

STAUNTON HAROLD, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 13, 1889, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 21 cwt.

WILLIAM LIGGINGS Treble.	WILLIAM OWEN 5.
HERBERT CANNER 2.	JOHN H. DUNMORE 6.
THOMAS JACQUES 3.	WALTER CANNER 7.
JAMES HOPKINS 4.	JOSEPH CURTIS Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER CANNER.

All the above belong to the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Society.

HULL.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 14, 1889, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

FREDERICK MERRISON .. Treble.	HY. JENKINS 5.
JOHN POLLARD 2.	TOM STOCKDALE 6.
JAMES DIXEY 3.	ROBT. CHAFFER 7.
WILLIAM SOUTHWICK .. 4.	CHARLES JACKSON .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES JACKSON.

This peal has the 4th and 6th their extent in 5-6, and is one of the 112 variations of Mr. C. H. Hattersley's fourteen-course peal, in which the 5th and 6th are their extent in 5-6. It was rung with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Charlie Bennett, who died on March 12th, 1889.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(CHRIST CHURCH BRANCH.)

On Thursday, March 14, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S TEN-PART.

R. HOWSE Treble.	G. H. HOWSE 5.
W. SIGGS 2.	J. SHARP 6.
E. BABER* 3.	T. M. SMITH 7.
A. PIPER 4.	*J. PARKS Tenor.

Conducted by T. M. SMITH.

*First peal.

MAIDENHEAD, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, March 15, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 17½ cwt.

HEZEKIAH ROGERS Treble.	SAMUEL QUINTIN 5.
JAMES W. WILKINS 2.	EDWARD ROGERS 6.
ALFRED HOSKINS 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 4.	ROBERT SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

First peal of Stedman by all except the Rev. F. E. Robinson and J. W. Washbrook.

MARLOW, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, March 15, 1889, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. TRUSS,

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

CHARLES SMITH* 1-2.	JOHN C. TRUSS, JUN. .. 5-6.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 3-4.	JOHN C. TRUSS, SEN. .. 7-8.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

Referee—H. Buckingham. *First peal on handbells.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 15, 1889, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

RICHARD C. BURRELL .. Treble.	WILLIAM J. PIPER 5.
JOHN DAINS 2.	ALFRED TARBUN 6.
ARTHUR EDWARDS 3.	WILLIAM LINCOLN 7.
CHARLES ELLIOTT* 4.	*CHARLES HAWKES .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM LINCOLN.

*First peal.

RAWTENSTALL, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE MANCHESTER, ROCHDALE, AND ROSSENDALE BRANCHES).

On Saturday, March 16, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6048 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN HARRISON Treble.	GEORGE E. TURNER 5.
JOHN SHEPHERD 2.	A. EDWARD WREAKS 6.
JAMES B. TAYLOR 3.	JOHN MILLETT 7.
GEORGE HOYLE 4.	FRANK BIRTWISTLE .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS.

This is the first peal in any method on the bells, which were opened on December 20th, 1888. First peal in the method by Messrs. Shepherd and Taylor. The above ringers wish to tender their most hearty thanks to the Vicar for his kindness in granting them the use of the bells.

FAREHAM, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 19, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

G. HACKETT Treble.	REV. H. A. SPYERS 5.
D. J. JEFFERY* 2.	FREDERICK HILL 6.
GEORGE GRAHAM 3.	J. W. WHITING 7.
CHARLES PRIVETT 4.	GEORGE PASSINGHAM .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK HILL.

*First peal with a bob bell. This peal was rung on the occasion of the visit of the Bishop of Winchester to the town for the double purpose of holding a Confirmation and consecrating a new cemetery.

OLDBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Saturday, March 16, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 10½ cwt.

JOSIAH COOPER Treble.	REUBEN HALL 5.
SAMUEL REEVES 2.	JAMES HALL 6.
JOHN R. FRISBY 3.	CHARLES TIMMS 7.
T. HORTON 4.	JOSIAH HARFORD Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

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

On Monday, March 18, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE TRIPLES,
5040 CHANGES.

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

Composed and Conducted by WALTER CHARMAN.

The above peal is a six-part one.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 19, 1889, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. SMITH, 32, ORDISH STREET,
ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S FOUR-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 WILLIAM J. SMITH.

Referee—Mr. George Robinson.

HULL.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 19, 1889, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
REV. C. D. P. DAVIES'S VARIATION OF HOLT'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 25 cwt.

HENRY JENKINS Treble.	JOHN POLLARD 5.
JOHN FRANCIS MALLABY .. 2.	JOHN WM. STICKNEY .. 6.
JAMES HIGHFIELD 3.	CHARLES JACKSON 7.
FREDK. MERRISON 4.	*JO. WM. DALE Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES JACKSON.

Rung with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Charlie Bennett, who died on Tuesday, March 12th. *First peal.

Date Touches.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

DARLASTON.—On Sunday evening, March 3rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 8 mins. E. Unitt, 1; H. Morlbourn, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Tinsley, 4; J. Gough, 5; S. Atkins (conductor), 6; J. Fullwood, 7; T. Lowe, 8. Composed by John Carter, of Birmingham. Tenor 19½ cwt.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHELTHENHAM.—On Friday evening, March 15th, at St. Mark's church, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. T. Pates (conductor), 1; F. Musty, 2; E. Holman, 3; F. Nicholson, 4; J. Bowden, 5. Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

HALIFAX (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, March 10th, for Divine Service at All Souls church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major

(1889 changes), in 1 hr. 12 mins. H. Reynolds, 1; T. Parker (conductor), 2; J. S. Ambler, 3; F. Salmons, 4; G. H. C. Copping, 5; C. E. Stewart, 6; A. F. Nicholl, 7; S. W. Stewart, 8. Tenor 25½ cwt. First date touch by F. Salmons. And on Tuesday evening, March 12th, another date touch in the same method was rung in 1 hr. 14 mins. H. Reynolds, 1; T. Parker, 2; J. S. Ambler, 3; M. Moore, 4; G. H. C. Copping, 5; C. E. Stewart, 6; A. F. Nicholl, 7; S. W. Stewart (conductor), 8. M. Moore hails from Keighley.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Monday, March 11th, at the parish church, a date touch of Stedman Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 11 mins. H. Mills, 1; Wm. Cheshire, 2; J. Astbury, sen., 3; W. R. Small, 4; D. Chapman, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; A. E. Law, 8. Messrs. Astbury and Chapman hail from Walsall; Law and Cheshire from Coseley; the rest are of the local company. Composed by A. P. Heywood, Esq.

SHEFFIELD.—On Sunday evening, March 10th, at the church of All Saints, eight members of the St. Peter's Amalgamated society, rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 8 mins. H. Bower, 1; J. Rowley, 2; W. Smithson, 3; W. Gardiner, 4; E. F. Rippon, 5; J. Rew, 6; F. Willey (conductor), 7; J. M. Fitzclarke, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. Composed by C. Jackson of Hull.

MANUDEN (Essex).—On Thursday, March 7th, at the parish church of St. Mary, a date touch (1889 changes), was rung in 1 hr. 10 mins., being three 6-scores each of the following: Old Doubles, Dream, St. Dunstan's, Antelope; and 449 of Grandsire. F. W. Harby, 1; J. Harvey, 2; A. M. Key, 3; H. Prior (conductor), 4; G. Prior, 5. Tenor 11 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—On Monday, March 18th, at St. Saviour's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing the twelve 4-6's and the twelve 6-7's. W. R. Pinsent, 1; G. Bower, 2; H. Reeves (composer and conductor), 3; T. Wood, 4; H. Nunn, 5; R. Elliott, 6; A. Estall, 7; T. Watson, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, March 10th, at the parish church, 720 New London Pleasure in 23 mins. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; *F. Wickens, 4; *A. Hillier, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; F. Wickens, 4; M. Heffer, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And 720 College Exercise. J. Akehurst, 1; J. Newnham, 2; R. Jordan, 3; F. Wickens, 4; A. Hillier, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 360 Oxford Bob. J. Akehurst, 1; R. Jordan, 2; G. Cox, 3; F. Wickens, 4; M. Jenkins, 5; D. Jordan, 6. *First 720 in the method. Messrs. Wickens and Heffer hail from Charlwood; Newnham and Hillier from Crawley; Cox from Ockley; the rest are local men.

DORKING (Surrey).—On Wednesday, February 27th, at the parish church, with the bells deeply muffled at backstroke, 630 Grandsire Triples. E. Dodd, 1; H. Woolgar, 2; H. Dobinson, 3; F. Arnold, 4; R. Arnold, 5; H. Boxall (conductor), 6; W. Sadler, 7; F. Hudson, 8. And 160 in the same method, standing as before, with the exception of C. Dudley, 8. The above was rung as a mark of respect to the late Mr. C. Boxall, who died on February 27th, 1888.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday, March 3rd, for Divine Service at the church of St. Nicolas, 518 Grandsire Triples. And on Thursday, March 7th, for practice, 462 Grandsire Triples. Also on Sunday morning, March 17th, for Divine Service, 350 Grandsire Triples. And for evening service, 672 Grandsire Triples. 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. Grove, 7; E. Stone, 8. Tenor 22½ cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, March 11th, at St. John's church, 1022 Stedman Triples in 38 mins. *F. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; *W. Eggleston, 3; *E. Wallis, 4; T. Denton, 5; J. Simm, 6; S. Power (conductor), 7; *R. Simm, jun., 8. *Longest touch in the method. And on Monday, March 18th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 27 mins. F. Lees, 1; S. Power, 2; H. Fergusson, 3; E. Wallis, 4; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 5; T. Denton, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—On Monday, February 11th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. *T. Bozyard, 1; W. Charlton, 2; H. C. Mayne, 3; T. Wick, 4; E. Titt, 5; F. Charlton (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. And on Sunday, February 17th, 720 Kent Treble Bob, with the exception of the fifth and sixth men

changing. Also on Sunday, February 24th, 720 Plain Bob Minor, (thirty singles and six bobs), standing as before. Also on Monday, March 4th, 720 Woodbine. J. Pallister, 1; W. Charlton, 2; H. C. Mayne, 3; E. Titt, 4; F. Charlton, 5; J. Cleminson (conductor), 6. And 720 Woodbine, with J. Cleminson, 1; J. Pallister, 4; E. Titt (conductor), 6; the other three standing as before. First 720 of Woodbine by all.

HURWORTH.—On Monday, March 4th, at the Association Meeting, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. J. Temple (Hurworth), 1; R. Moncaster (Darlington St. John's), 2; L. Newton (Durham), 3; C. J. Butterworth (Durham), 4; G. Garbutt (Hurworth), 5; R. S. Story (Whitby, conductor), 6. Also six 6-scores of Bob Doubles. J. Temple, 1; T. Hudson (Bishopwearmouth), 2; R. S. Story, 3; L. Newton (conductor), 4; G. Garbutt, 5; C. J. Butterworth, 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Simpson (Hurworth), 1; H. S. Taylor (Darlington St. John's), 2; R. Alcock (South Bank), 3; L. Newton, 4; G. Garbutt, 5; C. J. Butterworth (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Oxford Bob Minor. J. Bolton (Darlington St. John's), 1; H. S. Taylor, 2; R. S. Story, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; J. Temple, 5; G. J. Clarkson (Stockton, conductor), 6. And 720 of Bob Minor. A. Thompson (Chester-le-street), 1; J. Temple, 2; L. Newton, 3; C. J. Butterworth, 4; G. Garbutt (conductor), 5; R. Newton (Hurworth), 6. And 720 of Kent Treble Bob. R. Alcock, 1; H. S. Taylor, 2; L. Newton, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; C. J. Butterworth, 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Bob Minor. J. Bolton, 1; J. Simpson, 2; R. Moncaster, 3; R. Alcock, 4; J. Temple (conductor), 5; G. Garbutt, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

SUNDERLAND.—On Monday, March 11th, at St. Michael's church, 120 Bob Doubles. R. C. Hudson, 1; J. Cook, 2; T. Hudson, jun., 3; T. Hudson (conductor), 4; J. Field, 5; R. Langton, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. This is the first 120 of Doubles by this band, which has recently commenced learning the Art.

THE HORNSEY GUILD.

On Sunday, March 10th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor (twenty bobs and ten singles), in 27 mins. J. Ward, 1; W. Dixon, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Barber, 5; G. Griffin, 6. After service in the evening, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. E. King, 1; T. Ringrose, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; A. Howell, 4; T. Card, 5; H. Spencer, 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 26 mins. H. Scarlett, 1; T. Card, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; A. Howell, 4; J. Barber, 5; G. Griffin, 6. And 720 Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles). T. Ringrose (first 720), 1; J. Hannington, 2; T. Card, 3; A. Howell, 4; C. Martin, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6. Tenor 17½ cwt. Messrs. Ringrose and Spencer hail from Stoke Newington.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BOUGHTON, NEAR FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, March 10th, for Divine Service at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six singles and sixteen bobs), in 26 mins. W. W. Soulden (conductor), 1; J. Burch, 2; H. Foreman, 3; E. E. Foreman, 4; T. J. Harris, 5; G. A. Ransom, 6. Also after service 720 Bob Minor (thirty-five bobs and six singles), in 25 mins. J. Burch, 1; W. W. Soulden, 2; H. Foreman, 3; E. E. Foreman, 4; T. Harris, 5; G. A. Ransom (conductor), 6. And on Monday, March 11th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles), in 25 mins. A. Smith, 1; G. A. Ransom, 2; E. E. Foreman, 3; H. Foreman, 4; R. Castle, 5; F. T. Harris (conductor), 6. Also 360 Bob Minor (twelve singles). A. Smith, 1; H. Foreman, 2; G. A. Ransom, 3; E. E. Foreman, 4; F. T. Harris, 5; R. Castle (conductor), 6.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Tuesday, March 5th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 1680 of Grandsire Triples, in 59 mins. A. Harris, 1; W. Preston, 2; J. Baker, 3; W. Cooke, 4; W. Evans, 5; A. Haigh (conductor), 6; W. Haigh, 7; G. Lindoff, 8. And on Saturday, March 16th, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, a quarter-peal, 1344 changes, in the same method. W. Haigh, 1; F. Hayes, 2; A. Haigh, 3; W. Harper, 4; W. Martin, 5; G. Hayes, 6; G. Martin, 7; G. Lindoff (conductor), 8. Also one of Mr. Carter's 360 of Forward Major. G. Hayes, 1; F. Hayes, 2; J. Baker, 3; W. Harper, 4; W. Martin, 5; A. Haigh, 6; W. Haigh, 7; G. Lindoff (conductor), 8. Brothers Martin, Hayes, and W. Harper hail from Swnscombe, the rest belong to the local company.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday morning, March 17th, for Divine Service at St. Margaret's church, 720 Plain Bob, in 25 mins. J. P. Kidd, 1; E. Rayner, 2; G. Chantler, 3; A. Osborne, 4; J. Rayner, 5; W. Baker (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THATCHAM (Berks).—On Thursday, March 14th, at St. Mary's church for practice, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. F. Denness,

1; E. Witts (conductor), 2; T. Diggins, 3; A. W. J. Bird, 4; C. Witts, 5; C. Wheeler, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. This is the first 720 by all the band.

