

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 769.—VOL. XV.]

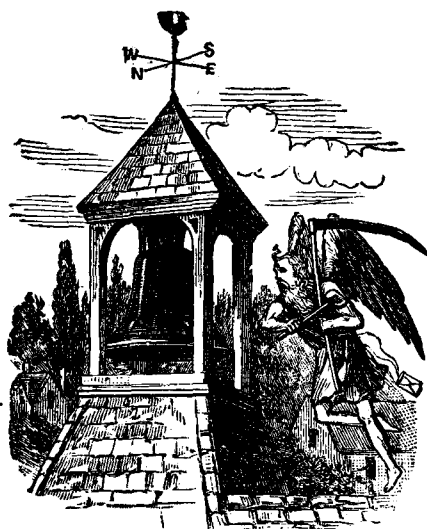
SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1897.

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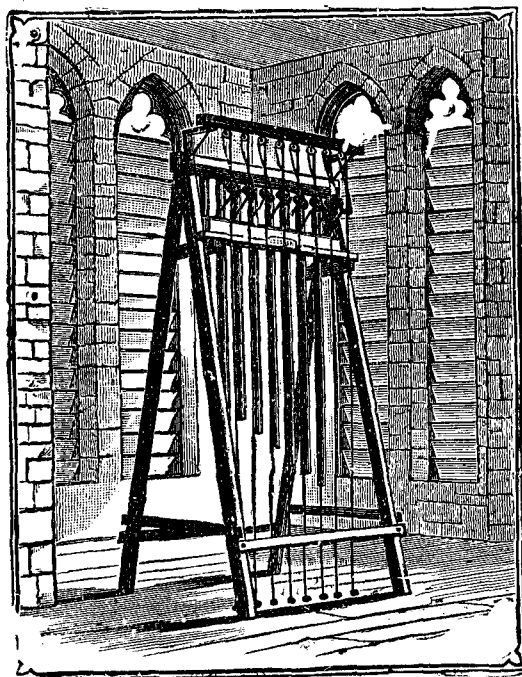
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Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule
Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, The
Bellringer's Glee, The Star-Spangled Banner, Wait till the
Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

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| No. 309.—"The Angels' Whisper," and "The Maid of Llangollen." | 1 | 6 |
| No. 319.—"Hark the Bonny Christ Church Bells," (for 6 ringers with thirteen bells
thus: C D E F G A B C D E F G A | 1 | 6 |
| No. 320.—"The Mountaineers' Waltz on Swiss Melodies." | 1 | 6 |
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| Both arranged for 6 ringers with two octaves in the chromatic scale—D 21 to D 7. | | |
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SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1897.

[Vol. XV.]

THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL, FAREHAM, HANTS.

[Vide Photograph.]

A great deal of interest has recently been shown anent the history of Fareham, and it has acted as an incentive to an old and valued contributor to have something of this interest portrayed in "THE BELL NEWS." We have yielded, therefore, to his request to issue a photographic view of Fareham Church, which is not an unimportant centre of the Sussex County Association, enjoying the advantage of a most worthy steeple-keeper, who is at the same time an ardent change-ringer—Mr. C. PRIVETT, and whose facial lineaments at some time we hope to portray. The contributor already mentioned, sends us the following account of the church and bells, the greater part of which has recently appeared in the *Southern Daily Mail*. If the photograph is any criterion the edifice does not, to an ordinary layman, seem to boast much in the way of architecture, but it has several features which will repay the visitor, whether he is a ringer or not. Without any further preamble we may enter upon the brief description of the church.

"We may take it for granted that the chancel of the parish church of SS. Peter and Paul is the oldest building in Fareham, and, in fact, the only structure possessing any special interest for the antiquary. The church was one of the places mentioned in the list prepared for William the Conqueror's Domesday Book; how much, if any, of the original fabric remains is a moot question, upon which archæologists agree to differ. Some profess to see Norman and even Saxon work in the old chancel, and the probability is that the most ancient portion dates to the eleventh century. What the original church was like we can only conjecture from the appearance of the chancel, which still bears traces of Norman workmanship, and a great arch of the Transitional period. Early English alterations, and improvements in the time that the Perpendicular style predominated, have been introduced; ancient windows were cut away to provide new doorways, and everything was sacrificed to suit the ideas of the Tudor architects. The changing chances of time have laid a severe hand on the church, and the old nave and tower have entirely disappeared. The present tower—severely Georgian in style—was built in 1742, and the peal of six bells (quite recently increased to the complete octave) bear indelible records of the same period. Five of them have the date 1742, while the tenor was added immediately after the abortive Jacobite Rebellion in 1745, their inscriptions being as under:—

3rd: Te Deum Laudamus.

4th: Mr. Daniel Lavington, and Mr. John Merit, church-wardens.

5th: Joshua Kipling, Portsmouth, Fecit.

6th: Soli Deo Gloria.

7th: Cantate Domino Canticum Novum.

8th: Voco Veni Precare, 1745.

The tenor also bears the following significant and quaint inscription:—

In vain the Rebls strive to gain Renown
Over our Church, the Laws, the King, and Crowne.
In vain the bold ingrattfull Rebls aim

To overturn when you support the same,
Then may great George our King live for to see,
The rebllious crew hang on the gallows tree.

The nave of the church, an ugly structure of red brick in the "square" style of the third George, was re-built in 1812, and consecrated two years later; a scheme of reconstruction has occupied attention for some few years past, and it is hoped that it may eventually be completed. Part of it has been happily accomplished in the addition of the new chancel, which, though it necessitated the disappearance of the last vestige of the rood screen (which formed a panelling at the back of the altar), is the first step towards the ideal of a noble church, befitting a town of the size and importance of Fareham. One old relic—a punning epitaph—of two hundred and sixty years since, is worth preserving. It is found on a tombstone forming part of the paving of the old chancel, and runs as follows:—

AN EPITAPH.

On the truly worthy Emmanvel Bad Esquire.

Reader knowst thow who loges here
Ile tell thee. When I have I feare
Thovlt scarce beleeve me tis goode Bad
Noe contradiction neither I have had
The triall of this truth and on this stone
Engrave this wish now hee is gone
Soe good a Bad doth this same grave contain
Would all like Bad were that with vs remaine
Here deceased August
The xviii, 1632."

We confess to hoping "that the ideal of a noble church, befitting a town of the size and importance of Fareham," may very soon be realised.

THE HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the above Association was held at Stainland, on Saturday, December 12th, and was attended by a good muster of ringers, in spite of the unfavourable atmospheric conditions; representatives being present from Lightcliffe Church; Lightcliffe Chapel; Brighouse; Haley Hill, Halifax; Sowerby; Heptonstall and Stainland. During the course of the afternoon various touches were rung on the ring of six bells (tenor 12 cwt.), which, together with a room in the Sunday School, were kindly placed at members' disposal by the Vicar, who also visited the belfry during the afternoon. Tea was partaken of in the school at 5.0 p.m., and a business meeting was held immediately afterwards, Mr. F. Prince, the president, in the chair. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Mytholmroyd, on Saturday March 13th. A vote of thanks to the Vicar of Stainland and the local society, and another to the chair, concluded the business. The remainder of the evening was spent in ringing and in harmony.

F. P. P.

TO MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION—GREETING!

E. J. DENNES (hon. secretary) wishes all members "A very Happy New Year, with prosperity and good health." He thanks them most heartily for their kind help and assistance in the past, and trusts that all will continue to work together for the credit of their respective belfries and the good name of the Association.

"Ring in the love of truth and right,
Ring in the common love of good."—Tennyson.



THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER & PAUL, FAREHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

[*Supplement to "THE BELL NEWS."*]

THE HEAVY WOOLLEN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The December Meeting of the above was held at Liversedge, on Saturday, December 19th, members being present from Dewsbury, Earlsheaton, Batley Carr, Mirfield, Liversedge and other places. The meeting for business took place at the Victoria Tavern, Mr. John Blackburn, Vice-president, presiding. The minutes of the last meeting being confirmed, Mr. G. H. Hardy proposed, and Mr. Charles Senior seconded, the acceptance of four new members from Armitage Bridge, which was carried. It was also resolved to hold the yearly meeting at The Little Saddle inn, Dewsbury, on the 3rd Saturday in January, and also to issue a printed balance sheet of the society. No other business being on hand the bells of the church where rung during the evening, as were also the handbells, which brought a successful meeting to a close; thanks being due to the landlord for his kind hospitality, and also to the Vicar for the use of the bells.

NORTON, DERBYSHIRE.

The Restoration of Norton church bells, appropriately assumed the form of a memorial to the late Francis Westby Bagshawe, Esq., J.P. D.L., whose life-long public services to his native county and parish will be fittingly commemorated by the complete renovation of the old ring of bells which he at all times loved to hear, and whose call to Divine Worship he so devoutly and consistently obeyed.

The Bell Committee held their first meeting on August 27th, when it was decided to accept the contract of Messrs. Taylor and Co., Loughborough. The old bells were removed to Loughborough for re-casting on Sept. 25th; the tenor bell weighing 10 cwt. bore this inscription:—

This peal re-cast 1810
Isaac Shepherd 20 guineas

Sir William Bagshawe 20 guineas
Barton-on-Humber founder.

The other five bells had only the date "1816" inscribed upon them. Before their removal the bells were photographed by the Vicar, the Rev. G. W. Hall. The local ringers each received a copy, together with the following verses written by the Vicar:—

THE LAST PEAL.

The bells rang out a joyous peal,
Their loudest and their last,
Ere they were taken from the tower
And in the furnace cast;
Across the meadows, far and wide,
O'er distant moor and fell,
Their music bore the glad refrain
Of Hope, and not Farewell.

A hundred years of service past,
Those bells could now unfold,
Of, now, a blithesome wedding-
peal,
And, now, a death-knell toll'd;
Of, now, a mighty victory won,
By land or stormy sea;
Of twice a "longest reign" declar'd,
And twice a "Jubilee."

While yet the silent stars were out,
Their voice, on Christmas morn,
Proclaim'd to all the country-side,
The Prince of Peace was born;
The Old Year out, the New Year
in,
They never failed to tell,

At Easter, too, and Whitsuntide,
And Saint-day Festival.

Those tuneful bells shall ring no
more;
The old familiar strain,
Which some have heard from
childhood's years,
Shall not be heard again;
A century's changes they have rung
In Duty's sweet employ;
And now their own last change
has come,
They end their course with joy.

Last words, last looks, of parting
love,
Await us, one and all,
When we shall quit this mortal
frame,
At the great Founder's call;
May our enraptur'd spirits, then,
God's praise and glory tell,
And like those bells, exultant,
speak
Of Joy, and not Farewell.

At a meeting held October 26th, it was decided to complete the octave by the addition of two new bells. On November 19th, the Vicar witnessed the breaking up of the old bells and the re-casting. In a few days Messrs. Taylor wrote that the bells had turned out a fine peal; and after going through an entirely new process of tuning, no time was lost in dispatching the bells and framework to Norton, arriving safe and sound on December 14th. On Wednesday, the 23rd, everything was ready for a trial, and the local company with the assistance of some Sheffield friends rang a 704 of Kent Treble Bob Major: T. Dixon, 1; J. Mulligan, 2; E. James, 3; S. Smith, 4; J. Atkin,

5; T. Hattersley, 6; G. Holmes, 7; W. Biggin, 8; tenor 16 cwt. Mr. E. Denison Taylor also took part in a touch of Grandsire Triples.

The bells were dedicated on December 25th, during the morning service. The Rev. G. W. Hall, Vicar, assisted by the Rev. V. Odom, Curate, standing near the belfry, said: "By authority of the Bishop of the Diocese committed to me, I solemnly set apart from all profane uses and dedicate these bells to the Glory of God and to His Service in this His House."

After which the local company rang a few rounds on the bells, which was followed by a hymn, written by the Rev. G. W. Hall for the occasion:—

Glad music fills the air to-day,
Around this holy fane,
And echoes to the hills away
The oft-repeated strain;
Ring out, ring out the message
clear,
That God incarnate dwells!
Convey the tidings, far and near,
Sweet Christmas Bells!

The Bells are given to the Lord,
In all their strength renew'd;
God's Benediction is out-pour'd
To bless them for our good;
Ring out, ring out the message
clear,

That God incarnate dwells!
Convey the tidings, far and
near,
Ye hallow'd Bells!

The Herald Angels, from above,
Take up the old refrain,
And gentle spirits whom we love,
Shall hear it once again;
Ring out, ring out the message
clear,

That God incarnate dwells!
Convey the tidings, far and near,
Memorial Bells!

New birth, new life, those Bells
proclaim,
As, on this blessed morn,
Each heart becomes a Bethlehem,
Where Christ again is born;
Ring out, ring out the message
clear,

That God incarnate dwells!
Go, tell the tidings, far and near,
Glad Christmas Bells! Amen.

After the service the following company rang a well-struck quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: T. Dixon, 1; T. Sadler, 2; Evans, 3; Evinson, 4; T. Sarel, 5; T. Hattersley (conductor), 6; J. Dixon, 7; W. Biggin, 8. T. Sadler hails from Treeton, Biggin from Norton, the others from Sheffield. The bells are hung in a new iron frame with all new fittings, and the go of them is perfection. The work is a splendid success, giving the greatest satisfaction to the subscribers, and reflecting great credit on the founders and bellhangers.

The Norton Company wish to thank their Sheffield friends for their kind assistance. Any ringing friends wishing to have a pull at Norton, the local company, consisting of eight members—Mr. W. Biggin having rang on eight bells, 24 peals, conducting 2; Mr. J. Atkin, 9 peals; Mr. J. Goacher, 6 peals; the other five being well up in Minor methods; and Messrs. Biggin, Atkin, Goacher and James being life members of the Yorkshire Association; and members of the Old East Derbyshire Association; and James a member of the North Notts. Association—will be pleased to oblige. With all this talent to start with, let us hope that the Norton Company will soon be connected with the Yorkshire Association, and have their names recorded in a peal with the local band. E. J.

LINCOLN.—NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday evening, December 26th, at the church of St. Peter at Arches, in an attempt for a peal, about 1680 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major were rung in 1 hr. 5 mins. This was rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late J. Otter, who for nine years filled the post of parish clerk at this church. J. B. Fenton (conductor), 1; G. Flintham, 2; J. Wells, 3; G. W. Bemrose, 4; J. W. Watson, 5; J. Holman, 6; D. Brierley, 7; C. W. P. Clifton, 8. Also on Sunday evening, December 27th, for Divine Service, 1008 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, in 37 mins. G. Flintham, 1; J. B. Fenton, 2; J. Holman, 3; G. W. Bemrose, 4; J. W. Watson, 5; D. Brierley, 6; R. Dawson (conductor), 7; C. W. P. Clifton, 8. Messrs. Holman and Brierley hail from Sheffield.

Situation Vacant.

WANTED A GARDENER, willing to make himself generally useful. Knowledge of Fruit, Flowers and Vegetables. Fires to be attended to. Communicant. Change-ringer preferred. State full particulars to Rev. H. G. Bird, St. Andrew's Vicarage, Uxbridge.

A LINCOLNSHIRE BELLFOUNDER.

James Harrison, second son of Henry Harrison, and grandson of James Harrison, clock maker of Barrow-on-Humber, commenced business at about the year 1788. A year or two later he moved his foundry to Barton-on-Humber, and we find his name as a founder at Barton on the treble at Claxby St. Mary, in 1789. In 1816, 1818 and 1828 he wrote some very long letters to the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln, relative to the re-casting of the Cathedral bells, and the old "Great Tom." His bells were generally very wide, short waisted, flat at the crown, and thin; and were usually cast without cannons. He made it his boast that he could produce a deep note satisfactory with a less quantity of metal than other founders of his day, and he condemned the extra quantity of metal used by them as superfluous and detrimental to the tone of the bell. In 1831 he published a treatise on the "Proportions of the Constituents of Bells," &c., also an "Introduction" to the same, with a verbose title of about thirty lines in length. Notwithstanding his boastfulness, many of his bells were very poor in tone. He is said to have been a sober and industrious man of small education, very lax in his religious opinions, and eccentric in his habits. He formed no acquaintances, his mind being so absorbed in his craft that his talk was always of the casting, tuning and ringing of bells. He is said to have made no money by his trade, spending a long time in making his calculations before casting a bell, which if not proving exactly to his mind when cast, he would break up and commence again. His calculations were—so it is said—chiefly made in a bed which he had fixed up in his foundry: there he would remain for several days (food being taken to him) until his mental calculations (he seldom used figures) were completed to his satisfaction, when jumping up with the exclamation "I have got it, I have got it," he would proceed to put his plans into execution. He cast his bells in cellars several feet below the road level, and old people say that he cast them in the dead of night because any sound, such as the braying of an ass, or the crowing of a cock, would be communicated to the bell as the metal set? Indeed both he and his grandfather of the same name were suspected of dabbling in the mysteries of astrology before making important castings. In 1833 he went to Newcastle-upon-Tyne to cast the "Major," a large bell at St. Nicholas (now the Cathedral) for the casting of which the late Major Anderson left a sum of £500. Harrison performed the work at Hawk's foundry at Gateshead, and the bell he produced weighed 71 cwt. 2 qrs. 13 lbs., and measured 6 ft. 9 in. in diameter, and 5 ft. in height. When cast it gave so much satisfaction that it was turned upside down, and Harrison being placed inside it, he was drawn round the town. Whilst standing in the porch, before being drawn up into the tower, a shoemaker is said to have made the greater part of a shoe inside it. Notwithstanding the ovation at the casting of this bell it turned out to be very inferior in tone, and only a few years ago it was re-cast. Epworth bells, a peal of six, cast by Harrison in 1813, are a very good example of his style of bells. They are very wide and thin, the tenor being 54 inches in diameter, and giving note C, though very poor in tone. It is well-known, that to produce a good C, a bell should not weigh less than 2 tons, and should be quite 5 ft. in diameter. James Harrison died at Hull, while on a visit to his son there, in 1835, and at his death the foundry ceased to exist. The above account is curtailed from the *Church Bells of Lincolnshire* by the late Thos. North.

THE SOUTH AND WEST MIDDLESEX GUILD.

A very successful meeting of this Guild was held at the Church of St. Andrew, Hillingdon, on Saturday, December 12th, when by kind permission of the Rev. H. G. Bird (President of the Guild) the bells were available for ringing from 4.30 p.m. There was a good attendance of members, who represented the following towers:—Isleworth, Heston, Ealing (Christ Church and St. Mary's) and St. John's, Old Hillingdon. Mr. J. Waghorn, sen., was also present from Tottenham, and non-resident members from Richmond, Slough and Birnham. From the above-named hour, the bells were kept going by mixed bands in numerous touches from the standard methods, comprising Grandsire Triples, Stedman, and Grandsire Major. At six o'clock an adjournment was made to the vicarage, where the

vicar had provided a substantial tea, to which over thirty sat down. This most enjoyable repast being over, and the inner man very much refreshed, all settled down to a little business, the Rev. H. G. Bird occupying the chair. The hon. sec. was empowered to prepare and have printed the annual report and balance-sheet for 1896. It was also decided that the annual festival should be held at Ealing on Whit-Monday next, and that the Rev. Dr. Olliver be asked to address the Guild, on the occasion, at St. Mary's church.

Mr. T. Beadle proposed, and Mr. Goddard seconded the proposition, to hold the next monthly ringing meeting at Hampton and Sunbury, on January 9th.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the chairman for presiding; also for his kind welcome, and for the very generous manner in which had entertained the Guild.

THE PEAL OF "LONDON" AT MERTON COLLEGE, OXFORD.

"However you have got the face to try ringing Major on Merton College bells is a knockout, and to try London Surprise by candlelight, too. What next, I wonder?"

"Look here, my boy, father has undertaken to erect the illuminations, and you can rest assured that it will be done satisfactorily."

"All right, I shall come and listen to it. What time are you going to start?"

"Four o'clock—right off."

This colloquy took place before the peal, recorded on another page, was rung. For the benefit of those who do not know Merton, it may be stated that the bells have to be rung from a gallery at an elevation of 56 feet from the tessellated floor of the chapel. This gallery is about 3 feet wide, and the ringers are protected from falling by an arrangement of wood and gas-piping. The chamber is 26 feet across, and the bells go very heavy and strike very false. Hence, we suppose, the above questioning.

"Well," our correspondent adds: "The father arranged the candle business very nicely, for each ringer had one each side of him, and the light seemed pretty fair."

"Go—London," was called at 4.30, and all went very comfortable for about 1½ hours, when it seemed evident that our candles were going much too fast, this caused some alarm, and was not productive of continued good ringing, however, we meant going as far as the fat, "both above and below," would allow us, and we rolled them along well, again, for another hour; then matters looked very gloomy, for some of our illuminations had entirely disappeared, and it was very difficult to see whether the ringer opposite was pulling hand-stroke or back-stroke; however, under the circumstances, we kept fairly good striking. Just at this time our good old friend "Jimmy" could be heard aloft, replenishing the fat up there, which we down below felt very thankful for, and in a few minutes he appeared just inside the door of the ringing gallery with his electric bull's-eye.

By this time the *Faticks* were hanging to our few remaining candles to an alarming extent.

"Fetch some more candles, Jimmy," said a voice from the darkness. "Right," says Jimmy; and off he went across the chapel roof and down the stairs, and soon returned armed with two candles—all he could get, as the shops were closed.

These he lighted, and with considerable difficulty in getting along the gallery behind the ringers, managed to lighten our darkness on one side of the tower.

But it was soon evident that his services would be required the other side, for the Rev. and "Old Tom" were getting very much clouded. "Fetch some more, Jimmy," is the cry. The much-wanted candles duly arrived, and just as "Jimmy" arrived inside the door with them, the change, 14235678, rolled up magnificently. No sooner had we entered upon this course, than the greatest difficulty of all presented itself, for by this time, although it was easy enough for the heavy bell men to see the light bell men, it was almost impossible for the latter to see the former, and together with the energy exhibited by "Jimmy" in his endeavors to squeeze by the 5th and 6th men, and the sudden lighting of our darkness, no wonder that one or two of the band tripped about and spoilt the ringing of the last course, for ringing London Surprise under such trying circumstances would have been utterly impossible to any but cool-headed and careful ringers, and the band offer "Jimmy" their best thanks, for, never was the services of a greaser more effectually realised; and it is certain that 8.10 would not have arrived so pleasantly had it not been for him.

J. W. W.

GENTLEMEN'S Curb Alberts. Heavily Plated with Pure Gold. Guaranteed 18 carat, 4s. 6d., 22, 5s. 6d., Double, 7s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. Member of Norwich Diocesan Association.—SKINNER, 3, Mayes Terrace, East Dereham.

CHRIST CHURCH, ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA.

The first annual meeting of the Bellringers' Guild of this church was held in the rector's room of the church house, on December 14th, 1896, under the presidency of the rector, Rev. W. H. Cleaver, M.A., the following members being present, viz.: G. Watson (captain), F. A. Kennett (sub-captain), S. Saker (hon. instructor), A. W. Chesterfield (hon. sec. and treasurer), C. Weller (steeple-keeper), C. Hill, H. C. Harvey, A. Novis, T. Willard, Denman, F. G. Taylor, W. Strudwick, and S. G. Watson.

The minutes of the inaugural meeting having been read, confirmed and signed, the hon. treasurer presented a detailed cash account, which had been exhibited to the members, showing a balance in hand of £8 3s. 4d., and upon the motion of Mr. Kennett, seconded by Mr. Hill, the same was unanimously adopted. The rector, in putting the motion to the meeting, congratulated the members upon the satisfactory balance in hand.

The captain presented a report entering in detail upon what they had accomplished during the year, thanking the members for their regular attendance, the president and churchwardens for their liberal grant, and calling upon the members for their loyal support in the future.

Since the inaugural meeting in December, 1896, five members have left and three new members have been elected. A year ago scarcely one of the members was able to manage his bell properly in rounds, but they had that evening previous to the meeting accomplished, without any outside assistance, two well-struck touches of 168 Grandsire Triples, the members taking part being: S. G. Watson, 1; C. Weller, 2; H. C. Harvey, 3; G. Watson (conductor), 4; C. Hill, 5; F. A. Kennett, 6; F. G. Taylor, 7; A. W. Chesterfield, 8 (tenor 20 cwt.). W. Strudwick taking the tenor in the second touch, in place of W. Chesterfield.

The rector nominated Mr. G. Watson as captain for the ensuing year, thanking him for having devoted so much time and hard work to the cause, and Mr. Watson suitably responded.

The vice-presidents were re-elected (five in number) with the addition of Mr. A. W. Chesterfield and Mr. Saker. Mr. Chesterfield responded thereto.

The rector then, in very feeling terms, on behalf of the members of the guild, presented Mr. Saker with a very handsome oak tantalus liquor frame, fitted with cut glass decanters, and bearing a silver plate with the following inscription: "Presented to Sydney Saker, Esq., by the members of the Christ Church, St. Leonard's, Bell-ringers' Guild, as a small token of their gratitude for his kind tuition. December, 1896."

Mr. Watson also spoke a few words endorsing the many kind remarks made by the rector, and of the great deal of time and patience Mr. Saker had devoted to teaching them change-ringing.

Mr. Saker, upon rising to return thanks, said he was so utterly taken by surprise that he could not find words to express his gratitude to them for their handsome present and the kind things said of him, both by the rector and Mr. Watson. It was a very pleasant thing, indeed, to be the recipient of such a handsome present, and a great deal more gratifying to know that such a kindly feeling existed towards him, but, at the same time, he felt a little bit uncomfortable about the matter, as he had somewhat of a selfish interest in endeavouring to get them on, because he was so fond of change-ringing himself, and could not ring even Grandsire Doubles alone. It was a great pleasure to him to render what assistance he could, and he was fully repaid by seeing that they were taking an interest in what they were doing, and were making progress.

Another presentation was then made, in the shape of a large handsome writing desk, suitably fitted, and bearing the following inscription: "Presented to Mr. F. Lock, by the members of Christ Church, St. Leonard's, Bell-ringers' Guild, as a small token of esteem. December, 1896."

Mr. Lock, in returning thanks to the members for their kindness, assured them of his desire to help forward the art of change-ringing, and to render them all the assistance he could in the future.

The rector then made an award to Mr. Weller, for his kindness in undertaking the charge of the belfry and bells, and to

Mr. Denman for the most regular attendance at practice, and both gentlemen suitably responded.

Mr. Saker, having brought before the meeting the objects of the Sussex County Association, the advantages of joining, and his reasons why such associations should be supported, a hearty vote of thanks to the rector for presiding, terminated the business, and the remainder of the evening was spent in conviviality.

On Saturday, December 26th, the following rang 350 Grandsire Triples: S. G. Watson, 1; F. Lock, 2; H. C. Harvey, 3; J. Livermore, 4; G. Watson (conductor), 5; F. A. Kennett, 6; S. Saker, 7; W. H. Swain, 8. The ringers of 2, 4, 7 and 8 are members of Christ Church, Blacklands, Guild (six bells).

Correspondence.

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

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

AN ANCIENT COMPOSITION.

SIR,—The peal of 5376 Treble Bob Major, on page 472 of your last issue, under the name of George Hawkins, has been rung times innumerable, in different forms and numbers. I obtained the following peal of 5088 and its variations in the year 1882. It was published in "THE BELL NEWS" after being rung at Staveley, in February, 1885. The other peals (Nos. 2 and 3) I never sent to be published, as I did not consider them to be distinct peals, the course-ends being the same as No. 1.

(1) 5088.					(2) 5184.					(3) 4896.				
23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
62534		-	2	2	62534		-	2	2	62534		-	2	2
65324		-	1	2	46325		-	2	2	46325		-	2	2
62453		-	2	1	42563		-	2	1	62453		-		
26354		-	1	2	24365		-	1	2	26354		-	1	2
23564	I	-	2	2	23645	I	-	2	2	23564	I	-	2	2

No. 3 can be increased to 5024, 5152, or 5280, by using the alternate calling (2 M, 2 W) in the third course of one, two, or three parts. No. 2 is obtained from No. 1 by the addition of two bobs in the second course. No. 3 is obtained from No. 2 by the omission of three bobs in the third course. The alternate calling can be used in the first or third courses, and in the 5088 it can be used in the first and third, first and fourth, or first, third, and fourth courses of each part, which will produce various numbers.

ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

AN EXPLANATION REQUIRED.

SIR,—In your issue of December 26th, I see a notice from the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore (hon. secretary, Kent County Association) that, "in future, Rule 16 must be strictly complied with, also, accounts of peals must be accompanied by a certificate from the conductor that no manuscript or other visible aid to memory has been used in calling." Now, Sir, as the Rev. F. J. O. H. has put so much stress on the rules of late, I should like to draw his attention to Rule 17 of the Kent County Association, which reads thus: "No alteration in, or addition to these rules, shall be made, except at a general or special meeting; and two weeks' notice must be given to the secretary of any intended alteration or addition." If we are to abide by the rules, I fail to see how he is going to compel conductors to send in a certificate, without making an addition to Rule 16.

ONE INTERESTED.

A CONTRADICTION.

SIR,—Having read in "THE BELL NEWS" about the peal of Triples at Bridgwater, I beg to contradict Mr. Joyce's statement about the half-way bob-single, that it turned up in 1 hour 42 minutes, and the home bob-single turned up in 3 hours 20 minutes. Referring to the Single which I did not call, as I told him in the tower at Bridgwater, at the end of the peal, but I called Holt's bob, which was nearly two blows late, the cause of that was the rattling of door, and tenor-man missing the tufting. Therefore, I left the single out and called that's all, and brought the bells round in two leads after the last was called, and not in one lead, as he stated. Therefore, we hold the peal to be true on Bridgwater bells.

J. MADDOCK, Conductor of the Peal.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 1s. 2d.; cloth do., 1s. 8d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading.

Notices.

Bedfordshire Association.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Leighton Buzzard, to-day, Saturday, January 2nd, 1897.

W. W. C. BAKER, *Hon. Sec.*
Ridgmont Vicarage, Bletchley Station.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next monthly ringing meeting of this Society will be held to-day, Saturday, January 2nd, at Pudsey (8 bells). A peal will be attempted at 2.30. Meeting house—The Park hotel. Business meeting at 7 p.m. Any ringers (members or not) are cordially invited.
4, Kirkland Square, R. BINNS, *Hon. Sec.*
Kirkland Street, Beeston Road, Leeds.

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's church, Walton, to-day, Saturday, January 2nd, 1897. Bells ready at 3.30. Meeting at 6 p.m.

HENRY COLEY, *Branch Sec.*
3, Rumford Place, Liverpool.

The South and West Middlesex Guild.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Hampton (St. Mary the Virgin) and Sunbury (St. Mary's) on Saturday, January 9th. Hampton Station (L.S.W.R.) Ringing at 5.30.
Hy. F. G. LUCK, *Hon. Sec.*
7, Warwick Place, Ealing.

The Old East Derbyshire Association. The quarterly meeting will be held at Anston on Saturday, January 9th. Kiverton Park Station. Ring of six bells.

E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*

Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—The next meeting of this Guild will be held at St. James, Poolstock, Wigan, on Saturday, January 9th, 1897. Bells ready at 3.30 p.m. Business meeting at 6 p.m.

REV. W. T. BULPIT, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. BENTHAM,

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held at Tunstall on Saturday next, January 9th. Members who intend to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. W. H. Harratt, 46, Church Street, Tunstall.

REV. J. W. ALSTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG,

The Surrey Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Putney, on Monday, January 11th, by kind permission of the Vicar. Business meeting, election of officers, etc. The tower of St. Mary the Virgin (eight bells) will be open at 3 p.m.; and the tower of All Saints, Fulham (10 bells) has been kindly granted for the use of the members by the local Society. Time and place of meeting for tea will be announced later. Local Secretaries are requested to forward the number of members who intend to be present at tea to the undersigned, not later than Thursday, January 7th.

R. B. BLANCHARD, *Hon. Sec.*
13, Sunnyside Road, Streatham, S.W.

The Middlesex Association.—The next quarterly meeting of this Association will be held at Tottenham, on Saturday, January 16th. The tower of All Hallows church will be open for ringing from 5 p.m. Members and friends of the Association are cordially invited to attend.
ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*
Sarum, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

The Lancashire Association (Rochdale Branch).—The next meeting will be held at the church of St. James' Milnrow, on Satur-

day, January 16th, 1897. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. All ringers invited, members or non-members.

EDWIN B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*
14, Thomas Street, Leeds.

The Lancashire Association (Rossendale Branch).—A branch meeting will be held at Helmshore, on January 16th, 1897. Bells ready for 3 p.m. Business meeting, 6.30.

J. H. BANKS, *Branch Sec.*
Industrial Terrace, Helmshore.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—The sum of 1s. 8d., in lieu of booking fees, is now due. After ringing at St. Paul's cathedral, on Tuesday, January 12th, 1897, business of a specially important nature will be brought forward at the meeting to be held at headquarters, when it is hoped that all members who can possibly do so, will attend.

W. T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*
37, Tradescant Road, South Lambeth, S.W.

Redenhall, Norfolk.—The Anniversary Dinner will be held on Wednesday, January 13th, at 1.30. The bells will be available for ringing from 9 a.m.

F. R. BORRETT, *Pulham.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association. The yearly meeting of the above will be held at The Little Saddle inn, Dewsbury, on Saturday, January 16th, 1897, at 5 p.m. prompt. The following business will be transacted:—Election of officers; Auditor's Report; Balance-Sheet, and also consideration of the following alterations: Exchange of dates of contests; Alterations of monthly meetings; Addition to rules 12 and 13; also as to practice allowed, and other important business. Subscriptions for 1897 will be due. All members are requested to attend.

GEO. H. SIMON, *Hon. Sec.*
19, Albert Street, Batley Carr.

The Yorkshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Leeds on Saturday, January 16th. Choral service in the parish church at 4; with sermon by Rev. R. S. Medlicott. Tea will be served afterwards in the schoolroom at 8d. each, names for which must be sent to Mr. Francis Woodhead, 3, Runswick Place, Holbeck, on or before January 11th. Business meeting in the schoolroom after tea. The bells of the parish church (12), St. Michael's, Headingley (8); S. Chad's, Far Headingley (8); Christ church, Armley (6); will be at disposal.

B. T. COPLEY, *Hon. Sec.*
14, Hillside Terrace, Bradford.

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Association.—The next committee and quarterly meeting of this Association will be held in the schoolroom, Old Swinford, near Stourbridge, on Saturday, January 30th. Full particulars in due course.

JNO. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*
36, Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

Kent County Association.—Conductors and all others interested are informed that Rule xvi. must for the future be strictly complied with, and accounts of peals rung must be accompanied by a certificate from the conductor that no manuscript or other visible aid to memory has been used in calling. No peal will be reckoned as an Association peal without this. FRED. J. O. HELMORE, *Hon. Sec.*
Canterbury.

PAINTER wants a job on builders' firm or on estate. Can ring Treble Bob on six and eight.—Apply F. F. Ewhurst Green, near Cranleigh, Surrey.

WANTED by young man, age 19, situation in bake-house. Good bread baker, used to smalls. Seven years experience. Good character; change-ringer; and member of the Sussex County Association.—I. J. Attwater, Church street, Cuckfield, Sussex.

A DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.—Corrected.

By EDWARD COOK, *Cardiff.*

1897.

Odd changes.

By OBSERVATION OF THE 7TH.—
Before twice; right; in and out at 234567
three; in and out; middle; in and 234657
out, twice; middle twice; right; 326475
middle; wrong; middle; wrong; 326457
right; wrong; in and out at five; 324657
before; right; in and out at five; 324576
right; wrong; middle twice; wrong; 234576
middle twice; in and out; before; Start
middle; wrong; middle; wrong; at
before; right; in and out at two; back-
right; before; middle twice; right; stroke.
in and out at two.

*. In the quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples by Mr. Coombes, of Cardiff, published in our last number, the tenth bob should be "right" and not "wrong."

NOTE TO THE PEAL AT TUNBRIDGE WELLS. This was Mr. T. Groombridge's fiftieth peal, and was rung on the fifth anniversary of his ringing his first peal, he having rung the tenor to a peal of Grandsire Triples on December 24th, 1891, at the same church. Mr. Groombridge having expressed a wish to ring his Jubilee peal at the tower, and with the ringers where he first learnt change-ringing, the local ringers at once arranged the peal and invited him to conduct it, and an excellent peal was the result. It was also the first peal in any method by A. Welsh; first peal in the method by G. Head; and first peal in the method with a bob bell by G. Smithers. For calling see Kent County Association Report for 1893, page 83; peal in the name of Mr. H. Dains.

Handbells for Sale.

TO Handbell Ringers.—What offers, cash or exchange. Seventy-five Bells. 2½ to 11½ inches in diameter. Complete on wooden frame.—W. Mumby, Newark, Notts.

FOR SALE.—Complete set of Handbells in good condition, fully up to pitch, the property of the Birky Baptist Chapel.—For particulars, apply to J. WOOD AND SONS, New Street, Huddersfield.

HANDBELLS.—A peal of Fifty-six for sale—F 26 to C 01—in excellent condition; also Portable Padded Table, 14ft. long, and hangings trimmed with gold braid and fringe. A bargain.—F. Masefield, Albert Street Newcastle, Staffs.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

COULD anyone help me to get a situation; am willing to do anything. By trade a six-quarter Tapestry Weaver. Can ring Double Norwich, Stedman, Superlative, Cambridge, and London Surprise. Can conduct in method I can ring. I am willing to give my services as a ringer for getting employment. Married; 29 years of age; 15 years' character.—W. H. Smith, Lark Hill, Kidderminster.

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BELL FOUNDER
AND
CHURCH BELL HANGER
SHEEP STREET, BURFORD,
OXFORDSHIRE.

For Church Bells, Turret Bells, House Bells, Clock Bells, and Bells of every description. Bell Ropes of the Best quality supplied. The Ellacombe Chime Hammers accurately fixed.

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

ROPE-SIGHT : 1s. 6d. FOURTH 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, etc., etc. (143 pages).

STANDARD METHODS: 2s. 6d. THIRD EDITION
Now Ready. 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. 6d. 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. (210 pages).

TREBLE BOB. PART I. out of print and under revision.
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. 12d.

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR. 1s. 6d.
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)

Forwarded, Post Free, on receipt of remittance, by WM. SNOWDON, Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

MR. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD'S WORK.

"DUFFIELD:" A MUSICAL METHOD FOR 8, 10, AND 12 BELLS, containing full directions for ringing, pricking, and proving the method; together with a collection of Peals of Major, Royal, and Maximus; also an Explanatory Appendix. By ARTHUR PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, M.A. Gratis on application to A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, DUFFIELD BANK, near Derby.

THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

NOW READY.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF SUFFOLK.—By JOHN JAMES RAVEN, D.D., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge; Vicar of Fressingfield-with-Withersdale; Honorary Canon of Norwich Cathedral; and President of the Norwich Diocesan Association).—WITH ABOUT NINETY ILLUSTRATIONS.—This most interesting work contains an account of all the Church Bells in the County of Suffolk—their makers and history—so far as they can be discovered. Incidental notices are introduced of the ancient uses of Bells—the individuals mentioned on them—and many historical events connected therewith. Introductory remarks on the general history of the Bells are prefixed to local portion of the work. The book is fully illustrated with engravings of ornaments, letterings, founders' marks, shields, etc., of which some will be found hitherto unknown. The latter portion of the work contains a complete list of Churches in the County, with the Inscriptions on the Bells now belonging to them, as well as on many which have been re-cast. The Demy 8vo. Edition is limited to 500 copies, and is now offered at 20s. nett; or Bound in Half-morocco, Roxburgh style, 27s 6d. nett. Copies by post 1s. 6d. extra. The Large Paper Edition was subscribed for within a few days of the issue of the Prospectuses, and is now unobtainable.

JARROLD & SONS, Publishers, Norwich, and 3, Paternoster Buildings, E.C.

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CHURCH BELL HANGER, AND TUNER.
SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE.**

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T. BLACKBOURN'S experience enables him to affix these hammers, with their accompanying levers in a most accurate manner, preventing any danger to the bell frame or clock. He will be glad to advise on clocks as well as bells.

The Ellacombe Chime Hammers fixed. Sole Fixer of Silby's Apparatus for Silent practice. Handbells supplied. Bells weighed in the tower at a small cost.

A PEAL OF 362,880 GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6d.
Contains the full extent of changes on nine bells. Forwarded Post Free, on receipt of 7d. By James Hewitt, 15, Chape Row Gosport.

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

One copy, 12 months 8s.

" 6 " 4s.

" 3 " 2s.

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 2, 1897.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR! What we sincerely hope every one of our readers may enjoy; and feel the results of such happiness on every day throughout the coming year. As far as lies in our power we will strive to assist such an end by our weekly issue; not a discordant sound shall be emitted if we can help it. The Christmas season just passed has been a time of peculiar satisfaction for us; the congratulations and compliments from our numerous readers and friends have vastly exceeded in number those of any corresponding period during our existence. We joyfully recognise such kindness and thought at the hands of our many friends.

This week a great number of peals is in evidence. An enlarged number of our paper will appear next week so that several reports and articles which peals temporarily displace may appear. Next week we shall publish a portrait of Mr. F. J. HARRISON, of Jarrow-on-Tyne. We have also in hand a group portrait of the company of the Oxford Guild who recently rang the long peal of London

Surprise. An interesting and complete account of a famed ring of bells in one of our Cathedrals has been compiled from most trustworthy sources and documents, and this account will shortly appear, accompanied by a splendid photograph of the Cathedral itself. Other approved features of illustration are under consideration. We are always pleased to receive from our readers any suggestions, the adoption of which may tend to interest them.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—Representatives who have been elected to the Central Council are respectfully reminded that in accordance with the decision of the Council at its last meeting, the next meeting will be held in London, at Whitsuntide, instead of Easter. The latest date for forwarding to the Hon. Sec. notices of motions, &c. (which must be in writing, and signed by two representatives) will be therefore Saturday, May 8th.

Hon. Secretaries of Societies are respectfully reminded that the subscription to the Council of 2s. 6d. for each representative is now due, and should be remitted to the Hon. Sec. and Treasurer *without delay*, together with the names and addresses of the representatives elected.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn, January 1st., 1897. Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD, READING BRANCH.

The Annual Dinner and Meeting of this branch was held on Saturday, December 19th, at The George hotel. At 7 p.m., 30 members sat down to an excellent dinner, well served by Miss Pontin. The repast finished, J. M. Routh, Esq., Chairman of the branch, took his own place; being ably supported by the master, Rev. F. E. Robinson; Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, and Rev. —Jones (Caversham). The Vice-chair was very well filled by "the Father," Mr. Newell.

The toast of "The Queen" having been loyally honoured, the business of the meeting commenced. Branch Secretary A. W. Pike read the Minutes of the last meeting, also his Annual Report and Balance-Sheet. The report showed that 105 members now belonged to the branch, being 21 more than in 1895; two towers had joined and 15 peals been rung. Progress in change ringing had also been made. The balance sheet was considered as favourable, the amount in hand being returned as £4 5s. od.

The following officials were then unanimously re-elected: Chairman:—J. M. Routh, Esq.; Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, A. W. Pike; C. Giles was elected to serve on the General Committee in place of the Rev. B. Long, who has left the Diocese.

The Chairman now gave the toast of the evening, "The Oxford Diocesan Guild," in response to which the Master said he was indeed pleased at the success of the Guild. They were making progress in all ways, both as to numbers and in methods rung. He paid a high tribute to Mr. J. W. Washbrook, both as a ringer and composer. He was very glad to see the Reading branch so prosperous. He would finish by proposing the health of the Hon. Secretaries of the Guild.

The Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis said their numbers kept increasing; he was also very pleased to say that with the help of his assistant he was enabled to keep his post as Hon. Sec. of that big Guild.

Mr. A. W. Pike also suitably responded.

Business over, harmony was given a turn, and right merrily was the ball kept rolling. But there yet remained one toast to be given, viz.:—"The Tribute of the children to their Father."

This was proposed by Mr. A. W. Pike, who alluded with pleasure to the fact that "the father" had at last succeeded in ringing a peal of Stedman Caters. The Reading branch were pleased to recognise in him a most painstaking instructor and counsellor.

Mr. Newell, in replying, thanked those present for drinking his health. He would have much liked to have seen a larger number present. Members might try and strain a point to put

in an appearance on the only evening in the year when all could muster together. He could not understand all this diffidence. Perhaps the day and time of year was unfavourable.

Songs were contributed by Messrs. Goodger (2), Sweetzer, A. E. Reeves, Pike, Routh, Newell, Hibbert, and Engineer Ward. The singing of the National Anthem at 11 p.m. brought a pleasant evening to a close.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOFTHS.

On Saturday, December 26, 1896, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

JOHN W. STEDDY* Treble.	HENRY S. ELLIS 5.
ARTHUR G. ELLIS* 2.	THOMAS H. TAFFENDER .. 6.
HENRY LANGDON, SEN. .. 3.	*JACK PRESTON 7.
JOHN N. OXBORROW 4.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and
Conducted by THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE.

*First peal of Major. This is a one-part composition in thirteen courses, with double bobs at home throughout, and contains the 6th the extent in 5-6, and the 5th the extent in 6th place; also eleven of the twelve 8-6-7s and 8-6s.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 26, 1896, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, WOOLWICH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5568 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt

WILLIAM BEDWELL Treble.	WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 5.
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. 2.	ARTHUR J. NEALE 6.
JOHN W. STEDDY* 3.	HARRY WARNETT 7.
HENRY G. HILL 4.	JAMES GEORGE Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and Conducted by Wm. BEDWELL.

*First peal in the method with a bob bell. It is the longest length in the method by all except A. J. Neale.

The Provinces.

ERITH, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 19, 1896, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM BEDWELL Treble.	GEORGE CONYARD 5.
JAMES GEORGE 2.	WILLIAM G. GROVE 6.
GEORGE H. DAYNES 3.	ARTHUR J. NEALE 7.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 4.	HARRY WARNETT Tenor.

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

WOMBOURN, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, December 21, 1896, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BENEDICT,

A PEAL OF DARLSTON BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S TWO-PART. Tenor 10 cwt. 12 lbs.

WALTER SMITH Treble.	*HENRY A. HALL 5.
PERCY SADLER 2.	*GEORGE BURROWS 6.
HORACE SADLER 3.	JAMES E. GROVES 7.
HERBERT KNIGHT 4.	ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. Tenor

Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

*First peal in the method. Rung to celebrate the sixth anniversary of the opening of the bells as a ring of eight. The ringers of the 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th belong to St. Peter's, Wolverhampton; the rest to the local band.

[This peal arrived too late for our last number.]

WANTED, in exchange or part exchange, for a copy of "North's English Bells and Bell Lore" (quite new), Works on Bells or Ringing.—Send offers to G. Dent, Potters Street Harlow, Essex.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 22, 1896, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES TANN Treble.	FREDERICK SURRIDGE .. 5.
HERBERT MATTHEWS .. 2.	CHARLES BAKER 6.
ROBERT WHITING 3.	CHARLES TANN 7.
DAVID RUTH 4.	FREDERICK BORRETT .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and Conducted by JAMES TANN.

For calling see "THE BELL NEWS" of June 27th, 1896, peal No. 1.

OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE OXFORD SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, December 24, 1896, in Two Hours and Fifty and $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.
Tenor 9 cwt.

ARTHUR PEGLER Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
PERCY A. HIND 2.	THOMAS PAYNE 6.
CHARLES FOWLER 3.	WILLIAM SMITH 7.
FREDERICK EXON 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 24, 1896, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qrs. in F.

ANDREW WELSH Treble.	EDWARD MANKELOW .. 5.
WILLIAM H. CARD 2.	GEORGE HEAD 6.
GEORGE SMITHERS 3.	WILLIAM LATTER 7.
STEPHEN PERKINS 4.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE.

A note to this peal will be found on another page.

DUNSTER, SOMERSETSHIRE.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(THE DUNSTER GUILD.)

On Friday, December 25, 1896, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 21 cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNEY .. Treble.	JOHN PUGSLEY 5.
THOMAS A. ELLIOTT .. 2.	REV. H. C. COURTNEY .. 6.
ROBERT HOLE 3.	JAMES GRABHAM 7.
ALBERT J. CHILCOTT .. 4.	JOHN PAYNE Tenor.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

DAVENHAM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(GRAPPENHALL BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 26, 1896, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR;

Being 720 each of London Scholars' Pleasure, College Pleasure, Killamarsh, Woodbine, Duke of York, Violet and Oxford.

Tenor 17 cwt.

JAS. MAINWARING .. Treble.	SAMUEL HORSFALL .. 4.
ROBT. GEO. LEWIS .. 2.	FREDK. THOS. SPENCE .. 5.
THOMAS BURROWS .. 3.	CHAS. REG. GREENALL .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDK. THOS. SPENCE.

The above is the first peal on the bells. The ringers wish to thank—through "THE BELL NEWS"—the Rev. T. W. France-Hayhurst for the use of the bells, and Mr. Ashmole for having them in readiness.

SOBERTON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 26, 1896, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

HENRY GRIFFIN† .. Treble.	†ALBERT MILLARD .. 5.
GEORGE WILLIAMS .. 2.	FRANK BENNETT .. 6.
GEORGE PLASKETT* .. 3.	GEORGE GRAHAM .. 7.
JAMES E. WARREN .. 4.	JOHN W. WHITING .. Tenor.

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH and Conducted by GEO. WILLIAMS.

*First peal and first attempt. †First peal on eight bells. Messrs. Williams and Bennett hail from Brighton; Whiting and Graham from Fareham; the remainder from Swanmore.

SHIPTON-UNDER-WYCHWOOD, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 26, 1896, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
REEVES' VARIATION.

A. S. NEWMAN* .. Treble.	J. F. BARLOW 5.
S. FERRIMAN 2.	A. TURNER 6.
W. GIBBS 3.	G. BARTLETT 7.
W. LONGSHAW 4.	H. HARRIS Tenor.

Conducted by G. BARTLETT.

*First peal. The ringers of the treble, 3rd and 5th hail from Chipping Norton; the rest belong to the local company.

RAMSBOTTOM, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROSSENDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 26, 1896, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

ROBERT LEACH Treble.	JAS. B. TAYLOR 5.
JOHN H. HAYDOCK .. 2.	WALTER TAYLOR 6.
JONATHAN WOLSTENHOLME 3.	REV. C. A. CLEMENTS .. 7.
JAMES S. TAYLOR .. 4.	JOHN W. ORMEROD .. Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER TAYLOR.

Messrs. W. Taylor and Ormerod hail from Newchurch; J. B. Taylor from Waterfoot; the rest belong to the local band.

BLETCHINGLEY, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 26, 1896, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 19 cwt.

FREDERICK S. BAYLEY .. Treble.	GEORGE WELLING .. 5.
WILLIAM S. SMITH .. 2.	JOSEPH FAYERS .. 6.
CHARLES BANCE .. 3.	WILLIAM BURKIN .. 7.
FRANK M. BUTLER .. 4.	ALBERT CLARK .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BURKIN.

This is the conductor's 100th performance of 5000 and upwards.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 26, 1896, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt. in F.

FREDERICK W. RICE .. Treble.	EDWIN JORDAN .. 5.
ROBERT S. CHERRIMAN .. 2.	ROBERT JORDAN .. 6.
EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 3.	JAMES PARKER .. 7.
JOHN RICE 4.	KEITH HART .. Tenor.

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH and Conducted by JOHN RICE.

First peal as conductor in any method. Rang on the anniversary of the long peal of Superlative Surprise at the above church. Messrs. Cherriman, Merritt, and Hart belong to Brighton; E. Jordan to Capel; Parker to London; the rest to Crawley.

CIRENCESTER, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 26, 1896, in Three Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES.

Tenor 29 cwt. in D.

FRANCIS W. BOND Treble.	HERBERT MIDWINTER .. 6.
HENRY C. BOND* 2.	CHARLES BARTLETT .. 7.
JOHN AUSTIN 3.	FRED G. MAY 8.
ALBERT E. EDWARDS* .. 4.	THOMAS GARDNER 9.
FRANK GARDNER† 5.	HENRY CLUTTERBUCK .. Tenor.

Composed by R. WILLIAMS and Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

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

BACUP.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROSSENDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 26, 1896, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

FRED HOWORTH Treble.	JOHN SHEPHERD 5.
J. A. BROWN 2.	*WILFRED LAW 6.
J. SUTCLIFFE 3.	W. ASHWORTH 7.
J. T. STANDRING 4.	†J. JACKSON Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN SHEPHERD.

*First peal with a bob bell. †First peal. J. JACKSON was made a member of the above Association before starting. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Giles Hoyle, he being one of the committee at the time when the bells were put in at this church to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee.

MINEHEAD, SOMERSETSHIRE.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 26, 1896, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 21 cwt.

GEORGE PASSMORE* Treble.	REV. H. C. COURTNEY .. 5.
SYDNEY MASON 2.	JAMES GRABHAM 6.
JOHN PUGSLEY 3.	CHALLIS F. WINNEY .. 7.
JAMES PARKMAN 4.	WYNDHAM LOCKYER .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

*First peal.

MILLAND, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(MIDHURST BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 26, 1896, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

5040 CHANGES IN THREE TREBLE BOB METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being three 720s of Woodbine and two each of Oxford and Kent, each called differently.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

CHARLES TRIBE Treble.	ARTHUR B. BENNETT .. 4.
THOMAS STROUD* 2.	*FRANK TRUSSLER 5.
THOMAS E. ELLIS 3.	JAMES LEE Tenor.

Conducted by A. B. BENNETT.

*First peal. †First peal as Conductor. T. Stroud is only 17 years of age.

READING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE ST. LAURENCE'S SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, December 26, 1896, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

HENRY WHITE Treble.	ALFRED WATMORE 5.
JOHN TUCKER 2.	WILLIAM NEWELL 6.
CHARLES GILES 3.	FRANK HOPGOOD 7.
GEORGE FOXELL 4.	REUBEN SAWYER .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRANK HOPGOOD.

First peal of Stedman Triples by the ringers of the 2nd, 4th, 5th and tenor. First peal of Stedman Triples as conductor.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, December 26, 1896, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5075 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt.

WILLIAM G. HALL Treble.	HENRY DAWKES 6.
HENRY A. HALL 2.	ERNEST WEATHERBY .. 7.
HERBERT KNIGHT 3.	AARON GRIFFITHS 8.
GEORGE BURROWS 4.	JAMES E. GROVES 9.
WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 5.	FARRINGTON JONES .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Weatherby hails from Market Drayton, Salop, and this is his first peal on ten bells; Greenleaf hails from Hereford; the rest belong to the local band.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 26, 1896, in Four Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 7008 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES TANN Treble.	CHARLES BORRETT 5.
HERBERT MATTHEWS .. 2.	FREDERICK SMITH 6.
ROBERT WHITING 3.	CHARLES TANN 7.
DAVID RUTH 4.	FREDERICK BORRETT .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by JAMES TANN.

This is the longest length on the bells. The peal is in ten parts, and contains fifty-eight out of the sixty course-ends. It is now rung for the first time.

APPLETON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE APPLETON SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, December 26, 1896, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

L. BENNETT Treble.	F. BARRETT 5.
F. TUBB 2.	R. WHITE 6.
H. WOODWARDS 3.	F. WHITE 7.
H. TUBB 4.	T. BARNETT Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WHITE.

ARMLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Monday, December 28, 1896, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

IN THE TOWER OF CHRIST CHURCH,

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JOSEPH THACKRAY 1-2.	ARTHUR CRAVEN 5-6.
JOHN THACKRAY 3-4.	HARRY WILLIAMS 7-8.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON and Conducted by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

First peal in the method on handbells by all, and also the first in the county. This peal was arranged for Mr. Arthur Craven, of Lincoln, who was spending Christmas in his native town.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(LEICESTER BRANCH.)

On Monday, December 28, 1896, in Three Hours and Forty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5184 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt.

JOSIAH MORRIS* Treble.	JOSEPH S. NEEDHAM .. 6.
JOHN O. LANCASHIRE .. 2.	JOHN F. MARLOW 7.
FREDERICK COOKE 3.	JONATHAN W. VEASEY .. 8.
GEORGE BURROWS 4.	WILLIAM WILLSON 9.
WILLIAM A. TYLER 5.	EDWARD E. SMITH .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM WILLSON.

*First peal. First peal with a bob bell by F. Cooke. It is also the first on ten bells by the ringers of the 3rd and tenor. This peal is a reduction of a 6029 published September 16th, 1893, and contains the 6th her extent at home and twenty-two courses behind the 9th, with either 5th or 6th wrong and right at every course-end.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 28, 1896, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

ALFRED E. NYE* Treble.	FRANK K. BIGGS 5.
FRANK BOREHAM 2.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 6.
SIDNEY T. GOODCHILD .. 3.	JOHN EVANS 7.
WILLIAM TRUSS 4.	JOHN C. TRUSS Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and Conducted by JOHN C. TRUSS.

*First peal of Major. The above was rung after an unsuccessful attempt at Stedman Triples.

SHREWSBURY.—THE SALOP GUILD.

On Monday, December 28, 1896, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALKMOND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S TWELVE-PART.

ARTHUR BENNETT Treble.	ARTHUR H. ESLEY 5.
WILLIAM J. TAYLOR 2.	GEORGE BURROWS 6.
WILLIAM H. OWEN 3.	GEORGE BYOLIN 7.
FRED W. TAYLOR 4.	JOHN WALL Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE BYOLIN.

First peal by J. Wall. First peal away from the treble by W. H. Owen, who hails from Wellington; A. H. Esley from Bridgnorth; A. Bennett from Whitchurch; G. Burrows from Wolverhampton; the rest are local men. The above was rung after meeting one short for Major.

OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE OXFORD SOCIETY.)

On Monday, December 28, 1896, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT MERTON COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.

Weight of Tenor not known.

CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
PERCY A. HIND 2.	THOMAS HIBBERT 6.
CHARLES FOWLER 3.	WILLIAM SMITH 7.
ARTHUR W. PIKE 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

This is the first peal of Major on this magnificent ring of bells, and was rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. T. Payne, the Steeple-keeper, and respected Hon. Sec. of this Society. Reference to this peal will be found elsewhere.

KETTERING, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 28, 1896, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 24 cwt.

ARTHUR ROBINSON Treble.	ERNEST UNDERWOOD .. 5.
WILLIAM R. HENSHER .. 2.	FRANK WOOD 6.
WILLIAM F. WOOD 3.	JOHN D. MATTHEWS .. 7.
THOMAS R. HENSHER .. 4.	GEORGE TOSELAND Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS.

This is the quickest peal on the bells since 1731. The Messrs. Wood hail from Wellingborough. The above was rung as a farewell to the Rev. W. H. Abbot, who is leaving Kettering to take up missionary work abroad.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 29, 1896, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES.

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

J. HOUGHTON, SEN. .. Treble.	J. B. MARTIN 5.
W. PETTITT 2.	A. H. MARTIN 6.
J. HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 3.	*W. R. HENSHER 7.
C. NEWMAN 4.	†J. GARRATT Tenor.

Composed by J. S. WILDE and Conducted by J. GARRATT.

This peal contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th the extent in 6ths place, and the 3rd never there at a course-end. *First peal in the method and first attempt. †First peal as Conductor in the method. Messrs. Martin hail from Higham Ferrers; Hensher from Kettering; the rest are local men.

MANCHESTER.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 28, 1896, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 25 cwt.

ALBERT HONEYBILL* .. Treble.	EDMUND HEWITT 5.
ALFRED WILSON 2.	†GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE .. 6.
WILLIAM E. RYDER 3.	JOHN EACHUS 7.
ROBERT DAVIES† 4.	RALPH RAVENSCROFT .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE.

*First peal and first attempt. †First peal away from the treble. ‡First peal as conductor on tower bells.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(HENFIELD BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, December 29, 1896, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

HENRY STRINGER .. Treble.	ALFRED W. GROVES 5.
WILLIAM JOHN ALLISS .. 2.	LAZARUS PAYNE 6.
CHARLES TYLER 3.	WILLIAM HILLMAN 7.
GEORGE PAYNE 4.	ARTHUR HODGES Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES TYLER.

First peal in the method on the bells. First peal in the method on tower bells by all except the conductor.

HAWLEY, HANTS.—THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, December 30, 1896, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

CHARLES GILES .. Treble.	*HARRY TUCKER 5.
ALFRED E. REEVES* .. 2.	*JOHN BALLARD 6.
JOHN TUCKER 3.	FRANK HOPGOOD 7.
HENRY WHITE† 4.	*MAURICE STEER Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY WHITE.

*First peal of Stedman Triples. †First peal of Stedman as conductor. This peal was rung in honour of J. J. P. Wyatt's birthday. The ringers were afterwards entertained at supper by Maurice Steer. A. E. Reeves was elected a member of the Guild previous to starting.

PEAL CORRECTION.—The ringer of the 3rd in the peal at Lavenham, on the 19th ult., is 16 years old, not 17. The composition was then supposed to have been rung for the first time.

Date Touches.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BOXLEY (Kent).—On Tuesday, December 22nd, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Minor, being two 720s called differently, 240 and 216, in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. Kilpatrick, 1; W. Hope, 2; S. Jeffrey, 3; W. Holmwood, 4; A. Arnold, 5; G. Pound (conductor), 6. This is the longest length and first date touch by all the band, and the first date touch ever rung on the bells.

FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Monday, December 21st, for practice at the parish church, a date touch, 1896 changes, in 1 hr. 9 mins. H. Wallis, 1; G. Foster, 2; A. Biggs, sen., 3; H. Foster, 4; A. Biggs, jun., 5; F. Hunt, 6; E. Foreman (conductor), 7; G. Wood, 8.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ALDEBURGH-ON-SEA (Suffolk).—On Thursday, December 10th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a date touch, 1896 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins., being a 720 (eighteen bobs and twelve singles), a 360 (nine bobs), and 96 changes, C. Smith (conductor), 1; H. Girling, 2; F. Ing, 3; A. Wilson, 4; G. Churchyard, 5; E. Cooper, 6. Longest length by Messrs. Ing and Wilson.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HORBURY (Yorks).—On Sunday, December 20th, at St. Peter's church, in 1 hr. 4 mins., a date touch of 1896 changes, being 96 Canterbury Pleasure, 720 Oxford Bob, 720 Court Bob, and 360 Plain

Bob. E. Carr, 1; E. Brooke, 2; G. Hunt, 3; H. Rowley (conductor), 4; G. F. Pickles, 5; R. Thickett, 6. Longest length by E. Carr.

TREETON (Yorks).—On Sunday, December 20th, for evening service, a date touch of 1896 changes, in the following methods: 384 Kent, 432 Oxford, and 360 each of London Scholars, Killamarsh Treble Bob, College Pleasure. A. Woffinden, 1; T. Whitworth (conductor), 2; S. Walker, 3; T. Sadler, 4; J. Sadler, 5; W. Lambert, 6. This is J. Sadler's longest length.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Tuesday, December 22nd, for practice at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor in 29 mins. A. Hillier, 1; R. Hall, 2; S. Ferry, 3; J. Dawson, 4; W. Holmes, 5; E. Ferry (first 720 as conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, December 6th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of London Surprise Major, 1248 changes, in 45 mins. H. Simmonds, 1; A. Cullum, 2; E. J. Menday, 3; E. W. Menday, 4; R. Hibbert, 5; G. Essex, 6; H. Smith, 7; T. Newman (conductor), 8. On Sunday morning, December 13th, for Divine Service, 576 London Surprise Major, standing as before. For Divine Service in the evening two courses of Stedman Triples. And a course of London Surprise, Mr. Robins, of Henley, ringing the tenor behind in the Stedman Triples.

GREAT BARRINGTON (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday, December 16th, 720 Grandsire Minor. H. Humphries, 1; E. Large, 2; C. Packer, 3; W. Shirley, 4; T. Bond, 5; W. Large (conductor), 6. Also several 120s of Doubles. All the above hail from Burford.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Saturday, December 12th, at St. Mary's church, 504 Stedman Triples. T. Groombridge (conductor), 1; T. Durling, 2; E. Mankelow, 3; W. Lambert (first 504 in the method), 4; W. Ingham, 5; J. Preston, 6; J. Leonard (first 504 in the method with a bob bell), 7; P. Masters (first 504 in the method), 8. Rang after meeting one short for a peal of Treble Bob.

CHARING (Kent).—On Thursday, November 19th, 216 Grandsire Minor. P. Edwards, 1; E. Archer, 2; W. Good, 3; H. Ward, 4; H. Goodwin, 5; W. Spice, 6. On Thursday, November 26th, the same touch conducted by W. Spice. On Tuesday, December 8th, 360 Grandsire Doubles with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Bishop Tufnell, who died on December 3rd. P. Edwards, 1; E. Archer, 2; W. Spice (conductor), 3; W. Good, 4; H. Ward, 5; J. Clifford, 6. On Thursday, December 10th, two 120s of Grandsire Minor. P. Edwards, 1; E. Archer, 2; W. Good, 3; H. Ward, 4; H. Goodwin, 5; W. Spice (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, December 19th, 720 Plain Bob Minor. P. Edwards, 1; E. Dixon, 2; W. Spice, 3; H. Goodwin, 4; G. Sharp, 5; T. Tabret (conductor), 6. First 720 of Minor by P. Edwards. E. Dixon hails from Willesborough; Tabret and Sharp from Ashford.

FOLKESTONE (Kent).—On Tuesday, December 15th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. S. Gower, 1; A. Manning, 2; J. Fisher, 3; E. Potter, 4; S. Binfield, 5; S. Barker (conductor), 6; F. Finn, 7; E. Marchant, 8. Also 111 in the same method. F. Finn, 1; A. Manning, 2; J. Fisher, 3; H. Petts, 4; S. Binfield, 5; S. Barker (conductor), 6; S. Gower, 7; P. Waghorn, 8.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On November 1st, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Lane, 1; H. Cotton, 2; G. Hayes, 3; A. Cornford, 4; F. J. Ring, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. On November 23rd, 720 Bob Minor. W. Lane, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. Hayes, 3; H. Simmons, 4; R. Munn, 5; M. Digby (conductor), 6. Also 720 Cambridge Surprise. W. Lane, 1; R. Munn, 2; G. Hayes, 3; F. Hayes, 4; W. Martin (conductor), 5; M. Digby, 6. On November 29th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Hayes, 1; A. Cornford, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; W. Clifford, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. On December 7th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. W. Lane, 1; R. Munn, 2; G. Hayes, 3; F. J. Ring, 4; W. Martin, 5; M. Digby (conductor), 6. On December 13th, 720 London Surprise. A. Cornford, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SCHOLARS, STAMFORD.

GLINTON (Northants).—On Saturday, December 5th, at the church of St. Benedict, 720 Grandsire Minor, 720 Canterbury, and two 720s of Oxford Bob. E. Gale, 1; R. Wyche, 2; R. Cox, 3; C. Lilley, 4; F. Dennison, 5; Rev. H. Law James (conductor), 6. First touches of Oxford and Canterbury by C. Lilley.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HECKINGTON (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday morning, November 15th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. S. Skinner (conductor), 1; J. Holmes, 2; J. Hilton, 3; F. Warrington, 4; J. Clark, 5; E. Houlden, 6; W. Dickinson, 7; G. Wood, 8. For evening service 910 Grandsire Triples. S. Skinner, 1; J. Holmes, 2; J. Hilton, 3; F. Warrington, 4; E. Houlden, 5; J. Clark, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; G. Ward, 8. On Sunday morning, November 22nd, for Divine Service, 462 Grandsire Triples. S. Skinner, 1; J. Clark, 2; J. Hilton, 3; F. Warrington, 4; E. Houlden, 5; J. Holmes, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; G. Ward, 8. On Monday, November 23rd, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. S. Skinner, 1; E. Houlden, 2; J. Hilton, 3; F. Warrington, 4; J. Clark, 5; J. Holmes, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; G. Ward, 8. On Sunday evening, November 29th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. S. Skinner, 1; E. Houlden, 2; J. Hilton, 3; J. Clark, 4; J. Holmes, 5; F. Warrington, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; G. Ward, 8. On Monday, November 30th, for practice, 630 Union Triples. F. Warrington, 1; S. Skinner, 2; J. Hilton, 3; J. Clark, 4; W. Dickinson (conductor), 5; J. Holmes, 6; E. Houlden, 7; G. Ward, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Thursday, December 3rd, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, for practice, 720 Ely Surprise (nine bobs) in 25 mins. G. Jordan, 1; Isaac Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all the band and first 720 in the method on the bells, and was rung at the first attempt. Also 720 Christmas Eve. J. Luckey, 1; Isaac Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; G. Jordan (first 720 in the method with a bob bell), 5; T. J. Watts (first 720 in the method as conductor), 6. And on Sunday, December 6th, for morning service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen singles, three bobs), composed by Mr. William Norris of Farleton, Lancaster. H. Little, 1; Isaac Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; G. Jordan, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also for afternoon service, 360 Durham Surprise. G. Jordan, 1; Isaac Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, December 10th, for practice, 720 Dusbury Surprise (nine bobs) in 26 mins. G. Jordan, 1; Isaac Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; T. J. Watts, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all the band and first 720 in the method on the bells. Also 720 College Single. H. Little, 1; T. J. Watts, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; G. Jordan, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, December 13th, for afternoon service, 720 Bocking Treble Bob in 25 mins. J. Jordan, 1; Isaac Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On a recent Monday evening 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Thompson, 1; F. Hoad, sen., 2; J. Ansell, 3; G. Huggett, 4; R. Arnold, 5; G. Hoad, 6; F. Hoad, jun., 7; H. Reeves (conductor), 8. And 224 in the same method. P. Knight, 1; the rest as before. On Sunday, December 13th, for evening service, 336 Stedman Triples. F. Linter, 1; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; F. Hoad, jun., 3; G. Hoad, 4; H. Reeves, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Argent, 7; A. Moseley, 8. Also 420 Grandsire Triples. J. Robinson, 1; F. Hoad, jun., 2; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 3; T. Brown, 4; G. Hoad, 5; E. Kenyard, 6; W. Argent, 7; A. Moseley, 8. On Monday, December 14th, 541 Stedman Triples. G. Thompson, 1; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; H. Reeves, 3; G. Hoad, 4; E. Kenward, 5; F. Hoad, jun., 6; W. Argent, 7; J. Stedman, 8.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

OTTERY ST. MARY (Devon).—On Thursday, December 17th, at the church of St. Mary Ottery, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 50 mins. *L. Wilson, 1; *W. Godfrey, 2; J. Godfrey, 3; Rev. M. Kelly, 4; Rev. J. M. Clarkson, 5; J. Baker, 6; A. Pike (conductor), 7; *H. Channon, 8. *First quarter-peal. The Rev. J. M. Clarkson, for whom the touch was arranged, is chaplain to H.M.S. *Impregnable*, Devonport.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LLANDAFF.—On Sunday morning, December 13th, for Divine Service at the Cathedral, 560 Grandsire Triples. R. Hopkins, 1; J. Harris, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; C. Lloyd, 4; W. Coombes, 5; A. Rowley, 6; J. Clutterbuck (conductor), 7; J. Thomas, 8. And on Monday, December 14th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. R. Hopkins, 1; W. Coombes (composer), 2; O. Layng, 3; C. Lloyd, 4; J. Harris, 5; J. Aldridge, 6; J. Clutterbuck (conductor), 7; J. Thomas, 8. Rung for the first time, and contains Queen's, Tittums, and Whittingtons.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

ROMSEY (Hants).—On Saturday, December 19th, 2074 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 20 mins. C. Cole, 1; J. Elcombe (conductor), 2; G. Newman, 3; A. Newman, 4; F. Russen, 5; R. White, 6; T. Cole, 7; G. Saint, 8. Longest touch of Grandsire Triples on the bells by local men.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, December 13th, for Divine Service at St. Dunstan's church, Stepney, 1257 Stedman Caters in 50 mins. H. Springall (conductor), 1; A. Deards, 2; T. Faulkner, 3; J. Scholes, 4; J. Waghorn, jun., 5; A. Hardy, 6; S. Hayes, 7; E. Clayton, 8; E. Hall, 9; G. Barrell, 10. Longest touch in the method by all except Messrs. Hayes and Springall. On Thursday, December 17th, at St. Botolph's church, Aldgate, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. T. Barnardin, 1; J. Scholes, 2; J. Waghorn, jun., 3; S. Hayes, 4; H. Springall (conductor), 5; E. Clayton, 6; E. Hall, 7; S. Joyce, 8. Composed by J. Barratt, of Stepney, and contains fourteen 4-6s, fourteen 7-4s, and fourteen 6-7s.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN.—On Sunday, December 13th, at the church of All Saints, 360 Plain Bob and 360 Oxford Bob Minor. A. Laurence, 1; A. Phillips, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Saturday, December 19th, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). H. Carter, 1; G. Carter, 2; A. Smith, 3; A. Phillips, 4; J. Heady, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. Also 6-score Stedman Doubles. W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 1; G. Carter, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; G. Phillips, 6. On Sunday, December 20th, for Divine Service, touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles, conducted by A. Phillips and J. Heady.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Thursday, November 26th, at St. Saviour's church, 2520 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 27 mins. F. Howorth, 1; J. Brown, 2; A. Whitworth, 3; J. Standring, 4; J. Sutcliffe, 5; W. Law, 6; W. Ashworth, 7; J. Jackson, 8. It was intended to have rung a peal, but was brought round half-way owing to the bad "go" of the tenor. J. Jackson was elected a member of the Association previous to starting.

ASHTAD (Surrey).—On Thursday, December 17th, for practice at the parish church, 252 Stedman Triples. T. Miles (conductor), 1; D. Wright, 2; H. Kenten, 3; H. Corbett, 4; W. Chantler, 5; F. Grove, 6; E. Dunk, 7; H. Wilkinson, 8. And 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Wyatt, 1; F. Grove, 2; D. Wright, 3; W. Chantler, 4; T. Miles, 5; G. Seowen, 6; H. Kenten, 7; E. Dunk (conductor), 8. Also 504 Stedman Triples. T. Miles, 1; J. Wyatt, 2; H. Kenten, 3; D. Wright, 4; F. Grove, 5; H. Wilkinson, 6; E. Dunk (conductor), 7; J. Reed, 8.

BRISTOL.—On Monday, October 19th, at St. James's church, 527 Grandsire Major. F. Pearce, 1; P. Porch, 2; J. Richmond, 3; C. H. Horton, 4; W. Porch, 5; T. Jewell, 6; W. Emery, 7; H. Porch (conductor), 8. On October 26th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's ten-part peal, in 50 mins. A. Paddock (first quarter-peal), 1; P. Porch (first quarter-peal), 2; F. C. Pearce (first quarter-peal), 3; C. H. Horton, 4; F. T. Jewell, 5; F. Porch, 6; W. Porch, 7; H. Porch (conductor), 8. On November 9th, at Christ Church, 500 Grandsire Major. G. Staddon, 1; C. Horton, 2; F. Gooding, 3; G. Colston, 4; J. Richmond, 5; G. Daltry, 6; W. Emery, 7; H. Porch, 8. And 504 Grandsire Triples at All Saints, and a touch of Caters at St. Mary Redcliffe. At midnight on November 12th, at St. Mary Redcliffe (the Colston Vigil), 450 Grandsire Major with the bells muffled. On Thursday, November 12th, on the occasion of the visit of the Duchess of Teck, 600 Grandsire Triples. J. Palser, 1; J. Richmond, 2; C. Horton, 3; F. Gooding, 4; H. Pring, 5; W. Emery, 6; H. Porch, 7; J. Vevey, 8. On Colston Day, at St. Mary Redcliffe, touches of Grandsire Caters; at All Saints, Stedman Triples and Grandsire. On Monday, November 16th, at St. James's church, 935 Grandsire Caters. F. Pearce, 1; H. Porch (conductor), 2; P. Porch, 3; C. H. Horton, 4; F. Porch, 5; W. H. Short (longest touch), 6; F. T. Jewell, 7; W. Porch, 8; G. Daltry, 9; A. Harrington, 10.

BLETCHLEY (Bucks).—On Saturday evening, December 19th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 600 Grandsire Doubles, on the back six. V. Sear (conductor), 1; R. Sear, 2; A. N. Atkins, 3; E. Marks, 4; F. Atkins, 5; F. Hedges, 6. On Sunday evening, December 20th, for Divine Service, 360 Grandsire Doubles. V. Sear (conductor), 1; R. Sear, 2; A. N. Atkins, 3; E. Marks, 4; F. Atkins, 5; A. G. Crane, 6. After evening service 360 Grandsire Doubles, on the back six. G.

Groves, 1; F. Hedges, 2; V. Sear (conductor), 3; A. G. Crane, 4; A. N. Atkins, 5; E. Marks, 6; R. Sear, 7; T. Hartup, 8. T. Hartup and G. Groves belong to Fenny Stratford.

COLCHESTER (Essex).—On Sunday morning, November 22nd, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, 672 Bob Major. W. Scott, 1; G. Burch, 2; G. Rashbrook, 3; W. Howell, 4; F. Bumpstead, 5; W. Harvey, 6; W. Schofield, 7; W. Burch, 8. On Monday, November 23rd, for practice, 672 in the same method. W. Schofield, 6; H. Mills, 7; the rest as before. Also 168 Grandsire Triples. W. Scott, 1; G. Rashbrook, 2; G. Burch, 3; W. Howell, 4; F. Bumpstead, 5; H. Mills, 6; W. Burch, 7; W. Schofield, 8. On Sunday morning, December 6th, for Divine Service, 1008 Bob Minor. W. Scott, 1; W. Harvey, 2; G. Rashbrook, 3; G. Burch, 4; F. Bumpstead, 5; W. Schofield, 6; H. Mills, 7; W. Burch, 8. On Monday, December 14th, 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Green, 1; G. Rashbrook, 2; F. Bumpstead, 3; W. Howell, 4; H. Mills, 5; W. Burch, 6. Conducted by G. Rashbrook. W. Schofield hails from Ardleigh; the rest are local men.

CREWE (Cheshire).—On Thursday, December 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. G. Chatfield, 1; R. Langford, 2; J. Davies, 3; J. Key, 4; A. Harding, 5; L. E. Fearn, 6; R. T. Holding (conductor), 7; J. Edwards, 8. Mr. J. Key, for whom this touch was arranged, hails from Lichfield; the rest belong to the Crewe Society.

HARWELL (Berks).—On Wednesday, December 16th, the Chilton ringers visited Harwell, and with mixed bands composed of both companies, rang several 120s of Grandsire Doubles; also 720 of Grandsire Minor. G. Gardner, 1; V. Hitchman, 2; J. Spiers, 3; A. Thomas, 4; I. Hitchman, 5; W. Hitchman (conductor), 6. On Monday, December 21st, 720 Bob Minor. G. Gardner, 1; V. Hitchman, 2; A. Thomas (conductor), 3; T. Hughes, 4; I. Hitchman, 5; W. Hitchman, 6. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles, with P. Clark, 6; the rest as above. The above was rung at 6 a.m., according to an "Old Time" custom of ringing at that hour on St. Thomas' Day. Our correspondent adds:—Can any readers of "THE BELL NEWS" give an explanation of the origin of this, as it is done at another tower (Hendred) also?

LONDON.—On Thursday, December 10th, for practice at the church of St. George the Martyr, Southwark, 672 Grandsire Triples in 26 mins., taken from Holt's Original. W. Smith, 1; H. Green, 2; J. Emery, 3; T. Taffender (conductor), 4; F. Clements, 5; T. Langdon, 6; W. Humberstone, 7; W. Cobbett, 8. First touch of Grandsire Triples by Messrs. Smith, Humberstone, and Cobbett; and longest touch by H. Green and F. Clements. On Sunday evening, December 13th, for Divine Service, an attempt was made for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to a late start "stand" had to be called after ringing 1108 changes. W. Smith, 1; H. Green, 2; W. Langdon, 3; T. Taffender (conductor), 4; F. Clements, 5; T. Langdon, 6; W. Humberstone, 7; W. Cobbett, 8. And for morning service 350 Grandsire Triples. W. Webber, 1; H. Green, 2; W. Berry, 3; T. Taffender (conductor), 4; F. Clements, 5; T. Langdon, 6; W. Langdon, 7; W. Cobbett, 8. And three bob leads. C. Dear, 1; W. Humberstone, 7; W. Walden, 8. On Thursday, December 17th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. W. Smith, 1; H. Green, 2; W. Berry, 3; T. Taffender (conductor), 4; F. Clements, 5; T. Langdon, 6; W. Humberstone, 7; W. Cobbett, 8. First quarter-peal by Messrs. Smith, Green, Clements, Humberstone, and Cobbett.

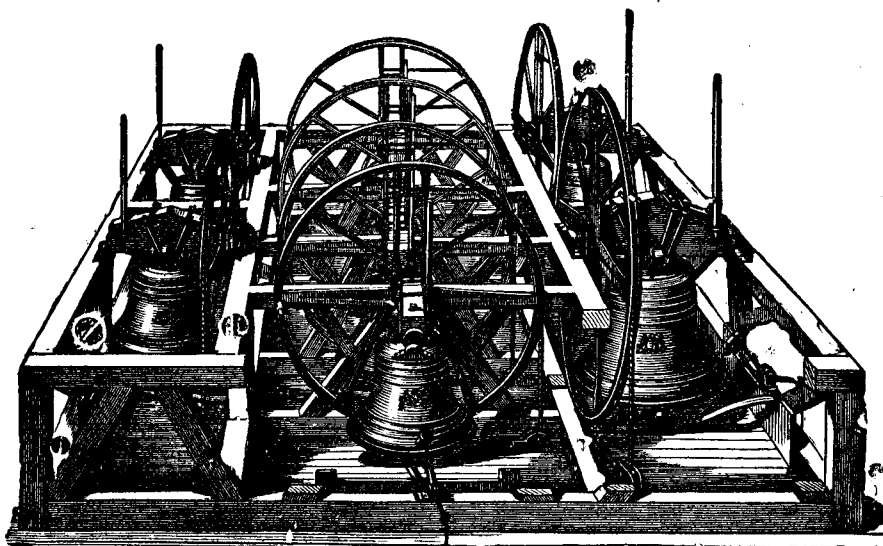
NEWPORT (Monmouthshire).—On Tuesday, December 8th, at the church of St. Woolos, 1260 Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. T. Butler, 1; L. Brooks, 2; J. Jones, 3; F. Atwell, 4; H. Russell, 5; J. Cox, 6; J. Trowbridge (conductor), 7; T. Longville, 8. Longest touch with a bob bell by L. Brooks.

PENGE (Surrey).—On Sunday, November 1st, for Divine Service at the church of St. John the Evangelist, 720 Bob Minor. G. Conn, 1; H. Edwards, 2; T. Richards, 3; J. Marshall, 4; W. Battson, 5; J. Wickens (conductor), 6. On Thursday, November 5th, for practice, four 720s of Bob Minor. On Thursday, November 12th, three 720s of Canterbury Pleasure, and one of Bob Minor, standing as above.

TREETON (Yorks).—On Tuesday, December 15th, for practice, 720 Cambridge Surprise. A. Woffinden, 1; T. Whitworth, 2; S. Walker, 3; T. Sadler, 4; W. J. Nicholson, 5; W. Lambert (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 20th, for morning service, 240 London Scholars. A. Woffinden, 1; T. Whitworth (conductor), 2; S. Walker, 3; T. Sadler, 4; J. Sadler, 5; W. Lambert, 6. Also 240 Violet. H. Payne, 1; J. Sadler, 3; A. Woffinden, 5; the rest as above.

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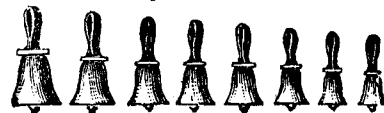
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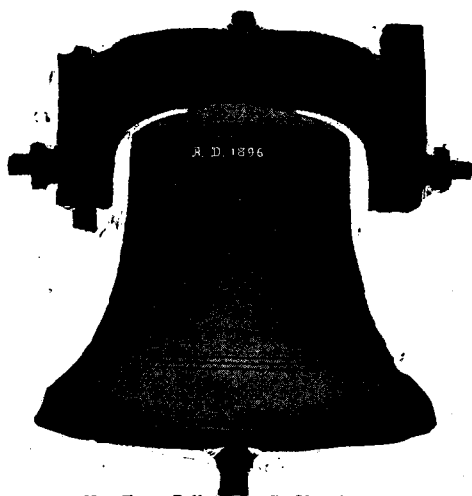
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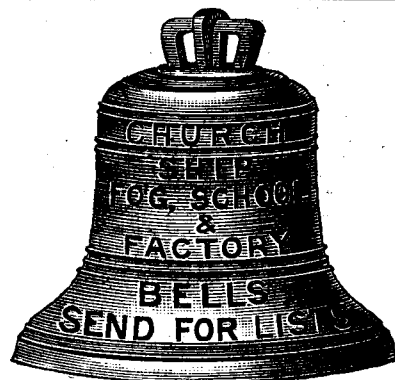
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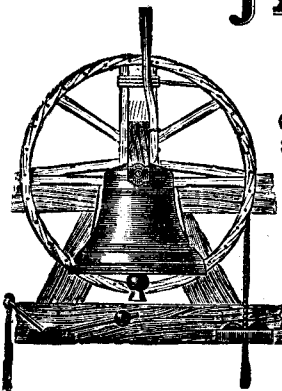
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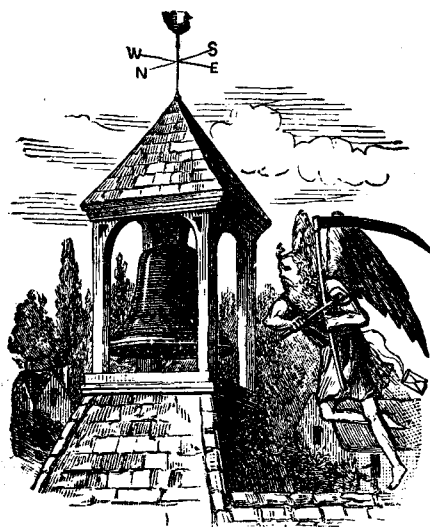
No. 770.—VOL. XV.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1897.

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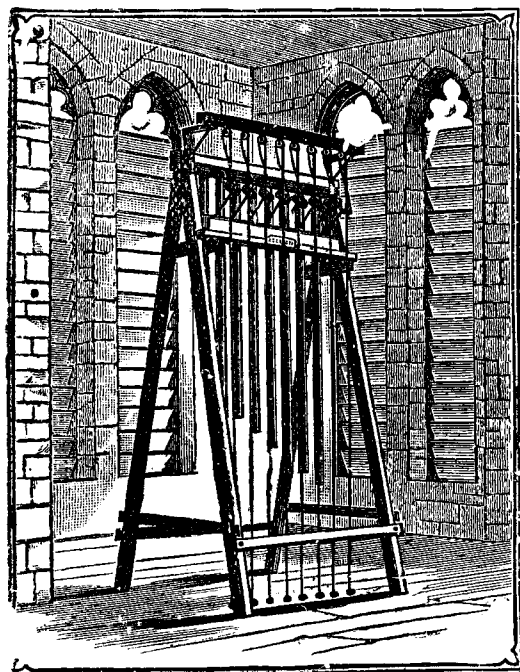
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12 POPULAR AIRS, for Handbell Ringers, by W. HALEY, Price 1s. Auld Lang Syne, Hark! 'tis the Bells, Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, The Bellringer's Glee, The Star-Spangled Banner, Wait till the Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.



The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 770.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1897.

[Vol. XV.]

MR. FREDERICK JAMES HARRISON, OF JARROW-ON-TYNE.

[*Vide Photograph.*]

JARROW is probably known to our readers only as being at one time the place wherein lived the Venerable Bede; or as one of the head quarters in Tyneside of coal, iron, shipbuilding, etc., with their accompanying smoke, and noises of hammering and rivetting; and while each of these impressions would be perfectly correct, it can boast also of two rings of six bells, and it contains the residence of the subject of our illustration.

Mr. HARRISON was born near Fakenham, Norfolk, in the year 1861, but had nothing to do with ringing until in 1881 he took it up along with a band of learners at the church of St. Peter, Jarrow (tenor 8½ cwt.). He naturally fell into the position of teacher to this company, and when he had got himself and them as far as Grandsire Doubles, the band broke up, and no more ringing was done by him for a twelvemonth—a serious break in a ringer's education; and it is fortunate that he again took it up. About this time the Vicar sent for him to assist in the formation of a new band, and being of a willing disposition he again set to work, and in three years had brought this band up to the high status of being able to ring eight methods of Minor. By this time Mr. HARRISON was moving about amongst the members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, and gaining experience on eight bells, with the result that he rung his first 5000 at Hexham, taking the tenor (21 cwt.) in a peal of Grandsire Triples, on November 7, 1885. The first peal he conducted was one of Kent Treble Bob Major, at North Shields, on Whit-Monday, May 26, 1890. Mr. HARRISON is not a small man, though his friends sometimes call him their "pocket Hercules," and he is an excellent tenor-ringer, generally ringing that bell in a peal. In the course of his experience he has rung some notable bells, for instance, those of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich (43 cwt.), through a peal of Maximus; Edinburgh Cathedral tenor (42 cwt.), through the only peal of Royal rung in Scotland; and the tenor at Newcastle Cathedral (37 cwt.), being the heaviest bell rung through a peal of Superlative. In composition he has devoted what little time he has had to spare to Double Norwich Court Bob Major, and on the suggestion of a friend was not long in producing a peal having all the combinations of 4 5 6 in 5-6, without the 2nd ever being in that position.

Mr. HARRISON, in learning, had to walk many a mile, going at one time regularly to North Shields, where he received great assistance from Mr. W. Reed, at that time president of the Association. Unlike many, who having learnt are content to enjoy what they have got without consideration for those learners who are in the same position as they had formerly held, he is seldom without a new band under his instruction. He has at various times given assistance to the Chester-le-Street company, recently enabling them to score their first 5040 on their pretty ring of six (tenor 20 cwt.) by ringing the tenor. He has been of invaluable assistance to the Tanfield band, and in about two years got them through a 5000 on their then ring of six, and has made them capable of handling their

increased ring of eight bells. As steeplekeeper at Christ Church, Jarrow, Mr. HARRISON has now another band to teach, while at the same time he conducts a handbell company (tune-playing), and attends the weekly practice at St. John's, Newcastle, of which Guild he is a member. He is a most warm and loyal supporter of the Diocesan Association, rarely missing a meeting, and as a committee-man is most useful. These many good qualities, and his straightforwardness and integrity, bring him a host of friends, with the result that he is respected by all with whom he comes in contact.

The following is a list of his performances so far as peals are concerned: Treble Bob Maximus 2; Royal 6, conducted 2; Major 40, conducted 13; Stedman Caters 4; Triples 26, conducted 4; Grandsire Caters 1; Triples 4; Union Triples 1; Superlative Surprise Major 11, conducted 2; Double Norwich Court Bob Major 13, conducted 8; Duffield Major 1; Bob Major 1; Bob Triples 3, conducted 1; on six bells 9, conducted 8. Total rung: 122; conducted: 38.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at the schoolroom, Aberavon, on Saturday, December 26th, 1896, at 3 o'clock. In spite of the very inclement state of the weather, we had one of the best meetings in the history of the Association. All day long the rain came down in drenching showers, and the outlook in the morning was dreary in the extreme, and anything but inviting to those who had made up their minds to attend. Indeed the writer did not expect to find any ringers present except the local men. However, when he arrived, he was agreeably surprised to find twenty-five members on the spot, notwithstanding that Aberavon is one of the most extreme parishes in the northern part of the diocese. Eight of the visiting ringers (from Llandaff and Cardiff) started for a 5000, and went on without a hitch for 2 hrs. 55 mins. Alas! they came to grief through a change-course, when a few more minutes would have brought them successfully and triumphantly home.

St. Mary's, Aberavon, is a beautiful modern church, one of the many built in the diocese at the expense of Mrs. Llewellyn, of Baglan Hall. The chancel has a very fine east window, and an exquisite marble reredos. The tower contains eight bells, lately put in, and if the attempt for a peal on December 26th had been successful, it would have been the first 5040 rung upon them. It was a keen disappointment to the energetic eight to collapse when the goal was all but reached.

The Vicar, the Rev. Henry Morris, presided at the meeting, and opened the proceedings with prayer. Ten new members were enrolled. Mr. W. B. Biss proposed, and Mr. Northey seconded, that the next Quarterly meeting be held at Trevethin.

The Vicar and Churchwardens kindly entertained the members to a substantial meat tea at the schools. The Hon. Secretary (Rev. D. H. Griffiths) proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar, the Churchwardens, and the ladies who ministered to our wants, for the welcome and kind hospitality with which they greeted us to the parish. This was carried with acclamation. The Vicar responded, and remarked that he would be most pleased at any future time to welcome the Association again to his parish. G.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 1s. 2d.; cloth do., 1s. 8d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading.



MR. FREDERICK JAMES HARRISON.

(Of Farrow-on-Tyne.)

[*Supplement to "THE BELL NEWS."*]

CHANGE-RINGING IN CORNWALL.

This county (which is peculiar by keeping alive the old system of prize-ringing) is beginning to awake out of her slumber, and to take unto herself the more advanced and beautiful methods of scientific change-ringing. For some years past Dr. Symons, an enthusiastic ringer, has been labouring hard at the extreme end, viz.: at Penzance, and so well has his labours been rewarded that his band some years since accomplished the first peal of 5040 changes ever rung in Cornwall. The magnitude of this task can only be realised by the initiated; sufficient to say that it is generally years of careful practice which brings the result. Such a task the Rev. Athelstan Cooode has set himself at Cardynham. He found both tower and bells in a bad state, and commenced—as all who wish to succeed should do—to put the whole thing in order. As was reported in these columns a few weeks since, this has been done, and another peal of eight bells, which ringers may well be proud of, has been added to the county. First of all, the upper parts of the tower have been entirely rebuilt, which of course will keep the bells perfectly dry. Then the old five bells—a matter of about 48 cwt. of old metal—have been put into the melting-pot, and a beautiful peal of eight, with a tenor of 15 cwt. in the key of F, is the result, the whole bells weighing altogether about 63 cwt. At the opening ceremony some few weeks since, Mr. Cooode brought together seven other ringers from different parts, and succeeded in scoring the second peal of 5040 changes ever rung in Cornwall. Some of those ringers were from Plymouth, and he then gave them an invitation to bring a band down on boxing-day, and enjoy a good ring on his bells. This invite was readily accepted, and a party of eight, on arriving at Bodmin Road, found Mr. Cooode's carriages waiting to drive them to Cardynham. They then put in a full day's ringing of short touches on the beautiful bells, and in the intervals were entertained right royally to sumptuous fare at the rectory by Mr. and Mrs. Cooode. Among other things the following touches were rung: a 504 of Grandsire Triples, and a quarter-peal in the same method. Also a plain course of Bob Major; and at the rectory, on the Rev. A. Cooode's handbells, several courses of Grandsire Caters. In the quarter-peal the ringers stood thus: Rev. A. Cooode, 1; Rev. J. M. Clarkson, 2; E. Manning, 3; E. Hendy, 4; E. Taylor, 5; W. H. Marsh, 6; H. Myers, 7; C. Legg, 8.

ASHBURTON, DEVON.

Members of the St. Sidwell's (Exeter) Society, accompanied by Mr. W. E. Pitfield Chapple (Axminster), hon. sec. of the Devonshire Guild, visited Ashburton on Saturday last. By kind permission of the vicar (the Rev. W. M. Birch) the ring of eight bells (tenor 22 cwt.) at the parish church, which has been recently rehung by Mr. H. Stokes, of Woodbury, were available, and a start was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, the band being stationed as follows:—T. Mudge, 1; A. W. Searle, 2; W. Drake, 3; E. Shepherd, 4; F. Davey, 5; F. Shepherd (conductor), 6; J. Moss, 7; J. W. Martin, 8. The bells went magnificently, and grand striking was produced, but after ringing about 2600 changes, more than half the peal, and occupying 1 hr. 35 mins., an inexplicable trip occurred, and "stand" was called. An adjournment was then made for a capital dinner at the day's headquarters (the Exeter hotel). Subsequently the belfry was re-visited, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were tapped out, the other members of the party—Messrs. W. E. Pitfield Chapple, W. Ackerman, E. Sargent, and C. Carter—standing in. Some rounds with the local ringers formed a fitting termination to an enjoyable day's ringing. The Exonians returned to Exeter feeling that they had had a most pleasant and agreeable excursion. It may be added that the local ringers entertain the highest opinion of the manner in which Mr. Stokes has carried out his work, and which now makes the Ashburton peal one of the best for going in the county and the ringing a comfort, instead of as formerly, an irksome undertaking.

PEAL BOOK, Price 2s. 6d. A book specially ruled for entering peals, date touches, etc. Handbell music arranged for any number of bells. Send for catalogue. W. H. GIGGLE, Queen Street, Horbury, near Wakefield.

TONG, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, December 26th, Messrs. George Bolland, Henry Oddy, and T. Maude, from Tong, with Messrs. Birks, Stott, and Smith, from Pudsey, made a surprise journey to Pontefract to meet with—if possible—Fred. Hargreaves, who is a member of the Tong company, and there over on a visit to his parents. They were successful in doing so, and some of the local ringers were quickly sought, and a visit paid to the church of All Saints, where touches of College Treble and Oxford were rung on the ring of six bells. After partaking of refreshments, kindly provided by Mrs. Watkinson, the hostess of The Hope and Anchor inn, several touches on the handbells were accomplished by Messrs. Watkinson, Bolland, Oddy, Hargreaves, and Birks, and later on a move was made to the tower of the parish church of St. Giles, where 960 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung. F. Hargreaves (Tong), 1; H. Oddy (Tong), 2; W. Pearson (Pontefract), 3; J. Carter (Pontefract), 4; C. Watts (Pontefract), 5; G. Bolland (conductor, Tong), 6; J. Smith (Pudsey), 7; F. Birks (Pudsey), 8. And two courses of Bob Major. F. Moody (Pontefract), 1; H. Oddy, 2; W. Pearson, 3; G. Bolland, 4; F. Hargreaves, 5; F. Birks (conductor), 6; J. Smith, 7; S. Stott (Pudsey), 8. After this an adjournment was made to the residence of Mr. Hargreaves, sen. for tea, and soon every one were "at home" before the good things provided, no bob-caller being necessary. The town of Pontefract is famed for the growth of the liquorice root, so it was not to be wondered at that each one of the party returned home with a sample—thanks to the kindness of Mrs. Hargreaves and Mr. Watkinson.

RINGERS' ENTERTAINMENT.

On Monday, December 28th, by invitation, the ringers of All Saints' church, Benhilton, Surrey, partook of a dinner prepared for them at the house of their old friend and host, Mr. George Turner. About eighteen sat down, amongst them being the Vicar of the parish (the Rev. Carey Taylor) and Mr. W. Pole Routh, an honorary member of the band. The room was prettily decorated, and the fare worthy to be set before a king. After the table was cleared and dessert set on, pipes were started, and the talent of the band was called upon, when numerous songs and toasts were given, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

Among bell-ringers few have deeper love for their Art than Mr. George Turner, and the term "Father" of the Benhilton ringers might with truth be applied to him for his many years work amongst them. He was instrumental in forming and teaching the first band even before there was a ring of six bells, and his enthusiasm also much advanced the gaining of two treble bells which were added in 1893, to complete the octave; and his kindness in again entertaining the ringers is only another instance of his desire to keep the band together and promote the science of change-ringing.

The same band was invited by the Rev. Carey Taylor to spend New Year's Eve at the vicarage, previous to their ascending to the belfry to ring the old year out and new year in.

TACKLEY, OXFORDSHIRE.

The first annual meeting of the junior ringers was given by the Rev. T. Nolan (rector), at the rectory on Monday, December 28th. Eleven members were present, and after the tables were cleared, the business meeting was held, and the financial position of the society was found to be very satisfactory. A few tunes on the handbells brought a very pleasant evening to a close, all being heartily pleased with the sumptuous repast. A peculiar incident happened to the senior ringers while ringing the midnight peal on New Year's Eve. About 12.10 a.m., while ringing rounds, a noise was heard among the bells, which soon proved to be the clapper of the tenor bell at large. "Stand" was called at once by the conductor, who was very soon aloft, and found the broken clapper lodged between the wall of the tower and the bell frame. The fracture was found to have been a long standing one, and was situated just below the bottom bolt-hole. There were signs of a "shut" having been made at least eighteen years ago, according to one of the ringers. No damage was done to any other part of the bell.

KELVEDON, ESSEX.

RINGERS' SUPPER.—On Thursday, December 31st, by the kind invitation of the Rev. E. F. Hay (the Vicar) the parish ringers had their annual supper. At 7.30 the order—"Go" was called, and was with the utmost alacrity obeyed. Bundations of good things having been provided by the hospitable entertainer, the various course-ends came up with the most alarming rapidity, but with the strictest regularity and precision, and when the magic and oft-welcome words, "that's all" had been spoken, the enthusiastic reception generally accorded them did not take on in this particular instance. An adjournment was at 9.0 p.m. made to the tower, where a 720 of Double Court was rung by C. Mills, H. Elliott, W. Keeble, D. Elliott, H. Evers, and W. Elliott (conductor). Returning to the Vicarage, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles was rung on the handbells, also 240 of Oxford Treble Bob. A very enjoyable evening was spent by all. The company, leaving the Vicarage about 11 p.m. again repaired to the tower, and 360 of Bob Minor, with the bells half-muffled, was rung just before the year's demise. The Vicar then offered a few prayers, and as the new year dawned, a short touch was rung with the bells open.

During the past year there has been eighty-one 720s rung on Kelvedon church bells, 52 of which have been conducted by W. Elliott, 17 by W. Keeble, 10 by D. Elliott, and 2 by E. Beckwith. The following methods have been rung: New London, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent, Double Court, Double Oxford Bob, and Plain Bob; likewise 360 each of Cambridge Surprise and Duke of York.

LITTLEPORT, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

On Saturday, December 26th, eight members of the Ely and District Association paid a visit to the above place, with the intention of scoring the first peal of Bob Major on the bells, which are a fine ring of eight by Warner. Meeting at the tower about 11.40 a.m., after receiving a friendly greeting by several of the local band, a start was made, the bells going off at about 11.50 a.m., but soon came to an untimely end. Several more attempts were made, but all came to a finish only too soon. The band then made their way to The Globe inn, and refreshed the inner man, determined to make one more attempt, the bells once again going off at 2.45, all going well until they had rung 4000 changes, when it again came to a sad end owing to a change-course. Time not permitting any further attempts, some went by the first train, the remainder going by road to Ely, for a pull there, the bells soon going this time to the tune of Grandsire Triples, and several good touches were rung in capital style. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar of Littleport through this paper for the use of the bells, also Mr. Arber for making such good arrangements. The above is the longest touch in the method ever rung on the bells, the go of which is all that can be desired. Tenor 18½ cwt. A. Seymor, 1; J. Taylor, 2; A. Pilgrim, 3; H. Kempton, 4; A. Markwell (conductor), 5; H. Sharp, 6; H. Bansfield, 7; G. Taylor, 8. Messrs. Sharp and Markwell hail from Wilburton, Pilgrim and Seymor from Ely, and the rest from Cambridge.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.—On Saturday, December 12th, a very successful meeting of this branch was held at St. Thomas' church, Pendleton, when members attended from Eccles, Swinton, Pendlebury, Manchester, Worsley, Flixton, Bolton, Heywood, and Prestwich. At the business meeting held in the schoolroom, Mr. Fred. Derbyshire (vice-president) took the chair in the unavoidable absence of the vicar, the Rev. J. E. Gull. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Manchester Cathedral on Saturday, January 16th. Five new performing members were then enrolled. A vote of thanks was accorded to the vicar and wardens for the use of the bells and schoolroom, which terminated the business. Some very creditable ringing was done during the evening, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and Superlative Surprise Major being successfully brought round.

WANTED, in exchange or part exchange, for a copy of "North's English Bells and Bell Lore" (quite new), Works on Bells or Ringing.—Send offers to G. Dent, Potters Street Harlow, Essex.

OLD BELLS IN NORWICH.

East Anglian readers of "THE BELL NEWS" are much obliged to Mr. J. Armiger Trollope for his Norwich notes, and look with interest for a continuance of them. While the remembrance of the first instalment is fresh, a few additional observations may be acceptable.

The third at St. Lawrence's is inscribed on the crown:

† VOCOR JOHANNES, and round the shoulder:

† WILELMVS REVEL ME FECIT.

Another bell by this same maker, bearing only the latter inscription, used to stand at the back door of Roudham Hall, when I copied the inscription from it in my laddish rambles in 1850. Very probably it is still in the same position. The church was burnt out c. 1735. A third, similarly inscribed, hangs in Hassingham tower. The founder, William Revel, or Ryvel, was living in 1358, when William Raughton, "Ollarius" (potter) of London, left him twenty shillings if he would pay to Raughton's executors what was due to his estate. We have none of his bells in Suffolk.

The Garboldisham second was by William Schap, probably a little earlier. It was recast by Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie in 1884, but I bought the crown, which stands in my hall at this moment.

Like Mr. Trollope, I do not think that the third at St. Lawrence's is the oldest bell in Norfolk, regarding the bell at Bexwell as older. A "Master John founder of bells" appears in the Lynn Tallage Roll of 1299; and the Bexwell bell inscribed:—

† MAGISTER JOHANNES RISTON ME FECIT,

bears the same lettering and initial cross as the tenor at Worlington, Suffolk, my father's old church, which is inscribed:

† JOHANNES GODYNGE DE LENNE ME FECIT.

I regard these three, John the Founder, John Riston (probably so called from his birth-place), and John Gooding, of Lynn, from his place of business, as various phases of one individuality. The cross is engraved in L'Estrange's *Church Bells of Norfolk*, page 23, and in my *Church Bells of Suffolk*, page 7. The Alphabet bell apparently is by the later Richard Brasyer, of Norwich, and belongs to the fifteenth century.

The writer in the *Norwich Mercury*, August 29th, 1818, was evidently misled in attributing the date 1018 for one of the old bells at St. Gregory's, Arabic numerals not being used for centuries after that date. At the Town Hall at Keswick, Cumberland, they proudly show a bell dated 1001, but a little examination showed the real reading to be 1601, the top of the 5, though filed off, betraying itself without mistake. The same action had probably been taken at St. Gregory's.

"Dulcis Sisto Melis. Campana Vocor Michaelis" is utter nonsense as it stands. I can only repeat what I have said about it in my Suffolk book:—"I am much exercised as to the true meaning of this line. *Sisto* is in some cases *Cisto*, perhaps a mistake for *Cista*, and *Melis*, an utterly abnormal form, may have lost a letter. Thus the line would read:

"Dulcis Cista Mellis. Campana Vocor Michaelis."

(Box of sweet honey, I am called Michael's bell), with an allusion to the shape of a bell, and what Mr. Haweis calls a "combination hum."

I am bound to admit that I can find no such mediæval use of *Cista*, but in the eighth century Epinal Glossary the word is explained by *corbes grandes*, a country term for a large basket, and not inapplicable to a hive" (p. 55). *Sista*, I may add, is the word used for the Parish Chest at Cratfield in 1510.

Fressingfield Vicarage.

J. J. RAVEN.

BURY, LANCASHIRE.

PRESENTATION BY THE PARISH CHURCH BELL-RINGERS.—An interesting gathering was held in the belfry of the Bury parish church at 10.30 on New Year's Eve, the occasion being the presentation to the tutor (Mr. J. Harrison, of Heywood), whose connection with the ringers will be less close in the future than in the past, of a framed photograph of the ringers. The presentation was made by the rector (Rev. F. G. Blackburne). Among those present were the Mayor (Colonel Walker), who is also a churchwarden; the Revs. B. O. F. Heywood and A. D. S. Studdy, curates; Mr. C. B. Farr, churchwarden; and Mr. J. Nicholls.

In making the presentation, the rector said it was a pleasure to him at that somewhat unusual hour and place, supported by his wardens and the clergy, to have to take part in those proceedings. He understood the ringers had themselves subscribed for the photograph as some recognition of Mr. Harrison's work among them since May, 1895. As rector of the parish he wished to offer his very sincere thanks to Mr. Harrison for the persevering care and attention he had bestowed upon the work of the belfry since his coming. For many years he had felt that belfries needed reform. He had found this in his own experience, and had read it and heard about it. He was thankful to say that belfry reform had begun. It was not to be supposed that they in Bury were pioneers in that respect, but at the same time they did not want to be second to anyone. Change-ringing had been a pastime in Lancashire for many years. Some of his earliest recollections were of bell-ringing in a neighbouring parish. His memory of Prestwich bells—considered one of the finest rings in Lancashire—was one of the memories of his childhood, and he had taken the greatest interest in bell-ringing ever since. He felt very strongly that the belfry ought to be looked upon as a part of the church. When they were in the belfry they should remember they were in the House of God, and should shape their behaviour accordingly. He said nothing about the previous period, because he knew nothing, but he believed the ringers of the Bury parish church in Mr. Harrison's time had been a very well-conducted set of men, and their behaviour in the belfry left nothing to be desired. They were a band of ringers who rang for ringing's sake, and who had learnt the art of change-ringing for the love of it. Young men who took up a practice of that kind had to make a strong effort, had to exercise self-control, and to give close attention to the word of authority. There must, moreover, be a sense of pulling together among them, or else no peal of bells could be rung in harmony. It was just an illustration of what ought to obtain in many other things; they ought to be united together in many good works. He had pleasure in offering Mr. Harrison his very sincere thanks for having got together such a band of ringers as they now had. He was quite sure Mr. Harrison would continue to take an interest in the ringers, and he was sure that they on their part would do the best they could to make their ringing and to be themselves a credit to his teaching and to the parish church of Bury. The Rector then presented Mr. Harrison with the photograph.

The Mayor said they all felt a deep interest in the ringers of the parish church, and when the ringing went on as well as it had been doing lately, they all—and especially the clergy, wardens, and sidesmen of the church—felt a pride and delight in the peal. Many of them loved the bells, and when they heard them, had happy recollections of the past. It was so with himself. He remembered the bells being rung when he was married, and he could assure them he never thought the bells so sweet as they were then. He hoped that the ringing of the bells would convey the same happy memories to many others. He was there that night both as churchwarden and as Mayor. Everything pertaining to Bury possessed a peculiar and an intense interest to him at the present. As Mayor of Bury, he liked to think that they had a band of ringers who understood ringing as well as they did. Their behaviour as ringers was excellent, and he trusted that in all the walks of life they would behave as well. They wished that evening to express their thanks to their tutor. They all owed a great deal to their schoolmasters, though some of them were not over-ready in remembering the debt. When at school he did not think that he owed his schoolmaster any debt at all, except that he was under obligation to him for certain penalties, some

of which were not of a very agreeable kind. The ringers of the Bury parish church had a ready memory, and he (the speaker) was very glad that they had taken that early opportunity of expressing their gratitude. He wished every one a Happy New Year, and trusted that it would bring many good things for the town of Bury. If it did, it would be something for them—as ringers—in of that year—to remember.

Mr. Harrison, in reply, said he hoped the ringers of Bury parish church would hold together. Whatever help he could give them in the future, he would give very freely. They had joined the Lancashire Association, of which body he had been a member for the last sixteen or seventeen years, and of which he was now a life member. Their object was to increase the efficiency of ringers in the Art of change-ringing, an Art for which the Association had done and was doing much. He wished them all a Happy New Year.

After the presentation, the ringers rang a muffled touch of Grandsire Triples. H. Woodcock, 1; H. Leach, 2; W. Bracewell (conductor), 3; R. Park, 4; J. Dykes, 5; W. Cass, 6; R. Rooney, 7; J. Jackson, 8.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—Representatives who have been elected to the Central Council are respectfully reminded that in accordance with the decision of the Council at its last meeting, the next meeting will be held in London, at Whitsuntide, instead of Easter. The latest date for forwarding to the Hon. Sec. notices of motions, &c. (which must be in writing, and signed by two representatives) will be therefore Saturday, May 8th.

Hon. Secretaries of Societies are respectfully reminded that the subscription to the Council of 2s. 6d. for each representative is now due, and should be remitted to the Hon. Sec. and Treasurer *without delay*, together with the names and addresses of the representatives elected.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn, January 1st., 1897. Hon. Sec.

ST. JOHN'S, REDHILL, SURREY.

The bells of this church will be opened to-day, Saturday, January 9th, at 5.30, by eight members of the Surrey Association. In the future all communications concerning the bells must be sent to the undersigned, and not to the Vicar.

EDWARD DEWEY, Steeplekeeper.
74, Earlswood Road, Redhill, Surrey.

THE GEORGE NEWSON MEMORIAL FUND.

BALANCE SHEET.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Subscriptions received				38	5	6
Expenses—						
Mason's Bill	15	10	0			
Cemetery Authorities' Fee	1	10	0			
Amount in hands of Committee for keeping grave, etc., in order	7	0	0			
Planting and supplying shrubs	0	7	6			
Postage and stationery	0	15	0			
				25	2	6
Balance handed to widow				13	3	0
Audited and found correct, by						
HENRY S. ORCHARD.						
HY. DAINS, Hon. Sec.						

IRVINGHOB (Berks).—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday, December 22nd, for practice, 120 Grandsire Doubles. *A. Tompkins, 1; *W. Keable, 2; *E. Seabrook, 3; *G. Heley, 4; S. Harvey (conductor), 5; A. Hann, 6. *First 6-score. First attempt at change-ringing by a local band. The ringers are self-taught, and are to be congratulated for their efforts to promote higher ringing in the village.

GENTLEMEN'S Curb Alberts. Heavily Plated with Pure Gold. Guaranteed 18 carat, 4s. 6d., 22 ss. 6d., Double, 7s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. Member of Norwich Diocesan Association.—SKINNER, 3, Mayes Terrace, East Dereham.

PRACTICAL HINTS TO YOUNG CONDUCTORS
AND COMPOSERS.

CHAPTER XI.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.—(continued.)

I again resume the treatment of Grandsire Triples. A longer interval has elapsed between this and my last article than was intended, but I may promise my readers that no other break shall occur until the end, and that is not near, just yet. It is very gratifying to know that a great many readers are anxious to pursue their investigations, and therefore it is with a great degree of pleasure that these papers are continued. I must, in passing, wish all my readers the compliments of the season, a courtesy which many of them have conveyed to me.

In my last paper the following sentence occurred: "Those who aspire to do something new, may direct their energies to a quarter-peal having all the 7 4s the right way, for such a thing has not yet been published." If these papers had done nothing else, they have been the means of setting some to work to discover this particular quarter-peal, and I have received two compositions having the properties mentioned. These are given below. The first one received was from Mr. H. W. Fussell, of Dursley, Gloucestershire, whose letter containing same bears date the 12th December, 1896; the second one from a very old friend, Mr. Walmsley, of Macclesfield, and this came to hand on December 20th, 1896. Both these compositions show merit, and those who please may with pleasure and profit attempt a proof of them, by pricking out both the hand and back-stroke leads in each. Each composer, however, warrants their truth, and I have no reason to differ from them; but the ordeal of proof in the manner I have suggested will, I am sure, be useful to all young composers.

These compositions illustrate another mode of getting the 7 4s up one after the other. By the use of a single a lead is cut out, and thus the touch is shortened to enable the object required to be gained. My readers will easily see how this is done when they essay to prove these compositions.

A QUARTER-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By H. W. FUSSELL, Dursley, Gloucestershire.

1260.

2 3 4 5 6 7	
7 5 2 6 3 4	I
s 3 2 7 5 4 6	3
3 5 2 6 7 4	
5 2 6 3 7 4	B R
2 6 3 5 7	S -
6 3 5 2 7	S -
2 3 5 6 7	S
3 5 6 2 7	S -
5 6 2 3 7	S -
6 2 3 5 7	S -
5 2 3 6 7	S
2 3 6 5 7	S -
3 6 5 2 7	S -
6 5 2 3 7	S -
2 5 3 6 7	S S

Repeat the above twelve courses, omitting last course in second part, produces—

6 5 3 2 7 4

From this call four singles at consecutive leads; the 7th in with a double; the 6th in, and out with a single, the following lead brings up rounds.

The above has the twenty-four 7 4s all the right way.

A QUARTER-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By W. WALMSLEY, Macclesfield.

1260.

2 3 4 5 6 7	I	2	3	4
*2 5 3 6 7 4	-	-	-	-
5 3 6 2	S	-	-	-
6 3 2 5	S	S	-	-
3 2 5 6	S	-	-	-
2 6 5 3	-	-	-	-
6 5 3 2	S	-	-	-
3 5 2 6	S	S	-	-
5 6 2 3	-	-	-	-
6 2 3 5	S	-	-	-
2 3 5 6	S	-	-	-
3 5 6 2	S	-	-	-
5 2 6 3	-	-	-	-

The above once repeated; calling s1 and B3 instead of the course marked * produces—

6 2 5 3 7 4

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

Round at three leads.

The above has the twenty-four 7 4s all the right way.

There is another form of composing in parts, and that is to have the Queens or tittums the first part-end. If a touch is composed with 1357246 as the first part-end, 1526374 will be the second, and rounds the third. The tittums can be the first part-end; the effect is the same. Mr. H. J. Tucker, of Bishops Stortford, Herts, has a very good quarter-peal on this plan, I am told, though I have never yet seen it.

With what has already been composed, combined with the foregoing, it may be said, I think, that the *ne plus ultra* (as Shipway has it) has now been reached, so far as quarter-peals in this method are concerned.

This and preceding chapters chiefly relate to composing. I have a little more to say upon the same subject, and then the young bob-caller must have some attention.

ALEPH.

(To be continued.)

THE BORDEN SOCIETY, KENT.

On Thursday evening (New Year's Eve), the members of the above were invited to a capital supper by the vicar of the parish, the Rev. A. J. Wilson. The repast took place at The Maypole inn, and was served up in host George's usually good style, and which, needless to say, was done full justice to and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

On the cloth being removed the balance sheet was presented by the secretary, and the society was congratulated by the vicar on showing a good balance in the hands of the treasurer. The vicar then having another engagement, and the time for such having arrived, a hearty vote of thanks with musical honours was accorded him, which was given in good Borden style. The vicar, in a few encouraging words, said how pleased he was to be amongst his ringers, and urged them to unite strongly, that the ringing might flourish and improve as it had done during the past year, and he hoped that all would be spared to meet in the same manner for many years to come. On parting, he wished them all "a happy and prosperous new year."

The usual toasts were then given, and songs were the order of the evening until the time for dispersing arrived.

The company then made their way to the parish church, where a capital touch of Stedman was rung before midnight. The customary firing was then done, and the new year welcomed in with some good ringing, after which the company, having exchanged hearty wishes with each other, dispersed, having all thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

GRAVELEY, HERTS.

The eighth annual supper of the St. Mary's Guild was given by the Rector, the Rev. G. Rivel Carnac, on New Year's Eve, the ringers meeting at the church, and ringing several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. Half-past eight found the company at the Rectory, where they received a hearty welcome from the Rector, who conducted them to the dining-room, where a capital repast had been provided, and to which they all did ample justice. Supper being over, the company adjourned to the smoking-room, where cigars and games were indulged in, all thoroughly enjoying themselves. Grandsire Doubles were rung on the handbells, when, half-past eleven having arrived, the company thanked the Rector for his kind hospitality and wished him a "Happy New Year." They then made their way back to the church and rung the old year out and the new year in. Two 6-scores were rung till five minutes to twelve, the tenor was rung out till twelve, and four more 6-scores, conducted by J. Gray and P. Stratton. The following took part in the ringing:—J. Gray, P. Stratton, E. Chalkley and R. Aldridge. Messrs. C. Bowen, J. Aldridge, L. Angle, C. Bracey and W. Ebbeling have all learnt to ring since September. At present they are unable to do anything except Grandsire Doubles. It has been all uphill work, but now they have got a band together, and it is hoped that they will be able to ring Minor in the near future.

LUDLOW, SALOP.—RINGERS' ANNUAL DINNER.

On Thursday, December 31st, the ringers of the parish church were entertained to dinner at Ludlow Castle by Mr. Councillor B. Marston. Besides the local ringers there were also present Messrs. Lowe and Woolley (churchwardens), Rev. J. Lyne (curate), Mr. Richard Marston, Dr. Cranstoun, Mr. Diggle, J. E. Groves (Wolverhampton), T. J. Bratton (Welshpool), and W. Greenleaf (Hereford). An excellent spread was placed before the company, which numbered about forty, and to which full justice was done, after which the party adjourned to the drawing-room, where the evening was spent in singing songs, saying recitations, and instrumental music which was rendered by the Misses Hatherton, Miss Edwards, and Mrs. Marston; and altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent.

RINGERS' WEDDING.

On Saturday, December 26th, at Christ Church, Epsom, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. John Crawford with Miss Jane Corbett, eldest daughter of Mr. George Corbett, of Ashtead, Surrey, who gave his daughter away. The Rev. Archer G. Hunter, vicar, officiated. On the completion of the ceremony, some members of the Surrey Association rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins. H. Griffith, 1; W. Cook, 2; H. Corbett, 3; T. Miles, 4; T. Goff, 5; T. Tutte, 6; A. Gower (conductor), 7; J. Martin, 8. Afterwards the ringers were invited to the bride's residence to inspect the useful wedding presents, and also to a substantial knife and fork tea, which, after "go" was called, was successfully brought round a little under the hour. Afterwards the health of the bride and bridegroom was proposed and honoured, with good wishes for their future happiness. The evening was spent in music and singing, enlivened by all good cheer, till eleven o'clock, which brought the proceedings to a close, and will be long remembered by all present. W. Cook and H. Corbett belong to Ashtead.

RINGERS' SUPPER.

On Thursday, December 31st, the St. Kentigern ringers, Crosthwaite, and their wives were entertained to supper at the vicarage at the kind invitation of Canon and Mrs. Rawnsley, and spent a most enjoyable evening. After thanking Canon and Mrs. Rawnsley for their kindness, the rest of the evening was spent in games until 11.30, when they adjourned to the tower and tolled out the old year and afterwards rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 14 mins. R. Dennison, 1; A. Panter, 2; F. Postlethwaite, 3; J. Dalton, 4; P. Wise, 5; S. Hogarth (conductor), 6; W. Telford, 7; J. Panter, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WELLINGBOROUGH (North Hants.)—On New Year's Eve, the parish church ringers made their first attempt for a peal of 5040 changes. Starting at 5.40, the ringing continued without mishap until 7.31, when, owing to a "change-courge," the conductor called the bells into "rounds," after ringing 3024 changes. Although the full peal was not obtained, this makes the greatest number of changes ever rung on Wellingborough bells, and the longest time (1 hr. 51 mins.) the heavy tenor bell has been rung single-handed. The ringers stood as follows:—G. Turner, 1; T. R. Hensher (conductor), 2; W. Wood, 3; F. Underwood, 4; F. Wood, 5; E. West, 6; W. H. Ette, 7; T. Craddock, 8. The peal attempted was a one-part peal of Grandsire Triples, composed by George Cleal, of Leicester. The bells being lightly muffled, their music sounded soft, mellow and beautiful all over the town. Muffles removed, the new year (60th of the Queen's reign) was rung in with the "Queen's" Change, followed by a 168 of Triples at the termination of the midnight service. On the first Sunday in the new year, for Divine Service in the morning, a 658 of Grandsire Triples from Holt's Original, was rung by the following:—E. J. Dennes, 1; F. Wood, 2; T. Hensher (conductor), 3; F. Underwood, 4; W. Wood, 5; W. H. Ette, 6; E. West, 7; T. Craddock, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. in D.

THORVERTON, DEVON.

The ringers and choir of the parish church were entertained at the vicarage on New Year's Eve. The churchwardens were also present, and the wife of the vicar's warden. The vicar, the Rev. S. Childs Clarke, warmly welcomed his guests, who adjourned to the church at 11 o'clock to chime out the old year and ring in the new, according to a long-established custom in this parish. At the supper, Mr. Ridler, who is an enthusiastic bell-ringer, returned thanks for the ringers, and suggested that the bells should be overhauled by Mr. Harry Stokes, who rehung them, and he was authorised to write Mr. Stokes to get this done. The vicar hoped that, as a memorial of the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's reign, the parishioners would unite and procure a new clock, which should be filled with the Cambridge chimes, and for which an estimate had been given. The present clock has been in constant work for upwards of 130 years, but its mechanism is almost worn out.

ANNUAL COMPLIMENTARY DINNER TO THE LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL RINGERS.

The above was held on Thursday, December 31st, at The Black Lion hotel, and amongst those present were the Rev. Canon Roberts, Canon Scrimshaw, and Canon Shaw. The company sat down to an excellent repast, every one doing justice to the good things provided. After dinner the Rev. Canon Roberts took the chair, the first toast of the evening—"Church and Queen," being drunk with enthusiasm. This was followed by "The Dean and Chapter," "The Bishop and Clergy," and "The Llandaff Diocesan Association." Several songs were sung during the evening, and touches of Grandsire Triples and Stedman Caters were rung, bringing an enjoyable evening to a close.

MELTHAM, YORKSHIRE.

A new four-dialled illuminated turret striking clock was last week erected in the District Council offices at Meltham. The work has been carried out to the satisfaction of the authorities, by Messrs. W. Potts and Sons, Church Clock Makers, of Leeds and Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Situation Vacant.

WANTED A GARDENER, willing to make himself generally useful. Knowledge of Fruit, Flowers and Vegetables. Fires to be attended to. Communicant. Change-ringer preferred. State full particulars to Rev. H. G. Bird, St. Andrew's Vicarage, Cambridge.

Ringers' Outings.

FROME, SOMERSET.—Several of the Frome members of the Bath and Wells Association met together on Boxing Day for a day's outing and ringing at Trowbridge and Bradford-on-Avon, where permission had been kindly given for the use of the bells, Leaving Frome at half-past ten, they proceeded first to Trowbridge, where they were met at the railway station by Messrs. W. and F. McCaffrey (these being members also of the Salisbury Guild). The parish church was then visited, and a quarter-peal would have been attempted had not a service limited the time, so that, instead, a touch of 630 Grandsire Triples was rung. F. McCaffrey, 1; W. Bishop, 2; C. Summers, 3; H. Scammell, 4; W. McCaffrey, 5; E. Fricker, 6; J. Rebbeck (conductor), 7; W. Prescott, 8. An adjournment was made to the New Inn, where some agreeable "changes" were made on the "rounds" of beef, and were much enjoyed. Returning to the belfry, a 336 of Grandsire Triples was accomplished, in which two local men—J. Hayward (4) and A. Palmer (8) took part. A touch of 224 was also rung. The party then journeyed to Bradford, which possesses a heavier ring of eight, the tenor being about 32 cwt. After raising the bells, a 336 of Grandsire Triples was successfully attempted. F. McCaffrey, 1; W. Prescott, 2; C. Summers, 3; H. Scammell, 4; W. Bishop, 5; W. McCaffrey, 6; J. Rebbeck (conductor), 7; E. Fricker, 8. A further touch of 604 was also rung. F. McCaffrey, 1; W. Prescott, 2; C. Summers, 3; H. Scammell, 4; W. McCaffrey, 5; E. Fricker, 6; J. Rebbeck (conductor), 7; W. Bishop, 8. Soon after, the party returned to Trowbridge, and from thence to Frome, which was reached about nine o'clock, the outing having been of a very satisfactory nature.

ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.—On New Year's Day the ringers of the above church paid a visit to Ashover. Leaving Eckington (Midland Station) about 9.15 a.m., we soon arrived at Chesterfield, where we had to change and wait an hour, so we had a walk round the town. Leaving Chesterfield again, we soon arrived at Stretton, where we found we had three miles to walk to Ashover. On arriving there, after a very pleasant walk, we went to a refreshment place and had some luncheon, which we all were ready for. This over, we then went to the belfry and raised the bells, and rang a course of Oxford; we also rang a 720 of Oxford in 27 mins., which makes Mr. George Marsden's forty-ninth 720 in forty-nine different towers. The ringers were: T. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; G. Norman (conductor), 5; G. Marsden, 6. We then had a look round the church, and returning to the belfry, rang 240 Violet, after which we lowered the bells and had a pleasant talk with some of the Ashover ringers. Our next move was to North Wingfield, a four miles' walk, and passing through Clay Cross on our way, we arrived there about four o'clock. Having got the keys of the belfry, we did not begin to raise the bells till after five o'clock. We then tried for a 720 of Duke of York, and only got half way through when a mistake occurred, and stand was called. Commencing again, we rang 240 of Oxford, Mr. J. Tarlton, of North Wingfield, ringing the tenor; the rest as before. Lowering the bells again, and having a friendly chat with some of the local ringers, who gave us a kindly welcome, and wishing them "A Happy New Year," we bid them adieu. Turning our steps homeward, we left Clay Cross station at 7.15, arriving safely home again about 8.15, having spent a very enjoyable day. J. M.

Correspondence.

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

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

A PERTINENT REPLY.

SIR,—Perhaps the person signing himself "One Interested" will kindly write to me under his own name. If he is a member of the Kent County Association, I shall then be happy to explain to him the meaning of the resuscitation of our rule requiring accounts of peals to be sent in to the Secretary (which for some years has been in abeyance), as well as of the conductor's certificate being required that the peal has been called without any unlawful aid. In view, however,

of the revelations made at a recent District Meeting, disclosing a state of things of which I, in common with many other members of the Committee, was totally unaware, most people, I imagine, will fail to see the necessity of any explanation. FREDK. J. O. HELMORE.

Hon. Sec. K.C.A.C.R.

THE BRIDGWATER PEAL.

SIR,—Seeing that Mr. Maddock has contradicted the statement I made about the peal at Bridgwater, I think it my duty to explain things as much as possible. The midway single did not turn up in 1 hr. 42 mins., as I was listening until they had rung 1 hr. 44 mins., and it did not turn up in that time. One of the band said that it turned up a few minutes over an hour and three-quarters. I was away for about fourteen minutes, and then returned to hear the rest of the peal. Mr. Maddock refers to the single which he did not call. He says that he told me about it at Bridgwater, but he said nothing about the single; all I asked was what peal they were ringing. I asked one of the band first, but he told me to ask the conductor, which I did, and he told me it was Holt's ten-part. He says that he called Holt's bob, which was nearly two blows late, and a little further on he says he left out the single and called "that's all," which is contradicting himself. He also states that he brought the bells round two leads after the last call, which must be a new way of bringing Holt's ten-part round, calling Holt's bob two leads before the bells run round. Therefore I hope that readers of "THE BELL NEWS" will see by my statement that the peal is without doubt a false one. If the ringers of Holt's ten-part will look at Mr. Maddock's last letter, they will see how he brought the bells round.

J. JOYCE.

SIR,—I should be grateful if you would kindly grant me space in your valuable paper for a few remarks on a letter which appeared in your issue of December 26th, and signed "J. Joyce." At the finish of the peal I asked him what he thought of it, to which he replied that it was good ringing. I also asked him if he heard the midway single. To this he said "No," as he went to the station to catch the 6 o'clock train, but missed it. Now from the church to the station is a good quarter-of-an-hour's walk, so to walk there and back he must have been away for considerably more than half-an-hour. I am informed by the conductor that the midway single came up in 1 hr. 42 mins. As to the back change having turned up twice, I deny it *in toto*; and the bells running round at a plain lead is a fabrication, as I was ringing the 5th, which was in the hunt. If J. Joyce can show me how they will run round with the 5th in that position, he will show me something new in the Grandsire method. And again, I told the ringer of the 4th as I was coming from behind, that we were just home. This J. Joyce could have heard (if he heard the calls made, as he told me he did), because I was standing close to the door, whereas the conductor was the farthest away. It would have been more honourable if Mr. Joyce had told us in the belfry at the time, not waited until he came to Taunton and there concocted it days after. Some time in October J. Joyce was to have been one of a band to attempt a peal on these bells on November 5th, but the idea was abandoned, as it was considered that the bells were not fit for peal-ringing. This is what he told me. After our men had stood for 2 hrs. and 36 mins., one of J. Joyce's friends made an application for the tower for the very day that we were going to make another attempt. Having been written to to that effect, he sent an apology. Of this we were told when we arrived there, by the person to whom the letters were addressed. During the latter part of our peal there was a considerable amount of rattling at the belfry door. I cannot say who did it, but J. Joyce was found at the door there alone. I have stated these few items, and I think that the thing explains itself, and will allow the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" to form their own opinion, while I myself shall always consider I have the honour to be one of the band who rang the first true peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells of the parish church of St. Mary, Bridgwater. T. DOBLE.

METHOD OR METHODS.

SIR,—I notice in "THE BELL NEWS" of December 26th, where it mentions the strange plan in which a company rings. Now I think it would be surprising to many good ringers if they knew the round-about and most complicated way in which not a few but many ringers get into their heads as to the way or their way to ring Grandsire Triples, a plan which I find utterly impossible, at least to me, and I think I can safely say they would find some tough work to get out of it if they went on for Stedman and Treble Bob methods. Now, Sir, I should like to know what is easier than to follow *Snowdon's* or *Troyte's* work on change-ringing; but perhaps some could not afford themselves a copy, and ring on a plan of their own, and like a house built on the sand, on a poor foundation. I hope it will be understood that I don't mean to throw any slur on any company or individual.

A. ROCK.

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

ROPE-SIGHT : 1s. 6d. FOURTH 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, etc., etc. (143 pages).

STANDARD METHODS: 2s. 6d. THIRD EDITION
Now Ready. 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.

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TREBLE BOB. PART I. out of print and under revision.
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. 12d.

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).

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NOW READY.

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" 6 "	4s.
" 3 "	2s.

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 9, 1897.

If coming events which are out of the common somewhat invariably cast their shadows before, it is equally true that after development they leave their trail behind. The season which is just over affords a very good corroboration of this averment. We have only to read the pages of this number to find that the festivities attendant upon Christmas are hardly concluded when a second period of joy bursts forth; e.g.: Christmas has left its mark behind. Ringers' suppers, entertainments, and the like we read of in abundance; ringers' outings, and even a ringer's wedding make up the charming list. Certainly ringers ought to be a most happy lot of people, and it cannot be denied that they generally are. They have the pleasure of spending many hours of the most extreme happiness while ringing. What feeling of pleasure is equal to the delight of hearing the words "that's all" at the end of a peal, especially when something extraordinary is being attempted—a 16,000 like that rung at Debenham; one of JOHN CARTER's handbell lengths; or a trifling essay like the peal of London at Merton College? Ringers all know the sensation the words impart.

But there are unpleasant times nevertheless, heart-breaking times almost: and therefore when the exertions of a successful peal, or the recognition of a year's work in

the steeple are appreciated, and a true valuation of ringers' merits is shown by the provision of a generous repast, or in any other appropriate manner, the result is gratifying, not only to those immediately concerned, but to the Exercise at large. No one takes exception for a single moment to these festivities; we are pleased to be able to record them this week at such length. May the hospitality which is shown to our brethren at this and other seasons, not only never become less, but increase. There is a ring about these festivities of a good old English sound.

The Metropolis.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 2, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, BARKING ROAD,
WEST HAM,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT MINOR METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being 720 each of Double Oxford Bob, Oxford Bob, Double Court, Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob. Tenor 7½ cwt.

WILLIAM H. DALLIMORE .. Treble.	ERNEST PYE 4.
WILLIAM PYE 2.	JOHN DALE 5.
GEORGE R. PYE 3.	ERNEST CLAYTON .. Tenor.

Conducted by ERNEST CLAYTON.

First 5040 on the bells in seven methods, and first in seven methods by all except the conductor.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 4, 1897, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, LEWISHAM,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 22 cwt.

ERNEST H. NIXON* .. Treble.	ARTHUR R. DAVIS 5.
WILLIAM BEDWELL 2.	THOMAS TAYLOR 6.
GEORGE H. DAYNES 3.	ARTHUR J. NEALE 7.
HARRY BARRETT 4.	HARRY WARNETT .. Tenor.

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE and Conducted by HARRY WARNETT.

*First peal of Major. Rung as a birthday peal for Messrs. Davis, Taylor and Neale, their brother-strings wishing them many happy returns.

The Provinces.

BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

On Monday, December 28, 1896, in Three Hours and Forty-three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5214 CHANGES.

Tenor 36 cwt.

WILLIAM HANCOX .. Treble.	JOHN S. PRITCHETT 7.
THOMAS MILLER 2.	SAMUEL SPITTLE 8.
WILLIAM S. PRITCHETT .. 3.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 9.
JAMES E. GROVES 4.	FREDERICK CLAYTON .. 10.
HENRY BASTABLE 5.	WILLIAM KENT 11.
SAMUEL REEVES 6.	REUBEN HALL Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN S. PRITCHETT.

A note to this peal, together with the calling, will appear next week.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

On Tuesday, December 29, 1896, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART. Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qrs.

WALTER CHARMAN .. Treble.	FRANK KNIGHT 5.
ARTHUR CHARMAN 2.	JAMES GARMAN 6.
WILLIAM HOOKER 3.	HENRY H. CHANDLER .. 7.
JOHN COOK 4.	WILLIAM STANFORD .. Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER CHARMAN.

CHARLWOOD, SURREY.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(CHARLWOOD BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, December 30, 1896, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of College Exercise, Violet, London Scholars' Pleasure, Woodbine, College Pleasure, Kent, and Oxford.

Tenor 16 cwt. in G.

GEORGE ATTWATER* .. Treble.	FREDERICK WICKENS .. 4.
GEORGE WICKENS 2.	BENJAMIN KING 5.
FREDERICK TULLETT .. 3.	ALBERT ELLIS Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT ELLIS.

*First peal.

EALING, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOUTH AND WEST MIDDLESEX GUILD.

On Thursday, December 31, 1896, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART (No. 13). Tenor 19½ cwt.

HARRY F. G. LUCK .. Treble.	*CHARLES EDWARDS .. 5.
EVERED J. WALSON 2.	EDWARD HARRIS 6.
JOHN BASDEN 3.	ALLAN H. TABER 7.
FREDERICK GODDARD .. 4.	WILLIAM WARD Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BASDEN.

*First peal in the method with a bob bell.

DISS, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 31, 1896, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM IRELAND .. Treble.	WILLIAM C. CHENERY .. 5.
WILLIAM C. WISKENS .. 2.	JOHN SMITH 6.
GEORGE ARCHER 3.	ELLIS HAYWARD 7.
WILLIAM SALTER 4.	JOHN SOUTER Tenor.

Composed by the late WM. HARRISON and
Conducted by WILLIAM IRELAND.

DONCASTER, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, January 1, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 30 cwt.

THOMAS DIXON Treble.	HERBERT JONES 5.
THOMAS WHITWORTH .. 2.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. 6.
THOMAS G. SAREL 3.	JAMES A. DIXON 7.
GEORGE O. DIXON 4.	WILLIAM BIGGIN Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY and Conducted by THOS. DIXON.

This peal has the 4th and 6th their extent in 5-6. T. Dixon, G. Dixon, J. Dixon, T. Sarel, H. Jones and T. Hattersley hail from Sheffield; T. Whitworth from Treton; W. Biggin from Norton, Sheffield. It is the first peal of Major upon the bells, which have recently been rehung by J. F. Mallaby, Barnby Don, near Doncaster.

BRIGHTON.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 2, 1897, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

GEORGE WILLIAMS .. Treble.	*JOHN S. GOLDSMITH .. 6.
GEORGE A. KING 2.	*JOSEPH WAGHORN, SEN. 7.
HERBERT RANN 3.	JOHN JAY, JUN. 8.
WILLIAM PALMER 4.	KEITH HART 9.
EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 5.	WILLIAM DAVEY Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal of Stedman Caters. This composition is now rung for the first time, and has the 6th twenty-two courses behind the 9th in the titmuss, and twenty-four courses behind the 8th in the 8-7-9 position. Mr. Waghorn, for whom this peal was arranged, hails from Tottenham; J. S. Goldsmith from Southover, Lewes.

BEDFORD.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 4, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5147 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt. 3 qrs. 6 lbs. in D.

HARRY TOLL* Treble.	†FREDERICK KEECH 6.
SAMUEL J. CULLIP 2.	JAMES N. FROSSELL 7.
CHARLES CHASTY 3.	ISAAC HILLS 8.
HARRY TYSOE 4.	CHARLES WM. CLARKE 9.
WILLIAM LIGHTFOOT* 5.	FRANK HULL Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

This peal has the 5th and 6th each twenty-four times behind the 9th. *First peal. †First peal on ten bells. †First peal on ten bells away from the treble. This peal was arranged for Mr. J. N. Frossell, of St. Peter's, Brighton, a late member of the Bedford company.

MANCHESTER.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 6, 1897, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt.

WALTER SMETHURST .. Treble.	ALBERT E. WREAKS 6.
ALFRED WILSON† 2.	JOHN EACHUS 7.
RALPH RAVENSCROFT† 3.	†GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE 8.
WILLIAM RYDER 4.	*GEORGE F. DEAN 9.
EDMUND HEWITT† 5.	*CHARLES FAIRLEY Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and
Conducted by GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE.

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

PEAL CORRECTION.—Mr. Arthur Craven, of Lincoln, writes concerning the handbell peal he called at Armley, Yorkshire, which appeared last week: "I am sorry to say I made a mistake in the report I sent you. It came about in this way. It was a 5376 of H. Johnson's I intended calling, and I found that I could reduce it to 5088 by omitting three bobs in each part, which I did; but when I turned to Snowdon's *Treble Bob* I found the 5088 given as the composition of W. Hudson. I wish you would kindly rectify my mistake in your next issue."

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BOLTON BRANCH.

BOLTON.—On Tuesday, December 29th, at St. George's church, a date touch of 1897 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. Pennington, 1; W. Rushton, 2; W. Tebay, 3; A. E. Rushton, 4; W. Sykes, 5; G. Moss, 6; H. Moss (conductor), 7; J. Makin, 8. Composed by J. George, Rugby.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ENGLEFIELD (Berks).—On Saturday, December 26th, at the parish church, a date touch of Bob Minor, 1896 changes, in 1 hr. 4 mins. J. Abery, 1; F. Richardson, 2; E. Holloway, 3; E. Bruce, 4; W. Clark, 5; W. Horne (conductor), 6. First date touch as conductor; also first date touch by Messrs. Abery, Holloway, and Bruce. This is believed to be the first date touch on the bells, and was rung at the first attempt.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Thursday, December 31st, at the parish church, a date touch of 1896 changes in the following Treble Bob methods, in 1 hr. 1 min.: 240 Wells Surprise, 240 Cambridge Surprise, 240 College Exercise, 120 College Pleasure, 120 New London Pleasure, 120 Woodbine, 120 Violet, 144 Kent, and 72 Oxford. E. Holloway, 1; E. Jordan, 2; T. M. Stedman, 3; C. Taylor, 4; T. Fairs, 5; D. Jordan, 6. Arranged and conducted by D. Jordan.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

BURNLEY (Lancs).—On Sunday, December 20th, for evening service at Holy Trinity, a date touch Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 9 mins. D. Campbell, 1; F. Towns, 2; N. Townend, 3; J. R. Werring (composer), 4; D. Keys, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; *J. Brown (Blackburn), 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. *Longest touch in the method.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Saturday November 29th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of 1896 changes, in the following Minor methods, in 1 hr. 4 mins.: 360 College Single (nine bobs), 720 Oxford Single Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles), 360 Canterbury Pleasure (nine bobs), and 456 Plain Bob (twelve bobs and two singles), composed by Mr. G. F. Woodhouse, Caius College, Cambridge. G. Somerville, 1; J. W. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 4; H. H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Tuesday, December 15th, for practice, 720 Wells Surprise. E. Holloway, 1; E. Jordan, 2; T. M. Stedman, 3; *C. Taylor, 4; *T. Fairs, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And 720 Cambridge Surprise. D. Jordan, 1; T. M. Stedman, 2; *E. Holloway, 3; C. Taylor, 4; T. Fairs, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. For the eleven o'clock service 720 Superlative Surprise. E. Holloway, 1; J. Akehurst, 2; R. Jordan, 3; T. M. Stedman, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. For the midnight service on December 31st, 288 Oxford Treble Bob. The new year was ushered in with 360 Kent Treble Bob. E. Holloway, 1; J. Akehurst, 2; E. Jordan, 3; T. M. Stedman, 4; T. Fairs, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6.

GOSPORT (Hants).—On Thursday, November 19th, for practice at Holy Trinity church, 360 Double Stedman Slow Course. R. Gardner, 1; E. Reynolds, 2; H. Westbrook, 3; H. Reynolds, 4; J. Gould, 5; A. Tomlins (conductor), 6. First in the method by all. On Thursday, November 26th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Barrow, 1; E. Newman (first attempt), 2; H. Westbrook, 3; H. Reynolds, 4; J. Gould, 5; A. Tomlins (conductor), 6. On Thursday, December 10th, 504 Stedman Triples. H. Westbrook, 1; J. Hewett, 2; H. Reynolds, 3; A. Barrow, 4; A. Pye, 5; E. Reynolds, 6; A. Tomlins (conductor), 7; L. Hurle, 8.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Thursday, December 24th, at St. Thomas' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. C. Groves, 1; J. Hewett, 2; E. Reynolds, 3; H. Stubbington, 4; J. Symons, 5; J. Gould, 6; A. Tomlins (conductor), 7; W. Crosland, 8. This is the longest touch rung on the bells for many years, as the mechanism of the clock and its supports somewhat obscure the view of the ringers.

PORTSEA (Hants).—On Thursday, November 12th, at St. Mary's church, 504 Stedman Triples. J. Harper, 1; J. Seymour, 2; E. Newman, 3; E. Reynolds, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; J. Gould, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; C. Groves, 8. Also 252 Stedman Triples. J. Harris, 1; J. Seymour, 2; E. Newman, 3; J. T. Matthews, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; E. Reynolds, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; J. T. Matthews, 8. Also 252 Stedman Triples. J. Harris, 1; E. Reynolds, 2; E. Newman, 3; J. Symons, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; A. Pye, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; J. Gould, 8. On Tuesday, November 24th, 252 Stedman Triples. J. Harris, 1; J. Hewitt (conductor), 2; C. Groves, 3; E. Newman, 4; J. Symons, 5; J. Harper, 6; A. Pye, 7; J. Dover, 8. On Tuesday, December 1st, 252 Stedman Triples. H. Reynolds, 1; E. Reynolds, 2; C. Newman, 3; J. Symons, 4; A. Pye (conductor), 5; J. Harper, 6; S. Lawrence, 7; J. Gould, 8. On Tuesday, December 8th, 408 Stedman Triples. J. Harris, 1; E. Newman, 2; E. Reynolds, 3; J. Symons, 4; A. Pye, 5; J. Harper, 6; A. E. Tomlins (conductor), 7; C. Groves, 8. On Saturday, December 26th, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Treble Bob, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung. J. Symons, 1; E. Newman, 2; H. Reynolds, 3; E. Reynolds, 4; Staff-Sergeant A. Pye, 5; Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, 6; A. Tomlins (conductor), 7; J. Gould, 8. Longest in the method by Messrs. Symons and Newman.

SOBERTON (Hants).—On Saturday, December 26th, as a practice before attempting a peal, 768 Kent Treble Bob Major. H. Griffin, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; G. Plaskett, 3; J. Warren, 4; G. Millard, 5; F. Bennett, 6; G. Grafham, 7; J. Whiting, 8. First touch of Treble Bob Major by Messrs. Griffin, Plaskett, and Millard.

WINCHESTER.—On Thursday, December 31st, at the Cathedral, 504 Grandsire Triples, with 6-8-10 covering, and the bells muffled for the departure of the old year. J. W. Elkins, 1; W. C. Lampard, 2; W. Andrews, 3; C. J. Choquet, 4; W. J. Sevier, 5; F. Smith, 6; J. Harris, 7; C. Russell, 8; W. H. George (conductor), 9; D. Froome, 10.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HALESWORTH (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, November 29th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 504 Bob Triples. T. Kerrison, 1;

W. Pierce, 2; E. Easter, 3; E. Lincoln, 4; F. Lambert (conductor), 5; J. Howard, 6; C. Kerrison, 7; J. Punchard, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. in E. After service 360 Grandsire, Plain and Old Doubles, on the back six. J. Howard, 1; W. Pierce, 2; F. Lambert (conductor), 3; E. Lincoln, 4; J. Punchard, 5; J. Salmon (Brighton), 6. On December 25th, 504 Bob Triples. T. Kerrison, 1; W. Pierce, 2; F. Lambert (conductor), 3; A. Took, 4; R. Howard, 5; G. Tovell, 6; C. Kerrison, 7; E. Lincoln, 8. Courses of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major were also rung. On Sunday evening, December 27th, for Divine Service, 504 Bob Triples. A. Took, 1; F. Lambert (conductor), 2; E. Easter, 3; E. Lincoln, 4; R. Howard, 5; G. Tovell, 6; C. Kerrison, 7; W. Pierce, 8. After service 360 Bob Minor on the back six. W. Pierce, 1; A. Took, 2; F. Lambert (conductor), 3; G. Tovell, 4; E. Lincoln, 5; C. Kerrison, 6. On handbells, three courses of Grandsire Triples. Mrs. F. Lambert, 1-2; E. Lincoln, 3-4; F. Lambert 5-6; R. Howard, 7-8. E. Lincoln hails from Bungay.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SUDBURY ARCHIDIACONAL BRANCH.)

LAVENHAM (Suffolk).—On Friday, December 25th, for Early Celebration, a touch of Grandsire Triples. W. Boby, 1; C. Fisk, 2; F. G. Symonds, 3; J. Moore, 4; C. Jarvis, 5; H. Smith, 6; T. King (conductor), 7; W. Moore, 8.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, December 26th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor. F. Symonds, 1; H. Poulson, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; J. Moore, 4; W. Hollocks, 5; J. Levitt, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Symonds, 1; F. Symonds, 2; H. Poulson, 3; J. Moore, 4; A. Hollocks, 5; W. Hollocks, 6. Both conducted by W. Hollocks.

HITCHAM (Suffolk).—On Friday, December 25th, at All Saints' church, 720 Bob Minor (four bobs and fourteen singles). A. Symonds, 1; T. Levitt, 2; J. Snell, 3; C. Grimwood, 4; R. Grimwood (conductor), 5; W. Stiff, 6.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HEPTONSTALL (Yorks).—On Sunday morning, November 29th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Burn (conductor), 1; F. Powell, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; W. Ingham, 4; R. Nowell, 5; W. Robertshaw, 6. F. Powell hails from Manchester; W. Robertshaw from Haworth. For afternoon service 360 Kent Treble Bob. J. Robertshaw, 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; F. Powell (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, December 6th, for Divine Service, 360 College Single. T. Robertshaw (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; J. Nowell, 6. For afternoon service 360 Grandsire Minor. T. Robertshaw (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; J. Robertshaw, 5; J. Nowell, 6. On Sunday morning, December 13th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Single. A. Burn (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; F. Powell, 6. For afternoon service 360 Woodbine and 240 Bob Minor. W. Ingham, 1; J. Robertshaw, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; F. Powell (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, December 20th, for Divine Service, 720 Woodbine. A. Burn (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; J. Nowell, 6. For afternoon service 720 Bob Minor. A. Burn (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Robertshaw, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; J. Nowell, 6. On Sunday morning, December 27th, for Divine Service, with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to one of the churchwardens, Mr. Robert Greenwood, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Burn (conductor), 1; F. Powell, 2; W. Ingham, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; J. Nowell, 6. For afternoon service 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Ingham, 1; F. Powell (conductor), 2; J. Robertshaw, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; J. Nowell, 6.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON (Somerset).—On Saturday, December 19th, for practice at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, 336 Oxford Bob Triples. W. Thomas, 1; T. Radford, 2; S. Wyatt, 3; J. Burge, 4; T. W. Radford (conductor), 5; J. Fowler, 6; A. Evans, 7; J. Joyce, 8. Also 210 in the same method. J. Jones, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; A. Evans, 3; J. Hunt, 4; T. Radford, 5; T. W. Radford (conductor), 6; J. Burge, 7; A. Walker, 8. On Sunday, December 20th, for evening service, 701 Grandsire Caters. J. Jones, 1; A. Walker, 2; J. Hunt, 3; S. Wyatt, 4; A. Evans, 5; T. Radford, 6; J. Joyce, 7; T. W. Radford (conductor), 8; J. Burge, 9; W. Thomas, 10.

YEovil (Somerset).—On Saturday, December 26th, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Caters on this grand ring of ten, the tenor of which is 45 cwt., but after ringing 3600 changes—it came to grief through the conductor calling a bob a lead too soon. W.

Thomas, 1; A. Evans, 2; G. Husburn, 3; T. Wyatt, 4; J. Joyce, 5; T. Radford, 6; T. W. Radford (conductor), 7; J. Fowler, 8; J. Burge, 9; J. Jones, 10. The visitors wish, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells; also Mr. Denman and the local ringers for having everything in readiness.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS

LONDON.—On Sunday, December 27th, at St. Stephen's, Westminster, for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, on the back six, in 29 mins., meeting short for Major. G. Langford, 1; W. G. Sorrell (conductor), 2; H. Ellis, 3; J. Willshire, 4; W. H. George, 5; J. N. Oxborrow, 6. Tenor 25 cwt.

GREENWICH (Kent).—On Sunday, January 3rd, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Alfege church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins., on the back six. W. Berry, 1; W. Foreman, 2; I. G. Shade (conductor), 3; H. Hoskins, 4; F. W. Thornton, 5; F. S. Bayley, 6.

THE HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

STAINLAND (Yorks).—On Saturday, December 12th, by members of the Heptonstall Society, 360 Kent Treble Bob. T. Robertshaw (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; F. Powell, 6.

HEPTONSTALL (Yorks).—On Sunday, December 13th, 720 Oxford Bob. A. Burn (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; F. Powell, 6.

MYTHOLMROYD (Yorks).—On Sunday, December 13th, 360 Woodbine Treble Bob. G. Bolton, 1; J. Wilcock, 2; F. Uttley, 3; G. Beanland, 4; J. Grave (conductor), 5; F. Powell, 6.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MANCHESTER BRANCH.

FLIXTON (Lancashire).—On Monday, December 21st, for practice at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. Hunter, 1; W. Ryder, 2; S. Collier, 3; J. Eachus, 4; G. Woodhouse (conductor), 5; J. Ridehalgh, 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BEENHAM (Berks).—On Thursday, December 10th, 720 Bob Minor in 23 mins. On Sunday, December 13th, 720 Oxford Bob in 25 mins. On Christmas Day morning 720 Oxford Bob. S. Greetham, 1; W. Lucas, 2; F. Richardson, 3; H. Keal, 4; W. Horne, 5; J. Hatto (conductor), 6. After the afternoon service 720 Bob Minor in 23 mins. F. Wigmore, 1; W. Lucas, 2; F. Richardson, 3; H. Hatto, 4; J. Hatto, 5; W. Horne (first 720 in the method as conductor), 6. On Monday, December 28th, 720 Oxford. F. Wigmore, 1; W. Horne, 2; W. Lucas, 3; H. Keal, 4; F. Richardson, 5; J. Hatto (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday, November 29th, at the parish church, 720 Bocking Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Grimwade, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent (conductor), 5; C. Bearman, 6. On Tuesday, December 1st, 720 New London Pleasure. G. Melbourne, 1; W. Grimwade, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 13th, 720 Bocking Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley (first 720 in the method), 2; W. Moore, 3; W. Grimwade, 4; S. Sargent (conductor), 5; C. Bearman, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. Howard (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, December 15th, 720 College Exercise. G. Melbourne, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Grimwade, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. Howard (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 27th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; C. Bearman, 4; S. Sargent, 5; E. Carter (conductor), 6. E. Carter hails from London.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Friday, December 25th, touches of Grandsire Triples were rung for Divine Service with the bells half-muffled. On Saturday, December 26th, 1078 in the same method. H. Lincoln, 1; W. Emery, 2; E. W. Davis, 3; G. W. Sorrell, 4; W. Lincoln (conductor), 5; R. Wood, 6; T. Lincoln, 7; C. Sillitoe, 8. On Sunday morning, 504 Oxford Bob Triples. H. Lincoln, 1; W. Emery, 2; G. W. Sorrell, 3; F. Radley, 4; A. Head, 5; R. Wood, 6; W. Lincoln, 7; F. Edwards, 8. The above was rung as a tribute of respect to the late Rev. S. Coode Hore, curate-in-charge of the parish during the absence of the Vicar, the Rev. T. L. Papillon, who died on Christmas morning. On Tuesday, December 29th, the day of the funeral, the bells were rung deeply-muffled, with the back-stroke of the tenor open, 420 and 168 Grandsire Triples being rung. After the funeral 168 Grandsire Triples. H. Lincoln, 1; W. Emery, 2; G. Sorrell, 3; F. Radley, 4; A. Head, 5; R. Wood, 6; W. Lincoln, 7; T. Lincoln, 8. On New Year's Eve, with the bells half-muffled, touches of Oxford

Bob and two courses of Bob Major were rung. After 12 p.m., with the bells open, touches of Grandsire Triples, each member of the local company taking part.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Thursday, December 31st, for practice at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. Gowers, 1; R. S. Sworder, 2; J. Mardell, 3; J. Kimberley, 4; F. Sworder, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 3rd, after evening service, 720 Bob Minor, in 26 mins. K. C. Fox (first 720 of Bob Minor), 1; G. Cornell, 2; J. Mardell, 3; J. Kimberley, 4; H. Gowers, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, December 19th, 720 Clent Delight Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). T. Barber, 1; H. Martin, 2; W. Shillock, 3; J. Barber, 4; W. Short, 5; W. Barber (conductor), 6. On Christmas morning, 720 Plain Bob. G. Workman, 1; W. Boughton, 2; W. Shillock, 3; W. Barber, 4; T. Barber, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. On Saturday, December 26th, 720 Clent Delight Minor. T. Barber, 1; W. Barber, 2; W. Shillock, 3; C. Boughton, 4; W. Short, 5; J. Barber (conductor), 6. The above is a new method by F. Clayton, of King's Norton, and is now rung for the first time. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob (twelve bobs), conducted by W. Short.

THE SALOP GUILD.

SHREWSBURY.—On Friday, December 18th, at St. Alkmund's church, 840 Grandsire Triples. G. Scarratt, 1; R. Dolman, 2; W. Owen, 3; G. Taylor, 4; W. Taylor, 4; A. Fullick, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; J. Burrows, 8. The bells have been silent for over six months for the purpose of placing new pinnacles and battlements, which has made a great improvement to the tower and spire. On Sunday evening, December 20th, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. with the tenor covering. R. Dolman, 1; W. Owen (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; G. Taylor, 3; W. Taylor, 4; F. Taylor, 5; G. Byolin (conductor), 6; J. Burrows, 8. On Monday, September 21st, in St. Alkmund's schoolroom, on handbells, several touches of Grandsire Minor. W. Stockdale, 1; G. Lloyd, 2; G. Byolin (conductor), 3-4; G. Taylor, 5-6. Also several courses with the Rev. J. Mackay ringing the 5th. On Christmas morning at 7 a.m., 504 Grandsire Triples. R. Dolman, 1; W. Owen, 2; G. Taylor, 3; W. Taylor, 4; A. Espley, 5; F. Taylor, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; J. Burrows, 8. On Monday, December 7th, at St. Chad's church, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples which came to grief after ringing 1 hr. 17 mins. G. Scarratt, 1; W. Taylor, 2; G. Taylor, 3; F. Taylor, 4; J. Evason (Admaston), 5; A. Fullick, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; J. Burrows, 8. Longest length by Messrs. Scarratt and Fullick.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

OTTERY ST. MARY (Devon).—On Christmas Day for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. G. Godfrey, 1; W. Godfrey, 2; F. Godfrey, 3; Rev. M. Kelly, 4; S. Godfrey, 5; J. Godfrey, 6; A. Pike (conductor), 7; J. Lovering, 8. On Saturday, December 26th, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Arthur E. Pike, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Channon, 1; W. Godfrey, 2; S. Godfrey, 3; Rev. M. Kelly (conductor), 4; E. Peek, 5; J. Baker, 6; F. Godfrey, 7; J. Lovering, 8. On Saturday, December 27th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Godfrey, 1; S. Godfrey (conductor), 2; W. Godfrey, 3; F. Godfrey, 4; E. Peek, 5; J. Baker, 6; J. Lovering, 8. It will be noted that in two of the above touches, Mr. George Godfrey was assisted by four of his sons. On Saturday, December 26th, with the addition of another son, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung by this family on the back six bells of the parish church. This is believed to be the first 6-score ever rung in the county of Devon by a father and five sons. G. Godfrey, 1; W. Godfrey, 2; F. Godfrey, 3; S. Godfrey, 4; J. Godfrey (conductor), 5; E. Godfrey, 6.

THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

CHIPPING BARNET (Herts).—On Monday, December 14th, for practice, 300 Canterbury Pleasure Minor, 6-8 covering. A. E. Dolton, 1; J. Sumpter, 2; C. H. Martin (conductor), 3; W. J. Dell, 4; J. Stevens, 5; A. T. King, Esq., 6; A. Belton, 7; E. Dolton, 8. On Sunday, December 20th, for morning service, 336 Grandsire Triples. A. R. Samuels, 1; A. D. Chadwick, 2; F. A. Milne, Esq., 3; J. Stevens, 4; J. Sumpter, 5; A. Belton, 6; J. W. Ginns (conductor), 7; A. T. King, Esq., 8. For evening service 504 Grandsire Triples, standing as before except 4 and 5, who changed places. On Monday, December 21st, for practice, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. F. Dolton (first touch of Triples), 1; A. D. Chidwick, 2; W. J. Dell, 3; C. H. Martin, 4; J. Stevens (conductor), 5; A. E. Dolton, 6; A. Belton, 7; A. T. King, Esq., 8. And 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Stevens, 1; W. J.

Dell, 2; H. D. Chidwick, 3; F. A. Milne, Esq., 4; C. H. Martin 5; 6, 7, 8 as before. Also 224 Bob Major. A. D. Chidwick, 2; J. Sumpter, 3; W. J. Dell, 4; F. A. Milne, Esq., 5; J. Stevens, 6; A. E. Dolton, 7; C. H. Martin (conductor), 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

DEAL (Kent).—On Christmas morning, for Divine Service at St. Leonard's church, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles) in 24 mins. S. Mockett, 1; A. Denne, 2; H. Denne, 3; G. Denne (conductor), 4; H. Castle, 5; W. Ongley, 6. On Sunday morning, December 27th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 25 mins. A. Denne, 1; H. Denne, 2; H. Wood, 3; G. Denne (conductor), 4; W. Ongley, 5; H. Castle, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt. in G.

RODMERSHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, November 29th, 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). G. Coast, 1; E. Allen, 2; J. G. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon, M.A. (conductor), 4; E. Day, 5; C. Millway, 6. On Monday, December 6th, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Sedge, 1; G. Coast, 2; J. G. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon, M.A., 4; C. Millway (conductor), 5; S. Beach, 6. On Monday, December 13th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Coast, 1; S. Beach, 2; J. G. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon, M.A., 4; R. Staines, 5; C. Millway (conductor), 6. On Friday, December 25th, for early service, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Sedge, 1; H. Coast, 2; J. G. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon, M.A. (conductor), 4; E. Day, 5; S. Beach, 6. On Sunday, December 27th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Coast, 1; S. Beach, 2; J. G. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon, M.A. (conductor), 4; E. Allen, 5; E. Day, 6. Allen and Staines hail from Borden.