HUGHENDEN (Bucks).—On Monday, March 11th, at St. Michael's church, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 25 mins. S. Goodchild, 1; W. Goodchild, 2; F. Biggs, 3; R. Biggs, 4; F. L. Free, 5; J. Evans (conductor), 6; H. Stratford, 7; R. Page, 8.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

CAMBERWELL (Surrey).—On Saturday, March 16th, an attempt was made to ring Holt's Original at St. George's church, which came to grief after ringing 30 mins., and as there was not time to start again a quarter-peal (1260 changes) was rung in 43 mins. J. George (Conventry, first quarter-peal on the treble), 1; J. Barry, 2; W. Jones, 3; R. French, 4; A. Hayward, 5; W. H. George, 6; W. W. Thorne (conductor), 7; W. Freeman, 8. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CROYDON.—On Sunday, March 17th, for evening service, 518 Grandsire Triples. H. Dudley, 1; A. Arnold, 2; W. J. Chambers, 3; H. Brooker, 4; R. E. Pearson, 5; W. States (conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; A. T. Miller (first 518), 8. Tenor 32 cwt. in Eb.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL.—On Sunday, March 17th, for Divine Service at Holy Trinity Church, 742 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, being the last part of Holt's Original. J. Smelt (Beverley), 1; W. Southwick, J. Highfield, 3; J. F. Mallaby, 4; J. Pollard, 5; J. Dixey, 6; C. Jackson (conductor), 7; J. W. Dale, 8.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—On Sunday, March 10th, for morning service, two touches of Forward Minor, with 7-8 covering. G. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; H. Prior, 3; F. W. Chapman, 4; P. Springham, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6; T. Newman, 7; F. Harris, 8. First in the method by all.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, February 24th, at the church of St. Mary-le-Port, 704 Treble Bob Major. C. H. Gordon, 1; C. Trevett, 2; G. H. Colston, 3; C. Burden, 4; F. Elles, 5; F. Price, 6; W. Emery, 7; J. Hinton (conductor), 8. Also 672 Plain Bob Triples. C. H. Gordon, 1; J. Hinton, 2; G. H. Colston, 3; C. H. Burden, 4; F. W. Elles, 5; F. Price, 6; W. Colston, 8. The bells were rung muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. W. Northcott, who died on February 18th, aged fifty-two years.

BROMLEY (Kent).—On Sunday, March 10th, for morning service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Gold, 1; W. J. Smith, 2; E. Dunn, 3; T. Durling, 4; T. Harford, 5; W. Fright, 6; H. Fruin, 7; W. James, 8. Composed and conducted by H. Fruin. This was rung on the 53rd birthday of Mr. E. Dunn, the ringer of the 3rd, and it was T. Harford's second attempt at Triples.

DALLINGTON (Sussex).—Recently at the parish church by the local company, two 120's of Grandsire Doubles. *J. Booth, 1; *E. Lovell, 2; J. Jones, 3; P. J. Peters (conductor), 4; *J. Gadd, 5. Tenor 14½ cwt. *First 720; also the first on the bells.

DARLINGTON.—On Friday, March 15th, at St. Cuthbert's church, by a company belonging to St. Cuthbert's and St. John's, 1008 Bob Major in 36 mins. W. Allen, 1; W. Park, 2; J. Little, 3; W. Lister, 4; J. K. Whitefield, 5; J. Coverdale, 6; R. Moncaster, 7; G. A. Overton (conductor), 8.

FARNHAM (Essex).—On Sunday evening, March 10th, for service, a start was made for a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, which came to grief after ringing 690 changes. H. J. Tucker (conductor), 1; F. W. Chapman, 2; G. Prior, 3; W. Prior, 4; H. Prior, 5; P. Springham, 6. After service, 720 Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. C. Prior, 1; H. Prior, 2; F. W. Chapman, 3; W. Prior, 4; G. Prior, 5; P. Springham, 6.

GREAT BROMLEY (Essex).—On Sunday, March 17th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. J. Taylor (Bromley), 1; J. Smith (Colchester), 2; A. Fuller (Little Bentley), 3; W. Smith (Colchester), 4; W. Nevard (Great Bentley), 5; *A. Aviss (Colchester), 6. *First 720 and first attempt. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob was unfortunately lost in the four last leads. G. Bowell, 1; J. Smith, 2; J. Starling, 3; W. Smith, 4; W. Nevard, 5; J. Taylor (conductor), 6. And on handbells, touches of Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and College Single, by twelve mixed members from Higham, Langham, Great and Little Bentley, Bromley, and Colchester.

GREAT MARLOW (Bucks).—*Tapping.*—On Friday, March 15th, at the residence of Mr. Truss, Mr. J. W. Washbrook tapped on the

piano, a course each of Grandsire Cinques and Caters, Bob Royal and Maximus, Treble Bob Major and Royal, and 504 of Grandsire and 252 of Stedman Triples. Also a short touch of Grandsire Triples, called by J. C. Truss, Jun.

LISCARD (Cheshire).—On Saturday, March 9th, the members of the St. Peter's society, Woolton, Lancashire, paid a visit to this place, and rang 168 Grandsire Triples at the parish church. H. Richardson, 1; P. Leather, Jun., 2; H. Fyles, 3; G. Hyslop, 4; R. Leather, 5; P. Ball, 6; T. Kay (conductor), 7; J. Edwards, 8. Also 168 with J. Edwards, 3; R. Roughley, 4; C. Collins, 6; H. Fyles, 8. And another 168 with H. Fyles, 3; R. Roughley, 4; R. Williams, 6; J. Edwards, 8; the rest standing as in the first touch. The ringers wish through "THE BELL NEWS," to thank Mr. Leather, sidesman, for his kind hospitality, and also the vicar for the use of the bells. All returned home highly pleased with their first day's outing.

MATHERN NEAR CHEPSTOW (Monmouth).—On Tuesday evening, March 12th, the ringers of St. Mary's, Chepstow, paid a friendly visit to the above village, and rang 360 Grandsire Doubles, at the church of St. Theudrick, which bears the date of the year 600. T. Collinson, 1; J. Prickett, 2; G. Watkins, 3; J. Powell, 4; J. Morley (conductor), 5; C. Davis, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

MINEHEAD (Somersetshire).—On Thursday, March 14th, on the occasion of confirmation, the members of the Dunster Guild rang before service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. R. Thorne, 1; T. Elliott, 2; E. Hole, 3; J. Tudball, 4; R. Hole, 5; J. Grabham, 6; C. B. Craze (conductor), 7; J. Payne, 8.

MILVERTON (Somerset).—On Monday evening, March 11th, for practice at St. Michael's church, 360 Grandsire Minor (eighteen bobs). T. Andrews (conductor), 1; W. Andrews, 2; R. Scott, 3; Rev. C. H. Griffith, 4; R. Andrews, 5; W. Chapman, 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. W. Chapman, 1; W. Andrews, 2; R. Scott, 3; Rev. C. H. Griffith, 4; R. Andrews (conductor), 5; J. Richards, 6. First six-score in the method by all except the Rev. C. H. Griffith, who hails from Bath.

MOULTON (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, March 17th, at All Saints church, for morning service, five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, by the following: G. Skeef, R. Skeef, J. W. Jarvis, E. Jarvis, C. Quinton, all of Spalding, and G. Ladd, of Pinchbeck.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, March 10th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Double Bob Minor in 25 mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; J. Wood, 5; W. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

OLDBURY (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, March 16th, at Christ Church, 518 Grandsire Triples. J. W. Sayer, Esq., 1; S. Reeves, 2; J. R. Frisby, 3; T. Horton, 4; J. Hall, 5; J. R. Hall, 6; J. Parish, 7; N. Gould, 8.

PRESTWICH (Lancashire).—Recently for afternoon service at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor in 27½ mins. J. Hardman (conductor), 1; R. Fitton, 2; J. Brooks, 3; W. Warburton, 4; H. Percival, 5; J. Heywood, 6. And after evening service, 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Hardman (conductor), 1; R. Fitton, 2; J. Brooks, 3; H. Chatman, 4; W. Warburton, 5; W. Hilton, 6. J. Hardman hails from Pendleton; Chatman from Salford, and is one of the ringers at Manchester Cathedral; Warburton and Hilton from Whitefield; the rest belong to the local company. Tenor 15½ cwt.

SALISBURY.—On Sunday, March 3rd, for Divine Service, 1260 Grandsire Triples. W. W. Gifford, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; S. Lawrence (composer and conductor), 5; T. Blackburn, 6; W. S. Wise, 7; W. M. Lush, 8. And on Sunday, March 17th, for Divine Service, 1260 in the same method. W. M. Lush, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; A. W. Barkus, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; S. Lawrence (composer and conductor), 5; W. S. Wise, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; J. Hallett, 8.

STOWMARKET (Suffolk).—On Friday, March 8th, for practice at the club room, 560 Bob Major. W. Driver, 1; G. Ponder, 2; J. Souter, 3-4; W. Souter, 5-6; J. Wade, 7-8.

SCOTHERN (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, March 2nd, at the parish church, six 6-scores of Bob Doubles. T. Seagrave, 1; J. Bennett, 2; E. Baldwin, 3; C. Johnson, 4; J. Seagrave, sen., 5. C. Johnson hails from Lincoln; the rest belong to the local company.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Tuesday, March 12th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples (1260 changes). W. E. Emery, 1; J. J. Everary, 2; A. Edwards, 3; F. Radley, 4; R. Wood, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; A. Bonnington, 8. And on Sunday, March 17th, for evening service, Tucker's quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing twelve 4-6's, twelve 7-4's, and twelve 6-7's. R. C. Burrell, 1; J. J. Everard, 2; W. Hawkes, 3; W. Rowland, 4; A. Edwards, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; F. Radley, 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

By the Angmering Branch at Angmering.—On Saturday, March 9th, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 24½ mins. F. Finch, 1; C. Clear, 2; J. Hills, 3; T. Linfield, 4; T. Parsons, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. First 720 in method by all. Also on Monday, March 11th, 720 of Yorkshire Court, in 24 mins. E. Parsons, 1; F. Finch, 2; J. Hills, 3; T. Parsons, 4; C. Clear, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 25 mins. F. Finch, 1; C. Clear, 2; T. Linfield, 3; T. Parsons, 4; J. Hills, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. First 720 in method.

By the Arundel Branch at Arundel.—On Thursday, March 7th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Treagus, 1; W. Challey, 2; S. Long, 3; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 4; G. Baker, 5; G. Balchin (conductor), 6; F. Luxford, 7; R. Goatcher, 8. Also 350 of Grandsire Triples. G. Treagus, 1; S. Long, 2; W. Twigg, 3; F. Luxford, 4; W. Challen (conductor), 5; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 6; G. Baker, 7; R. Goatcher, 8. On Sunday, March 11th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Treagus, 1; W. Twigg (first time with bob bell), 2; S. Long, 3; G. Balchin, 4; E. Ede, 5; C. Blackman, 6; G. Baker (conductor), 7; R. Goatcher, 8. Also 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Treagus, 1; S. Long, 2; W. Twigg, 3; G. Balchin, 4; E. Ede, 5; C. Blackman, 6; G. Baker (conductor), 7; R. Goatcher, 8. Also 546 of Grandsire Triples. G. Treagus, 1; W. Twigg, 2; O. Evershed, 3; C. Blackman (conductor), 4; Rev. R. F. Tompkins, 5; G. Baker, 6; G. Balchin, 7; R. Goatcher, 8.

By the Brighton Branch at St. Peter's, Brighton.—On Sunday, March 3rd, for morning service, 504 of Grandsire Triples. D. Ross, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; H. Weston, 3; J. Jay, 4; E. C. Merritt, 5; J. Reilly, 6; J. Hart (Eastbourne), 7; H. Tugwell, 8. Also for afternoon service 503 of Grandsire Triples. J. Jay, 1; H. Rann, 2; E. C. Merritt, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; G. F. Attree, 5; J. Reilly, 6; H. Weston, 7; H. Tugwell, 8. Also on Sunday, March 10th, for morning service, 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 15½ mins. D. Ross, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; C. E. Golds, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; G. Thwaites (conductor), 5; G. A. King, 6; J. Jay, 7; H. Tugwell, 8. Also for afternoon service, 504 of Stedman Triples, in 17 mins. H. Weston, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; J. Jay, 3; J. Reilly, 4; J. Searle, 5; G. A. King, 6; G. F. Attree (conductor), 7; H. Tugwell, 8. Also for evening service, 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. J. Batts (Hambledon), 1; G. A. King, 2; E. C. Merritt, 3; G. F. Attree, 4; A. A. Fuller, 5; J. Reilly (conductor), 6; H. Cornwall, 7; J. Mockett, 8.

By the Chailey Branch at Chailey.—On Saturday, February 16th, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Reynolds, 1; J. Langridge, 2; A. Gorrington, 3; H. Cornwall, 4; W. Turner, 5; W. Pelling (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, February 21st, 720 in same method, standing as above. Also 360 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Reynolds, 1; E. Brooks (first touch), 2; A. Gorrington, 3; H. Cornwall, 4; W. Turner, 5; W. Pelling (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 23rd, 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Reynolds, 1; J. Langridge, 2; J. Gasson, 3; H. Cornwall, 4; W. Turner, 5; W. Pelling (conductor), 6. E. Brooks hails from Newick, and Gasson from Balcombe.

By the Worth Branch at Worth.—On Sunday, March 3rd, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 23 mins. W. Owden, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; B. Payne, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6.

On Sunday, March 3rd, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 23 mins. B. Payne, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; E. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 3rd, 360 of Warnham Court. W. Owden, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; B. Payne, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, March 6th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Tullett, 1; B. Payne, 2; W. Denman, 3; F. Rice, 4; E. Streeter, 5; G. Illman (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, March 6th, 720 of Duke of York, in 23 mins. J. Tullett, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; F. Rice, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, March 6th, 360 of Plain Bob. E. Streeter, 1; B. Payne, 2; J. Tullett, 3; F. Streeter, 4; F. Rice, 5; W. Denman (conductor), 6.

THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—On another page will be found some extracts from the fortieth Annual Report issued by the directors of this company. In the Ordinary branch the number of Policies issued during the year has been 42,475, assuring the sum of £4,399,769. The Premiums received during the year were £718,848, being an increase of £183,717 over the year 1887. In the Industrial branch the Premiums received during the year were £3,256,346, being an increase of £197,845. The claims of the year amounted to £1,231,186. The number of deaths was 142,751. The expenses are one-and-a-quarter per cent. lower than those of the previous year. Perhaps the most remarkable feature is that the total assets of the Company have been raised during the year from £7,867,103 to £9,302,007, being an increase of £1,434,904. The "Prudential" is certainly a most remarkable assurance company.