TEYNHAM (Kent).—On Wednesday, December 16th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Coast, 1; S. Beech, 2; J. G. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon, M.A., 4; C. Millway (conductor), 5; R. Staines, 6. Also 720 Plain Bob (fourteen singles and four bobs). W. W. Laker, 1; S. Beach, 2; C. Millway, 3; J. Dixon, M.A. (conductor), 4; J. G. Grensted, 5; R. Staines, 6. This is believed to be the first 720 Treble Bob on the bells. The above are members of the Rodmersham band, with the exception of Staines, who belongs to Borden, and Laker to the local band.

BENGEO (Herts).—On Sunday, December 27th, at Holy Trinity church before Divine Service in the evening, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Austin, 1; T. Barker, 2; D. Bennett, 3; W. H. Dallimore, 4; W. Parcell, 5; J. Pomfret (conductor), 6.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—On Christmas morning for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. W. Rickett, 1; G. Prior, 2; A. Tucker, 3; W. Prior, 4; H. Champness, 5; H. J. Tucker (composer and conductor), 6; G. Charge, 7; T. Newman, 8.

CAMBRIDGE, STONEHOUSE (Gloucestershire).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Monday, December 28th, at the residence of an old ringer, 360 Bob Minor. Several shorter touches and several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were also rang. Maggie Condict, 1-2; G. Condict, jun., (conductor), 3-4; G. Condict, sen., 5-6. Maggie Condict is anxious to know through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" if there is any other girl of twelve who can ring a pair of bells in Bob Minor on handbells retained in hand.

CASTLE DONINGTON (Leicestershire).—On Monday, December 28th, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Tunncliffe, 1; J. Hutchby (conductor), 2; R. Tunncliffe, 3; G. Wilkins, 4; J. Hickinbottom, 5; J. Cook, 6. Also two 6-scores, with J. Fowkes ringing the 4th. J. Hutchby hails from Beeston; the rest belong to the local band.

CHESTER.—On Sunday, January 3rd, at St. Mary's-without-the-Walls, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Channell, 1; W. Wood, 2; W. Joinson, 3; J. Tomlinson, 4; C. Price, 5; T. J. Bratton (conductor), 6; W. Moulton, 7; L. Schofield, 8. And for evening service, 1008 Bob Major. W. Joinson, 1; W. Wood, 2; T. J. Bratton, 3; J. Swindley, 4; C. Price, 5; J. Tomlinson, 6; W. Moulton, 7; H. Dew (conductor), 8. T. J. Bratton hails from Welshpool.

DEVIZES (Wilts).—On Christmas Eve, at St. John's church, 720 Grandsire Doubles. W. Holland (conductor), 1; C. H. Hampton, 2; T. Raddon, 3; C. R. Hampton (aged 16, first 720), 4; A. Draper, 5; S. Hillier, 6.

DONCASTER (Yorkshire).—On Sunday morning, December 27th, for Divine Service at St. George's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 49 mins. T. Downs, 1; C. Scott, 2; H. Brock, 3; R. Baylis, 4; A. Fearnley, 5; C. Armitage (conductor), 6; H. Wilson, 7; S. Holmes, 8. First quarter-peal in the method on the bells, and longest touch by the local ringers. T. Downs belongs to Pendleton, Lancashire; A. Fearnley to York.

DURSLEY (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, December 26th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, being ten-and-a-half 6-scores, each called differently. F. Parsons, 1; G. Robbins, 2; W. Giddings, 3; H. W. Fussell (conductor), 4; E. Whittard, 5; G. Condict, 6. On Saturday, December 28th (Holy Innocents Day), with the bells muffled, ten-and-a-half 6-scores, each called differently. F. Parsons, 1; G. Robbins, 2; W. Giddings, 3; G. H. Dainton, 4; H. W. Fussell (conductor), 5; W. Durn, 6.

ISLIP (Northants).—On Tuesday, December 8th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Allen, 1; J. Allen, 2; S. Knight, 3; W. Buckley, 4; J. Betts, 5; R. Dunkley (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, December 16th, 360 London Single. R. Dunkley (conductor), 1; S. Bettles, 2; C. Swan, 3; W. Buckley, 4; E. Curtis, 5; J. Allen, 6. Messrs. Dunkley, Swan, and Curtis hail from Lowick; the rest belong to Islip.

LEICESTER.—On Tuesday, December 22nd, at St. Margaret's church, 1215 Grandsire Major on the back eight. J. Morris, 1; F. Cooke, 2; G. Burrows, 3; E. Smith, 4; J. Veasey, 5; J. Buttery, 6; J. Marlow, 7; W. Willson (conductor), 8. Tenor 30 cwt. On Saturday, December 26th, at St. Saviour's church, 1808 Grandsire Major. J. Morris, 1; G. Burrows, 2; T. Chapman (Nuneaton), 3; E. Smith, 4; J. Veasey, 5; I. Needham, 6; J. Marlow, 7; W. Willson (conductor), 8. Tenor 27 cwt.

NORTON FITZWARREN (Somersetshire).—On Wednesday, November 18th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. J. Creed (conductor), 1; H. Creed, 2; F. Saunders, 3; H. Chaplin, 4; T. Creed, 5; J. Cridland, 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. T. Creed, 1; H. Creed, 2; J. Cridland, 3; H. Chaplin, 4; J. Creed (conductor), 5; F. Saunders, 6. First in the method by all. On Christmas Day morning, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. F. Bellamy, 1; H. Creed, 2; F. Saunders, 3; T. Creed, 4; J. Creed (conductor), 5; J. Cridland, 6. First in the method by F. Bellamy. First 720 with a bob bell by F. Saunders. For evening service touches of Grandsire Minor and 120 Stedman Doubles. T. Creed, 1; H. Creed, 2; F. Saunders, 3; H. Chaplin, 4; J. Creed (conductor), 5; J. Cridland, 6. First in the method by F. Saunders. On Sunday morning, December 27th, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor. F. Bellamy, 1; H. Creed, 2; F. Saunders, 3; T. Creed, 4; J. Creed (conductor), 5; J. Cridland, 6. For evening service a few 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Creed (conductor), 1; H. Creed, 2; F. Saunders, 3; W. Wilkins, 4; H. Chaplin, 5; J. Cridland, 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. T. Creed, 1; H. Creed, 2; J. Cridland, 3; H. Chaplin, 4; J. Creed (conductor), 5; J. Matthews, 6. W. Wilkins hails from London; J. Matthews from Stogumber.

BALLADS O' THE BELLS.

By JINGLE.

THE RINGER'S YARN.

'Tis the "Goose and Gridiron," stranger; 'neath the shadow of Old St. Paul's;
We'll get in the smoke-room out of the fog, and away from the drunken brawls.
Two hundred miles on a Christmas Eve is a coldish sort of a ride,
And as we have chummed it part of the way, let us empty a glass inside.
No, I'm not a regular Yankee, though I grant I'm fresh from the States;
I've rung in yon tower for many a hour, when the ringers and I were mates;
You say you write for the papers? Then I tell you a tale of strife,
Of a thrilling kind of a drama, I have played in the stage of life.
I was married six years come Sunday, to a gal as good as gold,
Whose eyes were perfect pictures, whose face was of classic mould;
It would take some time, I reckon, for one like her to search,
And the bells rang out their sweetest, when I landed her safe in church.
No need to say we were happy, the days just went too fast,
And I wouldn't change places with angels, for I thought the dream would last;
But soaring to heights of rapture always precedes a fall,
Life's a mixture of shadow and sunshine—they come in their turn to all.
We'd been running two years in harness, when one day I chanced to hear.
That a strange chap had come in the village, and the people thought him queer;
For he steered away from the women, and seemed to avoid the men;
And if any bid him "Good morning," he'd hook it there and then.
The neighbours grew kind o' suspicious, and he'd only been here a week,
When the women began to whisper, tho' they didn't like to speak;

Of course they knew nothing for certain, but gossip soon ran rife
That nightly this pilgrim stranger was walking with Nell—my wife!

I was working just then late at business, but when I got home one night,
And charged her with the scandal, she wouldn't speak outright;
She hadn't been in many minutes, for I myself had seen
Her cross the lane to Dingley, but she wouldn't say where she'd been.
That made me like a madman, and turned my love to hate,
But I kept it down in my bosom, for I thought I'd watch and wait;
I would watch that man and my beauty, and then if report was true,
I'd kill one or the other—that's what I meant to do.

My brain seemed a-fire on the morrow, and when night began to fall,
I took my gun—it was loaded—and hung on the cottage wall,
And made my way 'long the turnpike, on to the end of the lane,
Into Dingley Wood, for 'twas rumoured there they met and would meet again.

I reached the spot and hid myself where the shrubs and trees grew thick,

And soon heard someone coming, with footsteps firm and quick.
Nearer they came—I was watching—and the stranger burst in sight;
In a moment more Nell joined him, her face a deadly white.

My blood seemed to run like lightning, with a thousand wild alarms,
The moonlight broke at that instant, and revealed her in his arms.
Great Heavens! Could she act so vilely, the lily which all admired?
The thought drove me to frenzy; I raised my gun and fired!
'Twas done in a moment and over—the fellow turned and fled;
My passion was spent in a second; her face was the face of the dead.
I saw the mark on the temple where the bullet had ploughed its way,
So I rushed from the spot in terror, leaving her where she lay.

Dead! and my God, I had killed her, I had slain a bonnie wife;
Could I escape? It was murder, and the law would want my life.
The nearest railway station was in a neighbouring town;
I must get right away from the district, or they soon would hunt me down.

They would take me away in handcuffs—the people all behind;
From thence before the judges—the sentence—and in my mind
I could fancy the fatal prison—I could feel the hangman's rope,
The scaffold! "Oh, God, have mercy; let me hide while there is hope."

Away o'er the broad Atlantic, in America, land of the free,
I picked up an English paper, and what there should I see,
But a tale how an escaped convict was thought to be skulking round
The village and lanes of Dingley; and, tho' pardoned, could not be found.

I saw no news of the murder, and thought it strange just then;
But I joined a gang of miners, a body of 'Frisco men,
Who were going back to the diggings; and thinking to make a pile,
I threw in my lot among them, and managed to "strike ile."

When the mail was brought one morning, a letter was in for me,
Addressed in Nell's own writing. Good heavens! what could it be?
My heart was beating wildly, as I broke the seal and read
Words that my wife was *living*, from the one who I thought was dead.
Yes, it was she who had written. Thank God! my prayers were heard.

My soul was clear and stainless—I read it word by word.
She said, "Come home, I forgive you, you made a mistake that night,
The wound was but superficial, and you'd barely got out of sight

When I came right round to my senses, oh! husband, Will, come home;

I ought to have told you the secret, then you never had cause to roam.

That man was my younger brother—he left home when a lad,
And got in all sorts of trouble, and somehow went to the bad.
Escaping one night from prison, he was hiding around our place,
But I didn't tell you the story because of the disgrace.
I've found where you are, from a neighbour whose son has written to tell

That you live, so do hasten to your broken-hearted Nell."

That's all I can tell you, stranger, I'll give her a surprise;
She doesn't know I have landed; I shall see the love in her eyes
As I clasp her again to my bosom, once more to be husband and wife;
The clashing bells now herald that to-night I renew my life.
"What's that you say? You are that brother! the strange chap I meant to slay?"

Forgive me for being so jealous, just give me your hand, I say;
We will drink this bumper together, and may every soul receive
Such happiness, love, and comfort, as I have on Christmas Eve.

[These lines of poetry were crowded out of our Christmas week number.—Ed.]

Compositions.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

By NATHAN J. PITSTOW, *Saffron Walden.*5031.
2 3 1 4 5 6 4 5 16

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

3 1 4 6 5 2 8 -
3 1 2 4 5 6 -
3 1 6 2 5 4 -
6 1 3 4 5 2 -
6 1 2 3 5 4 -
2 1 6 4 5 3 -
2 1 3 6 5 4 -
2 1 4 3 5 6 -
4 1 2 6 5 3 -
4 1 3 2 5 6 -
4 1 6 3 5 2 -
6 1 4 2 5 3 -

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

Repeat the calling bracketed, which produces 415362, from which the bells are brought round by a single at four bobs at 6, 8, 11, 13, and 14.

* Produced by bobs at 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 9, 13, and 14, and single at 4.

The 5th and 6th each twenty-three courses behind the 9th.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH.

By F. BENNETT, *Brighton.*

(Corrected from one published a fortnight ago.)

5568.

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

Three times repeated.

Single for bob where marked in 2nd and 4th parts.

Omitting the three braced bobs in 1st and 3rd parts reduces the peal to 5120.

TWO PEALS OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

By H. DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

5056.

23456 B M W H
52436 - - -
63425 - - -
24536 - - -
32546 - - -
43526 - - -
65324 - - -
36524 - - -
53624 - - -
46325 - - -
34625 - - -
64523 - - -
25346 - - -
42356 - - -
54326 - - -
62345 - - -
36245 - - -
23645 - - -
34256 - - -
53246 - - -
45236 - - -
62534 - - -
35426 - - -
23456 - - -

5056.

23456 B M W H
42356 - - -
34256 - - -
53246 - - -
24536 - - -
52436 - - -
63425 - - -
54326 - - -
35426 - - -
43526 - - -
65324 - - -
32654 - - -
63254 - - -
26354 - - -
52364 - - -
36524 - - -
45623 - - -
64523 - - -
56423 - - -
56234 - - -
25634 - - -
62534 - - -
45236 - - -
23456 - - -

This peal has the 6th her extent right, and is the result of an endeavour to obtain a quality in composition not yet published.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

By WILLIAM WILLSON, *Leicester.*5147.
2 3 4 5 6

* 4 5 3 2 6
5 2 3 4 6 11th in four.
2 4 3 5 6 11th in four.
3 2 4 5 6 8th in four.
4 3 2 5 6 8th in four.
3 5 2 4 6 11th in four.
5 4 2 3 6 11th in four.
2 5 4 3 6 8th in four.
4 2 5 3 6 8th in four.
2 3 5 4 6 11th in four.
3 4 5 2 6 11th in four.
5 3 4 2 6 8th in four.

The last eleven courses repeated, calling first course 11th in three, produces—

6 3 5 2 4

4 2 3 6 5 11th in three.
2 6 3 4 5 11th in four.
3 2 6 4 5 8th in four.
6 3 2 4 5 8th in four.
3 4 2 6 5 11th in four.
2 6 4 3 5 11th in four single.
4 2 6 3 5 8th in four.
6 4 2 3 5 8th in four.
4 3 2 6 5 11th in four.
3 6 2 4 5 11th in four.
2 3 6 4 5 8th in four.
6 2 3 4 5 8th in four.

Calling the 11th in and out at 2 with a double brings rounds. 8th behind the 11th throughout, and 4, 5, and 6 only before the 7th.

* Produced by bobs at 2, 2, 7, 2, 3, 5, 1.

TWO PEALS OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

By H. DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

5024.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

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

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

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

By twice repeating the calling of the first nine courses of the peal of 5024 changes, another is obtained containing 5664 changes in the least number of bobs. Such a peal has not yet been produced in three equal parts.

5184.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Twice repeated.

A bob right may be added to the last course of each part, and the bob may be omitted in each part.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By WILLIAM H. BARBER, *Clent, Stourbridge, Worcestershire.*

5000.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

2 3 5 6 4 2 2 1
2 5 6 3 4 1 2
2 6 3 5 4 1 2

4 2 5 6 3 2 1 2

2 4 3 6 5 2 2
2 3 6 4 5 1 2
6 3 4 2 5 2 1

2 5 3 4 6 1 2 2
3 5 4 2 6 2 1
2 3 4 5 6 1

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY
PLEASURE CATERS.By ARTHUR KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

6480.							
2	3	4	5	6	1	2	4 7 8
2 4 3 5 6							s
4 6 2 5 3							
6 3 4 5 2							
3 2 6 5 4							
<hr/>							
3 2 4 5 6							
2 6 3 5 4							
6 4 2 5 3							
4 3 6 5 2							
<hr/>							
4 3 2 5 6							
3 6 4 5 2							
6 2 3 5 4							
2 4 6 5 3							
<hr/>							
4 2 3 5 6							s
2 6 4 5 3							
6 3 2 5 4							
3 4 6 5 2							
<hr/>							
3 4 2 5 6							
4 6 3 5 2							
6 2 4 5 3							
2 3 6 5 4							
<hr/>							
2 3 4 5 6							
3 6 2 5 4							
6 4 3 5 2							
4 2 6 5 3							
<hr/>							
6 2 5 4 3							

Repeated, calling the first course—

1 2 4 7

s - - s and the last course 1, 2, 4,
produces—

2 3 5 4 6

2 3 4 5 6 2, 3, 4s.

If the following three courses are substituted for the first nine courses of both parts, the peal is reduced to 5040.

2 3 4 5 6 4 7 8

2 4 3 5 6 - s

3 2 4 5 6 -

4 3 2 5 6 -

A QUARTER-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE
TRIPLES.By WILLIAM WARE, *Old Windsor.*

2 3 4 5 6 7

s 5 7 2 6 3 4 1

3 4 5 2 6 7 2

4 5 3 2 6 7 4

2 5 4 7 3 6 5

s 3 4 2 5 6 7 3

Five times repeated; with bob in lieu of a single midway and end.

GARDENER (Head Working), age 27. Good practical experience inside and out; excellent characters for fifteen months and eight years previous; single; disengaged; change-ringer on eight or ten bells.—Apply, A. Rought, Cawston road, Aylsham, Norfolk.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAJOR.By JAMES S. WILDE, *Hyde, Cheshire.*

5008.					
23456	1	4	5	6	
65324	-	-			
<hr/>					
23564	-	-		34526	
35264	-	-		45326	
54263	-	-		52346	
24365	-	-		43256	
<hr/>					
34562	-	-		32546	s
45362	-	-		25346	
52364	-	-		54326	
32465	-	-		42356	
<hr/>					
42563	-	-		23546	s
25463	-	-		35246	
53462	-	-		54236	
43265	-	-		32456	
<hr/>					
32564	s	-		24536	s
25364	-	-		45236	
54362	-	-		53246	
34265	-	-		34256	
<hr/>					
45263	-	-		42536	s
53264	-	-		25436	
43562	-	-		53426	
23465	-	-		24356	
<hr/>					
35462	-	-		43526	s
52463	-	-		35426	
24563	-	-		52436	
42365	-	-		23456	

This peal contains the extent of the 6th wrong and right.

It is the first composition in the method wherein the 5th and 6th reverse their respective positions every fourth course in the first half; and are also brought in their own respective positions every fourth course in the second half.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By FREDERICK DENCH, *Royal Cumberland Youths, London.*

5136.

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

Twice repeated.

This peal has the 6th eighteen times right and eighteen wrong, with the 2nd never in 5-6.

TWO DATE TOUCHES OF
STEDMAN CATERS.By J. P. BRADLEY, *West Ham, Essex.*

1897.					1897.				
123456	5	16			123456	4	5	16	
514263*					564231*				
415362	-	-			364152	-	-		
412563	-	-			362451	-	-		
413265	-	-			361254	-	-		
314562	-	-			163452	-	-		
312465	-	-			162354	-	-		
315264	-	-			164253	-	-		
513462	-	-			461352	-	-		
512364	-	-			462153	-	-		
<hr/>					<hr/>				
512463	s	-			462351	s	-		
215364	-	-			461253	-	-		
214563	-	-			463152	-	-		
213465	-	-			364251	-	-		
312564	-	-			361452	-	-		
314265	-	-			362154	-	-		
315462	-	-			263451	-	-		
513264	-	-			261354	-	-		

*Produced by bobs at 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9 single, 12.
Round at 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 14.
Start with a slow six.

*Produced by bobs at 1, 2, 4 single, 6, 7, 11.
Round at 2, 4, 5, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16.
Start with a slow six.

Coming Events.

To-DAY, SATURDAY, JANUARY 9.

Monthly meeting of the South and West Middlesex Guild at Hampton (St. Mary the Virgin) and Sunbury (St. Mary's).

Quarterly meeting of the Old East Derbyshire Association at Anston.

Meeting of the Liverpool Diocesan Guild at Poolstock, Wigan.

Monthly meeting of the Stoke Archidiaconal Association at Tunstall.

MONDAY, JANUARY 11.

Annual meeting of the Surrey Association at Putney.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13.

Anniversary Dinner at Redenhall, Norfolk.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16.

The quarterly meeting of the Middlesex Association at Tottenham.

Annual meeting of the Yorkshire Association at Leeds.

Monthly meeting of the Salop Archdeaconry Guild at Wellington.

District meeting of the Kent County Association (Lewisham District) at Crayford.

Monthly meeting of the Manchester Branch of the Lancashire Association at Manchester.

Meeting of the Rochdale Branch of the Lancashire Association at the church of St. James, Milnrow.

Meeting of the Rossendale Branch of the Lancashire Association at Helmshore.

Yearly meeting of the Heavy Woollen District Association at Dewsbury.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. CRAVEN.—Thanks.

TED.—We are compelled to commence printing this paper on Thursday afternoon.

Notices.

The South and West Middlesex Guild.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Hampton (St. Mary the Virgin) and Sunbury (St. Mary's) to-day, Saturday, January 9th. Hampton Station (L.S.W.R.) Ringing at 5.30. Hy. F. G. LUCK, *Hon. Sec.*
7, Warwick Place, Ealing.

The Old East Derbyshire Association. The quarterly meeting will be held at Anston to-day, Saturday, January 9th. Kiverton Park Station. Ring of six bells.
E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*

Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—The next meeting of this Guild will be held at St. James, Poolstock, Wigan, to-day, Saturday, Jan. 9th, 1897. Bells ready at 3.30 p.m. Business meeting at 6 p.m.
REV. W. T. BULPIT, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. BENTHAM, }

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held at Tunstall to-day, Saturday January 9th. Members who intend to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. W. H. Harratt, 46, Church Street, Tunstall.
REV. J. W. ALSTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG, }

The Surrey Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Putney, on Monday, January 11th, by kind permission of the Vicar. Business meeting, election of officers, etc. The tower of St. Mary the Virgin (eight bells) will be open at 3 p.m.; and the tower of All Saints, Fulham (10 bells) has been kindly granted for the use of the members by the local Society. Time and place of meeting for tea will be announced later. Local Secretaries are requested to forward the number of members who intend to be present at tea to the undersigned, not later than Thursday, January 7th. Tea at The White Lion hotel, Putney Bridge, at 6 p.m.
R. B. BLANCHARD, *Hon. Sec.*
13, Sunnyhill Road, Streatham, S.W.

The Middlesex Association.—The next quarterly meeting of this Association will be held at Tottenham, on Saturday, January 16th. The tower of All Hallows church will be open for ringing from 5 p.m. Members and friends of the Association are cordially invited to attend.
ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*
Sarum, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

The Lancashire Association (Rochdale Branch).—The next meeting will be held at the church of St. James' Milnrow, on Saturday, January 16th, 1897. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. All ringers invited, members or non-members.
EDWIN B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*
14, Thomas Street, Lees.

The Lancashire Association (Rossendale Branch).—A branch meeting will be held at Helmsore, on January 16th, 1897. Bells ready for 3 p.m. Business meeting, 6.30.
J. H. BANKS, *Branch Sec.*
Industrial Terrace, Helmsore.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—The sum of 1s. 8d., in lieu of booking fees, is now due. After ringing at St. Paul's cathedral, on Tuesday, January 12th, 1897, business of a specially important nature will be brought forward at the meeting to be held at headquarters, when it is hoped that all members who can possibly do so, will attend.
W. T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*
37, Tradescant Road, South Lambeth, S.W.

Redenhall, Norfolk.—The Anniversary Dinner will be held on Wednesday, January 13th, at 1.30. The bells will be available for ringing from 9 a.m. F. R. BORRETT, *Pulham.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association. The yearly meeting of the above will be held at The Little Saddle inn, Dewsbury, on Saturday, January 16th, 1897, at 5 p.m. prompt. The following business will be transacted:—Election of officers; Auditor's Report; Balance-Sheet, and also consideration of the following alterations: Exchange of dates of contests; Alterations of monthly meetings; Addition to rules 12 and 13; also as to practice allowed, and other important business. Subscriptions for 1897 will be due. All members are requested to attend.
GEO. H. SIMON, *Hon. Sec.*
19, Albert Street, Batley Carr.

The Yorkshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Leeds on Saturday, January 16th. Choral service in the parish church at 4; with sermon by Rev. R. S. Medlicott. Tea will be served afterwards in the schoolroom at 8d. each, names for which must be sent to Mr. Francis Woodhead, 3, Runswick Place, Holbeck, on or before January 11th. Business meeting in the schoolroom after tea. The bells of the parish church (12), S. Michael's, Headingley (8); S. Chad's, Far Headingley (8); Christ church, Armley (6); will be at disposal. The amateur society of ringers of the church of St. Francis (r.c.), Manor Road, Holbeck, give notice that the ring of eight bells will be at disposal from 2 to 7 p.m. on the above date, through the kindness of the Rev. Father McAuliffe, and give all a hearty welcome. B. T. COPELEY, *Hon. Sec.*
14, Hillside Terrace, Bradford.

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held at the Manchester Cathedral, on Saturday, January 16th. Bells ready at 5 p.m. Business meeting at 7 p.m. All ringing friends invited, whether members or not. WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*
54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

Kent County Association (Lewisham District).—A district meeting will be held at Crayford on Saturday, January 16th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. Committee meeting in schoolroom at 6 p.m. W. BEDWELL, *Dis. Hon. Sec.*
Albacore Crescent, Lewisham.

Salop Archdeaconry Guild.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Wellington, on Saturday, January 16th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 4.30 p.m.
REV. J. MACKAY, *Hon. Sec.*
Leaton Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—The anniversary meeting will be held at Gloucester, on Thursday, January 21st. A short service at St. Michael's, at 4.30 p.m., address by Rev. Canon Scobell, R.D., Vicar of Upton St. Leonard's. Dinner at 5 p.m., at The Criterion hotel, at 2s. 6d. per head, towards which 1s. 6d. will be allowed to each ringing member who sends a postal order for 1s. to the hon. sec., on or before Saturday, the 16th. Business meeting immediately after dinner. C. H. JOBERNS, *Hon. Sec.*
St. Stephen's Rectory, Bristol.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The quarterly meeting of this Society will be held on Saturday, January 23rd, at the parish church, Cannock. Bells available for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Short service in the church at 5 p.m. Com-

mittee meeting at 5.30. Tea at 6 p.m.; 1s. each for all those who send in their names not later than January 20th to

S. REEVES, *Hon. Sec.*
10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

St. Martin's Guild of Birmingham.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 26th, at The Tamworth Arms, Moor Street; chair to be taken at 8.30 p.m. The attendance of every member for consideration of important business is earnestly requested. Particular attention is directed to clause 4 of rule VI.
W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*
61, Roland Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

The Midland Counties Association.—The third quarterly meeting of the year will be held at Chesterfield on Saturday, January 30th. Full particulars in next week's issue. Parties of eight or more can obtain fare-and-a-quarter tickets by giving three days' notice at any station. J. O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.*
22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.

The Essex Association.—A district meeting of the above will be held at Brentwood, on Saturday, January 30th. Tea will be provided at the church house, at 5 p.m., to be followed by a business meeting. Members intending to be present must signify the same, and the station from which they start, not later than the previous Tuesday.
HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Hon. Sec.*
Gt Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Association.—The next committee and quarterly meeting of this Association will be held in the schoolroom, Old Swinford, near Stourbridge, on Saturday, January 30th. Full particulars in due course.
JNO. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*
36, Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

Kent County Association.—Conductors and all others interested are informed that Rule xvi. must for the future be strictly complied with, and accounts of peals rung must be accompanied by a certificate from the conductor that no manuscript or other visible aid to memory has been used in calling. No peal will be reckoned as an Association peal without this. FRED. J. O. HELMORE, *Hon. Sec.*
Canterbury.

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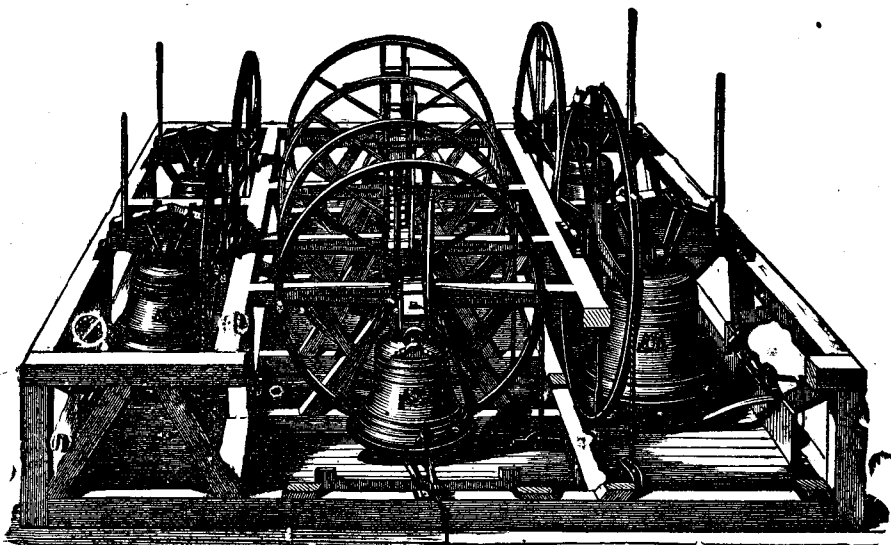
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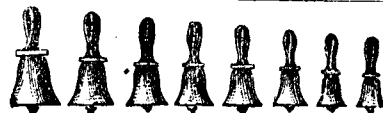
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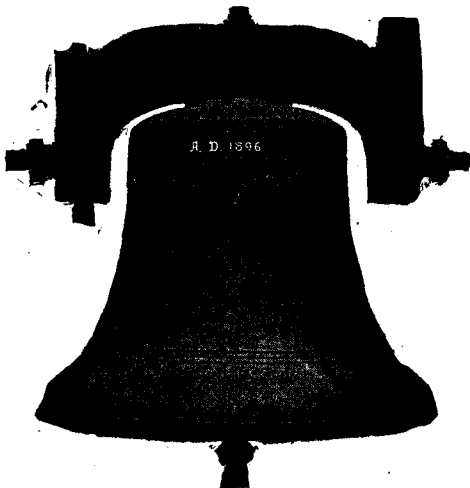
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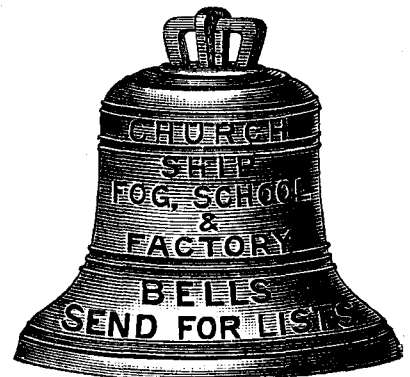
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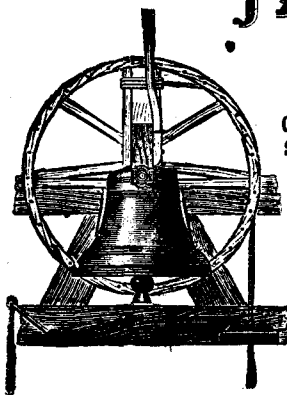
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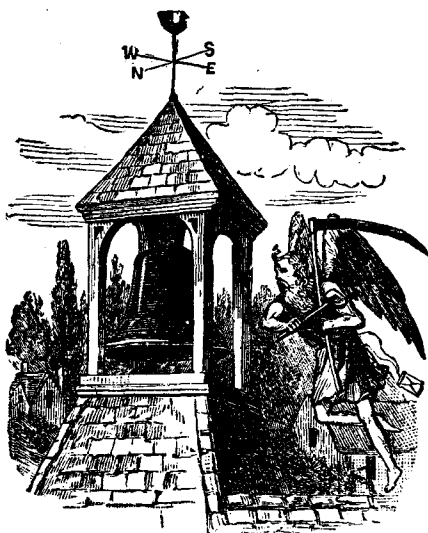
No. 771.—VOL. XV.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1897.

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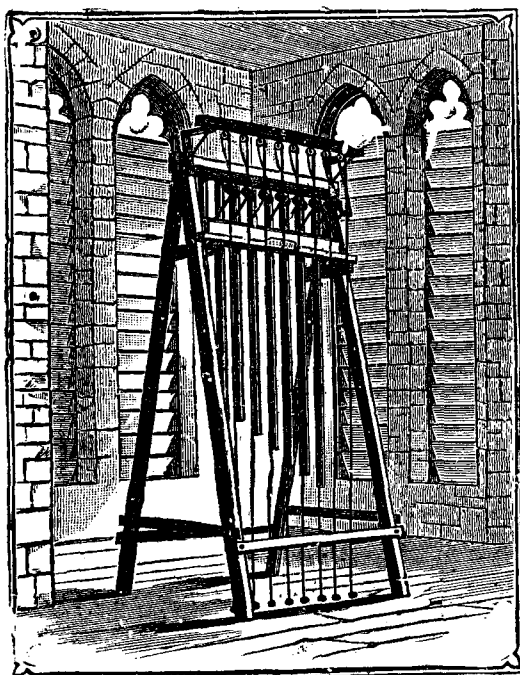
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 771.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1897.

[Vol. XV.]

THE BELLS OF YORK MINSTER.

By WM. H. HOWARD, *Vice-President of the Yorkshire Association.*

After many years of thought, raised by the saying of the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe about "What proof?" and in searching for it, I determined to attempt the following few particulars, and, in doing so must beg to thank my friend the late Chancellor Raine, for access to the Minster library, the Rev. C. C. Child, the Chapter Clerk, and the Rev. Canon Machell, for their kindness in correcting all the quotations, hoping it will be acceptably read by the members of the different ringing societies with pleasure and profit.

In compiling an account of the bells of York Minster, we are led back to Mediæval times, some of the earlier occupants of the Minster Tower having been innocent of those marks which enable us to ascertain, with more or less certainty, the date of bells founded from the fourteenth century to the present time.

The *Clavis*, first published in 1788, credits the Minster with having had the first ring of twelve bells in England, though the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe wrote saying he should like to have further evidence before accepting this statement.

The earliest mention we can find of the Minster bells is in a manuscript by "Torre," preserved in the Minster library, where we have it recorded that on the 11th July, 1466, for the founding of four bells, there was delivered into the hands of Thomas Innocent, bell-founder, by John Knapton, under-treasurer, and Mr. John Saxton, certain metals, all particularly named in the record, which also shews the weight of each bell.

We hear nothing further of the bells till we come to a history of the Minster, by Gent, published in the year 1730, and reprinted in 1760, in which he says "Two lofty steeples appear at the west end, and the words of a learned man may be applied to this, as well as that famous edifice at Canterbury. The church raiseth itself with so great Majesty and Stateliness, that it striketh a sensible impression of Religion into the minds of those that behold it."

The historian states that "The north-west steeple was called St. Mary's or Our Lady's, probably from its being nearest to the chapel of that name. In it at one time hung four bells, but in the year 1655 they were removed (January 7th) into the other steeple, the expense of their removal being met by a collection through the City."

The presence of four bells in the south-west tower having been thus accounted for, the historian at once tells us of a ring of twelve in that tower. The only previous mention we can find of this ring is contained in a note to the effect that in 1657 the eleventh bell was broken, and the fourth being likewise untunable, was broken and melted down and the biggest of three bells belonging to the demolished church of St. Nicholas-extra-Walmgate was added to make up for loss of weight in recasting.

A further note shews that "T. Dickinson being Lord Mayor of the City of York, in that year," his Lordship in conjunction with the Aldermen and Councillors gave one-hundred and thirty pounds towards refounding some of the old bells, and making the chimes sound delightfully and perfectly on them all.

This mention of the eleventh and fourth shews clearly that in 1657, two years after the four were removed across from the north-west to the south-west tower, there was in the latter tower a ring of twelve bells. This can only be the ring of which the *Clavis* speaks, as the earliest ring of twelve known. It is more than probable that they were a patchwork set, as the addition of the four bells in 1655, and the sixth, tenth, and twelfth readily shown, and this theory is further borne out, by the fact shown on the first four, that it was necessary to recast them in 1681 to bring them into tune with the rest of the ring. This work was done by a firm who used the following initials "S. S. Ebor," in a beautiful scroll work, interspersed with small bells round the upper part of the bells.

The following is "Gent's account of the ring, which he des-

cribes as "An excellent ring of curious bells, twelve in number, on which the chimes play various tunes" and which it appears were hung in two lofts or tiers, those in the highest loft being the seven smallest bells and were inscribed as follows:—

I.—"Deo et Regi Sacrum."—Sacred to God and the King, 1681.

II.—"Jubilare Domino." Ps. lxxvi. Make a joyful noise unto God. Dia. 26 ins. 1681.

III.—"Exultate Deo." Ps. lxxxvi. Rejoice in God. Dia. 28 ins. 1681.

IV.—"Gloria in Excelsis deo."—Glory to God on high. Dia. 30 ins. 1681.

V.—"Vocata dum voco pulsata munda Maria."—(Whilst I call, Mary, rings through the world). Dia. 36 ins. Or, a better translation: "While I call, being struck or rung, the pure Mary is invoked."

This bell is supposed to have been cast previous to the fourteenth century, there is no date on it. Mr. G. Benson, architect of the City of York, supposes it to be one of the four founded by the afore-named John Innocent, *vide* his book on York bells.

VI.—I will sound and resound to thy people, Lord, with my sweet voice to call them to Thy Word. 1599. Dia. 39 ins.

VII.—"Beatus est populus qui agnoscunt Clangorem."—(Blessed are the people who acknowledge the sound). 1657. Dia. 42 ins.

In the lower tier were the five larger bells inscribed as follows:—

VIII.—"Te Deum Laudamus."—(We praise Thee, O God). "Johannus Lake Resid" us, Robertus Hitch Decanus.—Robertus Scoresby Precentor, Christopherus Stone Cancellarius. 1671. Dia. 47 ins.

IX.—"Petrus psallo, Petrus spe tibi dum resonat choriste."—Peter, Peter, I sing to thee in hope while the choir resoundeth. Dia. 52 ins. Or better translation:—I Peter sing, while Peter (the bell) resoundeth in hope to thee, Oh singer.

X.—"Sweetly tolling men do call;

To taste on food that feeds the soul." 1627. Dia. 59 ins.

XI.—"Funera Deploro, populum vcco, festa decoro, Thomas Dickinson, Milite Majore, Civit Eboraci vice 2do sumptus procurante."—(I deplore the dead, I call the people, I adorn the Festivals. Thomas Dickinson, second time Lord Mayor of the City of York, gave this at his own charge.) H. Harwood, E. Calvert, E. Elcock; Dia. 62 ins.

XII. (and largest bell).—"Exultemus Domino."—(Let us rejoice in God, 1627). "Phineas Hodson Cancellarius. Wickham Archi: nus Ebor." Its Dia 69 ins.; its weight was 59 cwt.

This bell was usually tolled for funerals; Tobias Matthew Archbishop was the first for whom it was tolled.

We next find that Anno. 1733 the frames of all these bells were removed, and were rehung in a manner much more commodious for ringing than before. Towards the expense of this a set of public-spirited citizens, great admirers of this kind of music, contributed £20. They also at their own expense built a new floor, 21 ft. higher than the old one, for greater convenience in ringing, a diversion that has long been in vogue in England, but in no other part of the world.

It was not long, however, before further changes in the belfry were considered necessary, for in the days of Dean Fountayne these twelve bells not being quite tunable, the first five were exchanged for the three bells in the tower of St. Michael's Spurriergate, in which church they still hang (and are now rung each Sunday morning, for Divine Service, by a band of ringers from the Minster company, a treble having been purchased to complete the ring of six). Messrs. Lester and Pack, of the Whitechapel Foundry, were called in to cast a new ring for the Minster.

The estimate they presented is still to be seen in the Chapter Clerk's office; it is as follows:—

"To the Right Worshipful the Dean and Chapter of York Cathedral. An estimate for the casting ten bells, good, and musical in tone by your obliged servants to command. LESTER AND PACK.

"to wit" To cost of a peal of 10 bells the whole peal to weigh ten tons at 13 pence per pound. £1213 6s. 3d. Per contra.



YORK MINSTER.

We to receive the 13 old bells computed to weigh twelve tons, eighteen cwt. at 10 pence per pound. £1201 19s. 8d.

Balance £11 7s. 0d.

We to receive the old bells at any warfe in London and deliver the new ones at the same place paying the cartidge only."

The bells were not taken down till 1765, and then it appears that the Dean and Chapter sold the eighth bell to a Mr. Beckwith, whose agreement was couched in the following terms:—

"February 15th, 1765.

Weighed from the Dean and Chapter of York, to give 11 pence per pound for the eighth bell, being one of twelve bells belonging to the Cathedral Church of York, as now remains in the said church, which I agree to pay on or before the 14th day of May next ensuing, into the hands of Mr. Clough, or any other person the Dean of York shall name or appoint."

This note gives us the weight of the eighth, and Lester and Pack's is endorsed with the weights of the twelfth, eleventh, tenth and ninth, which gives the complete weight of the back six of the old ring as follows:—

7th.—14 cwt., 2 qrs., 16 lbs.	8th.—19 cwt., 2 qrs., 11 lbs.
9th.—26 cwt., 1 qr., 7 lbs.	10th.—40 cwt., 3 qrs., 26 lbs.
11th.—42 cwt., 1 qr., 14 lbs.	12th.—55 cwt., 1 qr., 0 lbs.

There are also quoted the weights of four other bells. Three of them must be the old clock-bells, and of the St. Michael's the totals were 28 cwt. In looking over some papers, I have come across the following particulars of the old clock bell that was in the pinnacle over the south transept:—The clock bell was 3 ft. 7 in. in diam.; therefore would be about 15 or 16 cwt., and its motto ran thus:

"Ave, Gratia plena Dominus tecum." That is: "Hail, full of Grace, the Lord is with thee."

Which will account more satisfactory with regard to the agreement *re* Lester and Pack.

The clock stood in the south transept, and was rendered useless by age and removed 1752.

The bells, which Messrs. Pack and Chapman supplied in accordance with the agreement, are of the same weight and dimensions as those in Bow church, London, and are allowed to have been as complete a set as any in the kingdom.

The weights and dimensions are as follows:—

1st.—8 cwt., 3 qrs., 7 lbs.; dia. 32½ ins.
2nd.—9 cwt., 1 qr., 5 lbs.; dia. 33½ ins.
3rd.—10 cwt., 1 qr., 2 lbs.; dia. 36 ins.
4th.—12 cwt., 2 qrs., 21 lbs.; dia. 38½ ins.
5th.—13 cwt., 2 qrs., 22 lbs.; dia. 41 ins.
6th.—16 cwt., 0 qrs., 21 lbs.; dia. 43½ ins.
7th.—21 cwt., 0 qrs., 23 lbs.; dia. 48 ins.
8th.—26 cwt., 0 qrs., 13 lbs.; dia. 51 ins.
9th.—33 cwt., 2 qrs., 16 lbs.; dia. 57 ins.
Tenor, 53 cwt., 0 qrs., 25 lbs.; dia. 65 ins.

On the 1, 2, 3, 4, there were no inscriptions beyond the founders' names, Lester and Pack, the other six were inscribed as follows:—

- 5.—Music is medicine to the mind.
- 6.—Our voices shall, with joyful sound
Make hills and vallies echo round.
- 7.—In wedlock bands,
All ye who join with heart and hands,
Your hearts unite.
So shall our tuneful tongues combine to laud
The nuptial rite.
- 8.—Ye ringers all, that prize your health and happiness,
Be sober, merry, wise and you'll the same possess.
- 9.—To honour both of God and King,
Our voices shall in concert ring.
- 10.—J. FOUNTAYNE, *Dean*.
W. COWPER,
W. BERDMORE,
W. CAYLEY,
W. MASON, } *Residentaries*.

The opening of these bells, announced in the following advertisement, is equal to any announcement we have seen in the columns of "THE BELL NEWS":—

"This is to give Notice to all Gentlemen ringers and others that there is a new peal of ten bells (cast by Lester and Pack of London), to be opened on Monday, the 19th of August next, at York Minster, and allowed to be by the best judges in London, to be as fine a peal of

that number as any in the kingdom, and as heavy. Free liberty being given any strangers to open the peal. Any ringers that chose to come the Sunday evening before will be allowed to ring a round peal upon trial. They are now hanging by Samuel Turner, bell hanger to the above firm. If any gentlemen, churchwardens, or others want any new peals of bells, or any that want new casting, or hanging, by sending a letter to the said S. Turner, at the Cross Guns, near the Minster, betwixt this and the first of September next, they shall be waited upon immediately and their work faithfully executed after the very best manner by their most obedient and humble servant,

S. TURNER."

The ring of ten bells was totally destroyed, along with the whole contents of the tower, and the entire roof of the nave by fire, caused accidentally during the cleaning and repairing of the clock on the 20th of May, 1840.

The work of restoration of the Cathedral was promptly taken in hand, after a large public meeting of noblemen and gentlemen of the County and others, who subscribed liberally towards the loss sustained by the Dean and Chapter.

The present ring of twelve bells is the gift of the late Stephen Beckwith, Esq., M.D., of this City, who, in 1843, by his will, left the large sum of £45,000 to the Minster, museum, and several other institutions and charities in the city (who it is thought to be connected with or related to the afore-named Hy. Beckwith), who had his residence in Coney Street in this City.

The Whitechapel firm were again selected to supply the church with its bells, and they have given every satisfaction to all who have heard and rung them. The founders were Messrs. George and Thomas Mears.

They have no inscriptions beyond the founders' names, except the eleventh, which has the following:—

"Soli Deo Gloria
Anno Domini MDCCCXLIII.
Regina Victoria Britanniarum Regina Septimo
Archiepiscopatus Edwardi
Archies Ebor XXXVII.
Stephanus Beckwith
Medicine Doctor Inter Eboracenses primarius
Testamento Legavit.

Their weights are as follows:—

Treble, 7 cwt., 2 qrs., 0 lbs.	2nd.—7 cwt., 1 qr., 14 lbs.
3rd.—8 cwt., 0 qr., 2 lbs.	4th.—8 cwt., 1 qr., 12 lbs.
5th.—9 cwt., 2 qrs., 15 lbs.	6th.—13 cwt., 2 qrs., 2 lbs.
7th.—14 cwt., 1 qr., 2 lbs.	8th.—17 cwt., 3 qrs., 18 lbs.
9th.—19 cwt., 3 qrs., 4 lbs.	10th.—25 cwt., 1 qr., 7 lbs.
11th.—33 cwt., 1 qr., 7 lbs.	Tenor.—53 cwt., 3 qrs., 7 lbs.

Total weight of the twelve, 278 cwt., 3 qrs., 7 lbs."

The clock and the tenor bell were put up before the other bells were ordered, by the order of the late Dean Cockburn, which was the reason of the inscription being on the eleventh.

The last addition to the bells of the Minster is the large one in the north-west tower, known by the name of "Great Peter," another production of the firm of Mears & Co., which we think is a fine piece of modelling of a bell as is known. Its net weight is ten tons, fifteen cwt., and was subscribed for by the citizens and gentlemen around. The Dean and Chapter had the tower put into complete repair for its reception, at a cost of £2,000, which was about as much as the cost of the bell. Its diameter is 8 ft., 4 ins., and is 7 ft., 4 ins. high and 7 ins. thick at the sound bow; the clapper weighs 4 cwt., 5 lbs. Round the top of the bell is the following in Lombardic characters:—

"In sanctæ et Aeternæ Trinitatis honorem
Pecunia Sponte collecta Eboracenses
Faciendum curaverunt in usum
Ecclesiæ Metrop. B. Petri Ebor."

And round the rim:—

"Anno. Salutis MDCCCXLV. Victoria Reg. VIII. Edwardi Archipi. XXXVIII. C. et G. Mears, Londini, Fecerunt."

We must not omit to make some mention of the old prayer bell, which was lost in the fire of 1840, after having done duty for so many years to the Church and its worshippers in several different positions. We find that at one time it was placed in a turret over the south transept, whence it was removed to the top of the lantern tower in Dean Gale's time, between the years 1697 and 1702. Thence it was again removed to the south-west tower, when it was lost as stated above. The inscription on was as follow:—

Surge cito propera cunctis citat excitat hora.
Cur Dormis? Vigila me resonante leva 1592."

Gent's translation of this is as follows:—

"Rise, quickly haste, 'tis time to stir for all;
"Why sleepest thou? Awake when I do call."

This bell used to be rung from the floor of the church, close by the south-west door under the tower. Of its weight and measurement no record can be found, but there are few persons still living who have seen and rung it. They compute its diameter about 30 ins., and its note about D, and recall with pleasure the sweetness of its tone.

The old clock bells, removed in 1752, stood in a pinnacle over the south door with two smaller ones, on which the quarters were struck by two effigies, similar to those formerly at St. Dunstan's in Fleet Street (London). The same two effigies are again doing duty, but inside of the fabric upon two of Harrington's tubes.

Extract from the *York Courant*, November 26th, 1733.

"On Monday, Mr. James Harrison, of Barrow, in Lincolnshire, finished the rehanging of the peal of twelve bells in the south-west tower of the Cathedral, according to an article entered into by him with the Venerable Dean and Chapter. This was the first peal of twelve bells in England, the tenor or largest bell being upwards of a note deeper than the tenor of any other peal of twelve, and is near six feet in diameter. The eleventh is about fifty-four hundred weight, and the tenth about forty-four hundred weight. The rest of the bells, indeed, are not in proportion to those, in which disadvantage the skill of the undertaker appears very much, for they perform their revolutions very regularly, and their clappers are so well managed, as to make every agreeable harmony. All the twelve are hung upon one surface or plain, in one frame. After this alteration several peals of Triples, Bob Minor, and Caters have been performed on the said bells by the new Society of York Scholars, who design to shortly attempt those of Bob Major, Cinques and Maximus. The tenor may be rung by one man for some time, but two can manage it with ease, all the rest are raised and maintained by one man to each bell for a considerable time. The whole is completed to the satisfaction of the Church and is agreed by the most able judges to be the best finished piece of work that has been known in these parts.

"The said Mr. Harrison has also regulated the chimes upon the said bells in a very elegant manner."

[The photograph issued with this number gives a south-west view of the Minster.]

PRESENTATION TO MR. WILLIAM WILLSON.

The Birstall band (Leicestershire) on Saturday last, January 9th, very generously expressed their appreciation of the tutorship of above-named ringer, by presenting him with an elegant drop pipe of amber and rosewood, together with a silk-plush tobacco pouch. The pipe is handsomely mounted in chased silver, and will furthermore shew a silver bell plate with inscription. Mr. E. Smith, in making the presentation, said Mr. Willson had been at considerable trouble in teaching them five and six bell ringing, and they were extremely grateful for his kindness, and these sentiments were endorsed by all the band. Mr. William Willson said it came as an entire surprise to him, but nothing would please him better than their choice. He expected nothing for teaching them but their adherence and perseverance, but it was pleasant to know one's services were appreciated. Adjourning to the ringers' meeting-house a pleasant hour's harmony was indulged in, when songs were rendered by Mr. Bradshaw, Smith and others.

TO COMPOSERS OF PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

Will composers of the above method kindly send all their compositions as soon as possible, as the work of classifying will take up considerable time. I hope they will also send the peals they have already published in "THE BELL NEWS," dated if possible.

38, Chad Street, Newtown, Leeds.

TOM LOCKWOOD.

YOUTH WANTED to learn a trade in the Midlands. Age about 16. Apply—A.B., care of Editor.

PRACTICAL HINTS TO YOUNG CONDUCTORS AND COMPOSERS.

CHAPTER XII.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.—(continued.)

The exigencies of a newspaper frequently prevents its contributors from saying as much at a time as they would like to say, and this is the case this week with me. However, it is promised that I shall have what space I please next week, as "THE BELL NEWS" is then to consist of no less than twenty-four pages!

Last week two quarter-peals were given. I am sorry to hear from several of my readers that the one composed by Mr. Fussell

is false. Mr. Walmsley's is true, and that gentleman sends another of the same kind, having the same properties, which is here annexed. If any credit is attached to the first production of this quarter-peal, certainly Mr. Walmsley must have it. I am pleased to notice that so many of my readers proved these two compositions; they learned more by that process than I could explain to them in a month.

Now for one more allusion to composition. We have dealt with the most musical positions obtainable in this method, and it has been pointed out more than once that only musical touches ought to be composed. There is, however, one more position which may be mentioned, *i.e.*, the 756. To make it clearer, we will imagine a lead-end—

1 3 4 2 7 5 6

How many changes can we have with 756 in this position, the treble being at lead? The answer ought to be made without the slightest hesitation. There are only six changes to be had. Why is this? Because there are only three bells to permute, or do the work: 2 3 4. Of these six changes one half are out-of-course, the other half in, therefore to have them all the right way, *i.e.* at the backstroke, singles must be issued, as already explained. Six changes does not seem much to trouble about, but it

Round next lead.

should be understood that not only these actual changes, but those which come before and after them, strike the ear favourably. A plain lead after a 7 5 6 brings up a 6-7. Not only that, a 7 5 6 gives an interesting order of coursing by the heavy bells, the 6th being after the 5th, and the 7th after the 6th, in the manner of Caters, which will be understood when I deal with that number of bells. Again, these three back bells have of course six different positions, and these all give an entertaining variety. To get up a 7 5 6 from rounds the 5th is brought into the hunt, either by a single the first lead, or by a bob when she is in the right place for that purpose, and out again the lead after the 6th has made thirds. I have some recollection of a quarter-peal having been published in this paper with all the different variations of the three back bells. But of this next week.

ALEPH.

PRESENTATION TO A RINGER.

On Tuesday evening, December 15th, the members of the Tonbridge branch of the Kent County Association met at Church House, the object being a presentation to the deputy-master, Mr. G. H. Stonestreet, on the occasion of his recent marriage. The present consisted of a handsome solid walnut overmantel, a suitable inscription on a gilded plate being fixed to the base of the frame. The presentation was made on behalf of the ringers, by B. Wadmore, Esq., the master, Mr. C. Mitchell, unfortunately being ill.

Mr. Stonestreet, in thanking the members, mentioned that change-ringing in Tonbridge had greatly improved during the last few years, but still there was much room for further advancement, especially in the more difficult methods.

MEN AND MANNERS.

I heard the bells on Christmas Day.
 Their old familiar carols play;
 And wild and sweet the words repeat
 Of peace on earth, goodwill to men.
 Then pealed the bells more loud and deep
 "God is not dead! nor doth He sleep!
 The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
 With peace on earth, goodwill to men."

Longfellow.

I suppose I must do it, and so "A Happy New Year"! A week or two late it is true, but nevertheless sincere. And yet we all know that this New Year we talk about is of the self-same piece, the self-same stamp and texture as the wretched Old Year we kicked out, abused, and gladly rung out last week. We know that January 1st, 1897, is only the morrow of December 31st, 1896, and that we shall weave the same old fabric unless we rigidly act on stopping the loom and changing the pattern. Good resolutions and intentions are all very well, but unless they are followed by actions we shall feel just as much ashamed of ourselves next New Year's Eve as we did the last. Is it not so easy to say "A Happy New Year"? How many of us I wonder try to *make* one? An opponent of Christianity once uttered a truism which could be turned against him with telling effect. It was this: "The place to be happy is here, the time to be happy is now, the way to be happy is to make others so."

* * * *

After uttering the magic formula "A Happy New Year," is our duty done? The Christian message of "Peace on Earth; Goodwill to Men," should not be disregarded, in the relations of men and men. To thoughtful folk it is not disregarded, but would to God that message was of Nation to Nation. What mockery is there rampant. From the Continent comes news the antithesis of the grand old message. The French government have a scheme, not only for adding to the already great navy of that Empire, but of adding a fourth battalion to 145 regiments now without them. Germany is also increasing her navy, and now we hear of a proposed further expenditure of 200 million marks upon a reorganisation of her artillery because France has done something of the same kind. This is occurring while Christian nations are celebrating the birth of the Prince of Peace! Is not this hurling of the hard earnings of labour into the bottomless abyss of military extravagance more than a question of party politics? Europe is already an armed camp, and the dogs of war may be loosed at any moment—for what? Can any sane man find the answer in the sweet old message "Goodwill to Men"?

* * * *

Is there no limit to the demands of militarism? The industries of the workers of the world are already taxed to the tune of hundreds of millions sterling every year for the purpose of maintaining engines of destruction to life and property, and when the cry of the hungry and distressed rings in our ears, we must need have it stifled by the booming of cannon and the "weakest to the wall" policy of those who take on their lips the name of the founder of our faith, but who do violence to His spirit by their Pagan barbaric principle of "might is right." The backwash of the agitation on the Continent must sooner or later be felt in this country unless "Peace on Earth; Goodwill to Men" is sounded more loud and shrill than heretofore. The men who advocate these huge armaments are in the present day looked upon as great and clever Statesmen, while he who honestly endeavours to point out a fallacy is held up as a fool, but if our religion is worth anything there is little doubt as to which class of men will leave the world better than they found it.

* * * *

After reading the above you may possibly imagine me to be a "peace at any price" man, and if so you are mistaken. In my opinion it is sometimes necessary to go to war to secure peace, paradoxical though it may be, but enough; to the Exercise at large Jingle wishes a "Happy New Year," to the struggling band of brother strings who mean to add another method to their laurels—a *Happy* new Year. To those veterans in the art who are going down the hill of life with apprehension and misgiving for the future,—A Happy New Year. To those companies where jealousies abound I will say one word. Let this year be

the dawn of a new era. You who feel aggrieved think for a moment. Are you without fault? Have you given no *cause* for estrangement and jealousy? Hold out the hand of fellowship, and let this year's fabric be woven into a better pattern than that of last. And finally, to the youngest generation, what can you do to make someone happy? Often comes the opportunity but you hesitate to seize it.

The woman was old and ragged and grey,
 And bent with the chill of the Winter's day;
 The street was wet with a recent snow,
 And the woman's feet were aged and slow.
 She stood at the crossing and waited long
 Alone, uncared for, amid the throng
 Of human beings who passed her by,
 Nor heeded the glance of her anxious eye.
 Down the street with laughter and shout,
 Glad in the freedom of school let out,
 Came the boys, like a flock of sheep
 Hailing the snow piled white and deep,
 Past the woman so old and grey,
 Hastened the youngsters on their way,
 Nor offered a helping hand to her
 So meek, so timid, afraid to stir
 Lest the carriage wheels or the horse's feet
 Should crush her down in the slippery street.
 At last came one of the merry troupe—
 The gayest laddie of all the group;
 He paused beside her, and whispered low,
 "I'll help you across if you wish to go."
 Her aged hand on his strong, young arm
 She placed, and so, without hurt or harm,
 He guided her trembling feet along,
 Proud that his own were firm and strong.
 Then back again to his friends he went,
 His young heart happy and well content.
 "She's somebody's mother, boys, you know,
 "All though she's old, and poor, and slow;
 "And I hope some fellow will lend a hand
 "To help my mother, you understand,
 "If ever so poor and old, and grey
 "When her own dear boy is far away."

Somebody's mother bowed low her head
 In her home that night, and the prayer she said
 Was—"God be kind to that noble boy,
 Who is somebody's son, and pride, and joy."

JINGLE.

REOPENING OF THE NEWLY-RESTORED RING OF BELLS AT HAWKEDON, BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

On Friday, January 8th, the newly-restored ring of five bells at this place were reopened after restoration by the Glemsford company, who commenced to raise the bells at two o'clock, and rang two 6-scores of Bob Doubles, stationed thus: C. Honeybell, 1; C. Adams, 2; F. Wells, 3; S. Slater, 4; O. Garwood (conductor), 5. Then three 6-scores of the same, conducted by S. Slater. The service in connection with the event was held at three o'clock, the church being well filled, several clergymen being present. The sermon was preached by the Rev. H. Jarvis, Vicar of Poslingford and rural dean, and a collection was afterwards made in aid of the restoration fund. At the close of Divine Service a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles was rung by C. Adams, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; A. Seeley, 3; S. Slater (conductor), 4; O. Garwood, 5. The ringers and their friends, to the number of thirty, were then entertained to a capital supper by the Rector (Rev. B. P. Oakes) at the National Schools, one of the churchwardens presiding: the Rector joining the company later, and spending the remainder of the evening with them. Then another visit was paid to the tower, and three 6-scores of Bob Doubles rung by G. Bullock, jun., 1; C. Adams, 2; C. Honeybell, 3; S. Slater, 4; O. Garwood (conductor), 5. It is thirty years since these bells were last rung. The steeple has been restored in a satisfactory manner by a local firm. The 2nd and tenor bells were cast at the Whitechapel foundry, and are a capital splice. The whole ring is hung in an excellent manner, each bell going splendidly.

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WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

PRESENTATION TO A RINGER.—Ever since 1870, Mr. W. A. Alps has been associated with the belfry of the Abbey Church, and for 23 years has been a change-ringer and a member of the local society. For eight years he performed the duties of treasurer for his colleagues, and has been an eminently useful member in other respects. For many years he was the recognised conductor until ill-health prevented active participation in the work of ringing. Recently, however, his health having improved, Mr. Alps has resumed his active labours, and on New Year's Eve his colleagues, as a mark of the appreciation in which they hold his services, presented him with the "Falstaff" edition of Shakespeare's complete works, inscribed inside as follows:—"Presented to William A. Alps, by his brother-ringers, Christmas, 1896." The presentation was made by the Master of the society, Mr. Thomas Pallett, in a few well-chosen words. Mr. Alps, who was quite taken by surprise, expressed his thanks for the handsome and unexpected gift.

RINGMER.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 12, an attempt was made for J. Parker's 12-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but it was unfortunately lost after ringing 3700 changes in fine style in 2 hrs. 5 mins., the conductor having to call stand owing to a change-course. A. Rooke, 1; F. Banks, 2; T. Miller, 3; C. Painter, 4; H. Jones, 5; J. S. Goldsmith (conductor), 6; A. J. Turner, 7; D. Carpenter, 8. On December 26, an attempt for a peal of Union Triples was made, but this was also lost owing to a change-course after ringing about 2300 changes in 1 hr. 15 min. A. Rooke, 1; F. Banks, 2; T. Miller, 3; J. S. Goldsmith, 4; H. Jones, 5; A. J. Turner (conductor), 6; C. Painter, 7; W. Hemsley, 8. On Tuesday, December 29, for practice, a touch of Bob Minor. G. Taylor, 3; F. Banks, 4; H. Jones, 5; T. Miller, 6; C. Painter, 7; J. S. Goldsmith (conductor), 8. Also a touch of Stedman Triples, conducted by J. S. Goldsmith, and 210 Union Triples conducted by A. J. Turner. A. Rooke, 1; F. Banks, 2; T. Miller, 3; C. Painter, 4; H. Jones, 5; A. J. Turner, 6; J. S. Goldsmith, 7; W. Hemsley, 8. Messrs. Turner and Goldsmith belong to Lewes.

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."

BELL INSCRIPTIONS.

SIR,—With regard to the very interesting remarks by Canon Raven in the last issue of "THE BELL NEWS," I should like just to say a few words on the inscription of St. Mary's (Norwich) second bell. This is a somewhat common inscription, and usually runs: *Dulcis Sisto Melis Campana Vocor Michaelis*; or sometimes, as at St. Mary's, the last word is contracted to "Michis." As it now stands the phrase is without meaning, and Dr. Raven gives an amended form. As an alternative to his reading it seems to me that a very likely solution of the riddle is to alter the sentence thus: "*Sisto Melicus, Campana Vocor Michaelis Dulcis*," which may be rendered into English—I stand harmonious, I am called Michael's sweet bell; or if the punctuation forbids this, the following would do almost equally well: *Dulcis Sisto Melicus, Campana vocor Michaelis*—"Sweet and harmonious I continue, I am called Michael's bell." The substitution of *Melis* for *Melicus* may possibly be a contraction, or the form may have been altered in ignorance to agree with the other adjective, which, so far as gender goes, does no violence to the grammar. Another but not so good reading might be: [*Quam*] *dulcis sisto melius, campana vocor Michaelis*—"I continue more than sweet, I am called the bell of St. Michael." The Latin on bells, especially of post-Reformation times, is often of the most fantastic description, and often not a single word is correctly rendered. For instance each bell in St. Peter's Mancroft tower is inscribed "*Pack and Chapman fecit*."

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

OLD NORWICH BELLS.

SIR,—I was very pleased to see Dr. Raven's article on the above in "THE BELL NEWS" of the 9th instant. He certainly gives a possible explanation of the obscure inscription "*Dulcis Sisto Melis Campana Vocor Michaelis*." This legend, although common enough on pre-Reformation bells, has baffled many. The usual solution of the difficulty has hitherto been to translate "*Sisto*" as akin to "*Sto*," and to

make "*Melis*" the genitive of "*Melos*," thus: "I stand (or, I am) of sweet sound, I am called Michael's bell." But this is a very awkward construction and hardly grammatical. I must admit that Dr. Raven's solution of the difficulty seems much the best: J. R. JERRAM.

THE BRIDGWATER PEAL.

SIR,—It seems to me that Mr. Maddock and Mr. Joyce are at cross-purposes in respect of the former's explanation in "THE BELL NEWS" of the 2nd inst., of what occurred during the above peal. As I understand Mr. Maddock, though his letter is not very clear, he called the last bob, which by mistake he calls Holt's bob, rather late, owing to the tenor man missing the sallie, but it was made all right, and, two leads after he had called the last bob, instead of saying "single, that's all," he left out the word "single" and said "that's all," the ringers of the four back bells lying still and bringing up rounds. If I am right in my surmise, the peal is a true one, and I shall be glad to see another letter from Mr. Maddock, saying whether I am right or not. Minehead, Somerset. H. C. COURTNEY.

SIR,—With your permission I should like to make one or two remarks on J. Joyce's letter, which appeared in your issue of the 9th inst. First—as to the midway single. We made a start for the peal at 4.10 p.m., and J. Joyce has told one of the band he did not hear the single as he went to the station to catch a train, which leaves Bridgewater at 5.52. In order to attempt to meet this train, he must have left the church more than ten minutes before the single was called, and as to hearing the bells on the way, I may say it is quite impossible to hear them for more than a hundred yards from the church, as it is a busy thoroughfare. Now to the bells coming home. I attempted to call Holt's bob-single, which was two leads from the last bob, but found it late, and therefore I called "that's all" just before the treble led, in order that the bells would come home. The cause of this, as I have already stated, was the loud knocking at the belfry door, when I spoke to the band to take no notice. I know well of a peal of Triples (Holt's ten-part), in which J. Joyce took part, where the end single was not called and not attempted to be called. And in conclusion I feel assured had J. Joyce been one of the band, it would have been all right, and nothing would have been said. With these few remarks I have finished my correspondence regarding the Bridgewater peal.

J. MADDOCK, *Conductor of the Peal.*

METHOD OR METHODS.

SIR,—In the report of the Kent County Association quoted in your issue of the 26th ult. it was stated that the Chiddingstone band, "although they had rung several peals of Grandsire, had learned on such a strange plan that it was at present impossible for them to ring with others." I should be glad to know more about this "strange plan." Your correspondent, Mr. Rock, thinks that some ringers invent plans of their own because they cannot afford to get a copy of *Troyte or Snowden*. My own view of the matter is that these "strange plans" are survivals, which have merits of their own, but for good reasons have dropped out of general use. The only plan which I know myself, sufficiently to ring by, is of this sort. It has the advantage of being easy to learn, but it does not take you very far, and that not altogether in the right direction. I learned it when I was young from ringers who had only a dim tradition, and I have since given a good deal of attention to it, because of the facility which it offers for exercises on paper, or for drill with lashed clappers. Not long ago a pupil of mine, after practising by himself on a muffled bell, was able to ring the observation bell in Grandsire Doubles, and a fortnight afterwards a bob bell, both at the first attempt. He had no opportunity of learning with the band in the authorised way, beyond ringing tenor behind. A very competent authority, the Rev. H. L. James, informs me that he is well-acquainted with the system which I am speaking of. It is known in Gloucestershire as the *First and Second Method*,* and most young ringers there learn by it. After leading, you hunt up by rope-sight, and then take the bells over again in the same order with variations, which may be reduced to a few simple rules. Of course this system is applicable only when the treble has a plain hunt, and there is, besides, the difficulty, mentioned by the Kent Society, of exchanging ideas with other ringers who follow the ordinary rules. Mr. James thinks that there is too much to carry in your head this way. That may be the case with more than five or six bells. The chief objection to it, in my own experience, is that the ringer never acquires general rope-sight. If a trip occurs he does not know what the others are doing. Nevertheless, I cannot help thinking that such "strange plans" are worthy of the attention of the Exercise, and may be of use to beginners who have no qualified instructor.

C. PEARSON.

* So called, apparently, from the words of the formula: e.g. "If you take one bell and treble, pick up two more, then take the first and last (dodge up), then treble and the second, then first and last, then lead."

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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 16, 1897.

THE usual sudden influx of peals at the last moment again prevents our brief comment. In order to clear up arrears, our paper of next week will consist of twenty-four pages. It is hoped that our endeavours to gratify in this manner our numerous friends and readers may be successful. We should like it to be known that the actual printing of this paper is commenced on Thursday afternoon; so that peals rung on Wednesday, if posted immediately after, may be in time for publication.

The Metropolis.

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

On Saturday, January 9, 1897, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5056 CHANGES. Tenor 25 cwt.

JOHN N. OXBORROW Treble.	JAMES WILLSHIRE 5.
ARTHUR G. ELLIS* 2.	SAMUEL E. ANDREWS 6.
FRANK BUCK 3.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE 7.
HENRY S. ELLIS 4.	HENRY R. NEWTON Tenor.

Composed by N. J. FITSTOW and Conducted by CHAS. T. P. BRICE.

Rang as a birthday compliment to F. Buck, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns. The composition appears on page 107 of the Appendix, centre peal. *First peal in the method.

The Provinces.

RADWINTER, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 2, 1897, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

F. J. PITSTOW* Treble.	ERNEST A. PITSTOW .. 5
RICHARD SWORDER† 2.	JOHN F. PENNING .. 6.
FREDERICK SWORDER .. 3.	ALFRED E. PITSTOW .. 7.
ARTHUR F. JAMES 4.	FREDERICK PITSTOW .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK PITSTOW.

*First peal in the method. †First peal. Further reference to this peal will be found on another page.

WICKHAM SKEITH, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, January 4, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
5040 CHANGES IN FIVE DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being two 720s of College Single, two 720s of Oxford Single, 720 Plain Bob, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 720 Kent Treble Bob.

F. POTTER Treble.	G. KEMP 4.
D. MAYS 2.	T. DAVY 5.
C. NUN 3.	G. CATTERMOLLE .. Tenor.

Conducted by G. CATTERMOLLE.

This is the first peal in five methods on the bells.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, KIDDERMINSTER.

On Wednesday, January 6, 1897, in Three Hours Sixteen-and-a ½ Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.
Tenor 30 cwt.

GEORGE SALTER Treble.	THOMAS J. SALTER .. 5.
NOAH DAVIS 2.	JAMES PAGETT .. 6.
JOHN O. BENNETT 3.	WILLIAM H. SMITH .. 7.
ERNEST C. HUNT 4.	RICHARD E. GROVE .. Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by R. E. GROVE.

First in the method by the Association and all the band. Further reference to this peal will be found on another page.

BRISTOL.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(THE ST. STEPHEN'S GUILD.)

On Wednesday, January 6, 1897, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-THE-MARTYR,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM KNIGHT Treble.	CHARLES TOMKINS .. 5.
CHARLES H. HORTON .. 2.	CHARLES H. GORDON .. 6.
FREDERICK ELLES 3.	WILLIAM A. CAVE .. 7.
HARRY PRING 4.	W. JAMES HINTON .. Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES and Conducted by W. JAMES HINTON.

Further reference to this peal will be found on another page.

SHEFFIELD, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, January 7, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

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

ALBERT W. GLADSTONE* Treble.	EDWIN F. RIPPON .. 5.
FRANK WILLEY 2.	JOHN HOLMAN .. 6.
HARRY BOWER 3.	THOMAS SYLVESTER .. 7.
JOSEPH ROWLEY 4.	*THOMAS CHOWN .. Tenor.

Composed by the REV. C. D. P. DAVIES and
Conducted by FRANK WILLEY.

*First peal. This peal with the bells muffled, was rang as a tribute of respect to the late Sir John Brown, J.P., D.L., who was the donor of the church and bells and the schools.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, January 7, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.
Tenor 9½ cwt.

C. HOUNSLOW Treble.	J. W. WASHBROOK .. 5.
F. EXON 2.	T. PAYNE 6.
P. HIND 3.	C. H. FOWLER .. 7.
C. EXON 4.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. Tenor.

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK and Conducted by the
REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

This is the first peal in the method conducted by an incumbent on his own bells. This peal was rung to celebrate the sixty-fourth birthday of the Rev. F. E. Robinson, and it is hoped that he may live to ring many more such excellent peals as this was, and on such an occasion.

PENSHURST, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 9, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17½ cwt.

GEORGE H. STONESTREET Treble.	*DAVID WRIGHT .. 5.
GEORGE HEAD 2.	JACK PRESTON .. 6.
HENRY J. SELBY† 3.	WILLIAM LATTER .. 7.
STEPHEN PERKINS 4.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and
Conducted by THOS. GROOMBRIDGE.

*First peal of Major. †First peal of Major with a bob bell, and both hail from Westerham; Stonestreet from Tonbridge; Head, Perkins and Latter from Tunbridge Wells; Preston from Edenbridge; Groombridge from Sevenoaks. This is the first peal on the bells, which were recently augmented to eight and hung in a new iron frame by T. Blackburn, of Salisbury, on whom they reflect great credit. This composition is now rung for the first time, and is without the 2nd in 5-6 at a course-end.

MILVERTON, SOMERSETSHIRE.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 9, 1897, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLLIS'S FIVE-PART (No. 2.) Tenor 20 cwt.

HENRY PEARCE Treble.	THOMAS DOBE .. 5.
ARTHUR DOBLE 2.	JOSEPH MADDOCK .. 6.
FRANK MILLARD 3.	GEORGE YANDELL .. 7.
HENRY J. POOLE* 4.	EDMUND HARRIS .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH MADDOCK.

*First peal. All the above hail from Taunton. At the finish of the peal, the vicar, the Rev. F. E. Felton, visited the belfry and congratulated the ringers on their success, and said how pleased he was for them to visit Milverton, and also said he should like to become a member of the Association, which, on the proposition of Mr. Maddock, seconded by Mr. Yandell, was carried unanimously.

SWINDON, WILTSHIRE.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 9, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr.

THOMAS LAWRENCE Treble.	CHARLES J. GARDINER .. 5.
OWEN W. LAYNG 2.	THOMAS RICKETTS .. 6.
ALFRED LAWRENCE 3.	ERNEST BISHOP .. 7.
THOMAS ROBINSON 4.	WILLIAM BALL .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS RICKETTS.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.
(THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, January 9, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

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

F. JAKEMAN Treble.	WILLIAM JAKEMAN .. 5.
C. BROADBENT 2.	*W. W. WOLSCROFT .. 6.
T. JAKEMAN 3.	J. LEIGH 7.
WALTER JAKEMAN* 4.	J. CRABTREE .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM JAKEMAN.

*First peal.

DEANE, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 9, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

TITUS BARLOW* Treble.	*JOHN MOSCROP 5
THOMAS PEERS* 2.	†HENRY MOSS 6.
JOSHUA HARPER* 3.	RICHARD RIDYARD 7.
JAMES GRATRIX 4.	GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE .. Tenor.

Composed by J. E. BURTON and Conducted by GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE.

*First peal. †First peal in the method. Gratrix hails from Prestwich; Moss from Bolton; Ridyard from Worsley; Woodhouse from Manchester. This is the first peal in the method on the bells.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 9, 1897, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

HENRY LINCOLN* Treble.	WILLIAM LINCOLN 5.
WILLIAM E. EMERY† 2.	GEORGE W. SORRELL 6.
ERNEST W. DAVIS* 3.	FREDERICK G. RADLEY 7.
ARTHUR HEAD† 4.	THOMAS LINCOLN Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM LINCOLN.

*First peal of Grandsire. †First peal away from the treble. ‡First peal of Grandsire away from the treble. The above are all members of the local company. Mr. Charles Scillitoe, another member, sat in the tower with a copy of the peal, and marked off the bobs as they were called.

CALVERLEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 9, 1897, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

SIDNEY C. CLARK Treble.	EDWIN WHEATER 5.
THOMAS B. KENDALL 2.	JOHN THACKRAY 6.
JOSEPH GARNETT 3.	FREDERICK W. DIXON 7.
CHARLES PRATT 4.	ROBERT BINNS Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and Conducted by FREDK. W. DIXON.

This peal contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent in 6ths place, and the 2nd never there. Messrs. Clark, Garnett, and Wheeler hail from Bradford; Kendall from Shipley; Thackray from Armsley; Dixon from Guiseley; Binns from St. Francis, Holbeck; Pratt belongs to the local company.

PENDLETON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(MANCHESTER BRANCH.)

On Monday, January 11, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qrs.

FRANK SMITH Treble.	SAMUEL GREENHALGH 5.
JOSIAH ROGERS 2.	GEORGE E. TURNER 6.
JOHN SMITH 3.	ALFRED CROSS 7.
JOSEPH WINTERBOTTOM .. 4.	HARRY CHAPMAN Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by HARRY CHAPMAN.

This was the first peal in the method by all the band, first in the method by the Lancashire Association, and the first in the method in the county. It was rung at the third attempt, and as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Frank Smith and Josiah Rogers, their brother-ringers wishing them many happy returns.

OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE OXFORD SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, January 12, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-one and ½ Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR 5056 CHANGES.

CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. Treble.	THOMAS PAYNE 5.
FREDERICK EXON 2.	PERCY A. HIND 6.
CHARLES H. FOWLER .. 3.	WILLIAM J. SMITH 7.
CHARLES H. EXON 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

This is the nearest possible approach to a three-part peal in this number, and on the musical plan.

GOSPORT, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 12, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 11 cwt.

ALBERT BARROW* Treble.	RICHARD GARDNER 5.
EDWARD REYNOLDS 2.	JAMES GOULD 6.
HENRY REYNOLDS 3.	ARTHUR E. TOMLINS .. 7.
FREDERICK BURNETT .. 4.	RICHARD DAVIES Tenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR E. TOMLINS.

*Elected a member of the Guild previous to starting for the peal. First peal on the bells. First peal in the method by all except the ringer of the 6th, and it is his first peal away from the tenor. E. Reynolds and J. Gould hail from Portsea; the remainder belong to the local band.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(HENFIELD BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, January 12, 1897, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' ORIGINAL.

LAZARUS PAYNE Treble.	GEORGE PAYNE 5.
HENRY STRINGER 2.	*HERBERT MARKWELL .. 6.
CHARLES TYLER 3.	ALFRED W. GROVES .. 7.
WILLIAM HILLMAN 4.	ARTHUR HODGES Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES TYLER.

*First peal in the method. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. F. Thorns and Miss Nellie Musson, both of Henfield.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHIPLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, January 10th, for Divine Service at St. Paul's church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 9 mins. T. Lilley, 1; E. Keighley, 2; T. Kendall (conductor), 3; J. Lilley, 4; W. Hollings, 5; J. Clark, 6; J. Ross, 7; G. Nettleton, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. Messrs. Keighley and Hollings hail from Calverley.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

HEPTONSTALL (Yorks).—On Sunday, January 3rd, at the parish church, a date touch (1897 changes) as follows: 97 Bob Minor, 360 Woodbine, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 1 hr. 10 mins. A. Burn (conductor), 1; J. Robertshaw, 2; W. Ingham, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; F. P. Powell, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. This touch was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mr. R. Greenwood, a Churchwarden of the parish.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHIDDINGSTONE (Kent).—On New Year's Eve at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 13 mins. F. Butcher, 1; F. Whibley, 2; E. Bridger, 3; A. Aylward, 4; G. Edwards (conductor), 5; A. Longley, 6; R. King, 7; H. Denton, 8.

MIRFIELD (Yorks).—On Friday, January 1st, at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Royal, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 26 mins. Tenor 30 cwt. W. Peacock, 1; C. Peacock, 2; F. Robinson, 3; H. Peacock, 4; T. Crawshaw, 5; A. Holmes, 6; D. Clarkson, 7; W. Holmes (composer and conductor), 8; B. Robinson, 9; S. Peacock, 10.

Miscellaneous.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN (Herts).—On Wednesday, December 30th, at the church of All Saints, 216 Grandsire Minor. A. Lawrence, 1; A. Phillips, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. And several 6-scores of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles. On New Year's Eve 360 Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Phillips, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. Also several 6-scores of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles. And two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. W. Lawrence (conductor), 1; G. Carter, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5.