THE following extracts from letters received concerning Mr. Tuke's death and burial will, we feel sure, be read with mournful interest :

"Philadelphia, 1-30-89.—After my last, Robert's condition did not mend, and yesterday a consultation of the surgical staff was held, and it was concluded that the amputation of the left foot at the ankle would give him his only chance for life, and the foot was removed. . . . At

twelve o'clock (noon) to day, he seemed prepared for the worst, and resigned to such a disposition of his case as Providence should see fit to make, and after one o'clock p.m. began to sink, until he finally passed away peacefully at 1.45 o'clock."

"Philadelphia, 2-3-89.—When the time came for his burial (yesterday), we had him brought to our own dwelling in his casket, that those who loved him might assemble and look on his face once more. His face so handsome in death shewed no trace of suffering. Men, women, and children came to do him honour. A cross and an anchor of immortelles were sent by 'his English friends,' and many tears were shed. . . . A guard of honour, his bell-ringers, were sent up by the Rev. Dr. Foggo, the clergyman, to carry him to the hearse, and we all followed in carriages to the old church, when we were greeted at the gates by the chimes he so loved. The minister met us at the door, and the sad procession was escorted to seats round the bier. Mr. Foggo read Corinthians xv. very solemnly, and the little girls, whose voices Robert so loved, sang a hymn. An earnest prayer followed, and we left the church while another hymn was being sung by the children. The clergyman followed, and all went to the old Christ Church burying ground, a few blocks distant, where lie the honoured dead of many years. Dr. Franklin is interred there, and many others of our great men. The Rev. Dr. Foggo read at the grave the closing burial service. The scene in the church was most impressive; the antique place with the many tablets of most valued members on the walls, and the light through the fine stained-glass windows falling upon the coffin; indeed, all was solemn and affecting. Robert has left a pleasant memory behind him, and my household gathered about his casket with tearful eyes, for they had seen and known him through his courteous and gentle bearing."

HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.

Extracts from the FORTIETH ANNUAL REPORT. Year ending 31st December, 1888.

ORDINARY BRANCH. The number of Policies issued during the year was 42,475, assuring the sum of £4,399,769, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of £235,487.

The Premiums received during the year were £718,848, being an increase of £183,717 over the year 1887.

The Claims of the year amounted to £210,056. The number of Policies in force was 146,966.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The Premiums received during the year were £3,256,346, being an increase of £197,845.

The claims of the year amounted to £1,231,186. The number of Deaths was 142,751.

The expenses are one-and-a-quarter per cent. lower than those of the previous year.

It is a source of much satisfaction to the Directors to be able to state that their efforts to promote the stability of Industrial Policies continue to be most successful, for, notwithstanding the enormous increase in this Branch during the past two years, the average duration of the 8,063,293 policies in force on 31st December last is now no less than six years.

Upwards of 40,000 Free Policies have been granted during the year to those Policy-holders of five years' standing who have desired to discontinue their payments.

The total assets of the Company have been raised during the year from £7,867,103 to £9,302,007, being an increase of £1,434,904.

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET OF THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1888.

[illegible]

THOS. C. DEWEY, } *Managers.*
WILLIAM HUGHES, }
W. J. LANCASTER, *Secretary.*

EDGAR HORNE, *Chairman.*
HENRY HARBEN, } *Directors.*
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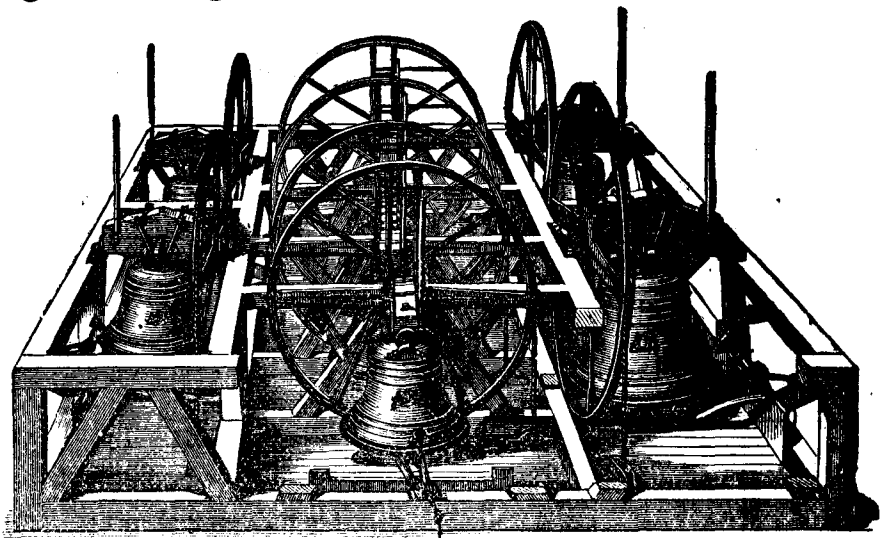
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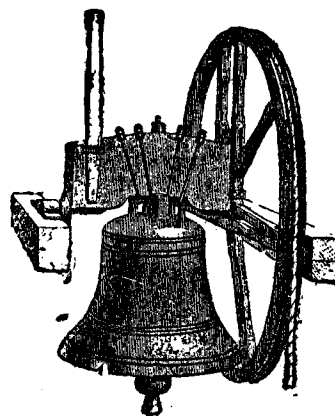
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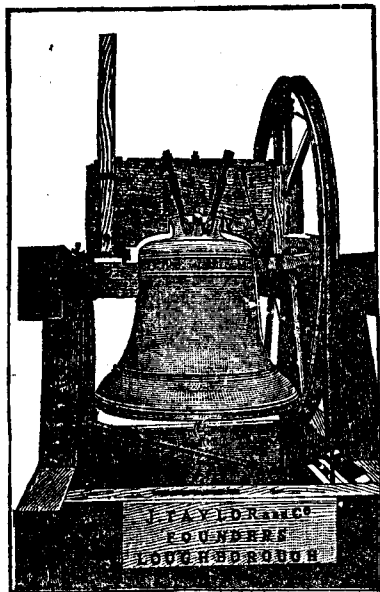
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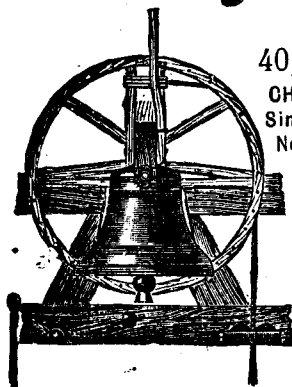
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SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1889.

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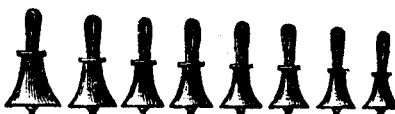
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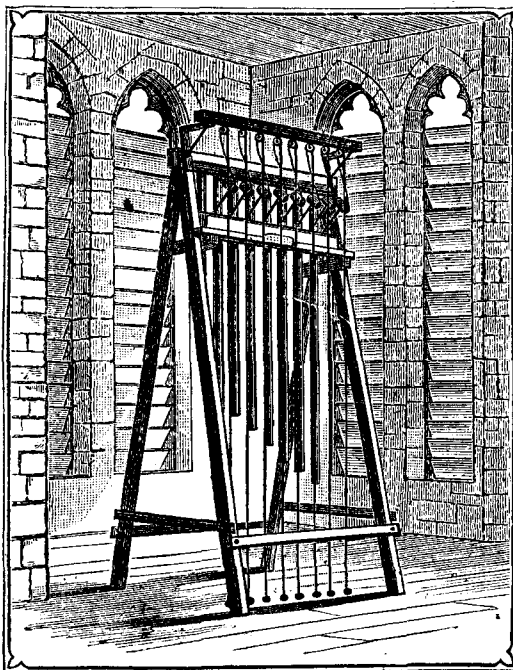
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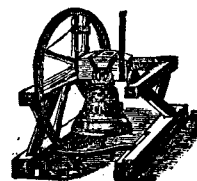
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DEDICATION OF BELLS AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.

The placing of a peal of bells in the tower of Holy Trinity church, Habergham-Eaves, is now *un fait accompli*, and the Vicar of the parish, the church officials, the congregation, and indeed the town generally can congratulate themselves on possessing a peal of most excellent construction which will, we hope, for long years to come call the worshippers to the sacred edifice. It is not very long, certainly not a year, since the project of erecting a peal of bells in the tower was broached by Mr. Robert Munn, the present vicar's warden, and it was taken up with alacrity by some of the leading members of the congregation. Of course the sinews of war formed the first point to be considered, and in this respect Mr. Munn set a capital example, inasmuch as he promised a donation of £100 towards the bell fund. Other subscriptions came in apace, and the gentlemen having the matter in hand placed themselves in communication with Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon, an eminent firm of bell founders and clock manufacturers. An examination of the church tower was made by a representative of the firm, and eventually the task was entrusted to Messrs. Gillett and Johnston of providing a peal of eight bells for the church, and this task has been most satisfactorily performed. The tower has had to be somewhat strengthened to contain the bells, and the peal, in the opinion of those well qualified to judge, is a most excellent one. The bells in all weigh together 57cwt. 1qr. 17lbs., and without doubt do great credit to the founders. The following is a list of the bells showing the diameter at mouth, weight, and note of each:—Diameter at mouth (1) 27in.; weight, 4cwt. 3qr.; note, F sharp. (2) 28in.; 5cwt. 0qr. 22lb.; F. (3) 29in.; 5cwt.; D sharp. (4) 31in.; 5cwt. 3qr. 6lb.; C sharp. (5) 33in.; 7cwt. 1qr. 18lb.; B. (6) 35in.; 8cwt. 1qr.; A sharp. (7) 38in.; 9cwt. 1qr. 20lb.; G sharp. (8) 41in.; 11cwt. 2qr. 7lb.; F sharp. The whole have been hung in a massive frame made of the best well-seasoned English oak, and are furnished with all the necessary fittings for ringing, including elm stocks, wheels, ropes, pulleys, gun metal bearings, &c. An apparatus known as the Ellacombe chimes has also been provided, by means of which changes or tunes may be played on the bells by one person. It is the patent of the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, a clergyman who died at the advanced age of 96 years, and was an enthusiastic campanologist, and its efficacy was demonstrated on Thursday evening. Commencing with Mr. Munn's donation, a sum of £400 has been raised towards the cost of the bells and the fixing in the tower, this being estimated at £600. The balance owing, we are glad to note, was considerably reduced at the dedication service, and will doubtless soon be cleared off. The sermon at the dedication service was announced to be delivered by the Rev. Dr. Bardsley, Bishop of Sodor and Man, and this announcement drew together a very large congregation, the church being crowded. Prior to the service selections were given on the bells in a capital manner by the Skipton parish church bell ringers, who expressed themselves highly satisfied with them. Also Mr. Johnston, of the firm of founders, played by means of the Ellacombe apparatus, the sacred tunes "Abide with me," "Rockingham," "Holy, Holy, Holy," "Lead, kindly Light," and "O Rest in the Lord," as also the secular pieces "The Last Rose of Summer," "Blue Bells of Scotland," "Believe me if all those endearing young charms," "Home, sweet Home," "The Minstrel Boy," and "See the Conquering Hero comes," which were highly appreciated by the large company that assembled outside the church.

The dedication service commenced at half-past seven, and the church was crowded, many local and district clergy being in the congregation. The Bishop of Sodor and man was accompanied in the chancel by the Rev. J. M. D. Owen, Vicar of Holy Trinity, and the Rev. W. S. Norris, curate. Mr. R. Watson presided at the organ. A special form of service was conducted by the Revs. W. S. Norris and J. M. D. Owen, after which his Lordship ascended the pulpit. He took his text from the 39th chapter of the Book of Exodus—"And they made bells of pure gold." He said:—

The parishes were few indeed which possessed a peal of bells so numerous and of tone so mellow as those whose silvery tones had that evening for the first time been heard in the service of their sanctuary. Suitably to inaugurate such a peal, and solemnly to dedicate such a

gift, nothing could be more fitting than the service of song in which they had just joined, and no place more fitting than the House of God in the tower of which the bells were now enshrined. Whilst, however, such thoughts filled all their hearts and minds, it was his privilege that night to sound the praises of a peal of bells still more numerous, for the bells of which he would speak were seventy-two in number, and of metal more precious, for they were of pure gold and of sounds even more sweet, for in the ears of God they were symbols of the righteousness of His own dear Son. The preacher described how the bells to which his text referred were hung from the robe of the High Priest, and proceeded to explain the significance from a scriptural point of view, also alluding to the fact that the robe of the High Priest was always of blue, and woven throughout. In eloquent terms His Lordship expounded the bearing of his text on the lives and actions of his hearers, and afterwards said that the brethren would have increased responsibility when each Sunday or Saints' day these bells called them to the House of God and to the means of grace. He urged that there should be no estrangement, as was sometimes the case, between the ringers and the singers, and said that a very salutary motto for them to follow was that which was inscribed in a bell-chamber in the south of England—"If any should our parson disrespect or wardens' orders any time neglect, let him be always held in foul disgrace, and ever after banished from this place." Appealing to the liberality of the congregation to aid in defraying the cost of the bells and of their erection, Dr. Bardsley said that would not require many words from him for its enforcement. In order to acquire the bells, eight in number, the tower had had to be placed in a satisfactory state of repair and sufficiently strengthened. It was supposed that to pay for the bells, and to discharge the debt in connection with the erection of the tower the amount required would be not much less than £600. Towards that amount a sum of £400 had already been most cheerfully and generously subscribed by a few donors, and it was now for that vast congregation to make a liberal response to his appeal in order that the debt of £200 might be entirely defrayed. Sweet as the bells might sound in their tower; their notes would not be so sweet whilst the debt remained undischarged, but on the day when the debt was discharged, he was sure that the ringers would ring out a right joyous peal. And it was in order that that peal might be soon rung that he appealed to their liberality that night. He stood there that night greatly tempted to fling aside his manuscript and call up the memories of days long gone by. Although that was the first time he had stood in that church, more than forty years ago it was a frequent object as he passed on the road on a Saturday's holiday in search of recreation and delight. And often he wondered that that was a silent tower on the Sunday morning except for the tone of a single bell. They knew well how the bells of St. Peter's old parish church had rung out in the ears of their fathers in generations long gone by, and he had only to close his eyes to let his memory go back forty years to hear their silvery sound on the Sunday morning as they called himself and his brothers to the old parish church of Burnley. And many a time when his dear father, now gone to his rest, and possibly known to some of them, went to preach a charity sermon in one of the churches in the district he would take his boys with him, and his (the speaker's) heart and ears were full of the sweet chimes of those bells at Whalley—as they descended the hill side—calling the people to service on the Sabbath evening. He was sure that there was in all of them a love for the church bells, and the crowded congregation that evening shewed him that they rejoiced that the church had been enriched by the peal of bells which had sounded forth that night in the tower which had so long pleaded for the sound of their silvery notes. In now way could they more fitly recognise their obligations to the church than by discharging the debt to which he had referred. He asked for their liberality and also for their prayers that the donors might, if it pleased God, long be spared to hear their gift summon them to the earthly sanctuary they had just enriched, until at last they were called to worship in that sanctuary not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. And whenever the passing bell might sound, might they by the eye of faith see Jesus, through the shadows of the dark valley, and by the ear of faith hear the chimes of the golden bells welcoming them as they passed through the cold stream to His presence where there was fulness of joy, and at whose right hand there were treasures for evermore.