W. Livings, 6. On Sunday morning, January 3rd, for Divine Service, 108 Grandsire and 144 Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; A. Phillips, 3; G. Carter, 4; J. Heady, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 360 Oxford Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Phillips, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Monday, January 4th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor. G. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence (first 720, aged 12), 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. And 360 Oxford Bob with H. Carter, 1; A. Phillips, 2; G. Carter, 4; the rest as before. Also 120 Stedman. W. Lawrence (conductor), 1; G. Carter, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; H. Smith, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Christmas morning at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, at 6.30, 720 Cambridge Surprise. T. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; G. Jordan, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. For morning service 360 Bob Minor. H. Little, 1; T. Jordan, 2; I. Hammond, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, December 27th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen singles and two bobs). Composed by T. Millington, of Clay Cross, Derbyshire. H. Little, 1; T. Jordan, 2; T. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also for afternoon service 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles and two bobs). Composed by T. Millington, of Clay Cross, Derbyshire. H. Little, 1; T. Jordan, 2; T. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. On Thursday, December 31st, 720 Ringers' Surprise. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also 720 Baintree Treble Bob in 25 mins. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; T. Watts, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. And to ring the old year out and the new year in, 720 Bob Minor. H. Little, 1; J. Luckey, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; G. Jordan, 5; T. Watts (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, January 3rd, for Divine Service, 600 Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; H. Little, 2; I. Hammond, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Sunday, December 21st, at the church of All Saints, Boyne Hill, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 44 mins. F. Dentry, 1; W. Walker, 2; J. Eldridge, 3; W. Brown, 4; F. Bisley, 5; H. Neighbour, 6; G. Martin (conductor), 7; T. Brice, 8. First quarter-peal in the method by all except F. Dentry and F. Bissley. On Thursday, December 24th, 630 Grandsire Triples. G. Martin, 1; T. Price, 2; J. Eldridge, 3; W. Brown, 4; F. Bissley, 5; W. Walker, 6; H. Neighbour, 7; H. Jones, 8. Longest length with a bob bell by T. Price. On Friday, January 1st, 336 in the method. G. Martin, 1; W. Walker, 2; J. Eldridge, 3; W. Brown, 4; F. Bissley, 5; F. Dentry (conductor), 6; H. Neighbour, 7; H. Faisey, 8.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Christmas Day at the parish church, 504 Stedman Triples. H. Reeves, 1; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; G. Thompson, 3; F. Hoad, jun., 4; G. Hoad, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Argent, 7; J. Steadman, 8. On Thursday, December 31st, the first quarter of J. J. Parker's twelve-part peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Howard, 1; F. Hoad, sen., 2; W. Argent, 3; G. Hoad, 4; T. Brown, 5; H. Reeves (conductor), 6; F. Hoad, jun., 7; J. Steadman, 8. On Monday, January 4th, 216 Stedman Triples. G. Thompson, 1; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; H. Reeves, 3; F. Linter, 4; G. Hoad, 5; F. Hoad, jun., 6; W. Argent, 7; A. Moseley, 8. Also on handbells a plain course of Grandsire Triples. C. Hoad, 1; F. Hoad, sen., 2; W. Hoad, 3; J. Hoad, 4; F. Hoad, jun., 5-6; G. Hoad, 7-8.

THE ALL HALLOWS SOCIETY, TOTTENHAM.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Thursday, December 31st, at the parish church, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. J. Ellis, 1; H. Barnett (conductor), 2; E. Iverson, 3; H. Doughty, 4; W. Dickinson, 5; C. Button, 6; W. English, 7; W. Martin, 8. On Sunday evening, January 3rd, after Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. F. Clements, 1; J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 2; H. Doughty, 3; W. Gibson, 4; W. Dickinson, 5; E. Iverson, 6; C. Button, 7; W. Martin, 8.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Saturday, January 2nd, at the church of St. Matthew, Bethnal Green, 2520 Stedman Triples (Thurstans' Composition), in 1 hr. 31 mins. M. A. Wood, 1; S. Joyce, 2; F. Bayley, 3; F. Butler (conductor), 4; C. F. Winney, 5; I. Shade, 6; W. Prime, 7; W. Williamson, 8. The above met for a peal, but owing to the dense fog, the conductor arrived too late.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

LUDLOW (Salop).—On Thursday, December 31st, at the church of

St. Lawrence, 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Palmer, 1; W. Greenleaf, 2; A. Chester, 3; J. E. Groves, 4; R. Marston (conductor), 5; T. Bratton, 6; W. R. Mash, 7; W. Mash, 8. An attempt for a 672 came to grief just before the finish. At midnight a 168 and 336 were rung. On Friday, January 1st, on the occasion of a wedding, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. J. Palmer, 1; A. Chester (first quarter-peal), 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; J. E. Groves (conductor), 4; R. Marston (first quarter-peal), 5; T. Bratton, 6; W. Nash (first quarter-peal), 7; E. Davis (first quarter-peal), 8. Also a 350, conducted by T. Bratton. On Sunday, January 3rd, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mr. J. Tench, an old and respected resident of the town, a 336 and 168 of Grandsire Triples were rung. W. Sweetman, 1; J. Palmer, 2; A. Chester, 3; J. E. Groves, 4; R. Marston (conductor), 5; W. Pritchard, 6; W. Nash, 7; E. Davies, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Sunday, January 3rd, at St. Peter's church, for morning service, 336 Stedman Triples. For evening service 448 London Surprise Major. J. Waghorn, sen., 1; F. Bennett, 2; G. Smart, 3; G. F. Attree, 4; G. King, 5; A. A. Fuller, 6; K. Hart, 7; G. Williams (conductor), 8. J. Waghorn, sen. hails from Tottenham. On Thursday, December 24th, for evening service at St. Nicholas' church, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Rann (conductor), 1; E. Randall, 2; F. Bacon, 3; W. Palmer, 4; G. Bleach, 5; J. Jay, 6; J. Fox, 7; E. Butler, 8. On Christmas Day, for the 7 a.m. service, 377 Grandsire Triples. H. Rann, 1; G. King, 2; E. Randall, 3; T. Bacon, 4; J. Jay, 5; G. Bleach, 6; W. Palmer (conductor), 7; E. Butler, 8.

CHARLWOOD (Surrey).—On Friday, December 25th, for morning service, an attempt was made for a peal in seven Treble Bob Minor methods, but after ringing 1 hr. 50 mins. it came to grief. G. Wickens, 1; S. Ellis, 2; F. Tullett, 3; F. Wickens, 4; B. King, 5; A. Ellis (conductor), 6.

WALDRON (Sussex).—On Sunday, December 27th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Burgess, 1; J. Burgess, 2; H. Rann, 3; T. Ades, 4; J. Beal, 5; A. Reid, 6; B. Hobbs (conductor), 7; H. Ades, 8.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Sunday, December 13th, at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Darlaston Bob Triples in 43 mins. J. Purser, 1; J. E. Groves (conductor), 2; B. Dalton, 3; W. Hall, 4; H. Knight, 5; G. Burrows, 6; A. Griffiths, 7; W. Harley, 8. On Sunday, December 27th, 336 Bob Major. F. Jones, 1; W. Hall, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; E. Nicholls, 4; H. Hall, 5; H. Knight, 6; A. Griffiths, 7; J. E. Groves (conductor), 8. On Friday, January 1st, after the midnight service, 240 Grandsire Major. F. Jones, 1; W. Hall, 2; G. Burrows, 3; E. Nicholls, 4; H. Knight, 5; R. Pickering, 6; A. Griffiths, 7; H. Hall (conductor), 8. W. Greenleaf hails from Hereford; R. Pickering from Stafford.

TETTENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, December 27th, after Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor in 24 mins. W. Hall, 1; W. Greenleaf, 2; J. E. Groves (conductor), 3; H. Hall, 4; A. Griffiths, 5; H. Knight, 6. Also 360 of the same. Tenor 13½ cwt.

WOMBOURN (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, December 19th, 2520 Darlaston Bob Triples in 1 hr. 27 mins. W. Smith, 1; P. Sadler, 2; H. Sadler, 3; H. Knight, 4; H. Hall, 5; G. Burrows, 6; J. E. Groves (conductor), 7; J. Cliff, 8. An attempt was made for a peal, but it run round at half-way. Tenor 10 cwt. 12 lbs.

FREISTON (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, December 27th, for Divine Service, at St. James' church, 120 of St. Simons. J. Phillips, 1; A. O. Barber, 2; H. Staffurth, 3; C. R. Lilley, 4; J. Sharpe (conductor), 5. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles. W. Rawlings, 1; W. Whitworth, 2; C. R. Lilley, 3; J. Phillips, 4; H. Staffurth (conductor), 5. And 120 Lincolnshire Singles. W. Rawlings, 1; W. Whitworth, 2; J. Phillips, 3; H. Staffurth, 4; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 5.

IVINGHOE (Berks).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Tuesday, December 22nd, for practice, 120 Grandsire Doubles. *A. Tompkins, 1; *W. Keable, 2; *E. Seabrook, 3; *G. Heley, 4; S. Harvey (conductor), 5; A. Hann, 6. *First 6-score. First attempt at change-ringing by a local band. The ringers are self-taught, and are to be congratulated for their efforts to promote higher ringing in the village.

MILDENHALL (Suffolk).—On Saturday, December 26th, at the parish church, 504 Bob Triples in 21 mins. H. Turner, 1; J. Lock, 2; Henry Turner (conductor), 3; Rev. H. B. Woolley, 4; G. Turner, 5; A. Turner, 6; C. Carpenter, 7; C. Munson, 8. First touch in the method by all except A. Turner. Tenor 17 cwt.

MATHON (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, December 13th, 720 Bob Minor. G. Jordan, 1; J. Thomas, 2; C. Layton, 3; F. Smith, 4; W.

Powell, 5; A. Layton (conductor), 6. On December 20th, 720 Darling Point Minor. E. Smith, 1; C. Layton (conductor), 2; C. Watkins, 3; F. Smith, 4; J. Thomas, 5; A. Layton, 6. On December 22nd, 360 Grandsire Minor. E. Smith, 1; W. Powell, 2; G. Jordan, 3; F. Smith, 4; C. Layton (conductor), 5; C. Thomas, 6. Recently 720 Double Oxford Bob Minor. A. Layton, C. Thomas, F. Smith, C. Layton, J. Thomas, C. Watkins (conductor).

EYNESBURY (Hunts).—On Tuesday, January 5th, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six singles). S. Irons (first 720), 1; J. Jones (first away from the treble), 2; S. Hawksford, 3; H. J. Sutton, 4; H. Lambert (conductor), 5; G. Coleman, 6. Also 240 Grandsire Doubles. J. Jones, 1; S. Hawksford, 2; G. Coleman, 3; H. Lambert, 4; H. J. Sutton (conductor), 5; J. Irons, 6. H. J. Sutton hails from Petworth, Sussex; H. Lambert from Retford; the remainder from St. Neots.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Sunday afternoon, November 29th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor, a two-part 720 (thirty-four singles). Composed by P. Hamblett, of Daresbury, Cheshire. C. F. Wilson, 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Tuesday, December 1st, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor, a six-part 720 (twenty-six bobs and ten singles). Composed by H. Wilde, of Duffield, Derbyshire. G. Somerville, 1; C. E. Wilson, 2; H. Barker, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Rodger, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Saturday, December 5th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor, a six-part 720 (forty-four bobs and ten singles). Composed by J. Burrows, of Dalton-in-Furness. G. Somerville, 1; J. Bell, 2; C. E. Wilson, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Rodger, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Sunday evening, December 6th, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob Minor, a two-part 720 (four bobs and eighteen singles). Composed by T. Millington, of Clay Cross, Derbyshire. C. E. Wilson, 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Tuesday, December 8th, 720 Bob Minor, six courses (sixteen bobs and twenty-six singles). Composed by J. F. Penning, of Saffron Walden. G. Somerville, 1; C. E. Wilson, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Sunday evening, December 13th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor, a two-part 720 (two bobs and twenty-two singles). Composed by W. Norris, of Farleton, Lancashire. C. E. Wilson, 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Saturday, December 19th, 720 College Single Minor, a six-part 720 (six bobs and fourteen singles). Composed by J. Fisher, of Ducklington, Oxon. G. Somerville, 1; J. Bell, 2; C. E. Wilson, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Rodger, 6. On Sunday morning, December 20th, for Divine Service, 720 College Single Minor, a three-part 720 (six bobs and twelve singles). Composed by N. Spindlow, of Ducklington, Oxon. H. Rodger, 1; J. Bell, 2; C. E. Wilson, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Tuesday, December 22nd, 720 College Single Minor, a six-part 720 (twenty-six singles). Composed by F. T. Spence, of Grappenhall, Cheshire. A. Savage, 1; C. E. Wilson, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Christmas morning, for early service, 720 Bob Minor, ten divisions (twenty-five bobs and eighteen singles). Composed by J. J. Parker, of Farnham Royal. H. Rodger, 1; J. Bell, 2; C. E. Wilson, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. For Divine Service at 11 o'clock, 720 Bob Minor, a two-part 720 (four bobs and fourteen singles). C. E. Wilson (composer), 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. In the afternoon 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor, a six-part 720 (forty bobs and two singles). Composed by the Rev. C. W. Bassano, Old Hill, Staffordshire. H. Barker, 1; J. Bell, 2; C. E. Wilson, 3; H. Rodger, 4; H. Harrison, 5; J. Gardner, 6. J. Gardner resides at Aughton, near Ormskirk. The company arranged specially to meet him to ring this 720, and it is also the first 720 in the method he has rung. On Sunday afternoon, December 27th, for Divine Service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor, a six-part 720 (thirty-eight bobs and twenty singles). Composed by I. Cavill, of Stanstead, Essex. G. Somerville, 1; J. Bell, 2; C. E. Wilson, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. In the evening 720 Bob Minor, a one-part 720 (twenty-six bobs and twelve singles). Composed by J. M. Richardson, of Wickenby Station, Lincoln. The band stood in the same order as in the afternoon. On Wednesday, December 30th, 720 Bob Minor, a three-part 720 (forty-two singles). Composed by E. Francis, of Norwich. A. Savage, 1; C. E. Wilson, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Harrison, 5; J. Kelly, 6. The above was rung on the occasion of a carol service. On Thursday, December 31st, at 11.30 p.m., 720 Bob Minor, a six-part 720 (four bobs and fourteen singles). Composed by W. Buxton, Ashover, Derbyshire. C. E. Wilson, 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. All the above were conducted by C. E. Wilson. Tenor 9 cwt.

*. We ask until next week the forbearance of our friends who do not find their touches recorded in this number. Provision is being made so that any disappointment of this kind shall not occur again.

THE BELLS OF ST. SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK.

The following letter appears in *The Times* of the 5th inst. :—

"To THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

"SIR,—In your issue of yesterday, the Bishop of Southwark, in reference to the restoration of the noble old church of St. Saviour's, states that 'the building is now done, but it is silent.' There is truth in these words beyond the Bishop's intent. In the tower hang 12 bells, deemed by many experts the finest ringing peal in the world. The tenor exceeds two-and-a-half tons in weight, and, with nine of her sister bells, dates back more than a century and a half to the year 1735, when they were re-cast from an older peal made in 1424 out of the metal of seven bells of whose remote history nothing remains save that they bore respectively the names 'Mary,' 'Stephen,' 'Anne,' 'Lawrence,' 'Vincent,' 'Nicholas,' and 'Augustine.'

"From 1735, down to the inception of the restoration, the peal of 12 were handled alternately by the two great ringing societies of the metropolis, the 'Ancient Society of College Youths' and the 'Royal Cumberland Society,' who vied with each other in creating an unsurpassed record of marvellous change-ringing performances, many of which are, or were, to be found inscribed on the walls of the belfry.

"But now for long has reigned the silence which the Bishop undesignedly laments. When is it to be broken? If, as commonly reported, a dearth of funds is the difficulty, surely during the present year, when there are to be new bells by the hundred, money can be found to put in order this grand and timed-honoured peal, the costliest treasure of St. Saviour's Church. At any rate, there are some of us who would esteem it an honour to help in the work.

"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"A PERCIVAL HEYWOOD (President, Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.)

"Duffield Bank, near Derby, Jan. 1."

We are informed that Mr. Heywood has received a private letter from the Bishop of Southwark regretting that there is no likelihood of the bells being put in order at present.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting which was to have taken place at Anston on Saturday last, turned out quite a failure, only six members turning up, snow having fallen during Friday night, and continued hard and fast all day on Saturday. When leaving home at 3 o'clock, it was about four inches deep, and allowing myself a little more time than usual to get to Sheffield Victoria Station, a drive of 2½ miles; but behold I found the town worse than the country, for instead of clean snow it was black mud. The trams were going at a snail's pace, and I had to walk half the way before one overtook me. Upon arriving at the tram terminus I had a ten minutes' walk before me and only five minutes left to do it in, but nothing daunted, I hailed a hansom, and the train being late I managed to tumble in without a ticket. Arriving at Kiverton Park Station, there was only one course left, and that was to walk 1½ miles through the snow, but the worst had not yet come. I had not gone far before I met the local ringers. Thinks I, this is a bit off. "Now what's up?" "O you will have to excuse us to-day; we are going to a neighbouring village to supper with the vicar and ringers." Trudging on I overtook Messrs. Marsden and Worthington; that made three. Upon arriving at Anston we met Mr. Biggin just returning home, that being about 4.30, so we adjourned to have some refreshments, and to wait events. Six o'clock came, so we decided to postpone the meeting which is to be held at Eckington on Saturday, January 30th. We thought all was over for a ring, when behold two more from Treeton appeared on the scene, and the church being open, we raised the bells and rang a 720 of Oxford. — Lambert, 1; J. Sadler, 2; E. James, 3; G. Marsden, 4; — Worthington, 5; — Biggin, 6. We then made our way to the station where we arrived in time to catch the 8.3 train. Only fancy: all this scuffle through sloop and snow! Some people will say you only ring for what you can get; and that's often a good peal with the wife's tongue. E. J.

ELTON (Northants).—On Sunday, January 3rd, at All Saints' church, for Divine Service, 240 Grandsire Doubles. T. Ebbutt, 1; W. Prigmore, 2; C. R. Lilley, 3; C. Friar, 4; A. Newton, 5. Tenor 14 cwt.

PEAL BOOK, Price 2s. 6d. A book specially ruled for entering peals, date touches, etc. Handbell music arranged for any number of bells. Send for catalogue. W. H. GIGGLE, Queen Street, Horbury, near Wakefield.

Notices.

The Middlesex Association.—The next quarterly meeting of this Association will be held at Tottenham, to-day, Saturday, Jan. 16th. The tower of All Hallows church will be open for ringing from 5 p.m. Members and friends of the Association are cordially invited to attend.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*

Sarum, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

The Lancashire Association (Rochdale Branch).—The next meeting will be held at the church of St. James' Milnrow, to-day, Saturday, January 16th, 1897. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. All ringers invited, members or non-members.

EDWIN B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*

14, Thomas Street, Lees.

The Lancashire Association (Rossendale Branch).—A branch meeting will be held at Helmshore, to-day, Saturday, January 16th. Bells ready for 3 p.m. Business meeting, 6.30.

J. H. BANKS, *Branch Sec.*

Industrial Terrace, Helmshore.

The Heavy Woollen District Association. The yearly meeting of the above will be held at The Little Saddle inn, Dewsbury, to-day, Saturday, January 16th, 1897, at 5 p.m. prompt. The following business will be transacted:—Election of officers; Auditor's Report; Balance-Sheet, and also consideration of the following alterations: Exchange of dates of contests; Alterations of monthly meetings; Addition to rules 12 and 13; also as to practice allowed, and other important business. Subscriptions for 1897 will be due. All members are requested to attend.

GEO. H. SIMON, *Hon. Sec.*

19, Albert Street, Batley Carr.

The Yorkshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Leeds to-day, Saturday, January 16th. Choral service in the parish church at 4; with sermon by Rev. R. S. Medlicott. Tea will be served afterwards in the schoolroom. Business meeting in the schoolroom after tea. The bells of the parish church (12), St. Michael's, Headingley (8); S. Chad's, Far Headingley (8); Christ church, Armley (6); will be at disposal. The amateur society of ringers of the church of St. Francis (R.C.), Manor Road, Holbeck, give notice that the ring of eight bells will be at disposal from 2 to 7 p.m. on the above date, through the kindness of the Rev. Father McAuliffe, and give all a hearty welcome.

B. T. COPLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

14, Hillside Terrace, Bradford.

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held at the Manchester Cathedral, to-day, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells ready at 5 p.m. Business meeting at 7 p.m. All ringing friends invited, whether members or not.

WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

Kent County Association (Lewisham District).—A district meeting will be held at Crayford to-day, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. Committee meeting in schoolroom at 6 p.m.

W. BEDWELL,

Albacre Crescent, Lewisham. Dis. Hon. Sec.

Salop Archdeaconry Guild.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Wellington, to-day, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 4.30 p.m.

REV. J. MACKAY, *Hon. Sec.*

Leaton Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—The anniversary meeting will be held

at Gloucester, on Thursday, January 21st. A short service at St. Michael's, at 4.30 p.m., address by Rev. Canon Scobell, R.D., Vicar of Upton St. Leonard's. Dinner at 5 p.m., at The Criterion hotel, at 2s. 6d. per head, towards which 1s. 6d. will be allowed to each ringing member who sends a postal order for 1s. to the hon. sec., on or before Saturday, the 16th. Business meeting immediately after dinner. The belfries of the Cathedral, St. Michael's, St. Mary-de-Crypt, and St. Mary-de-Lode will be open to the members.

C. H. JOBERNS, *Hon. Sec.*

St. Stephen's Rectory, Bristol.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The quarterly meeting of this Society will be held on Saturday, January 23rd, at the parish church, Cannock. Bells available for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Short service in the church at 5 p.m. Committee meeting at 5.30. Tea at 6 p.m.; 1s. each for all those who send in their names not later than January 20th to

S. REEVES, *Hon. Sec.*

10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

Wirral Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild.—The annual meeting and tea of the Wirral Branch of the above Guild will be held in the schoolroom, West Kirby, on Saturday, January 23rd, at 5.30 p.m. The belfry will be open for practice from 3 o'clock. It is hoped there will be a full attendance of ringers at this meeting. Leaders should send in the numbers as soon as possible to

HENRY WOOLCOTT, *Hon. Sec.*

Grange Mount, West Kirby.

The North Notts Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Workop on Saturday, January 23rd. Tea at 5 p.m.; 1s. per head. Members who desire tea are requested to inform Mr. G. Barrowcliffe, the Abbey School, Workop, not later than January 18th.

B. DARLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

All Saints' Society, Fulham.—The annual general meeting will take place on Saturday, January 23rd. The tower will be open to members and friends at 4 p.m. Tea in the church-room at 6 p.m.; business meeting afterwards. All ringers intending to be present should signify the same to the Secretary not later than Thursday, January 21st.

Fulham Palace.

J. GREEN, *Hon. Sec.*

St. Martin's Guild of Birmingham.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 26th, at The Tamworth Arms, Moor Street; chair to be taken at 8.30 p.m. The attendance of every member for consideration of important business is earnestly requested. Particular attention is directed to clause 4 of rule VI.

W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*

61, Roland Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

The Waterloo Society.—The annual meeting of this Society will be held on Wednesday, January 27th, at St. John's, Waterloo Road, when the election of officers for the ensuing year will take place. Members are requested to attend; meeting time, 8 p.m.

WALTER C. HASTED, *Hon. Sec.*

37, Rita Road, Vauxhall Park, S.W.

Sussex County Association—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Christ Church, St. Leonards-on-Sea (8 bells), on Wednesday, January 27th. Bells available from 4 to 8.30 p.m. Tea (gratis) at 5.30, by the invitation of the members of the Guild. Those intending to be present will oblige by sending word to the undersigned not later than January 25th. Ringing at Christ Church,

Blacklands, and St. Clement's, Hastings, by arrangement at the meeting.

S. SAKER, *Hon. Sec. Eastern Division.*

101, Braybrooke Road, Hastings.

The St Mary's Society, Bow, E.—The annual dinner will be held at The Blue Anchor, High Street, Bow, on Thursday, January 23th, at 7.30 p.m. sharp. Tickets, 3s. each, can be had of Messrs. D. Sutton, Bow Vestry Hall, Bow Road; A. Deards, Digby Villa, St. Stephen's Road, Upton Park; or H. Springall, Hon. Sec., 35, Huddlestons Road, Forest Gate, E.

The Ashton-under-Lyne Society.—The quarterly meeting of the above Society will be held at Flixton, on Saturday, January 30th. Bells ready at 4 p.m.; meeting at 7.

35, Uxbridge Street. S. BOOTH, *Hon. Sec.*

The Midland Counties Association.—The third quarterly meeting of the year will be held at Chesterfield on Saturday, January 30th. Peal of ten at the parish church, open from 1 p.m. till 9 p.m., excepting from 7.15 to 7.45. Committee meeting in the parish room at the vicarage at 4.30. Tea in the Victoria school, Vicar Lane, at 5. General meeting in St. James's Mission-room, Vicar Lane, immediately after tea. Visiting members who have paid their subscriptions for the current year, must send their names to Mr. G. Toplis, 1, Austin's Place, Broad Pavement, Chesterfield, on or before Wednesday, January 29th, who will be charged 6d. each for tea; local members and others 1s. each as usual. Parties of eight or more can obtain fare-and-a-quarter tickets by giving three days' notice at any station.

J. O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.*

22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.

The Essex Association.—A district meeting of the above will be held at Brentwood, on Saturday, January 30th. Tea will be provided at the church house, at 5 p.m., to be followed by a business meeting. Members intending to be present must signify the same, and the station from which they start, not later than the previous Tuesday. The tower of South Weald (6 bells) will also be open for ringing.

HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Hon. Sec.*

Gt. Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Association.—The next committee and quarterly meeting of this Association will be held in the schoolroom, Oldswinford, near Stourbridge, on Saturday, January 30th, at 5.30 p.m. prompt. The Rev. A. B. Timbrell, Rector, Clerical Secretary, has kindly consented to preside. A short service with brief address will be held in the church at 4.45 p.m., to which all members are cordially invited. The bells (six) will be available for ringing; also the peal of eight at St. Thomas's, Stourbridge. Tea will be provided for all members sending in their names to me not later than Wednesday, January 27th. Election of representatives for Central Council will take place at this meeting. Members are requested to note that all subscriptions are due at this meeting.

JNO. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

36, Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at South Petherton, on Saturday, February 6th. Break from Martock Station after arrival of 1.49 p.m. train. Full particulars on Jan. 30th. Will all members who intend to be present kindly inform the Hon. Sec. at once.

H. W. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer,*
The Cottage, Old Cleeve, Washford.

Compositions.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

By J. S. PRITCHETT, *King's Norton.*

5808.

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 e

3 5 4 2 6 7 8 e 9 0

4 5 6 3 7 2 8 e 9 0

3 5 6 2 7 4 10th in four.

5 2 6 3 11th in four.

2 3 6 5 11th in four.

5 3 6 4 7 2 10th in four.

4 3 6 2 7 5 10th in four.

3 2 6 4 11th in four.

2 4 6 3 11th in four.

3 4 6 5 7 2 10th in four.

5 4 6 2 7 3 10th in four.

4 2 6 5 11th in four.

2 5 6 4 11th in four.

6 2 5 4 7 3 1 2 3 4

5 4 2 3 7 6 10th in three.

2 5 4 1 2 3 4

4 2 5 1 2 3 4

2 3 5 4 11th in four.

3 4 5 2 11th in four.

5 3 4 1 2 3 4

4 5 3 1 2 3 4

5 2 3 4 11th in four.

2 4 3 5 11th in four.

3 2 4 1 2 3 4

4 3 2 1 2 3 4

5 3 2 4 11th in four.

2 4 5 6 7 3 10th in three.

5 2 4 1 2 3 4

4 5 2 1 2 3 4

3 5 2 6 7 4 s at two.

2 3 5 1 2 3 4

5 2 3 1 2 3 4

4 2 3 6 7 5 s at two.

3 4 2 1 2 3 4

*2 3 4 1 2 3 4

5 3 4 6 7 2 s at two.

4 5 3 1 2 3 4

3 4 5 1 2 3 4

5 6 4 2 7 3 10th in three.

2 6 4 3 7 5 11th in four.

7 2 6 5 4 3 11th in three.

2 3 4 5 6 7 11th in four.

In the last course but one the second call is a single. In the last course the first and third calls are singles. The first course is called nine in and out at three with a double. The second course is called seven in and out at five.

The 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th are in coursing order throughout the peal, and the 6th is twelve times each in 4ths, 7ths, and 5ths places.—(See below.)

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

The peal of Grandsire Cinques rung on December 28th, by the St. Martin's Guild of Birmingham, and recorded in our last number, was scored at the fourth attempt extending over five years, as it was the conductor's idea to ring it on Boxing Day. Messrs. S. Spittle and W. Greenleaf were elected members of the Guild previous to the start. It was the first peal of Cinques by W.

Hancox and F. Clayton; and the first of Grandsire Cinques by W. Greenleaf and W. S. Pritchett. The composition is abbreviated from the full peal given in the previous column, by calling from the course-ends marked by an asterisk as follows:—

*2 3 4 6 7 5 8 e 9 0

3 6 4 2 7 5 11th in four.

7 2 6 3 4 5 11th in three.

2 3 4 5 6 7 11th in four.

In the penultimate course the second call is a Single, and in the last course all four calls are Singles except the second.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

5280.

2 3 4 5 6 W 5th 4th M R

3 5 4 2 6 - - I I

2 4 5 3 6 - - I I

4 3 5 2 6 - - I I

3 2 5 4 6 - - I I

4 5 2 3 6 - - I I

6 2 5 3 4 I - - *

3 5 2 6 4 - - I I

5 2 3 6 4 I - - I I

2 6 3 5 4 - - I I

6 5 3 2 4 - - I I

2 3 5 6 4 - - I I

Five times repeated.

Single where marked * in the 2nd and 5th parts; only 4, 5, 6 in 6th place at the course-ends.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR AT KIDDERMINSTER.—The Kidderminster Society having the ambition of reaching the high standard of ringing a peal of London Surprise, the method was put in practice, and the first peal is now an accomplished fact and recorded in its proper place. Several attempts have been made and have ended in failure, and caused discouragement; but on January 6th the final word came—"That's all." On one occasion 1 hr. 30 mins., another 2 hrs. 15 mins., another over 2 hrs., and another of 3 hrs. 10 mins., were occupied in unsuccessful attempts. On Wednesday, January 6th, at 6.59, the bells went into changes, and at the expiration of 3 hrs. 16½ mins., they ran merrily home, and the first peal of London Surprise (5088 changes had been achieved by the Worcestershire Association and by all the band. Although the peal was not rung without a trip here and there, capital striking was heard from beginning to end, every man to his task, and black looks, etc., from the conductor at the slightest signs of carelessness. This Society can now boast of having rung the first peals by the Worcestershire Association in the following methods on the Kidderminster bells:—Stedman Triples, May, 1889; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, November, 1890; Superlative Surprise Major, February, 1892; Cambridge Surprise Major, May, 1894; London Surprise Major, January, 1897. Each of the band has also learned his change-ringing at Kidderminster. The Kidderminster Company rang their first peal on January 8th, 1887, with the assistance of Mr. J. W. Washbrook, and the Conductor called his first peal in December the same year, under the supervision of Mr. H. J. Tucker. The first peal by local men alone was rung in October, 1888.

THE PEAL AT ST. STEPHEN'S, BRISTOL.—The above peal was rung with the bells muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. Charles W. Paul, Past Master and Hon. Sec. of the Ancient Society of St. Stephen's. It was also the anniversary of W. A. Cave's birthday. The peal was composed by J. Reeves, and taken from Snowdon's *Treble Bob*, part 2, page 27. This is the first peal of Treble Bob on the bells, and the first of Major by the Guild, and rung at the first attempt. W. Knight's first peal, and first peal of Major by C. Horton, C. Tomkins, C. Gordon, and W. A. Cave. F. Ellis, the ringer of the 3rd, was elected a member of the Association previous to starting, and it is his first peal for over four years, owing to an illness depriving him of the proper use of his fingers. He took up to ringing again in 1895, and has kept to it since.

THE PEAL AT RADWINTER.—On Saturday, January 2nd, the brothers Sworder, formerly of Hallingbury, paid a visit to Saffron Walden, having lately returned from a nine years' stay at Johannesburg, Africa. On meeting Messrs. Piirstow and Penning, they expressed a desire for a peal, and sundry arrangements were debated for a future time, when the latter said, "Why not to-day? let's go to Radwinter." This suggestion was at once acted upon, and sufficient willing hands obtained, and a brake chartered. On arrival, the worthy Rector, the Rev. F. W. Bullock, readily consented, and the band were successful in ringing a peal of Kent Treble Bob, this being Mr. Richard Sworder's first peal. Fortunately, the brake was provided with lamps, or our homeward journey might have been tragical, as they showed up a man lying fast asleep in the middle of the road. The brothers Sworder expressed their great pleasure with the expedition, having been anxious for a peal before their early return to Mr. Kruger.

THE DAVID WILSON FUND.

The following additional subscriptions have been received:—

The Pudsey Society	10	6
The Borden Society	4	0

We make another appeal to the benevolent on behalf of Mr. Wilson. It is desired to close the subscription list at the end of this month. All moneys yet received have been given to Mr. Wilson, the expenses in working this matter having been borne by the Secretary to the fund and a few friends. It is now twelve months since Mr. Wilson gave up work, and there are no signs of his getting back to work for a long time.

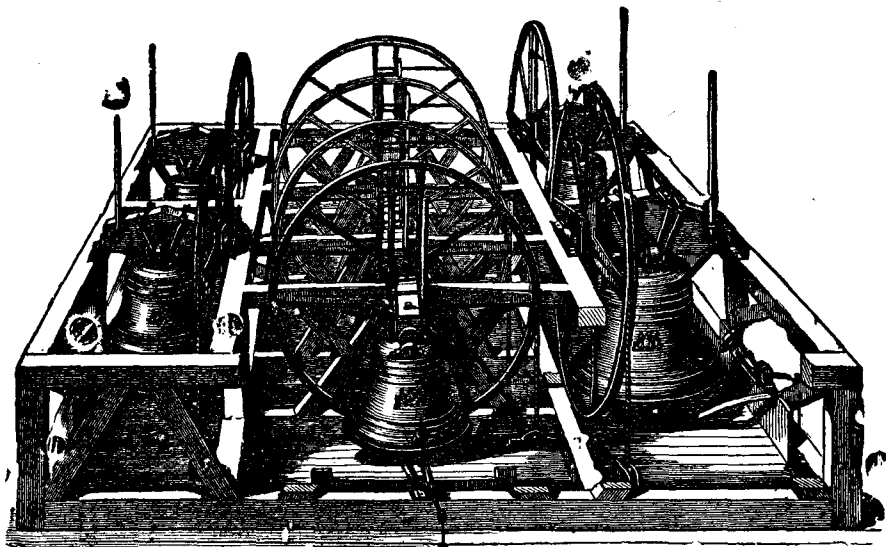
LATE NOTICE.

The Kent County Association.—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Edenbridge, on Saturday, January 30th. Particulars next week.
W. LATTER, *Hon. District Sec.*

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AND
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12 Popular Airs for Hand Bell Ringers, by W. HALEY, Price 1s.

Auld Lang Syne, Hark! 'tis the bells, Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule Britannia, Sailing, Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, the Bellringers' Glee, the Star Spangled Banner, Wait till the clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

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|--|-------|
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| No 2.—The "Concordia" International Melodeon, 8-fold leatherette double bellows, 10 keys, outside nickled pallet, 3 stops, 3 rows of reeds, each key tuned as a chord. | 6 0 |
| No 3.—The Miniature International Melodeon, 8-fold, leatherette, double bellows, with steel corners, 10 celluloid keys and pallets; 2 rows of reeds and 2 stops | 10 6 |
| No 4.—The "Cerebus" International Melodeon, 10-fold, black leatherette, double bellows, with patent improved steel corners, 10 keys, nickled and gold plated, open pallets, 3 rows of reeds, tuned in octaves, plays in A. | 15 6 |
| No 5.—The "Grand" International Melodeon, Organ tone, 10-fold, double bellows, patent improved steel corners, 10 keys, nickled and gold plated open pallets, patent steel springs, 4 rows of reeds, and 4 bass keys; plays in A and D. | 18 6 |
| No 6.—Violin "Stradivarius" Model, good tone, complete with bow and case | 27 6 |
| No 7.—Violin "Hopi" Model vaulted back, nut colour, with excellent bow, case, &c. | 15 0 |
| No 8.—Violin "Stradivarius" Model ebony fittings, amber shaded, highly polished, Paganini bow and case, with nickled fittings | 20 0 |
| No 9.—Violin "Gaspard da Salo" Model, double inlaid purfling, old imitation, Trouté bow, superior case, best fittings, &c. | 30 0 |
| No 10.—Violin "Guarnerius" Model, fine old imitation, especially adapted for Orchestral playing mahogany cases, velvet plush-lined, German silver springs, &c., "Dodd" bow, patent chin rest, velvet embroidered blanket, &c. | £6 0 |
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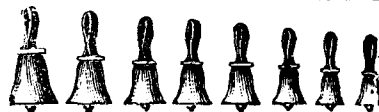
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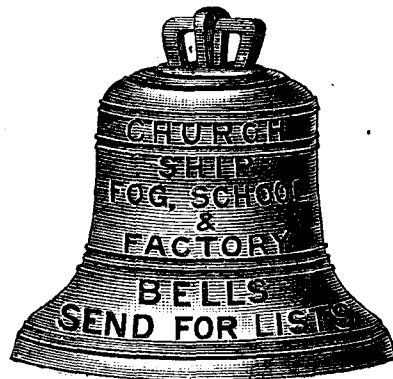
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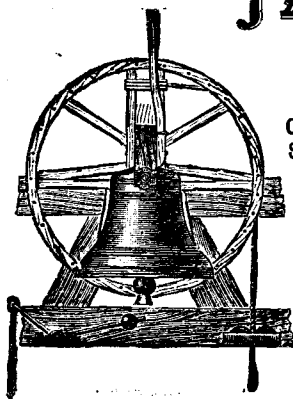
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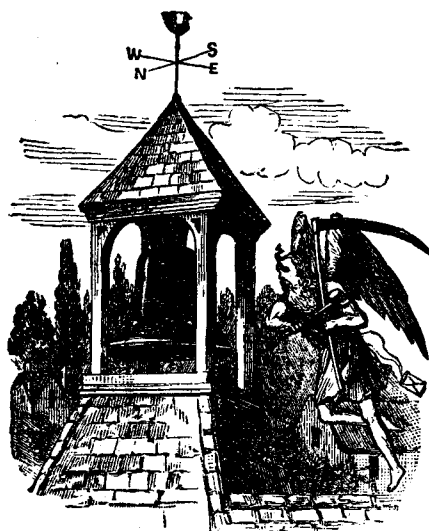
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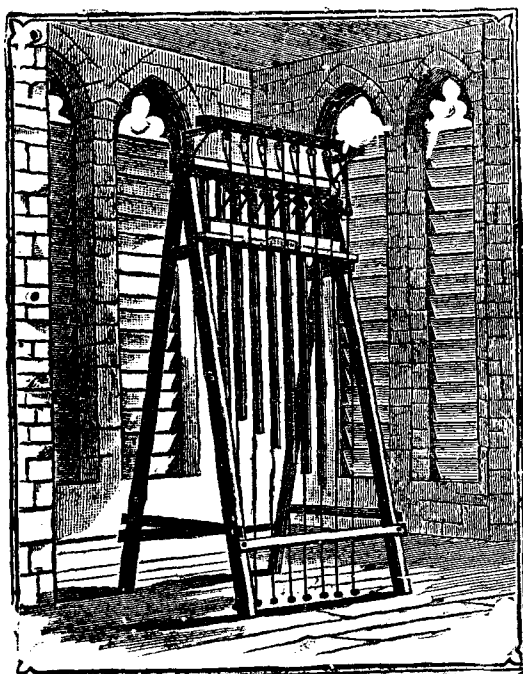
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 772.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1897.

[Vol. XV.]

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING.

MR. HEYWOOD ON THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

"In the absence of an invitation, the annual meeting will be held at headquarters." Such was the notice conveyed on the circular, in accordance with which, and in obedience to editorial request, I wended my way to Leeds last Saturday. Within a few minutes of my arrival, I was made cognisant of the fact that ringers were assembling in that northern city, by the sight of several well-known faces as I wended my way along the crowded Boar Lane, across Briggate, and from thence by Duncan Street and Kirkgate, till I reached the parish church. Here, crossing the churchyard, I entered the schoolrooms, where I found the officers busily engaged in transacting their "official business with the members." And here, too, I had the pleasurable surprise of meeting our invaluable friend, Mr. A. Percival Heywood, who, it appeared, had come round from Manchester to attend the meeting. That Mr. Heywood is a welcome visitor wherever he goes amongst us, is a very mild way of putting it; and from his reception at Leeds, I should feel myself well within the mark in saying that nowhere is he held in higher esteem, or more cordially welcomed than in the "county of broad acres," and in our premier Association.

Through the kind permission of the various vicars and the Rev. Father McAuliffe, facilities for ringing were in abundance. In addition to the ring of twelve at the parish church, there were the rings of eight at St. Chad's, Far Headingley; St. Michael's, Headingley; and St. Francis (R.C.), Holbeck; and the ring of six at Christ Church, Armley; all within measurable distance.

At four o'clock the annual service was held in the parish church, where I was pleased to see such a large congregation. For this service, the Precentor (the Rev. Manley Power), and the organist (Mr. Alfred Benton), had arranged for the full choir, and those who have attended the services at Leeds parish church will know what this means from a musical point of view. It is, to such, needless to say that the singing was simply exquisite, psalms were chanted in a manner both artistic and reverent, and the settings of the *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* altogether a religious treat. For the anthem we had Purcell's "Rejoice in the Lord," generally known as the "bell anthem" from its overture, and then the Rev. R. S. Medlicott took his place on the faldstool and delivered the annual address, taking for his theme an inscription upon an ancient bell—"Jesus, be our speech." He spoke first of the great reformation that had taken place in connection with the belfries of our church. His references to the ringing-matches and their attendant abuses of fifty years ago were scathing, but he thanked God that these were now really things of the past, that present-day ringers realised more fully their position as church-workers, and accepted the motto on the bell in question—"Jesus be our speech." One lesson also which the ringer could learn most peculiarly from his Art was that of self-control. He knew that his first work as a ringer was that of controlling his bell, without which it was impossible for him to become an exponent of the grand Art of change-ringing. Therefore as he had learnt the secret of controlling his bell, so would he apply that principle to himself, and control his will in all directions for good both to himself and the Church to which he belonged, and of which he was now recognised as a valuable and important officer.

After service, an adjournment was made to the school, where tea was served to a large number of visitors. This over, the annual business meeting commenced, which was presided over by Mr. William Snowdon (the president), who was supported on the platform by Messrs. W. H. Howard and George Bolland

(vice-presidents), William Stainthorpe (hon. treasurer), B. T. Copley (hon. secretary), and A. Percival Heywood Esq. In opening the meeting,

The Chairman expressed the pleasure which all felt at the presence of Mr. Heywood amongst them—a sentiment which was loudly applauded. After the minutes of the Bradford meeting had been read and confirmed, the Chairman announced that there being no contested election the following officers were appointed: W. Snowdon, President; George Bolland, Vice-President; J. H. Hardcastle, Steward; C. H. Hattersley, Tom Lockwood, William Gill, and F. P. Powell, committee-men.

Then followed the presentation of the Committee's report, which commenced by saying that "In presenting this, our twenty-first annual report, we have again to congratulate the Association on the steady progress that has been made on every side. In the matter of patronage we have the honour of having our northern Primate—His Grace the Lord Archbishop of York—at our head, a fact of which we cannot be too proud, inasmuch as it has been the constant aim of the Association to bring the clergy into touch with us, and ourselves into better touch with our clergy. We sincerely trust, therefore, that with our new patron further progress may be made in this direction. In matters numerical our membership has increased into the nine hundreds, and a solid advance is everywhere to be found, as a reference to our year's work will testify." The total number of members last year was 878. During the year one honorary and fifty-seven ringing members have been elected, while on the other hand nine members have died and eighteen lapsed, leaving the numerical strength of the Association at present: Five patrons, thirty-two honorary members, and 866 ringing members—a total of 903. During the year, fifty-one peals have been rung: "these have been distributed over thirty-four churches, which distribution forms a 'record' for the Association, showing, as it does, the best average of work which we have ever had to report. Were we to count the centres of our handbell friends, the number would be thirty-six. The following is an analysis of the peals rung: Kent Treble Bob Maximus, Stedman Cinques, Canterbury Pleasure Major, Oxford Treble Bob Major, and fourteen-and-a-half Minor peals, 1 each; Kent Treble Bob Major, 22; Bob Major, 4; Grandsire Triples, 5; and seven Minor peals, 15." The treasurer's balance-sheet showed the receipts (including 10s. 5d. advanced by the president) to be 34*l.* 11s. 10d., while the expenditure (including 6*l.* 7s. 5d. repaid to the president) was a like amount. Interest from Leeds Corporation Stock amounted to 6*l.* 7s. 8d., the actual saving being 5*l.* 17s. On capital account, the Association has 200*l.* invested in the Leeds Corporation, and 4*l.* 5s. 3d. in the Yorkshire Penny Bank.

Mr. Wilkinson (Pontrefract) proposed, and Mr. W. Parkins (Hunslet) seconded the adoption of the report, with a cordial vote of thanks to the auditors and retiring officers, which was unanimously adopted.

Invitations for the place for holding the next meeting were received from Horbury, Lightcliffe, and Pontefract. After three rounds of voting the result was in favour of Pontefract, and it was thereupon decided to hold the meeting there in May next. The cordial thanks of the meeting were given to Horbury and Lightcliffe branches for their invitations.

The question of representation on the Central Council next came up for consideration, and it was quite evident that much interest was displayed on this point. After some explanatory remarks by the Chairman as to the position of the Association with regard to the Central Council,

Mr. W. Abbishaw (Rothwell) moved, and Mr. Joshua Woodhead (Leeds) seconded, that the full compliment (four) be appointed.

Mr. George Bolland (Tong) moved, and Mr. J. Yeadon (Guiseley) seconded an amendment limiting the representatives to two.

Mr. Tom Lockwood (Leeds), as a representative of the Leeds Amalgamated Society on the Council, traced the progress of their contention regarding six-bell peals at successive meetings of the Council, contending that the advocates of the association's proposition stood in a considerably more favourable position at the last meeting than they had ever done before, and if on that account alone, supported the appointment of the full number.

Mr. W. Whitaker (Leeds) expressed the pleasure he felt at the presence of Mr. Heywood amongst them, and suggested that he would speak a few words, as a member of the association, before the question was put. The Chairman was much pleased to acquiesce in this suggestion, and at his invitation,

Mr. Heywood (who on rising received quite an ovation) jocularly remarked that he was quite prepared to be jumped on to any extent (loud laughter followed this sally), and he then explained that being in Manchester on Saturday morning he thought he would come round by Leeds on his way home, and see how the Yorkshire Association was getting along. With reference to the six-bell peal controversy, he would take second place to no one in his estimation of the ability displayed by our six-bell ringers. But the whole question was practically a point of arithmetic. It was, briefly, how much or how little untruth were we to allow in a peal. There the real question stood. It was not his place (as had been hinted) to suggest any compromise; but he might say this much, that after the Brighton meeting the matter was talked about by leading members of the Exercise, and it was generally thought that some way out of the difficulty might be arranged. He suggested that if the Yorkshire Association representatives were to consult with the officers of the Council, some *modus operandi* might be contrived which would be satisfactory to all parties, and set the matter at rest. The question was certainly now more ripe for settlement than ever it had been before, and on that account he recommended the Association to be fully represented on the Council, so that they could give greater force to their opinions. Indeed, he considered the presence of Yorkshiremen on the Council as most important. That Council was formed to be a central body speaking the opinions and expressing the views of the whole body of ringers. It not only had to deal with their internal economy, but it had another mission—that of demanding for ringers their rights and privileges, and thus should have the undivided support of all the associations. Our clergy were often telling ringers of their duties and responsibilities; but there were other duties and responsibilities resting upon the Clergy and Churchwardens, the fulfilment of which from them ringers had equal right to demand, and this they could do most effectively through the Council. Not least of the rights and privileges which ringers had a right to demand was the efficient keeping of our bells and belfries in order. The preacher in church had referred to the great reform which had taken place in ringing; but how had that reform been brought about? It had come from the ringers themselves, and not from the clergy as a body. The Rev. T. H. Ellacombe and Jasper Snowden had done more in this direction than all others put together. And now that ringers had brought about this reform by themselves, they were perfectly justified in demanding that the valuable instruments of the church which they used, and the belfries in which they met to ring, were kept in an efficient state. During the Jubilee year, hundreds of new bells were placed in towers, but on the other hand, hundreds of old bells were practically unringable for want of that attention which was due and necessary. The present year would doubtless have the same experience, and he thought it was quite time ringers made a stand, and demanded that their bells should be put into proper condition. He mentioned the case of St. Saviour's, Southwark, as one in point, and considered it a disgrace to our church that after the immense amount of money which had been expended in the restoration of that venerable edifice, the historic ring of twelve in its tower—the finest in the kingdom—was to be altogether neglected. After reference to the Church Congress, he concluded a most vigorous speech by earnestly recommending the Yorkshire Association to give its cordial support to the Council.

I have heard Mr. Heywood speak on several occasions, but never with such force as on Saturday last. He "struck out straight from the shoulder," and carried his audience with him.

At the close of his speech the question was put, but only a few hands were held up for the amendment, and the motion to be fully represented on the Council was carried all but unanimously.

Mr. B. T. Copley (Hon. Sec.) then moved, and Mr. W. H. Howard (senior Vice-president) seconded, that Messrs. W. Snowden, George Bolland, C. H. Hattersley and George Breed be the representatives on the Council, which was carried unanimously.

The Chairman then drew attention to the revised code of rules which had been printed in the annual report, and formally gave notice for the same to be considered at the May meeting.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. Dr. Gibson, Vicar of Leeds, for the use of the bells and schools; to the Rev. Manley Power and Mr. A. Benton for the choral service; the Rev. R. S. Medlicott for his address in church; and to the ladies who had attended to the tea, was proposed by the chairman, seconded by Mr. Heywood, and unanimously adopted.

Mr. W. H. Howard then moved, and Mr. George Bolland seconded, a vote of thanks to the Rev. Canon Wood, Vicar of St. Michael's, Headingley, the Rev. W. H. Stables, M.A., Vicar of St. Chad's, Far Headingley; the Rev. G. P. H. Frost, M.A., Vicar of Upper Armley; and the Rev. Father McAuliffe, of St. Francis, Holbeck, for the use of their bells, which was adopted.

Mr. W. Stainthorpe (Birstall) moved, and Mr. Frank Prince (Brighouse) seconded, a similar vote to the local company for their generous and efficient arrangements, which was carried with cheers, and responded to by Mr. Tom Lockwood.

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated a very useful and practical business meeting.

After this came the parting greetings. Some had to hurry away to the railway stations; some to one or other of the outside churches for a ring; while others elected to remain at headquarters for an hour or so in pleasant chat, and a touch on handbells. But all was cordial and happy. Old friends had met, and though departing, were shaking once more hands in friendship, and looking forward to the next meeting together, either at Pontefract or at some intermediate gathering. And thus, taking it for all in all, the Association generally, and the headquarters branch in particular, I do not doubt, will regard the "coming of age" annual meeting with feelings of satisfaction. Anyhow, those were the feelings which animated your humble servant as he turned his back upon the city of Leeds when in the railway carriage on his homeward journey.

RINGERS' ENTERTAINMENT.

The ringers of St. Cuthbert's, Pateley Bridge, were entertained on New Year's Eve by Mr. and Mrs. Harker, of Harefield who presented the ring of six bells to Pateley church 3½ years, ago in memory of their eldest son, Mr. George Hodgson Harker. On assembling in the hall at 7.30 p.m., a plain course of Bob Minor was rung on the handbells. G. Mason, 1; S. Summersall, 2; J. Mumford, 3; S. Bartnell, 4; O. Marshall, 5; J. Summersall, 6. This was thoroughly enjoyed by the whole family and friends assembled, it being the first time these handbells have been rung outside the tower. An excellent supper was thoroughly enjoyed by all, after which the health of Mr. and Mrs. Harker and their family was proposed by the curate of Pateley Bridge, the Rev. W. E. Tinney, who spoke in the highest terms of the kindly interest their host had taken in the ringers ever since the bells were placed in the tower, and of the graceful manner in which year by year they had recognised the services rendered in the belfry. The toast was warmly accorded, and Mr. Harker in response testified to the warm appreciation on the part of Mrs. Harker, himself and their family, of the progress the ringers had made under their instructor, Mr. Bartnell. A little later the party adjourned to the billiard-room, and an exceedingly pleasant evening was spent in games and music. A lapping course of Bob Major was rung on the handbells by J. Mumford, G. Mason, O. Marshall, and J. Summersall. Shortly after eleven o'clock the ringers adjourned to the belfry to ring the old year out and the new year in.

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THE WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

On Thursday night, the 7th January, the ringers and officials connected with the Wakefield Cathedral were entertained to dinner at the "Woolpacks" hotel, by Councillor J. W. Hall, the chairman of the churchwardens. The repast was of a most substantial character, the fare including soup, turkey, geese, roast beef and mutton, and dessert. Drinks and cigars were served *ad lib.* At the head of the table Mr. Hall seemed quite happy to see the recipients so thoroughly enjoy themselves. After dinner the toast of "The Queen" was submitted from the chair, Mr. Hall making suitable reference to Her Majesty's sixty years' reign. He hoped in the forthcoming celebrations in commemoration of that event the poor people of Wakefield would not be forgotten, but that they would all have a good feed to mark such an auspicious event. He did not mind subscribing to a large fund for the enjoyment of the children, so that they might all have a treat in their respective schools.

The toast having been drunk with musical honours, Councillor Hall next proposed "The Bishop, Clergy, and Ministers of all Demoninations." He said that his Lordship was a gentleman who practised what he preached, the clergy of the Cathedral and those at the other churches were an excellent set of men, and the Nonconformist ministers in the city and district also did their duty.

Mr. W. G. Buckley, the parish clerk, who has been seventeen years connected with the Cathedral, called upon to reply, spoke in terms of praise of the successive vicars and curates that he remembered during his tenure of office.—Mr. S. Scope, addressing a few words to those present, said that if the young ringers followed the examples of their older friends they would become proficient. The Cathedral ringers were an able body of men, and he hoped they would have a happy and prosperous new year. His friend Mr. Hall had occupied many offices in connection with the Cathedral. He had been a Sunday School teacher, superintendent, and a warden, and for the last year he had acted as chairman of the wardens. He hoped the ringers some fine day would have the opportunity of pulling the bells on the occasion of Councillor Hall's wedding.

Mr. Hall then proposed "The Bellringers," which he did in most felicitous terms. He said that as a rule the ringers were a class of men almost entirely forgotten. Last year the wardens put them their house in order and carried out sundry improvements in the belfry, and he hoped still further desired alterations would be carried into effect. In conclusion, the speaker enlarged on the variety of bells—some of wood and others of stone—in various parts of the country, but he believed the inventor of the first bell was not known.

The toast having been responded to, Mr. T. H. Ormond, an old ringer, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Hall for his kindness, which was seconded by Mr. T. Moorhouse.

Mr. Hall, in acknowledgement, hoped the future chairman of the wardens would do something for the ringers, and if he didn't he would. "The Officials of the Church" was also submitted, and it was successively replied to by Messrs. W. Blackburn, Cartledge and W. G. Buckley. Six of the members—Messrs. J. W. Moorhouse, T. Mars, A. Scott, J. Moorhouse, E. Andrews, and T. H. Ormond—gave pleasing selections on the handbells, and Messrs. H. Fordham and W. J. Ross contributed songs. The enjoyable proceedings were brought to a close at eleven o'clock.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—Representatives who have been elected to the Central Council are respectfully reminded that in accordance with the decision of the Council at its last meeting, the next meeting will be held in London, at Whitsuntide, instead of Easter. The latest date for forwarding to the Hon. Sec. notices of motions, &c. (which must be in writing, and signed by two representative) will be therefore Saturday, May 8th.

Hon. Secretaries of Societies are respectively reminded that the subscription to the Council of 2s. 6d. for each representative is now due, and should be remitted to the Hon. Sec. and Treasurer *without delay*, together with the names and addresses of the representatives elected.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn, January 1st., 1897. Hon. Sec.

RINGERS' DINNER AT UFFORD, SUFFOLK.

Through the hospitality of Messrs. W. Ward (of Ufford) and C. Ward (of Melton), about 30 ringers sat down to a substantial dinner at Mr. A. Ward's, the White Lion Inn. The invitation was given in commemoration of the Ufford company having achieved their first 5040 of Double Norwich, which was rung about two months ago, Mr. W. Ward (who is the leader of the local company) promising them a dinner when the peal was accomplished. The invitation was further extended to other ringing friends of Messrs. Ward, including an old veteran in the person of Mr. J. Fosdike (who is 80), several members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, Mr. Crickmer (Earl Soham), Mr. Tarrant and another from Monewden, Mr. Wightman from Brandeston, and Mr. Wm. Pye, of Chadwell Heath, Essex. The rector of the parish and Mr. A. Acfield, the rector's warden, were also invited, and filled the chairs at the head and foot of the table. The Rector thanked Mr. William and Mr. Charles Ward for their invitation, and said it gave him much pleasure to be amongst bell-ringers of such high standing. Speaking of the good work done by ringers in the church he thought there might be some danger attached to it if they did not conduct themselves in a proper manner when in the belfry. The toast of "The Queen and Royal Family" was drunk, and was followed by songs and other toasts, Mr. Catchpole (of Ipswich) "opening the ball" with the first vocal effort. A course of Grandsire Caters was also rung by the Ipswich Company. The company lately accomplished one of the grandest performances on 12 bells ever achieved; no other company in England has performed the same methods on 8, 10, and 12 bells, and the ringers present heartily congratulated them, expressing the hope they would retain their superiority as 12-bell ringers. Mr. John Fosdyke (of Woodbridge), who is still in fairly good health, when quite a boy used to go with his father to chime; from chiming he learnt to ring. At this time he was about 25 years old, and was anxious to ring the more intricate methods, but his comrades were unwilling to learn.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting was held at Leighton Buzzard, on January 2nd, which was fairly well attended. By the kindness of the churchwardens, Mr. Richmond, Mr. Willis, and Dr. Langford, tea was provided for the visitors on their arrival at the Coffee House. After tea, a vote of thanks to these gentlemen for their kind hospitality was moved by the Rev. W. W. C. Baker, and briefly responded to by Mr. Richmond. On arriving at the belfry, it was soon found that a great improvement had been made in deadening the sound of the bells since the Association last met at Leighton. It is now possible to conduct a touch so as to be heard by all the ringers, which was formerly impossible.

Touces of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Bob and Treble Bob Major were rung, with some 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in which two of the local ringers rang the treble. The conductors were C. W. Clarke and James George. Arrangements were made for giving instruction in change-ringing to the local band.

GUISELEY, YORKSHIRE.

On Wednesday, January 6th, the ringers of the parish church and the Rector (Rev. E. Thomas), and sexton (Mr. Lewis), were entertained to supper by the Curate, the Rev. W. H. Elliot. An excellent repast was placed before the company and to which they all did ample justice. Supper being over the evening was spent in a social manner. Songs were sung by Mr. and Mrs. Elliot, Mr. W. Elliot, Messrs. J. Yeadon, J. Waite, J. Sunderland and Mr. Lewis, a recitation by Master Spencer Elliot, and touches were rung on the handbells by Messrs. Sunderland, Thompson, Dixon and Waite. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. and Mrs. Elliot for their kind hospitality, which was proposed by the Rector, and seconded by Mr. J. Yeadon.

A St. George's Ensign, measuring 27 ft. by 13 ft. 6 in. has been presented by Mr. H. L. Waddington for use on the tower of St. Albans cathedral, and was first flown on Christmas Day.

KING'S NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

[THE KING'S NORTON GUILD.]

The Annual Meeting of the King's Norton Guild of Change-Ringers was held in the old school-room, King's Norton, on Monday, the 11th January, 1897.

The Chair was taken by the retiring Master, Mr. W. S. Pritchett, and there were also present, the Rev. C. W. Barnard, M.A., vicar of the Parish, the Rev. S. Powell Townend, Mr. H. Bloomer, churchwarden, with Messrs. W. H. Barber, J. Betterton, F. Clayton, Walter Jones, W. Palmer, T. Pritchett, Fred. Sumner, W. H. Sumner, W. Williams, J. Withers and B. Wittchell.

The outgoing Master, in reviewing the proceedings of the Guild during the past year, congratulated the members upon having accomplished five peals, including one of Stedman Triples, and two of Kent Treble Bob Major, the first in these methods ever rung upon the Tower Bells by a local band; and expressed a sanguine hope that a peal of Double Norwich would soon be recorded. He urged upon the members the necessity of using their ears whilst ringing as well as their eyes, pointing out that without this combination the perfection of striking was impossible; and reminded them also that the training of young aspirants must receive their unselfish attention if a high standard was to be maintained and further progress made.

The business of the Meeting was then proceeded with, and on the proposition of the Vicar, Mr. W. S. Pritchett was re-elected Master for the ensuing year, Mr. John Carter, senior warden, and Mr. W. H. Sumner, junior warden.

The company afterwards adjourned to The Saracen's Head inn, where supper was provided and an enjoyable evening spent.

In proposing "The Health of the Master," the Vicar expressed the pleasure it afforded him to be present, and to have the opportunity of thanking the members for their excellent ringing, which he was always glad to listen to. He reminded them that the duty they undertook of ringing the bells on Sunday mornings was a privilege rather than a recreation, and said the bells never pealed out on Sundays without a prayer from his lips that they might truly remind the inhabitants of the Sabbath, and summon them to divine worship.

In responding, Mr. Pritchett thanked the vicar for his presence and for his kindly words of encouragement. He assured him of the appreciation felt for his warm personal interest not only in the Guild and its doings, but in all matters tending to the welfare of the Parish.

Songs and touches of Grandsire Caters on the handbells, concluding with the health of Her Majesty and God Save the Queen, brought closing time, and the company dispersed at 10 p.m.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(STOCKPORT, MOTTRAM, AND BOWDEN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 9th, the quarterly meeting of the members of the above branch was held at St. Mary's church, Stockport, where service was held, and a short sermon preached by the Rev. H. L. Mallory, of Wilmslow, secretary to the branch; after which an adjournment was made to Mrs. A. Crossley's restaurant, where tea was provided for about thirty members. A business meeting was afterwards held, presided over by the rector, Canon Symonds. The ringers then rang short touches of Plain Bob, Treble Bob, Grandsire, and Stedman, both at St. Mary's (8 bells), and St. George's (10 bells). St. George's church is not yet consecrated. At St. George's on the back eight, 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Markwell, 1; J. Booth, 2; W. Gordon, jun., 3; *T. Marshall, 4; S. Gordon, 5; A. Sidebotham (first touch as conductor), 6; J. W. Bailey, 7; J. Hankinson, 8. Afterwards a touch of Kent Treble Bob Royal. J. Shaw (Denton), 1; W. Wilde (Haughton), 2; W. Brown (Manchester), 2; *J. Wilde (Hyde), 4; T. Sale (Stockport), 5; A. Cross (Salford), 6; S. Bennett (Seedley), 7; H. Chapman (Pendleton), 8; P. Brickell (Northenden), 9; *S. Wood (Ashton-under-Lyne, conductor), 10. First touch of Royal on the bells. *College Youths.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, rs. 2d.; cloth do., rs. 8d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading.

RINGMER, SUSSEX.

CHOIR AND BELL RINGERS' SUPPER.—On New Year's Eve, the Rev. F. B. Gribbell entertained the adult members of the choir and bell-ringers to supper. About 20 sat down, including the Vicar and Rev. W. A. Errington, (curate.) At the conclusion of the meal Rev. F. B. Gribbell extended to those assembled a very hearty welcome, both in his own name and in that of his family. He said it was the sixth time they had thus assembled. He always looked forward to these gatherings with great pleasure. This was the first occasion on which they had had the pleasure of the presence of the Rev. W. A. Errington. In him he had a very great helper, for he filled up many shortcomings, and took a lively interest in all the work of the church and parish. As to the choir it had been the remark of everyone who attended the church on Christmas day that the services had been exceedingly bright, the anthem especially rendered in fine style. To the ringers many thanks were due for the way in which they performed their duties. He hoped that all, whether clergy, choir, or ringers, would throw their whole energy into the work, for any thing done in the service of God was worthy of a little trouble. The rev. gentleman concluded by wishing all a very happy new year. The Rev. W. A. Errington thanked the Vicar for the kind words he had spoken of him. This was his first curacy and he was very fortunate in coming to the parish of such a vicar as Mr. Gribbell. With regard to the choir it was a work in which he threw his whole heart, and it was pleasing to hear such good things about them from unbiassed persons. As to change-ringing he knew something about the science, and he was going to attend the practices so as to take part with them. The party then adjourned to the drawing-room, where songs and handbell ringing were indulged in.

GORING, OXON.

On New Year's Eve the Rev. L. Wallace invited the churchwarden, choirmen, and ringers to supper at the vicarage, only one failing through business to put in an appearance. The ringers met at the tower at 7 o'clock and rang two 720s of Minor, after which they went to the vicarage, supper being ordered at 8.30, and after the vicar had shaken hands with all present, led the way to the dining-room where a bountiful repast was laid. The vicar took the chair, and on each side sat one of the churchwardens, H. Nash, Esq. being in the vice-chair, Mr. H. Smith (organist) being on the right hand, and Mr. J. Parson on the left. At 10.15 the welcome call came "that's all," the hour showing that it was quite time, as it seemed there was no end of the good things. The vicar then thanked the churchwardens, choir, and ringers, saying he was proud of all; and after a hearty vote of thanks had been given to the vicar and Mrs. Wallace, the drawing-room was the next order, where the organist presided at the piano, and some very good songs were rendered by Dr. Evans, H. Nash, Esq., Messrs. Smith, White, Spokes, Bower, Ragge, and Hutchins, while the vicar gave a short reading; but time was passing away, and after a pianoforte solo by the organist, the vicar once again led the way back to the dining-room, where coffee, tea, and cake had been laid out. After each had took of which they preferred, the vicar shook hands with all, and wished them a happy new year. All present wished the vicar and his wife a happy new year, hoping they may be spared to spend many more, this being their first year in the village. The ringers and some of the choirmen then went to the church and tolled the old year out and the new one in with 360 Oxford Treble Bob and 360 Oxford Bob. They then lowered the bells, and each returned to their homes, having spent one of the happiest evenings it has been the ringers' lot to spend at this village.

WOBURN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

On Boxing-day, 1896, a very pleasant evening was spent by the Woburn Company of ringers, Mr. Mortimer J. Matthews having kindly invited them to partake of an excellent repast which he had provided for them at his house. The members met at the tower and rang several touches beforehand. After supper the Company indulged in various tales, songs and recitations, etc., and all present thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

HOW WE GOT OUR FIVE BELLS.

Although we boast in the present day of the expeditious manner in which work can be turned out, I question whether anything can be found, even in this nineteenth century, to beat the promptness with which the villagers of Catfield, in Norfolk, managed to get their old peal of four bells recast into five in 1630.

To begin with, we find the following memorandum in the vestry book:—

"On ye xviiiij day of March Ao Dni 1630, In ye sixth yeare of the reigne of our Sou'reign Lord King Charles some of the parishioners were desirous to have the fower olde belles in Catfield to be cast into fyve, and thereupon made motion to Richard Postill, being then one of the churchwardens w'th John Church ye younger, whoe was ye only sonne of William Church, to consent thereunto. The other parishioners being moved hereunto did all (except three or four) lyke and approve of the motion and sett downe under their hands what they would willingly contribute towards that business."

Stimulated by this general appreciation of the undertaking the promoters appear to have set to work to collect subscriptions, and on June 10th following a meeting was called to ascertain the amount collected, and to draw up a petition to the Chancellor of the diocese, asking him to grant a faculty for proceeding with the work. The minutes are as follows:—

"The voluntary contributions amounted to aboute xxiiij li. Hereupon ye Parishioners made Petition to ye Lo: Bps. Chauncellour as followeth:—'To the right worl (worshipful) Doctor Corbett most wortheie Chancellour of the Diocese of Norwich The Petition of the Parishioners of Catfield. Wherein they humbly shewe that whereas there were fower unsorteable Bells belonging to their church The greater of w'ch is somewhat to greate for ye other three, and to waightie for ye steeple w'ch by reason of former earthquakes is rifte and ancored: Now all ye parishioners w'th mutual consent have agreed that the sayd fower belles shall be new caste w'thout diminution of ye weight of ye metall as nere as can be guessed by the bell founder, and made into fyve new tuneable and consortable belles; And because there are only 3 or 4 of ye parishioners whoe will not be p'suaded willingly or contribute to this good worke, the rest of ye parishioners w'th the consent of Mr. Anthony Harison, Rector, and the Churchwardens, are humble suitors for your lawfull favour and direction herein and so humbly take our leaves June 10th Ao 1630. Yo'r Wor'ps in all love and humble dutie Richard Postill and Antho: Harison clie: Rector, John Church ye younger church Wardens."

No time was lost; for on the very same day the churchwardens seem to have posted off to Norwich (about 14 miles off) with the petition. They returned with the answer the self-same evening, which was as follows:—

"I doe very well like and approve this mencioned business, having seene the approbation of the Parishioners, but three w'ch I hope and wish not to persist to be untuneable in so Harmonicall a worke, w'ch I will furder with my best assistance.
June 10, 1630. Cle: Corbett."

This permission was no sooner granted than the order was given to Brend, the bell founder in Norwich, to set to work to mould the five new bells. Probably one or both of the Churchwardens went to Norwich with the petition, and gave the order to Brend for the bells on the same day before returning to Catfield. Even then, from what follows, Mr. Brend must have been remarkably expeditious, for only eight days later we find this memorandum:—

"Md:—the 4 olde belles were carried to the house of William Brend the bell founder in twoe cartes on friday at night the 18th day of June and at Norwich were weighed in the p'sence of the saide Churchwardens and of Thomas Church, gent, Henrie Cooke, Robert Bate, and William Church, all parishioners of Catfield. And before the new were runn, the great bell weighed 12-2-27½, the third bell 10-0-3, The second bell 6-0-9, The first bell 4-3-19 — 33 cwt. 3 qrs. 1½ lbs.

"That night before day they were runn & cast into 5 bells w'ch on the sixth daye of June were weighed in the p'sence of the sayde church wardens & parishioners, and after the new were run.

The base weighed ..	10	0	23½
The tenor weighed ..	7	3	1½
The contra tenor ..	5	3	15
The meane ..	4	2	23
The treble ..	4	2	2

33 0 9

So there was not so much weight in the 5 new as in the 4 old by fower skore & fyve pounds for w'ch xl s allowed."

Surely such promptness would put many of our modern moulders in the shade. Nor did the Catfield people rest, for the bells seems to have been dug out and "fettled" during the Saturday, and were ready to be taken home by the evening; and we read further:—

"On Satterdaye in the nyght tyme the 5 bells were brought to Catfield into ye yarde of ye sayde Richard Postell whoe then dwelt in the Lordship of Catfield the sixth of June 1630. And they were fitted for stocks and wheeles and were hung up in the steeple againe on Saturday the Tenth day of Julie 1630."

A little less than three weeks for reconstruction of the frame and hanging was rather smart work in those days. The cost of the work was as follows:—

"Imprimis to William Brend bell founder of the parish of All Saints in Best Streete in the cite of Norwich. Thirteene pounds whereof seaven pounds at or before the casting and six pounds at Catfield church porch on the second day of februarye next ensuing xiiij li

Item to Richard Postill and Henry Kecham carpenters for fitting the fyve bell frames in the steeple vj li

Item to Robert Skyffin of Ludham blacksmith for clappers and Iron worke iij li

Item to Richard Postell for 5 baldricks of wood xx s

Tot. xxiii li

In the parish register appears the following memorandum, written by Anthony Harrison, the rector. "Memorandum—ye nineteenth day of June Ao Dui 1631 ye fower olde bells of Catfeilde were changed and cast into fyve sweete and tuneable well tuned bells, as appears on fol. 6r of this booke.

The Times and Tunes doe change we see
And we in them ofte changed bee;
The Truith hereof these times vs tells,
By change of fower olde Catfield bells.
Which changed are from fower to fyve,
By Catfield people all alive,
But for whose soule they first shall knell,
That God alone cann only tell.
The changers which did change the ring,
That after times their tunes maie sing,
Were the churchwardens of this yeare,
Whose names subscribed doe appear.

Richard Postill and John Church, sonne of William Church, Churchwardens.

Antho: Harison, Rector.

"Thomas en Wigger, the daughter of Christofer Wigger and Elizabeth his wife, a maiden of ye age of nyneteene yeares ye xxj daye of Julie laste, was buried ye firste daye of September 1630 and had ye first knell after ye casting of ye sayd bells."

Of these bells the treble, second, fourth and tenor still remain, the third having been recast. The inscriptions are as follows:—

Treble, Second and Fourth.) ANNO DOMINI 1630.

Third.) T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1821.

Tenor.) ANTHONI HARISON RECTOR RICHARD POSTIL I.C. CHVRCH WARDENS ANO 1630 (a lion's face) CATFIELD.

Truly the above history is a remarkable example of perseverance and prompt action. One can imagine the delight with which the order for the bells was given after obtaining the faculty from the Chancellor. How Richard Postill and his men must have set to work directly they got home to take out the old bells and prepare the frame and fittings for five. Then, the journey to Norwich with the old bells in two carts on the afternoon of June 18th, the weighing, breaking up and melting of the old bells all within a few hours: How the deputation would anxiously watch the casting of the new bells in the early hours of the morning of June 19th: How impatient they perhaps were as the morning advanced to see the bells dug out: How "Goodman Brend" (as he was sometimes called) would probably entertain them to breakfast and pacify their impatience till such time as the metal was sufficiently cool: Then the digging out and fettling, and finding all the bells perfect castings with apparently little or nothing to be done in the way of tuning: And finally the journey home in triumph with the new bells and the entry into Catfield late on that eventful Saturday night, not much more than thirty-six hours since they left the village with the old bells:—and to crown all, the work of hanging and the opening about three weeks later. Let us hope that "Goodman Bread" was invited to the last function and was present to hear the result of his labours.

THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 16th, a meeting of this association was held at All Hallows Church, Tottenham, ringers being present from Barnet, Edmonton, Finchley, Gospel Oak, Hadley, Hampstead, Hendon, Southgate, Stoke Newington, and Tottenham. The bells had been kindly placed at the disposal of the association by the Rev. Prebendary Wilson, vicar, and were kept going from about 5.30 to 9 o'clock, in Plain Bob, Grandsire, Oxford Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Stedman, and Double Norwich methods. There was an excellent attendance of members in spite of the inclemency of the weather; the belfry, at times, being taxed to the utmost of its powers of accommodation.

At the subsequent business meeting the hon. secretary informed the members that negotiations for union with the South and West Middlesex Guild were making very satisfactory progress, and that the specially appointed committees of the two associations would meet in the City, on the 23rd instant, to discuss the few remaining details. More than this he was unable to say without breaking the seal of confidence, but he might, perhaps, be permitted to add that an excellent spirit had all along characterised the exchange of views that had already taken place, promising well for the ultimate success of the negotiations.

Several new members were proposed and admitted as members of the association, and a very pleasant evening was brought to a close shortly before nine o'clock, by the usual vote of thanks to the vicar and all concerned for the welcome afforded.

HARTHILL, YORKSHIRE.

The annual supper given by the vicar to the choir and ringers of All Hallows church, was given on Saturday, January 9th, at The Bee Hive inn, when about thirty-six sat down to a very good repast, to which all present did full justice.

A 306 of Merchants' Return was rung by: R. Smith, 1; J. E. Marshall, 2; H. Stenton, 3; T. Smith, 4; S. Smith, 5; C. Fowler, 6. 360 of Kent was rung by: R. Smith, 1; C. Fowler, 2; Rev. B. Darley, 3; H. Stenton, 4; S. Smith, 5; J. E. Marshall, 6. 120 of Violet by: R. Smith, 1; C. Fowler, 2; H. Stenton, 3; J. E. Marshall, 4; S. Smith, 5; T. Laking, 6.

After supper the following programme was carried out:—waltz, "Love in a mist," the Harthill String Band; part song, "As the moments roll," the Harthill Glee Singers; part song, "The miller's song," the Anstiss Glee Singers; song, "The admiral's broom," Mr. F. Ward; song, "White Mevill's hunting song," Mr. Harvey; song, "Jack's yarn," Mr. Harrison; quadrilles, "Jeannette," the band; song, "Alice, where art thou?" Mr. Holmes; song, "The white hare," Mr. M. Roystone; part song, "Mynheer Van Dunck," Anston Glee Singers; song, "A cottage by the sea," Mr. Guest; song, "The owl," Mr. W. Unwin; song, "The monarch of the woods," Mr. W. Newbury; part song, "Lorrilly," Harthill Glee Singers; piano solo, "Schubert's Ballet-musik," Mr. Harvey; song, "Tomorrow will be Friday," Mr. Harrison; song, "The Skipper," Mr. F. Ward; schottische, "Fascination," the band.

A very enjoyable evening ended in all the company singing "Auld Lang Syne," for all they were worth, and "He's a jolly good fellow," by the band.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 29th, the members of St. James's, Taunton, were entertained to supper at the vicarage by the Vicar the Rev. G. and Mrs. Kingdom. After a touch of Triples on the handbells we sat down to an excellent repast, all doing full justice to a fine course of Bob Turkey, other courses turning up in splendid style. After full justice to the good things provided was done, we made a move to the drawing-room, where handbell-ringing and various games were indulged in until 10 o'clock. Thanking the Vicar, Mrs., and the Misses Kingdom, we made our way home all having spent a most enjoyable evening. P.

NORTH'S ENGLISH BELLS AND BELL LORE.
Illustrated. Price 12s., postage 6d. Should be in the hands of all Bell lovers.—W. H. EATON, Publisher, Leek, Staffs.

Ringers' Outings.

THE RAUNDS SOCIETY, NORTHANTS.—On Tuesday, December 29th, 1896, by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. A. E. Oldroyd, eleven of the Raunds St. Peter's Society, with Mr. Chas. W. Clarke, of Bedford, and Mr. A. Perkins, of Irthlingborough paid a visit to the parish church, Oundle, this being the birthplace of Mr. C. W. Clarke. On arriving there and meeting our old vicar, he soon conducted us to a room set apart for us, where luncheon was served. After this the belfry was visited to try these fine-toned bells. After being raised it was doubtful if anything could be done in the way of change-ringing. But a start was made for 252 Bob Triples, which was brought round, but not in any way satisfactory. Then another 252 was brought round a little better. A touch of Bob Major was started for, but was lost after three courses had been rung. After this a touch of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung on the back six. This peal of bells is supposed to be the best peal in the county for quality of tone; but the circle is one of the worst in the county, as there is a large clock between the second and third bells. Then the third man stands behind the fourth, and the noise is far too much in the belfry to do any change-ringing. This peal of bell needs over-hauling by an expert bell-hanger, as the bells are loose on the stock, and the frame wants strengthening. It is hoped that if this should be done that the clock will be removed to the opposite side of the belfry, where there is plenty of room, then a good circle could be made. The visitors wish to thank the Vicar for his hospitality; also for the use of the bells. This is the first time this belfry has been open to visitors. F.G.

RINGERS' SUPPER AT BRIGHTON.

On Wednesday, January 6th, 1897, the St. Peter's and St. Nicholas ringers were at the kind invitation of Mr. Jay, sen., entertained to a hot supper at The Prince George hotel, in Trafalgar Street, where a most enjoyable evening was spent. Mr. Jay, sen. was unanimously elected to the chair, and Mr. Palmer kindly undertook the position of vice-chairman. During the evening songs were given by Messrs. Jay, sen., Merritt, Hart, Cornwall, Jay, jun.; Mr. Davey created much laughter in singing "Macdonoly's Ducks." Selections on handbells were given by Messrs. Hart and Jay jun., and a course of Grandsire Triples was rung by F. Bennett, 1-2; G. A. King, 3-4; K. Hart; 5-6; G. Williams, 7-8. Also a course of Bob Royal and Grandsire Caters (lapping) by Messrs. Hart, Palmer, Rann, King and Merritt.

Mr. Williams proposed "The Health of the Chairman." Mr. Jay, in replying, said he was very pleased to invite them to the supper and to see his St. Nicholas friends, with his old friend Mr. Palmer. He hoped to ring another peal or two with them yet ("another hundred" from a voice in the corner) if he was spared. He was much obliged for the compliment, and wished them a "Happy and prosperous New Year."

Mr. Palmer also said in a few brief words how it pleased him to see any of the St. Peter's ringers up at St. Nicholas, especially his friend Mr. Jay. He was also pleased that he had rung his hundredth peal at their church, and hoped he would ring a good many more there.

The evening was brought to a close by singing "Should old acquaintance be forgot."

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

SONNING DEANERY BRANCH.—The Annual Meeting of this Branch of the above Guild was held at Wokingham, Berks., on Saturday, January 16th. Seventy-eight honorary and ringing members were present, also the Revs. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Guild, and F. G. Coleridge, the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis being in the chair. After the election of officers for the ensuing year, and other business, the company present were treated to a pleasing selection upon the handbells, given by some of the Caversham ringers, who had also during the afternoon rung a fine peal of Stedman Triples upon the bells of St. Paul's church, Wokingham, a record of which will be found in its proper place.

MEN AND MANNERS.

The festive season has come and gone, the "Compliment of the Season" chestnut is getting slightly out of date; and it requires a large amount of—er—confidence (good substitute for cheek) to collect the few outstanding Christmas boxes that remain on the ringers' "brief." Taken all round, things are looking up. The winter weather has arrived although long overdue, Parliament has resumed business at the old stand, the eyes of the country will be centred on Westminster, and then we shall see what we shall see. The hopes of the nation will revive, perhaps; and the windy, old die-for-my-country orators will go on tramping around the ring of the Parliamentary circus, rising the usual amount of dust, grinding a deal of chaff, and producing about as little grain as you can reasonably expect. It is shocking bad taste on my part, I am aware, to speak so disrespectfully of our members, but I really cannot help it. When I see all sorts of political crooks holding out the stereotyped programme of "good things for the people" as though they were giving something away out of their own pockets, the temptation to heckle them is almost irresistible.