At the conclusion of the Bishop's address the ringers rang a short touch, after which the hymn "When over hills and dells" was sung. Then the tenor bell was sounded alone, following with the hymn commencing "When the bell in Lenten tone" was rendered. Succeeding this came the ringing of another touch and the singing of "Ring out, the Lord is King," to a setting by Mr. R. Watson. An offertory in aid of the bell fund realised £63 11s. 6d., and included 1090 coins, a sum of £3 15s. 6d. being placed on the plate from the workpeople of Mr. H. Bracewell and their friends. The Benediction, pronounced by the Bishop, concluded the service.—*Local Paper.*

"THE BELLS."—FROM VICTOR HUGO'S
"NOTRE DAME."

"Since the morning of his being pilloried, the inhabitants in the neighbourhood of Notre Dame thought they perceived that Quasimodo's bell-ringing ardour had remarkably abated. Before that time the bells were going on all occasions; long matin chimes which lasted from Prime to Compline; peals of the great bell for high mass; rich gamuts running up and down the small bells for a wedding or a christening, and mingling in the air like a rich embroidery of all sorts of delightful sounds. The old church all vibrating and sonorous, was in a perpetual joyous whirl of bells. Some spirit of noise and whim appeared to be sending forth a never-ending carol through those brazen lips. Now, that spirit seemed to have departed. The cathedral seemed to have grown wilfully sullen and silent. The holidays and interments had their simple accompaniment, bare and unadorned—just what the ritual demanded, and nothing more; of the double sound proceeding from a church, that of the organ within, and the bells without, the organ only was heard. It seemed as if there was no longer any musician in the steeples. Nevertheless, Quasimodo was still there;—what had come to him then?—was it that the shame and desperation of the pillory scene still lingered about his heart, that the lashes of the torturer were ever present to his mind, and that his grief at such treatment had extinguished all feeling in him, even to his passion for the bells? Or was it rather that Marie had a rival in the heart of the ringer of Notre Dame, and that the great bell and her fourteen sisters were neglected for something more beautiful and pleasing?"

"It happened that in the year of Our Lord 1482, the Annunciation fell on Tuesday, March 25th. On that day the air was so pure and light, that Quasimodo felt a little returning affection for his bells. He accordingly ascended the northern tower, whilst the beadle below threw wide the large doors of the church, which were formed, at that time, of enormous panels of strong wood, covered with leather, bordered with iron nails gilt, and encased with sculpture very skillfully wrought."

"Arrived in the high cage of the bells, Quasimodo fixed his eye for some time, with a sorrowful shake of the head, on his six songstresses, as if he sighed to think that something strange had intruded into his heart between himself and them. But when he had set them going—when he felt the whole cluster of bells moving under his hand—when he saw, for he did not hear it, the palpitating octave ascending and descending in the sonorous diapason like a bird hopping from branch to branch—when the demon of music, that demon who shakes a sparkling bundle of strettis, trills, and arpeggios, had taken possession of the poor deaf creature—then he became happy again—he forgot everything, and the dilation of his heart expanded as his countenance."

"He went to and fro, clapping his hands; he ran from one rope to another, animating the six songsters by his voice and his gestures, like a leader of the band spurring on scientific musicians."

"Come, come, Gabrielle," said he, "pour forth all your sound into the square—it's a holiday. Thibaud, none of your idleness—What! you are lagging! Get on with you. Are you grown rusty, lazy-bones? That's it! quick! quick!—don't let the clapper be seen. Make them all as deaf as I am. Bravo! Thibaud. Go it, Guillaume! Guillaume, you are the biggest, and Pasquier's the least, and Pasquier goes best. I'll lay anything that those who can hear hear him better than you. Well done, Gabrielle,—harder! harder! Hey! you are there, the sparrows, what are you both about! I don't see you make the least noise; What's the meaning of those brazen beaks of yours, that seem to be gaping when they ought to be singing? Come, work away! it's the Annunciation. There's a fine sunshine, and we'll have a merry peal. Poor Guillaume—what! what! are you out of breath, my old fellow?"

"He was fully occupied in goading on his bells, which were all six leaping one against another as in rivalry, and shaking their shining backs, like a noisy team of Spanish mules urged forward by the apostrophisings of the driver."

"All at once, happening to cast his eyes between the large slate scales which cover, at a certain height, the perpendicular wall of the steeple, he saw in the square a young girl fantastically dressed, who had stopped, and was laying down a carpet on which a little goat came and placed itself, and around whom a

group of spectators were gathering. This view suddenly changed the course of his ideas, and cooled his musical enthusiasm. He stopped, turned his back to the bells, and squatted behind the slate eaves, fixing on the dancer, that thoughtful, tender, and softened look, which had already once astonished the Archdeacon. Meanwhile the forgotten bells all at once became utterly silent, to the great disappointment of the amateurs of ringing, who were listening to the peal in good earnest from off the Pont-au-change, and who went away as confounded as a dog that has a bone offered to him and a stone given him instead."

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROCHDALE BRANCH.—There will be a meeting of the above branch at St. Mary's parish church, Oldham, on Saturday, April 6th; bells ready at 3 p.m.; meeting at 5 p.m. in the school-room. It is hoped the members in the surrounding districts will turn up to make a good meeting.

F. BIRTWISTLE, Branch Sec.

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.—The next ringing meeting of the above branch will take place on Saturday, April 6th, 1889, at St. Paul's church, Ramsbottom. Bells ready at 3.30, meeting in the school at 6.30.

J. T. STOTT, Local Sec.

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

Being a reader of "THE BELL NEWS," I beg to send for publication a brief account of my life and recollections in connection with bells and bell-ringing.

I was born at Aldbourne in the county of Wilts in 1814. There was in the village at that time the bellfoundry of Robert Wells, and I remember several peals of church bells being cast there, some of which went to Salisbury and other places in Wiltshire, Berkshire, Gloucestershire, etc. In 1824 the firm of Wells gave up business, the plant was purchased by Mears and Co., and removed to London. Two of the men employed by Wells were taken on by Mears, namely Bridgeman and Kimber. There was a good peal of eight at Aldbourne and peal boards in the tower of peals of Grandsire Triples rang there in 1791 and 1804. In 1836 there was a party of Change-ringers there, and on the 27th of March 1837, I rang the tenor there in a peal of Grandsire Triples in three hours and sixteen minutes.

In 1838 I went to London and enlisted in the Grenadier Guards. I was sent to Winchester, and rang in all towers round, and in that city. On my return to London, I joined the St. James' Society, also became a member of the College Youths, and am well-known to many of the older members of both societies. I rang my first peal in London at St. Barnabas, Pimlico, conducted by John Cox, this was Grandsire Triples. I also rung peals at the following places: two peals of Grandsire Triples at Lambeth, and a peal of Grandsire Caters at St. Clements in the Strand, each of these were conducted by Mr. G. Stockham. Two peals of Stedman Caters with the College Youths, one in St. James', Bermondsey, the other at Poplar, and a peal of Stedman Triples at Bethnal Green, each conducted by the late Mr. Haley. Two peals of Grandsire Triples at Lewisham, Kent, and a peal of Grandsire Triples at Greenwich, each conducted by Richard Smith. Two peals of Grandsire Triples at Woolwich, Kent, conducted by Mr. Banister. I have rung the tenor in thirty eight towers in and about London.

I may here observe that of the eight who rung the peal of Grandsire Triples at Aldbourne, on the 27th of March, 1837, four of them are still living.

I am now living at Bishopstone, Wilts, six miles from my birthplace. I am not now able to ring, but still delighted to hear the sound of the bells. I was recently much pleased to hear at this place a peal of Stedman Triples by members of the Oxford Guild.

JOHN BEEZLEY.

THE DUCKLINGTON BELL FUND.

	£.	s.	d.
Amount advertised	14	10	9
Miss Brown (card)	0	14	0
Mr. Fich	0	0	6
Mr. H. Dains, London.	0	1	0
Total	15	6	3

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received and acknowledged by W. J. Fisher, Great Western Hotel, Paddington, W.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Be thou faithful unto death."

I imagine the general verdict on the merit of our latest addition to the portrait gallery will be one of unqualified approval. And if it is satisfactory generally all round, much more so will it be in the household of him who is thus portrayed. So I need say nothing further about it. Mr warmest wish towards Mr. Washbrook is that he may be blessed with health and strength to fulfil the prophesy so confidently made last Saturday; that he may be a tower of strength to those around him for good; and that his good wife may enjoy equal blessings, so they may live to be a comfort to each other in their old age.

* * * * *

While on this topic, I cannot help remarking that Friday, the 15th must have been something like a busy day with our friend Mr. Washbrook. After ringing in and conducting Brook's peal of Stedman Triples at Maidenhead, he trots off to Marlow, and there takes a pair, and conducts Holt's ten-part on handbells. This finished, he entertains the company at Mr. Truss' house with some masterly performances in various methods on the piano. If he goes on at this racket, we shall be dubbing him "Evergreen Washbrook." I should very much like to entice him into my own particular district just for a little while, so as to let us natives see how it is done.

* * * * *

Mr. Strange writes with much cogency on the treatment by the Birmingham meeting of that much-vexed question the National Ringers' Association. There certainly does appear, at first sight, as he seems to think, some inconsistency in first condemning the National Association and then pronouncing in favour of a substitute for it. But this is only at first sight, for it disappears on further consideration. For instance, if I remember rightly, the scheme for a National Association proposed the inclusion of every individual member of each county Association or Guild, with a settled subscription for each or a prescribed percentage of each Association's income through subscriptions. The Birmingham proposal, as I understand it, is simply the appointment of delegates to represent each Association on a joint committee (or council—which I think would be a better term). There is thus a considerable difference between the two. I have always been of opinion, rightly or wrongly, that one great—if not, indeed, the principal—cause of the proposal for a National Association coming to grief was the high rate of subscription, and the immediate prospect of getting so little in return for it. On the other hand, should the proposed National Committee—or Council—become a substantial fact, that objection would not exist, as it would not necessitate anything more than a mere nominal subscription from each Association for working expenses, and an annual or half-yearly meeting of these delegates in some convenient centre would be well within the bounds of practicability.

* * * * *

But be that as it may; whether the scheme for a National Association on the lines of the original proposal, be still persevered in, or this Birmingham suggestion take its place; one thing is morally certain—we cannot go on in perplexity as we are now. We must have more unity. We have, to a very large extent, gathered together the units; it is therefore becoming imperatively necessary that by some mode or other each section of these units should be put in touch with one another for the common good. If our art and work is to progress as it ought,

we shall have to remember the fable of the old man and the bundle of sticks, and endeavour to follow his advice. Whatever be the form of string which is to bind us all together, I maintain that we are loyally bound to take this matter into our serious consideration, and that without loss of time. I hope Mr. Strange's letter will receive that careful thought which it deserves, and that it may cause the re-opening of a question which will not be allowed to lapse until a definite and satisfactory mode of action is decided upon.

* * * * *

"Scrutator" is rather hot on the Salisbury Guild's annual report. Unfortunately he appears to have only too good grounds for his incisive language. But surgical operations, however painful they may be at the time, usually tend to the restoration of health, thus the patient ultimately is benefitted. Let us hope such will be so in this case, and that next year's report will show "an improvement all round," an event which will be hailed with satisfaction by us all—including, I am sure, the officials of that Guild.

* * * * *

The particulars to hand respecting the deplorable death of Mr. Robert Tuke will, I feel sure, have been read with "mournful interest." Whether we had the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with the deceased gentleman or not, we cannot help experiencing a feeling of profound sorrow at his untimely death. Just in the prime of life, thousands of miles away from his own home and those who were nearest and dearest, in his anxiety to gain a footing for the Exercise in the transatlantic city of Philadelphia, prolonging his stay so as to establish at least one company of change-ringers there; having gathered round him an earnest band, anxious to profit by his teaching; and by his evidently inherent qualities gained the respect—nay, even the love—of those around him, when everything seemed progressing favourably towards that end to which he had set his endeavours, it does, humanly speaking, seem hard that he should thus have been so suddenly and painfully taken away. Like his bosom friend Jasper Snowdon, too, his end was "not long in coming," and the news of his death was thus all the more sad by reason of its suddenness. The Yorkshire Association has thus lost two of its principal founders, two men who, I have reason to believe, were held by the whole of the members throughout that great county in the very highest esteem. Their loss will therefore be all the more acute; but they may be assured of the heartfelt sympathies of their brethren in this their last great bereavement. Robert Tuke rests from his labours, but truly his work, and the fond remembrance of his many virtues will never fade.

FREE LANCE.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

NOTICE TO LOCAL COMMITTEE MEN.—A committee meeting will be held at my house on Wednesday, April 10th, at 3.30 p.m., to consider the following propositions to be brought forward at the annual meeting:—(1) admission of life-ringing members, being change-ringers, residing out of the diocese; (2) encouragement of change-ringing; (3) the advisability, funds permitting, of granting donations to towers in union with the Guild for belfry restoration or improvement. J. R. JERRAM, Gen. Sec.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

The Annual Supper takes place at the "Green Man," 54 St. Martin's Lane, W.C., on Friday, the 5th proximo, upon and for which occasion a good programme is being prepared, and a goodly muster is expected. H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

News from Abroad.

THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY, MELBOURNE.

Mr. J. BEECHEY, Hon. Secretary of the Victorian society of ringers, practising at St. James's Cathedral, Melbourne, Australia, sends us the following account of

A COLONIAL RINGING TOUR.

The members of the above-named society, hearing that a number of rings of bells were at the different churches in Sydney, New South Wales, and being desirous that a company should represent Victoria during the Christmas holidays, it was proposed at a general meeting and unanimously carried—"That a company be picked to represent the Victorian society in Sydney." Such was the formal resolution, but as I do not purpose continuing this narrative in formal phraseology, I will proceed to relate events in my own peculiar way. Our troubles began at the commencement, for we experienced great difficulty in obtaining the promise from those members willing to form a band who were capable of ringing changes; then the necessary holiday had to be arranged by the men, but fortunately everything was finally settled, and the day of departure fixed for the 21st December, 1888. The names of members of the band, with their birthplaces, were as follow: Messrs. J. Guest, Stafford (Captain); W. Albinson, Stockport, Cheshire (C.Y.); W. Shenton, Hillingdon, Middlesex; J. Beechey, Leamington, Warwick; J. Clark, Manchester; F. B. Hall (C.Y.), London; J. Russell (C.Y.), London; J. Murray, Melbourne, Victoria. The captain and myself went per express overland, the remaining six preferring a trip by steamer. The overland route of 600 miles is extremely monotonous, there being no change of scenery to speak of, but a continuous similarity of bush country, and although an Australian bush scene is one of the sights of the world, it is not sufficiently satisfying to last twenty hours without "a variation." However, we endured it to the end, and eventually arrived in Sydney at midday on the Saturday. We at once proceeded to Mr. Morton, conductor at the church of St. Philip, with whom we had corresponded, introduced ourselves, and were cordially welcomed. We were most agreeably surprised to learn there were so many rings of bells in and around Sydney, there being no less than eight within easy distance of that city. After ascertaining the ringing arrangements made for us, we turned our attention to the obtaining of residential accommodation and the necessary creature comforts, then a look round the city to occupy the time until the arrival of steamer with balance of contingent. I will not dwell upon the beauties of the harbour, the delights of Hyde Park, or the repose of the Botanical Gardens, but leave it to abler hands, which no doubt ere this have transmitted full particulars to the old country.