* * * *

Somehow, we seemed to have forgot all about Parliament. Nobody threatened to "write to the paper about it," and it seemed to have entirely slipped our memories that such an institution was in existence. We have got on very well without it for a long time, and perhaps might do worse than by "leaving well alone." It is true I faintly recollect something about the phrases "Old age pensions" and "Work for the unemployed," but the folk concerned are so unreasonable to be sure. They actually think it criminal to adjourn for a six months' holiday, followed by another month of badgering at the reply to the Address, course of business, etc.; while mouths want filling; but what's this:—"A number of Liberal Churchmen including the Deans of Winchester, Lincoln, Ely, and Durham, headed by Canon Scott Holland, have written to the Opposition Whip pointing out that official Liberalism is out of touch with the Labour movement, and is also identified with a policy that seems wilfully unfair to the Church. The signatories are convinced that, without some definite policy to relieve the social pressure on Labour, the Liberal Party will die, and they feel it is desirable that their views should be made known in the proper quarter."—DILY PIPER.

It is consoling to know that some party is going to die. What a pity they can't all die together and be the means of providing the scruffe-ringers with a job with the buffs on! The same paper says also that, "The House of Commons has been thoroughly cleaned down, and the amount of dirt taken off is surprising. All the oak panelling has been scrubbed, oiled, and polished, and generally done up." May I be allowed to suggest then that a few of the members now be taken in hand? Some would stand a lot of polishing, though I doubt if they would survive the ordeal of being "thoroughly done up," most of them being in that condition already.

* * * *

Last week's issue of "THE BELL NEWS" was to my mind the best ever produced. I mean in regard to quality. First, the photo. of York Minster was superb, and is worthy a place in every ringer's home. The peal records possessed no less than three peals of London and two of Superlative. The Kidderminster band have at length reached the top stave of the campanological ladder, mainly through the pluck and perseverance of "Dick" Grove, whose photo. adorned the pages of "THE BELL NEWS" some time in 1892. The Rev. F. E. Robinson's birthday peal, too, was London Surprise! but the ringing parson is an old hand at the method, and evidently had the band well weighed in before starting. Every one will endorse the wishes conveyed in the footnote to the peal. Then up comes Harry Chapman with his little lot. Now if anyone had prophesied that Harry would engineer a peal of Superlative, I would not have believed it. Understand me, I never dreamed he had the ambition for it. A good all-round ringer from Minor to Maximus as I have found when ringing in touch and peal with him; and a pupil I believe of Mr. Samuel Wood, I was fairly taken aback to see him call the peal, which is first in the method in Lancashire. Go on Harry; now you have put your hand to the plough, don't stop here. Buck up and let us see that you can call bobs till the cows come up. Selah!

A rumour was current the other week to the effect that the old Execution bell had just been discovered in an ancient chest of St. Sepulchre's church. As a matter of fact, the bell was found over a year ago. Its history is romantic. In 1605, one R. Dowe, citizen and merchant tailor, bequeathed £50 on the condition that the bellman of St. Sepulchre's should, after twelve o'clock the preceding night, and also on the morning of an execution, ring certain tolls outside Newgate, and afterwards in a most Christian manner, put the condemned in mind of their condition and approaching end, and again, when in the cart, and brought before the walls of the church, the clerk was to stand ready with the same bell, and after ringing it, read a prayer desiring all people present to pray for the unfortunate criminals, the beadle of the Merchant Taylors' Company being allowed a stipend to see that the ceremony was regularly performed. A doggerel rhyme was also chanted outside the condemned cell at night, as follows:

"All you that in the condemned hold do lie,
Prepare, for to-morrow you shall die.
Watch, all, and pray, the hour is drawing near,
That you before the Almighty must appear.
Examine well yourselves, in time repent,
That you may not to eternal flames be sent.
And when St. Sepulchre's bell in the morning tolls,
The Lord have mercy on your souls.
Past Twelve o'clock."

* * * *

The writer of the letter in "BELL NEWS" a week or two ago, calling attention to a false peal or two in Shipway might also have mentioned one or two others. Take for instance page 91, part 3 where there is a 5056 of Grandsire Major by H. Cooper. This peal Shipway says is a superior and excellent composition, but as any novice ought to see, is as false as it is possible to be. I expect the author of the book took the word of the composer as sufficient proof in those days, though as he went through and exposed the false peals of the *Clavis*, he was undoubtedly unwise in not looking through his MS. I notice in last week's issue a peal of 5056 Bob Major called by G. F. Woodhouse at the parish church, Deane. Some time ago I made a note mentally of a certain peal of 5056 Bob Major, and I thought the peal rung was the one I am referring to. Will the conductor of the peal oblige me with a copy of the peal, as I lost the one I had. By doing so he will confer a great favour on

JINGLE.

"GREAT PAUL" AND THE TRYING WEATHER.—There has been quite an epidemic—a sort of campanular influenza—among the greater bells and clocks of London lately (says the *Westminster Gazette*). First, "Big Ben" and the Westminster chimes lost their voices for two months. Then the chimes at the Law Courts and the clock in the bell-turret of the Hall and Library at the Inner Temple took the disorder, and for a week or two in the "dusty purlieus of the law" no one knew accurately the time of day, to the despair of counsel, solicitors, and clients alike. Now it is Great Paul who has gone on the sick-list. It seems that the great heat of July 13 and following days disagreed with him. The metal of the bearings by which the big bell is suspended from the supporting beam above expanded alarmingly, and the chilly weather that followed caused these bearings to subside an inch or two into the socket. "Great Paul" is ordinarily tolled for five minutes every weekday at one o'clock, and during the last five minutes before the principal services on Sundays and saints' days. When in health, four men, two on each side, suffice to swing him; but when it took to requiring six, eight, and at last ten men to give him his daily exercise it was felt that something must be done. So Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, the eminent firm of bellfounders who attended "Great Paul" at his birth, were called in. They prescribed, not exactly a change of scene, but a change of air and temperature, and it is hoped as the days lengthen and the weather improves, to restore the bell to its normal condition. "Vae mihi si non evangelisavero" is the legend running round the lip of many ancient bells, and as this is the second time that "Great Paul" has struck work within two years, the cathedral authorities begin to feel a little anxious.

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."

METHOD OR METHODS.

SIR,—As regards the letter headed "Method or Methods" in the correspondence column of your last issue I, as a member of the band mentioned, viz.: the Chiddingstone band, should like to say a few words on the subject. First of all it is a wrong idea to think that we cannot ring with others, for we have already done so, although we have not yet been successful in obtaining a peal with a mixed band, in two attempts we reached half-way and that is far enough for the thing to explain itself, at least I think so. I must admit that if when ringing with others we are told to dodge down, or "you are in 5-6," we do not benefit much by the words spoken. I myself have learnt the rules of Grandsire in that method I have just spoken of, and can understand directly anything is said, and you may guess get into my place as soon as I possibly can. I don't know if Mr. Rock thinks we can't or we won't obtain books, but which ever way he thinks he is wrong, for I happen to be the owner of three of them, i.e. Troyte's, "Grandsire," and "Rope-sight," and am glad to say I have gained a lot of good information from them, especially on conducting. If Mr. Rock has the only two books he mentioned, why then I best him one. I must say that I candidly know that we cannot ring anything else but Grandsire Doubles, Triples and Major, by the method we are ringing, and having a strong band all wishing to ascend the ladder of the ringing exercise, we applied for help, that is, explanation, and that seems to me to have brought the subject about. The method that we ring by was handed down to us by the sole survivor of the old band who rung two peals back in the forties; the man just referred to is still organist at the parish church and nearly 50 years passed by before another peal was obtained by a local band. Of course 50 years is a long time, and I am sorry to say that our 70-year-old instructor had nearly lost it all, but happened to find these rules, and with these we set to work, which was no easy task, our instructor only coming into the belfry about twice. He tried to ring one night but the dancing of the rope made him giddy, and that was the last time he has ever tried to ring. While we were thus learning we were all ignorant of any such thing as an association of bell-ringers, and why we learnt what we did was because we could not learn what we had never seen or heard of. G. EDWARDS.

THE BRIDGWATER PEAL.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me a little space in your paper for another letter with regard to the peal at Bridgwater? I admit that I did not hear the midway single, as I ran to catch the train, which I thought would leave Bridgwater at 6 o'clock, but its time being 5.52 I missed it. When I left the tower they had been ringing 1 hr. 44 mins., and the midway single had not turned up. I was gone about 14 mins., when I returned to hear the rest of the peal, and the last half-hour I listened at the key-hole of the door, which is a very large one, therefore I could hear every call. The last part was rung in short courses, when it should have been mostly long ones; the bells ran around at a plain lead with the second in the hunt, one lead after the last bob, and the back-change turned up in the coming-home course. It is impossible to get a peal in 3 hrs. 20 mins. when ringing from 22 to 23 changes a minute. I also state that there was no knocking at the belfry door during the time I was there. Mr. Maddock refers to a peal which I stood in, saying that the end single was not called, but the single was called and if Mr. Maddock had been there he would have heard it, and if I had stood in the peal at Bridgwater I would not have had my name published. If Mr. Courtney or any ringer of Grandsire had been there and heard the peal they would have been of the same opinion as myself, that the peal was false. J. JOYCE.

SIR,—In reference to Maddock's letter of the 16th, I must say that the only peal of Grandsire Triples that J. Joyce has taken part in was Holt's ten-part, rang at St. Mary's Church, Taunton, on December 31st, 1894, of which I was the conductor, and if Mr. Maddock had been in the tower he would have heard it called, for as I called the end single the man that was ringing the 4th, turned round as if surprised and said to the 5th man, Holt's Single. As to the Bridgwater peal I know nothing about more than the correspondence I have seen through your valuable paper, but my own opinion is that any man that knows the method can tell whether the bells were in the plain course or coming up with back bells the wrong way, and the 5th in the hunt as they should be. T. W. RADFORD.

YORK CATHEDRAL BELLS.

SIR,—Would your correspondent, Mr. W. H. Howard, kindly repeat the inscription on the present eleventh bell at York Minster?

I feel sure there are some mistakes somewhere, either in the copying of the inscription, or on the part of your compositor. The inscription as it appears in your issue of Saturday last is simply incomprehensible. I should like to know what it really is. I should also be glad if your correspondent would say whether he is quite sure that the first three words of the old fifth inscription are "Vocata dum voco." Ellacombe gives the inscription as "Sum Rosa Pulsata Mundi Maria Vocata"; a common enough inscription at that date. But in reality Mr. Howard's version makes much better sense than the one so usual.

J. R. JERRAM.

BELL INSCRIPTIONS.

SIR,—I am unable to agree with Dr. Raven's ingenious conjecture as to the meaning of the inscription: "Dulcis Sisto Melis Campana Vocor Michaelis." It is far-fetched and extremely improbable. Neither do I think Mr. Trollope's suggestions of any value. The old translation is to my mind the right one. *Sisto* is constantly used in classical Latin in a neuter sense, meaning to remain or to continue. *Melis* must, I think, be the monkish genitive of an assumed nominative, *melis*, a song or strain. The translation "I continue of sweet strain" is appropriate and natural, and the original is not more corrupt than mediæval Latin usually. J. S. PRITCHETT.

SIR,—I am sorry to find myself differing from such eminent authorities as Dr. Raven and Mr. Trollope; but, notwithstanding their ingenious suggestions, I venture to think that the inscription on the bell at St. Mary's, Norwich, must certainly be allowed to remain in the form: "Dulcis sisto melis, campana vocor Michaelis." Not only is the inscription in this form very common, as Mr. Trollope and Mr. Jerram remind us, but also it is clearly one of those "leonine" hexameter verses of which the middle rhymes with the end. Such verses are constantly found on pre-Reformation bells; one of the earliest is said to be on a bell at Friburg, dated 1258: "Me resonante pia populo succurre Maria." Now in these mediæval verses we must remember that the old rules of quantity in Latin have given way to accent; indeed little account seems to be taken of the length of vowels; so that "melis" with a short *e* rhymes excellently with "Michaelis" with a long *e*. Compare a similar rhyme in a verse of a twelfth-century poem of Marbod, Bishop of Rheims:

"Moribus esse feris prohibet me gratia veris."

On the other hand, the consonants were treated with great respect; and the proposed alteration of "melis" to "mellis," clever though it is, would just spoil the rhyme. As regards the grammar and translation of the line, I have little doubt that "melis" is not the genitive of "melos" (which would be unusual, the regular genitive being "meli,") but the perfectly regular ablative plural. "*Sisto*" in late Latin means little more than "to be." The line then seems to mean: "I am sweet with harmonious sounds: I am called Michael's bell." Cambridge, January 18th, 1897. A. H. F. BOUGHEY.

Obituary.

WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT, SEN.

It is with great regret that we hear of the decease of this old and much-respected ringer, at the age of seventy-five, which event took place at Stafford on the 28th ult. It will be remembered that a few months ago we issued his portrait, with memoir. He was a well-known ringer of his day, being an intimate friend of many of the leading ringers of the Midlands—Mr. Johnson, Mr. T. Day, Mr. J. Day (of Birmingham), and the late Mr. James Burford, of Worcester. His remains were interred in Stafford Cemetery on New Year's day, and the local ringers rang several touches of Triples and Caters on that day with the bells deeply muffled. On Sunday, January 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 46 mins. with the bells half-muffled. T. Guest, 1; R. Grant, 2; H. Mountford, 3; A. Morton, 4; T. Machin, 5; R. Pickering (conductor), 6; W. Bennett, 7; T. Thompson, 8. Composed by John Howes.

Exchange.

SHIPWAY'S CAMPANOLOGIA, Bound, for Prize Silver Wyandotte Eggs.—Wellington Cottage, Tewkesbury.

GOOD DOUBLE BASS, three strings, brass machine head, for Good Safety Bicycle; or will take £5.—Apply, "R." office of this paper.

Situation Vacant.

WANTED A GARDENER who is willing to make himself useful. Knowledge of Flowers, Fruit Trees, and Vegetables necessary. Must be willing to wind the church clock, and attend to the church fires. Preference will be given to a Change-ringer. Address, stating full particulars as to experience, to the Rev. H. G. BIRD, St. Andrew's Vicarage, Uxbridge.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1896 AND PUBLISHED IN THIS PAPER.

		Treble Bob Methods.				Grandsire.		On 6 bells.		Double Metds.		Plain Methods.		Surprise Methods.		Stedman.										
		Maximus.	Royal.	Major.	In 7 Treble Bob Minor methods.	Cinquies.	Caters.	Major.	Triples.	In 1, 2, or 3 Minor methods.	In 4, 5, 6 or 7 Minor methods.	Duffield.	D. N. C. B. Maj.	D. N. C. B. Max	Dbl. Ox. Bob Major.	Royal	Major.	Triples.	Doubles.	London	Superlative.	In 7 Surprise Minor methods.	Cinquies.	Caters.	Triples.	
1	Midland Counties' Assn.	62	—	1	1	—	5	—	21	4	1	1	1	—	—	2	8	8	1	4	—	—	—	1	3	
2	Norwich Diocesan Assn.	47	—	3	22	1	—	1	2	3	—	—	5	1	—	—	3	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	
3	Sussex County Association.....	46	—	1	6	1	—	2	11	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	3	2	1	6	—	—	—	1	10	
4	Oxford Diocesan Guild	44	—	1	2	—	3	—	11	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	5	3	—	—	2	12	
5	Kent County Association.....	36	—	—	6	—	—	—	16	3	1	—	—	2	1	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
6	Yorkshire Association	33	1	—	18	6	—	—	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
7	Ancient Soc. Coll. Youths.....	33	—	3	6	1	—	—	4	—	1	4	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	5	4	
8	Lancashire Association	28	—	—	10	1	—	—	12	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
9	Winchester Diocesan Guild.....	25	—	—	2	1	—	1	11	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3	
10	Soc. Archdeaconry of Staff.....	24	—	—	—	—	4	1	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	
11	Durham & New'cle Assn.....	23	—	2	3	—	—	—	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	8	
12	Glo'ster and Bristol Asso.....	22	—	—	—	—	1	—	8	1	—	1	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	
13	Worcester and Dis. Asso.....	21	—	—	3	—	3	—	3	—	3	—	—	1	1	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	
14	Royal Cumberland Youths.....	20	—	—	7	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	1	
15	Surrey Association.....	20	—	—	—	—	3	—	4	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	
16	Essex Association.....	19	—	—	2	—	1	—	2	3	—	2	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	
17	Bedfordshire Association.....	18	—	—	3	—	2	—	—	8	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
18	Central Northampton. Asso.....	17	—	—	2	—	—	—	5	—	—	4	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
19	Bath and Wells Dio. Asso.....	15	—	—	—	—	1	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
20	Chester Diocesan Guild.....	13	—	—	9	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
21	Ely Diocesan Association.....	10	—	—	6	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
22	St. Martin's Soc. B'ham.....	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	
23	Hereford Diocesan Guild.....	9	—	—	—	—	1	—	7	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
24	Hertford Association.....	7	—	—	1	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
25	North Lincolnshire Asso.....	6	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	
26	South & West Midd'x Asso.....	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
27	Liverpool Dio. Guild.....	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
28	Stoke Archidiaconal Assn	4	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	
29	Old East Derbyshire Asso.....	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
30	Salisbury Diocesan Guild.....	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
31	Waterloo Society, London.....	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
32	Llandaff Diocesan Asso.....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
33	South Lincolnshire Asso.....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
34	North Notts. Asso.....	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
35	Middlesex Association	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
36	Devonshire Guild	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
37	East Lincolnshire Asso.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
38	Salop Guild.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Independent Societies.....	43	—	2	1	1	2	4	19	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	
	Totals	684	2	13	107	27	2	31	2	196	17	27	2	30	1	3	6	57	31	6	10	26	2	1	15	70

The peals of Triples, Major, and Royal in plain methods comprise: Bob Triples, 6; Bob Major, 49; Bob Royal, 5; Oxford Bob Triples, 10; Union Triples, 5; Darlaston Bob Triples, 7; Canterbury Pleasure Triples, 1; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 7; College Single Triples, 1; Court Bob Triples, 1; Forward Major, 1; Forward Royal, 1.

The 43 peals by Independent Societies were rung as follows: in Middlesex 8; North Wales 4; Lancashire 3; Lincolnshire, 3; Sussex 3; Worcestershire 3; Hertfordshire 2; Kent 2; Yorkshire 2; Berkshire, 1; Cheshire, 1; Cornwall, 1; Derbyshire, 1; Devonshire 1; Gloucestershire 1; Huntingdonshire 1; Leicestershire 1; Northamptonshire 1; Salop 1; Shropshire 1; Staffordshire 1; Surrey 1.

1894—January ..	65	1895—January ..	74	1896—January ..	68
February ..	59	February ..	82	February ..	79
March ..	80	March ..	59	March ..	57
April ..	69	April ..	78	April ..	75
May ..	81	May ..	52	May ..	66
June ..	66	June ..	42	June ..	33
July ..	26	July ..	25	July ..	25
August ..	45	August ..	33	August ..	41
September ..	73	September ..	44	September ..	53
October ..	82	October ..	75	October ..	91
November ..	96	November ..	94	November ..	96
742		658		684	

Increase on corresponding eleven months of 1895—26.

The above analysis is given according to number of peals, but it is hoped that the new schedule of points will be sufficiently complete by next month so as to enable the analysis for the whole year being given according to quality and not quantity.

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GEORGE F. ATTREE.

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ROPE-SIGHT : 1s. 6d. FOURTH EDITION.
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TREBLE BOB. PART I. out of print and under revision.
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. (136 closely printed pages. *Part II. (136 closely printed pages) may be had separately, 2s. 1d.*

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR. 1s. 6d.
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)

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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 23, 1897.

THE Yorkshire Association has just held a very successful Annual Meeting, the twenty-fifth of its kind. From the point of age alone this fact is worthy of more than ordinary notice. The "premier" among our Associations has without doubt been one continued success from the commencement, and it is not to be wondered at if the members make the most of it when the silver period of its existence has been reached.

The presence of Mr. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD at the meeting on Saturday was a most happy coincidence. The six-bell question was lubricated, so to speak, the friction generally attendant upon it being hardly visible, while other points of Mr. HEYWOOD's address commended themselves greatly to the meeting, and will be read with approval by every change-ringer all over the world. The assertion that belfry reform in all its aspects had been gained by the exertions of ringers themselves, without the aid they had the right and reason to expect, was very pertinent indeed, and no one can wonder that it was received with acclamation. Such names as the Rev. HENRY THOMAS ELLACOMBE and JASPER SNOWDON should never be for-

gotten as long as the Art exists; some of our young friends may hardly know the debt which they owe to such illustrious and honoured men. Amid the researches of composition, and the study of intricate methods, it would be well for our young and rising brethren to turn aside now and then and see what has been done for them by those to whom we allude. We have no hesitation in saying that Mr. ELLACOMBE was among other things the pioneer in the promotion of a Press organ for ringers, and he would have elaborated such an instrumentality for the Art had not age prevented him. JASPER SNOWDON is the ringers' Blackstone; nothing stood in his way if it was to expand the practice of ringing; no difficulties were too great for him to tilt at, and conquer in the end. These are the men to whom the President of the Central Council makes so admirable a reference, and it is to their work in the Exercise which every ringer should make a point of being thoroughly acquainted with.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, January 18, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty and $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes,
AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. S. E. JOYCE, 56, ANTHONY STREET,
COMMERCIAL ROAD, E.

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

SAMUEL E. JOYCE ..	1-2.	ARTHUR W. BARKUS ..	5-6.
CHALLIS F. WINNEY ..	3-4.	ERNEST CLAYTON ..	7-8.

Conducted by ARTHUR W. BARKUS.

UMPIRE.—Mr. Charles Kennedy, who ticked off all the leads as they were rung. The above ringers wish to thank Mr. A. Hughes for allowing the use of his bells on this occasion. This is Messrs. Joyce and Clayton's first peal on handbells.

The Provinces.

AUGHTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 11, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' No. 2.

J. MARSH* ..	1-2.	L. GARDNER ..	5.
J. TAYLOR ..	2.	J. GARDNER ..	6.
T. JENKINSON ..	3.	E. CAUNCE ..	7.
C. SHARPLES ..	4.	H. J. MORLEY ..	Tenor.

Conducted by C. SHARPLES.

*First peal.

YORK TOWN, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, January 13, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 17 cwt.

JOHN CORBETT ..	Treble.	HENRY STAPLETON ..	5.
SIDNEY RIDDLE ..	2.	BARZILLIA HAWKINS ..	6.
THOMAS GOULD* ..	3.	*EDWARD SPOONER ..	7.
GEORGE HAWKINS ..	4.	WILLIAM BOYLES ..	Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE HAWKINS.

*First peal.

BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

On Wednesday, January 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. CHAD'S (R.C.) CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,

5152 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM A. HANCOX* ..	Treble.	BERNARD WITCHELL ..	5.
JOHN WITHERS* ..	2.	FREDERICK CLAYTON ..	6.
HENRY BASTABLE ..	3.	WILLIAM SHORT ..	7.
WILLIAM H. BARBER ..	4.	THOMAS MILLER ..	Tenor.

Composed by A. E. PARSONS and Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

This is the first peal of Double Norwich rang in the City of Birmingham. *First peal in the method. This composition, now rung for the first time, has the 4th, 5th, and 6th in 6th place at the course-ends; and 2nd and 3rd never there.

BORDEN, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 23 cwt.

STANLEY HUTSON ..	Treble.	CHARLES MILLWAY ..	5.
ERNEST ALLEN ..	2.	CHARLES WILLSHIRE ..	6.
RICHARD STAINES ..	3.	WILLIAM TASSELL ..	7.
GEORGE KITE ..	4.	ROBERT WELLER ..	Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES WILLSHIRE.

First peal in the method by all except the conductor.

BOURNEMOUTH, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, January 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' FIVE-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

GEORGE PRESTON ..	Treble.	TOM F. BEST ..	5.
ALFRED BARNES ..	2.	WILLIAM T. BILLINGHURST ..	6.
EDWIN T. GREEN ..	3.	CHARLES GOODENOUGH ..	7.
STEPHEN BEST ..	4.	WILLIAM SAFFERY ..	Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE PRESTON.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOUTH AND WEST MIDDLESEX GUILD.

On Thursday, January 14, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART, No. II.

Tenor 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

THOMAS BEADLE ..	Treble.	JOHN BASDEN ..	5.
HENRY S. REEVES ..	2.	*JOHN HOWES ..	6.
CHARLES EDWARDS ..	3.	ALLEN H. TABER ..	7.
FREDERICK GODDARD ..	4.	†HENRY SEWARD ..	Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BASDEN.

*First peal in the method, and hails from Kingston-on-Thames. †First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to H. S. Reeves; also to Mr. Podger, a very old and respected parishioner.

WOKINGHAM, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, CAVERSHAM.)

On Saturday, January 16, 1897, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ORIGINAL.

Tenor 17 cwt. 27 lbs. in F.

REV. G. F. COLERIDGE ..	Treble.	GEORGE ESSEX ..	5.
EDWIN MENDAY ..	2.	JOSEPH HANDS ..	6.
ERNEST MENDAY ..	3.	THOMAS NEWMAN ..	7.
ARTHUR W. PIKE ..	4.	HARRY SIMMONDS ..	Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS NEWMAN.

GENTLEMEN'S Curb Alberts. Heavily Plated with Pure Gold. Guaranteed 18 carat, 4s. 6d., 22, 25, 6d., Double, 7s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. Member of Norwich Diocesan Association.—SKINNER, 3, Mayes Terrace, East Dereham.

BOLTON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 16, 1897, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. COX'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qrs. 21 lbs.

PETER INCE Treble.	JOSEPH PENNINGTON .. 5.
WALTER RUSHTON 2.	HENRY MOSS 6.
WILLIAM THORNLEY 3.	PETER NUTTALL 7.
JOHN DAVIES 4.	JOHN MAKIN Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY MOSS.

LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE.**THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, January 16, 1897, in Three Hours,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 11 cwt.

JAMES HARRISON Treble.	*JAMES E. HEXTER 5.
WILLIAM HEXTER 2.	REUBEN CLIFFORD 6.
JOSEPH POXON 3.	WILLIAM CLIFFORD, SEN. .. 7.
JOHN R. WARD 4.	JOHN PALING Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES E. HEXTER.

Reuben and William Clifford and J. Paling hail from Beeston, Notts. The rest belong to the local company. *First peal as conductor.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.**THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, January 16, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

ANDERSON TYLER Treble.	ALFRED H. MARTIN 5.
JAMES GARRATT 2.	JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 6.
WILLIAM VERNON NEWMAN* .. 3.	HENRY STUBBS 7.
WILLIAM PETTITT 4.	JOHN B. MARTIN Tenor.

Composed by C. W. CLARKE and

Conducted by JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN.

This peal has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and twenty times right, and is now rung for the first time. *First peal with a bob bell.

COGGESHALL, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, January 16, 1897, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-AD-VINCULA,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 22 cwt. in F.

RICHARD POTTER Treble.	JOHN SADLER 5.
CHARLES NORFOLK 2.	DAVID ELLIOTT 6.
WILLIAM DYER 3.	ERNEST W. BECKWITH .. 7.
WILLIAM ELLIOTT 4.	JAMES NEWMAN Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by ERNEST W. BECKWITH.

This peal was rung to celebrate the coming of age of Mr. D. Elliott, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. This peal has the 4th, 5th, and 6th only in 6ths place at the course-ends. First peal by J. Newman.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, January 16, 1897, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

Tenor 19 cwt.

GEORGE WIGHTMAN Treble.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. .. 5.
GEORGE PERRY 2.	*HORACE HOWLETT 6.
WALTER WHITING 3.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	WILLIAM FLORY Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

*First peal in the method. This is a one-part peal, with the 6th the extent home at ten course-ends. For calling, see in the above Association Report of 1895, on page 53. This is also an Ancient Order of Foresters' peal, and is the first in the county. Messrs. Flory and Howlett hail from Framlingham; the brothers Wightman from Cretingham; the rest are local men.

BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.*On Monday, January 18, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5137 CHANGES.

Tenor 36 cwt.

HENRY BASTABLE Treble.	WILLIAM MUNDAY 7.
BERNARD WITCHELL 2.	JAMES GEORGE 8.
WILLIAM HANCOX* 3.	†FREDERICK CLAYTON .. 9.
WILLIAM H. BARBER* 4.	†REUBEN HALL 10.
SAMUEL REEVES 5.	THOMAS MILLER 11.
WILLIAM SHORT* 6.	THOMAS REYNOLDS Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON and Conducted by BERNARD WITCHELL.

This peal has the first twenty-seven courses with the large bells in the ordinary titmums position, and the last twelve courses with the large bells at home at hand-stroke, and is now rung for the first time. Rung in celebration of the 81st birthday of the rector, the Rev. Canon W. Wilkinson, D.D., who is now retiring. *First peal of Cinques. †First peal of Stedman Cinques.

AUGHTON, LANCASHIRE.**THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.***On Monday, January 18, 1897, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

J. MARSH Treble.	J. GARDNER 5.
J. TAYLOR 2.	E. CAUNCE 6.
L. GARDNER 3.	T. H. JENKINSON 7.
C. SHARPLES 4.	H. J. MORLEY Tenor.

Conducted by C. SHARPLES.

READING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE ST. LAURENCE'S SOCIETY.)

On Wednesday, January 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

FRANK HOPGOOD Treble.	JOHNSON E. HERN 6.
JOHN TUCKER 2.	JAMES POTTER 7.
FRANK TUBB 3.	AMBROSE OSBORNE 8.
HENRY TUCKER 4.	WILLIAM NEWELL 9.
CHARLES GILES 5.	REUBEN SAWYER Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by FRANK HOPGOOD.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Wednesday, January 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qrs. 27 lbs.

FRANK BENNETT Treble.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 5.
SYDNEY SAKER* 2.	KEITH HART 6.
HERBERT P. HARMAN 3.	†JOHN S. GOLDSMITH .. 7.
HARRY WESTON 4.	ALFRED J. TURNER Tenor.

Composed by FRANK BENNETT and Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.

*First peal of Major. †First peal of Major as Conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to the Conductor, his brother strings wishing him many happy returns. Mr. Saker hails from Hastings; Mr. Harman from Bromley, Kent; Messrs. Turner and Goldsmith belong to the local band; the rest to St. Peter's, Brighton. A note to this peal will appear next week.

PEAL CORRECTION.—In the report of the peal of Grandsire Triples rung at Milverton, Somersetshire, on January 9th, the name of the ringer of the 5th should have been Thomas Doble and not Thomas Dobb.

Date Touches.**THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**

HANLEY CASTLE (Worcestershire).—On Friday, January 1st, at the parish church, a date touch, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins., being

97 Plain Bob Doubles, and five 6-scores each of Plain Bob, St. Dunstan, and Grandsire Doubles. W. Hill, 1; R. Knowles (conductor), 2; A. Allen, 3; A. Pitt, 4; W. Tarling, 5; G. Tombs, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BIRCH-IN-RUSHOLME (Lancashire).—On Thursday, January 7th, at St. James' church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 7 mins. R. Davis, 1; W. Ryder, 2; E. Burroughs, 3; T. Idle (conductor), 4; E. Hewitt, 5; J. Eachus, 6; R. Burroughs, 7; J. Idle (longest length), 8. Composed by John Howes, of Kingston-on-Thames.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HORLEY (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, December 27th, for Divine Service, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 4 mins. F. Voice, 1; S. Kenward, 2; G. Staplehurst, 3; J. Kenward, 4; A. Songhurst, 5; T. Sparks, 6; G. Apps, 7; W. Wallis, 8. Conducted by S. Kenward.

Miscellaneous.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Wednesday, December 30th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 28 mins. H. Mason, 1; J. W. Smith, 2; S. Spittle, 3; W. Talbot, 4; J. Smith, 5; R. Round (conductor), 6. Also 720 Woodbine Treble Bob, in 26 mins. J. Smith, 1; H. Mason, 2; S. Spittle, 3; J. W. Smith, 4; W. Talbot, 5; R. Round (conductor), 6. The above were rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Mrs. Blanche Skidmore, the donor of the bells, it being the 24th anniversary of her death; also to the late Wm. Micklewright, of Stafford, formerly of Dudley. On Thursday, December 31st, at 11.15 p.m. 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins, with the bells half-muffled for the late Wm. Micklewright. H. Price (first 720), 1; J. Smith, 2; W. Talbot (conductor), 3; R. Round, 4; E. Hampton, 5; J. W. Smith, 6.

OLDSWINFORD (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, December 19th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Heathcock, 1; J. G. Orford, 2; T. Heathcock, 3; W. Whitehouse, 4; A. Roberts, 5; A. E. Parsons (conductor), 6. On Saturday, January 2nd, 720 Bob Minor. A. Heathcock, 1; F. Brace, 2; A. E. Parsons, 3; T. Heathcock, 4; J. G. Orford, 5; A. Roberts (conductor), 6.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Sunday morning, December 27th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. T. Salter, 1; J. Bennett, 2; T. Elcock, 3; T. Wakeman, 4; W. Smith (conductor), 5; E. Hunt, 6; W. Barber, 7; G. Salter, 8. First quarter-peal in the method by the ringers of the 3rd and 4th. T. Elcock hails from Areley Kings.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON.—On December 20th, at St. James's church, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Maddock, 1; H. Pearce, 2; A. Doble, 3; F. Millard, 4; W. Thorn, 5; G. Yandell (conductor), 6. On December 25th 720 Bob Minor. T. Doble, 1; A. Doble, 2; J. Maddock (conductor), 3; F. Millard, 4; W. Thorn, 5; G. Yandell, 6. On December 27th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. T. Doble (first in the method), 1; A. Doble, 2; H. Poole (conductor), 3; F. Millard, 4; W. Thorn, 5; G. Yandell, 6.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON (Somersetshire).—On Friday, January 1st, a party of ringers from Wraxall journeyed to this place to have a pull on the peal of eight bells, tenor about 35 cwt. Several 6-scores of Bob and Grandsire Doubles and a short touch of Grandsire Minor were rung on the back six, and also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Winsor, 1; C. Winstone, 2; J. Youd, 3; J. Winsor, 4; J. Harvey, 5; H. Chard, 6; J. Bishop (conductor), 7; W. Chown, 8. Several other short touches of Triples were rung in which W. Clark and S. Butchers took part. The visitors wish to thank the vicar for the use of the bells, and also the steeplekeeper for having everything in readiness.

WESTON, NEAR BATH.—On Monday, December 14th, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Simmonds, 1; J. Smith-Flower, 2; C. Goodenough, 3; H. Wotton, 4; C. E. D. Boutflower, 5; H. W. Brown (conductor), 6. And a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. J. Smith-Flower, 1; G. Temple, 2; H. Wotton, 3; C. E. D. Boutflower, 4; H. Brown, 5; W. Simmonds, 6.

BATH.—On Sunday evening, December 27th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Holder, 1; T. H. Gray, 2; C. Bell, 3; H. W. Brown, 4; T. Radford (conductor), 5; J. Fussell, 6; J. Taylor, 7; J. Sage, 8. Mr. T. Radford hails from Taunton, and it is the longest length by J. Taylor. On Thursday evening, December 31st, seven 6-scores, each called differently, in 34 mins. C. Bell (conductor),

1; E. Holder, 2; C. Goodenough, 3; J. Fussell, 4; J. Taylor, 5; H. E. Mills, 6. This was rung for the late service, and in honour of E. Holder's birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WHICKHAM (Durham).—On Saturday, October 31st, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor. G. Stark, 1; J. Liddell, 2; W. Custance, 3; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 4; R. Mordue, 5; W. Nicholson, 6. On Saturday, November 14th, 720 Bob Minor. G. Stark, 1; W. Custance, 2; G. Ellender, 3; J. Nicholson, 4; R. Mordue (conductor), 5; C. L. Routledge, 6. On Saturday, November 28th, a touch of Double Oxford. G. Stark, 1; E. Custance, 2; J. Nicholson, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; R. Mordue (conductor), 5; E. Ferry, 6. And a touch of Bob Minor. G. Stark, 1; W. Custance, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; R. Mordue, 4; E. Ferry, 5; J. Nicholson (conductor), 6.

BLAYDON.—On Saturday, December 12th, at St. Cuthbert's church, 720 Bob Minor. J. Nicholson, 1; R. Hall, 2; R. Mordue, 3; J. Dawson, 4; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 5; W. Holmes, 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob. R. Hall, 1; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 2; R. Mordue, 3; J. Nicholson, 4; W. Holmes, 5; E. Ferry, 6. First in the method by Messrs. Ferry and Hall, who with J. Dawson belong to St. Matthew's, Newcastle.

STAINDROP (Durham).—On Thursday, December 24th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles). On Christmas Day 720 Oxford Bob Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles). On New Year's morning 720 Plain Bob Minor (twenty-bobs and ten singles), also 360 Oxford Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs), 360 Plain Bob (three bobs and twelve singles), 360 Plain Bob (six bobs and six singles), six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and six 6-scores of Union Doubles, all called differently. W. McLean, 1; R. Lennard, 2; W. E. Johnson, 3; T. Leonard, 4; D. Shipp (conductor), 5; C. Walker, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. On handbells 120 Bob Doubles. J. W. Shipp (conductor), 1-2; D. Shipp, 3-4; H. Shipp, 5-6.

DARLINGTON.—On Tuesday, December 1st, at St. John's church, for practice, 672 Plain Bob Major. T. Scollick, 1; J. Baxter (conductor), 2; C. W. Moncaster, 3; A. Pilkington, 4; H. S. Taylor, 5; W. D. Lister, 6; W. Patton, 7; W. H. Porter, 8. On Sunday, December 6th, 6-score of Stedman Doubles. J. Baxter, 1; H. S. Taylor, 2; W. H. Porter (conductor), 3; W. D. Lister, 4; W. Patton, 5; T. Scollick, 6. Also for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. A. Pilkington, 1; W. Patton, 3; H. S. Taylor, 4; W. H. Porter, 5; W. D. Lister, 6; J. Baxter (conductor), 7; T. Scollick, 8. On Monday, December 7th, an attempt was made for a touch of Grandsire Triples, 1000 changes, which was lost through the treble rope breaking. A. Pilkington, 1; C. W. Moncaster, 2; W. Patton, 3; W. D. Lister, 4; H. S. Taylor, 5; J. Baxter (conductor), 6; W. H. Porter, 7; T. Scollick, 8. On Sunday, December 13th, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. A. Pilkington, 1; C. W. Moncaster, 2; W. Patton, 3; J. Baxter (conductor), 4; H. S. Taylor, 5; W. D. Lister, 6; G. J. Lunley, 7; W. H. Porter, 8. On Tuesday, December 15th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob Minor. W. Patton, 1; T. Scollick, 2; H. S. Taylor, 3; W. D. Lister, 4; C. W. Moncaster, 5; J. Baxter (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 20th, 640 Kent Treble Bob Major. A. Pilkington, 1; R. Moncaster, 2; W. Patton, 3; C. W. Moncaster, 4; H. S. Taylor, 5; W. D. Lister, 6; W. Porter (conductor), 7; J. Baxter, 8. On Tuesday, December 22nd, 640 Kent Treble Bob Major. A. Pilkington, 1; W. D. Lister, 2; W. Patton, 3; C. W. Moncaster, 4; H. S. Taylor, 5; W. H. Porter, 6; G. J. Lunley, 7; J. Baxter (conductor), 8. On Thursday, December 31st, 672 Plain Bob Major. T. Scollick, 1; R. Moncaster, 2; W. H. Porter, 3; A. Pilkington, 4; H. S. Taylor, 5; W. D. Lester, 6; W. Patton, 7; J. Baxter (conductor), 8. As 12 o'clock struck, the tenor was tolled twelve times by W. D. Lister. Afterwards a plain course of Plain Bob Major was rung, and the bells were fired twenty-one times, and then lowered in peal, every one wishing each other a happy and prosperous new year.

SUNDERLAND.—On Sunday, November 3rd, at Holy Trinity church, three 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles. T. Brass (first with a bob bell), 1; T. Nanson, 2; J. Hawse, 3; T. Ditchburn, 4; W. Smallwood, 5; R. Miller, 6; J. Naisby (conductor), 7; T. Naisby, 8. On Sunday evening, November 8th, 180 Plain Bob Minor, standing as before. On Monday, November 9th, 720 Plain Bob Minor. T. Brass (first 720 in any method, 1; J. Hawse, 2; W. Smallwood, 3; T. Ditchburn, 4; R. Miller, 5; J. Naisby (conductor), 6; T. Naisby, 7. Also 720 Plain Bob Minor. W. Smallwood, 1; J. Hawse, 2; R. Miller, 3; T. Ditchburn, 4; T. Naisby (conductor), 5; J. Naisby, 6; T. Brass, 7.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, December 13th, at St. Stephen's, for morning service, a 960 of Kent Treble Bob Major in 33 mins. W. Knight, 1; G. H. Horton, 2; F. Elles, 3; J. York, 4; G. Millard, 5; C. H. Gordon, 6; W. A. Cave, 7; W. J. Hinton (conductor), 8. And on

Sunday, December 20th, a 504 Stedman Triples. C. Millard, 1; C. Horton, 2; F. Elles, 3; W. Knight, 4; C. E. Boutflower, 5; H. Howell, 6; W. A. Cave (conductor), 7; W. Colston, 8. And in the evening a 432 of Stedman Caters. J. Hinton (conductor), 1; W. A. Cave, 2; C. H. Horton, 3; W. Knight, 4; F. Elles, 5; C. E. Boutflower, 6; C. Tomkins, 7; C. Gordon, 8; Rev. E. B. Banks James, 9; W. Colston, 10. Also a short touch of Caters with J. Pickard, 8. After evening service at St. John-in-the-Wall, a 720 of Treble Bob Major in 27 mins. C. E. Boutflower, 1; C. Gordon, 2; W. Knight, 3; C. H. Horton, 4; C. Tomkins, 5; Rev. E. B. James (conductor), 6. Rev. E. B. James hails from Gloucester. And on Tuesday, December 22nd, for practice, at St. Stephen's, a 768 of Kent Treble Bob Major in 32 mins. W. Knight, 1; C. H. Horton, 2; F. Elles, 3; H. Howell, 4; C. Tomkins, 5; C. Gordon, 6; E. Duckham, 7; W. A. Cave (first touch as conductor), 8. On Christmas morning, 432 of Stedman Caters. W. J. Hinton, 1; C. Millard, 2; C. H. Horton, 3; W. Knight, 4; F. Elles, 5; C. Boutflower, 6; F. Perrin, 7; J. Pickard (longest touch), 8; W. A. Cave, 9; W. Colston, 10. On Saturday, December 26th, at All Saints' church, 704 of Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Knight, 1; C. Horton, 2; F. Elles, 3; C. Gordon, 4; A. E. Bawn, 5; G. Colston, 6; W. A. Cave, 7; W. J. Hinton (conductor), 8. On Sunday, December 27th, for evening service at St. Stephen's church, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Hinton, 1; W. Knight, 2; F. Elles, 3; C. Tomkins, 4; J. Pickard, 5; W. A. Cave (first 720 as conductor), 6; W. Colston (tenor covering). On New Year's eve several touches of Stedman Triples, before and after the midnight services. On Sunday, January 3rd, for evening service, a 1040 of Kent Treble Bob Royal in 45 mins. W. J. Hinton (conductor), 1; C. Gordon, 2; C. H. Horton, 3; W. Knight, 4; F. Elles, 5; C. Boutflower, 6; C. Tomkins, 7; A. E. Bawn, 8; F. Price, 9; W. A. Cave, 10. On Monday, January 4th, at St. John's-on-the-Wall, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. F. Price, 1; C. Horton, 2; F. Elles, 3; W. J. Hinton (conductor), 4; W. Emery, 5; C. E. Boutflower, 6. And a touch of Forward Minor, rung with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. M. Hodder, who was buried that day. On Tuesday, January 5th, at St. Stephen's church, touches of Stedman Triples and Treble Bob Major with the bells muffled, after the funeral service. In the evening a 240 of Stedman Caters and a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major. After the usual practice the whole pull and stand was rung forty-nine times as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Charles W. Paul, past-master of the Ancient Society of St. Stephen's (age 49 years), who was buried that day.

NORTH NIBLEY (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday, November 18th, at the parish church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. F. Howell (Thornbury), 1; E. Duckham, 2; W. J. Hinton (conductor), 3; F. Price, 4; C. E. Boutflower (from Bristol), 5; Rev. H. Cockey (from Bitton), 6. First 720 of Treble Bob on the bells. They have just been re-hung by Messrs. Warner and Co.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SCHOLARS, STAMFORD.

CAISTOR (Northants).—On Saturday, January 9th, a visit was paid to the parish church, and an attempt was made for 5040 of Minor, but owing to one of the band being taken ill, stand had to be called. Afterwards 720 of Single Court, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor, and 240 Grandsire Minor. E. Gale, 1; W. Turner, 2; C. R. Lilley, 3; C. Harper, 4; F. Dennison, 5; Rev. H. Law James (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G. And 240 of Oxford Bob and Plain Bob by the same band. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. E. Gale, 1; C. R. Lilley, 2; C. Harper, 3; F. Dennison, 4; Rev. H. Law James (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. And 120 Grandsire Doubles. J. Smith, 1; W. Turner, 2; Rev. H. Law James, 3; C. R. Lilley, 4; F. Dennison (conductor), 5; E. Gale, 6. First 120 of Stedman on the bells, and first 720 of Single Court by C. Lilley and W. Turner.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Thursday, January 7th, at the residence of Mr. S. E. Joyce, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal, 2520 Grandsire Triples, being the first half of Holt's ten-part peal. S. E. Joyce, 1-2; C. F. Winney, 3-4; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 5-6; E. E. Clayton, 7-8. Umpire—Mr. A. Hughes.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, December 15th, at St. Paul's church, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Lightfoot, 1; S. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. Chasty, 4; H. Toll (first touch in the method), 5; F. Smith, 6; S. Constant, 7; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 8. On Thursday, December 24th, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Barker, 1; C. Chasty, 2; W. Hall, 3; W. Lightfoot, 4; I. Hills, 5; W. Shimmans (conductor), 6; F. Hull, 7; H. Tysoe, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Caters. S. Cullip, 1; J. Frossell, 2; C. Chasty, 3; W. Lightfoot, 4; W. Hall, 5; F. Hull, 6; I. Hills, 7; H. Sharp (conductor), 8; H. Tysoe, 9; J. Sear, 10. And 336 Double Norwich. W. Lightfoot, 1; S. Cullip, 2; F. Smith, 3; C.

Chasty, 4; I. Hills, 5; H. Tysoe, 6; H. Sharp (conductor), 7; J. Frossell, 8. Also 224 Superlative Surprise Major. On Christmas Day, 504 Grandsire Triples. F. Chasty, 1; H. Sharp (conductor), 2; W. Hall, 3; F. Hull, 4; I. Hills, 5; C. Chasty, 6; J. Frossell, 7; J. Sear, 8. On Thursday, December 31st, 336 Double Norwich. F. Kæsch, 1; S. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. Chasty, 4; I. Hills, 5; H. Tysoe, 6; J. Frossell, 7; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 8. On Tuesday, December 22nd, 504 Grandsire Triples. C. Chasty, 1; H. Toll, 2; W. Hall, 3; W. Lightfoot (conductor), 4; I. Hills, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6; H. Tysoe, 7; R. Bishop, 8. On Sunday, December 6th, at St. Peter's church, 720 Double Court. F. Parrott, 1; S. Lowe, 2; F. Lowe, 3; A. Robinson, 4; H. Toll, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. On Thursday, December 17th, 720 Grandsire Minor. F. Parrott, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; F. Lowe, 3; C. Chasty, 4; W. Lightfoot, 5; H. Toll, 6. On Thursday, December 24th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent. F. Hull, 1; I. Hills, 2; W. Hall, 3; W. Lightfoot, 4; C. Chasty, 5; J. Frossell (conductor), 6. On Thursday, December 31st, 720 Kent. H. Tysoe, 1; I. Hills, 2; W. Hall, 3; W. Lightfoot, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; F. Hull, 6.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Saturday, December 5th, 720 Oxford Bob. W. West, 1; C. West, 2; A. Ingram, 3; T. Frossell, 4; H. King, 5; W. Davison (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent. C. West, 1; S. Lowe, 2; W. Davison, 3; H. King, 4; S. Constant, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. J. Maxey, 1; F. Trueman (first 720), 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; C. Chasty, 4; S. Lowe, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, December 15th, for practice at the church of St. John the Baptist, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. H. Brooker (conductor), 1; W. States, 2; J. Rumble, 3; E. Matthews, 4; E. Bray, 5; *W. Groves, 6; W. Hill, 7; J. Talbot, 8. *First quarter-peal. On Christmas morning for early service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. Composed by E. Bennett. J. Rumble, 1; W. States, 2; E. Bray, 3; F. Pates, 4; T. Verrall, 5; W. Groves (conductor), 6; W. Hill, 7; J. Talbot, 8. On Tuesday, December 29th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, taken from Hubbard. H. Brooker, 1; E. Bray, 2; A. Arnold (first quarter-peal in the method), 3; F. Pates, 4; W. Groves, 5; W. States (first quarter-peal in the method as conductor), 6; W. Hill, 7; J. J. Jones, 8. A. Arnold, who was formerly a member of this company, hails from Northampton.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HORLEY (Sussex).—On Christmas Day, for early morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 42 mins. F. Voice, 1; A. Songhurst, 2; G. Staplehurst, 3; S. Kenward (conductor), 4; W. Edwards, 5; P. Etheridge, 6; G. Apps, 7; W. Wallis, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM.—On Wednesday, December 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, on the occasion of the marriage of Miss Thorp. P. Schofield, 1; A. Headey, 2; A. L'Clercq, 3; H. Garfath (conductor), 4; J. Hawkes, 5; C. Fry, 6; F. A. Barnett, 7; E. Clapshaw, 8.

CRANLEIGH (Surrey).—On New Year's Eve, at St. Nicholas' church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Charman, 1; H. Street, 2; A. Charman, 3; W. Streeter, 4; G. Farnfield, 5; E. H. Dibley (conductor), 6. First 720 as conductor, who is only seventeen years of age. On February 11th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. H. Henson, 1; H. Street, 2; A. Charman, 3; W. Streeter, 4; E. Dibley, 5; W. Charman, 6. Rung as a compliment to Dr. A. A. Napper, on the celebration of his silver wedding. On January 13th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. J. Knight, 1; F. Francis, 2; A. Stemp, 3; A. Charman, 4; E. Dibley, 5; W. Charman, 9. The last two conducted by W. Charman. First 720 of Woodbine by F. Francis and A. Stemp, and was rung at the first attempt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

GREAT BADDOW (Essex).—On Thursday, December 31st, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. H. Dawson, 1; H. Allen, 2; H. Richel, 3; J. Newman, 4; W. Newman, 5; G. Green, 6; A. Richel (conductor), 7; F. Newman, 8.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Sunday, December 13th, for morning service, 720 Duke of York. L. Holt, 1; A. White, 2; E. J. Cockroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Monday, December 14th, 720 York Surprise, first in the method by the whole band, and rung at the first attempt. A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Smith, 2; Z. Lord, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 20th, for morning service, 720

Arnold's Victory. A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Smith, 2; Z. Lord, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Symphony, standing and conducted as in the morning, except that L. Holt rang the treble. On Christmas morning 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Shottin, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. J. Cockcroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 27th, for morning service, 720 Merchant's Delight. A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Smith, 2; Z. Lord, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Tulip. L. Holt, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. J. Cockcroft, 3; Z. Lord, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

GREENWICH (Kent).—On Friday, January 8th, at the church of St. Alfege, with the bells half-muffled, several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung as a mark of respect to the late Mr. John Foreman, a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and for nearly half a century a ringer at this church. The following assisted in the ringing: Rev. G. F. Bayley, I. G. Shade, F. W. Thornton, H. Hoskins, C. Langdon, J. J. Lamb, W. Davis, F. Davis, W. Jeffries, H. Flanders, and T. Taylor. On Sunday evening, January 10th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. J. Law, 1; F. Davis, 2; W. Berry, 3; I. G. Shade, 4; H. Flanders, 5; F. W. Thornton (conductor), 6; H. Hoskins, 7; C. Langdon, 8. This is a five-part composition by I. G. Shade, the part-ends being the plain course leads in consecutive order. On Sunday morning, January 17th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. Composed by the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS." J. Law, 1; F. Davis, 2; W. Foreman, 3; H. Flanders, 4; I. G. Shade, 5; F. W. Thornton (conductor), 6; W. Berry, 7; C. Langdon, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

DEPTFORD (Kent).—On Wednesday, January 13th, at St. John's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. Composed by William Ware, of Old Windsor. J. Law, 1; W. Berry, 2; I. G. Shade, 3; F. W. Thornton, 4; W. Jeffries, 5; W. Foreman, 6; H. Flanders, 7; F. Bayley, 8. First attempt at calling a quarter-peal by W. Jeffries.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Thursday, December 31st, at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins. W. Card, 1; G. Smithers, 2; P. Brooker, 3; H. Ford, 4; E. Mankelov, 5; G. Head, 6; S. Perkins (conductor), 7; G. Kember, 8. First quarter-peal in the method by Messrs. Ford and Head.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On January 5th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at St. Margaret's church. W. Asbee, 1; E. Raynor, 2; J. Tulett, 3; J. Kidd, 4; A. Osborne, 5; A. Ring, 6; W. Baker (conductor), 7; J. Raynor, 8. This is the longest length on the bells. On Sunday, January 10th, 546 Grandsire Triples. W. Asbee, 1; W. Baker (conductor), 2; A. Osborne, 3; J. Kidd, 4; O. Sullivan, 5; — Edwards, 6; J. Tulett, 7; J. Raynor, 8. Also a 280, conducted by J. Tulett. This company have altered their practice night to Wednesday, at half-past seven.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

STAMFORD-ON-SOVR.—On Wednesday, December 30th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) on handbells. A. Trigg (first 720), 1; H. Whittle, 2; W. Purvin, 3; T. Yates, 4; G. Doughty (first with bob bell), 5; E. Reader, 6. Also a plain course of Kent Treble Bob. The first in the method by all except the conductor. On Sunday, January 3rd, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. F. Hardy (first 720), 1; the rest as above. All the above were conducted by E. Reader.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, November 15th, for morning service, 336 Grandsire Triples, G. Tomlin, 1; H. Snape, 2; L. Hollingworth, 3; C. Walden, 4; W. Earle (conductor), 5; F. Hollingworth, 6; S. Hollingworth, 7; W. Brooks, 8. In the afternoon nine members of the Society had a walk to the private chapel of Earle Ferris, and had the pleasure to ring a 168 Grandsire Triples. G. Tomlin, 1; L. Hollingworth, 2; H. Snape, 3; F. Hollingworth, 4; W. Earle (conductor), 5; G. C. Tunnickliff, 6; J. Warren, 7; W. Brooks, 8. Also another 168 in the same method but conducted by F. Hollingworth, rung on the occasion of the baptism of the chaplain's infant son. It is 27 years since the last baptism was held there, and the ringing was very appropriate on such a rare occasion. For evening service, 350 of Grandsire Triples. G. Tomlin, 1; H. Snape, 2; F. Hollingworth, 3; A. Lee, 4; W. Earle (conductor), 5; C. Walden, 6; J. Warren, 7; W. Brooks, 8. On Tuesday, November 17, for practice, 420 of Oxford Bob Triples. G. Tomlin, 1; G. C. Tunnickliff, 2; H. Snape, 3; A. Lee, 4; W. Earle, 5; F. Hollingworth (conductor), 6; J. Warren, 7; W. Brooks, 8. On Sunday, November 22, for morning service, 336 of Grandsire Triples, G. C. Tomlin, 1; H. Snape, 2; L. Hollingworth, 3; C. Walden, 4; G. C. Tunnickliff, 5; F. Hollingworth

(conductor), 6; T. Hollingworth, 7; W. Earle, 8. On Sunday, November 29, for evening service, 378 Grandsire Triples. G. Tomlin, 1; H. Snape, 2; L. Hollingworth, 3; A. Lee, 4; W. Earle (conductor), 5; C. Walden, 6; F. Hollingworth, 7; W. Brooks, 8; rung with the bells half muffled as a tribute of respect to the late A. J. Cox, Esq. On Tuesday, December 1st, for practice, 364 Grandsire Triples. L. Hollingworth, 1; G. Tomlin, 2; G. C. Tunnickliff, 3; H. Snape, 4; W. Earle, 5; C. Walden, 6; F. Hollingworth (conductor), 7; W. Brooks, 8; also 532 of Oxford Bob Triples. G. Tomlin, 1; G. C. Tunnickliff, 2; H. Snape, 3; A. Lee, 4; W. Earle (conductor), 5; C. Walden, 6; F. Hollingworth, 7; W. Brooks, 8. On Sunday, December 6th, for morning service, 336 of Grandsire Triples. G. Tomlin, 1; H. Snape, 2; L. Hollingworth, 3; A. Lee, 4; W. Earle (conductor), 5; C. Walden, 6; F. Hollingworth, 7; W. Brooks, 8; for evening service, 364 of Grandsire Triples. G. Tomlin, 1; H. Snape, 2; L. Hollingworth, 3; A. Lee, 4; W. Earle, 5; C. Walden, 6; F. Hollingworth (conductor), 7; W. Brooks, 8. On Tuesday, December 8th, for practice, 504 of Oxford Bob Triples. L. Hollingworth, 1; H. Snape, 2; G. C. Tunnickliff, 3; A. Lee, 4; W. Earle (conductor), 5; C. Walden, 6; F. Hollingworth, 7; W. Brooks, 8. On Saturday, December 12th, for practice, 378 of Grandsire Triples. L. Hollingworth, 1; G. Tomlin, 2; H. Snape, 3; A. Lee, 4; W. Earle (conductor), 5; C. Walden, 6; F. Hollingworth, 7; W. Brooks, 8. Also 420 of Oxford Bob Triples. G. Tomlin, 1; C. Walden, 2; H. Snape, 3; A. Lee, 4; W. Earle, 5; G. C. Tunnickliff, 6; F. Hollingworth (conductor), 7; W. Brooks, 8. On Sunday, December 13th, for morning service, 336 of Grandsire Triples. W. Shaw, 1; F. Hollingworth, 2; L. Hollingworth, 3; A. Lee, 4; W. Earle (conductor), 5; C. Walden, 6; T. Hollingworth, 7; W. Brooks, 8. On New Year's Eve, a start was made for a peal of Oxford Bob Triples, but came to grief after ringing about 1,000 changes. G. Tomlin, 1; L. Hollingworth, 2; H. Snape, 3; G. C. Tunnickliff, 4; W. Earle (conductor), 5; F. Hollingworth, 6; T. Hollingworth, 7; W. Brooks, 8; first attempt by the ringers of the first, second, and third bells. After the breakdown an attempt was made for supper at the house of Mr. Earle, which was brought round in time for a 420 of Oxford Bob Triples before the old year died out, standing as above, but conducted by F. Hollingworth. As soon as 12 o'clock had gone the bells went off to the tune of Grandsire and Oxford Bob Triples, conducted by F. Hollingworth and W. Earle. On Tuesday, January 5th, for practice, 504 of Oxford Bob Triples. G. Tomlin, 1; H. Snape, 2; L. Hollingworth, 3; G. C. Tunnickliff, 4; W. Earle, 5; C. Walden, 6; F. Hollingworth (conductor), 7; W. Brooks, 8; also 336 of Grandsire Triples standing, as above, but conducted by W. Earle. On Saturday, January 9th, for practice, 476 of Oxford Bob Triples. G. Tomlin, 1; H. Snape, 2; L. Hollingworth, 3; A. Lee, 4; C. Walden, 5; G. C. Tunnickliff, 6; F. Hollingworth (conductor), 7; W. Earle, 8. Also 336 of Grandsire Triples. L. Hollingworth, 1; G. Tomlin, 2; H. Snape, 3; A. Lee, 4; W. Earle (conductor), 5; C. Walden, 6; F. Hollingworth, 7; W. Brooks, 8. On Sunday, January 10th, for morning service, 336 of Oxford Bob Triples. L. Hollingworth, 1; H. Snape, 2; G. C. Tunnickliff, 3; A. Lee, 4; W. Earle (conductor), 5; C. Walden, 6; F. Hollingworth, 7; W. Brooks, 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. G. Tomlin, 1; H. Snape, 2; L. Hollingworth, 3; A. Lee, 4; W. Earle (conductor), 5; C. Walden, 6; F. Hollingworth, 7; W. Brooks, 8. Also 294 in the same method but conducted by F. Hollingworth, standing as in the quarter-peal. On Saturday, January 16th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. L. Hollingworth, 1; A. Lee, 2; H. Snape, 3; C. Walden, 4; W. Earle, 5; F. Hollingworth (conductor), 6. Composed by A. E. Barnes, of Melbourne, Australia.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

OSWALDTWISTLE.—On Sunday, December 6th, 720 Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). W. Britcliffe, 1; J. Haworth, 2; J. Bentley, 3; I. Whalley, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 13th, a 6-score of Bob Doubles. J. Britcliffe, 1; J. Haworth, 2; I. Whalley, 3; C. Sharples, 4; R. Parkinson (conductor), 5. On Monday, January 14th, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles with the tenor covering. J. Britcliffe, 1; J. Haworth, 2; C. Sharples, 3; I. Whalley, 4; R. Parkinson (conductor), 5; W. Britcliffe, 6. First 6-score by all the band. Also a 6-score of Bob Doubles standing as before. On Christmas Eve 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Britcliffe, 1; J. Haworth, 2; J. Bentley, 3; I. Whalley, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. On New Year's Eve 720 Bob Minor standing as before. On New Year's Day an attempt was made for a 5040 of Bob Minor, but it came to grief at the end of the fifth 720, owing to a change-course. This is the longest touch ever rung on the bells; also the longest by all the band.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

FRAMLINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Christmas Day an attempt was made

for a peal of Bob Major, but after ringing 4976 changes in 2 hrs. 58 mins. it came to grief owing to a change-course. W. Ostler, 1; H. Bedingfield, 2; A. Read, 3; J. Self, 4; D. Wightman, 5; H. Howlett, 6; S. Garnham, 7; W. Flory (composer and conductor), 8. Rang on the occasion of the twenty-second birthday of H. Howlett. Messrs. Wightman and Bedingfield hail from Brandeston. On Sunday morning, December 20th, for Divine Service, 1008 Bob Major. W. Ostler, 1; C. Harper, 2; A. Read, 3; J. Self, 4; W. Flory (conductor), 5; H. Howlett, 6; S. Garnham, 7; H. Folkard, 8.

ATTLEBOROUGH (Norfolk).—On Saturday, December 26th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and ten singles). J. Sharp, 1; J. Warren, 2; S. Daniels, 3; J. Miles (conductor), 4; A. Howes, 5; J. Lawrence, 6. Composed by J. Howes, of Kingston-on-Thames. On handbells, 224 Bob Major. J. Miles, 1-2; A. Howes (conductor), 3-4; S. Daniels, 5; E. Etteridge, 6; J. Lawrence, 7-8.

BUNGAY (Suffolk).—On Monday, January 11th, at St. Mary's church, 784 Bob Major. I. Folkard, 1; J. Betts, 2; E. Lincoln, 3; W. Felgate, 4; G. Alexander, 5; J. Botwright, 6; R. Baker (conductor), 7; E. Poppy, 8. Messrs. Betts, Botwright, and Poppy belong to the Redenhall company.

HALESWORTH (Suffolk).—On Thursday, January 14th, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, 1260 changes. F. Lambert (conductor), 1; A. Took, 2; E. Chatten, 3; E. Easter, 4; J. Howard, 5; G. Tovell, 6; C. Kerrison, 7; W. Pierce, 8.

CRATFIELD (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, January 13th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Hollingsworth (conductor), 1; S. Smith, 2; J. Mowser, 3; T. Hembling, 4; F. Warren, 5; W. Emery, 6. Tenor 21 cwt. The ringers of the 1st, 4th, 5th, and 6th belong to the Laxfield company.

HUNTINGFIELD (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, January 13th, 480 Grandsire Doubles. H. Barrell, 1; T. Mower, 2; J. Mudd, 3; W. Bloomfield (conductor), 4; A. Ransby, 5.

BRAMFIELD (Suffolk).—On Friday, December 25th, 720 Grandsire, St. Simon's, and Canterbury Doubles. E. Ludbroke, 1; E. Chatten (conductor), 2; J. Walker, 3; E. Thain, 4; J. Punched, 5.

RUMBURGH (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, December 16th, 1260 Plain Bob, Old, and Grandsire Doubles. T. Wilson, Esq., 1; F. Lambert (conductor), 2; F. Clarke, 3; S. Bird, 4; W. Hunt, 5.

WISSETT (Suffolk).—On Monday, January 11th, 720 Grandsire and Old Doubles. S. Kerrison, 1; C. Kerrison, 2; W. Kemp, 3; F. Lambert (conductor), 4; F. Durrant, 5.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.

PRESTBURY (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, December 30th, at the parish church of St. Peter, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins. W. Walmsley, 1; F. Stoneley, 2; W. W. Steel, 3; W. Gayes, 4; W. Matthews, 5; J. D. Wheelton, 6; W. Mayers, 7; W. H. Smith, 8. This quarter-peal contains the twenty-four 7-4s all the right way, also among other musical qualities the Queen's and Whittingtons, and was rung for the first time, conducted by its composer, William Walmsley, who hails from Macclesfield as well as the ringers of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th; the other three belong to the local company. The above is the second quarter-peal ever composed containing the twenty-four 7-4s all the right way, both being by the above author. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

MACCLESFIELD (Cheshire).—On Thursday, January 7th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing the twenty-four 7-4s all the right way, in 47 mins. J. Hankinson, 1; A. Mottershead, 2; W. McKinnell, 3; W. Matthews (conductor), 4; J. B. Armstrong, 5; W. W. Steel, 6; W. Walmsley, 7; J. Norbury, 8. Rang as a birthday compliment to the Vicar, the Rev. S. A. Boyd. Tenor 20 cwt. in E. The above is the first quarter-peal composed containing these qualities, and is now rung for the first time. Composed by William Walmsley, and published in "THE BELL NEWS" of January 2nd, 1897.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On December 24th, at St. Saviour's church, for Divine Service, 672 Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Howarth, 1; J. A. Brown, 2; A. Whitworth, 3; J. T. Standring, 4; J. Shephard, 5; J. Sutcliffe, 6; W. Ashworth, 7; W. Law, 8. On Wednesday, Jan. 6th, for practice, 1216 of Kent Treble Bob Major, the band standing as before, and both conducted by J. Shephard. This is the longest length rung by all the band except the conductor in this method.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTED, ESSEX.—On Sunday, January 3rd, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, for afternoon service, 720 Cambridge Surprise, in 25

mins. (5th the observation), J. Cavill, 1; Isaac Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6; tenor 13 cwt. This company's summary for the year 1896 consists of 136 complete 720s, viz.: eleven of Plain Bob Minor; ten of Cambridge Surprise; nine each of Worcester Surprise and York Surprise; eight of Superlative Surprise; six each of London Surprise and Oxford Treble Bob; four each of Durham Surprise, Violet Treble Bob and London Scholars' Pleasure; three each of Wells Surprise, Lichfield Surprise, Bristol Surprise, Woodbine Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, College Exercise, Double Oxford Bob, College Single, and Oxford Bob Minor; two each of Chichester Surprise, Huddersfield Surprise, Duke of York, New London Pleasure, College Pleasure, and Canterbury Pleasure; one each of Carlisle Surprise, Coventry Surprise, Ely Surprise, Dewsbury Surprise, Lincoln Surprise, Ringers' Surprise, Rochester Surprise, Braintree Treble Bob, City Delight, Bocking Treble Bob, Westminster Treble Bob, Morning Exercise, Tulip Treble Bob, Primrose Treble Bob, Ringers' Pleasure, Victoria Treble Bob, Killamarsh Treble Bob, Oxford Delight, London Treble Bob, Stansted Court Bob, Double Court Bob, Stansted Double Bob, Grandsire Minor, Double Bob Minor, College Double Bob, and Christmas Eve Minor. Of the foregoing seventy-five were conducted by W. Watts; thirty-six by J. Luckey; twenty-two by T. J. Watts; two by H. J. Tucker, of Bishops Stortford, Herts. and one by Isaac Cavill, of Roydon, Essex. It will be seen that the above 136 720s have been rung in fifty-two different methods. Altogether with touches and peals, this company has brought round 122,012 changes.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRIDGEND (South Wales).—On Sunday, December 27th, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Hardwick, 1; J. Evans, 2; R. Evans, 3; R. Bunstone, 4; D. J. Hurford, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. For children's service 720 Plain Bob (sixteen bobs and two singles). E. Fowler, 1; J. Evans, 2; R. Bunstone, 3; R. Evans (conductor), 4; D. J. Hurford, 5; J. Cox, 6. First 720 by E. Fowler, who hails from Coity. For evening service 720 in the same method (fourteen bobs and two singles). R. Bunstone, 1; J. Evans, 2; R. Evans, 3; W. Hardwick, 4; D. J. Hurford, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6.

COITY (South Wales).—On Monday, December 28th, at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Fowler, 1; J. Evans, 2; R. Evans, 3; R. Bunstone, 4; D. J. Hurford, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. These are supposed to be the first 720s on the bells.

THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

HENDON.—On Wednesday, November 18th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. N. Alderman, 1; C. H. Martin (conductor), 2; J. Nixon, 3; F. Carroway, 4; R. Bevan, 5; H. J. Martin, 6. Also 120 Canterbury Minor. H. J. Martin, 1; N. Alderman, 2; F. Pratt, 3; J. Nixon, 4; R. Bevan, 5; C. H. Martin, 6. On Sunday, November 22nd, for morning service, 360 Plain Bob. F. Turvey, 1; C. Crampton, 2; F. Pratt, 3; J. Barrett, 4; C. H. Martin, 5; E. E. Pratchett, 6. And for evening service, 720 Plain Bob. F. Turvey, 1; C. H. Martin (conductor), 2; F. Pratt, 3; J. Barrett, 4; E. E. Pratchett, 5; C. Crampton, 6. On Wednesday, December 2nd, 300 Plain Bob. F. Jones, 1; C. Crampton, 2; F. Pratt, 3; J. Barrett, 4; C. H. Martin, 5; E. E. Pratchett (conductor), 6. And 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. C. Crampton, 1; H. J. Martin, 2; F. Pratt, 3; F. Carroway, 4; E. E. Pratchett, 5; C. H. Martin (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 6th, after evening service, 720 Plain Bob (nine bobs and six singles). B. C. Pratchett, 1; C. Crampton, 2; F. Pratt, 3; J. Barrett, 4; F. Carroway (conductor), 5; C. H. Martin, 6. On Wednesday, December 9th, 720 College Single. J. Barrett, 1; C. Crampton, 2; F. Carroway, 3; F. Pratt, 4; C. H. Martin (composer and conductor), 5; E. E. Pratchett, 6. And 360 Woodbine Treble Bob. B. C. Pratchett, 1; C. H. Martin, 2; F. Pratt, 3; F. Carroway, 4; E. E. Pratchett, 5; H. J. Martin, 6. Also a course of Cambridge Surprise. B. C. Pratchett, 1; H. J. Martin, 2; F. Pratt, 3; E. E. Pratchett, 4; F. Carroway, 5; C. H. Martin, 6. On Sunday, December 20th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. C. Crampton, 1; C. H. Martin (conductor), 2; F. Pratt, 3; H. J. Martin, 4; E. E. Pratchett, 5; Tom Card, 6. *Handbell Ringing.*—On Sunday, December 20th, 168 Grandsire Triples. F. C. Jones, 1-2; H. J. Martin, 3-4; C. H. Martin, 5-6; T. Card (conductor), 7-8. N. Alderman, J. Nixon, and Bevan hail from Haverstock Hill; F. Carroway from East Finchley; and Thomas Card was on a visit from Tunbridge Wells. To welcome in the new year, 720 Grandsire Doubles. F. Pratt (conductor), 1; H. J. Martin, 2; C. H. Martin, 3; J. Barrett, 4; C. Crampton, 5; F. Kirby, 6.

WANTED, Old Bells or Bell Metal.—Apply, "C," office of this paper.

THE CHESTERDIOCESAN GUILD.

CREWE (Cheshire).—On Sunday evening, December 27th, for evening service at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 49 mins. J. Edwards, 1; J. Broom, 2; J. Davies, 3; G. Baddeley, 4; R. Langford, 5; J. Gayton, 6; R. T. Holding (conductor), 7; J. Dentith, 8. First quarter-peal by the 2nd, 4th and tenor ringers, also by the treble man away from the tenor. G. Baddeley hails from Church Lawton, Cheshire; J. Gayton from Bangor, North Wales.

KNUTSFORD (Cheshire).—On Saturday, January 2nd, seven members of the Witton company visited this place and rang two 720s of Plain Bob Minor. S. Johnson, 1; S. Foster, 2; G. Johnson, 3; A. Johnson, 4; J. Bell, 5; W. Forster, 6. Second 720: S. Johnson, 1; S. Forster, 2; G. Johnson, 3; A. Johnson, 4; R. Chantler, 5; H. Parker, 6. Also three courses of Kent Treble Bob. S. Johnson, 1; S. Forster, 2; G. Johnson, 3; A. Johnson, 4; R. Chantler, 5; H. Parker, 6. Also three courses of Kent Treble Bob. S. Johnson, 1; S. Forster, 2; G. Johnson, 3; A. Johnson, 4; J. Bell, 5; W. Forster, 6. The above was rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. A. Johnson, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

WITTON (Cheshire).—On Thursday, January 7th, at the parish church, for practice, 1008 Bob Major. G. Johnson, 1; A. Johnson, 2; S. Johnson, 3; S. Forster, 4; R. Chantler, 5; M. Parker, 6; J. Bell, 7; W. Forster (conductor), 8.

ALDEBURGH-ON-SEA (Suffolk).—On Friday, December 25th, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). On New Year's Eve, 360 in the same method, with the bells half-muffled. "Stand" was then called to take the muffles off and to hear the old clock strike 12. Then a 720 was rung to welcome the new year. On Sunday, January 3rd, for morning service, 720 in 25½ mins. For evening service another 720 in 26 mins. C. Smith (conductor), 1; H. Girling, 2; F. H. Ing, 3; A. Wilson, 4; G. Churchyard, 5; E. Cooper, 6.

BUCKLAND (Surrey).—On Monday, January 4th, at the parish church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 24 mins. E. Holman, 1; F. Sanders, 2; A. Holman, 3; J. Robinson, 4; J. Puplett (conductor), 5; H. Lee, 6.

FRAMLINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday, December 26th, 1120 Bob Major. A. Read, 1; H. Howlett, 2; W. Flory, 3; J. Self, 4; C. Revell (first attempt at Major), 5; Rev. J. H. Pilkington (conductor), 6; S. Garnham, 7; D. Collins, 8. On Sunday, December 27th, 1008 Bob Major. W. Ostler, 1; C. Harper, 2; A. Read, 3; J. Self, 4; W. Flory, 5; H. Howlett, 6; S. Garnham, 7; G. Wightman (conductor), 8. Messrs. Collins and Revell hail from Worlingworth; Wightman from Cretingham.

HEVER (Kent).—On Thursday, January 14th, for practice, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. Belton, 1; A. Harrington, 2; J. Eastman, 3; R. Eastman, 4; J. Steddy (Edenbridge, conductor), 6. This is the first 720 by the first four ringers, who belong to the local band.

HIGHAM FERRERS (Northants).—On Sunday evening, January 10th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. W. Newman, 1; A. Martin, 2; A. Tyler, 3; J. Garratt, 4; A. Perkins, 5; J. Houghton, jun., 6; J. Martin, 7; G. Brown, 8. Conducted by J. Houghton, jun.

LICHFIELD (Staffs).—On Sunday, December 20th, at St. Michael's church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. A. C. Millington (first 720), 1; E. Gallimore, 2; W. Dempster, 3; H. Meacham, 4; A. Bowler, 5; F. J. Cope (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 27th, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. A. C. Millington, 1; C. Davis, 2; W. Dempster, 3; H. Meacham, 4; A. Bowler, 5; F. J. Cope (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in A.

LONDON.—On Sunday, January 3rd, for morning service at All Hallows church, Barking, Tower Street, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. E. E. Clayton, 1; W. Truss, 2; E. Wallage, 3; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 4; J. Scholes, 5; S. Parmenter, 6; E. Hall, 7; G. Barrell, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. in E. Composed by J. Bradley, of West Ham.

MANCHESTER.—On Sunday evening, January 3rd, for Divine Service at St. John's church, Deansgate, 630 Grandsire Triples. R. Atherton, 1; J. Hampton, 2; W. Brown (conductor), 3; J. Miller, 4; J. Scraff, 5; W. Cooper, 6; A. Wolstenholme, 7; A. Diamond, 8.

NORWICH.—Handbell Ringing.—On Friday, January 8th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. Miss Beatrice Gower, 1; Miss Violet M. Gower, 2; George Smith, 3-4; F. H. Knights (conductor), 5-6. Also a touch of Bob Minor. Miss Violet M. Gower, 1-2; G. Smith, 3-4; F. H.

Knights, 5-6. And a course of Oxford Treble Bob Major. Miss Beatrice Gower, 1; Miss Violet M. Gower, 2; C. E. Borrett, 3-4; G. Smith, 5-6; F. H. Knights, 7-8. The Misses Gower belong to Tunstead, and are the daughters of Mr. J. Gower, the Master of the local company, and have only commenced ringing a short time.

OXTON (Cheshire).—On December 10th, for practice at St. Saviour's church, 728 Grandsire Triples. C. Owens, 1; J. Hughes, 2; J. Owens, 3; G. Newton, 4; J. Grant, 5; J. Evans, 6; E. Hough, 7; W. Grimman, 8. Conducted by E. Hough, who hails from Bebbington. On December 17th, for practice, 504 Grandsire Triples. C. Owens, 1; H. Brocklebank, 2; J. Owens, 3; G. Newton, 4; J. Grant, 5; J. Evans, 6; J. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. Grimman, 8. On December 20th, for Divine Service, 672 Grandsire Triples. C. Owens, 1; H. Brocklebank, 2; J. Owens, 3; G. Newton, 4; J. Grant, 5; J. Evans, 6; J. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. Grimman, 8.

PEVENSEY (Sussex).—On Thursday, December 31st, at St. Nicholas church, 720 Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 26 mins. *G. Bray, 1; J. Bray, jun., 2; G. Penfold (conductor), 3; T. Beal, 4; †H. Colbran, 5; E. Beal, 6. *First 720 and longest length. †First 720 away from treble.

PETERBOROUGH (Northants).—On Wednesday, January 6th, at St. Mary's church, three 6-scores of Bob Doubles, each called differently. R. Rowell, 1; W. T. Johnson, 2; J. Tirrell, 3; A. Willerton, 4; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 5; F. Davis, 6. And 120 Grandsire. F. Weeks, 1; J. Tirrell, 2; R. Rowell, 3; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 4; W. T. Johnson, 5; F. Davis, 6. Also 120 Grandsire. A. Willerton, 1; F. Weeks, 6; the rest standing as before. Rung with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. S. Stanley, a much-respected parishoner.

ST. IVES (Hunts).—On Saturday, December 26th, at the parish church, 192 Grandsire Minor. J. Briars, 1; F. Sinkins, 3; J. Smart (conductor), 4; Jas. Briars, 5; C. Murphy, 6; R. Drage, 7; A. Neale, 8. Also 720 in the same method with 7-8 behind. J. Briars, 1; J. Perkins, 2; J. Smart, 3; Jas. Briars, 4; H. Saunders, 5; J. Toller (conductor), 6; R. Drage, 7; A. Neale, 8. And 504 Bob Triples. R. Drage, 1; Jas. Briars, 2; J. Smart, 3; R. Stearne, 4; J. Toller (conductor), 5; H. Saunders, 6; J. Perkins, 7; A. Neale, 8. Messrs. Sinkins, Murphy, and Smart hail from Huntingdon; Stearne belongs to St. Ives; the rest from Hemingford Grey.

TANFIELD (Durham).—On Sunday, January 10th, four ringers from Ripon cathedral, assisted by two ringers from Tadcaster, rang 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 28 mins. J. Rumbold, 1; J. Summerhayes, 2; W. Gibson, 3; J. Metcalfe, 4; G. Metcalfe, 5; T. Metcalfe (conductor), 6.

WARRINGTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, December 6th, for Divine Service at St. Paul's church, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley (conductor), 3; J. Pomfrey, 4; W. Brammer, 5; F. Stout, 6. On Sunday evening, January 13th, for Divine Service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs and two singles), standing as above. Conducted by F. Stout. On Monday, December 14th, for practice, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles), standing as before. Conducted by A. Oxley. On Sunday evening, December 20th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), standing as before. Conducted by W. Brammer. On Monday, December 21st, for practice, 720 Oxford Single Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles), standing as before. Conducted by F. Stout. On Sunday morning, December 27th, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley, 3; F. Stout, 4; W. Brammer, 5; E. Edwanson (conductor), 6.