We did not expect our men until Monday morning, but whilst waiting on Sunday evening for the St. Philip's ringers to turn up to ring for Divine Service, to our great satisfaction they came up leisurely to the tower, having just landed. They certainly did not appear in good ringing form, through experiencing a bad forty-eight hours on the water, and not being the best of sailors, some of them were consequently laid low, but nevertheless we essayed a pull and got through 504 of Grandsire Triples. The bells are a very musical ring of eight by Mears and Stainbank, tenor 20 cwt. They go very well, the only inconvenience being the sharp ropes, and too long from the tuft; in fact we found a similar fault in the majority of the towers, but which we easily remedied. The St. Philip's society have just added another bell to their peal, making nine in all, to enable a light ring of six to be used. Our next pull was at the same church on Christmas-eve for service, when we rang 1008, viz.: two parts of Holt's 10-part peal, conducted by our captain. The next item on our programme was a visit to Christ Church, City, for Christmas morning service, at 9.30. Here we were heartily welcomed by the Rev. C. F. Garnsey and the ringers. The bells, six in number, tenor 14 cwt., are by Taylor. They are very nice in tone, but the go of them might be better, also the ropes. We rang several 6-scores, but did not attempt any Minor. The Rev. C. F. Garnsey personally brought us refreshments in the shape of wine, biscuits, and cake, and when I tell my brother-ringers at

home that the glass stood at about 101 in the shade, they will understand that we appreciated the same in more ways than one. We then went to St. Mary's (R.C.) Cathedral, to make arrangements for a ring on their peal of eight, but were received with a certain amount of coolness, owing as it transpired, to an imaginary slight, but on explaining that we were entire strangers to Sydney, and quite ignorant upon questions appertaining to local societies and bells, matters improved, and two of us were invited to have a pull with them. Having satisfied Mr. Lawn, the captain, that we were ringers, there was a further improvement in the state of things, and we were invited to ring after Mass was over, which we readily accepted, for we found a beautiful ring in the key of D. tenor 28 cwt., by Mears and Stainbank. The go of these bells leave nothing to be desired, and every member of our band were delighted, and could not but admit in their opinion that they were the best peal in the Colonies. The go of these bells actually left nothing to be desired; every credit is due to Mr. Lawn for the manner in which he keeps them. They are, comparatively speaking, a new peal, having only been hung about three years, and I am told were chosen by Mr. Lawn himself, who stood out for a new peal in place of an old ring which has gone back to England. Mr. Lawn is very proud of the bells, and with good reason; we all envied him. Time being limited after Mass, he rang the tenor over seven of our men in a plain course, and 168 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Albinson, and proved himself no mean performer, considering he has no opportunity of mixing with change-ringers. We made arrangements for a ring on the Thursday night, feeling the tour would be incomplete if we did not have a proper opportunity of thoroughly testing the bells.

We rang for evening service again at Christ Church. On Boxing Day we journeyed out to Randwick, four miles distance, to St. Jude's, where we found a peal of eight steel bells, tenor 16 cwt. We were cordially welcomed by the Rev. W. G. Hough, and the ringers, of whom Mr. Kimberley is captain. After splicing ropes we were enabled to test them, and rang a touch of 350, conducted by Jas. Murray, but found it not altogether pleasant ringing. There seemed to be a rather harsh discordant sound in the belfry, and 7-8 were a trifle stiff, though from the outside the tone seemed better, but undoubtedly we were all not much impressed with steel bells. Our engagement at St. Mark's, Darling Point, necessitated a move at mid-day, so we transferred ourselves thence. We were welcomed by the Rev. Canon Kemmis, and substantially so by the St. Mark's ringers, of whom more anon. A pretty church, in a pretty place, with a pretty peal of six, tenor 9 cwt., by Mears and Stainbank. What more would anyone require for an enjoyable afternoon's ring? Beautiful tone, ropes and go good; six-scores were rattled off at a rapid rate. We are pleased to chronicle the fact that here we found men who could ring Doubles, but unfortunately it was the only place where we did so, a matter upon which I will treat later on. After being photographed by Mr. Joyner, and spending a pleasant afternoon, we adjourned to the schoolroom, and found we were to be entertained in rare style. We sat down to quite a spread, the company mustering fifty. After refreshing the inner man, and drinking the healths of local and visiting ringers, a most enjoyable evening was spent. The St. Mark's society not only presented us with abundance of viands, production of a set of sixty-four handbells, but introduced us to their wives and sweethearts, who did the honours of the evening and looked after our well-being; certainly if they were not ringers they were *belles*, and to their interest in ringers the success of the evening was in no small measure due. The following members of St. Mark's—Messrs. Abrahams, W. Galbraith, T. Ridley, T. Martin, C. McLean, A. B. Joyner, and T. Furse, gave several selections on the handbells, and although they have not the skill of the Lynch family, their performance was highly creditable, and most agreeably surprised us. Songs by some of the ladies and members, and a course of Triples and Major, two in hand, by Messrs. J. Guest, W. Albinson, J. Murray, J. Clark, W. Shenton, and J. Russell, were given during the evening. A pleasing speech by Mr. Joyner, expressive of kindly feelings and fellowship among ringers, and a suitable reply by Mr. Guest, thanking them for their liberal and friendly entertainment and reception, brought a very happy evening to a close with the National Anthem.

On Thursday morning, our destination being Parramatta, we

took train for that place, and although it is only fourteen miles out, it occupies fifty-seven minutes for the journey, there being seventeen stations to stop at. We found at All Saints' church a very nice peal of six, by Mears and Stainbank, tenor 12 cwt., and everything in good order. We were cordially welcomed by the local ringers, of whom Mr. Davis is captain. We enjoyed a pleasant afternoon's ringing, 6-scores and two attempts at 720 of Minor, the latter falling through in consequence of two bells changing course at the last lead but one. This was the extent of our performance here. At 5 p.m. we were invited by the Rev. J. Done to partake of tea at the Vicarage, and spent a pleasant hour, in the course of which the rev. gentleman took occasion to welcome and thank us for our visit, trusting that the relations inaugurated would be continued, and tend to infuse more energy into church bells and change-ringing. He complimented his own men on their regularity of attendance at practice, and for service ringing, and expressed a hope that when we next paid them a visit, we should find our present tour had not been unproductive. Mr. W. Albinson acknowledged the welcome in a pleasing speech, interspersed with anecdotes—a weakness of his.

We took train back to Sydney, and made our way to St. Mary's, all being anxious to keep our appointment. On arrival we found we had to wait till service was over, and thus only leaving a limited time for ringing, dispelled our intention of going for the first half of Holt's peal, so having to make the best of it, we stood in as follows: W. Shenton, 1; Jno. Beechey, 2; J. Murray, 3; J. Clark, 4; J. Guest (conductor), 5; W. Albinson, 6; T. B. Hall, 7; J. Russell, 8. We also started for a quarter-peal, but after ringing 504, something went amiss with the sixth, so the bells were brought round. On examination a bolt was found to have come loose, so after screwing up, third and sixth men changed places, and another start was made, a touch of 1036 being recorded, the bells coming into rounds in 43 mins. It was a matter of general regret that time would not allow us to continue ringing, for one and all thoroughly enjoyed the pull, not for the performance of so small a touch, but for the pleasure derived in hearing such deep and harmonious tones pealing forth. The striking all through was good, and not wishing to infer there was no room for improvement, it was the best rung touch I have heard in the Colonies, and it was generally admitted by those present that it was the only occasion the bells had had justice done to them. Great interest was taken by the outside public and numbers assembled in Hyde Park during the evening to hear the ringing.

Friday morning we again visited St. Mark's, Darling Point, for the purpose of ringing a 720 of Grandsire Minor, and after several attempts we were successful. J. Clark, 1; W. Shenton, 2; J. Guest, 3; W. Albinson, 4; J. Murray (conductor), 5; T. B. Hall, 6. Time 31 mins. After wishing our brother-ringers farewell, we turned our steps towards St. Philip's, being due there at 5 p.m., to ring our farewell touch, and to be entertained by the St. Philip's society. On arrival at the belfry, a 504 was rung, the tenor being taken by Mr. Bray, who acquitted himself very creditably, and I am only sorry that we did not find more men as capable. An adjournment to the schoolroom adjoining was made, and about fifty ladies and gentlemen sat down to a repast, presided over by the Rev. J. D. Langley, who in a few cordial remarks, welcomed the visitors, and expressed his gratification at seeing them present as the guests of their Sydney brethren. Messrs. Guest and Albinson responded in appropriate terms. A programme of musical numbers was then given in admirable style. At the conclusion the band ascended the tower and rang a 504 of Grandsire as a farewell touch, the tenor being rung by Mr. Lawn, and conducted by J. Clark, concluding about midnight a thorough evening's enjoyment. Our men left per steamer at mid-day on Saturday for home, numbers of the Sydney ringers attending to wish us all *bon voyage* and a speedy return, and after a pleasant trip of 600 miles down the coast, arrived safe in Melbourne in time on Monday evening, December 31st, 1888, to take part in the usual New Year's Eve Festival and midnight peal.

Having related the events as they occurred, I will briefly express a few of my impressions resulting from the tour.

It is a remarkable fact that in so large a place as Sydney and suburbs, with no less than eight rings, we only found one society (St. Mark's), who were capable of ringing changes. The fault I think is simply with the men themselves. There appears to be

a great want of harmony amongst the several societies, and I am certain, judging from the reception they one and all gave our band, it only requires a beginning to enable them to combine together and ultimately prove a strong ringers' society. They are far more favoured than we in Melbourne, where we have only two peals, and far from good ones. A little energy on the part of those most intimately concerned is all that is needed, and I trust before they see this in print they will have taken some steps in the matter. There will be more than one great advantage derived by ringers in both colonies from our visit. We have now become acquainted and enabled to correspond with different societies, which will infuse more go into the art of ringing, and it is to be hoped you will have greater deeds to chronicle in the future than you have in the past from the Colonies.

My brother-ringers at home must not look upon our small performance during this tour as our best on record; ignorance of members existence and number of peals prevented us making any definite arrangements until arrival in Sydney, then so many services and holidays intervening compelled us to submit to circumstances, and necessitated a short ring. And taking into consideration that Christmas is mid-summer in the Colonies, and the extreme heat is far from enticing for long touches, we had not the best of opportunities to obtain something worthy of notice. In Melbourne we have done better, but unfortunately have not obtained the 5040 yet, the nearest approach being a break-down twice in the ninth part of Holt's peal. Nothing disheartened, we hope to be able to forward the record before many more moons rise, for we fully intend accomplishing the feat and get the credit of it for Victoria. It is only natural to expect our visit to Sydney will have the double effect of engendering greater aspirations on our part, and establishing an annual ringing tour.

Before closing this narrative, I have much pleasure in taking this opportunity of expressing through your columns, on behalf of my brother-ringers, our sincere thanks to our Sydney brothers for their kind reception, and we trust it will not be the last occasion we shall have the honour of being entertained by them. Every credit is due to Mr. Morton (St. Philip's), for his exertions to make our visit a success, and to Mr. Bray (St. Mary's), for his kindness in devoting his time and escorting us to different places during our stay.

I hope I have not trespassed too much upon your space in thinking a detailed account of a Colonial Ringing Tour would be of some little interest to your many readers and brother-ringers at home, and I thank you in anticipation for its insertion.

A SILVER BELL.

The incident at Borki, where the Czar had such a hair-breadth escape (says the *Independance Belge*) has given rise to a great many manifestations in Russia. The most remarkable of these is certainly the great silver bell which has just been cast at Kharkew, and which is destined to recall to the minds of the inhabitants of the sacred town the recollection of the catastrophe of October 17th. This bell, which is to bear the name of "Czar's Bell," will be adorned with the arms of their Majesties, and of all the princes who were in the train at the time of the accident. The bell will be hung outside the tower, on the west side—that is, in the direction of the Koursk-Kharkow-Azow railway. It will bear the inscription: "This silver bell has been cast by the clergy of the diocese of Kharkow, in commemoration of the miraculous event of the preservation from mortal danger, in the railway accident of October 17th, 1888, near Kharkow, of his Majesty the Emperor Alexander III., her Majesty the Empress Marie Feodorovna, and their august children, the Grand Duke Cesarevitch Nicholas Alexandrovitch, the Grand Dukes George Alexandrovitch and Michael Alexandrovitch, and the Grand Duchesses Xenie Alexandrovna and Olga Alexandrovna." Every day, at the exact hour at which the accident of October 17th occurred, the bell will ring for five minutes. No other use than this is to be made of it.

* STEYNING BELLS.—The bells of this church will be closed for ringing until further notice.

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

ROPE-SIGHT: 1s. 6d. THIRD EDITION. Commences by explaining how to manage a bell; deals with Change-Ringing on three, four, five, six, seven, and eight Bells in the PLAIN BOB METHOD, giving touches and peals in each case; and closes with instructions for Conducting, &c., &c. (143 pages).

STANDARD METHODS: 2s. 6d. SECOND EDITION. Contains full explanations and rules for ringing all the best methods, from five to eight bells, with plain-course diagrams of each printed in full, with coloured lines. (40 pages of diagrams and 87 of descriptive letterpress).

GRANDSIRE; 2s. 0d. THE METHOD, ITS PEALS, AND HISTORY. WITH PORTRAIT AND MEMOIR. EDITED BY HIS BROTHER, WM. SNOWDON. COMPLETE WITH AN APPENDIX BY THE REV. CHARLES D. P. DAVIES, M.A., OXON. Commences with ringing on five, six, and seven bells, for the benefit of a learner; gives instructions on composing, proving, varying, and reversing conducting and calling round; and ends with a general survey of the practical and scientific aspect of the composition of triples—thus forming a complete reference book for all Grandsire ringers. (270 pages).

TREBLE BOB. 3s. 2½d. PARTS I. AND II. COMPLETE. Part I. contains instructions for pricking, transposing, proving, composing, and conducting peals; an essay on the *In and Out-of-course* of the changes; and a history of the various compositions and performances. Part II. contains classified peals of Minor, Major, Royal, and Maximus, with their reverse variations; remarks on the different qualities; particulars of first performances, composers' names, &c., &c. (236 closely printed pages). Part II. (136 closely printed pages) may be had separately, 2s. 1½d.

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR. 1s. 0d. Contains rules and instructions for pricking and ringing the method; a linear diagram of the plain course; a collection of touches and peals; instructions for proving; and a history of the earlier performances, with a list of peals down to 1884. (78 pages).

A few copies are still left of "An Account of the Society of Union Scholars." (49 pages). Post free, 8½d.

Forwarded, Post Free, on receipt of remittance, by WM. SNOWDON, Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

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.