WORLINGWORTH (Suffolk).—On Monday, November 16th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor with the bells half-muffled, as a last token of respect to Richard Collins, father of David and Edgar Collins, who rang the 6th and 7th in the long peal at Debenham, Suffolk. He was interred in Worlingworth churchyard on Sunday, November 15th. Deceased was sixty-eight years of age, and had been a ringer at this place for over sixty years. W. Burgess, 1; S. Collins, 2; F. Ling, 3; H. Howlett, 4; W. Flory, 5; W. Crickmer (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent. W. Flory (conductor), 1; H. Creasy, 2; H. Howlett, 3; C. Revell, 4; S. Collins, 5; D. Collins, 6. On Christmas Day 360 Bob Minor. W. Collins, 1; S. Collins, 2; F. Collins, 3; C. Revell, 4; E. Clayton, 5; D. Clayton (conductor), 6. Messrs. Howlett and Flory hail from Framlingham; Ling from Bedford; Crickmer from Earl Soham; Clayton from London; the rest are local men.

YOUTH WANTED to learn a trade in the Midlands. Age about 16. Apply—A.B., care of Editor.

PRACTICAL HINTS TO YOUNG CONDUCTORS
AND COMPOSERS.

CHAPTER XIII.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.—(continued.)

Last week we were talking of the position of the back bells, and of those bells running up in the order of 7 5 6 at a lead-end or course-end. This is called the "tittums" position, and so is 9 7 8 in Caters, and 11 9 10 in Cinques. This arrangement is noted as the most musical for the back bells. But in Triples we cannot have much of it, by reason that the number of bells in action does not give sufficient scope. But very good effects may be got, sufficient to run a quarter-peal. I alluded last week to the publication of a quarter-peal, with the back bells in all the positions, as having been published some time ago. If my readers can find this in one of the back numbers of "THE BELL NEWS" (I think it was composed by the Editor), and prick it out at length, it will give them a splendid insight of the position.

And here I shall have to redeem my promise made a fortnight ago. At some length I have dealt with the composition of Grandsire Triples in the most approved musical positions, and pointed out, plainly I hope, how such effects are obtained. I have also pointed out as clearly as I am able the effects of using singles in Grandsire Triples, and their treacherous nature, necessitating proof both at hand and backstroke. Before I take leave of Triples I intend to try to shew the best plans by which the most popular peals may be called; and afterwards explain the best modes of calling Grandsire Triples round from any position.

Holt's ten-part peal is perhaps as popular a composition as any, and therefore we may use it here to illustrate what I have to say. I think it hardly necessary to give the figures.

In this peal the 2nd is the fixed or observation-bell, being the only bell at home at the part-end. The peal is divided into two halves, and each half has five parts of 504 changes each. The first five parts (*i.e.* the first half) are called alike, excepting that a single must be substituted for the last bob in the fifth part; else the bells would run home. The figures of the calling of the last five parts (*i.e.* the last half) are reversed; so that if it is desired to call by the observation-bell alone, a calling-lesson for each half will have to be committed to memory. But I hope this mode of conducting has been thought unworthy of continuance by my readers, and that they have determined to adopt the excellent plan of conducting by means of taking observations of the bells before, as has already been fully explained. On the calling of this ten-part peal, Shipway, in putting before his readers both modes, says of the commendable one:—

"Another method is by making observations of the bells before, *i.e.* making third's place, for of the ten bobs in each part, one bell makes third's place seven out of the ten; thus: a bob is called the first lead; the second at two leads from the first, when the bell making thirds is called twice more in thirds place with a double; the bell making thirds at this bob is called to make thirds again; when the bell, which was called three times before, that is, at the second, third and fourth bobs, is called again at the last four—the seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth. Of these methods, the learner can adopt that which he thinks best. In the first, he is under the necessity of ringing the observation-bell: in the other he may ring which he pleases, and at the same time not have so much on his mind as the lessons of the two 504 changes."

ALEPH.

(To be continued.)

INTERESTING MARRIAGE AT SADDLEWORTH,
CHESHIRE.

A great amount of local interest was centred in a marriage which was solemnised at St. Chad's church, Saddleworth, on Thursday afternoon week. The contracting parties were Mr. Hugh W. Wood, organist of St. Paul's church, Southport, and formerly organist of St. Mary's church, Greenfield, and Miss Sarah S. Holden, of Mossley.

The ceremony has a peculiar interest for our readers from the fact that the father of the bride, Mr. John Holden, auctioneer, of Saddleworth, Mossley, and Oldham, is a well-known ardent

change-ringer. For some years he has been the vicar's warden at Saddleworth, and to his efforts in a great measure may be ascribed the augmentation of the Saddleworth peal from six to eight, some years ago.

The bride was attired in a dress of navy blue silk, with lace fichu and hat to match, while the bridesmaids—Miss H. Holden, Miss Shaw, and Miss E. A. Wood—wore dresses of electric whipcord. The bride was given away by her father, while Mr. Myles, of Southport, acted as best man. The nuptial knot was tied by the Rev. H. Doig. The service was fully choral, the appropriate hymns being led by the choir, of which the bride has for a period of 13 years been a member. Numerous friends and relatives witnessed the ceremony, and subsequently greeted the bridal party with heavy showers of rice and confetti. Mr. Herbert Whiteley rendered a bridal march on the organ. A large company of guests were entertained at the Odd Fellows' Hall, which had been tastefully decorated for the occasion by Mr. Colley, and at the conclusion of the repast the Rev. H. Doig, in felicitous terms, proposed the health of the bride and bridegroom, Mr. Wood suitably responding. Mr. and Mrs. Wood left early for York, where the honeymoon will be spent, while the guests spent the night in dancing and other amusements, the Greenfield string band supplying the music, and Mr. A. Sherburn, Mr. S. Wrigley, Mr. Myles, Mr. Shaw, Mr. A. Holden, and Mr. B. B. Bradshaw contributing the songs. Recitations were given by Mr. F. Firth and Mr. S. Walker. Mr. T. J. Wild acted as chairman.

We have been favoured with a list of the presents of which the happy pair have been the recipients. If we merely observed in the usual conventional verbiage that they were "numerous and costly," we should not err in the least; but they possess also a satisfactory utility which displays the practical common-sense of those who gave them. Our congratulations are given, not only to the happy couple, but to our very old and esteemed friend, Mr. John Holden, on this auspicious event.

OSPRINGE, KENT.

On Thursday, January 14th, the choir and ringers of the parish church sat down to a capital supper in the schoolroom, with a few friends, numbering thirty-four. Some good songs were sung during the evening. Mr. C. H. Drake, organist, presided at the piano. The usual loyal toasts of the "Queen and Royal Family," also of the "Bishop and Clergy of the diocese," were duly honoured and responded to. The vicar, the Rev. W. Almack, thanked the choir and ringers for their voluntary services to the church, and hoped they would work in harmony in the future as they had in the past; never forgetting in whose service they were engaged. Among the visitors we noticed C. L. Watson Smith, M.A., J. P. Barnes, J. Millen, E. R. Adams, A. Attaway, M. Willis, R. Charlton, Clerk, and P. Hampshire. Some touches on the handbells were rung at intervals, thus bringing a very happy evening to a close.

RINGERS' SUPPER.

On Wednesday evening, the 13th instant, the ringers of St. Michael's, Yorktown, were entertained to supper by the kind invitation of the Vicar and Churchwardens, in the Mission Hall. The company sat down to an excellent repast at 7 p.m. Amongst those present were the Rev. F. M. Middleton, rector of Old Arlesford, and late vicar of Yorktown, Rev. C. P. Berryman, vicar, Messrs. W. Webb and T. Fairey, churchwardens, and others. After supper the usual toasts were gone through, interspersed with songs by several of the company, and the gathering was brought to a close by singing "Auld lang Syne" at 11.45. Selections were given at intervals during the evening on the handbells.

At St. George's church, Edinburgh, stained glass is being placed in the three-light west window, the subject being the Ascension. The window, which was recently unveiled, has been executed under the direction of the architect, Mr. Leadbetter, at the studios of Messrs A. Ballantine and Gardiner, George Street, Edinburgh.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The annual meeting of the Committee was held, by the kind permission of Messrs. Jakeman and Carver, at 4, High Town, Hereford, on Wednesday, January 13th, and there were present the Master of the Guild (J. G. Buchanan, Esq.), Revs. C. T. Wilton, H. C. Sturges, A. C. Lee (Hon. Sec.), Messrs. John Jones (St. Peter's), J. Davies (All Saints), C. H. Doughton (Cathedral), and Thos. Williams (Eastnor). Letters of apology for unavoidable absence were read from Canon Palmer, Rev. J. Davies (Leominster), R. Marston (Ludlow), Prebendary Oldham (Bridgnorth), H. F. Bagshaw (Knighton), and W. Hebb, Hon. Treasurer.

The Guild accounts showed £48 2s. 2½d. received, against £45 18s. 4½d. spent for the past year; and a vote of thanks was passed to the Hon. Sec.

The Master tendered his resignation by reason of his remoteness from ringing centres; but the Committee deprecated it, and so he kindly undertook office again. The remaining officers and the committee were re-elected, with the addition of Rev. J. M. Parry (Burghill) and J. Clark (Ross), vice J. G. Wall resigned; and H. E. Taylor (Leominster), vice Chas. Edwards, who has left the diocese after excellent services rendered to the Guild.

With the permission of the Rector of Ross, it was resolved, if leave is given, to hold the annual festival at what has twice previously proved an attractive resort. The proposed date is Thursday, July 22nd. A sub-committee, composed of Revs. H. C. Sturges, A. C. Lee, Messrs. C. H. Doughton and J. Jones, was appointed to revise the Guild Rules for submission to the members at the annual festival.

A vote of thanks was proposed to the Master for coming so far to preside at the meeting, and carried *nem. con.*

Mr. Jas. E. Groves, of Wolverhampton, is doing excellent work as an Instructor, and giving satisfaction where he goes. As at present arranged, the term of his present engagement terminates the first week of February.

The past year has seen, as the Committee noted, many peals made by ringers in the diocese, and several belfry restorations.

QUIDENHAM, NORFOLK.

RINGERS' SUPPER.—On Tuesday, December 22nd, the ringers of the above place, by the kind invitation of the Rev. E. S. Garnier, held their annual supper in the parish room at 7.30 p.m., when ringers to the number of eleven sat down to the good things provided for them. Mr. R. Haylett, the Master of the company, was voted to the chair, and Mr. J. Woods, the conductor, to the vice. After all had enjoyed the good things provided, and the cloth was removed, the toast of "The Queen and Royal Family" was given by the Chairman; then followed the toast of "The donor of the feast," and "Success to the Quidenham Company of Ringers." Afterwards the handbells were brought into use, and touches of Minor and courses of Bob Major were rung, and songs were given by G. Haylett, W. Ringer, and W. Hensley. J. Woods sang the ditty on the ten thousand rung at Kenninghall, which was composed by the late George Edwards. At 12 o'clock the company dispersed to their homes, after having spent a most enjoyable evening. Before parting, Mr. J. Sage gave the song, "Green grows the Laurels," and Mr. G. Bunn recited "My Mary" and the "Jolly Cabby," which were given in good style.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, REDHILL, SURREY.

The bells of the above Church were opened on Saturday evening, January 9, by the following members of the Surrey Association ringing the 630 Grandsire Triples. P. Knight, 1; H. Reeves (conductor), 2; A. Songhurst, 3; S. Kenward, 4; W. Edwards, 5; E. Kenward, 6; T. Sparks, 7; A. Moseley, 8. It was found impossible to ring any longer on account of there not being no sounding floor to stop the sound of the bells, and there will not be any more ringing until that is done.

GENTLEMEN'S Carb Alberts. Heavily Plated with Pure Gold. Guaranteed 18 carat, 4s. 6d., 22, 5s. 6d., Double, 7s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. Member of Norwich Diocesan Association.—SKINNER, 3, Mayes Terrace, East Dereham

HORLEY, SURREY.—RINGERS' SUPPER.

The Annual Supper of the Horley parish church bell-ringers, took place at The Six Bells tavern, on December 31st. Mrs. Chart catered in her usual good style, when fourteen ringers sat down, accompanied by Messrs. T. Matthews (organist), T. Edwards, and E. Dewey (of St. John's, Red Hill). After doing full justice to the good things provided, the toast of the evening was given by Mr. T. Matthews, The health of the Vicar and Churchwardens (in their absence), also that of the bell-ringers, which were heartily drunk, the latter being responded to by Mr. W. Edwards. The handbells were then brought into use, and several tunes were rung by Messrs. W. Wallis, J. Kenward, G. Staplehurst, F. Voice, A. Songhurst, S. Kenward. The rest of the evening was taken up with songs and glees. At midnight the church bells were rung to the tune of a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Voice, 1; J. Kenward, 2; G. Staplehurst, 3; S. Kenward (conductor), 4; A. Songhurst, 5; P. Etheridge, 6; G. Apps, 7; T. Post, 8.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

By JOHN ROGERS, Royal Cumberland Youths.

5015.					By bobs at				
	2643	5236	4562	3425	I	2	3	4	
First course.	4532	4263	3526	6452	2345	I	2	3	4
Second do.	3564	6423	2356	5642	4235	I	2	3	4
	5463	4326	3652	6245	2534	2	3	4	5
	4365	3624	6253	2546	5432	2	3	4	5
	6435	2364	5623	4256	3542	I	2	3	4
	3645	6234	2563	5426	4352	I	2	3	4

Round at hand by bobs at 2, 4, 11, 12, 13.

The first course of this peal is obtained by calling the 9th bell in and out at 5th lead, and single at 6th lead. The second course of peal is obtained by bobs at 1st and 6th leads.

This peal was composed by its author in 1887, and is the first in full Tittums position obtained.

THREE PEALS OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

By HENRY DAINS, Royal Cumberland Youths.

5056.					5056.					5088.				
23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
45236	-	-	-	-	23564	-	-	-	-	52436	-	-	-	-
24536	-	-	-	-	62534	-	-	-	-	35426	-	-	-	-
52436	-	-	-	-	43526	-	-	-	-	42356	-	-	-	-
64235	-	-	-	-	54326	-	-	-	-	54326	-	-	-	-
26435	-	-	-	-	35426	-	-	-	-	63425	-	-	-	-
26354	-	-	-	-	64523	-	-	-	-	26435	-	-	-	-
32654	-	-	-	-	56423	-	-	-	-	26354	-	-	-	-
65324	-	-	-	-	45623	-	-	-	-	32654	-	-	-	-
36524	-	-	-	-	26354	-	-	-	-	63254	-	-	-	-
53624	-	-	-	-	35264	-	-	-	-	25634	-	-	-	-
46325	-	-	-	-	63254	-	-	-	-	25346	-	-	-	-
34625	-	-	-	-	45236	-	-	-	-	32546	-	-	-	-
63425	-	-	-	-	24536	-	-	-	-	43526	-	-	-	-
43526	-	-	-	-	52436	-	-	-	-	24536	-	-	-	-
62534	-	-	-	-	64235	-	-	-	-	53246	-	-	-	-
35426	-	-	-	-	26435	-	-	-	-	45236	-	-	-	-
42356	-	-	-	-	42635	-	-	-	-	62534	-	-	-	-
54326	-	-	-	-	36524	-	-	-	-	53624	-	-	-	-
32546	-	-	-	-	52364	-	-	-	-	65324	-	-	-	-
53246	-	-	-	-	65324	-	-	-	-	36524	-	-	-	-
25346	-	-	-	-	42356	-	-	-	-	56423	-	-	-	-
34256	-	-	-	-	34256	-	-	-	-	34625	-	-	-	-
23456	-	-	-	-	23456	-	-	-	-	34256	-	-	-	-
										23456	-	-	-	-

This peal has the 6th the full extent right, neither 2nd or 3rd being in 6ths place at course-ends.

6th the extent in 5-6. 2nd never in 6ths place at course-ends.

Notices.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The quarterly meeting of this Society will be held to-day, Saturday, January 23rd, at the parish church, Cannock. Bells available for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Short service in the church at 5 p.m. Committee meeting at 5.30. Tea at 6 p.m.

S. REEVES, *Hon. Sec.*

10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

Wirral Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild.—The annual meeting and tea of the Wirral Branch of the above Guild will be held in the schoolroom, West Kirby, to-day, Saturday, Jan. 23rd, at 5.30 p.m. The belfry will be open for practice from 3 o'clock. It is hoped there will be a full attendance of ringers at this meeting. Leaders should send in the numbers as soon as possible to

HENRY WOOLCOTT, *Hon. Sec.*

Grange Mount, West Kirby.

The North Notts Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Workop to-day, Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Tea at 5 p.m.; 1s. per head.

B. DARLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

All Saints' Society, Fulham.—The annual general meeting will take place to-day, Saturday, Jan. 23rd. The tower will be open to members and friends at 4 p.m. Tea in the church-room at 6 p.m.; business meeting afterwards.

Fulham Palace.

J. GREEN, *Hon. Sec.*

St. Martin's Guild of Birmingham.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 26th, at The Tamworth Arms, Moor Street; chair to be taken at 8.30 p.m. The attendance of every member for consideration of important business is earnestly requested. Particular attention is directed to clause 4 of rule VI.

W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*

61, Roland Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

The Waterloo Society.—The annual meeting of this Society will be held on Wednesday, January 27th, at St. John's, Waterloo Road, when the election of officers for the ensuing year will take place. Members are requested to attend; meeting time, 8 p.m.

WALTER C. HASTED, *Hon. Sec.*

37, Rita Road, Vauxhall Park, S.W.

Sussex County Association—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Christ Church, St. Leonards-on-Sea (8 bells), on Wednesday, January 27th. Bells available from 4 to 8.30 p.m. Tea (gratis) at 5.30, by the invitation of the members of the Guild. Those intending to be present will oblige by sending word to the undersigned not later than January 25th. Ringing at Christ Church, Blacklands, and St. Clement's, Hastings, by arrangement at the meeting.

S. SAKER, *Hon. Sec. Eastern Division.*

101, Braybrooke Road, Hastings.

The St Mary's Society, Bow, E.—The annual dinner will be held at The Blue Anchor, High Street, Bow, on Thursday, January 29th, at 7.30 p.m. sharp. Tickets, 3s. each, can be had of Messrs. D. Sutton, Bow Vestry Hall, Bow Road; A. Deards, Digby Villa, St. Stephen's Road, Upton Park; or H. Springall, *Hon. Sec.*, 35, Huddlestons Road, Forest Gate, E.

The Ashton-under-Lyne Society.—The quarterly meeting of the above Society will be held at Flixton, on Saturday, January 30th. Bells ready at 4 p.m.; meeting at 7.

35, Uxbridge Street. S. BOOTH, *Hon. Sec.*

The Midland Counties Association.—The third quarterly meeting of the year will be held at Chesterfield on Saturday, January 30th. Peal of ten at the parish church, open from 1 p.m. till 9 p.m., excepting from 7.15 to 7.45. Committee meeting in the parish room at the vicarage at 4.30. Tea in the Victoria school, Vicar Lane, at 5. General meeting in St. James's Mission-room, Vicar Lane, immediately after tea. Visiting members who have paid their subscriptions for the current year, must send their names to Mr. G. Toplis, 1, Austin's Place, Broad Pavement, Chesterfield, on or before Wednesday, January 29th, who will be charged 6d. each for tea; local members and others 1s. each as usual. Parties of eight or more can obtain fare-and-a-quarter tickets by giving three days' notice at any station.

J. O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.*

22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.

The Essex Association.—A district meeting of the above will be held at Brentwood, on Saturday, January 30th. Tea will be provided at the church house, at 5 p.m., to be followed by a business meeting. Members intending to be present must signify the same, and the station from which they start, not later than the previous Tuesday. The tower of South Weald (6 bells) will also be open for ringing.

HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Hon. Sec.*

Gt. Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Association.—The next committee and quarterly meeting of this Association will be held in the schoolroom, Oldswinford, near Stourbridge, on Saturday, January 30th, at 5.30 p.m. prompt. The Rev. A. B. Timbrell, Rector, Clerical Secretary, has kindly consented to preside. A short service with brief address will be held in the church at 4.45 p.m., to which all members are cordially invited. The bells (six) will be available for ringing; also the peal of eight at St. Thomas's, Stourbridge. Tea will be provided for all members sending in their names to me not later than Wednesday, January 27th. Election of representatives for Central Council will take place at this meeting. Members are requested to note that all subscriptions are due at this meeting.

JNO. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

36, Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

Kent County Association—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Edenbridge, on Saturday, January 30th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Committee meeting at 4.30. Tea at 5.30, in the Odd-fellows' hall, to be followed by the business meeting. Allowances up to, but not exceeding, 2s. per member, will be paid, and subscriptions received at the committee meeting. All subscriptions must be paid before any allowance will be made. All members intending to be present at the tea are requested to inform the district secretary not later than Wednesday, the 27th inst.

W. LATTER, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

67, Goods Station Road, Tunbridge Wells.

Oxford Diocesan Guild—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held on Saturday, January 30th, at High Wycombe. Ringing 2 till 4.30 and 7 till 9 p.m. Evensong and sermon at 5 p.m. Preacher, Rev. E. D. Shaw, vicar of High Wycombe. Tea (free to members of the branch who have paid their subscriptions) at 6 p.m. This meeting is open to any member of the Guild who may wish to attend.

R. P. NEWHOUSE, *Branch Sec.*

The St. Margaret's Society, Westminster.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, January 30th, when officers for the ensu-

ing year will be elected. Meeting time at St. Margaret's, 5 p.m. Meat tea will be provided at 1s. 6d. per head for all those sending their names to me by January 27th.

H. BARTON, *Hon. Sec.*

36, Havil Street, Camberwell, S.E.

Royal Cumberland Society.—Alteration of practice night on account of Divine Service being held at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields. Until further notice the meetings will be held every alternate Friday.

A. JACOB, *Hon. Sec.*

The Leeds and District Amalgated Society.—The next monthly ringing meeting of this society will be held on Saturday, January 30th, at Burley Church (6 bells.) Ringing from 2.30. Meeting house, The Cardigan Arms, Kirkstall road. Members and other friends cordially invited.

R. BINNS, *Hon. Sec.*

4, Kirkland Square, Kirkland Street, Beeston Road, Leeds.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—The sum of 1s. 8d., in lieu of booking fees, is now due. After ringing at St. Giles' Cripplegate, on Tuesday, January 26th, 1897, business of a specially important nature will be brought forward at the meeting to be held at headquarters, when it is hoped that all members who can possibly do so, will attend.

W. T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*

37, Tradescant Road, South Lambeth, S. W.

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at South Petherton, on Saturday, February 6th. Break from Martock Station after arrival of 1.49 p.m. train. Full particulars on Jan. 30th. Will all members who intend to be present kindly inform the *Hon. Sec.* at once.

HY. W. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*
The Cottage, Old Cleeve, Washford.

The South and West Middlesex Guild.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Heston (St. Leonard's), on Saturday, February 6th. Ringing at 5.30.

HY. F. G. LUCK,
7, Warwick Place, Ealing. *Hon. Sec.*

The Waterloo Society.—On Saturday, February 20th, the twenty-ninth anniversary of this society will be celebrated by a dinner at The York hotel, Waterloo Road; tickets 3s. 6d. each, may be had of the following committee: Messrs. H. N. Davis, 419, Old Kent Road, S.E.; T. West, 71, Langton Road, Brixton, S.W.; H. Barton, 36, Havil Street, Camberwell, S.E.; A. Hardy, 51, Kay Road, Stockwell, S.W.; F. G. Perrin, 42, Aylesbury Street, Walworth, S.E.; F. J. Piatts, 128, Leathwaite Road, Clapham, S.W.; or of

WALTER C. HASTED, *Hon. Sec.*

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—To avoid clashing with the Midland County meeting at Chesterfield, the quarterly meeting will be held at Eckington, on Saturday, February 6th. Peal of six bells.

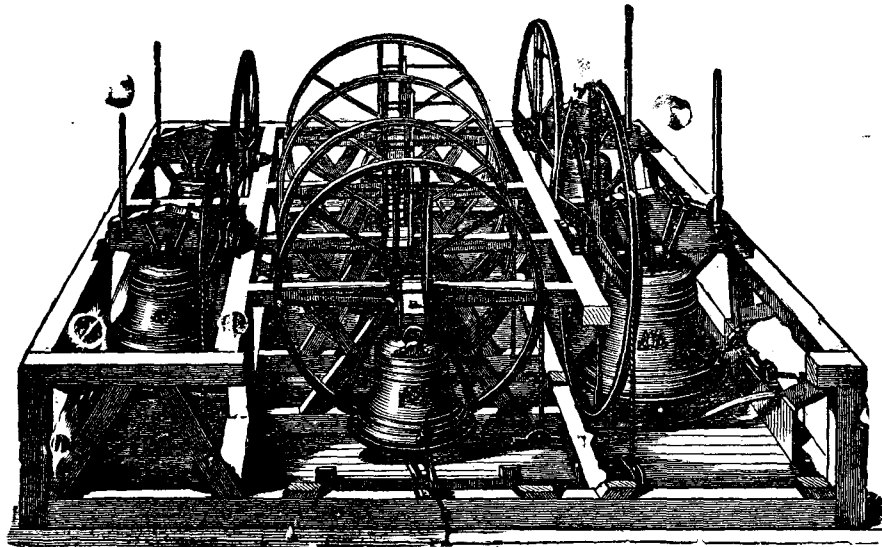
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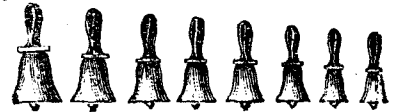


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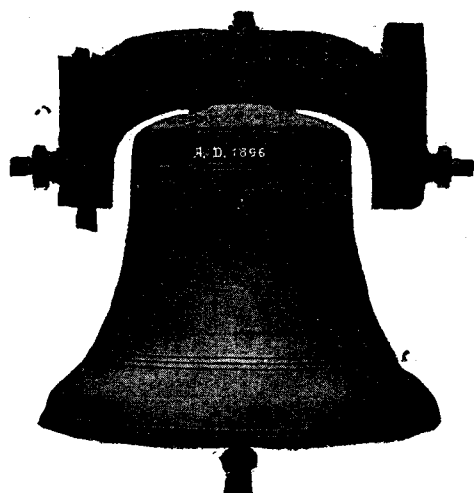
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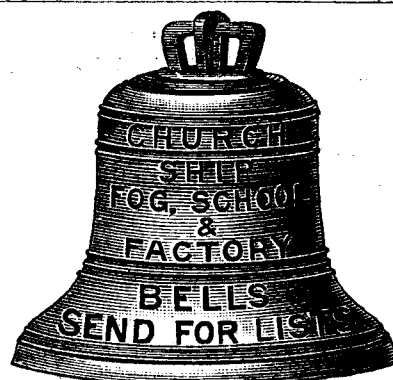
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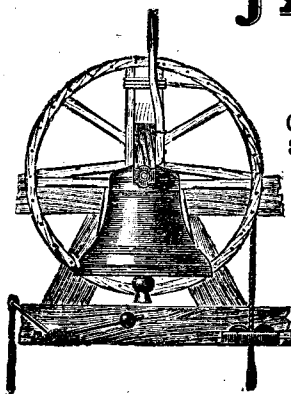
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No. 773.—VOL. XV.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1897.

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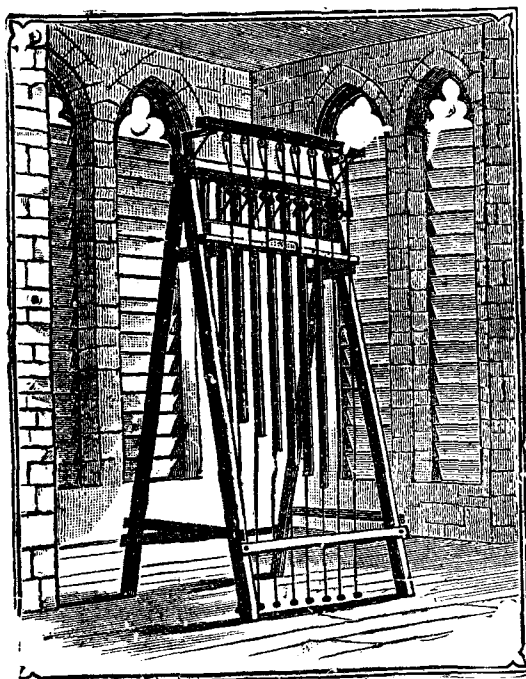
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 773.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1897.

[Vol. XV.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

An unique and interesting gathering took place at The Champion hotel, Aldersgate Street, London, on Wednesday, January 27th, at the invitation of A. P. Heywood, Esq., to do honour to Mr. W. T. Cockerill, in recognition of his grand performance in ringing the tenor at St. Paul's Cathedral, unaided, through a peal of 5088 changes of Kent Treble Bob Maximus. The invitations were confined to all the present members of the society who had taken part in any of the three peals yet rung upon the Cathedral bells, and in response the following members attended, viz.: Messrs. F. S. Bailey, W. Burkin, F. M. Butler, W. Cooter, E. Carter, W. T. Cockerill, F. E. Dawe, G. Dorrington, R. French, W. E. Garrard, J. M. Hayes, E. Horrex, J. R. Haworth, S. E. Joyce, H. R. Newton, E. P. O'Meara, J. Pettit, W. Prime, W. D. Smith, H. Springall, C. F. Winney, and M. A. Wood. It was regretted that owing to business and other matters, Messrs. R. Jameson, W. Jones, G. T. McLaughlin, G. Muskett, W. Tanner, and W. Tyler were prevented from being present.

An excellent repast had been provided by the generosity of the esteemed chairman, A. P. Heywood, Esq., to which full justice was done. The first toast of the evening was that of "Church, Queen, and State," by the Chairman, which was duly honoured.

Mr. F. E. Dawe gave "The Ancient Society of College Youths" in eulogistic terms, emphasising the fact that good fellowship was one of its principal features, which he hoped would always continue. He alluded to the progress the society had made from small beginnings, and of the valuable support and assistance, always ready, and given, by the older members of the society.

The Master, Mr. W. Burkin (vice-chairman), in responding, endorsed what Mr. Dawe had said, remarking at the same time that with such a large body it was not always possible to pull through without some little misunderstandings and so forth, but taking the Society as a whole they had every reason to be proud of their present position.

The Chairman then gave—"Mr. W. T. Cockerill, the unaided tenor-man in the now famous peal." In proposing this toast he said he did not wish to deprecate the achievements of past famous heavy bell ringers, but what made the present case famous was that it had never been done before with a bell of 62 cwt., and for that reason alone he had prepared and carried out the arrangements for that evening by way of expressing his admiration of that performance, incidentally remarking that it was a good old English custom when one wished to assure another of mutual friendship they invited one another to dine together.

Mr. Cockerill, in responding, thought that rather too much had been made of the matter, expressing his belief that other men would come along and do far more creditable performances upon that bell. He thanked the chairman and the company very much for their kind remarks and wishes.

Mr. J. R. Haworth gave "The Conductor of the Three Peals at St. Paul's, Mr. James Pettit," and testified to the respect in which all ringers held that gentleman, enumerating among many things the various performances in which he had taken part in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

Mr. Pettit, in returning thanks for what had so kindly been said about him, stated that in his younger days he rang a great deal at Bethnal Green, and it was owing to the kindness he received at the hands of Mr. M. A. Wood—who rang in his first peal—which gave him, the speaker, every opportunity to learn bell-ringing both at Bethnal Green and other places, and thus enabled him to hold the position he did to-day.

The chairman then gave "Prosperity to Change-ringing," his own inimitable way, calling attention to that well-known fact, the general apathy of the powers that be with regard to the bells and their requirements, mentioning that, as ringers, they

had raised themselves far above the original level, both as regards methods practised and behaviour in the belfry, unaided and unseen; yet, with all this, there was not one in ten thousand of those in charge of sacred edifices who cared two brass farthings about the bell fittings or the ringers' comfort, and it remained with the ringers of England to devise some means whereby to bring the responsibilities home to those entrusted with the care of such valuable instruments of the church as the bells were. More particularly did these remarks refer to where there were peals of heavy bells, such as the famous peals at Bow, Cheapside, and at St. Saviour's, Southwark. In both places, those in charge were anything but enthusiastic with regard to the precious contents of the belfry. As to the latter place, no doubt those present had seen a letter in the *Times*, [which appeared also in "THE BELL NEWS"] with regard to the condition of the bells and their renovation, in reply to which he had received a very kind and courteous reply from the Bishop of Rochester, to the effect that there were no funds at present in hand sufficient to meet the requirements. To this he, the speaker, replied that he would subscribe £50 towards the restoration, and he was sure that the ringers of England would subscribe as much as they could towards such an object. In reply to this the Bishop rather artfully remarked that he would be pleased if the ringers would only give them, the authorities, their bells back again. It was now for the ringers of England, through the Central Council of Change-ringers, to make their presence felt, and he had a suggestion to make at the next meeting of the Council which would probably go some distance towards obtaining the object in view. As a further proof of his case, he stated that at the Church Congress at Nottingham the paper touching upon these matters which he intended to bring forward was supported by two gentlemen only out of twenty-five, and some even laughed at the idea, and he felt compelled to rebuke those by saying that probably before long the laugh would be on the other side of the mouth. As regards the Ancient Society of College Youths, he had the most sincere affection for that Society and its members, and he dwelt upon the necessity, not so much of ringing crank methods, but the standard methods, which was the secret of the present stability of the Society, giving as instances how bands of ringers sprung up in various parts of the country, learn and ring Surprise methods, and disappear leaving no one to take their places. The foundation of all change-ringing was undoubtedly the continued and extended practice of the Standard Methods. England owes the continued progression of change-ringing to the large towns, and of course principally to London. The toast was enthusiastically received.

Mr. W. D. Smith gave "The health of our esteemed friend and brother-ringer, the Chairman." He said that it was always difficult to praise an old friend to his face even before an audience so fully in sympathy as was the present one with such a proceeding, and it was surely not necessary in the present instance to do so, for Mr. Heywood has been so much amongst them, has been so acceptable to all, so open in his remarks, consequently so thoroughly known to all in that room, that no herald was needed to blow a trumpet in his praise. He (the speaker) had been acquainted with Mr. Heywood for some years past, and could confidently affirm that Mr. Heywood like Jasper Snowdon, William Banister, and other members of this society, had devoted a great deal of his valuable time in expounding still further the hidden mysteries of our fascinating Art, for the benefit of present and future ringers. If this was all their worthy chairman had done it would be sufficient to perpetuate his name and fame. He had gone further, a great deal further, and brought for the first time in the history of this ringing island the majority of the ringing Associations and Societies into one bond of brotherhood by the initiation of the Central Council of Change-Ringers. There is no doubt Mr. Heywood anticipated and realised what a stupen

dous task laid before him as prime mover in that scheme, still it must be admitted by all unprejudiced thinkers that the barriers, if there were any, have been successfully surmounted, and if the idea which called the Council into existence is carried out in the spirit of good fellowship and common brotherhood, scientific change-ringing will before long take its proper place in the Church's work. They all had reason to know that the chairman was a firm friend of their society and its members. There was another very striking feature in his character which was an admirable one—his moral courage. He never hesitated to tell anyone straight when he thought they were wrong. Were any doubter or caviller to look in here to-night, either actually or in spirit, and to demand evidence as to how highly Mr. Heywood was esteemed, he, the speaker, would be disinclined altogether to bandy phrases or chop logic with such a person, but should simply direct him to watch and judge from the heartiness with which this toast will be received. Though not on the toast list (added Mr. Smith) there are other names I should like in a way to associate with our friend. It has been my privilege to visit Duffield Bank on more than one occasion, and I can testify to the hospitality therein displayed, ministered, I have no hesitation in saying, by Mr. Heywood and family. These combined with Mr. Heywood form such a happy and united household that it is not possible to imagine them separated, and one cannot fail to be conscious that the happiness of each one is intimately associated with the happiness of the rest, and therefore in wishing our friend long life and happiness, we express a wish at the same time for the continued welfare of his devoted wife and family. Gentlemen, I give you "The Health of our esteemed and respected friend, Arthur Percival Heywood, Esq.," and I have to thank him in your name for the hospitality of this evening. This toast was musically honoured. The Chairman in returning thanks spoke of the very great pleasure it had given him to be amongst so many old friends that evening, and thanked them for the kind manner the toast had been received.

Messrs. Burkin, Joyce, Wood, and Smith contributed a song each, and Mr. Dawe recited "The Station Master's Story." Mr. Cockerill presided at the piano. At the conclusion a course of Stedman Caters (time not permitting of anything further) was tapped double-handed upon the handbells.

SUSSEX RINGERS IN KENT.

On Friday, the 15th instant, twelve members of the Sussex County Association (composed of nine members from Christ Church, Blacklands; two from St. Clements, Hastings; and Mr. Henley from Rye), paid a visit to Stone, in Kent, situate about six miles from Rye, the object of the visit being the advancement of the Art of change-ringing, and to afford encouragement and assistance to the ringers at Stone, who have recently started learning under the tuition of Mr. C. Tribe, (late of Midhurst, Sussex), a very energetic member of the Sussex Association.

The party proceeded to Rye by the 3.50 from Hastings, the remainder of the journey being accomplished by a pair-horse conveyance, and upon nearing the village the welcome sound of the bells was heard, the ropes being manipulated by Mr. Tribe and his pupils in Grandsire Doubles. Upon arrival the visitors were conducted to the schoolroom close by, where the Rector, Rev. E. P. Eldridge, was found waiting to receive them, with a most bountiful tea in readiness, to which his own ringers had also been invited to join. Time being short the tea was at once proceeded with in earnest under the presidency of the Rector, and after ample justice had been done to the good provision, the Rector spoke a few words of welcome to the visitors, embodying in his remarks in a very kindly manner good advice to all as to their duties as church workers and to the purposes for which bells were placed in our churches; concluding by thanking those who had undertaken such a long journey to pay them a visit; thanking Mr. Tribe for his efforts and kindness in endeavouring to teach his band change-ringing, and his own ringers for their attendances and perseverance in endeavouring to make themselves proficient. He was very pleased to hear their ringing, and was very proud of them, but he hoped that they would always bear in mind that the bells were placed in the tower for the praise and glory of the Almighty.

Mr. Saker responded on behalf of the visitors, thanking the Rector and his ringers for their very hearty reception, assuring them that their first idea in visiting Stone was to assist their friend Mr. Tribe as much as possible in introducing change-ringing there, and that they had no idea of being received in such a hearty manner, nor of being made the recipients of such an enjoyable tea as had been provided for them by the Rector. He was very pleased to be able to say that the Blacklands ringers knew what it was to have the assistance of a kind Vicar, as the Rev. A. Hodges took a great interest in their work, and looked very carefully after their spiritual welfare, and they were very fond of him. He felt sure that if the ringers of Stone persevered, that with such an instructor as Mr. Tribe, and with a Rector who took such an interest in them as did the Rev. E. P. Eldridge, they would soon get on.

Mr. Tribe then spoke a few words of thanks to the Rector for the kind things he had said of him, and to the ringers for the energy they had displayed in endeavouring to carry out his instructions. He was very pleased with the progress they had had made in so short a time, and to be able to say that they had accomplished their first 6-score of Grandsire Doubles at the previous Tuesday evening's practice.

The members then adjourned to the tower, and the bells were kept going until the time for departure, which arrived all too soon, each member of the local band in turn being put through a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. Two plain courses each of Bob and Grandsire Minor were also accomplished by members of the Blacklands Guild, with Mr. Tribe at the tenor, but it was found impossible to ring more owing to the bad go of that bell.

The bells are a very musical ring of six, tenor about 13 cwt., but they sadly want rehanging in a new frame and fitting with new ropes. Great credit is due to the ringers for their courage in attempting to learn change-ringing upon them in their present condition. It is a great pity that so valuable a portion of the property of the Church should be allowed to get into this state, but the raising of funds at Stone for such a purpose would be a difficult matter, the parish extending as it does over a very large area, and with but few inhabitants.

It was at first suggested that permission be applied for to include a visit to Rye church in the outing, there being a splendid old peal of eight bells in the tower, but owing to the vivid recollections of a few of the band of their experiences upon a previous visit, when change-ringing was found impossible in consequence of the dilapidated condition of the frame and fittings, and the great noise in the ringing-chamber, the idea was abandoned. A pleasant moonlight drive to Rye and return to Hastings by the 9.21 train terminated a very pleasant outing, much enjoyed by all.

WINCHESTER.—UNVEILING OF A PEAL TABLET.

On Wednesday, January 13th, a peal board (presented by the Dean and Chapter) recording the first peal of Caters ever rung in Hampshire, was unveiled by the Very Rev. the Dean and Minor Canon Madge, in the cathedral ringing-chamber. The Dean complimented the ringers on the magnificent achievement, and said he listened to the whole of it with much pleasure. He also gave a very interesting account of bells in other places, and the inscriptions on them.

Mr. W. H. George, on behalf of the members, thanked the Dean for the tablet, which would be much appreciated and handed down to posterity, and he hoped before long there would be another one to record a peal of Stedman, which will shortly be attempted by the Cathedral Society.

The following is a copy of the inscription on the tablet:—

"The Winchester Diocesan Guild and the Cathedral Society.—'Praise Him upon the well-tuned cymbals, Praise Him upon the high sounding cymbals.' On Saturday, November 30th, 1895, the following members rang a peal of Grandsire Caters, consisting of 5021 changes, in 3 hrs. and 30 mins. Tenor 32 cwt. A. E. Macey, treble; W. J. Sevier, 2; F. Wilson, 3; C. J. Choet, 4; H. White, 5; R. Hasted, 6; W. C. Lampard, 7; Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, 8; W. H. George, 9; D. Froome, J. Harris, tenor. Composed by the late John Cox, of London, and conducted by W. H. George (master). This is the first peal of Caters ever rung in the county.—W. R. W. Stephens, B.D., Dean; F. T. Madge, Minor Canon."

WANTED, Old Bells or Bell Metal.—Apply, "C," office of this paper.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — MANCHESTER BRANCH.

On Saturday, January 16th, one of the most successful meetings ever held in connection with the above branch was held at the Manchester Cathedral, when about fifty members and friends attended the gathering, representing the following places, viz.: Cheddleton, Didsbury, Flixton, Gorton, Heywood, Hyde, Leek, Macclesfield, Milnrow, Northwich, Pendleton, Pendlebury, Rusholme, Stockport, Swinton, Worsley, Wolstanton, and Wilmslow, beside a fair contingent of the Manchester ringers.

The ringing during the evening consisted of Triples, Major, Caters, and Royal, in the following methods, viz.: Grandsire and Stedman, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and Superlative Surprise.

About 7.15 p.m. there was cessation from ringing for about forty minutes, to allow for the transaction of business, when the Rev. H. A. Hudson kindly attended to preside at the meeting. On being elected to the chair he gave the ringers a very hearty welcome, followed by a short address upon bells and various other instruments of music and their uses, closing with a short history of the various curacies he had held in different parishes, showing that where there were no bells in the tower (of one of the parishes) he had been instrumental in getting two placed in, and where other towers had four bells in, he had been successful in getting them made into peals of six; bringing his audience gradually on to the cathedral, where he (the chairman) now holds his present position, and where they (the ringers) had assembled together that evening to have a friendly pull with each other. Altogether, the address was interesting, amusing, and instructive, and was received with much gratification on the part of the ringers.

Proceeding to the business programme, it was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Philip's church, Hulme, on Saturday, February 13th. There were ten new members enrolled—six resident and four non-resident—all performing members.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the clergy and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and likewise to the Rev. H. A. Hudson for presiding at our record meeting. W. B.

THE ELY ASSOCIATIONS.

On Tuesday afternoon, January 12th, a special general meeting of the Ely Diocesan Association and the Ely and District Association, was held in the C.E.Y.M.S. rooms at Cambridge, with a view to their amalgamation. The Ven. the Archdeacon of Ely presided, other clerical members present being the Revs. Canon Cockshott, J. F. Galloway, P. E. Curtois, E. J. Teesdale, K. H. Smith, and W. W. Cramp. Letters of apology were also received from the Revs. A. H. F. Boughey, W. W. C. Baker (secretary of the Bedfordshire Association), A. G. Livingstone, and others. Over fifty ringing members were present representing all parts of the diocese, including Bury St. Edmunds, Cambridge, Downham Market, Ely, Newmarket, Ramsey, Safron Walden, Sudbury, Wilburton and other ringing centres. After a substantial meat tea had been duly discussed, the Archdeacon invited the members to pass on to the other business, reminding them in a few stirring words of the importance of ringing as a branch of Church work, and of the improvement which had taken place in the position of ringers during recent years.

The Rev. Kenelm H. Smith (Ely, Secretary and Treasurer of the Diocesan Association), then made a statement as to the various causes which for the last eight years had reduced that society to a condition of suspended animation. He said some of them could still remember the fair promise with which it was started in Cambridge fourteen years ago, but unhappily the original enthusiasm subsided, and after a time, although meetings were held periodically, great apathy existed amongst the ringers, till eventually they were discontinued. Such was the state of affairs when on December 8th, 1890, it was decided at a meeting in Ely that a few local companies should combine to hold meetings from time to time for mutual intercourse and the furtherance of the Exercise. Thus the Ely District Association came into existence, as a branch of the original diocesan body and subject to its rules, and since that date no further meetings of the Diocesan Association had been held, though it still retained its name and a small balance to its credit at the bank.

The Rev. Walter W. Crump, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Ely District Association, then read a report of that Society, giving a short sketch of its career and steady progress under the fostering care of the Rev. J. R. Vincent (now Dean of Bloemfontein, South Africa),

its first secretary, and his successor, the Rev. E. J. Teesdale, whose resignation of the office last August was received with sincere regret. They had found that one of the main difficulties in the way of a diocesan association was the geographical one, which necessarily prevented many members, good ringers though poor men, from attending the meetings in consequence of the distances to be travelled and the awkwardness of railway arrangements. Accordingly as the District Association expanded its operations the need for subdivision became pressing until two years ago it was decided that its work in each of the Archdeaconries should be carried on separately, each branch having its own district secretary and committee to arrange its own meetings, etc., all the branches combining for the annual general meeting.

The first meeting of the Sudbury branch was held at Lavenham, on July 15th, 1895, since which time, under its genial and energetic secretary, Mr. Charles Sillitoe, it had made rapid progress. Altogether, the district association now numbered over 200 members, belonging to nearly forty different parishes in all parts of the diocese, exclusive of Bedfordshire, and had a small balance in hand.

Mr. Crump then moved the following resolution: "That this meeting accepts the reports and balance sheets now presented, and resolves that, in future, 'the Ely District' association shall cease to exist *as such*, but shall take up the name and work of 'the Ely Diocesan' association."

This proposition was seconded by Mr. A. H. Osborne (Bury), who in 1883 had also seconded the original resolution forming the Diocesan Association, and having been a member of both bodies, felt able to confidently predict a fresh lease of healthy life as the result of the amalgamation. The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The Rev. K. H. Smith then proposed that the funds of both the old bodies should be amalgamated, and form the general fund of the new organization. This having been seconded by Mr. W. Taylor (Newmarket), and warmly supported by the Rev. E. J. Teesdale, was likewise carried unanimously.

The following officers were then elected.—General Secretary, Rev. W. W. Crump (Haddenham), proposed by Mr. Pilgrim (Ely), and seconded by Mr. G. Neal (Downham Market). Treasurer.—Rev. K. H. Smith (Ely), proposed by Mr. R. M. Croft (Wilburton), and seconded by Mr. A. H. Osborne (Bury). Auditor.—Mr. S. Slater (Glensford), proposed by Mr. O. G. Howe (Ramsey), and seconded by Mr. W. Taylor (Newmarket), and a vote of thanks in conclusion was carried to the clergy of St. Mary's, St. Benet's, Old Chesterton, and the Roman Catholic churches for kindly permitting the use of the bells during the day, and to the Archdeacon for presiding. In the towers of the above churches touches were rung at intervals, of Plain Bob (Major and Minor) and Stedman by the members.

EDENBRIDGE, KENT.

On Wednesday, January 13th, was held the annual dinner in connection with the Edenbridge bellringers. There were a large number of the principal inhabitants present, altogether nearly fifty sat down to an excellent repast. This number was doubled by a number of friends who joined after the dinner, and the rest of the evening was spent in harmony and a few short speeches.

After the Chairman (Genl. Mylne) had given the loyal and clerical toasts, Mr. Holmden, Churchwarden, gave "The Edenbridge Ringers," and commented on the recent addition to the bells, and spoke of the energy the ringers had displayed in trying to master the Art of change-ringing.

Mr. J. Steddy, hon. sec., in response remarked that soon after the new bells were added the local band succeeded in ringing the first peal on the bells, and added they had been badly handicapped for the past three months, through not being able to ring on account of illness near the church, but the ringers hoped to add more to their list ere long.

Mr. T. Wallis, Conductor, thanked all present on behalf of the ringers for the kind and hearty manner in which their toast was received.

Mr. T. Wallis then proposed "The Kent County Association of Change-ringers," saying he was glad to welcome the district representative as one of their guests that evening, and coupled his name with the toast.

Mr. W. Steed, Tonbridge, in responding, gave a description of the work done and the reforms carried out by the Association. He instanced that instruction was at present being given to their neighbours at Cheddington and Penshurst, and that as the average member was a working man and could not afford to pay for the entire support of the Association, they were depending upon the honorary members, and he hoped that some of the gentlemen present would come forward and help to further the cause the Society was founded to promote.

Other toasts followed, and a most enjoyable evening ended by the singing of Auld Lang Syne, the National Anthem, with hearty cheers,

PRACTICAL HINTS TO YOUNG CONDUCTORS
AND COMPOSERS.

CHAPTER XIV.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.—(continued.)

The plan of calling Holt's ten-part peal by observation of the bells before, written by Shipway, was given last week. Very little more need be said, I should think, because to those who have followed carefully the contents of these chapters this instruction will be clear, and what I can say will be nearly a repetition of that. In this peal a bob is called the first lead; then from that a bob at 2; at this second bob the 4th will be called before. Now she must be called before twice more, the last time with a double. At this double bob, notice which bell is called before—it is the 6th, call her before once more, then immediately look round for the 4th and call her before again four times, when the part is completed. In the first part therefore the observation-bells are the 4th and 6th. In the second part the 6th does the work which the 4th did in the first part, and another bell comes in, the 7th, which does the work the 6th did in the first part. And so on through the first five parts. In the first part the observation-bells are the 4th and 6th; in the second part the 6th and 7th; in the third part the 7th and 5th; in the fourth part the 5th and 3rd; and in the fifth part the 3rd and 4th. Another excellent thing to know is the movements of the 2nd. At the third bob in each part she goes into the hunt for five leads, and of course she comes into the hunt (for one lead) at the part-ends. In this peal the bells come into the plain course at every part-end of the first half, consequently at any part-end the bells will run into rounds if no more bobs are called.

At the halfway a single is made, but not the ordinary single generally known. Here it is when the treble is at lead:

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

The back bells lie still while the treble is at lead. If this is worked out it will be seen that each pair of the four back bells change places. This single does not turn the courses of the changes, "in-and-out-of-course" remaining the same. As I said before, the calling of the latter half is reversed, but it will not be necessary to say much about that. At the part-ends of the last half the bells do not come into plain course, but the bells before at the part-ends run in the plain course order.

In a variation of this peal by the celebrated John Reeves, there are eleven bobs in a part instead of ten. The bells run into plain course at each part-end of the first half, but they are in plain course order, therefore either 504 can be rung as a true touch, which cannot be said of Holt's peal.

There are several other ten-part peals published, and they allow a similar mode of calling. Those who can call Holt's peal in this manner will have no difficulty in calling any other of the kind, in fact the same remark applies to the six-part peals of Holt and others.

In late years other composers have arisen with a variety of peals, some obtained in five parts, some in twelve, some with no parts at all, or correctly speaking, in one continued course of bobs, like that well-known peal, "Holt's Original." I am afraid it would be a long journey for my readers to enter into all these. Nor is there any necessity, in my opinion; if the foregoing information is thoroughly understood by them, they can easily "read" the observations required to call any peal. I will therefore next week conclude this part of the subject by referring to Holt's Original, and a bob-and-single peal.

ALEPH.

(To be continued.)

THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 9th, the members of this Guild held their meeting at St. James' church, Wigan. By the kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. H. C. Bull, M.A., the bells were open to the ringers at 3.30 p.m., and at 5 o'clock a good company, including members from Wigan, Ormskirk, Aughton, etc., assembled in the schools, and amongst those present were the vicar and churchwardens (Messrs. R. O. Burland and R. Bannister), Mr. Councillor G. B. Walker, Mr. T. Taylor, and

Mr. J. Meadow. The vicar, who was in the chair, opened the meeting, and said he was very pleased to see those present, and thought that during the short time he had heard the bells they had been rung very well, and he must compliment them on their work. He said it was all very well to have good bells, but they should always be rung well, and he hoped it would not be their last visit to St. James' tower.

The Secretary (Mr. W. Bentham), was then called upon to read the minutes of the last meeting, which were passed. A vote of condolence to the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Bulpit and Mr. Martin in their late bereavement was proposed by Mr. Sholicar and seconded by Mr. R. Fisher, and carried unanimously. The place for the next meeting was postponed pending Mr. Martin's consultation.

Mr. Councillor Walker then addressed a few words to the ringers. He said he felt proud to have the opportunity of speaking to them, and to be amongst them that day; and he was also glad to meet them whether it was to ring or for business purposes. As far as St. James' tower was concerned, he found they were a good hearty lot of men, and he thought that if they adhered to their work they would make a first-class set of ringers. While he had that opportunity, he would like them to remember that whenever they rung those beautiful bells, they were also assisting in God's work by calling the congregation to worship. There was another point to which they ought to look, and that was their own attendance at church. He wished them to attend regularly at service, and be an example to the rest of the people. As he had mentioned on previous occasions, they ought always to remember the donors of the bells, and the good work they had done in the parish. He said they should not forget the cost which had been borne, and hoped they would be careful in the use of the bells. He was quite sure there could not be a better band for miles round than those of St. James', and he was always glad to hear their sweet tones. He thanked the people of St. James' for the courtesy shown to him on this and many other occasions. He also expressed his pleasure to have the privilege of speaking to the members of the Liverpool Diocesan Guild, and becoming one of their members.

Mr. Burland was then called upon. He said he was not very familiar with bell ringing, but he was sure the visitors were most heartily welcome at St. James' tower, and he hoped they were pleased with the bells, and that they would go away with a good impression. He said he would be pleased to see them again at any time, and he could assure them that the bells would always be at their disposal on any future occasion.

Mr. Meadow moved a vote of thanks to the vicar for presiding, and Mr. S. Turner seconded, which was unanimously carried.

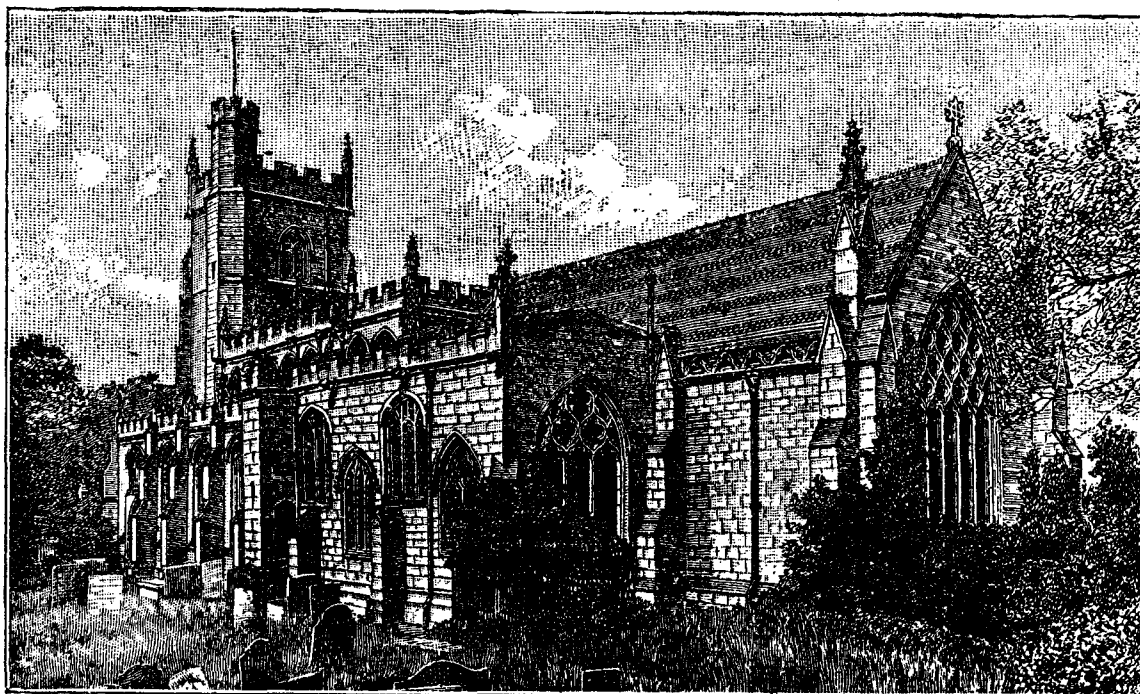
The vicar, in replying, thanked them very much for their vote of thanks, and more so because he could see it was hearty. As Mr. Walker had previously mentioned, he would also like to impress upon them the necessity of a regular attendance at church, which, as they knew, was very much neglected by some ringers. They knew that when there was anything at all connected with bell-ringing people were apt to say unkind things, and they should be very careful indeed, and try to set a good example by their behaviour. Another matter he should like to mention was that there should be union amongst ringers; he did not see why they should not avoid disputes and illfeeling, and he hoped they would avoid, by forbearance and restriction of temper, any unpleasantness, and he hoped they would work together in harmony. He expressed his pleasure to see the ringers of the Guild at St. James's, and he was sure they would always find a hearty welcome.

A vote of thanks was passed to the churchwardens for kindly providing refreshments, and also to Mr. John Meadow, for having the bells ready. Several new members were made.

During the evening a silent touch of 504 changes of Grandsire Triples was rung by the following ringers: J. Meadow, 1; S. C. C. Turner, 2; W. Fairclough, 3; Alexander Shaw, 4; John Barker, 5; William Bentham, 6; Robert Fisher, 7; John Watts, 8. Fairclough, Bentham and Watts hail from Aughton, the rest are Wigan ringers.

YOUTH WANTED to learn a trade in the Midlands. Age about 16. Apply—A.B., care of Editor.

ST. NICOLAS, NUNEATON.



THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS, NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.

The town of Nuneaton has been described by that talented writer, George Eliot, as a dingy-looking place "with a strange smell of tanning up one street, and a great shaking of hand-loom up another." Vicissitudes of one sort or another has pretty well exploded such a description in these times. Like the neighbouring city of Coventry its once staple trade has suffered from Treaties with other countries, but it has been equal to the occasion, and other manufactures have taken the place of those which once thrived therein.

The town only concerns us, however, so far as the church is concerned, with its ring of eight bells having a tenor of 14½ cwt. in E. A very popular magazine, the *Church Monthly*, tells us that "there was standing on the present site in the reign of Henry I. (1100—1135) a church dedicated to St. Nicolas, for it was then given to the monastery of Lira in Normandy by Robert Bossu, Earl of Leicester; but the church was almost entirely rebuilt in the time of Henry III. (1216—1272), and again enlarged in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. To those who lived in those stirring times we mainly owe the Church as it now exists. The eastern arch of the tower belongs probably to an earlier period; the mark of a roof-pitch over it has preserved for our eyes the height of the earlier nave. The roofs are boldly panelled and carved. They are ornamented with the 'York Rose,' and with shields bearing the sacred emblems of the Passion, while at the centre of the west end of the nave roof is a hideously Satanic-looking face, grinning down its spite at Holy Baptism.

"The Registers date from 1577, but in places defective."

The bells were augmented to eight in 1873, by Warner & Sons, London, two new trebles added; the 3rd is an old bell by Rud-hall; 4th bell an old one by Bryant; 6th bell an old one with no founders' name on; the 5th and 7th and tenor are new bells. The tenor is a fine-toned bell for its weight. They were opened in 1873, by the St. Martin's Guild of Birmingham, who rang an excellent peal of Stedman Triples. About ten years after, Mr. J. Carter and his band from Birmingham paid a visit to Nuneaton and rang a peal of Grandsire Triples. Later on the local company started, and by the aid of a few change-ringing friends,

progressed. There has now been forty-three peals rang on the bells since they were opened in 1873, and readers of "THE BELL NEWS" are well aware of the enterprise shown by Nuneaton men.

"Among the vicars of Nuneaton," says the same authority we have quoted above, "was Dr. John Ryder, a native of the parish, born in 1697, and educated at Queen's College, Cambridge. He was appointed to the vicarage at the early age of twenty-four, and held it for twenty-two years, when he was consecrated Bishop of Killaloe, from which he was translated to Down and Connor, and then advanced to the Archbishopric of Tuam. After Dr. Ryder, the vicars, for about a hundred years, appear to have been non-resident. Canon Savage was presented to the living in 1845, and at once took steps to make the vicarage house fit for habitation. To his loving and laborious work for twenty-six years the parish owes a great debt of gratitude. Not only was the fabric of the church restored and day schools built, but new life was infused into the Church's manifold operations. On his death, in the autumn of 1871, he was succeeded by the Rev. Canon Bellairs in January, 1872, well-known as formerly one of H.M. Inspectors of Schools, on whose resignation, in 1893, the Rev. John George Deed, D.D., the present vicar, was appointed."

The yearly value of the benefice of Nuneaton is given as £600, with house, and is in the gift of the Crown.

THE ST. PETER-AT-ARCHES SOCIETY, LINCOLN.

The members of this Society, together with some friends held their annual dinner at The Hare and Hounds inn on the 15th instant, Mr. G. Lindoff, the Master, presiding. After the dinner, which was served up in grand style by the hostess, the evening was spent in a convivial way with songs, etc., and touches of Grandsire Caters and Treble Bob Royal were brought round on the handbells. Towards the close of the evening Mr. Chester, on behalf of the Society, presented Mr. Arthur Craven (who is leaving for Deepcar) with a handbag and ink bottle, as a token of regard and esteem, referring at the same time to the good work done by him since he had been with the Society, and also wishing him success in his new sphere of employment.

Mr. Craven replied in suitable terms. Votes of thanks were accorded the visitors and the hostess, after which the evening's enjoyment was concluded with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

ROPE-SIGHT : 1s. 6d. FOURTH 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, etc., etc. (143 pages).

STANDARD METHODS: 2s. 6d. THIRD EDITION
Now READY. 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. 6d. 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. (210 pages).

TREBLE BOB. PART I. out of print and under revision.
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. 6d.
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)]

Forwarded, Post Free, on receipt of remittance, by WM. SNOWDON,
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MR. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD'S WORK.

"DUFFIELD:" A MUSICAL METHOD FOR 8, 10, AND 12 BELLS, containing full directions for ringing, pricking, and proving the method; together with a collection of Peals of Major, Royal, and Maximus; also an Explanatory Appendix. By ARTHUR PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, M.A. Gratis on application to A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, DUFFIELD BANK, near Derby.

THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

NOW READY.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF SUFFOLK.—By JOHN JAMES RAVEN, D.D., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge; Vicar of Fressingfield-with-Withersdale; Honorary Canon of Norwich Cathedral; and President of the Norwich Diocesan Association.—WITH ABOUT NINETY ILLUSTRATIONS.—This most interesting work contains an account of all the Church Bells in the County of Suffolk—their makers and history—so far as they can be discovered. Incidental notices are introduced of the ancient uses of Bells—the individuals mentioned on them—and many historical events connected therewith. Introductory remarks on the general history of the Bells are prefixed to local portion of the work. The book is fully illustrated with engravings of ornaments, letterings, founders' marks, shields, etc., of which some will be found hitherto unknown. The latter portion of the work contains a complete list of Churches in the County, with the inscriptions on the Bells now belonging to them, as well as on many which have been re-cast. The Demy 8vo. Edition is limited to 500 copies, and is now offered at 20s. nett; or Bound in Half-morocco, Roxburgh style, 27s. 6d. nett. Copies by post 1s. 6d. extra. The Large Paper Edition was subscribed for within a few days of the issue of the Prospectuses, and is now unobtainable.

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One copy, 12 months 8s.

" 6 " 4s.

" 3 " 2s.

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 30, 1897.

A gathering of a most pleasant character took place last Wednesday evening at The Champion hotel, Aldersgate Street, London. A report of the proceedings will be found elsewhere, but the occasion is too important to be dismissed with a mere formal report. The peal of Maximus rung lately at St. Paul's Cathedral by the College Youths will be fresh in the memory of every one, recording as it did the fact that the tenor was rung through that peal by one man—MR. COCKERILL, the Hon. Secretary of the above society. Such an achievement has not been allowed to go by without a tangible acknowledgment. MR. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, President of the Central Council, happily thought to celebrate such a performance by inviting MR. COCKERILL and his friends who were connected with this and other peals upon the same bells, to a banquet at a London hotel. For such munificent hospitality as this the host is well-known. In this instance however he has determined to give honour where where it is due, and also it is to be hoped shown that in the future such efforts as that of MR. COCKERILL and his colleagues must not pass into history without immediate appreciation and reward.

MR. HEYWOOD's remarks concerning the prevailing apathy shown by many Church authorities towards their

bells will be read with delight and satisfaction. It is a great gain to have so eminent a Churchman at the head of the Exercise, whose influence is so much wanted when bell-chamber reform is talked of. MR. HEYWOOD is always in earnest, in this matter his earnestness is accentuated. We in common with our ringing brethren shall anxiously await the period when the President unfolds his proposals before the Council.

THE LATE RECTOR OF CARDYNHAM, CORNWALL.

The cause of change-ringing in this county of Cornwall and the diocese of Truro has received a severe blow through the lamented death of the Rev. A. Coode, Rector of Cardynham. When he came into the diocese, in 1895, he at once set about the task of providing a peal of eight bells for the tower. This was accomplished in November last, and on the 24th of November the dedication service was held; at this service the Bishop of Truro preached a most appropriate sermon, and some hundreds of people from the parish and neighbourhood attended, and afterwards heard the first peal rung on the bells. This peal was Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, and was brought to a conclusion in 2 hrs. 56 mins. It is believed to have been the second peal ever rung in Cornwall. Mr. Coode himself rung the tenor in this peal. On Wednesday, January 20th, at the request of Mrs. Coode, the same peal was again rung, this time with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect for the late Rector, who was buried on the previous day. The ringers were as follows: C. Legge, 1; E. Taylor, 2; A. Mills, 3; the Rev. J. M. Clarkson, 4; A. Richards, 5; T. Blackburn, 6; J. W. Hinton, 7; H. Myers, 8. The peal occupied 3 hrs. 7 mins. Messrs. Blackburn and Mills came from Salisbury, J. W. Hinton from Bristol, and the rest from Plymouth and Devonport. Mr. Blackburn was the conductor.

*. After the first side of our paper had been printed this week, containing the illustration, it was notified to us by a friend that a picture of the same church was announced to appear in another publication. We deplore this accident, but we heard of it too late, unfortunately, to prevent it. This would have appeared last week, only for a delay in the receipt of the engraving. We are compelled to leave over various matters for our next number.

The Metropolis.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 19, 1897, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, WOOLWICH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILLIAM BEDWELL Treble.	*HARRY HOSKINS.. .. 5.
ARTHUR J. NEALE 2.	JOHN HACK 6.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 3.	HARRY WARNETT 7.
HENRY G. HILL 4.	HARRY BARRETT.. .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by WILLIAM BEDWELL.

*First peal in the method.

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

On Saturday, January 23, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 28 cwt.

GEORGE LANGFORD* .. Treble.	SAMUEL ANDREWS 6.
WALTER J. SORRELL 2.	HENRY S. ELLIS 7.
ARTHUR G. ELLIS* 3.	FRANK BUCK 8.
JAMES WILLSHIRE 4.	JOHN N. OXBORROW 9.
NATHAN J. PITSTOW 5.	HENRY R. NEWTON Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW and
Conducted by HENRY R. NEWTON.

*First peal on ten bells. The ringers wish to thank Mr. Ward, the steeple-keeper, for having everything in readiness for them.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 23, 1897, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM NUDDS Treble.	WILLIAM WARD 5.
ALBERT PITTAM 2.	GEORGE SMITH 6.
HENRY DAINS 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
HENRY WOOD 4.	JAMES E. HANNINGTON .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 23, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALFEGE, GREENWICH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

ISAAC GEORGE SHADE .. Treble.	HARRY HOSKINS.. .. 5.
HERBERT JAMES SKELT .. 2.	WALTER INGHAM 6.
FREDERICK RUMENS 3.	HARRY WARNETT 7.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 4.	FREDERICK W. THORNTON Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by ISAAC GEORGE SHADE.

Rang as a birthday compliment to the respected vergor and steeplekeeper, Mr. William George Davis. This is the first peal of Major in the Kent Variation upon the bells. The figures will be published in due course. F. Rumens hails from Walthamstow; W. Weatherstone from Rotherhithe; W. Ingham from Chislehurst; and H. Warnett from Lewisham.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, January 23, 1897, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE, CAMBERWELL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM TRUSS Treble.	HARRY BARTON 5.
FREDERICK G. PERRIN 2.	JAMES E. DAVIS 6.
ARTHUR R. DAVIS 3.	WALTER C. HASTED 7.
VICTOR W. WEST 4.	HAROLD N. DAVIS Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and Conducted by
HAROLD N. DAVIS.

This is the first peal on the bells for several years. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the vicar, also the local band, for the use of the bells on this occasion. Upon the completion of the peal, the band was kindly entertained to supper by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Davis, parents of the ringer of the 6th, it being the anniversary of their wedding, which took place at the same church 21 years ago.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 26, 1897, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, BARKING,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 22½ cwt. in E flat.

ALFRED WHIGHT Treble.	THOMAS FAULKNER 5.
ALBERT DEARDS 2.	EDWARD LUCAS 6.
CALEB FENN 3.	SAMUEL HAYES 7.
ROWLAND FENN 4.	ALBERT C. HARDY Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW and
Conducted by THOMAS FAULKNER.

The above are all members of the St. Margaret's Society, Barking, and the above is the first peal of Treble Bob by that Society.

The Provinces.

SPELDHURST, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, January 20, 1897, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES. Tenor 12½ cwt.

ARTHUR GODLEY* .. Treble.	STEPHEN PERKINS 5.
JAMES BAKER 2.	WILLIAM H. CARD 6.
RICHARD PELLING 3.	JAMES MAYNARD 7.
GEORGE HEAD 4.	GEORGE A. CARD Tenor.

Composed by W. GARRARD and Conducted by JAMES MAYNARD.

*First peal. Godley and Head were elected members before starting for the peal.

CARDYNHAM, CORNWALL.—THE DEVON GUILD.

On Wednesday, January 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MEWERED,

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

C. LEGGE†Treble.	A. RICHARDS*5.
E. TAYLOR2.	T. BLACKBOURN6.
A. MILLS3.	J. W. HINTON7.
REV. J. M. CLARKSON* .. 4.	H. MYERSTenor.

Conducted by T. BLACKBOURN.

†First peal. *First peal in the method with a bob bell. This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the Rev. A. Coope, late rector of Cardynham, who died January 15th, 1897. T. Blackbourn and A. Mills hail from Salisbury, J. W. Hinton from Bristol, the rest from Plymouth and Devonport. A. Mills and J. W. Hinton were elected members of the Guild before the peal commenced.

HINGHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND THE
ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY.

On Thursday, January 21, 1897, in Four Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 7040 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt.

CHARLES E. BORRETT ..Treble.	WILLIAM BALES5.
GEORGE HOWCHIN2.	FREDERICK DAY6.
ALFRED W. BRIGHTON .. 3.	FREDERICK H. KNIGHTS .. 7.
ALBERT G. WARNES .. 4.	FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN ..Tenor.

Composed by the late JAMES PLATT and
Conducted by CHARLES E. BORRETT.

This is the longest length on the bells, and, with the exception of Messrs. Day and Borrett, by all the band. It was also Mr. F. H. Knights' 50th peal, and was rung at the instigation of the brothers Howchin, who have for some years wished to ring a 7000 upon the bells of this their native town.

DEANE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 23, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

JAMES HEATHCOTE ..Treble.	JAMES PARTINGTON5.
WILLIAM GRUNDY2.	JAMES CALDERBANK6.
WILLIAM HULME3.	A. EDWARD WREAKS 7.
JOHN MAKINSON4.	HENRY LORDTenor.

Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS.

J. Makinson belongs to St. Peter's, Halliwell; all the rest belong to the Saviour's company, Bolton. This is the first peal in the method on the bells.

FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 23, 1897, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.
Tenor 19 cwt.

W. OSTLERTreble.	A. E. READ5.
REV. J. HOLME PILKINGTON 2.	H. HOWLETT6.
J. HEFFER, JUN.3.	W. FLORY7.
J. C. SELF4.	H. FOLKARDTenor.

Composed and Conducted by the REV. J. HOLME PILKINGTON.
Rung as a birthday compliment to H. Folkard.BUSHEY, HERTS.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(THE BUSHEY SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, January 23, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

FRANK A. SMITH ..Treble.	WILLIAM I. OAKLEY5.
WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD 2.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY 6.
WILLIAM J. S. THORN .. 3.	FREDERICK EDWARDS 7.
GEORGE N. PRICE4.	JOSEPH J. ALLENTenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK EDWARDS.

This peal was arranged for Mr. G. N. Price, who is home on a visit from the Cape.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 23, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. in F sharp.

HARRY SIMMONDS ..Treble.	GEORGE ESSEX5.
ERNEST W. MENDAY .. 2.	ARTHUR W. PIKE6.
EDWIN J. MENDAY 3.	JOSEPH HANDS7.
HARRY SMITH4.	THOMAS NEWMANTenor.

Composed by A. W. PIKE and Conducted by THOMAS NEWMAN.

CUCKFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 23, 1897, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 15 cwt.

LOUIS ATTWATER* ..Treble.	GEORGE PAICE5.
JOHN RICE2.	JOHN R. SHARMAN6.
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 3.	KEITH HART7.
FRANK BENNETT4.	GEORGE WILLIAMSTenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal of Major by L. Attwater, who belongs to the local band, and who kindly took the treble for the above, owing to meeting one short for London Surprise. The band wish (through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS") to thank Canon Cooper for granting the use of the bells, and to the local band for giving up their practice night. This was Keith Hart's 100th peal, also 50th peal by J. Rice; Particulars of which appear on another page.

CLENT, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 23, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following:

College Single, Oxford Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob,
Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob, and Grandsire.

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

THOMAS BARBER ..Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT4.
CHARLES BOUGHTON 2.	JOHN BARBER5.
WILLIAM SHILVOCK 3.	*WILLIAM BARBERTenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM H. BARBER.

*First peal as conductor on six bells.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 23, 1897, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5008 CHANGES. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs.

WILLIAM V. NEWMAN* Treble.	JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 5.
WILLIAM PETTITT2.	ANDERSON TYLER6.
JAMES GARRATT3.	*JAMES HOUGHTON, SEN. .. 7.
ALPHAEBUS PERKINS 4.	CHARLES WILLIAM CLARKE Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM WILLSON, of Leicester, and
Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

*First peal in the method. This peal has the 4th, 5th and 6th in 6ths place at the course-ends, and the 2nd and 3rd never there. This is J. Houghton jun.'s 40th peal. C. W. Clarke hails from Bedford; the rest belong to Irthlingborough. A reference to this peal will be found elsewhere.

CHICHESTER.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 26, 1897, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

JOSEPH HISCOCK* ..Treble.	DAVID FALCONER5.
JAMES H. BLAKE2.	DAVID H. FALCONER 6.
PETER TYLER3.	RICHARD WALTER7.
FRANCIS B. TOMPKINS .. 4.	WILLIAM SPURLOCKTenor.

Conducted by RICHARD WALTER.

*First peal. The above are all members of the Cathedral band with the exception of Mr. Tyler. This peal was rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. H. Blake, his brother strings wishing him many happy returns.

CAMBRIDGE.

On Wednesday, January 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE GREAT,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt.

REGINALD H. WHITFORD†† Treble.	† WILLIAM KEMPTON 5.
REV. A. H. F. BOUGHEY.. 2.	† CYRIL W. O. JENKYN .. 6.
JOHN TAYLOR* 3.	† WALTER EUSDEN 7.
GEORGE TAYLOR 4.	GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE .. Tenor.

Composed by J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE, and Conducted by
GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE.

*First peal. †First peal in the method. ††First with a bob bell. ††First peal on tower bells. Messrs. Boughey and Jenkyn belong to Trinity College, Whitford to Pembroke, Woodhouse to Caius, the rest belong to the local band. Owing to the annoyance arising from ringing the bells open in Term time, it was rung on the dumb apparatus.

Miscellaneous.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BOLTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, January 10th, for Divine Service at Holy Trinity church, 600 Grandsire Triples in 24 mins. W. Jackson (conductor), 1; H. Bentley, 2; J. Gratrix, 3; J. Redfern, 4; J. Parkinson, 5; T. Turner, 6; W. Hamer, 7; R. Lindley, 8. Tenor 18 cwt. J. Gratrix hails from Prestwich.

PRESTWICH (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, January 12th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor in 28 mins. J. Gratrix, 1; A. Percival, 2; J. Heywood, 3; W. Stevens (conductor), 4; H. Percival, 5; J. Brooks, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WILBURTON (Cams).—On Sunday, January 3rd, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob in 23 mins. J. Markwell, 1; Jos. Markwell, 2; A. Hazel, 3; H. Markwell, 4; H. Sharp, 5; A. Markwell (conductor), 6. On Monday, January 4th, on handbells, 720 Plain Bob in 18 mins. J. Markwell, 1; Jos. Markwell, 2; A. Hazel, 3; H. Sharp, 4; A. Markwell (conductor), 5-6. On Sunday, January 10th, 720 Plain Bob in 24 mins. R. M. Croft, Esq., 1; H. Markwell, 2; Jos. Markwell, 3; A. Hazel, 4; H. Sharp (conductor), 5; J. Markwell, 6. The following is a list of 720s rung by the St. Peter's society during the past year: New London Pleasure, 4; Violet Treble Bob, 3; Duke of York, 5; Woodbine, 5; Oxford Treble Bob, 7; Kent Treble Bob, 4; College Single, 4; Plain Bob, 32; total, 64. Sixty-three have been rung on the tower bells, and one on handbells, all being conducted by A. Markwell with the exception of three, which were conducted by H. Sharp. Besides these they have rung a 5040 in six different methods, and touches in nearly all Minor methods, the above being the greatest number of 720s ever rung in one year in the Isle of Ely.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Tuesday, January 12th, at St. Matthew's church, 720 Plain Bob (eight bobs and six singles) in 19 mins. W. Holmes, 1; J. Dawson, 2; A. Hillier, 3; W. Liddle, 4; S. Ferry (conductor), 5; E. Ferry, 6. Tenor 31½ cwt. This was rung as a birthday compliment to S. Ferry, and was his first 720 as conductor.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

HAVANT (Hants).—On Monday, January 18th, at St. Faith's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. Rev. W. H. Gordon, 1; H. Shirley, 2; J. Staples, 3; C. Mockford, 4; T. Pullen, 5; A. Langtry, 6; G. Ingrassia (conductor), 7; W. Kill, 8. First quarter-peal by the ringers of the treble and 4th.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Saturday, October 31st, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Passingham, 1; C. Privett, 2; J. Hewitt, 3; F. Hill, 4; G. E. Chappell, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. On Monday, December 7th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Singleton, 1; C. Privett, 2; F. Hill, 3; G. E. Chappell, 4; G. Grafham, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. On Thursday, December 17th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. Privett, 1; J. Staples, 2; G. E. Chappell, 3; R. Fuge, 4; G. Grafham, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. On Friday, December 25th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. Privett, 1; F. Hill, 2; G. E. Chappell, 3; F. Bennett, 4; G. Grafham, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. F. Bennett hails from Brighton.

WICKHAM (Hants).—On Wednesday, November 25th, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Singleton, 1; S. Cummins, 2; W. T. Langford, 3; W. F. Churcher, 4; G. E. Chappell (conductor), 5; G. Carpenter, 6. On Wednesday, December 23rd, 720 in the same method. G. Downes, 1; W. Singleton, 2; W. T. Langford, 3; W. F. Churcher, 4; G. E. Chappell (conductor), 5; G. Carpenter, 6. On Wednesday, December

30th, 720 Double Oxford Bob. W. Singleton, 1; G. Plaskett, 2; A. Millard, 3; J. E. Warren, 4; G. E. Chappell, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. And 240 Kent. T. Blackburn (Salisbury), 1; the rest standing as above.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Sunday, January 17th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins. A. Welsh, 1; W. Pollard, 2; G. Head, 3; H. Ford, 4; W. Latter, 5; G. Smithers, 6; S. Perkins (conductor), 7; W. Card, 8.

GREENWICH (Kent).—On Sunday evening, January 24th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Alfege, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor with the tenor covering, in 27 mins. H. Skelt, 1; W. Berry, 2; I. G. Shade, 4; W. Foreman, 5; F. W. Thornton, 6; H. Hoskins, 7; C. Langdon, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, January 17th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Dr. Pigott. H. Humphries, 1; C. Packer, 2; E. Large, 3; W. Launchbury, 4; H. Bond, 5; T. Bond, 6; W. Large (conductor), 7; J. Packer, 8. On Friday, January 15th, on handbells, three courses of Grandsire Triples. E. Large, 1-2; W. Large, 3-4; H. Bond, 5-6; W. Launchbury, 7-8. And a course of Stedman Triples.