H. HAMILTON PALAIRET.—See what Shipway says on the matter. London ringers have always been sceptical on the point.

HENRY ROWE (Hertford).—Your quarter-peal is false. Changes which are had at backstroke in the 1st part, come up at hand in the last.

R. T. WOODLEY.—Your letter arrived too late for this week. See notices above. The last paragraph must be modified somewhat, it cannot appear in its present form.

ALBERT E. PARSONS.—We think your proposal worthy of acceptance.

NOTICE.—The indexes now due will be published almost directly. The compiler has, from causes beyond his control, been unable to fulfil his duty in this respect at the time desired, but this delay will in future be avoided, and the inconvenience caused be prevented. We hope to publish indexes due up to date within a month.

OUR PORTRAIT GALLERY.—We have been solicited by several influential readers to publish one portrait every month. We are very pleased to find that these portraits meet with such general approval. We shall do our best to issue one every fourth week, and their appearance will always be announced a week beforehand.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1889.

WITH the present number of this paper another volume is completed, and a seven years' publication of "THE BELL NEWS" is thus an established fact. This term of duration is very satisfactory to ourselves, and no doubt

doubly gratifying to many old friends who when its publication was first suggested, feared that the support which would be accorded to it by the Exercise would not be sufficient to keep it going. Such a fear is not, we are happy to say, probable of realisation. Our paper is not we believe, unknown to any change-ringer in the three kingdoms. We are painfully aware that in many places one copy of "THE BELL NEWS" is made to serve the purposes of a whole company, and it is also well known that very many of our readers are enabled by the kindness of their friends to gain a knowledge of the contents of every number without being mulcted in the magnificent sum which is the price of publication. These unpleasant facts we of course regret: but they must be made the best of, and we must depend upon the energy of our warmest supporters for the extension of our circulation. If every one of our kind friends would lay the task upon themselves of securing but one additional regular subscriber, what an extension of our usefulness would result. We invite them at the end of our seven years' existence to join in such an effort. Several correspondents have honestly averred that where each issue of "THE BELL NEWS" is eagerly sought for, the art is flourishing, and will—in all probability—continue to do so. On the contrary, where there is a lukewarmness with regard to our journal, a similar indifference is manifested towards change-ringing.

Those who remember the period when this paper first made its appearance, and who will take a concise retrospect of such subjects as "Church Bells and Ringing" during the past seven years, will form the conclusion that a wonderful revolution has taken place so far as they are concerned. Diocesan and other Ringing Associations have been brought into existence, which still pursue their objects under improving conditions, and rings of bells have been cast and erected in districts where from time immemorial the sound of more than one "ting-tang" was never heard. Shall we be far out of our reckoning when we say there has been more bells cast by English bellfounders during the past seven years than in any other previous period of double that length? We think not. And is not "THE BELL NEWS" to have some little credit for this popularity, which is growing day by day, for Church Bells and Ringing? "Without a doubt," many of our friends will say.

The period of seven years has not been uneventful for the fortunes of our journal. Perhaps it is not wise to take a retrospect, for if it is pleasant to survey the progress made, it nevertheless brings sadness in its train. Out of the original promoters of "THE BELL NEWS" the majority are at rest, after fighting the good fight upon earth; and a recollection of happy connections now severed by the king of terrors does not tend to hilarity. Still there is no lack of kind friends to fill the places of those gone, who ungrudgingly give us their kind support and countenance. And so we go on; losing one good friend perhaps, but gaining two, while our contributors' list is increasing week by week. We have then just come to the seventh part-end of our peal, the eighth is commen-

cing, the striking being better than any which has preceded it. The bells are in the most musical positions, the performers are all in good condition for their work, and the bob-caller is confident, that barring untoward accident, the next part-end will be brought up equal to the last one, or as much better as possible, and if those anxious for the success of the peal do their share, success is inevitable.

The Metropolis.

THE ALL HALLOWS' SOCIETY, TOTTENHAM, AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

ALFRED FOX* Treble.	*JAMES BARBER 5.
GEORGE GRIFFIN 2.	†GEORGE B. LUCAS 6.
JOSEPH WAGHORN* 3.	†HENRY A. BARNETT 7.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN.* .. 4.	*WM. PYE-ENGLISH Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES and Conducted by GEORGE B. LUCAS.

*First peal in the method. †First peal in the method with a bob bell. †First peal in the method as conductor. It is also the first peal in the method by the All Hallows' Society. The ringers desire to thank the Rector and Churchwardens for the use of the bells.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

On Saturday, March 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 20 cwt.

ALBERT E. CHURCH* .. Treble.	*FRANCIS L. DAVIES 5.
WILLIAM BARON, SEN. .. 2.	*WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. 6.
WALTER PARTINGTON* .. 3.	*GEORGE WILD 7.
HENRY SWAIN 4.	GEORGE NEWSON Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

This is the first peal of Treble Bob on the bells since 1874. *First peal in the method. The ringers wish to thank Mr. W. Coppage for having everything in readiness, also Mr. George Newson for kindly calling the peal at a minute's notice.

TOTTENHAM, MIDDLESEX.—THE ALL HALLOWS' SOCIETY, TOTTENHAM, AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 26, 1889, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

ALFRED FOX Treble.	WM. PYE-ENGLISH 5.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, SEN. .. 2.	JAMES BARBER 6.
GEORGE GRIFFIN 3.	†HENRY A. BARNETT 7.
THOS. C. GROVE* 4.	GEORGE B. LUCAS Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES and Conducted by HENRY A. BARNETT.

*First peal in the method. †First peal in the method as conductor. Rung on the occasion of a Confirmation service by the Bishop of Bedford.

The Provinces.

MIDDLETON STONEY.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, March 20, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN TWO MINOR METHODS, EACH CALLED DIFFERENTLY.

J. GIBBARD* Treble.	*J. TUFFRY 4.
J. R. GIBBARD* 2.	T. WAKENELL 5.
G. BECKINSALE* 3.	J. W. WASHBROOK Tenor.

Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal. This is the first peal ever rung on the bells, being the 44th birthday of the Earl of Jersey, the ringers wishing him many happy returns. It was also rung as a farewell peal to J. Gibbard and G. Beckinsale prior to starting for Queensland.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 23, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four and ½ Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

HENRY W. JACKSON Treble.	JOHN W. CRITCHLEY 5.
HENRY BENTLEY 2.	THOMAS E. TURNER 6.
JOEL REDFORD 3.	DAVID E. RIMMER 7.
RICHARD HILL 4.	RICHARD LINDLEY Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY W. JACKSON.

Messrs. Hill and Rimmer hail from Southport.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION,

On Saturday, March 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

WILLIAM E. EMERY* .. Treble.	*ROBERT WOOD 5.
JOSEPH J. EVERARD 2.	ARTHUR EDWARDS 6.
HIRZEL F. DE LISLE, ESQ. 3.	ALFRED TARBUN 7.
FREDERICK G. RADLEY .. 4.	WILLIAM LINCOLN Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and Conducted by WILLIAM LINCOLN.

*First peal of Major. This peal has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and nineteen times right, and is now rung for the first time, upon placing a peal-board in the tower to commemorate the first peal rung by the present Writtle company (and is the first by a band all resident in the parish since 1821) on December 26th, 1888. Mr. De Lisle hails from Galleywood; A. Tarbun from Widford; the rest are local men.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE EASTBOURNE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 23, 1889, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 8 cwt.

R. HOWSE Treble.	G. H. HOWSE 5.
F. HARDING 2.	E. WILLOUGHBY 6.
A. PIPER 3.	T. M. SMITH 7.
J. SHARP 4.	A. CHILDS Tenor.

Conducted by T. M. SMITH.

First peal in the method by all. E. Willoughby is a member of the St. Mary's Society, Eastbourne.

CHESTER.—THE ST. MICHAEL'S SOCIETY.

On Sunday, March 24, 1889, in Two Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. POVEY, 1, CECIL STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART (REVERSED).

WALTER CROSS 1-2.	ALFRED CROSS 5-6.
JAMES MOULTON 3-4.	WILLIAM POVEY 7-8.

Conducted by JAMES MOULTON,

Umpires—Messrs. H. Gibson and H. Povey.

BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE SKIPTON BRANCH.)

On Sunday, March 24, 1889, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF HOLY TRINITY, HABERGHAM EAVES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

FRANK ANDERSON .. Treble.	WILLIAM MASON 5.
JOHN BOOTHMAN 2.	HENRY HORNER 6.
JOHN W. STIRK 3.	WILLIAM BILLOWS 7.
WILLIAM WELLOCK 4.	WILLIAM D. HILLARY .. Tenor.

Composed by J. BARKER, of Liversedge, and Conducted by W. BILLOWS.

This peal is in three parts.

HIGHAM FERRERS, NORTH HANTS. RAUNDS AND WELLINGBOROUGH DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 24, 1889, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,
AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. JOHN KILSBY,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HUBBARD'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 15 size in C.

FRED H. SLADE 1-2.	ALFRED H. MARTIN .. 5-6.
ALFRED E. CHAPMAN .. 3-4.	JOHN B. MARTIN .. 7-8.

Conducted by J. B. MARTIN.

The above is the first double-handed peal by all, and also the first by the above Association. It is also supposed to be the first 5040 on handbells of any description in Northamptonshire. Umpire—Mr. George Brown.

Date Touches.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CARSHALTON.—On Tuesday, March 19th, at All Saints' church, a date touch of 1889 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 5 mins. F. Holder, 1; J. Harding, 2; T. Matthews, 3; J. Hartley, 4; C. E. Buckingham, 5; E. Hollands, 6; J. Plowman, 7; H. Brooks, 8. Composed by John Carter, of Birmingham, and conducted by J. Plowman. Tenor 12½ cwt in G. sharp.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TAMWORTH.—On Tuesday, March 19th, for practice at the parish church, Carter's date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. J. Windridge, 1; R. P. Brindley, 2; A. Everitt, 3; J. W. Timms, 4; J. Wainwright, 5; G. Woods (conductor), 6; C. Chapman, 7; G. Tomlinson (first date touch), 8.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, March 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, G. Hayward's date touch of Grandsire Caters, in 1 hr. 10 mins. H. Rippon, 1; J. Hunt, 2; J. Goodwin, 3; I. Goodwin, 4; G. Topliss (conductor), 5; S. Price (Staveley), 6; D. Farthing, 7; W. G. Cook, 8; A. Knights, 9; G. Swift (Staveley), 10. Tenor 24½ cwt.

EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FRIESTON.—On Thursday, March 21st, at the parish church, in honour of the marriage of Miss Sharp, the local company rang a date touch (1889 changes), of Grandsire, Bob Doubles, and Hudibras, in 1 hr. 10 mins., each 6-score called different. G. Harison, 1; A. Barber, 2; E. Clayton, 3; Jos. Sharp, 4; J. Sharp (conductor), 5. Tenor 21 cwt. Longest length by first and third men. E. Clayton only commenced change-ringing this winter.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

STRATFORD-LE-BOW (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, March 21st, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1889 changes, in 1 hr. and 6 mins. H. Springall (conductor), 1; R. Turner, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; S. Hayes, 4; Y. Green (composer), 5; R. Woodley, 6; H. Torble, 7; S. Joyce, 8. The above was rung to commemorate the 21st birthday of Mr. S. Joyce, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

BARWELL (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, March 23rd, at the parish church, a date touch, being 89 of Grandsire Doubles and 1800 of Plain Bob Minor, in 1 hr. and 13 mins. H. Horwood,* 1; J. Swinfield, 2; T. W. Chapman,* 3; A. Needham, 4; J. Clarke,* 5; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. *First 720. The longest touch in the method by all except the conductor. Messrs. Horwood, Chapman and Clarke hail from Nuneaton, the rest from Barwell.

Low Moor (Lancashire).—On Saturday, March 23rd, for the confirmation service at Holy Trinity church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1889 changes, in 1 hr. and 8 mins. T. Pickard, 1; J. Knott, 2; T. Simpson, 3; J. Briggs, 4; J. Wilson, 5; M. Ramsden, 6; J. W. Emmett, 7; C. Dracup (conductor), 8. Tenor 15 cwt. Composed by Wm. Goodall, of Liversedge. Knott, Wilson, and Ramsden hail from Liversedge.

SAFFRON WALDEN (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, March 19th, the following members of the local company rang Mr. A. P. Heywood's date touch of Stedman Triples, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Freeman, 1; N. J. Pitstow, 2; C. Freeman, 3; J. F. Penning, 4; G. Martin, 5; E. Pitstow, 6; F. Pitstow (conductor), 7; W. Marshall, 8.

CAMBRIDGE.—On Monday, March 18th, at the University Church, a date touch of Stedman Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 17 mins. E. Andrews, jun., 1; S. Brown, 2; J. Taylor, 3; E. Taylor, 4; H. Mansfield, 5; E. Andrews, sen. (conductor), 6; W. Kempton, 7; W. Eusden, 8. Tenor 31 cwt. Composed by A. Percival Heywood, Esq. This is the first date touch in the method on the bells.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, March 24th, for Divine Service at St. Stephen's church, Westminster, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. A. S. Ellis, 1; A. Ingerfield, 2; J. Reed, 3; J. Pryer, 4; R. H. Newton (conductor), 5; W. H. George, H. Ellis, 7; W. Cropley, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

COOKHAM (Berks).—On Tuesday, March 19th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 32 mins. J. C. Truss, jun., 1; F. Dentry, 2; C. Smith, 3; J. C. Truss, sen., 4; J. Wilkins (conductor), 5; W. Ayres, 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. J. C. Truss, jun., 1; C. Smith, 2; F. Dentry, 3; J. W. Wilkins, 4; J. C. Truss, sen., 5; E. Keeley, 6.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CLENT.—On Monday, March 18th, 720 Bob Minor. M. Shilvock, 1; F. Molineux, 2; W. Boughton, 3; H. Morris, 4; J. Smith, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. First 720 on a bob bell by F. Molineux.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, March 17th, after evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. R. Mackman, 1; R. Lane (conductor), 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; J. S. Wright, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman, 6; J. Brown, 7; G. Skeef, 8. Messrs. Lane and Tyler hail from Loughborough.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Tuesday evening, March 12th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. W. Patton, 1; J. Little, 2; W. D. Lister, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; J. Temple, 5; H. S. Taylor (conductor), 6. J. Temple hails from Hurworth-on-Tees. First 720 by 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 6th men.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

HAVANT (Hants).—On Monday, March 11th, at the church of St. Faith, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 43 mins. J. Hewett, 1; J. W. Whiting, 2; G. Grafham, 3; C. Privett, 4; F. Hill, 5; J. Staples, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; G. Instrel, 8. And 559 Grandsire Triples. W. Naylor, 1; H. Shirley (longest touch with a bob bell), 2; J. Staples, 3; C. Privett, 4; G. Instrel, 5; F. Hill, 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; G. Grafham, 8. Also 434 Grandsire Triples. J. Hewett, 1; C. Privett, 2; G. Grafham, 3; F. Hill (conductor), 4; G. Instrel, 5; J. Staples, 6; J. Whiting, 7; W. Irish, 8.