READING (Berks).—Recently, for Divine Service, at St. Laurence's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters, 1265 changes, in 48 mins. F. Hopgood (conductor), 1; A. E. Reeves, 2; F. Tubb, 3; J. Potter, 4; C. Giles, 5; J. E. Hern, 6; C. Stone, 7; A. Watmore, 8; W. Newell, 9; R. Sawyer, 10. On Monday, January 11th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 360 Plain Bob Minor, rung on the back six. C. Giles (conductor), 1; E. Bruce, 2; J. E. Hern, 3; A. Osborne, 4; H. Tucker, 5; A. Watmore, 6. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. R. Sawyer, 1; C. Giles, 2; G. Foxell (conductor), 3; A. Watmore, 4; J. E. Hern, 5; H. Tucker, 6; A. Osborne, 7; E. Bruce, 8. And 504 Stedman Triples. A. Watmore, 1; C. Giles (conductor), 2; G. Foxell, 3; H. Tucker, 4; J. E. Hern, 5; A. Osborne, 6; W. Newell, 7; R. Sawyer, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. Also, for practice at St. Laurence's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. C. Giles, 1; A. Osborne, 2; F. Tubb, 3; H. Tucker (conductor), 4; W. Jerrom, 5; K. Mason, 6; W. Newell, 7; R. Sawyer, 8. And 557 Grandsire Caters. R. Sawyer, 1; F. Hopgood (conductor), 2; F. Tubb, 3; J. Potter, 4; C. Giles, 5; H. Tucker, 6; J. E. Hern, 7; A. Osborne, 8; W. Newell, 9; A. W. Higgs, 10. Also 509 Stedman Caters. F. Hopgood (conductor), 1; J. Tucker, 2; F. Tubb, 3; C. Giles, 4; H. Tucker, 5; J. E. Hern, 6; J. Potter, 7; A. Osborne, 8; W. Newell, 9; W. Coldrey, 10. Tenor 24 cwt. W. Jerrom and K. Mason hail from Mortimer, Berks; W. Coldrey from Basingstoke.

MORTIMER (Berks).—On Sunday, January 17th, at St. John's church, 960 Grandsire Doubles. H. Cox, 1; T. Neville, 2; W. Balard, 3; H. Burson, 4; W. Jerrom (conductor), 5; F. Eatwell, 6.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH (Northants).—On Saturday, December 19th, at the parish church, 848 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. A. Perkins, 1; W. Newman, 2; M. Pettitt, 3; A. Tyler, 4; J. Martin, 5; J. Garratt, 6; J. Houghton, sen., 7; J. Houghton, jun. (conductor), 8. On Thursday, December 24th, 688 Bob Major. J. Mawby, 1; W. Newman, 2; J. Houghton, jun., 3; J. Garratt, 4; A. Tyler, 5; J. Houghton, sen., 6; W. Pettitt, 7; A. Perkins (conductor), 8. On Saturday, December 26th, 1024 Bob Major. J. Allen, 1; J. Houghton, sen., 2; W. Newman, 3; A. Tyler, 4; J. Garratt, 5; J. Houghton, jun. (conductor), 6; W. Pettitt, 7; A. Perkins, 8. Also 800 Bob Major. J. Allen, 1; W. Pettitt, 2; W. Newman, 3; A. Perkins, 4; J. Houghton, jun., 5; A. Tyler, 6; ———, 7; J. Garratt (conductor), 8. On Thursday, December 31st, 700 Grandsire Triples (from Holt's Original). J. Allen, 1; J. Houghton, sen., 2; A. Perkins, 3; C. Newman, 4; W. Pettitt, 5; J. Houghton, jun. (conductor), 6; J. Garratt, 7; J. Mawby, 8. And 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Newman, 1; J. Garratt, 2; W. Pettitt, 3; A. Tyler, 4; C. Newman, 5; J. Houghton, jun., 6; J. Houghton, sen., 7; A. Perkins (conductor), 8. On Friday, December 25th, 800 Bob Major. J. Allen, 1; A. Perkins, 2; W. Newman, 3; J. Garratt, 4; W. Pettitt, 5; A. Tyler (conductor), 6; J. Houghton, sen., 7; J. Houghton, jun., 8. And 672 Grandsire Triples. W. Newman, 1; J. Houghton, sen., 2; J. Garratt, 3; A. Perkins, 4; J. Houghton, jun., 5; A. Tyler, 6; W. Pettitt (conductor), 7; J. Mawby, 8. Also 700 Grandsire Triples. W. Newman, 1; J. Houghton, sen., 2; A. Perkins, 3; J. Garratt, 4; A. Tyler (conductor), 5; W. Pettitt, 6; J. Houghton, jun., 7; L. Horner, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LEICESTER.—On Saturday, January 16th, at St. Saviour's church, 1600 Grandsire Major. G. Burrows, 1; G. Cleal, 2; W. Cooper, 3;

E. Smith, 4; J. Veasey, 5; J. Needham, 6; J. Marlow, 7; W. Willson (conductor), 8. On Saturday, January 23rd, on handbells, in an attempt for a peal, 2100 Grandsire Triples. W. Willson, 1-2; T. W. Chapman (Nuneaton), 3-4; G. Cleal (conductor), 5-6; S. Cotton, 7-8. On Wednesday, January 20th, 1848 Stedman Triples. S. Cotton, 1-2; G. Cleal, 3-4; J. O. Lancashire, 5-6; W. Willson, 7-8.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GRAPPENHALL (Cheshire).—On Sunday, December 6th, at the parish church, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Wainwaring, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. On Tuesday, December 8th, a 720 of London Treble. H. Moston, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; S. Horsfall, 3; H. Spence (conductor), 4; C. R. Greenall (first in the method), 5; J. Booth, 6. On Thursday, December 10th, a 720 Merchant's Return. J. Mainwaring, 1; S. Horsfall, 2; H. Moston, 3; R. G. Lewis, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. On Sunday, December 13th, a 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure. J. Mainwaring, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. And 720 College Exercise. C. R. Greenall, 6; the rest as before. On Thursday, December 17th, a 720 Westminster Treble Bob (first in the method by all the band). J. Mainwaring, 1; H. Moston, 2; R. G. Lewis, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; C. R. Greenall, 6. On Sunday, December 20, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob (first in the method by the whole band and rung at the first attempt). J. Mainwaring, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; C. R. Greenall, 6. On Tuesday, December 22nd, 720 Plain Bob (twenty-four singles). J. Mainwaring, 1; S. Horsfall, 2; H. Moston, 3; J. E. Ashcroft, 4; F. Spence, 5; R. G. Lewis (conductor), 6. On Christmas Day, 720 Kent. H. Moston, 1; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; J. Booth, 6. rest as before. On Sunday, December 27th, a 720 of College Exercise. J. Mainwaring, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; C. R. Greenall, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. On Thursday, December 31st, a 720 of Grandsire. C. R. Greenall, 2; T. Burrows, 3; R. G. Lewis, 5; F. Spence (conductor), 6. During the last year this band have rung together 271 720s in twenty-five different methods, included in which are, 11 peals of Treble Bob Minor, three of them being the first peals on the bells, viz.:—those rung at Stretton, Frodsham and Davenham, in addition to the above, they have also rung a peal of Grandsire Triples at Warburton, being the first on the bells and first by all the band. Of the above 720s W. Brammer has conducted 1; T. Burrows, 3; C. R. Greenall, 21; R. G. Lewis, 46; and F. Spence, 200. Altogether during the past year, this band have rung together the grand total of 267,280 changes; for this branch of the Guild this is a record number.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STISTED (Essex).—On Tuesday, January 19th, for practice, at All Saints' church, 720 Bob Minor. E. Radley (conductor), 1; *E. Watcher, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; *W. Webb, 4; A. Chaplin, 5; F. Slade, 6. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Collins, 3; H. Pitcher, 4; H. Coote, 5; A. Chaplin, 6. And 720 Bob Minor. *H. Collins, 1; H. Saunders, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; *H. Pilcher, 4; E. Radley, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. Also 120 Kent Treble Bob. H. Saunders, 1; A. Chaplin, 2; Edgar Chaplin, 3; C. H. Howard, 4; Ernest Chaplin, 5; E. Radley, 6. *First 720 on tower bells. Messrs. Radley, Chaplin and Saunders are of the local company; the rest belong to St. Michael's Guild, Braintree.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—THE BLACKBURN BRANCH.

PADIHAM (Lancashire).—On Saturday, December 5th, at St Leonard's church, on the occasion of the usual branch meeting, a 720 of Kent. D. Campbell, 1; I. Brown (Blackburn), 2; N. Townend, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. And another 720 in the same method. G. Goodwin (Blackburn), 1; I. Brown, 2; H. Hayes (Church), 3; I. Smith, sen. (Blackburn), 4; H. Heyworth (conductor), 5; R. Ashworth, 6. And another in the same method. G. Goodwin, 1; I. Brown, 2; F. Towns, 3; I. Whalley (Oswaldtwistle), 4; T. Redman (conductor), 5; H. Heyworth, 6. And 720 of Bob Minor. T. Mouncey, 1; F. Towns, 2; H. Hayes, 3; —, Pollard (Padiham), 4; F. Wagner (Padiham), 5; H. Heyworth, 6.

BURNLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday, December 6th, at Holy Trinity church, for morning service, a 576 of Kent. D. Heys, 1; F. Towns, 2; D. Campbell, 3; I. R. Warring, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Sunday, December 13th, a 720 Kent Minor. G. Goodwin (Blackburn), 1; D. Campbell, 2; T. Redman (conductor), 3; R. Ashworth, 4; F. Towns, 5; J. R. Werring, 6. On Sunday, December 20th, for morning service, 640 of Kent. D. Heys, 1; I. Brown (Blackburn), 2; N. Townend, 3; D. Campbell, 4; I. Smith, sen. (Blackburn), 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Sunday, December 22nd,

a 720 Kent (fifteen bobs). D. Campbell, 1; T. Mouncey, 2; R. Hartley (first 720), 3; R. Ashworth, 4; F. Towns, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 27th, for morning service, 720 of Kent (fifteen bobs). N. Townend, 1; F. Towns, 2; T. Mouncey, 3; T. Redman (conductor), 4; R. Ashworth, 5; J. R. Werring, 6. And for evening service, a 720 Oxford Treble Bob. N. Townend, 1; D. Campbell, 2; J. R. Werring, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; T. Redmond (conductor), 8. On Sunday, January 3rd, for evening service, a 576 Kent. D. Campbell, 1; F. Towns, 2; N. Townend, 3; J. R. Werring, 4; D. Heys, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Sunday, January 17, for morning service, a 720 Kent (fifteen bobs). D. Campbell, 1; F. Towns, 2; J. R. Werring, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Saturday, January 16th, at the church of St. John the Evangelist, Wilton Road, Pimlico, 2520 Stedman Triples in 1 hr. 29 mins. J. Pettit, 1; F. Butler, 2; F. Gover, 3; A. Edwards, 4; C. F. Winney (conductor), 5; G. McLaughlin, 6; W. Cockerill, 7; E. P. O'Meara, 8. Tenor 10½ cwt. in G. This had to be brought round half-way owing to a practice on the organ by the organist of Ely Cathedral. On Sunday, January 17th, for Divine Service, 1260 Stedman Triples in Stedman Triples in 44 mins. S. Reed, 1; A. Edwards, 2; F. Gover, 3; W. Moore, 4; E. Duff, 5; J. Thimblethorpe, 6; C. F. Winney (conductor), 7; W. Wilson, 8. A. Edwards hails from Speldhurst, Kent. And on Sunday evening, January 17th, for Divine Service at St. Stephen's, Westminster, 1344 Superlative Surprise Major in 52 mins. G. Langford, 1; A. Ellis, 2; F. Buck, 3; H. Ellis, 4; S. Andrews, 5; E. Carter, 6; C. Brice, 7; H. R. Newton (conductor), 8. On Saturday, January 23rd, at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples (Brook's Variation), which unfortunately came to grief in the sixteenth course owing to one of the band missing the sallie. M. A. Wood, 1; G. Peace, 2; F. Carter, 3; S. Joyce, 4; D. Tarling, 5; W. A. Alps (conductor), 6; E. Hall, 7; T. Colverd, 8. After the above attempt fifteen courses of Stedman Triples were rung, the band standing as before. Messrs. Peace, Carter, Tarling, Alps, and Colverd hail from Waltham Abbey.

STREATHAM (Surrey).—On Monday, January 18th, at the church of The Immanuel, 1344 Superlative Surprise Major in 51 mins. G. Langford, 1; A. Ellis, 2; W. Sorrell, 3; H. Ellis, 4; H. Newton, 5; W. Garrard, 6; C. Brice, 7; J. Willshire (conductor), 8.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON.—On Thursday, December 31st, at St. James's church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. Maddock, 1; H. Pearce, 2; H. Poole, 3; E. Burgess, 4; W. Thorn, 5; G. Yandell (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, January 10th, in 1 hr. 30 mins., 360 Treble Bob Minor, being two of Kent and one-and-a-half of Oxford, each called differently. F. Millard, 1; A. Doble, 2; J. Maddock, 3; E. Burgess, 4; H. Poole (conductor), 5; G. Yandell, 6. Rung for the twenty-first birthday of the conductor, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. On Thursday, January 14th, 720 of Violet Treble Bob Minor, in 29 mins. J. Maddock (conductor), 1; A. Doble, 2; H. Pearce, 3; E. Burgess, 4; H. Poole, 5; G. Yandell, 6. Rung for the birthday of H. Pearce, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. First peal in the method by all, and first by the Association.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WOLLASTON (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, January 12th, for practice at St. James' church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins. W. Stenton, 1; J. Parsons, 2; H. Dakin, 3; J. Lewis, 4; W. Fryer, 5; G. Pagett (conductor), 6.

OLDSWINFORD (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, January 17th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. A. Heathcock, 1; F. Brace, 2; T. Heathcock, 3; W. Whitehouse, 4; A. Roberts, 5; J. Orford (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 by a local band. On Saturday, January 23rd, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor. A. Roberts, 1; F. Brace, 2; T. Heathcock, 3; W. Whitehouse, 4; J. Orford, 5; A. E. Parsons (conductor), 6.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PENARTH (South Wales).—On Tuesday, December 8th, at St. Augustine's church, for practice, 720 Kent (nine bobs). J. Jones, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; A. Rowley (Cardiff), 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Vinnicombe, 6. On Sunday, December 20th, for evening service, 720 Kent. D. Thomas (conductor), 1; F. Bartlett, 2; J. Vinnicombe, 3; W. B. Biss, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Cox, 6. On Tuesday, December 22nd, for practice, 720 Plain Bob. J. Jones, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; W. B. Biss, 3; J. Vinnicombe, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 27th, for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. D. Thomas (conductor), 1; F. Bartlett, 2; J. Vinnicombe, 3; W. B. Biss, 4; T. Northey, 5; H. V. Wilkins (Bir-

mingham), 6. First in the method by H. V. Wilkins. The total number of 720s rung during 1896 was 79, viz., Kent, 26; Plain Bob, 21; Oxford Treble Bob, 17; Violet, 8; College Single, 3; New London Pleasure, 2; Grandsire, 2. Of the foregoing D. Thomas conducted 48; H. Roberts, Cheltenham, 20; W. B. Biss, 6; J. Cox, 3; W. Davies (Liverpool), 1; C. Smith, 1. Total number rang by each member as follows:—F. Bartlett, 74; J. Vinnicombe, 71; D. Thomas, 70; W. B. Biss, 67; T. Northey, 65; H. Roberts, 45; J. Jones, 31. Total number of changes successfully brought round during the year, 67,884.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORWICH.—On Thursday, January 14th, at the church of St. Peter Mancroft, a course of Kent Treble Bob Maximus. G. Smith, 1; J. A. Trollope, 2; E. Ward, 3; W. Bales, 4; C. E. Borritt, 5; H. Warnes, 6; G. Howchin, 7; S. Smith, 8; F. H. Knights, 9; H. Brighton, 10; F. Day (Eye), 11; J. Howchin, 12. Tenor 43 cwt.

EVESHAM (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, January 17th, at St. Peter's, Bengeworth, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. G. Williams, 1; H. Middleton, 2; H. Salisbury, 3; W. Arkell, 4; F. Johnson, 5; F. Cook (composer and conductor), 6.

NORTHFLEET (Kent).—On Thursday, January 21st, at St. Botolph's church, in honour of the birthday of Mr. L. Silver, 720 Cambridge Surprise in 26 mins. G. Butler, 1; R. Munn, 2; G. Hayes, 3; F. Hayes, 4; W. Martin (conductor), 5; L. Silver, 6. Messrs. Butler, Munn, and F. Hayes hail from Milton; G. Hayes and Martin from Swanscombe; Silver from Northfleet. First 720 in the method by G. Butler.

RICHMOND (Yorks).—On Monday, January 18th, at the parish church, 1440 Bob Minor, the first 720 containing fourteen singles and ten bobs, composed by D. Shipp, of Staindrop; and the second 720 containing eighteen bobs and two singles was rung in 50 mins. Tenor 13½ cwt. H. Shelton, 1; J. Kirby, 2; R. Briscoe, 3; J. Rushton, 4; W. Phillips, 5; R. Borrowes (conductor), 6. This is the longest length rung on the bells by the company.

STANFORD-LE-HOPE (Essex).—On Saturday, January 16th, two 720s of Bob Minor by Messrs. Eve, Wade, Cowell, Taylor, *Smith, Howell, *Bedwell, and *Judd. *Hail from Southend; the rest belong to the local company.

THORNHAM MAGNA (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, January 24th, at St. Mary's church, a 6-score of Bob Doubles. G. Moss, 1; H. Symonds, 2; A. Symonds, 3; E. Youngs, 4; C. Nunn (conductor), 5. After service two 6-scores of Bob Doubles, standing as before. Tenor 13 cwt. C. Nunn belongs to the Wickham company, and also to the Norwich Diocesan Association.

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."

METHOD OR METHODS.

SIR,—I have read with interest the correspondence on the above subject, and am pleased to see an explanation from the conductor of the Chiddingstone band. I have had the pleasure of ringing with them, and for a young band consider they ring and strike very well, certainly fail to see any "strange plan" about it. I quite understand why they applied to the Kent County Association for an instructor; they are all young to change-ringing, and a few lessons will start them on the way to the higher methods which they are ambitious to learn. I admire their spirit, and wish them every success.

Bushey, January 27th, 1897.

E. E. HUNTLEY.

THE BRIDGWATER PEAL.

SIR,—A letter appeared in your issue of Saturday last in which the writer says he, as conductor of a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-part), surprised the ringer of the 4th when he called the end single. I was the ringer of the 4th, and I beg to say he did not call the end single, and also I never said anything during the peal until within the last twelve minutes of the peal, when a trip occurred; but I do say that at the finish of the peal I asked him why he did not call the end single, to which he said "Jim Hinton never called it." (I beg that gentleman's pardon). He also said he knew nothing about the Bridgwater peal, but he it was who wrote for the tower for the very day we rang it. And I am also told by one of his own band, that he has been reprimanded by his brother-in-law for his unmanly conduct in the matter. Some two years ago T. W. Radford took a band to Wellington to attempt a peal, and also has been there five or

six times for the same purpose, and did not succeed until November 7th of last year. No one attempted to get the tower from him, and I don't know why he should have shown such conduct towards us. I think I have some knowledge of the ability as well as the temperament of both T. W. Radford as well of J. Joyce, because it was at my hands both of them had their first instruction in change-ringing. The whole matter lies in a nutshell, viz., petty jealousy. As to the letter of J. Joyce I treat it with that which it deserves, as it contains nothing but rubbish and false statements. I hope that in the future both of them will adhere to the truth, and endeavour to carry out clause 3 of rule 1 of the Association of which they call themselves members. With this I draw my few remarks to a close, and shall not take any notice of any letters which may appear from either of them.

T. DOBLE.

[This correspondence must now cease.—ED.]

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT SOUTHOVER, LEWES.—This peal, which was recorded last week, was rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor, who attained the age of 19 on the Wednesday previous. An attempt for the same peal was made on the 5th inst., but owing to the rope of the second becoming jammed in a broken pulley wheel when scarcely 1000 changes had been rung, it had to be abandoned until a new wheel could be put in. After the first attempt the members of the band were invited to The King's Head (of which the mother of the conductor is proprietress), when it was found that a most excellent repast was in course of preparation, and nothing would satisfy Mrs. Goldsmith until she saw the band and other members of the Southover society seated at the festive board enjoying themselves in mitigation of the disappointment caused by the loss of the peal. Upon all being in their places, the "courses" came up in most excellent order, and upon "this is all" being called, a vote of thanks to Mrs. Goldsmith for her kindness and generosity, together with best wishes of all to the conductor for many happy returns of his birthday was unanimously carried. Mrs. Goldsmith responded in her usual happy manner, and said that it gave her very much pleasure indeed to administer to the enjoyment of change-ringers, and that the accomplishment of a peal gave her quite as much pleasure as the ringers themselves. She was pleased to see her son making so much progress in the Art; his late father was a ringer, and each of his great-grandfathers held the position of parish clerk for thirty years. After the completion of the peal at the second attempt, the band had another treat in store for them, Mrs. Goldsmith again shewing in a very practical manner her appreciation of her efforts by having in readiness a cold collation, which, needless to say, was much appreciated by all. The above-mentioned are not the first occasions upon which Mrs. Goldsmith has treated the members of the Sussex Association in this most hospitable manner, and those who were fortunate enough to be present, wish again to express their appreciation of her kindness, which to such a busy lady as Mrs. Goldsmith is, must cause considerable extra trouble.

THE PEAL AT CUCKFIELD.—This was Mr. Keith Hart's 100th peal, made up as follows: Grandsire Triples, 11, conducted 3; Major, 1; Caters, 4; Stedman Triples, 15, conducted 1; Caters, 5, conducted 1; Plain Bob Major, 8; Treble Bob Major, 4; Superlative Surprise Major, 18; Cambridge Surprise Major, 9; London Surprise Major, 6; Champion Surprise Major, 2; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 17; total, 100; conducted 5. This was also Mr. J. Rice's 50th peal, made up as follows: Grandsire Triples, 4; Court Bob Triples, 1; Plain Bob Triples, 1; Stedman Triples, 5; Bob Major, 1; Treble Bob Major, 4; Alliance Major, 1; Double Norwich, 1; Superlative Surprise, 26; Cambridge Surprise, 1; New Cumberland, 1; London Surprise, 2; in seven methods on six bells, 2; total, 50.

THE PEAL AT IRTHLINGBOROUGH.—Great credit is due to J. Houghton, sen., who is in his sixty-eighth year, for the way he rang in the peal, this being his second attempt to ring a peal of Double Norwich. Although having been a ringer for over fifty-three years, he never had the opportunity to ring a peal on eight bells until the last three years, when he has rung upwards of twenty peals in the following methods: Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, and Treble Bob Major, including a 10, 176 (in which he rung the treble), and Double Norwich. He did not attempt to learn the method of Double Norwich until he was well advanced in his sixty-seventh year. We all thought he was flying rather high for a man of his years. But he always said—"I shall ring a peal of it if I have Charley Clarke with me." And he did, and a good peal it was too. He is now looking Superlative up; may he live to ring a peal of it.

J.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.—Mr. R. B. Blanchard, Hon. Secretary of the Surrey County Association, has removed to 3, Shrubbery Road, Streatham, S.W.—Mr. George J. Smith has removed to 14, Gillespie Road, Finsbury Park.

Notices.

The Ashton-under-Lyne Society.—The quarterly meeting of the above Society will be held at Flixton, to-day, Saturday, Jan. 30th. Bells ready at 4 p.m.; meeting at 7.
35, Uxbridge Street. S. BOOTH, Hon. Sec.

The Midland Counties Association.—The third quarterly meeting of the year will be held at Chesterfield on Saturday, January 30th. Peal of ten at the parish church, open from 1 p.m. till 9 p.m., excepting from 7.15 to 7.45. Committee meeting in the parish room at the vicarage at 4.30. Tea at 5, followed by general meeting, both in Victoria School. Parties of eight or more can obtain fare-and-a-quarter tickets by giving three days' notice at any station.

J. O. LANCASHIRE, Hon. Sec.
22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.

The Essex Association.—A district meeting of the above will be held at Brentwood, to-day, Saturday, January 30th. Tea will be provided at the church house, at 5 p.m., to be followed by a business meeting. The tower of South Weald (6 bells) will also be open for ringing.
HENRY T. W. EYRE, Hon. Sec.
Gt. Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Worcestershire and Adjoining Districts Association.—The next committee and quarterly meeting of this Association will be held in the schoolroom, Oldswinford, near Stourbridge, to-day, Saturday, January 30th, at 5.30 p.m. prompt. The Rev. A. B. Timbrell, Rector, Clerical Secretary, has kindly consented to preside. A short service with brief address will be held in the church at 4.45 p.m., to which all members are cordially invited. The bells (six) will be available for ringing; also the peal of eight at St. Thomas's, Stourbridge. Election of representatives for Central Council will take place at this meeting. Members are requested to note that all subscriptions are due at this meeting.

JNO. SMITH, Hon. Sec.
36, Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

Kent County Association—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Edenbridge, to-day, Saturday, Jan. 30th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Committee meeting at 4.30. Tea at 5.30, in the Odd-fellows' hall, to be followed by the business meeting. Allowances, half fares only, up to 2s. per member, will be paid, and subscriptions received at the committee meeting. All subscriptions must be paid before any allowance will be made.
W. LATTER, Hon. Dis. Sec.
67, Goods Station Road, Tunbridge Wells.

Oxford Diocesan Guild—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held to-day, Saturday, Jan. 30th, at High Wycombe. Ringing 2 till 4.30 and 7 till 9 p.m. Evensong and sermon at 5 p.m. Preacher, Rev. E. D. Shaw, vicar of High Wycombe. Tea (free to members of the branch who have paid their subscriptions) at 6 p.m. This meeting is open to any member of the Guild who may wish to attend.

R. P. NEWHOUSE, Branch Sec.

The St. Margaret's Society, Westminster.—The annual meeting will be held to-day, Saturday, Jan. 30th, when officers for the ensuing year will be elected. Meeting time at St. Margaret's, 5 p.m.
H. BARTON, Hon. Sec.
36, Havil Street, Camberwell, S.E.

The Leeds and District Amalgated Society.—The next monthly ringing meeting

of this society will be held to-day, Saturday, January 30th, at Burley Church (6 bells,) Ringing from 2.30. Meeting house, The Cardigan Arms, Kirkstall road. Members and other friends cordially invited.

R. BINNS, Hon. Sec.
4, Kirkland Square, Kirkland Street,
Beeston Road, Leeds.

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at South Petherton, on Saturday, February 6th. Break from Martock Station after arrival of 1.49 p.m. train. Towers open—South Petherton (8 bells), Crewkerne (8 bells), Shepton Beauchamp (6 bells), and Norton-sub-Hamdon (6 bells). Short service in parish church at 3 p.m. Tea at The Crown hotel, to be followed by the usual business meeting.

HY. W. TOMKINS, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.
The Cottage, Old Cleve, Washford.

The South and West Middlesex Guild.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Heston (St. Leonard's), on Saturday, February 6th. Ringing at 5.30. It is earnestly requested that members will make an effort to attend this meeting, there being very important business to transact, viz., the proposed amalgamation with the Middlesex Association.

HY. F. G. LUCK, Hon. Sec.
7, Warwick Place, Ealing.

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—To avoid clashing with the Midland County meeting at Chesterfield, the quarterly meeting will be held at Eckington, on Saturday, February 6th. Peal of six bells.

E. JAMES, Hon. Sec.
Meersbrook Bank Road, Sheffield.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Newcastle, on Saturday next, February 6th.

REV. J. W. ALSTON, } Hon. Secs.
W. TWIGG, }

The Lancashire Association—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's Church, Garston, on Saturday, February 6th. Bells ready at 3.30. Meeting at 6 p.m. Tea will be provided (free) at 5 p.m. to those who send me word not later than February 4th.
HENRY COLBY,
3, Romford Place, Liverpool. Branch Sec.

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Halesworth, on Thursday, February 11th. Dinner 1.30 at The Swan hotel, 2s. 3d. hon. members, 1s. 3d. company members. Please note to hon. sec. before Saturday, February 6th, as to numbers for dinner tickets, railway fares, and station of departure.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn. Hon. Sec.

The Lancashire Association, Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Phillip's church, Hulme, on Saturday, February 13th. Bells ready at 3.0 p.m. Business meeting to be held in the "British Workmen's" Club Room, at 7.0 p.m. Open invitation to all ringers.
WALTER BROWN,
54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Branch Sec.
Manchester.

The Waterloo Society.—On Saturday, February 20th, the twenty-ninth anniversary of this society will be celebrated by a dinner at The York hotel, Waterloo Road; tickets 3s. 6d. each, may be had of the following committee: Messrs. H. N. Davis, 419, Old Kent Road, S.E.; T. West, 71, Langton Road, Brixton, S.W.; H. Barton, 36, Havil Street, Camberwell, S.E.; A. Hardy, 51, Kay Road,

Stockwell, S.W.; F. G. Perrin, 42, Aylesbury Street, Walworth, S.E.; F. J. Pitts, 128, Leathwaite Road, Clapham, S.W.; or of
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SITUATION wanted as under Gardener, or single-handed, am not particular as to any other sort of work. Age 27. Five years good character. Change ringer. Member of St. Mary's Society, Beddington.—A. Clayton.

CHANGE-RINGER (used to gardening), would be glad to hear of a situation. Well recommended. Disengaged.—H. S. Reeves, Hillingdon Heath, near Uxbridge.

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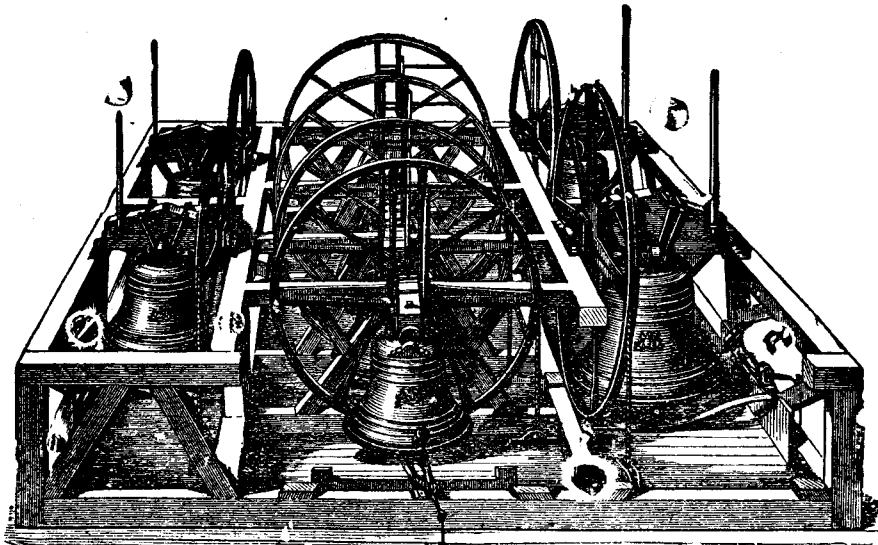
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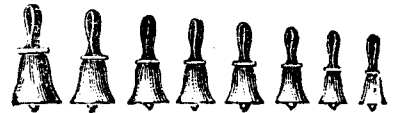
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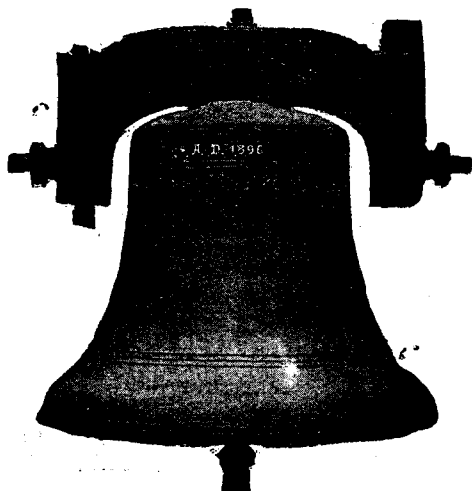
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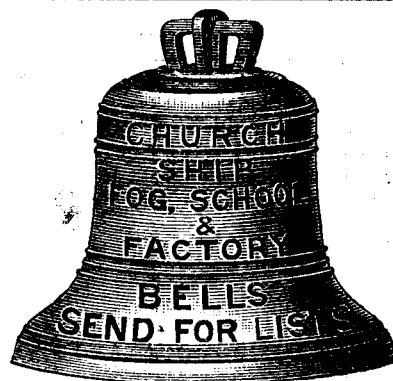
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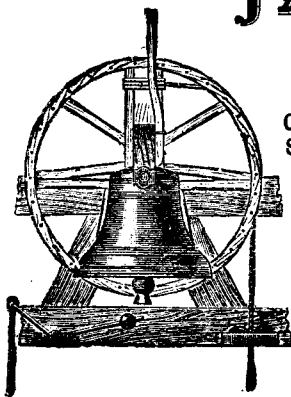
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No. 774.—VOL. XV.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1897.

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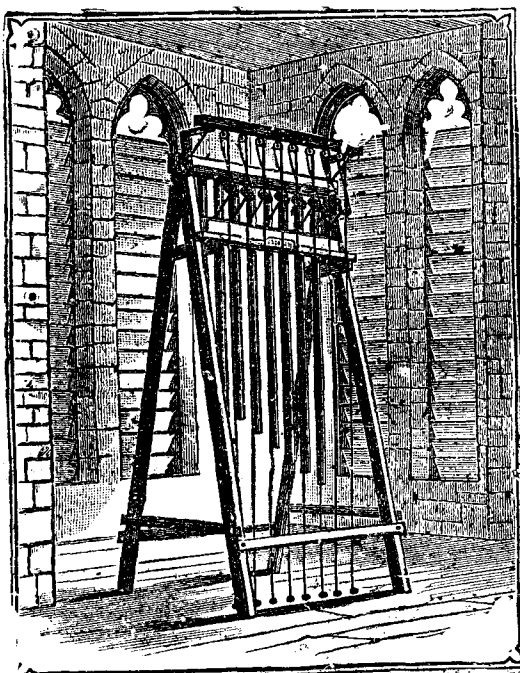
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- | | | | |
|--|----|---|---|
| No. 297.—The Poachers of Lincolnshire—"It's My Delight on a Shiny Night." | .. | 1 | 6 |
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thus: C D E F G A B C D E F G A | .. | 1 | 6 |
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| Both arranged for 6 ringers with two octaves in the chromatic scale—D 21 to D 7. | | | |
| No. 104.—Glee "Time fly with greater speed," for two octaves, chromatic—G 18 to G 4. | .. | 1 | 0 |
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arranged as per list 5 | .. | 3 | 6 |
| arranged as per list 7 | .. | 3 | 0 |
| No. 312.—"I Dreamt I Dwelt in Marble Halls," for four ringers with medium peal. | .. | 1 | 0 |

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HALEY, Price 1s. Auld Lang Syne, Hark! 'tis the Bells,
Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule
Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, The
Bellringer's Glee, The Star-Spangled Banner, Wait till the
Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.



The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 774.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1897.

[Vol. XV.]

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—FYLDE DISTRICT.

A very successful meeting of the Fylde branch of the above Association was held at Blackpool on Saturday, January 30th. The bells of St. John's church were very kindly placed at the disposal of members by the Vicar from 3 p.m. Shortly after that hour the bells were raised in peal, and went into different touches of Grandsire Triples and Minor, also Plain Bob and College Single Minor. The business meeting was attended by the Rev. N. S. Jeffrey (Vicar), the Rev. J. Edwards (curate), the Rev. J. Barker (Kirkham), and J. C. Needham, Esq. (Churchwarden of St. John's, Lytham), Mr. James Banister (Leyland) and representatives from St. Anne's-on-the-Sea, Lytham parish church, St. John's, and St. Peter's (R.C.), together with the local company. The Vicar commenced the business with prayer. He said he was pleased to welcome the members to Blackpool, and hoped to have the pleasure of seeing them very often.

The branch Secretary (Mr. J. Fell) here apologised for the absence of the Vicar of St. John's, Lytham, the Rev. J. Gilbertson, and G. R. Bellamy, Esq., who had the day previous gone to Ireland.

The Chairman asked Mr. Needham to give the members a little speech, to which that gentleman responded. He said that the ringer's office was a very important one, inasmuch that they were out of sight in their work for the Church, but for all that they (the ringers) were in perfect harmony with the officials of the Church. He said that it was the first time he had attended a meeting in Blackpool, but hoped it might not be the last; he should in fact be pleased to come again under the same circumstances.

The Rev. J. Edwards said that he was not a bell-ringer, but gave a very racy little speech, which the members enjoyed immensely. He said that he often thought he should like to learn the Art of bell-ringing, and if Mr. Clitheroe would give him a few lessons he would do so.

The Rev. J. Barker said how pleased he was with them that day. Speaking of ringing, when he went to Kirkham some five years ago, he learnt a little of ringing, but had not done very much. He thought that the ringer's office was a very important one.

Mr. Clitheroe (Ringing Master), then addressed the members in his own amusing style on belfries and the way they are built, the belfries in this district certainly wanting more attention by those in authority. He concluded his remarks by hoping the clergy might oftener visit their belfries, and then the vicar and ringers would be more in accord with each other.

Then followed the election of members. Three from Lytham were elected as ringing-members, and one honorary member, the Rev. J. Edwards, of Blackpool.

Mr. Bannister moved a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding at the meeting, which was seconded and carried unanimously.

The members, about forty, then adjourned to another part of the school, where a splendid tea was awaiting them, through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Clitheroe. When the last "course" was finished, Mr. Needham stepped forward, and on behalf of those present thanked the donors of the tea. He was sure they had all enjoyed their hospitality.

Mr. E. A. Baker endorsed the previous remarks, and said he should be pleased to see another gathering of this kind in Blackpool.

The handbell ringers then gave a few selections under the conductorship of Mr. Clitheroe, which pleased the company very much.

Most of the members again adjourned to the belfry, and rang touches of Grandsire and College Single Minor. This terminated

the ringing, and the bells were lowered, each one expressing their feelings that this meeting being one, if not the only one they had attended.

The Secretary is disappointed because the Kirkham company did not put in an appearance, but hopes they will at the next meeting, which is to be held at St. Anne's-on-the-Sea on May 1st.

THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND YEAR.

We have been told that during the present year many new rings of bells will be placed in church towers which do not possess them now, and, therefore, we may expect that many existing rings of bells will be augmented in number. All this will be done in commemoration of the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's glorious reign. There are many rumours about relative to the treatment which various well-known rings are to receive. The Vicar of Bromsgrove appeals to his parishioners for £250 to renovate the ten bells in his church; and many others are doing the like. One grand movement we hear is likely to take place at Hackney—the parish church of St. John—where a ring of eight, with a tenor of 24 cwt., would be much improved by total re-hanging in a new frame, with the addition of two trebles to make a ring of ten. This is, we hear, contemplated, and great hopes are entertained that it will be carried out, for it is in the hands of the right sort of people. We hope to be informed of many similar instances.

THE ST. MARGARET'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.

On Saturday, January 30th, the annual meeting and election of officers for the ensuing year took place at The Princess Head hotel, Princes Street, Westminster, in a room engaged for the purpose. Previous to the business meeting a knife and fork tea was provided, to which all members present did full justice and thoroughly enjoyed. Afterwards the various business items were gone through, and the following gentlemen were duly elected as officers for the ensuing year: Master, Mr. H. Barton; Secretary, Mr. A. Hardy; Treasurer, Mr. C. Ward (re-elected); Senior Steward, Mr. W. Hasted; Junior Steward, Mr. W. H. Passmore. The officers elected, together with the addition of Mr. F. J. Pitts and Mr. H. N. Davis, to form a committee. A room was hired at the above hotel, in which monthly business meetings will be held, notice of which will be given.

THE BOW SOCIETY, LONDON, E.

On Thursday evening, January 28th, the above Society held their annual dinner at The Blue Anchor, High Street, Bow, when some thirty members and friends sat down to a substantial repast provided in first-class style. After the tables were cleared a good programme of music was gone through, Mr. D. Sutton in the chair, Mr. E. Hall being his *vis-a-vis*. The usual loyal toasts having been proposed, Mr. Springall (Hon. Sec.) responded to the toast of "The Bow Society." He was pleased to say that this little Society still continued to flourish. They could boast of twenty-two ringing members, and the attendance at practice had been good through the past year, and he hoped would continue so. The financial position was good, they having a substantial balance in hand. Several other toasts followed, and some fine old English songs were given, to the able accompaniment of Mr. Ernest G. Richards, L.C.M. Several good touches were rang on the handbells, and about midnight the company dispersed, after a very enjoyable evening.

RINGERS' SUPPER.

ST. MARGARET'S, LEICESTER.—A most enjoyable evening, promulgated by the juniors and chimers at this church, was brought to a successful issue on Thursday, January 21st. For years it has been the custom of the younger members to invite their friends and older practitioners in the Art to a substantial repast, and Thursday's menu was no exception to the rule, when Host Griffin, of The Malt Shovel, Church Gate, did his level best for the comfort of the company. After they had successfully grappled with what has been so often humourously described in these columns as "Knife and Fork Surprise," "Teething Exercise," "Ringers' Delight," etc., the cloth was drawn, and Mr. F. Cooke installed in the chair and Mr. Wm. P. Cooper as his "right bower." After the usual loyal toasts, Mr. W. Cooper gave "The Bishop and Clergy," and this was ably responded to by Messrs. Egan and Harriman, clerk and sexton. "The Vicar and Churchwardens of St. Margaret's" was drunk with applause. The following programme was then admirably rendered by all concerned:—

Mr. Potterton, song, "Fairly in it;" Mr. Lord, song, "Time may steal the roses, darling;" Mr. Wm. Cooper, song, "The Good Rhine wine;" Mr. W. Willson, recitation, "Kissing cup's race;" Mr. J. Buttery, song, "Her bright smile haunts me still." A course of Grandsire Caters: G. Burrows, 1-2; T. W. Veasey, 3-4; W. Willson, 5-6; J. Buttery, 7-8; W. Cooper, 9-10. Mr. E. E. Smith, song, "Baby;" Mr. J. Morris, song, "Johnny used to grind;" Mr. W. Willson, recitation, "His last leap;" Mr. Potterton, song, "Fourteen pence;" Messrs. Cooke and Newby, duets, "All's well" and "Lar-board watch;" Mr. A. Martin, song, "Holy Friar."

An hour's extension having been readily granted, the ball was kept merrily rolling till 12 o'clock, when the usual votes of thanks were passed to the host and hostess, chair and vice, and the company separated well pleased with the chimers' annual for 1897.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

The anniversary meeting was held on Thursday, January 21st, at Gloucester. After attending Divine Service at St. Michael's, when an admirable sermon was preached by the Rural Dean, Canon Scobell, an adjournment was made to The Criterion. Here, under the presidency of the Master, Mr. C. E. D. Boulflower, a party of thirty-five sat down to an excellent dinner provided by Host Hudson, the Secretary, Rev. C. H. Joberns occupying the vice-chair. At the conclusion of the repast, the Chairman proposed the only toast of the evening, that of "The Queen and the Royal Family," which was honoured in the most loyal and enthusiastic manner. A business meeting ensued, and the Vice-Presidents, the Master, the Hon. Secretary, and the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. F. E. Ward, were re-elected; Mr. J. Austin and Mr. T. Ricketts were appointed local secretaries respectively for the deaneries of Gloucester and Cricklade; and one honorary member and thirty-five performing members, of whom three were ladies, were elected. The annual report was read, and the statement of accounts shewed a balance in hand of £27 3s. 1d. Votes of thanks were passed to the Preacher, the Rector, and Wardens of St. Michael's, the Incumbents of those churches whose belfries were thrown open, and to the Chairman of the meeting.

STANFORD-ON-SOAR, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

On Saturday, January 16th, the ringers of St. John the Baptist met in the ringing-chamber to witness the unveiling of a peal-board by Mrs. Baker, the wife of the rector—Rev. C. V. Baker. The board records the peal of Bob Minor rang on November 24th, 1896. The rector expressed the pleasure it gave him and his wife to be there that day to perform the unveiling ceremony. He said he did not understand change-ringing himself (at which remark Mrs. Baker and the ringers expressed a wish that he would learn), but he was sure it must have taken a lot of time and perseverance to accomplish such a performance. At the conclusion the following ringers rung several touches of Bob Minor and Grandsire Doubles: A. Trigg, 1; H. Whittle, 2; W. Burvin, 3; J. Yates, 4; G. Doughty, 5; E. Reader (conductor), 6.

THE HEAVY WOOLLEN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION, YORKSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the above was held on Saturday, January 16th, at the house of Mr. Wm. Blackburn, The Little Saddle inn, Dewsbury, when about 100 members were assembled to transact the business for the ensuing year, from Ossett, Earlsheaton, Mirfield, Batley, Batley Carr, Lindley, Dewsbury, Thornhill, Armitage Bridge, Liversedge, Almondbury, and other places. Mr. F. Schofield, president, occupied the chair. The first item on the agenda was the passing of a vote of condolence to the family of Mr. Thos. Bottom, Kirkheaton (deceased), which was moved by the Chairman. The Secretary then read the minutes of the last meeting, which were carried. Fourteen new members were then made, making a total of 216. The balance sheet was then read and passed, which showed a total's worth of £10 ros. 5d. at the end of the year, and it was ultimately resolved to invest £10 in the Dewsbury Building Society, Mr. Frank Bailey, Mr. Jno. Blackburn, and Mr. David Stephenson being nominated trustees. The following officers were then elected:—Mr. S. Goodall, president; Mr. Jno. Blackburn, vice president; Mr. Jno. Garforth, hon. treasurer; Mr. Geo. H. Simon, hon. secretary; Mr. Geo. H. Hardy and Mr. Walter Shipley, auditors. It was also proposed that competition rules 12 and 13 should stand as before, but the extra ringers outside the stationed company should be allowed to compete with whom they think proper, and that the contests be held on Easter Monday and Whit Monday as usual. The ballot being drawn for Almondbury and Tong respectively, a vote of thanks was passed to the retiring officers and to the landlord for the use of the room, which concluded the business.

A CHURCH DESTROYED BY FIRE.

One of the most ancient churches in Derbyshire, that dedicated to SS. Mary and Lawrence, at Bolsover, near Chesterfield, was completely destroyed by fire on a recent Sunday. Bolsover is a mining village between Chesterfield and Welbeck Abbey, and is mainly the property of the Duke of Portland, who is patron of the living. The church itself was one of historic character, and a chapel attached to it, which was the only portion of the edifice saved, has been the burial place of the Cavendish family for generations. The fire broke out at three o'clock in the morning, and is believed to be due to the heating apparatus having set fire to the vestry flooring. Speedily the flames burst through the roof, lighting up the country for miles. Assistance was sought from Welbeck Abbey, but before the fire engine could arrive the church was a mass of ruins, only the adjoining chapel being saved by the strenuous efforts of the Vicar and a band of willing workers. The flames afterwards attacked the tower, and as the wooden framework was consumed the bells fell one by one. The Duke of Portland has started a fund for restoration with £1000.

ISLIP, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

TREAT TO BELLRINGERS.—On Tuesday, January 19th, the bellringers, senior and junior, together with the rector, Mr. Thomas Agutter, and a few invited guests, spent a pleasant evening at the schoolroom. A substantial and well-served supper was provided at 6.30 o'clock, and after the table had been cleared the healths of the Rector, Messrs. T. Agutter (churchwarden and donor of the feast), J. T. Allen (instructor of the junior ringers) and Eli Hudson (the oldest ringer present), were enthusiastically drunk with musical honours, to which each suitably responded, the rector specially thanking Mr. Agutter and the ringers for their past services, and alluding to the amount of time given and the pains and perseverance taken by Mr. J. T. Allen. Several essays were also made upon the hand-bells. The singing of the National Anthem closed the proceedings, everyone thanking Mr. Agutter greatly for his continued generosity and kindness. It may be interesting to add that Mr. Agutter is an enthusiastic ringer himself.

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PRACTICAL HINTS TO YOUNG CONDUCTORS
AND COMPOSERS.

CHAPTER XV.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.—(continued.)

"Holt's Original" was for many years a *terra incognita* to ringers. The fact that its composer in the first instance called it from the ms., very likely was the cause of its being so seldom rung. But like other problems of the science, the supposed difficulties so gave way to perseverance, and the attainment of this production has now become a common-place affair. The generally approved mode of calling this peal is by observation of the bells before. When it is first looked at for this purpose, with its four formidable columns of figures, it is appalling somewhat. No one with anything but a good memory had better attempt it, for in such case the probabilities are that they would "come to grief." But a little determination and steady perseverance will succeed in the end.

In my opinion the best plan of calling this peal is to divide it, say, into eight or ten parts, and compile—in the manner already shown—a lesson for each part. Thus the lesson for the first part may be something like this:—5, 3, 4, 5, three 4s, 3 4 twice, 7, 5, 4, 3, two 4s, 7, 5. The observations every alternate part should be in sound and phraseology as different from the previous one as possible, so as to avoid confusion, which a constant repetition of sounds and phrases are very apt to cause. We cannot have much variety, perhaps, in this way; we must get what we can. The second part therefore may be something like this: 3, 5 with a double, 7 with a double twice, 3 twice, the last with a double; 7 with a double, 5, 7 with a double twice. This brings us to the end of the first column of the peal as it is given by Shipway. I have said enough to enable any one to form a lesson for themselves to call this peal.

Concerning the bob-and-single peals, I think it best to give the two from Shipway with his observations thereon. The first of these he says is by an unknown author, but the late Jasper Snowdon has proved it, I believe, to be Vicars' peal. Shipway says:—

"The next, by an unknown author, is a peal on a curious construction, divided into six parts, three in each half, and both halves called alike; it has 190 bobs and 50 common, or Grand-sire singles.

5040.

752634 I	723654 I	723645 I	725634 I
347265 2	s 457362 2	s 547362 2	s 437562 2
s 253647 I	234657 I	235647 I	s 524637 I
472365 2	572463 2	472563 2	375462 2
534672 I	345672 I	354672 I	s 423675 I
725463 2	723564 2	723465 2	754362 2
347625 I	457623 I	547623 I	237654 I
253764 2	234765 2	235764 2	542763 2
472653 I	572634 I	472635 I	375642 I
s 354267 2	345267 2	s 534267 2	423567 2

"The above four columns are the first part of the peal; to complete which it is necessary that they be five times repeated, with the addition of a single at the third and sixth part-ends, being the half-way, and on coming round. To call this peal (the sixth being the observation), we must proceed as follows: a bob the first lead, then one plain lead, and a double bob throughout the peal, except where the singles occur instead of a bob. The chief object, which is not difficult, is to ascertain when these singles should be called, for as the sixth is called only in the middle and the wrong, and is, consequently, never in the hunt, and 6, 7, coming home together every 210 changes, it will be little trouble to remark the places where the singles are made in each 210; and as 5, 6, 7, come home every fourth 210, or 840 changes, the six part-ends are easily perceived. Care should, however, be taken to call two extra singles, one at the half-way, or third part-end, and one at the end of the peal on coming round. The follow-

ing, by Mr. E. Taylor, is the same peal rendered still less difficult, as the eight singles in each part are more regularly divided, having one each time 6, 7 comes home, except at the half-way and at the end, where, instead of two extra singles, there are two omitted, reducing them to 46."

5040.

752634 I	723654 I	724635 I	725643 I
347265 2	s 457362 2	s 537462 2	437562 2
s 253647 I	234657 I	245637 I	s 524637 I
472365 2	572463 2	372564 2	375462 2
534672 I	345672 I	453672 I	243675 I
725463 2	723564 2	724365 2	752364 2
347625 I	457623 I	537624 I	437652 I
253764 2	234765 2	245763 2	524763 2
472653 I	572634 I	372645 I	375624 I
s 354267 2	s 435267 2	s 543267 2	s 423567 2

In these peals, even if the conductor rings the 6th he must be on the alert not to miss a bob, as they are made somewhat rapidly. But my young friends cannot be too often told that ringing the observation-bell in anything is not good form, and though the work is sharp in these bob-and-single peals, it looks a great deal better to ring either 2 3 4 when conducting them. It requires a very little *attentive* practice for this. Application to it must however be without stint or cessation; the results pay, for I am of opinion that there is more credit in calling any peal of Grandsire Triples—especially the "Original" and a bob-and-single peal—ringing a non-observation bell, than in calling a peal of Major and ringing either the treble, or the 7th or tenor; or in fact, than in calling a peal of Stedman Triples when ringing either of the fixed bells.

ALEPH.

(To be continued.)

RINGERS' DINNER AT GLOUCESTER.

On Monday, December 28th, the customary muffled peal was rung on the bells of the parish church. In the evening the members of the bands of ringers of both churches dined together at The Fleece hotel. A good number sat down, and the excellent repast served by Mr. and Mrs. Sare was much enjoyed. In the regretted absence of the Archdeacon (owing to the serious illness of his brother), the Rev. E. H. Townsend presided, Mr. W. J. Jefferies, chapelwarden of Holy Trinity, occupying the vice-chair. The toast of the Queen was loyally honoured, after which Mr. T. Curtis submitted in well-chosen terms that of the Bishop and Clergy. The Chairman and the Revs. R. C. S. Jones and G. L. Amphlett responded. The Chairman proposed the toast of "The Diocesan Association of Change-Ringers," coupled with the names of Messrs. J. Austin (Gloucester) and G. W. Lait, both of whom responded. Mr. Austin gave a favourable report of the work of the Association during the year, and went on to express a desire that the Cirencester ringers should practice for a peal of Cinques to be rung in commemoration of the Queen's long reign. The toast of the evening, or in other words, "Prosperity to the local bands of Ringers," was proposed from the chair, and was suitably responded to by the leaders, Messrs. H. C. Bond and S. Moore, both of whom approved of the suggestion thrown out by Mr. Austin, and by the honorary secretaries, Messrs. C. E. Bartlett and J. E. Waters. Other toasts included the health of Mr. Jefferies, as representing the Churchwardens, who genially acknowledged the compliment, and the health of Mr. A. H. Gibbons, organist of the parish church, who with his usual kindness contributed greatly to the harmony of the evening. All the toasts were honoured with great cordiality, and sandwiched as they were between songs and handbell tunes and changes, a very pleasant time was passed. A novel feature was an admirable illustration by some members of the company, under Mr. Austin's able direction, of the rising, ringing, and lowering of bells.

WILBYE, NORTHANTS.

On New Year's Eve the ringers, choir, churchwardens, and sidesmen were kindly entertained at the rectory by the Rev. W. St. George Coldwell. A good supper was followed by handbell music, songs, and social enjoyment. As midnight approached and the old year "lay a dieing," the ringers proceeded to the church to "ring out the old and ring in the new."

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CREWE BRANCH.—The annual meeting of the above branch was held at Crewe, on Saturday, January 16th, when the following towers were represented: Crewe, Sandbach, Tarporley, Alsager, Wrenbury and Acton; thirty persons were present. After reading and passing the minutes of the previous meeting the statement of accounts was read and passed showing a balance in hand to the good of the branch of £3 6s. 3d. Next came the election of officers for the ensuing year; the Rev. G. J. Howson, vicar of Christ Church, Crewe, was again re-elected the president of the branch, together with Mr. R. Langford, secretary and treasurer, and Mr. R. T. Holding and Mr. J. Davies were again appointed auditors, and also Mr. Holding was re-elected the instructor to the branch, and Mr. A. Harding was appointed the representative on the general committee. The branch consists of eighty-six ringing members and fifteen hon. members, representing ten towers. Next came the places of meetings. Mr. Holding proposed monthly meetings, as he thought it a necessity that each tower should be visited once during the twelve months, and cards to be printed, so that each member could have one showing when the meetings took place, which was carried unanimously. After the meeting the members sat down to a beautiful tea, provided for them by the president, the Rev. G. J. Howson, and which all thoroughly enjoyed. Tea being over, J. Stringer, Esq., of Sandbach, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the president for the hearty manner in which he had received the members that day. The rev. gentleman said that he was always pleased to do what he could for the good of the branch and the promotion of change-ringing, and while he was speaking, he would ask them to come as many as could to the service in Christ Church at 6.30, as he wished to say a few words to them in a holier place than the one they were in; and when service commenced it was pleasing to see how well the men had attended. After service, ringing was again indulged in until 9 p.m., then the bells were lowered in peal and the members wended their various ways home, all thoroughly satisfied with their afternoon's enjoyment, thus bringing another very pleasant meeting to a close.

MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.—The annual meeting of the above branch was held at Macclesfield, on Saturday, January 23rd. Tea was provided in the Duke Street school, to which twenty members sat down. After tea, the business meeting was held in another room, the president, Rev. S. A. Boyd, being in the chair, he giving all the ringers a hearty welcome to Macclesfield. Bollington was chosen for the next place of meeting on the second Saturday in May.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A district meeting of the above was held at Brentwood, on Saturday, January 30th. Members were present from the following places: Maldon, Great Totham, Stanstead, West Ham, Coggeshall, Kelvedon, Tottenham, Barking, London, Romford, Wiford and Writtle. Touches in various methods were rung on the bells at Brentwood and South Weald. Tea was provided at the church house at 5 p.m. The chair was taken by the assistant secretary, the Rev. H. Eyre, of Great Totham, and he was supported by the senior curate, in the absence of the vicar. Forty-four sat down to tea. At the business meeting several new ringing members were elected: notably, Mr. J. W. Taylor, the well-known bellfounder, of Loughborough. It was stated that the Easter-Monday Meeting would be held at Bocking.

BRECON, SOUTH WALES.

The ringers of this town have joined the Hereford Diocesan Guild, and have just received their first lesson in change-ringing from the Guild instructor, Mr. J. E. Groves. The bells are a fine ring of eight, by Rudhall, cast in 1756; tenor about 18 cwt., in B flat. The ringers, with perseverance, will make another addition to the few change-ringing companies in Wales.

PEAL BOOK, Price 2s. 6d. A book specially ruled for entering peals, date touches, etc. Handbell music arranged for any number of bells. Send for catalogue. W. H. GIGGLE, Queen Street, Horbury, near Wakefield.

WOBBURN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

On New Year's Day, 1897, the Woburn Company of change-ringers were hospitably entertained by Mr. Charles Herbert. at his house. Supper at 8 p.m. After doing justice to a majestic turkey, etc., the evening was devoted to hand-bell ringing, music and singing—breaking up in the small hours of the morning, after thoroughly enjoying themselves.

THE LATE MR. ELGER.—On Saturday, the 15th January, 1897, the members of the Woburn Company of change-ringers rang half-muffled touches of Bob Triples, upon the bells of old St. Mary's, as a token of respect to the late Mr. ELGER, of Bedford. A contemporary in a general review of his numerous scientific attainments says:—

"Appreciating keenly the neglect of church bells as a mighty medium of music, he sympathised with the efforts of Mr. Herbert, of Woburn, in the rythmical ringing of bells, and was of the small company who, at Easter, 1882, formed The Bedfordshire Change-ringers' Association, taking the office of treasurer, and never failing to attend the Annual Meeting."

WIGGINTON, OXON.—DEDICATION OF THE BELLS.

On Thursday, January 28th, this village was favoured with a visit from the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Reading, who came to dedicate the new steel bell frame and the recast tenor bell. The service was held at 3 p.m., and a large number of clergy assembled for the occasion. After the service a touch was rung. The tenor bell was recast by Mr. H. Bond, Bell Founder, of Burford, Oxon. The bell is of a splendid tone, and of good workmanship, and has given the greatest satisfaction; the "go" of the bells being all that can be desired.

OPENING OF A NEW PEAL OF HANDBELLS AT NORWICH.

On Tuesday, January 26th, several members of the St. Peter Mancroft society, with the Somerleyton company, met at Mr. Philip Sadler's, St. Andrew's Hall Stores, to test the quality of the bells. After some change-ringing and some tunes had been performed on them, it was found that they gave satisfaction to all present. The bells were supplied by Messrs. Shaw, Son, and Co., of Bradford, through Mr. Knights, to the Rev. C. J. Steward, of Somerleyton, which are a present from that gentleman to his company of ringers owing to his leaving the village. The bells are fitted up with Messrs. Shaw's improved roller clappers, which prevents all jarring noises when the bell is struck.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—Representatives who have been elected to the Central Council are respectfully reminded that in accordance with the decision of the Council at its last meeting, the next meeting will be held in London, at Whitsuntide, instead of Easter. The latest date for forwarding to the Hon. Sec. notices of motions, &c. (which must be in writing, and signed by two representative) will be therefore Saturday, May 8th.

Hon. Secretaries of Societies are respectively reminded that the subscription to the Council of 2s. 6d. for each representative is now due, and should be remitted to the Hon. Sec. and Treasurer *without delay*, together with the names and addresses of the representatives elected.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn, January 1st., 1897. Hon. Sec.

Obituary.

SOLOMON BIDDLESTONE.

On Saturday, January 30th, the following members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, made an attempt to ring Holt's original peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing two hours came to grief through two bells shifting course. H. Hipkiss, 1; S. Reeves (conductor), 2; J. Hall, 3; T. Horton, 4; R. Hall, 5; W. Burrows, 6; A. Griffiths, 7; W. Painter, 8. The bells were half-muffled as a last token of respect to the above gentleman, who died January 14th, in the 76th year of his age, and was interred at All Saints' Church. He was a well-known ringer and composer, having taken part in a number of peals, and was also the original composer of the method known as New Grandsire Triples, and has composed several peals of Caters on the same principle.

MEN AND MANNERS.

The worthy Secretary of "The Ancient Society of College Youths" will by this time have begun to feel his feet, just a little. To give honour where it is due, is right in every sense, and I read the account in "BELL NEWS" of the banquet in his honour with pleasure. When the President of the Central Council goes out of his way to acknowledge merit and to fête the *celebrere*, the whole society must naturally take it as a compliment. I don't believe in gush, and my opinion of Mr. W. T. Cockerill's performance was expressed in these columns when the peal was accomplished, so I need not say any more except this, that it is to be hoped an imperishable tablet will record the three peals rung at St. Paul's, and hand down to posterity the heaviest twelve-bell performances ever rung. As a member of the "Ancients," I should be pleased to chip in with my little mite.

* * * * *

There are times, of course, when these little expressions of admiration come not altogether as unmixed blessings; especially to persons who (like myself) possess an abnormal amount of virgin modesty. I recollect once speaking on behalf of a candidate for municipal honours. We had a lovely meeting except for the interruption ever and anon of the rag-tag and bob-tail of the opposition party. (By-the-way; always call the opposition by this endearing term, it makes *your* party appear more high-toned! see?) Well, as I told you, I am exceedingly modest, and on this occasion I received numerous expressions of admiration. Too much so. Warming to my work I hit out right and left until the clockhands slipped round to closing time, and I was reminded of *tempus fugit* by the pulling out of watches. I had one more little squib to let off, but alas! it was not destined to make me famous. A red-haired man at the back of the hall evidently thought it was time my ability should be recognised, and slipped out with an ominous grin on his face. He returned and presented me with a basket of eggs! I ought to mention that he bestowed them on my person—one at a time; furthermore, that the eggs were decidedly "off colour," while the scent they emitted was sufficient to put a polecat to the blush. I don't wish anybody any harm, but if ever I meet that red-haired egg-thrower, somebody will need a doctor, and it won't be me. It is a painful reminiscence, so we will quit the subject while I proceed around the caravan and shake up the animals.

* * * * *

If any of my readers shrugged their shoulders at my remarks the other week anent the parliamentary pantomime, perhaps they will be good enough to bear my justification, and then I suspect they will rather endorse those remarks. Mr. Pease, the newly-elected M.P. for the Cleveland division of Yorkshire, is representing his constituency out somewhere in the wilds of Africa. He doesn't know he is elected. Of course he is "in touch with the people!" At any rate, the Liberal bigwigs said so, so it must be true. This week the Conservative candidate for Romford shews us what a patriot is. On the 20th at Ilford Club, he said; "Gentlemen, I want to tell you that I am for England for the English, I want England to come first, second, and third; and the foreigners to come a long way after."

In his election address, dated the 21st, he says: "I believe in England for the English, and am opposed to the immigration of pauper aliens to compete with English workmen in our already crowded labour market." The opposition party thought they "smelled a mice," and were suspicious of the gentleman's ebullitions. They wanted to know if the candidate's real name was not Schlesinger, and how long he had been an Englishman? A letter from the Home Office has decided the point. It appears that a "certificate of naturalisation was granted to him as 'L. Sinclair' on the 20th! so that when he was adopted as the constitutional patriotic candidate, he was an alien and a foreigner himself! Of course, he is in touch with the people, having been a full-blown Englishman for the space of two or three days. In quires and places where they sing, here followeth the smile.

* * * * *

The bicycle is responsible for much. Poets and playwrights

have both done all they can to put every specie of sensationalism in its most lurid light, but I think the poet is miles ahead of the playwright. Ahem! this is, I think the place to shunt in a pome. Red fire and slow music please:—

The hangman stood beside the man
Condemned by law to die,
And with a dextrous hand he tied
The bandage round his eye.

Upon the drop the victim stands
Unmoved, without a fear,
A contrast to the hangman weak,
Who wipes away a tear.

But hark! a whirring sound is heard,
A scorcher riding hard,
Reprieve! Reprieve! then like a bird
Across the prison yard.

"You're saved, my man," the bikist yelled,
"So come down when you like;"
The convict craned his neck and cried;
"What make is yer bloomin' bike?"

* * * * *

Another presentation and a leave-taking. This time Mr. Arthur Craven is seeking fresh fields and pastures new. Not eggs this time. Well, *bon jour* Arthur, you know my address. I shall be pleased to hear from you in your new sphere, and I hope to ring another peal with you some day. I see in "BELL NEWS" how Father Houghton, of Irthlingborough, rang a peal of Double Norwich in his sixty-eighth year. I ought to say learned and rang, for the old gentleman is one of C. W. Clarke's pupils, although old enough to be his grandfather, and great credit is due to both. I wish to acknowledge the courtesy of the rising star of Cambridge, G. F. Woodhouse, in sending me the figures of the peal I asked for. In reply I beg to say I was mistaken in my surmise. It is not the same composition I have made a memorandum of.

* * * * *

And now gentle reader, I think I have done well to fill so much space on nothing. There are times when we must make bricks without straw, so to speak, when ringing is normal and comment is superfluous. Sometimes I needs must frivel in the "vulgar tongue," but not too much so. As you are aware, I am nothing if not amiable. The blushing rosebud in its vernal bed is not more sweet of disposition. My lays are soft and gentle as Æolian sounds that tremulously rise with ravishing division when blows the fragrant breeze over flowery fields, winding vales, and shadowed waters. Insinuating blandishment, grateful and comforting as Cadbury's cocoa, or the Hyblæan juice the Attic bee stored in her cell for Jove's Nativity, is kept here constantly on tap; and when I have occasion to stir up anybody with my big stick, my touch is light as the caress of morning dew upon the opening baby daisy. There, I think that will do for the present. "THE BELL NEWS," of all respectable news-agents and marine store dealers, ought to be sold for 2d. whenever it contains the page controlled by

JINGLE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

The quarterly meeting in connection with this society was held on Saturday, January 23rd, at Cannock, when the following towers were represented: Christ Church, West Bromwich; St. Peter's, Wolverhampton; St. Matthew's, Walsall; St. Mary's, Handsworth; Willenhall, and Cannock. The bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening. A short service was held at 5 p.m. in the church, and a very interesting address was given by the Vicar, after which a committee meeting was held in the vestry, the Rev. H. V. Stuart (vicar) and the Rev. A. H. Lanfear being elected honorary members of the society. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Barton-under-Needwood, on Saturday, April 24th. An adjournment was made to the coffee house, where an excellent tea was provided and thoroughly enjoyed by all present. A vote of thanks to the Vicar for his very interesting address was passed unanimously, and brought the meeting to a close.

UNVEILING A PEAL TABLET AT DUDLEY.

On Tuesday, January 12th, an interesting ceremony took place in the belfry of the parish church of St. Thomas, Dudley, Worcestershire, the occasion being the unveiling of a peal tablet presented by Mrs. Gray Maitland to the Vicar and Churchwardens. Among those present were the Rev. A. Gray Maitland (Vicar), Mrs. Gray Maitland, the Misses Maitland, Mr. V. Maitland, Mr. Brown (Churchwarden) and Mrs. Brown, Rev. D. J. Johnson, Mr. W. Thompson, W. Rock Small, J. Smith (Hon. Sec. of the Worcestershire Association), S. Spittle (Captain), and the local band.

The proceedings were opened with a short prayer by the rev. the Vicar.

Mr. Spittle, in offering a word of welcome to those present, contrasted the state of the belfry that day with the condition which prevailed in days gone by. It was no uncommon thing at one time to see the floor strewn with pieces of bread, cheese, skins of onions, broken pipes, tobacco paper, and other things, which with bottles of ale consumed there made the place more like the floor of a pothouse than part of an edifice devoted to sacred purposes. At that time there were few ringing Associations in the country, though among the few that did exist scientific change-ringing was carried on. In a large number of belfries which had rings of bells such an Art was unknown; this belfry was one of them. There was then no recognised organ among ringers by which reports of their performances could be published, consequently it was not unusual to see the report of the ringing of a peal on the same page of a sporting newspaper as that of a well-contested prize-fight. This state of things no doubt was the reason why bellringing and bellringers held so low a position amid church work and church workers. No wonder, for under such conditions how could the clergy and churchwardens, much less the ladies, be expected to come into the belfry, and associate with the ringers. It was a great pleasure to know that all these were things of the past, the meeting here to-night being a striking proof. What had brought about the change? He ventured to think that the beginning might be traced to the time when, about 27 years ago, the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe commenced to edit a page in *Church Bells* devoted to bellringing. That paper became a recognised, and for a time, a suitable medium through which ringers could chronicle their performances. But the greatest lever by which bellringing has been lifted is "THE BELL NEWS." During the seventeen years which the enterprising editor has conducted that journal, ringing Guilds and Associations have sprung up in nearly every county in the kingdom, and also in those colonies having rings of bells. Bellringers have now become a recognised body among churchworkers. With the heads of the Church presidents of the Associations and Guilds, and these again governed by a Central Council, composed of duly-elected delegates, is a sure sign that the ringers themselves are endeavouring by their life and conduct to make themselves more fit for their position, and worthy of the respect and patronage of the clergy, the ladies, and other members of the Church. It is under these new conditions, Mr. Vicar, and ladies and gentlemen, that I offer you, on behalf of the ringers, a hearty welcome to this belfry to-night.

The Vicar, before asking Mrs. Maitland to unveil the tablet, said: I wish to thank Mr. Spittle and the other ringers who took part in the peal. I know you rung a peal of Royal on the day I took to myself the lady now before you as my wife. That peal I believe, through some flaw in the composition, you were not allowed to record on a tablet. Still you persevered a second time without success. The third time you succeeded, the result being this meeting to-night. On behalf of Mrs. Maitland and myself I thank you for your perseverance, and express our pleasure that you have realised your ambition. The ringing of these bells has afforded me much pleasure, especially when I have heard them at a distance on a frosty night. I am much obliged to Mr. Spittle for the remarks he has so kindly made about the belfry in the past and at the present. To me they are interesting, shewing the improvement in the customs of the ringers and in their respect for the House of God. I have been in the belfry on several occasions to take lessons in the art of ringing, but I am afraid I have made but very little progress. My first appearance in this belfry was at my induction, when I had to stand on this box, and I thought Captain Spittle was

trying his best to hang me, but I came out of that ordeal successfully. Now Mr. Churchwarden Brown is present I have no doubt he will be anxious to know something about the science of bellringing, and to express a desire to join the company of ringers. We have also Mr. W. H. Thompson, who would make a capital member, for whatever he takes in hand he does most thoroughly. I believe my curate, the Rev. D. J. Johnson, has already commenced taking lessons, and I have no doubt he will go on. I now come to the special part of my duty, to ask Mrs. Maitland to unveil the tablet, which I trust will often remind you of this happy meeting, and inspire you to persevere in your duty to the honour and glory of God.

Mrs. Maitland then unveiled the tablet. It is of a beautiful Gothic design, and has the following inscription in gold letters:—

PARISH CHURCH, DUDLEY.—On Saturday, May 23rd, 1896, was rung in this tower a peal of GRANDSIRE ROYAL, 5160 changes, in 3 hours and 24 minutes. William Rock Small, treble; Harry Mason, 2; George Pearsall, 3; James George, 4; Joseph Fellows, 5; Arthur Spittle, 6; Samuel Spittle, 7; William Micklewright, 8; John Smith, 9; John Goodman, tenor. Composed by Arthur Spittle, conducted by Samuel Spittle. The above peal was rung as a compliment to the Vicar, the Rev. A. Gray Maitland, and Mrs. A. Gray Maitland, on the second anniversary of their wedding day. Rev. A. GRAY MAITLAND, Vicar; T. J. GOODWIN, G. G. BROWN, Churchwardens. This tablet is presented to the Vicar and Churchwardens by Mrs. A. Gray Maitland.

Mr. G. Brown (Churchwarden), in proposing a vote of thanks to Mrs. Maitland for the beautiful tablet she had just unveiled and presented to them, said it gave him much pleasure to be present on that occasion. He was always pleased to hear those beautiful bells, and the way in which they were generally rung. He was interested in the sketch which Captain Spittle had favored them with. It was gratifying to hear that bellringing had become what it ought to be, a real part of Church organisation. So long as the ringers looked upon it as such, they might rely on the sympathy and support of the clergy, churchwardens, and leading members of the Church. It had been some years since he saw the bells rung. Ringing must be a healthy pastime as well as a scientific amusement, and he would accept the Vicar's challenge and take lessons in the art if Captain Spittle would undertake to give them. Before sitting down he wished to make a remark upon the noise the ropes made in dropping upon the floor. It must be an annoyance to the ringers, besides wearing out the ropes: if a set of mats for the ropes to drop upon would obviate this, he should be pleased to provide them.

Mr. W. H. Thompson seconded the proposition, and said he should be pleased to follow Mr. Brown's lead and take lessons also. The proposition was heartily received by all present.

Mrs. Maitland suitably responded.

Mr. W. Rock Small proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar. He said he could endorse the remarks made by Mr. Spittle with respect to the state of belfries in years gone by; he had taken part in such scenes himself. He was pleased to say that ringers at this time looked upon the belfry as part of the consecrated building, and treated it as such. The ringers had now among them a good number of clergymen who were practical change-ringers. But they wanted more. He knew the time of the clergy was well taken up by their ordinary duties; he also knew that some belfries were not easy to ascend, but he thought that where a clergyman had a ring of bells and a band of ringers, he should at least make a point of visiting them occasionally, and if possible learn the art of change-ringing. Where the clergy took an interest in the bells and the bellringers, ringing was sure to prosper.

Mr. Smith seconded, emphasising the remarks of the proposer.

The Vicar, in response, thanked all present for the vote of thanks, especially the proposer. It was good to be castigated sometimes, it had a tendency to make one humble. He had little spare time at his disposal to be among the ringers, but they had his warmest sympathy and best thanks for the duties they rendered.

Votes of thanks to the ladies, to the other visitors, and to Mr. Spittle followed, and the meeting ended with the benediction.

A short touch of Grandsire Royal being rung, the bells were lowered in peal, when Mrs. Maitland invited all present to the Vicarage for refreshments. A pleasant evening was spent, Mr. Vivian Maitland and Mr. W. H. Thompson entertaining the company with some capital songs.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of this society was held at Worksop on Saturday, January 23rd, when there was a good muster in spite of the very severe cold and heavy snowfall, which no doubt prevented several members from the more distant villages attending. The fine old Abbey church of Worksop contains a melodious ring of eight bells, and these were raised and set going in Treble Bob methods, rung on the back six, by the early arrivals at 2.30 in the afternoon. Some funerals in the adjoining cemetery caused an adjournment of half-an-hour, but with this exception ringing continued until 5.0 p.m., when tea was served in the church schoolroom adjoining the tower. Twenty-seven members sat down to an exceedingly good tea, provided by Mr. Schofield (who gave us very good value for our money) the Vicar of Worksop, an old supporter of the Association, taking the chair. Tea having been concluded, the usual business meeting was held, at the close of which a hearty vote of thanks was accorded with acclamation to the Rev. H. T. Slodden for the use of the bells, and for his kind reception of the ringers in every respect. Ringing was then resumed and carried on until late in the evening. Six complete touches were brought round in good style, the striking being good throughout, in several touches particularly so, although all were rung by mixed companies. We have heard that it is contemplated to increase the number of bells in the steeple of St. John's church in this town to make a ring of six, and all the members of the North Notts. Society devoutly hope that this may soon be an accomplished fact, as at a meeting like that of the 23rd, with an attendance of thirty members and only one ring of bells to use, some ringers have to wait most of the afternoon for their turn, and some never getting a pull at all after having come a considerable distance for the purpose. A full account of the performances at this pleasant and successful meeting will be found in the usual place.

ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL SOCIETY, EDINBURGH.

The annual business meeting of this society was held in the choir schoolroom on Wednesday evening, January 13th. The Rev. H. J. Lawlor, vice-president of the society, occupied the chair. The appointment of office-bearers took place. Mr. C. C. Ellis was appointed conductor in the room of Mr. W. H. Martin (resigned), and Mr. John Murray was appointed Secretary and Treasurer to the society in the place of Mr. C. C. Ellis. Messrs. W. H. Martin, D. McKillop, and E. F. Price were elected as the Committee for the ensuing year. The silver badges of the society were redistributed to those members who according to their attendances for the past year, were found qualified to receive them. The Secretary stated in his report that the attendances of some of the members had been most satisfactory. During the year the society has suffered from the removal from Edinburgh of their instructor, Mr. Routledge, and the absence of one of its regular members for a considerable time in Glasgow, as well as from the illness of other members. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, the close of 1896 found the society in a very efficient state as regards the quality of the ringing, which is a satisfactory proof of the benefit received from their instruction in the early part of the year.

SOCIAL MEETING AT UPTON PARK, ESSEX.

On Wednesday, January 20th, Mr. Thos. Beacall, of Upton Park (late of Liverpool) invited the Barking ringers to his residence to have a ring upon his splendid peal of handbells. The company included Messrs. T. Faulkner, A. Hardy, R. Fenn, C. Fenn, A. Whight, E. Lucas and A. Deards. Seven different methods were rung double-handed, viz.: Bob Royal, Grandsire Caters, Grandsire Triples, Treble Bob Major, Duffield Major, Canterbury Pleasure Major, and Double Norwich Court Bob Major. Mr. Beacall's married daughter, who holds a certificate from the Liverpool College of music, presided at the piano and sang. Messrs. Lucas and Deards also sang. Refreshments of different kinds were liberally served, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

PEAL BOOK, Price 2s. 6d. A book specially ruled for entering peals, date touches, etc. Handbell music arranged for any number of bells. Send for catalogue. W. H. GIGGLE, Queen Street, Horbury, near Wakefield.

THE CHIPPING NORTON SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING.—It has been the custom for many years in this parish for the Vicar to entertain his ringers to a sumptuous repast on new year's eve. The invitation was given as usual this year, and under the presidency of the Rev. R. O. Williams (curate) owing to the unavoidable absence of the Vicar through illness, thirteen were present to partake of the good things provided. Thirteen is a troublesome number to some people, but the writer assures those who are so disturbed in their minds, that not one of the party felt the least uneasy about it. At the conclusion of this part of the proceedings, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and Mrs. Littledale for their continued kindness, and also to the Rev. R. O. Williams for presiding. During the evening a business meeting was held, when the eight old members were re-elected, and Mr. William Gibbs appointed foreman in place of Mr. Alfred Joyner, who had held that position for several years with general satisfaction to the members, and although a good man has been appointed to succeed him, many regrets were expressed at his determination to give up a post he had so well filled. The bells were rung half-muffled from 11.30 to midnight, after which the new year was ushered in by a well-struck 630 of Grandsire Triples, by the following: W. Bower, 1; A. Newman, 2; W. Gibbs, 3; J. Hodgkins, 4; J. F. Barlow, 5; A. Hurcomb, 6; A. Joyner, 7; G. Bull, 8.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LINCOLN DISTRICT.—A Meeting was held on Saturday, the 23rd ult., at Washingborough, and was well represented from the various towers in the district notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather. The bells were set in motion soon after 3 p.m., and good use was made of them until the hour for tea arrived. Adjourning to The Hunter's Leap, the company were not slow in setting the teapot in motion, which went "round" in capital style with several "changes." Hunger being somewhat appeased, the company settled down to the more serious and sometimes dry part of the proceedings—business under the presidency of the General Secretary to the Association, the Rev. Reginald Bond, supported by the Rev. J. C. M. Mansel-Pleydell, who notwithstanding the unfavorable elements had trudged through the storm to show his appreciation of such gatherings. Would that a few more of his brother clergy could be persuaded to follow his example, and put in an appearance at the meetings. What a different aspect would be put upon the Association, and what encouragement would be thrust into the various officers to carry out their uphill work. But alas! the time—even with the progress the art has made in recent years—has not yet arrived when the Exercise shall receive the attention it ought to do from the clergy who have the command of the various towers connected with the Association. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Both Brant Broughton and Timberland were proposed as suitable places to hold the next meeting; upon a show of hands Timberland had the majority. The first Saturday in June was suggested as a convenient time, but the definite date was left to the local ringers and the district secretary. One new member was proposed from the Washingborough society. The Rev. J. C. M. Mansel-Pleydell, in suitable terms, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells, and to the local ringers, and Mr. J. W. Ash, the local committeeman, for making the necessary arrangements; to which Mr. Ash responded. The meeting over, no time was lost in returning to the tower, where Mr. Clarke, the Master of the local society, did his best to arrange for everyone to have a pull upon the bells, which have recently been overhauled and two trebles added, making them one of the most musical and best-going rings of eight in the county. Touches of Treble Bob and Double Norwich, together with Grandsire and Bob Triples and Bob Minor, were indulged in until the Master of the tower reluctantly had to call out "it's time, gentlemen, the bells were down," thus bringing to a close another pleasant district meeting.

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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. (136 closely printed pages. Part II. (136 closely printed pages) may be had separately, 2s. 1½d.

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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).

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NOW READY.

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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, FEBRUARY 6, 1897.