THE HEREFORDSHIRE DIOCESAN GUILD.

COBBINGTON.—On Tuesday, February 26th, at All Saints' church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. R. Thomas (first 720 as conductor), 1; C. Hall, 2; C. Greening, 3; J. Thomas, 4; A. Layton, 5; C. Layton, 6. On Sunday, March 17th, 360 Bob Minor. H. Jeans, 1; J. Thomas, 1; C. Greening, 3; A. Layton, 4; D. Greening, 5; C. Layton (conductor), 6. This is the first touch of Bob Minor by all, and the first on the bells.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HORSHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday, March 24th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 48 mins. W. Twigg, 1; H. Burstow, 2; W. Wadey, 3; G. Rapley, 4; T. Andrews, 5; W. Short, 6; H. H. Chandler (conductor), 7; T. Hogsflesh, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, March 25th, at the house of Mr. A. J. Perkins, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 36 mins. M. L. Myhill, 1-2; W. Nash, 3-4; A. J. Perkins (composer and conductor), 5-6; W. Pegrum, 7-8. Also 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), in 18 mins. M. L. Myhill, 1-2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3-4; W. Nash, 5-6.

RAYLEIGH (Essex).—On Friday, March 22nd, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. C. Strugnell, 1; H. Deal, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. Strugnell, 4; H. Brewer, 5; F. Haslam (conductor), 6. And on Sunday evening, March 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor. C. Strugnell, 1; H. Deal, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. Haslam, 4; F. Brewer, 5; F. Strugnell (conductor), 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

WINSHILL.—On Saturday, March 23rd, at St. Mark's church, 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Rice, 1; J. Woodward, 2; L. Bullock, 3; F. Shepherd, 4; W. Smith (conductor), 5; C. Golder, 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor, with W. Wyld, 2; R. W. Logie, 6; the rest standing as above.

SANDIACRE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, March 16th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). R. Hexter, 1; J. Hall, 2; W. Hexter, 3; J. Bonsall, 4; R. T. Parkins, 5; H. W. Wilde (conductor), 6. R. and W. Hexter hail from Long Eaton, and it is their first 720 of Minor. Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHURCHAM (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, March 26th, at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 27 mins. F. Marshall, 1; A. Webb, 2; J. Stephens, 3; J. H. Brawn (conductor), 4; R. Gardner, 5; J. Ashmead, 6. Tenor about 15 cwt. This is the first 720 by all except the conductor. F. Marshall and J. H. Brawn hail from Huntley.

EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FRIESTON.—On Tuesday, March 19th, for practice at St. James's church, and also in honour of the birthday of A. Barber, a quarter-peal (1260 changes), of Grandsire, Bob Doubles, and Hudibras. G. Harison, 1; A. Barber, 2; E. Clayton, 3; Jos. Sharp, 4; J. Sharp (conductor), 5. Tenor 21 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Sunday evening, March 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. P. Taffs, 1; W. Preston, 2; *W. Haigh (conductor), 3; G. Lindoff, 4; W. Cooke, 5; J. Baker, 6; W. Evans, 7; A. Hore, 8. *First quarter-peal as conductor.

BEIGHTON (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, March 16th, the Norton company paid a visit to this place and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. G. Oates, 1; G. Butcher, 2; J. Gaucher, 3; J. Atkin (conductor), 4; W. Biggin, 5; J. Allen, 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Butcher, 1; H. Banks (Beighton), 2; J. Gaucher, 3; J. Atkin, 4; W. Biggin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6.

BENINGTON (Herts).—On Tuesday, March 26th, for practice, 672 of London Surprise, and 448 of Cambridge Surprise. W. Hobbs, 1; John Kitchener, 2; Joseph Kitchener, 3; L. Chapman, 4; H. Baker, J. Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; S. Page (conductor), 8.

COLCHESTER (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, March 12th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Scott, 1; J. Kettle, 2; J. Ascott, 3; D. W. Scott, 4; G. Dent, 5; J. W. Truth (conductor), 6. First 720 on tower bells by Nos. 2, 3, and 5. Tenor 20½ cwt.

CHESTER.—On Sunday evening, March 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, three 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. Wm. Povey, 1; Hy. Gibson, 2; W. Cross, 3; A. Cross, 4; J. Moulton (conductor), 5; R. Leasham, 6.

DARLINGTON.—On Friday, March 22nd, at St. Cuthbert's church, the St. John's ringers rang 2688 changes of Bob Major, in 1 hr. and 40 mins. W. Allen, 1; G. Park, 2; J. Little, 3; W. Lister, 4; J. K. Whitfield, 5; J. H. Whitfield, 6; R. Moncaster, 7; G. A. Overton (conductor), 8.

DARTFORD (Kent).—On Sunday evening, March 24th, for confirmation service at Holy Trinity church, 559 of Grandsire Triples. E. Everson, 1; J. Upton, 2; E. W. Snowden, 3; F. J. French (conductor), 4; H. J. Castle, 5; J. Blackman, 6; E. Everson, 7; W. Draper, 8. *Handbell Ringing*.—Several courses and touches of Grandsire Triples. J. Upton, 1-2; J. Blackman, 3-4; H. J. Castle, 5-6; F. French, 7-8.

FOLKESTONE (Kent).—On Friday, March 15th, at the parish church with the bells deeply muffled, 1003 Grandsire Triples, on the occasion of the funeral of the late Earl of Radnor. J. Croucher, 1; F. Finn, 2; J. Fisher, 3; E. Tucker, 4; H. Croucher, 5; S. Barker (conductor), 6; F. Slingsby, 7; E. Hadlow, 8. And several short touches, with the bells half-muffled.

GRIMSBY (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, March 18th, at the church of St. James, 720 Grandsire Minor in 29½ mins, with 7-8 covering. H. Fuller, 1; A. Bramall, 2; H. Wood, 3; W. H. Heyhoe, 4; G. Weldon, 5; D. Seamer (conductor), 6; J. Lamb, 7; C. Chapman, 8. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late C. Bennett, of Hull, who was a life member of the North Lincolnshire Association. First 720 with a bob bell by H. Wood.

HADLEIGH (Suffolk).—*Chiming*.—On Sunday afternoon, March 24th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Everett (conductor), 1-2; W. Betts (first 720), 3; G. Bateman, 4; E. Willis (first 720), 5; J. Scowen, 6.

HINDLEY (Lancashire).—On Wednesday evening, March 20th, at St. Peter's church, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes), with the bells muffled at handstroke as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Unsworth, of the Balmoral Brewery, Hindley, in 1 hr. 31 mins. J. Prescott, 1; E. Brown, 2; J. Brown, 3; T. Tickle, 4; E. Prescott, 5; S. Hall (Wigan), 6; E. Bentham (Wigan), 7; George Long, 8. Conducted by Joseph Prescott. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr.

HISTON (Cambs).—On Saturday, March 9th, at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). J. Taylor, 1; S. Brown, 2; E. Andrews, jun., 3; E. Andrews, sen., 4; H. Mansfield, 5; G. Taylor (conductor), 6. Also a 6-score each of Grandsire, Stedman, and New Doubles.

HATFIELD (Herts).—On Sunday, March 17th, for evening service 392 of Grandsire Triples. F. Stocks, 1; W. J. Rumney, 2; J. Hollingsworth, 3; J. Shepherd, 4; *H. G. Rowe (conductor), 5; J. Kentish, 6; T. Gathard, 7; G. Smith, 8. Also 111 with W. Powers, 3; the rest as before. And on Monday, March 18th, at the house of Mr. J. Kentish, on handbells retained in hand, 120 and 180 of Bob Minor. G. Smith, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. Hollingsworth, 3; W. Powers, 4; *H. G. Rowe (conductor), 5-6. Also on Thursday, March 21st, 720 of Bob Minor. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; *H. G. Rowe (conductor), 5-6. First 720 by the local company. *First 720 as conductor.

LLANGOLLEN (North Wales).—On Monday, March 18th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 25 mins. J. Evans, 1; T. Williams, 2; D. E. Evans, 3; J. Davies, 4; J. W. Davies, 5; R. D. Horsepool, 6; T. Davies (conductor), 7; R. Maxwell, 8. The above was rung in honour of T. Davies' 20th birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day. It is also his first attempt at calling.

LONDON.—On Sunday morning, March 17th, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. T. Barmardin, 1; E. Wallage (conductor), 2; J. Carmichael, 3; J. Barry, 4; S. Parmenter (longest touch in the method), 5; E. Hall, 6; S. E. Joyce, 7; P. Gaymer, 8. Composed by H. Johnson, of Birmingham.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Saturday, March 2nd, at Christ Church, by the Wimbledon band, 720 Superlative Surprise, and 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. G. Hyde, 1; *R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; W. Cooley, 4; *A. Garrott, 5; *S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also 240 Grandsire Minor, one of the local men ringing the 2nd, the rest as before. This is the first 720 of Superlative on the bells. *Members of the Surrey Association.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, March 26th, at the parish church, the St. Michael's Society rang a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 28 mins., with 7-8 covering. J. R. Wood, 1; Hy. Hollingworth, 2; J. W. Warren, 3; G. A. Fish, 4; J. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunncliffe (conductor), 6; M. E. Fryer, 7; J. Bartram, 8. The above was rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. F. W. Cook, a member of the above society, to Miss E. Jenkins, which took place at St. Mary's, Cardiff on that date. All are members of the Midland Counties' Association except J. Bartram who rang the tenor.

MOSSLEY (Lancashire).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Wednesday, March 20th, the local amateur society rang at their meeting-house, Stamford Street, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 23 mins. J. Greaves, 1; F. Rhodes, 2; J. Holden, 3; *H. Mayall (conductor), 4; T. B. Dicken, 5; †H. Manns, 6. *First 720 as conductor. †First 720.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, March 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Duke of York Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Wood (conductor), 4; J. W. Brough, 5; W. Baddeley, 6.

OLD HILL (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, March 14th, at Holy Trinity church, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Green, 1; G. B. Raybould, 2; H. Cartwright, 3; C. Beasley, 4; R. Bird, 5; H. Mason (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, March 21st, 720 of Oxford Single Bob in 30 mins. G. B. Raybould, 1; J. Palmer, 2; H. Cartwright, 3; H. Mason, 4; R. Bird, 5; A. E. Parsons (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. C. Beasley hails from Cradley.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Friday, March 22nd, 1260 of Grandsire Triples. W. S. Wise (conductor), 1-2; W. W. Gifford, 3-4; A. W. Barkus, 5-6; A. J. Callaway, 7-8. Also on Sunday, March 24th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, 1260 in the same method. W. M. Lush, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; J. Hallett, 8.

STAPLETON (near Bristol).—On Sunday, March 11th, after evening service, 720 Treble Bob Minor. S. Phillips, 1; J. Bawn, 2; G. Colston, 3; A. Bawn, 4; G. Guy, 5; J. Hinton (conductor), 6. Also another 720 in the same method. J. Hinton, 1; A. Pike, 2; C. Trevett, 3; F. Elles, 4; W. Emery, 5; C. Burden (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, March 17th, 720 Grandsire Minor. C. Burden, 1; A. Bawn, 2; C. Gordon, 3; W. Tiler, 4; J. Bawn, 5; C. Trevett (first 720 as conductor), 6. Messrs. Phillips, Hinton, Elles, Burden, Emery, Colston and Trevett hail from Bristol; the rest belong to the local company.

TAUNTON (Somersetshire).—On Saturday, March 23rd, in St. Mary's belfry, on handbells, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. W. Dart, 1; C. E. May, 2; G. E. Harbour, 3; J. Summerhayes, 4; J. Burge, 5; J. Maddock, 6; T. Doble (conductor), 7-8. Also 350 in the same method. G. E. Harbour, 1; C. E. May, 2; T. Doble, 3; J. Maddock, 4; J. Burge, 5; J. Summerhayes, 6; T. Radford (conductor), 7-8.

TILEHURST (Berks).—On Sunday, February 9th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples' 1260 changes. B. White, 1; W. Holloway, 2; F. Tarrant, 3; J. M. Routh, Esq., 4; C. Chapman, 5; J. Hibbert, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor) 7; W. Goseltine, 8. Also on Monday, February 10th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. F. Hopgood, 1; J. Swain, 2; F. Tarrant, 3; J. Day, 4; H. Goodger, 5; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 6; C. Chapman, 7; H. Smith, 8. And on Friday, February 14th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. C. Smith, 1; J. Hands, 2; J. Swain, 3; C. Chapman, 4; F. Hopgood, 5; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 6; J. M. Routh, Esq., 7; H. Pounds, 8.

WARWICK.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Monday, March 25th, 144 of Bob Minor. B. Jealous, 1-2; J. Hardy, 3-4-5-6. And 240 of Grandsire Doubles. B. Jealous (conductor), 1-2; J. Hardy, 3-4; E. Brassington, 5-6. Also 120 of Stedman by the same.

Review.

[By SCRUTATOR.]

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE-RINGERS: SIXTH REPORT. — ("THE BELL NEWS" Office). This is a neatly printed and creditably arranged production of twenty-four pages. In it we are told that "since the last report was issued, a very satisfactory number of new members has been elected, bringing the roll of the Association up to the good total of 204." Financially:—"The funds of the Association are in a flourishing condition." Scientifically:—"Twenty-seven peals have been rung during the year; and this number, showing an increase of no less than thirteen, includes two additional methods. The six-bell ringers have also added another peal in seven Minor methods to the Association's record. In addition, it is worth notice, that the peals rung were generally of a higher average of merit than those reported in previous years." So that, taking these things altogether, the Committee have good cause for congratulating the members "on a successful year's work." The list of officers, I am glad to observe, is both influential and representative. But how is it they have neither Vice-President nor Chairman? The Archbishop is certainly President, but as a matter of necessity, his position must be more of a honorary than an active nature. This list, therefore, appears to me incomplete through not containing an active working officer, one whose duty it is to exercise a constant supervision over the affairs of the Association, and to preside over all meetings except on those happy occasions when the Archbishop is amongst them. Then in the arrangement of the pages, why do they place the list of officers at the commencement and the members' names at the end? If the positions of the pages containing these and that on which is a statement of the "Times of practice at Churches in Union" (a very useful page by the way) were reversed, I think the appearance of the report would be improved. Turning to the Rules, I have been pleased of late to observe the more general adoption amongst us of their first one, which states clearly what are the objects of our Associations. In earlier days some of us were too prone to forget this prefatory but highly-important portion of our rules. The remainder of these rules are framed, of course, to suit the peculiar circumstances of their own district, but how is it that no qualification is specified before a man can be elected a ringing member? It seems to me much of an anomaly for an "Association of Change-Ringers" to include members within its ranks before they have proved their claim to the title of change-ringers. But, passing over these little points, the report is, taking it altogether, a good one; it should be the means of adding fresh energy to both officers and members, and inspiring them with encouragement and hopes for the future.

I must not forget to notice the uniform manner in which the peals are arranged in this report, and the general excellence of the printing throughout.

OVERTON, FRODSHAM.

A month ago the first 6-score ever rung on the Frodsam parish church bells by a local band of ringers was accomplished. The bells are a fine ring of six, and were rehung by Messrs. Warner & Sons, of London, on the occasion of the restoration of the tower about two years ago, and provision was then made for two more bells. On the formation of the Chester Diocesan Guild of change ringers, members of the existing band, and other amateur hands who knew not how to handle a bell at all, were induced to join the Guild. Things went on very unsatisfactorily, owing to the objections of some of the Old Churchyard Bob ringers—or worse than that, *Bob Singles from cards*—who considered we were encroaching on their privileges, until September of last year, when we formed ourselves into a local society, of which I was appointed Master, but without any practical knowledge of change-ringing. Well, on December of last year we commenced handbell practising, I having in the meantime arranged with the instructor of a neighbouring parish church (Runcorn) to give us our first lesson, which he very kindly did gratis—an act which we are not likely to forget, since that time we have been left entirely to ourselves, resulting as before stated. Mr. Hoxworth some little time ago invited us to his tower, of which kind offer we availed ourselves on Saturday last, when we accomplished in very fair style three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, but on trying to proceed further met with disaster. This long yarn no doubt is very amusing to you to record three 6-scores, but I must confess that both myself and band are very highly pleased, and consider it a very great feat—the first band that ever accomplished a peal in a tower 500 years old.

If you will kindly publish (in your own condensed way) this in your next issue you will greatly oblige. We wish to take this opportunity, through your valuable paper, of thanking the Vicar of Runcorn for kindly placing his bells at our disposal.

GEO. RIGBY.

P.S.—Mr. Hoxworth is the master at Runcorn parish church, where our ringing was done on Saturday last. The following is the order:—G. Rigby (conductor), 1; G. Aston, 2; W. Forster, 3; R. Forster, 4; S. Faulkner, 5; J. Faulkner, 6.

CHADDESLEY CORBETT, WORCESTERSHIRE.

BURIAL OF THE PARISH CLERK.—A large number of villagers gathered in the churchyard on Monday afternoon week to witness the burial of Mr. William Marriott Broad, who had been for nearly forty years the parish clerk in succession to his father, who held the office for over fifty years. Mr. Broad was the head of a family much respected in the neighbourhood, and had only given up his post when compelled by declining health a couple or three years ago. On Tuesday night the previous week, when crossing his sitting-room to partake of supper, he suddenly fell, and expired from inaction of the heart, according to medical testimony. He had been long one of the ringers and a member of the choir, and muffled peals were rung at intervals during the week by members of the local society. The coffin, adorned by wreaths, was borne into the church by Mr. Horne, Mr. Law, Mr. Perrins, Mr. Pratt, and other old friends, and followed by his daughter and five sons. The procession was met by the surpliced choir and the curate-in-charge, the Rev. J. Kirby; the group entering the church singing he hymn, "Jesus lives; no longer now," with organ accompaniment, passing out to the grave while giving another hymn, "The Saints of God their conflict past." The last hymn was that beginning "Christ will gather in his own," and was sung at the graveside, accompanied on the harmonium by the organist. Muffled peals were rung after the service. Mr. Broad was in his 77th year.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

Members are requested to attend the meeting on April 1st, 1889, when important business will be before the meeting.

G. T. McLAUGHLAN, 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

"FORWARD;"

A New Method for an Even Number of Bells.

By JOHN CARTER.

In last week's issue I see that Mr. H. W. Wilde, Sandiacre, has sent two peals of Forward Minor, which however, are both false. I must inform the Exercise that very great care must be taken in proving Minor, especially when the tenor is making places, and the Major peals that I have received are also false. I will now give a few of the most musical compositions I have.

The following peal is a one-part composition, the 2nd and 3rd being never in 6ths place at a course-end.

5000.

Continued— H I B O F

123456	H I B O F	345621	--
241635	-	534621	-
124635	-	413526	-
642135	-	341526	-
264135	-	134526	-
426135	-	543126	-
162435	-	354126	-
216435	-	145326	-
461235	-	514326	-
146235	-	241356	-
364215	-	314256	-
436215	-	431256	-
263415	-	213456	-
326415	-	321456	-
632415	-	132456	-
423615	-	423156	-
342615	-	342156	-
624315	-	234156	-
462315	-	143256	-

Last 9 Courses twice repeated produce: 2nd 9 courses three times repeated produce:

231465	H I B O F	251436	H I B O F
613425	-	165234	-
361425	-	256134	-
416325	-	625134	-
641325	-	562134	-
164325	-	126534	-
346125	-	612534	-
634125	-	521634	-
453621	-	152634	-

2nd 9 Courses twice repeated produce: 2nd 9 courses four times repeated produce:

362451	526431	652431	425631	542631	254631	123456
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

A foolish writer in a Leeds newspaper observes "a truly terrible announcement to the effect that a new set of chimes consisting of thirteen bells has been presented by some enthusiastic idiots to the parish church of that town, and that they were formerly 'opened' last Saturday by Canon Jayne. I suppose this means that the instruments of torture were declared to be in working order. These dreadful bells have been arranged to play seven tunes, and according to my contemporary, these melodies will be played consecutively four times a day at six, nine, twelve, and three o'clock!"

The following two peals are in five equal parts, and never in 6ths place at a course-end.

5000.	5000.
123456	123456
241635	462513
124635	246513
412635	-
621435	164523
162435	546123
216435	654123
461235	465123
146235	156423
264135	615423
426135	561423
642135	-
324165	216453
432165	621453
123465	412653
312465	241653
421365	124653
142365	642153
214365	264153
-	146253
-	614253

Last 7 courses twice repeated produce: Repeating the last 9 courses produce:

Whole four times repeated.	142563	H I B O
564213	-	-
456213	-	-
645213	-	-
254613	-	-
425613	-	-

Whole four times repeated. The following peal is in three parts, and contains only the 4th, 5th, and 6th in 6ths place at a course-end, and never has two calls together throughout:

5088.	5088.
123456	123456
365214	523614
251634	631254
613524	215364
532164	356124
126354	162534
625314	263514
521364	531624
316254	612354
265134	325164
153624	156234
352614	653214
621534	351264
513264	216534
236154	563124
165324	132654
562314	235614
321654	651324
615234	152324
253164	256314
136524	361524
632514	512634
231564	623154
516324	135264
362154	536214
125634	261354
-	315624
-	652134
-	123564

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By HENRY J. TUCKER, Bishops Stortford.

5056.	W B H
2 3 4 5 6	
5 2 3 6 4	I I I
3 5 2 6 4	I
2 3 5 6 4	I
5 6 2 3 4	I I
2 5 6 3 4	I
6 3 2 5 4	I I
2 6 3 5 4	I
3 2 6 5 4	I
5 3 2 4 6	I I I
2 5 3 4 6	I
3 2 5 4 6	I

Three times repeated, with a single at the end of 2nd and 4th part ends. It contains the 4th and 5th each twelve times wrong, and sixteen times right, and the 6th twelve times wrong, and twelve times right. First rung by the Essex Association, at St. Michael's church, Bishops Stortford, Herts, on December 31st, 1888. Conducted by its composer.

A DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By JNO. T. HOLLIS, Wakefield.

1889.

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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

In this touch the 6th is the extent behind the 9th.

A DATE TOUCH OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By A. SYKES, Huddersfield.

1889.

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Odd change.

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

Correspondence.

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

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

FESTIVALS AND PEAL-RINGING DURING LENT.

SIR,—“Looker-on” in his short but to the point epistle has revived a question which to those whom it concerns will prove a knotty one to answer. I remember that in my first tower it was the rule in accordance with the instructions of the vicar—now ex-dean of Winchester—to abstain from practice upon the tower bells during Lent. By the inquisitive inhabitants the vicar was regarded as favouring the High Church party of that day, but which in the present would be considered “broad.” Since that time there has been a gradual revival of the services in the church and the clergy; nine out of every ten are now striving their utmost to bring back the masses into the pale of the church, where they are taught in accordance with the principles of the Prayer-book to observe Lent as a fast. It is not a question of Low, Broad, or High Church views, it is all but universal, there only remaining a few benighted villages where true Church life has not revived; these happily are year by year gradually decreasing. Ringing Associations have sprung into existence under the plea that there is a need of belfry reform, looking at it from a true Church point of view, the cry is a false one with those who indulge in ringing festivals or peal-ringing during the season of Lent, for their belfry reform is but skin deep. Peals are rung either for pleasure, or as a proof of skill in the science of change-ringing. The Church has anciently observed the season of Lent as a solemn one in which she teaches her children to abstain from the pleasures of the world, and

above all to fast from sins of fashion. Thus observed it has proved a means of comfort to multitudes of souls “gone before,” and many still with us. Ringers as a body claim to be church workers, how can they expect to be recognised as such while they themselves ignore the teaching of the Church, and indulge in the discreditable practice of peal-ringing during its most holy season?

A MEMBER OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

“SCRUTATOR” AND THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD REPORT.

SIR,—In his review of the above report “Scrutator” says that out of the number of peals rung last year “fourteen were Grandsire Triples.” This is wrong, as one was Stedman Triples. With regard to what he says about the “displayed titles” and “elaborate borderings” to the peals in the report, I beg to say that I (not the printer) am responsible for these. I made a special request that the more important peals should be surrounded by a border, and that the titles of all should be displayed. I am sorry also to say that what he says about the small number of change-ringers among our 286 ringing members is quite true. In fact, many of our members are, and have no intention of ever being anything else, but round-ringers.

J. R. JERRAM, Gen. Sec. S.D.R.G.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—In your peal column of the 23rd March you erroneously state that a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at “the parish church,” Staunton Harold, Leicestershire. I purposely omitted any mention of a church because I should have been in error had I done so. The bells, as I stated last week, are hung in the private chapel of the Right Hon. Earl Ferrers.

WALTER CANNER.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.

Extracts from the FORTIETH ANNUAL REPORT. Year ending 31st December, 1888.

ORDINARY BRANCH. The number of Policies issued during the year was 42,475, assuring the sum of £4,399,769, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of £235,487.

The Premiums received during the year were £718,848, being an increase of £183,717 over the year 1887.

The Claims of the year amounted to £210,056. The number of Policies in force was 146,966.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The Premiums received during the year were £3,256,346, being an increase of £197,845.

The claims of the year amounted to £1,231,186. The number of Deaths was 142,751.

The expenses are one-and-a-quarter per cent. lower than those of the previous year.

It is a source of much satisfaction to the Directors to be able to state that their efforts to promote the stability of Industrial Policies continue to be most successful, for, notwithstanding the enormous increase in this Branch during the past two years, the average duration of the 8,063,293 policies in force on 31st December last is now no less than six years.

Upwards of 40,000 Free Policies have been granted during the year to those Policy-holders of five years' standing who have desired to discontinue their payments.

The total assets of the Company have been raised during the year from £7,867,103 to £9,302,007, being an increase of £1,434,904.

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET OF THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1888.

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.
Shareholders' Capital	200,000	0	0
Ordinary Branch Funds	2,819,098	3	6
Industrial Branch Fund	6,272,560	7	5
Claims under Life Policies admitted	10,348	5	11

£9,302,006 16 10

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.
British Government Securities (Consols)	1,188,063	15	5
Railway and other Debentures	1,573,354	19	7
Loans on Municipal and other Rates	1,705,279	1	6
Freehold Ground Rents and Scotch Feu Duties	1,757,087	14	9
Metropolitan Board of Works Stock and City of London Bonds	160,568	10	0
Bank of England Stock	44,301	16	10
Freehold and Leasehold Property	704,436	15	11
Indian, Colonial, and Foreign Government Securities	625,089	0	6
Reversions	125,316	7	4
Railway and other Shares	17,794	4	1
Mortgages	853,796	19	3
Loans on the Company's Policies	72,244	14	0
Furniture and Fittings	17,500	0	0
Loans upon Personal Security	705	0	0
Outstanding Premiums	263,819	2	2
Cash in hands of Superintendents and Agents' Balances	37,623	16	10
Outstanding Interest and Rents	74,158	0	3
Cash—On deposit, on current accounts, and in hand	80,861	18	5

£9,302,006 16 10

THOS. C. DEWEY,
WILLIAM HUGHES, } Managers.
W. J. LANCASTER, Secretary.

EDGAR HORNE, Chairman.
HENRY HARBEN,
PATRICK FRASER, } Directors.

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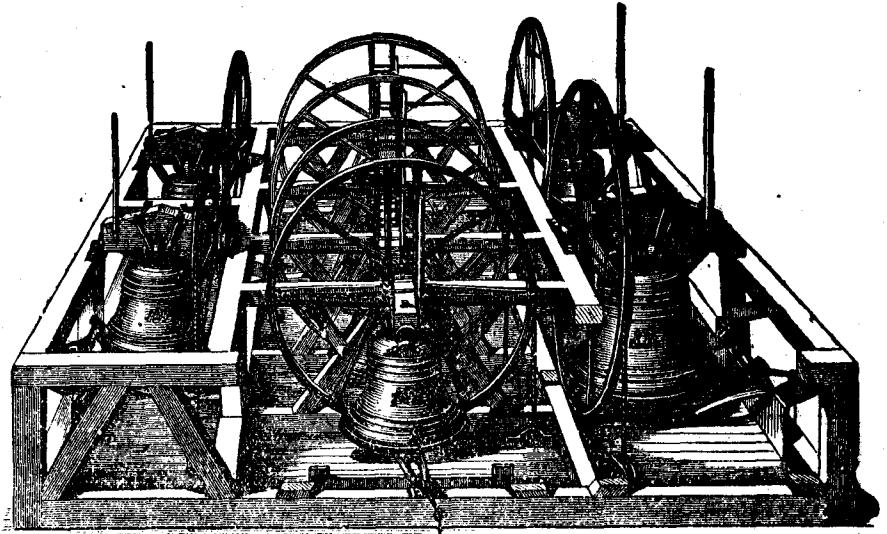
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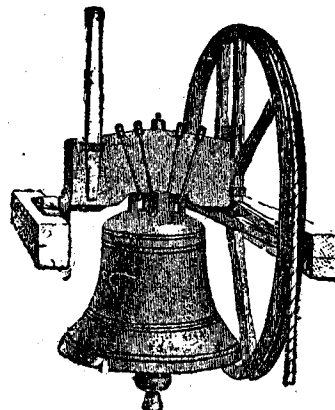
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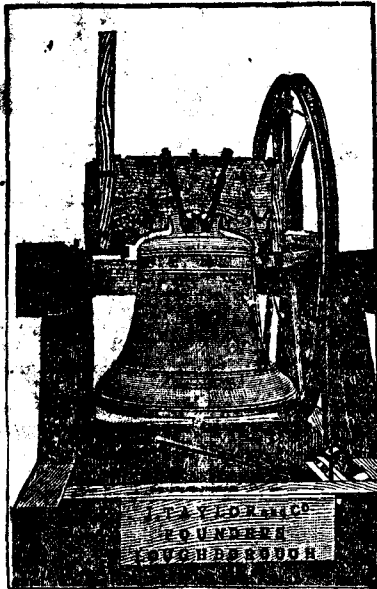
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