AMONG our peal records in this number will be found one of a peal of Stedman Triples rung at the parish church of Basingstoke, Hants., conducted by the the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON. There is little in this to cause any unusual comment, because the fact of a peal in any method being conducted by the rev. gentleman is nothing extraordinary. But we find that the young lady who some time ago rung the treble in a peal of Grandsire Triples, and whose portrait was published in connection with this journal at that period, rung the treble in this peal of Stedman Triples also—Miss ALICE WHITE, daughter of Mr. HENRY WHITE, of Basingstoke. Surely, in this performance there is something worthy of notice. The previous peals rung by Miss WHITE—Grandsire Triples and Bob Major—may have begat an idea in the minds of some that this young lady, possibly, would fail to advance beyond a plain hunting bell, or a bob bell in some simple method. But here is the record—Stedman Triples! rung with a band of experts, and conducted by a veteran in bob-calling. We compliment Miss ALICE WHITE on her cleverness and aptitude. More we need

not say, beyond noting the pleasant fact that this performance was achieved to celebrate the fortieth birthday of her father, to whom we wish "Many happy returns."

But we have not done with the gentler sex yet. At Tunstead, in Norfolk—where a very dear ringing friend of ours, the late Rev. G. H. HARRIS, was at one time Vicar—we read of other young ladies being in the belfry. In the reports of touches we see the names of the Misses BEATRICE and VIOLET GOWER ring 1-2 in a 700 of Bob Minor at this place. Evidently the Art is getting popular with them. These are not all the lady ringers among us. Miss WHYLEY, daughter of the esteemed vicar of Alton, Hants (himself a ringer by the way) very often officiates at the rope's-end in the belfry of her father's church. And more could be named if necessary. But we have said enough to show that the exercise of change-ringing, under proper conditions, is a genteel and agreeable pursuit, with distinctly religious surroundings, inviting the attention of those whom we are apt to regard as gentle and refined.

PORTRAIT NUMBERS.—Next week will appear the portrait of Mr. CHARLES E. BORRETT, of Norwich. On Saturday, February 28th, a group portrait of the band who rang the long peal of London Surprise will appear. The photograph now in the hands of the engraver is very well executed, and we doubt not that its replica will be successful. We have a few copies on hand of the "Snowdon Memorial Window," of which we can send a dozen post free for 7½d. Orders for these must be sent direct to the office.

THE HANDBELL GIFT.—In accordance with the announcement which appeared, Mr. Harrison, of Jarrow, selected Messrs. Shaw, of Bradford, to make the peal of twelve handbells he became entitled to. As Mr. Salter, of Kidderminster, was so very near, in point of number of coupons, to Mr. Harrison, he was awarded a peal also, and he selected the same founders. Both these gentlemen have received their bells—a set of twelve each—and express themselves as highly-delighted with them. We shall in a week or two refer to another gift of the same kind, but we desire to formulate some plan by which any collection of coupons may be avoided, because such is actually in contradiction to the ideas which led to the undertaking. We have received several suggestions: perhaps those interested in this may send us their opinions upon the subject.

The Metropolis.

THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, FULHAM.

On Saturday, January 30, 1897, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, FULHAM,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5000 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 cwt.

JAMES NICHOLLS Treble.	JAMES W. DRIVER 6.
WILLIAM T. ELSON 2.	*GEORGE CHARGE 7.
EDWARD H. ADAMS 3.	CORNELIUS CHARGE 8.
WILLIAM S. SMITH 4.	JOSEPH FAYERS 9.
ROBERT E. CHICHESTER* .. 5.	ROBERT H. BURGESS .. Tenor.

Composed by the late GEORGE NEWSON and

Conducted by J. W. DRIVER.

*First peal in the method. This was rung as a welcome peal to Dr. Mandell Creighton, Lord Bishop of London, it being the day that he came into residence at Fulham Palace.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 1, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, LEWISHAM,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

BROOKS' VARIATION.

Tenor 22½ cwt.

HARRY WARNETT Treble.	*HARRY BARRETT 5.
ERNEST HOLT NIXON* 2.	*GEORGE H. DAYNES 6.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 3.	WILLIAM BEDWELL 7.
THOMAS G. DEAL 4.	ARTHUR J. NEALE Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BEDWELL.

*First peal in the method.

The Provinces.

BASINGSTOKE, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, January 23, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

Tenor 15 cwt.

ALICE WHITE* Treble.	JOHN E. BALLARD 5.
ALFRED P. GODDARD 2.	JOHN W. WHITING 6.
FRANK HOPGOOD 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
HENRY WHITE 4.	W. W. GIFFORD Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

Rung on the anniversary of Mr. White's birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him many him many happy returns. *First peal of Stedman, and first attempt.

CASTOR, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MARTIN'S SCHOLARS, STAMFORD.

On Saturday, January 30, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. KYNEBURGA,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Court Bob, 720 of Canterbury, 720 of Grandsire, Two different 720s of Oxford Bob, and Two of Plain Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt.

E. GALE Treble.	C. R. LILLEY 4.
E. POPPLE 2.	F. DENNISON 5.
W. TURNER 3.	REV. H. LAW JAMES .. Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. H. LAW JAMES.

This is the first peal in five methods by the Association, and by all the band with the exception of the conductor; it is also the first peal of Minor on the bells.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

On Sunday, January 31, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 13½ cwt. in F.

JOHN R. SHARMAN Treble.	GEORGE PAICE 5.
JOHN RICE 2.	FREDERICK W. RICE .. 6.
GEORGE ATTFIELD 3.	FREDERICK W. CRIPPS .. 7.
ALFRED CRIPPS 4.	FREDERICK MERRETT .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK W. CRIPPS.

First peal of Grandsire Triples by Messrs. Sharman, A. Cripps, and Merrett.

CHIPPING, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 30, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s, each called differently. Tenor 9 cwt. 8 lbs.

RICHARD KENYON Treble.	WILLIAM T. H. TIMBRELL .. 4.
JOHN SEED 2.	EDWIN TIMBRELL 5.
JOHN T. KENYON 3.	THOMAS SEED Tenor.

Conducted by W. T. H. TIMBRELL.

First peal by John Seed. The above was taken from Snowdon's Rope-Sight and contained 277 calls.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION,
AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.

On Saturday, January 30, 1897, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 17½ cwt. in F.

JESSE GILLET† Treble.	HENRY MITCHELL 5.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	ERNEST E. DAVIS 6.
FRED. G. MAY* 3.	ROBERT A. BARRETT 7.
WILLIAM C. JONES 4.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER Tenor.

Composed by G. LINDOFF and Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

†First peal. *First peal with a bob bell. This composition has the 2nd never in 5-6, and the 3rd never in 6ths place.

SELLY OAK, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, January 30, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ORIGINAL.

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr.

WILLIAM H. BARBER Treble.	*ROBERT J. HUNT 5.
JOHN WITHERS* 2.	*WILLIAM DEVEY 6.
BERNARD WITCHELL 3.	FREDERICK CLAYTON 7.
WILLIAM PALMER* 4.	EDWARD BRYANT Tenor.

Conducted by BERNARD WITCHELL.

*First peal of Stedman. This peal was arranged for W. Devey, who hails from Nuneaton, and was, along with W. Palmer, elected members of the above Guild before starting for the peal.

MORTIMER, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(ST. GILES' SOCIETY, READING.)

On Saturday, January 30, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HUBBARD'S TEN-PART,

Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qrs.

HENRY DIBLEY* Treble.	ALFRED W. REEVES 5.
HENRY COFFER* 2.	FREDERICK SWEETZER 6.
GEORGE L. BODDINGTON* 3.	ALBERT E. REEVES 7.
ALFRED E. REEVES 4.	ARTHUR W. HIGGS Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT EDWARD REEVES.

*First peal of Bob Triples. First peal in the method on the bells. The above ringers take this opportunity of thanking the vicar for the use of the bells, also Mr. Cox, the worthy steeplekeeper, for having everything ready.

COLWALL, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AND THE
WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 30, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES THE GREAT,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 11 cwt.

WALTER S. EVANS Treble.	GEORGE PEACY 5.
JAMES FEILD 2.	ANDREW LAYTON 6.
H. W. ALLEN 3.	CHARLES LAYTON 7.
CHARLES WATKINS 4.	WILLIAM SMART Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES LAYTON.

Messrs. Smart and Feild were proposed members of the Worcestershire Association previous to starting; Messrs. Watkins and Evans were proposed at a previous attempt.

MITCHAM, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 3, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'

Tenor 16 cwt.

WILLIAM S. SMITH Treble.	*ALBERT CALVER 5.
CHARLES BANCE 2.	JOSEPH FAYERS 6.
JOSEPH A. LAMBERT 3.	GEORGE WELLING 7.
ERNEST C. LAMBERT 4.	ALBERT CLARK Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WELLING.

*First peal in the method.

EDENBRIDGE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, January 31, 1897, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JAMES HEASMAN* Treble.	*JAMES WALLIS 5.
WILLIAM STEED* 2.	*THOMAS WALLIS 6.
WILLIAM LATTER 3.	JACK PRESTON 7.
JOHN W. STEDDY 4.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by THOS. GROOMBRIDGE.

*First peal of Major and rang at the first attempt. This is the first peal of Major on the bells, and was rung at the first attempt for 11 a.m. Divine Service. Steed hails from Tonbridge; Latter from Tunbridge Wells; Groombridge from Sevenoaks; the rest belong to the local band. The above composition is a two-part, with the 4th and 6th the extent in 6ths place each at five course-ends; 2nd never in 6ths place at a course-end.

BACUP, LANCASHIRE.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

On Monday, February 1, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

F. HOWORTH Treble.	J. SHEPHERD 5.
J. A. BROWN 2.	J. SUTCLIFFE 6.
A. WHITWORTH 3.	W. ASHWORTH 7.
J. T. STANDRING 4.	W. LAW Tenor.

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL and Conducted by J. SHEPHERD.

The above peal was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute to the memory of Mr. E. Entwistle, who was one of the committee which laboured so successfully in the installation of the above bells; he had also been one of the most sympathetic of school superintendents for a long number of years. This is the first peal of Treble Bob by all except J. Shepherd, and being also his first in the method as conductor. This is the first peal of Treble Bob rung on the bells, also the first rung in Rossendale by any local company, and was well struck throughout and accomplished at the second attempt.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(THE DUFFIELD SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, February 2, 1897, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

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

Tenor 17 cwt.

THOMAS DRAPER Treble.	JOHN HOWE 5.
GEORGE DAWSON 2.	BENJAMIN SUGDEN 6.
A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD 3.	JOHN FLOWER 7.
JOHN PATCHETT 4.	WILLIAM HICKLING Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Mrs. Herbert Strutt.

Date Touches.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Tuesday, January 26th, at St. Matthew's church, a date touch of Plain Bob Minor, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 23 mins., being two 720s and 457, each called differently. A. Hillier, 1; R. Hall, 2; S. Ferry, 3; J. Dawson, 4; W. Holmes, 5; E. Ferry, 6; Arranged and conducted by W. Holmes. Rung in celebration of the silver wedding of Canon and Mrs. Churchyard. This is the first date touch on the bells. Tenor 31 cwt. 1 qr. in D.

EASTBOURNE.—On Thursday evening, January 21st, at St. Mary's parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. J. Rollison, 1; J. Billings, 2; H. Vernon, 3; E. Willoughby, 4; J. Lewis, 5; T. Lewis, 6; T. Willoughby (conductor), 7; S. Lewis, 8.

SLEAFORD (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, February 1st, at the parish church of St. Denys, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 13 mins. W. Townsend, 1; N. E. Snow, 2; A. U. Whitworth, 3; F. Bedford, 4; F. Williams, 5; E. Rowbottom, 6; C. Harwood (conductor), 7. C. W. Jackson, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Composed by Mr. W. Dickinson, Heckington, Lincolnshire.

PENDLEBURY (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, December 8th, for practice at Christ Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1896 changes, in 1 hr. 3 mins. W. Cottrill (longest length), 1; J. Hindley, 2; J. Booth, 3; W. Pyle, 4; T. Lingard (conductor), 5; J. Chapman, 6; T. Rushton (longest length with a bob bell), 7; J. Briscoe, 8.

Miscellaneous.

THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, FULHAM.

FULHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 24th, at All Saints' church, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes), in 50 mins. J. Aldridge, 1; E. Artherton (first quarter-peal), 2; W. Elson, 3; J. Nicholls, 4; H. Adams, 5; J. Green, 6; C. Charge, 7; R. Chichester, 8; G. Charge, 9; S. How, 10. Composed and conducted by C. Charge.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CHRISTCHURCH (Hants).—On Monday, January 25th, for practice at the Priory Church, 216 Stedman Triples. C. Hinton, 1; E. Waters, 2; S. Best, 3; G. Plummer, 4; C. Goodenough, 5; T. Best, 6; G. Preston (conductor), 7; W. Saffery, 8. First 216 of Stedman by all the band except the conductor, being his first touch as conductor.

PORTSEA (Hants).—On January 12th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 350 Plain Bob Minor. P. Hammond, 1; E. Newman, 2; J. T. Matthews, 3; J. Harper, 4; J. Symons, 5; A. Pye (conductor), 6. On January 16th, for morning service, 546 Grandsire Triples. P. Hammond, 1; E. Newman, 2; J. Harris, 3; J. Symons (conductor), 4; J. Harper, 5; E. Reynolds, 6; J. Gould, 7; J. T. Matthews, 8. On January 16th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 49 mins. C. Groves, 1; E. Newman, 2; J. Harper, 3; A. Pye (conductor), 4; J. Symons, 5; E. Reynolds, 6; J. Gould, 7; J. T. Matthews, 8. On January 24th, for evening service, 232 Stedman Triples. J. Harris, 1; C. Groves, 2; E. Newman, 3; J. Symons, 4; E. Reynolds, 5; J. Harper, 6; J. Gould (conductor), 7; J. T. Matthews, 8.

GOSSPORT (Hants).—On New Year's Eve, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. R. Gardner, 1; H. Reynolds, 2; H. Westbrook, 3; A. Barrow, 4; R. Fuge, 5; A. E. Tomlins (conductor), 6. On Saturday, January 8th, for practice, a 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major. A. Barrow, 1; J. Hewett, 2; H. Reynolds, 3; J. Symonds, 4; H. Westbrook, 5; F. Burnett, 6; J. Gould, 7; A. E. Tomlins (conductor), 8. On Thursday, January 28th, after meeting short for a peal of Treble Bob, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor and a 720 of Double Stedman Slow Course Minor. R. Fuge, 1; *H. Reynolds, 2; *E. Newman, 3; E. Reynolds, 4; *J. Gould, 5; A. E. Tomlin (conductor), 6. *First 720 of Plain Bob. The first 720 of Double Stedman by all, and the first on tower bells by members of the above.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

PRITTEWELL (Essex).—On Sunday, January 24th, at St. Mary's church, for early celebration, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Hunt, 1; W. Bedwell, 2; W. Dowsett, 3; W. Dudley, 4; C. Anderson, 5; J. Smith, 6; J. Perry, 7; W. H. Judd (conductor), 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the Vicar, the Rev. T. O. Reay, M.A., the ringers wishing him many happy returns.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

UPCHURCH (Kent).—On Tuesday, December 15th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four singles and twenty-six bobs). W. Hawes, 1; H. Shipp, 2; A. Trowell (first 720 with a bob bell), 3; W. J. Walker, 4; W. H. B. Wilkins, 5; W. T. Hyland (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, December 22nd, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). W. Seamer (conductor), 1; A. Trowell, 2; W. H. B. Wilkins, 3; W. T. Hyland, 4; H. Shipp, 5; W. J. Walker, 6. On Tuesday, January 5th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs). H. Witherden, 1; W. T. Hyland, 2; A. T. Hyland, 3; W. J. Walker (first 720 with a bob bell), 4; G. Dennis, 5; W. Seamer (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 10th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (fourteen singles and four bobs). H. Clout, 1; H. Witherden, 2; W. J. Walker, 3; H. Shipp, 4; G. Dennis, 5; W. T. Hyland (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, January 12th, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). H. Clout, 1; G. Dennis, 2; H. Witherden, 3; W. H. B. Wilkins (Bobbing), 4; W. J. Walker, 5; W. T. Hyland (conductor), 6.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND (Kent).—On Friday, January 1st, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Avis, 1; F. Hayes, 2; R. Munn, 3; B. Spinner, 4; H. Davies, 5; L. Silver, 6. Conducted by F. Hayes. On Sunday, January 3rd, 720 Grandsire Minor. T. Cook, 1; H. Bonner, 2; R.

Munn, 3; B. Spinner, 4; J. Avis, 5; H. Davis (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, January 12th, 720 Grandsire Minor. G. Butler, 1; L. Silver, 2; R. Munn, 3; B. Spinner, 4; J. Avis, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Avis, 1; F. Hayes, 2; R. Munn, 3; B. Spinner, 4; W. Martin, 5; L. Silver (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 17th, 720 Plain Bob. G. Butler, 1; T. Cook, 2; R. Munn, 3; B. Spinner, 4; F. Hayes, 5; L. Silver (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, January 19th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Butler, 1; F. Hayes (conductor), 2; R. Munn, 3; B. Spinner, 4; G. Morrad, 5; L. Silver, 6. On Tuesday, January 26th, 720 Plain Bob. G. Butler, 1; B. Spinner, 2; R. Munn, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; W. Ware, 5; L. Silver (conductor), 6. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Avis, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. Hayes (conductor), 3; B. Spinner, 4; R. Munn, 5; L. Silver, 6.

NORTHFLEET (Kent).—On Thursday, January 21st, 720 Cambridge Surprise. G. Butler, 1; R. Munn, 2; G. Hayes, 3; F. Hayes, 4; W. Martin (conductor), 5; L. Silver, 6. G. Hayes and W. Martin hail from Swanscombe; Butler, Munn, F. Hayes, and Silver from Milton. Rung on the occasion of the birthday of L. Silver, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns of the day.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

KINGSWOOD (Surrey).—On Wednesday, January 13th, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. J. Killick, 1; W. Wood, 2; A. Batchelor, 3; G. Hoad, 4; F. Hoad, jun. (conductor), 5; A. Whittington, 6. Also another 6-score with G. Osborne, 1; C. Butchers, 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Sunday, January 10th, at the parish church, 420 Stedman Triples. H. Reeves (conductor), 1; F. Hoad, sen., 2; F. Linter, 3; F. Hoad, jun., 4; G. Hoad, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Argent, 7; A. Moseley, 8. On Monday, January 11th, 420 Stedman Triples. P. Knight, 1; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; H. Reeves, 3; G. Thompson, 4; G. Hoad, 5; W. Argent, 6; F. Hoad, jun., 7; G. Steadman, 8. Also 240 Stedman Triples. P. Knight, 1; G. Hoad, 2; W. Argent, 3; G. Thompson, 4; H. Reeves (conductor), 5; F. Linter, 6; F. Hoad, jun., 7; J. Steadman, 8. On Thursday, January 14th, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing 2736 changes it came to grief. G. Thompson, 1; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; F. Hoad, jun., 3; G. Hoad, 4; H. Reeves, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Argent, 7; A. Moseley, 8. On Monday, January 18th, 518 Grandsire Triples. A. Batchelor, 1; G. Huggett (conductor), 2; G. Thompson, 3; F. Hoad, sen., 4; G. Hoad, 5; W. Argent, 6; F. Hoad, jun., 7; J. Steadman, 8. Also 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor on the back six. A. Batchelor, 1; F. Hoad, sen., 2; G. Thompson, 3; G. Hoad, 4; G. Huggett (conductor), 5; F. Hoad, jun., 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Tuesday, December 29th, for practice at St. Matthew's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 30 mins. R. M. Duke, 1; A. Lamb, 2; H. B. Salkeld, 3; J. W. Dawson, 4; G. W. Dix (conductor), 5; E. E. Ferry, 6. Mr. Dix hails from North Shields. On Tuesday, January 19th, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. R. M. Duke, 1; A. Lamb, 2; S. O. Ferry, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; R. O. Hall (first 720 as conductor), 5; E. E. Ferry, 6. Tenor 31 cwt. 1 qr. in D.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

WORKSOP (Notts).—On Saturday, January 23rd, at the quarterly meeting of this Association, 672 Grandsire Major, in 28 mins. F. W. Abbott, 1; J. Swannack, 2; H. Warburton, 3; W. Drake, 4; C. Crawford, 5; H. Haigh (conductor), 6; T. Spurr, 7; R. Potter, 8. Also 630 in the same method, in 27 mins. T. Barlow, 1; C. Crawford, 2; R. Potter, 3; W. Drake, 4; H. Haigh, 5; H. Warburton (conductor), 6; T. Spurr, 7; H. Lambert, 8. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, on the back six, in 28 mins. G. Barrowcliffe, 1; G. Clark, 2; Rev. B. Darley, 3; W. Marshall, 4; W. Newbury (conductor), 6; J. White, 6. A 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Unwin, 1; C. Crawford, 2; J. Guest, 3; B. Hall, 4; W. Newbury (conductor), 5; F. Hargreaves, 6. A 720 of Oxford, in 25 mins. G. Barrowcliffe, 1; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 2; G. F. Clark, 3; W. Newbury, 4; D. Russon, 5; J. White, 6; F. Hargreaves, 7. And 720 Violet. H. Warburton, 1; C. Crawford, 2; H. Haigh, 3; H. Lambert, 4; G. Barrowcliffe, 5; F. Hargreaves (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Thursday, January 7th, for practice at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob (thirty singles and nine bobs) in 24 mins. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; J. Luckey, 5; H. J. Tucker (composer and conductor), 6. And 720 Double Court Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles, 5th the observation). G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; H. J. Tucker, 3; J. Luckey, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor),

6. And on Sunday, January 10th, for morning service, a 720 of York Surprise (nine bobs). Composed by N. Spindlow, of Ducklington. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. And for afternoon service, a 720 Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, January 14th, for practice, a 720 of Dewsbury Surprise (nine bobs, 5th the observation), in 25 mins. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 17th, for morning service, a 720 Kent Treble Bob (twelve bobs), in 25 mins. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. And for afternoon service, a 360 College Single. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; J. Luckey, 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6. On Thursday, January 21st, for practice, a 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; T. J. Watts, 4; G. Jordan, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. H. J. Tucker hails from Bishop Stortford, Herts. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

GORING (Sussex).—On Friday, January 15th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles). F. Hayler, 1; H. Evans, 2; B. Bassett, 3; H. Meetens, 4; C. Hills, 5; E. Lindup (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Martin (first 720), 1; C. Hills, 2; H. Meetens, 3; H. Evans, 4; E. Lindup, 5; B. Bassett (conductor), 6.

HEENE, WORTHING (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, January 24th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. T. Greenyer, 1; H. Meetens, 2; J. Paice, 3; G. Norris, 4; H. Evans, 5; E. Lindup, 6; B. Bassett (conductor), 7; A. Arnell, 8. An attempt was made for a quarter-peal, but came to grief after ringing 600 changes; this being the first attempt by a local band.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Sunday, December 6th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. C. Carter, 1; W. Franks (conductor), 2; F. Mathis, 3; W. Eastland, 4; J. Curtis, 5; J. Mathis, 6; W. Thomas, 7; J. Sinden, 8. On Tuesday, December 8th, 350 Grandsire Triples. W. Eldridge, 1; W. Franks, 2; C. Hyland (conductor), 3; J. Livermore, 4; F. Lock, 5; W. Eastland, 6; W. Thomas, 7; J. Sinden, 8. On Christmas morning for Divine Service, 350 Grandsire Triples. C. Carter, 1; W. Franks (conductor), 2; F. Mathis, 3; C. Hyland, 4; J. Mathis, 5; W. Eastland, 6; W. Thomas, 7; W. Roberts (Eastbourne), 8.

THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

CHIPPING BARNET (Herts).—On Monday, January 25th, at the parish church, for practice, 168 Grandsire Triples. H. Newby, 1; A. Belton, 2; J. Sumpter, 3; A. D. Chidwick, 4; J. Stevens (conductor), 5; F. A. Milne, Esq., 6; J. Miller, 7; W. F. Dolton, 8. Also 350 in the same method. A. D. Chidwick, 1; H. Newby, 2; J. Sumpter, 3; J. Miller, 4; J. Stevens, 5; F. A. Milne, Esq. (conductor), 6; A. Belton, 7; A. T. King, Esq., 8. And 120 Stedman Doubles, on the back six. F. A. Milne, Esq., 1; J. Miller, 2; H. Newby, 3; J. Stevens, 4; A. Belton, 5; A. D. Chidwick, 6.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

COLWALL (Herefordshire).—On Thursday, December 31st, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Evans, 1; S. Hope, 2; E. Beatley, 3; E. Layton, 4; G. Peacey, 5; H. Allen, 6; J. Field, 7; W. Smart, 8. On January 4th, 720 Grandsire Minor, 7-8 behind. S. Hope, 1; W. Evans, 2; H. Allen, 3; C. Layton, 4; G. Peacey, 5; J. Field, 6; W. Smart, 7; C. Pedlingham, 8. On January 11th, 350 Grandsire Triples. C. Layton, 1; S. Hope, 2; G. Peacey, 3; W. Evans, 4; C. Greening, 5; H. Allen, 6; J. Field, 7; W. Smart, 8. All conducted by C. Layton. On January 11th, 168 Grandsire Triples. W. Evans, 1; C. Layton, 2; C. Greening, 3; H. Allen, 4; S. Hope, 5; G. Peacey, 6; J. Field (conductor), 7; W. Smart, 8. On January 25th, 650 Grandsire Triples. C. Layton, 1; S. Hope, 2; J. Field, 3; J. Thomas, 4; G. Peacey, 5; H. Allen, 6; A. Layton, 7; W. Smart, 8. Also a 210 in the same method. W. Evans, 1; J. Field, 2; Rev. G. M. Custance, 3; H. Allen, 4; J. Thomas, 5; A. Layton, 6; C. Layton, 7; W. Smart, 8. Both conducted by C. Layton.

WESTON-UNDER-PENYARD (Herefordshire).—The ringers here have just joined the above Guild, and on Tuesday, January 12th, were visited by their instructor, J. E. Groves, when several 120s of Grandsire Doubles including a 720 by J. E. Groves (conductor), 1; E. Evans, 2; G. Wilks, 3; C. Davies, 4; F. Heaven, 5; R. Jeffries, 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

LUGWARDINE (Herefordshire).—On Sunday, January 17th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. H. King, 1; W. Williams, 2; A. Brace, 3; C. Clifford, 4; J. Jones, 5; J. E. Groves

(conductor), 6. First 720 of Minor by the ringers of the first five. And 720 of Doubles. G. Cole, 1; W. Williams, 2; J. E. Groves (conductor), 3; C. Clifford, 4; J. Jones, 5; H. King, 6. And 480 of the same. J. Jones, 1; F. Emerson, 2; A. Brace (conductor), 3; T. Jones, 4; T. Lewis, 5; E. Brookes, 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

WISTANSTOW (Salop).—On Thursday, January 21st, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Doubles, in 24 mins. T. Lewis, 1; A. Evans, 2; J. Williams, 3; T. Davies, 4; J. E. Groves (conductor), 5; J. Beaumont, 6. First 720 by all except the conductor. And during instructor's visit several other 120s of Doubles. Tenor 12 cwt. but badly cracked.

KNIGHTON (Radnorshire).—On Saturday, January 23rd, at the parish church, several 120s of Grandsire Doubles and touches of Minor. J. G. Buchanan, Esq., J. Roberts and W. Meads (Clun), J. E. Groves (instructor), Rev. H. F. Bagshaw, R. Burge, F. Pewtress, R. Thomas and J. Perks (Knighton). The ringers were afterwards entertained to tea by the Rev. H. F. Bagshaw. On Sunday, January 24th, a 720 of Grandsire Doubles. J. E. Groves (conductor), 1; R. Burge, 2; R. Thomas, 3; E. Griffiths, 4; F. Pewtress, 5; J. Perks, 6. Tenor 8 cwt.

PRESTREIGN (Radnorshire).—On Tuesday, January 26th, the ringers of Knighton, with Mr. J. E. Groves, paid a visit to the above town, and after a great deal of perseverance and hard work, rang the first 120 of Doubles ever heard on the bells of the parish church, Rev. H. F. Bagshaw, 1; R. Burge, 2; R. Thomas, 3; J. E. Groves (conductor), 4; F. Pewtress, J. Perks, 6. And 120 of the same with J. E. Groves, 3; and E. Griffiths, 4. The bells are a fine ring of six. Cast by A. Rudhall, in 1717. Tenor 16 cwt. in E.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, Jan. 12th, at the parish church, a 448 of Grandsire Triples. G. Browning, 1; H. Scrivens, 2; H. Grosvenor, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; S. Baker, 5; Dr. Walker, 6; W. Bateman, 7; C. Hall, 8. On Sunday evening, January 24th, the same band rung a 546 Grandsire Triples in 35 mins. And a 168 with J. Poole at the 6th. On Sunday evening, January 31st, for Divine Service, a 252 of the same, with J. Poole at the 6th. These are the longest touches by the band.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MORTIMER (Berks).—On Saturday, January 30th, at St. John's church, six members of the above Guild (from St. Giles's, Reading) rang 720 Bob Minor. A. W. Higgs, 1; H. Coffee, 2; Alfred E. Reeves, 3; A. W. Reeves, 4; F. Sweetzer, 5; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 6. First 720 of Minor on the bells.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TUNSTED (Norfolk).—On Thursday, January 28th, at the parish church, 360 Bob Minor. Miss Beatrice Gower, 1; Miss Violet M. Gower, 2; W. Sharpe, 3; W. Appleton, 4; W. Wilson, 5; J. Gower (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 31st, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. Miss Beatrice Gower, 1; Miss Violet M. Gower, 2; W. Sharpe, 3; W. Appleton, 4; W. Wilson, 5; J. Gower (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 on tower bells by all except J. Gower.

FRAMSDEN (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, January 19th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor in 26 mins. on the back six. W. Wightman, 1; G. Perry, 2; S. Wightman, 3; W. Groom, 4; W. Rumsey (conductor), 5; A. Woods (first 720), 6. Wightman hails from Cretingham; Rumsey and Groom from Debenham; the others belong to the local band.

DEBENHAM (Suffolk).—On Monday, January 25th, for practice on the back six, a 720 Bob Minor. S. Collins, 1; W. Groom, 2; J. Rumsey, 3; A. Grimes, 4; W. Rumsey, 5; W. Grimes (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, January 27th, at the residence of Mr. W. Grimes, on handbells, 720 in the same method. W. Grimes, 1-2; A. Grimes, 3; W. Groom, 4; W. Rumsey (first 720 double-handed), 5-6. Conducted by W. Grimes. On Saturday, January 30th, 720 in the same method. S. Collins, 1; W. Groom, 2; J. Rumsey, 3; A. Grimes, 4; W. Grimes (conductor), 5; W. Rumsey, 6. Also 720 in the same method (eighteen singles and three bobs). W. Rumsey, 1; A. Grimes, 2; W. Groom, 3; E. Clarke, 4; W. Grimes (conductor), 5; G. Rowe, 6. On Sunday evening, January 31st, for Divine Service, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Grimes, 1; A. Grimes, 2; W. Groom, 3; J. Rumsey, 4; E. Clarke, 5; G. Rowe, 6; W. Rumsey, 7; G. Rumsey, 8. The first 720 on Saturday evening was rung as a compliment to A. W. Grimes on his sixteenth birthday; and the other, together with the Grandsire Triples, as farewell touches to E. Clarke, who is leaving the parish for a time. Also on handbells a course of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Grimes, 1-2; A. Grimes, 3; W. Groom, 4; W. Rumsey, 5-6.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LINCOLN.—On Wednesday, January 27th, at the church of St. Peter-at-Arches, 576 Superlative Surprise Major. J. B. Fenton, 1; G. Flintham, 2; G. Lindoff, 3; G. W. Bemrose, 4; G. Chester, 5; J. R. Mackman, 6; R. Dawson, 7; C. W. P. Clifton, 8. First attempt in the method by G. Flintham. On Sunday morning, January 31st, a course of Superlative Surprise and a course of Double Norwich. A. Button (Bury St. Edmunds), 1; G. Flintham, 2; J. B. Fenton, 3; G. Bemrose, 4; J. W. Watson, 5; J. R. Mackman, 6; R. Dawson, 7; C. W. P. Clifton, 8. In the evening 400 Double Norwich and a course of Stedman Triples. G. Chester, 1; G. Flintham, 2; J. B. Fenton, 3; G. Bemrose, 4; G. Lindoff, 5; J. R. Mackman, 6; R. Dawson, 7; C. W. P. Clifton, 8.

BATLEY CARR (Yorks).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Thursday, January 21st, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Simon, 1-2; *W. Blakiston, 3; *J. Terry, 4; S. Mitchell, 5; J. Blakiston, 6. *First 720.

CANTERBURY (Kent).—On Sunday, January 31st, at the church of St. Alphege, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 26 mins. J. Fox, 1; E. Beney, 2; M. Pierce (conductor), 3; G. Jenkin, 4; A. Saxby, 5; F. T. Marriott, 6.

EDMONTON (Middlesex).—On Sunday, January 30th, at All Saints' church, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. S. T. Darlington, 1; P. J. Darlington, 2; R. Goodchild, 3; W. Bennett, 4; A. W. Darlington (conductor), 5; — Martin (longest touch in the method), 6; L. J. Darlington, 7; W. G. Darlington, 8.

EDINBURGH.—On December 24th, at the parish church, on the front six bells, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 30 mins. E. F. Price, 1; J. Murray, 2; D. McKillop, 3; W. C. S. Heathcote, 4; W. H. Martin, 5; C. C. Ellis (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 17th, 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), standing in the same order, but conducted by W. C. S. Heathcote. This is McKillop's first 720 of Plain Bob Minor, and Heathcote's first as conductor.

GREENWICH (Kent).—On Sunday, January 31st, for evening service, at St. Alfege church, 1407 of Stedman Caters in 57 mins. W. Berry, 1; F. S. Bayley, 2; H. Hoskins, 3; H. J. Skelt, 4; W. Foreman, 5; G. R. Fardon, 6; I. G. Shade (conductor), 7; T. Taylor, 8; F. W. Thornton, 9; C. Langdon, 10. Longest length of Stedman Caters by Messrs. Berry, Hoskins, Skelt, Foreman, Taylor and Langdon.

LOWICK (Northamptonshire).—On Thursday, January 21st, at St. Peter's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. Swan, 1; J. S. Allen, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; J. Betts, 4; E. Curtis, 5; J. Guess (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Bob. C. Swan, 1; G. S. Allen, 2; J. Guess, 3; J. Betts, 4; E. Curtis, 5; R. Dunkley (conductor), 6. A 720 College Little. A. Allen (aged 12 years), 1; C. Swan, 2; J. T. Allen, 3; P. J. Betts, 4; E. Curtis, 5; R. Dunkley (conductor), 6. Also 720 each of Plain Bob and London Single. J. Guess, 1; C. Swan, 2; E. Dunkley, 3; G. Betts, 4; E. Curtis, 5; G. T. Allen (conductor), 6. The above 720s were rung on the occasion of the marriage of the Rev. H. A. Boys, of North Cadbury, Somerset, to Miss S. C. Watson, eldest daughter of the Rev. J. S. Watson, Rector of Lowick.

MILDENHALL (Suffolk).—On Friday, January 1st, immediately after midnight, the New Year was rung in with 720 Bob Minor. H. Turner, 1; J. Lock, 2; H. Turner, sen., 3; A. Turner, 4; G. Turner, 5; F. Barton, 7; C. Munson, 8. On Saturday, January 23rd, 720 Bob Minor. J. Lock, 1; Rev. H. B. Woolley, 2; H. Turner, sen., 3; A. Turner, 4; G. Turner, 5; F. Barton, 6; C. Carpenter, 7; T. Soames, 8. Conducted by H. Turner, sen. Tenor 17 cwt.

PRESTBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, January 17th, after evening service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 31 mins. A. W. Humphris, 1; W. T. Pates, 2; F. W. Townsend, 3; W. Brinkworth, 4; G. H. Phillott, 5; W. Dyer (conductor), 6; A. Roberts, 7; J. Compton, 8.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, January 10th, at St. Mary's church for morning service, 480 Grandsire Doubles. W. Pickworth, 1; E. King, 2; A. Jacob (conductor), 3; S. Wade, 4; W. Dixon, 5; A. H. Childs, 6. For evening service 600 Grandsire Doubles. S. Wade, 2; E. King, 2; G. Griffin, 3; W. Dixon, 4; A. Jacob (conductor), 5; W. Pickworth, 6. After service 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Griffin, 1; J. Miller, 2; J. Waghorn, sen., 3; J. Waghorn, jun., 4; A. Miller, 5; A. Jacob (conductor), 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Sunday, January 3rd, for evening service, two 6-scores of Plain Bob and one of Grandsire Doubles, with 4-6-8 covering. S. Wade, 1; J. Miller, 2; A. Jacob (conductor), 3; C. Bale, 4; H. Newby, 5; J. Holmes, 6; A. Miller, 7; J. Howard, 8. And 240 Grandsire Doubles on the back six. J. Hitch, 1; S. Wade, 2; A. Jacob, 3; J. Miller, 4; A. Miller (conductor), 5; C. Bale, 6.

On Thursday, January 21st, for practice, 240 Grandsire Doubles, 7-6-8 covering. J. Hitch, 1; S. Wade, 2; J. Miller (conductor), 3; H. Newby, 4; A. Miller, 5; J. Holmes, 6; J. Howard, 7; S. Ansell, 8. And 240 Plain Bob Doubles. J. Hitch, 1; S. Ansell, 2; J. Miller (conductor), 3; H. Newby, 4; A. Miller, 5; S. Wade, 6. Tenor 25 cwt.

THORNBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, January 17th, for Divine Service at the parish church, several 6-scores of Stedman Doubles; also several plain courses of Stedman Triples and a short touch in the same method. A. Burchell, 1; A. Frayburn, 2; J. Cullimore, 3; J. Poole, 4; F. Howell, 5; H. Howell, 6; S. Phipps, 7; T. Smith, 8. W. Symes also took part both in the Doubles and Triples. The above company is called the Amateur Band, and commenced to handle a bell only ten months ago under the tuition of Messrs. F. K. Howell and J. Poole, for the purpose of introducing the Stedman method into the town, it never having been rung here before by local men. The bells are now rung twice every Sunday, with practice in the week, and soon hope to pull off a 504 of Stedman Triples. The above band will be very pleased to welcome any ringer to their tower for a practice or Sunday ringing. H. T. Howell hails from St. George's, Bristol.

WORTLEY (Yorks).—On Saturday, January 23rd, at St. Leonard's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. D. D. Reid, 1; J. Dixon, 2; G. Parkin, 3; J. Evinson, 4; J. Clark, 5; G. O. Dixon, 6; H. Jones (conductor), 7; J. Parkin, 8. Tenor 12½ cwt.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Monday, December 14th, at Old St. Mary's, 720 and 360 of Bob Minor. Chas. Herbert, 1; M. Matthews, 2; S. Avis, 3; H. Harris, 4; E. Herbert, 5; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 6. On Monday, December 21st, 504 Bob Triples. W. Jones, 1; Cyril Herbert, 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; E. Herbert, 5; H. Harris, 6; Rev. W. Baker, 7; R. Marshall, 8. Also a 588. Cyril Herbert (conductor), 1; E. Herbert, 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; H. Davis, 6; Rev. W. Baker, 7; R. Marshall, 8. On Saturday, January 9th, on handbells, 540 Bob Royal. Chas. Herbert, 1-2; S. Avis, 3; M. Matthews, 4; E. Herbert, 5-6; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 7-8; H. Harris, 9-10. On Monday, January 11th, at St. Mary's church, 504 Bob Triples. Cyril Herbert, 1; Rev. W. Baker, 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; H. Harris, 6; E. Herbert, 7; R. Marshall, 8. On Monday, January 18th, 756 Bob Triples. W. Jones, 1; Rev. W. C. Baker, 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; H. Harris, 6; E. Herbert, 7; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 8. On Monday, January 25th, a 360 Kent Treble Bob Major. M. Matthews, 1; Chas. Herbert, 2; S. Avis, 3; H. Harris, 4; E. Herbert, 5; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 6. On Monday, February 1st, 720 Bob Minor. W. Jones, 1; M. Matthews, 2; S. Avis, 3; H. Harris, 4; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 5; E. Herbert, 6.

A CORRECTION.—We have received the following: "Dear Sir,—Please correct the half-peal at St. John the Evangelist, Wilton Road, Pimlico, rung on January 16th. It was not a College Youths' band but a St. James's Society half-peal.—Yours truly, C. F. WINNEY."

ST. MARY'S, ROSS.

CHOIR AND BELLRINGERS' DINNER.—On Tuesday, January 19th, the members of the choir and ringers were entertained by the rector, churchwardens and sidesmen, at The King's Head hotel, to dinner. After the signal, "Go" was pronounced by the rector, for one hour and a quarter the course-ends continued to turn up in good style. After partaking of a splendid repast the rector proposed "The Queen and Royal Family," which was received in the usual style of all loyal churchmen. The next toast submitted from the chair was "Prosperity to the Church and its Workers," the rector then gave the toast of the evening, viz.: "The Choir and Bellringers." Mr. Trotman, organist, responded on behalf of the choir, and Mr. J. Clark, in responding on behalf of the ringers, said that, in January, 1896, when the company resigned he was asked by several of the present company if he would endeavour to teach them. At that time only a few could manage a bell properly, but since then they have rung several quarter-peals and also 1800 changes of a date-touch of Grandsire Triples. He thought the company had not done so bad, considering that, from Easter to Whitsuntide they were not able to ring at all, on account of illness amongst the members, but he was glad to say they had made good progress from Whitsuntide to Christmas, and he hoped that, before long, he should have the pleasure of recording a peal. He thanked them for the kind manner in which they had entertained them that evening, and hoped that was the first of a series of annual gatherings of the kind.

GENTLEMEN'S Curb Alberts. Heavily Plated with Pure Gold. Guaranteed 18 carat, 4s. 6d., 2s. 5s. 6d., Double, 7s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. Member of Norwich Diocesan Association.—SKINNER, 3, Mayes Terrace, East Dereham.

OPENING OF THE NEW BELLS AT TARPORLEY, CHESHIRE.

On Monday, December 21st, the little town of Tarporley was *en fête*, the occasion being the opening, and ringing for the first time of a new ring of eight bells from the foundry of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. Some time ago the Rector, who had long been dissatisfied with the tone of the old bells, decided to have them tuned, and two trebles added. The well-known Whitechapel firm was requested to send a representative to examine the old bells, and submit an estimate of cost for the work required. On examination, it was found that "splicing" the ring would be unwise, and the practical advice that the old bells must be recast, with sufficient metal added to make a ring of eight, was very fortunately acquiesced in. A capital ring of eight bells, with a tenor of a few pounds over 10 cwt., in the key of F., is the result. Three of the old bells were dated 1511, and the tenor 1609: these items have been reproduced, the name of the above firm and the date of recasting only being added. Messrs. Holding, Langford, Harding and Davies, of Crewe, were kindly invited by the Rector to come over and assist the local band with the afternoon's ringing. The dedication service was fixed for 3.15, and by that time the church was well filled. The Ven. Charles Maxwell Woosnam (Archdeacon of Macclesfield) performed the ceremony of dedication in the absence (through illness) of the Ven. Archdeacon Barber. Immediately after the dedication prayers, and while the clergy and choir were returning to the chancel, the ringers entered the belfry, and the new bells rang out for the first time in Tarporley. The company was J. Shaw, J. Richardson, J. Hunt, J. Stockton, W. Rowley, J. Rowley, F. Vernon, and C. Elson. After a few rounds the bells were stopped, and the service concluded with the singing a hymn and the Benediction. Ringing soon after became the order of the day, and short touches of Bob Triples, interspersed with firing and set changes (Queens, Tittums, and Whittingtons), followed each other quickly. At 4.45 an adjournment was made to the parish room, where the clergy, churchwardens, ringers, and the choir, together with the bellhanger from Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's foundry, sat down to a capital tea, provided by the Rector. After tea, the visitors took part in the ringing of 504 Plain Bob Triples. J. Sheen, 1; R. Langford, 2; A. Harding, 3; J. Davies, 4; W. Rowley, 5; T. Vernon, 6; R. T. Holding (conductor), 7; J. Richardson, 8. A quarter peal was also attempted, time not allowing for a peal, but unfortunately it came to grief just before the half-way. It was then decided to finish the evening with short touches, and Bob Major and Triples were rung by mixed bands, all the local ringers taking part in the various touches. A course of Bob Major was rung in capital style while the Rector, the Rev. W. O. Hughes, was in the tower, J. Sheen, 1; R. Langford, 2; A. Harding, 3; J. Davies, 4; W. Rowley, 5; F. Vernon, 6; J. Richardson, 7; R. T. Holding, 8. The ringing concluded with a touch of 252 of Triples: J. Sheen, 1; R. Langford, 2; A. Harding, 3; J. Rowley, 4; W. Rowley, 5; F. Vernon, 6; R. T. Holding, 7; J. Davis, 8. Train time had now nearly arrived, and after arranging for an attempt for an early peal with six men from Crewe and two from Tarporley, we started for the station well pleased with our afternoon's outing.

In fulfillment of the above promise six members of the Crewe Society visited Tarporley on Saturday, January 23rd, where they were met by Messrs. Vernon and Richardson, and a start was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples. "Go" being called at 2.30 p.m., all going well until 5.37½ p.m., when the 5th bell suddenly refused to go any longer, and we had to stand after ringing 4952 changes in 2 hrs. 47½ mins: F. Vernon, 1; A. Harding, 2; R. Langford, 3; G. Wright, 4; W. T. Hartshorn, 5; J. Davies, 6; R. T. Holding (conductor), 7; Joseph Richardson, 8. On examination it was found that the bell had cast rope and gone on the stay, thus making it impossible for the ringers to pull it off. We then adjourned to The Swan hotel, where, by the thoughtful kindness of the rector tea had been provided, and to which full justice was done. After tea Messrs. Holding, Vernon and Langford went to the rectory to see the Rector, who expressed his sorrow that the peal should be lost so near the end, in fact, he thought we had rung it, until told differently, and he hoped we would shortly come over and try for it again, a promise we gladly gave.

H.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

EASTERN DIVISION.—A Meeting of this Division was held at Christ Church, St. Leonard's on Sea, on Saturday, January 27th. Ringing commenced soon after four o'clock, the members attending evensong at five o'clock, after which an adjournment was made to the schoolroom, where a meat tea had been provided by the munificence of the local band, under the direction of their Captain, Mr. G. Watson. Unfortunately ten members only (representing St. Mary's Battle, St. Clements Hastings, and Christ Church Blacklands, and including Mr. C. Tribe, from Wittersham) accepted the invitation but with the addition of the local band and the lady members of the congregation, who had kindly consented to assist at the tables (including Mrs. Cleaver, Mrs. Chesterfield, Miss Goss and Miss Salwey) a very enjoyable party was made up, presided over by the Rev. W. H. Cleaver, M.A., assisted by the Rev. J. F. Buxton, M.A. Those who were unable to attend missed a treat, there being an abundance of good things provided, and the whole arrangements carried out in the usual excellent manner in which most things are done by the churchworkers of this parish.

At the conclusion of the tea the District Secretary read a letter from the Rev. J. W. Loder-Cotter, of Arundel (the General Secretary of the Association), expressing regret at his inability to be present in consequence of a bad cold, and followed by proposing a vote of thanks to the Rector for his kindness in presiding, to the local band for their hospitality, and to the ladies who had assisted, remarking that he very much regretted that more members from outside the town had not attended. He thought that one reason of this was the inability of many to leave their employment early on a Wednesday, and another, the short-sightedness of the railway company, in doing away with the reduced fares at one time allowed to ringers on such occasions.

The minutes of the last meeting (held at Pevensey) were then read and confirmed, and twenty-three new members were elected, belonging to the following towers, viz.: Christ Church, St. Leonard's, 12; Christ Church, Eastbourne, 4; St. Mary's, Battle, 1; and Stone (Kent), 6.

The members then returned to the tower for further ringing, which included Plain Bob Minor and Major, and a 406 of Grandsire Triples, in which S. Watson, of the local band (aged 14), rung the treble.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

By F. BENNETT, Brighton.

11328.

2 3 4 5 6	M	IN	5th	W	H	Continued—					
							M	IN	5th	W	H
3 4 2 5 6	-	-	-	-	-	4 6 5 3 2	-	-	-	-	-
4 6 2 5 3	-	-	-	-	-	4 3 6 5 2	-	-	-	-	-
6 3 2 5 4	-	-	-	-	-	4 5 3 6 2	-	-	-	-	-
3 2 6 5 4	-	-	-	-	-	5 2 3 6 4	-	-	-	-	-
2 6 3 5 4	-	-	-	-	-	6 2 5 3 4	-	-	-	-	-
3 6 4 5 2	-	-	-	-	-	2 5 6 3 4	-	-	-	-	-
6 2 4 5 3	-	-	-	-	-	5 6 2 3 4	-	-	-	-	-
5 2 6 4 3	-	-	-	-	-	3 6 5 2 4	-	-	-	-	-
						6 5 3 2 4	-	-	-	-	-
4 2 5 6 3	-	-	-	-	-	5 3 6 2 4	-	-	-	-	-
2 5 4 6 3	-	-	-	-	-	2 3 5 6 4	-	-	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

Call bobs at the wrong and home in the seventh course of the second and third parts, and omit the two courses braced.

ST. PAUL'S, BEDFORD.

The committee not being satisfied with the 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th bells, have made an effort to replace them by five new ones. The dedication service will take place on Wednesday, February 10th, at three o'clock, it being the ninety-seventh birthday of George Hurst, Esq., J.P., an honorary member of the association, and the giver of the 7th bell. After the service, Mr. Hurst will unveil three tablets, one presented by his worship the Mayor, recording the first peal of Caters rung upon the bells, and two others given by the ringers, recording three peals each. The bells will be dedicated by Archdeacon Bathurst, and the address will be given by the Rev. R. G. R. Watts, a former vicar of St. Paul's. Members and ringing friends will be heartily welcome.

I. HILLS, Local Hon. Sec.

TODENHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

RE-OPENING OF THE CHURCH BELLS.—The fittings of these bells having fallen into decay, the work of restoration was taken in hand, and has been successfully completed, funds having been raised by subscription and two concerts in the parish, together with a grant of £15 from the Warneford Ecclesiastical Charity. Mr. White, of Appleton, Berks, was the bell-hanger employed, and he has done his work in a highly satisfactory manner. New head-stocks, wheels, and gudgeons have been provided, and the bells, which were worn very thin by the clappers, have been quarter-turned, so that the clappers strike the bells on a fresh part of the soundbow. All being in readiness the opening ceremony was held on Wednesday week, the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Vicar of Drayton, and Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, bringing some of his men to do the ringing on the occasion. Soon after two o'clock the ringing commenced with a 720 of Grandsire Minor. F. S. White, 1; G. Holifield, 2; F. White, 3; H. Tubb, 4; R. White, 5; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 6. The bells were found to work very easily. At three o'clock the service of rededication took place, when the sermon was preached by the Rev. F. E. Robinson from Exodus xii. 26—"What mean ye by this service?"—from which he showed that what was being done to the bells each Christian ought to try to do every day, i.e., offer himself to God a better and more perfect offering. Special prayers were read by the Rev. W. H. Moody. Tea was the next item, and then the ringers gave some tunes on their handbells in the Schoolroom, which were much admired. Before evensong, which took place at 7 p.m., another 720 of Grandsire Minor was brought round. The Rev. F. E. Robinson preached again, taking for his text Isaiah v. 2, and showing that the newly-fitted bells would be sounded at the holy seasons calling all Christians to walk in the light of the Lord. Collections were made at both services for the bell fund, on which there was a small deficiency. Though the weather was gloomy, the day was altogether a bright and happy one in the annals of Todenham. The following are inscriptions on the bells: Treble, "Let us ring and merrily sing, A.R. 1713;" 2nd, "Peace and good neighbourhood, A.R. 1713;" 3rd, "Now peace and good neighbourhood, Amen, A.R. 1713;" 4th, "Abrm. Rudhall, of Gloucester, cast us all, 1713;" 5th, "Mr. John Taylor, Rector, William Hobbs, Robert Rouse, churchwardens, 1713, Thomas Mander, gent., Mr. William Bambury, A.R.;" Tenor, "The living I to church do call, and to the grave do summon all, A.R., 1713."

THE SOUTH AND WEST MIDDLESEX GUILD.

A monthly meeting of this Guild, for united practice, was held on Saturday, January 9th, by kind permission of the Rev. H. Vigne, at St. Mary's, Sunbury. It was also intended to spend part of the evening at Hampton, but this project was abandoned at the last moment on account of illness near the church. Considering the very unpropitious state of the weather on this occasion, it may be said that the attendance was very fair, members journeying from Heston, Ealing, Isleworth, Staines, Kingston, and Hillingdon, the local company also turning up in force. Those arriving about 5 o'clock were met by the Verger, Mr. Buggs, who very courteously conducted them through the church, and drew attention to several little items of interest dating back to the 16th century. The visitors, with perhaps one or two exceptions, being entire strangers here, this little consideration proved very interesting and was much appreciated. The Rev. H. Vigne is now within a few months of completing his 55th year as Vicar of this place, having been appointed in 1842. It is a noteworthy fact that his predecessor held the living for fifty-two years, thus it will be seen that two Vicars served the village for over a century.

This little village is fortunate in possessing the grand heritage of a decent ring of six bells; here then was the chief attraction, which, needless to say, was made good use of, and ringing commenced with a 120 of Stedman Doubles, and this was followed by a series of necessarily short touches of Grandsire, Plain Bob, and Kent Treble Bob Minor. A visitor now appeared in the form of the village policeman, who came with the news that the Churchwardens wished to entertain the ringers to tea. An adjournment was accordingly made to The Flower Pot inn, where an excellent repast was furnished, from sixteen to twenty sitting down. This interesting part of the proceedings being over, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Churchwardens for their kindness on the occasion of this first visit, also to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to Mr. Buggs with the local company, for their attention and efforts in making the meeting a success.

A return was made to the tower, and ringing indulged in till about 9 o'clock, being brought to a close with 360 of Bob Minor.

It was proposed to hold the next meeting at Heston a month hence.

WANTED A GARDENER who is willing to make himself useful. Knowledge of Flowers, Fruit Trees, and Vegetables necessary. Must be willing to wind the church clock, and attend to the church fires. Preference will be given to a Change-ringer. Address, stating full particulars as to experience, to the Rev. H. G. Bird, St. Andrew's Vicarage, Uxbridge.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, January 17th, the annual supper of the Ewhurst branch of the above Guild took place, when about twenty-five sat down to a substantial repast provided by host Broomer of The Bull's Head inn. After ample justice had been done, and the cloth removed, Mr. R. Whittington, secretary of the branch, presided, and submitted the toast of the evening—"The Subscribers," which was drunk with musical honours. The rest of the evening was devoted to harmony, and several songs were sung by Messrs. Burrows, Price, Kearwall, Whittington, Tidy, Ansell, and Stephens. The singing of Auld Lang Syne brought a pleasant evening to a close.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.

On Thursday, January 14th, the members of the local company held their annual dinner at The Norfolk Arms, where a good company, including the Rev. A. Pridgeon, vicar (in the chair), T. Duke, Esq. (churchwarden), Cherryman, Chandler, and Sturt sat down at 6.30 to well-laden tables provided by host Bateman. After dinner the usual toast list was gone through, and the evening was spent in singing and handbell ringing, those contributing with songs being Messrs. W. Woolgar, G. Gatland (captain), C. Smart, T. Searle, T. Duke, Esq., F. J. Cherryman, W. Pelham, and J. Smart. At 11 p.m. the singing of Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem brought to a close one of the pleasantest evenings that was possible to procure.

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."

WIGAN BELLFOUNDERS.

SIR,—Having seen it stated in one of our local papers "That the staple industry of Wigan in the mediæval times was bell casting, and that in several old churches at the present time are bells which were cast at Wigan," will any of your numerous readers who know of any such bells that are in existence at the present time, let me know through your paper or otherwise the particulars of such at his earliest convenience?

WIGAN.

A SUGGESTION.

SIR,—I venture to offer a suggestion which I trust will commend itself to every member of the two great metropolitan societies. It is ancient history that "a friendly rivalry" has long existed between the society of Royal Cumberland Youths and the Ancient Society of College Youths, a rivalry carried to such an extremity in bygone days by our predecessors, that we have, as heritage, an unwritten law forbidding a member of one society joining the other. This savours somewhat of a hardship upon our brethren in the provinces, inasmuch as a ringer of the present day, can, if he chooses, throw in his lot with any or every other Association in the kingdom. Take for instance a Yorkshire ringer, who on pleasure bent visits a southern town where Cumberlands most do congregate; he may be on the most intimate and friendly terms with all, and receive the heartiest of welcomes, yet—he is debarred from taking part in a peal under the auspices of that society, because he is a College Youth. I heard it once related that for the purposes of a "first peal on the bells," a College Youth was elected a Cumberland in the tower (the peal was a success), the usual fees were paid and election confirmed, when behold, within a week or two he blossomed forth again as a member of the "Ancients." I respectfully submit, Sir, that so far as concerns the provinces, the time has arrived for removing this barrier, and the abolition of an old-fashioned idea. I hope to see the views of members of each society expressed upon the subject in "THE BELL NEWS." Meanwhile I would suggest the appointment of a joint committee to take the matter into consideration, consisting of the senior officers of the respective Societies, together with a few members chosen by their colleagues. And to guard against any trespass upon what are regarded by both Societies as their "ancient rights and privileges," would recommend as an important point for deliberation, that it should be made competent for any ringer resident outside a radius of say ten or twelve miles from Charing Cross to be eligible for election to both companies. In conclusion, this suggestion is by no means new, having been privately discussed by several prominent London ringers some years ago. Perhaps, however, with the new blood which is being constantly infused, favourable results may now be arrived at to the promotion of real unity and good fellowship and the advancement of change-ringing interests.

FREDERICK W. THORNTON.

Greenwich, S.E.

Notices.

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at South Petherton, to-day, Saturday, February 6th. Break from Martock Station after arrival of 1.49 p.m. train. Towers open—South Petherton (8 bells), Crewkerne (8 bells), Shepton Beauchamp (6 bells), and Norton-sub-Hamdon (6 bells). Short service in parish church at 3 p.m. Tea at The Crown hotel, to be followed by the usual business meeting.

HY. W. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*
The Cottage, Old Cleeve, Washford.

The South and West Middlesex Guild.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Heston (St. Leonard's), to-day, Saturday, Feb. 6th. Ringing at 5.30. It is earnestly requested that members will make an effort to attend this meeting, there being very important business to transact, viz., the proposed amalgamation with the Middlesex Association.

HY. F. G. LUCK, *Hon. Sec.*
7, Warwick Place, Ealing.

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—To avoid clashing with the Midland County meeting at Chesterfield, the quarterly meeting will be held at Eckington, to-day, Saturday, February 6th. Peal of six bells.

E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*
Meersbrook Bank Road, Sheffield.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Newcastle, to-day, Saturday, February 6th.

REV. J. W. ALSTON, *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG,

The Lancashire Association—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's Church, Garston, to-day, Saturday, February 6th. Bells ready at 3.30. Meeting at 6 p.m. Tea will be provided (free) at 5 p.m. to those who send me word not later than February 4th.

HENRY COLEY, *Branch Sec.*
3, Romford Place, Liverpool.

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Halesworth, on Thursday, February 11th. Dinner 1.30 at The Swan hotel, 25. 3d. hon. members, 15 3d. company members. H. EARLE BULWER, *Hon. Sec.*
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

The Lancashire Association, Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Phillip's church, Hulme, on Saturday, February 20th. Bells ready at 3.0 p.m. Business meeting to be held in the "British Workmen's" Club Room, at 7.0 p.m. Open invitation to all ringers. WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*
54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

The Lancashire Association, Rossendale Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held on Saturday, February 13th, at Christ Church (6 bells), Bacup. Bells ready at 2.30 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. Members of eight-bell towers are especially invited, as every opportunity will be given them for learning six-bell methods. J. H. BANKS, *Branch Sec.*
Helmshore Road, Helmshore.

The Waterloo Society.—On Saturday, February 20th, the twenty-ninth anniversary of this society will be celebrated by a dinner at The York hotel, Waterloo Road; tickets 3s. 6d. each, may be had of the following committee: Messrs. H. N. Davis, 419, Old Kent Road, S.E.; T. West, 71, Langton Road, Brixton, S.W.; H. Barton, 36, Havil Street,

Camberwell, S.E.; A. Hardy, 51, Kay Road, Stockwell, S.W.; F. G. Perrin, 42, Aylesbury Street, Walworth, S.E.; F. J. Pitts, 128, Leathwaite Road, Clapham, S.W.; or of WALTER C. HASTED, *Hon. Sec.*

The Herts Association.—District meeting at Hatfield, on Saturday, February 20th. Further particulars next week.

E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—Johnson Commemoration and the Guild's annual dinner will be held on Saturday, February 27th, at The Market hotel, Station Street, Birmingham. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. sharp. Tickets, free to full ringing members, to others 3s. each, may be obtained from the undersigned. The ring of twelve bells at St. Martin's, in the Bull Ring, will be open at 3.30 p.m.

W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*
61, Roland Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

The Kent County Association, Maidstone District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Aylesford, on Saturday, February 27th, by kind permission of the Vicar. Tower open at 4 p.m. Short service at 5.30. Committee meeting at The Chequers at 6. Tea at 6.15. Applications for tea tickets to be made to me not later than February 22nd.

A. L. BRINE (REV.), *Hon. Dis. Sec.*
Beardsted.

TOWNSHIP OF RATHMINES AND RATHGAR.

NOTICE TO CLOCKMAKERS.

The Commissioners of the Township of Rathmines and Rathgar are prepared to receive TENDERS for SUPPLYING a TURRET CLOCK in the New Town Hall, Rathmines.

Plans of the building, specifications, and all other particulars can be had on application to Thomas Drew, Esq., R.H.A., F.R.I.B.A., No. 22, Clare Street, Dublin.

Tenders to be sent in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Chairman of the Building Committee, Town Hall, Rathmines, Co. Dublin, on or before the 18th proximo.

Contractors must enter into a bond with the Commissioners for the due execution of the work, such bond to be prepared at his expense.

By order,
FREDERICK P. FAWCETT,
Secretary.

Town Hall, Rathmines, Co. Dublin,
27th January, 1897.

TOWNSHIP OF RATHMINES AND RATHGAR.

NOTICE TO BELL-FOUNDERS.

The Commissioners of the Township of Rathmines and Rathgar are prepared to receive TENDERS for SUPPLYING a SET of FIVE BELLS, suitable for a Turret Clock in the New Town Hall, Rathmines.

Plans of the building, specifications, and all other particulars can be had on application to Thomas Drew, Esq., R.H.A., F.R.I.B.A., No. 22, Clare Street, Dublin.

Tenders to be sent in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Chairman of the Building Committee, Town Hall, Rathmines, on or before the 18th proximo.

Contractors must enter into a bond with the Commissioners for the due execution of the work, such bond to be prepared at his expense.

By order,
FREDERICK P. FAWCETT,
Secretary.

Town Hall, Rathmines,
27th January, 1897.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

FARRINGTON JONES.—Thanks for your note; we have sent it on.

GREAT PAUL.—E flat.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.—Arthur Craven has removed from 15, Knight Street, Lincoln, to 359, Railway View, Deepcar, near Sheffield.—H. Haigh has removed to 26, Churchgate, Retford (near the old church).

Ringers Wanting Situations.

PRINTERS.—Good all-round jobbing hand seeks situation; good display. Cropper and small cylinder machines. Good references; change-ringer.—Apply Printer, Hyde Bank, New Mills, Stockport.

WANTED situation as Gardener, or any other capacity; use to horses, and willing to be generally useful. Total abstainer; good change-ringing instructor.—Address X Y Z, care of Editor.

COULD anyone help me to get a situation; am willing to do anything. By trade a six-quarter Tapestry Weaver. Can ring Double Norwich, Stedman, Superlative, Cambridge, and London Surprise. Can conduct in method I can ring. I am willing to give my services as a ringer for getting employment. Married; 29 years of age; 15 years' character.—W. H. Smith, Lark Hill, Kidderminster.

SITUATION Wanted as under Gardener, or single-handed, am not particular as to any other sort of work. Age 21. Five years good character. Change ringer. Member of St. Mary's Society, Beddington.—A. Clayton.

CHANGE-RINGER (used to gardening), would be glad to hear of a situation. Well recommended. Disengaged.—H. S. Reeves, Hillingdon Heath, near Uxbridge.

SITUATION Wanted as Foreman or Manager of Rubber Works. Thoroughly understands the business. Twenty-three years' experience in England and America. Can ring Standard methods.—John Wright, King's Norton, Birmingham.

WANTED by married man, age 28, situation as Fireman, used to Engine and Boilers. Ten years' experience. Can ring Grandfire Minor and Triples, or conduct. Apply—W., care of the Editor.

WANTED Situation as Wool Sorter. Age 26. Can ring Treble Bob methods on six bells. Member of the Yorkshire Association. Good reference if required. Apply—S. H., care of Editor.

WANTED, Situation as Sexton (understands duties), or any place of trust. Good change-ringer in all Standard Methods. Married; age 32; good testimonials. Member of Kent County Association and College Youths. Address, B.Y., care of Editor.

WANTED by married man, age 30, situation as Bread Baker, First hand or Good Second; Change-ringer in three Standard methods; Excellent references. Apply, H. Blake, Fornham St. Martin, Bury St. Edmund's, Suffolk.

LEATHER or Boot Trade. Wanted by young man, age 24, situation in either of above trades; wholesale or retail. Ten years' experience and excellent references. Can ring standard methods.—W. T.

PAINTER wants a job on builders' firm or on estate. Can ring Treble Bob on six and eight.—Apply F. F. Ewhurst Green, near Cranleigh, Surrey.

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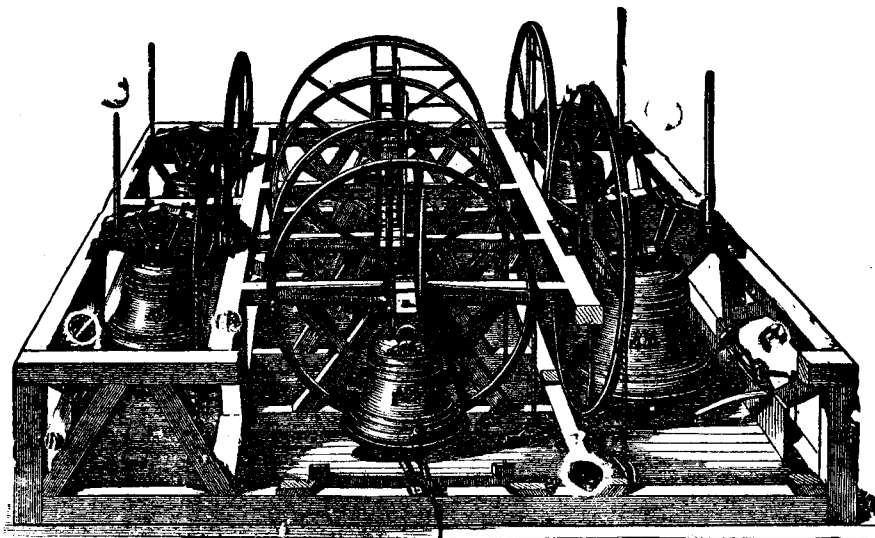
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12 Popular Airs for Hand Bell Ringers, by W. HALEY, Price 1s.
Auld Lang Syne, Hark! 'tis the bells, Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule Britannia, Sailing, Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, the Bellringers' Glee, the Star Spangled Banner, Wait till the clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

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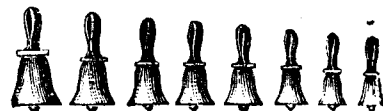
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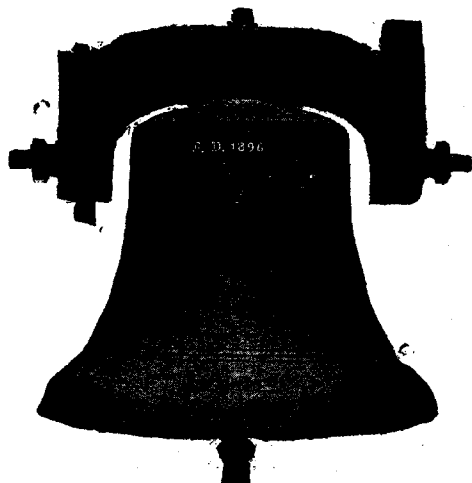
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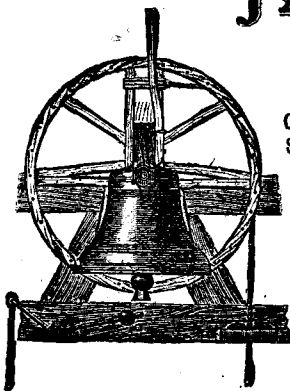
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A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise ; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 775.—VOL. XV.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1897.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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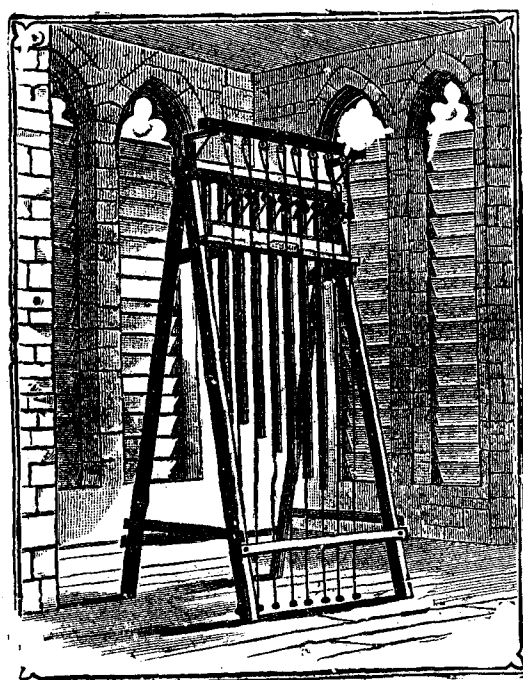
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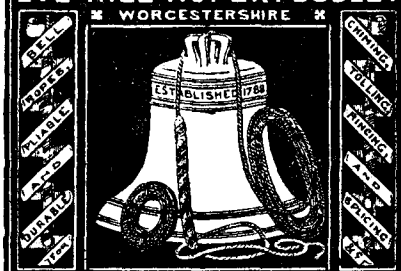
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HALEY, for chiming tunes on Church Bells. Price, paper
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12 POPULAR AIRS, for Handbell Ringers, by W.
HALEY, Price 1s. Auld Lang Syne, Hark! 'tis the Bells,
Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule
Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, The
Bellringer's Glee, The Star-Spangled Banner, Wait till the
Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

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MADE ON AN IMPROVED PRINCIPLE.
DIRECTIONS FOR GIVING ORDERS &
PRICE LIST FREE ON APPLICATION X

The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 775.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1897.

[Vol. XV.

MR. CHARLES EDWARD BORRETT, OF NORWICH.

[Vide Portrait.

MR. CHARLES EDWARD BORRETT was born at Norwich on December 21st, 1874, and therefore has just completed his twenty-second year. He became acquainted with ringing early in 1891, and made his first essay at change-ringing on February 9th in that year. His first 720 was rung at Hethersett immediately after a muffled 5000 had been rung as a last token of respect to Captain A. P. Moore. It was also at Hethersett, in February 1892, that he scored his first 5040 (seven 720s), ringing the second. In 1893 the handbell band mentioned in our memoir of Mr. J. A. Trollope was formed, and when Major was taken in hand MR. BORRETT was asked to take the extra pair. He conducted the 5040 that followed, and rang in most of the peals that were scored in 1893-94, conducting with one exception all that he took part in. Notable among these were the two long peals of Bob Major, 6720 and 11,200, the latter the record peal in any method on handbells.

Before a ringer is qualified for a position in St. Peter Mancroft Company, he must be able to ring a plain course of Grandsire Cinques, Stedman Cinques and Bob Maximus; these were rung by MR. BORRETT in 1893, and on the Queen's birthday of that year he was elected to fill a vacancy in the company. The esteemed master, Mr. George Howchin, is not a bob-caller, and so, shortly after, MR. BORRETT was appointed conductor to the company, a position he holds to the satisfaction of all concerned. Besides being a safe bob-caller, he possesses in a considerable degree the gift of *conducting*, and more than one peal has been saved by him before a mistake has had time to upset the striking and demoralise the band. As a ringer he is an excellent striker, although owing to his light weight, is generally found at the front. Among his best performances, which include peals on all numbers from five to twelve (on handbells from six to ten, and on Mancroft bells from seven to twelve), we may mention the first single-handed peal of Cinques at St. Peter's, and the first peal higher than Caters by a purely local band for over fifty years—Oxford Treble Bob Royal. Both of these he conducted. He has also taken part in two peals of Treble Bob of over 7000 changes, both of which were the longest length on the respective bells.

MR. BORRETT is an enthusiastic cyclist, and very much addicted to "tower hunting," a hobby shared in by several of his brother-ringers. A year or so ago the Norwich band could produce nine men, all peal-ringers, and all cyclists, although one or two unfortunately have left now. One record MR. BORRETT holds may be mentioned, viz., that he has rung at all, save one, of the eight-bell towers in Norfolk. This no one else has done, and considering the extent of the county, evidences not a little labour and trouble. The one exception is Thorpe-next-Norwich, where a beautiful peal of bells by Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie, is altogether unringable owing to the state of the tower. In order to obtain the above result, MR. BORRETT rode in one day seventy miles to "get" one tower; on another day eighty miles to "get" two; and on a third about 100 miles to get the last one available. He was accompanied by his friend Mr. Trollope on the first two occasions; on the last he rode

alone. We may add that the ringing on the eighty mile trip was "rounds" at one tower and call changes at the other.

MR. BORRETT is a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, the Norwich Diocesan Association, the Durham and Newcastle Association, the St. Peter Mancroft Company, and the St. Mary-le-Tower (Ipswich) Society. His complete list of peals is as follows:

	Hand	Tower	Conducted	Total
Seven methods on five bells	...	1		1
Five methods on six bells	...	1		1
Bob Minor	...	1		2
Bob Triples	...	1		1
Bob Major	...	3	4	6
Bob Royal	...	1		1
Canterbury Pleasure Major	...	1		1
Grandsire Triples	...	1	2	3
Grandsire Major	...	2	2	2
Grandsire Caters	...	1	3	4
Grandsire Cinques	...	1	1	1
Kent Treble Bob Major	...	4	2	4
Kent Treble Bob Royal	...	3	1	3
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	...	3	1	3
Oxford Treble Bob Major	...	13	3	13
Oxford Treble Bob Royal	...	1	1	1
	9	38	19	47

ST. PETER'S, TITCHFIELD, HAMPSHIRE.

DEDICATION OF NEW RING OF SIX BELLS.—In spite of the very inclement weather which prevailed all day on the Festival of The Purification of St. Mary the Virgin, Tuesday, February 2nd last, a large number of the parishioners assembled in their ancient old parish church of St. Peter, to celebrate the dedication of their new bells. This red-letter day commenced with a celebration of the Holy Communion at 7.30 a.m.; at 12.0 the church was well filled for the dedication service. Preceded by the choir, the following clergy accompanied the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Guildford: Revs. R. A. R. White (Vicar of Titchfield), H. Wheat (curate), R. W. Nevill (Vicar of Hook), R. M. C. Harvey (Vicar of Eastleigh and Master of the Winchester Diocesan Guild) and C. E. Matthews (curate of Hursley, and Hon. Sec. of the Guild). The service began with the shortened form of mattins; the special psalms were 81 and 150; and the special lesson, Numbers x. 1-11, was read by the Rev. C. E. Matthews. After hymn 303 (A. & M.) had been sung, the Bishop, kneeling in the sanctuary, offered prayers for the dedication of the bells. A brass eagle lectern was then dedicated by his lordship in memory of the late Mrs. White, wife of the Vicar. Hymn 428 ("The saints of God, their conflict past") having been sung, the Bishop gave an interesting address, which we regret being unable to print through want of space). Hymn 166 ("All people that on earth do dwell") was afterwards sung while the offertory was taken, and the Bishop closed the service with the blessing.

At evensong at 7.30 p.m. the Rev. R. C. M. Harvey preached to a large congregation.

Of the present ring of six the original four bells have been recast, and two trebles added. The inscriptions on the four old bells (which have been reproduced) were: 1. "Richard Brovne Cvrch Warden 1675." 2. "In God is my hope 1628." 3. "Ave Gratia Plena" (no date, but said to be 1275-1300). 4. "R. Wells of Aldbourne Wilts. Fecit. MDCLXVIII." It is a matter of very deep regret that the old 3rd bell could not be retained. In "the inventory of all the goods, plate, jewells, bells, vestments, and other ornaments of the parish chirche of Tytche felde, taken the xv day of July anno sexto Edwardi sexti"



MR. CHARLES EDWARD BORRETT.
(Of Norwich.)

[*Supplement to "THE BELL NEWS."*]

(A.D. 1552—Edward VI.) we have amongst the items therein enumerated, "iiii greate bells, and one smale." This "one smale" bell is the priest's bell which is at present used for every service, and has not been recast with the other four. The new bells have been cast by Mears and Stainbank, of the White-chapel foundry; an excellent iron frame (an iron model of a wooden frame) has been supplied by Mr. T. Blackburn, of Salisbury, who has hung the peal, and put in some first-class work, the go of the bells being admirable. Owing to illness he was unfortunately unable to be present at the dedication ceremony. The total cost of the work has amounted to about £300, including an Ellacombe chiming apparatus, and Cambridge chimes for the clock, supplied by Messrs. Burden, of Salisbury. The tenor weighs 12 cwt. 21 lbs. in the key of G. It was remarked that the 3rd bell's tone was not quite equal to the rest of the peal. The treble and 2nd have no inscriptions upon them.

The ringing arrangements were under the management of Mr. J. W. Whiting (Hon. Sec. of the Portsmouth district), and were carried out very efficiently. The opening peal rung at the conclusion of the dedication service was a 720 of Kent Treble Bob by C. Privett, 1; J. E. Warren, 2; G. E. Chappell, 3; J. Staples, 4; G. W. Grafham, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. In the afternoon other 720s and touches in various methods followed, in one which the Rev. R. C. M. Harvey took part.

Mr. J. W. Whiting is undertaking the instruction of the local band, which includes the Rev. H. Wheat. He also reports that he has a band of eight ladies to initiate into the mysteries of change-ringing.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

The third quarterly meeting of the year was held at Chesterfield, on Saturday, January 30th, when some 48 members and friends (not easily discouraged by the wretched weather) assembled from Derby, Duffield, Burton, Leicester, Loughborough, Lincoln, Sheffield and villages round Chesterfield. The afternoon passed as usual with touches on the peal of tea, in various methods, inspections of the large and handsome church, and touches on the handbells at the ringers' meeting house. With keen appetite members assembled at the Victoria School at 5 p.m., and did full justice to a capital meat tea, at which the Hon. and Rev. C. J. Lyttelton, Vicar of Chesterfield, honoured us by his presence. To commence the business of the meeting the President proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar (who had an important engagement elsewhere) for the use of the bells, which was seconded by the Hon. Treasurer and carried with applause. The Vicar in the course of an interesting speech, urged more earnestly upon ringers to consider their duties as churchmen, mentioning that at his previous living, viz: Penkridge, every ringer was also a communicant.

The President then proposed the Vicar as an Hon. Member of the association, which was seconded by Mr. Knight and carried *nem. con.*

The Hon. Secretary then read the minutes, which were signed, as also the names of four new members who were duly elected.

The President in addressing the meeting stated that 13 peals had been rung during the past quarter, viz.:—2 Grandsire Caters, 1 London Surprise, 1 Canterbury Pleasure Major, 2 Bob Major, 1 Darlaston Bob Triples, 3 Grandsire Triples, 2 Minor and 1 Doubles. Of these peals 6 had been rung by the Leicester and Loughborough branches between them, 2 by the Derby branch, 1 by the Burton branch (viz.: London Surprise) 1 by the Birmingham branch (Canterbury Pleasure Major), 2 by the Long Eaton, and 1 by the Melbourne Society. He urged upon members to take to heart the Vicar's earnest words. He must say, however, that ringers had done a great deal for themselves, and many well-arranged towers had arrived at a certain standpoint and could not get any further. It was most difficult to get the authorities to understand how necessary it was (especially heavy peals) that the bells should go well, and that ringers should also have lavatory accommodation. How could they be expected to attend service when they were simply wet through with perspiration, and their coats and hands dusty and dirty. If the authorities would only meet ringers half way, he was sure that they would be better churchmen. He hoped shortly to propose that a tabulated list of the condition of bells throughout the country be prepared, and he ventured to think

that they would do all in their power to help. In conclusion the President stated that at the annual meeting tea it would probably be found impossible to make the 6d. allowance to visiting members, he hoped that none would stay away on that account.

A vote of thanks to the President was then proposed by the Hon. Secretary and seconded by Mr. G. Toplis, and carried with applause.

Members then adjourned to the tower and the ringers' meeting house, and thus closed another meeting made most enjoyable in spite of the inclement weather, by the meeting of old friends and by the Chesterfield ringers' hearty welcome.

Ringers' Festivities.

QUEDGELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—RINGERS AND CHOIR DINNER.—On Thursday evening, February 4th, the members of this band, with the choir, were entertained by the rector—Rev. Stephen and Mrs. Cornish—at the rectory. After the signal "Look too" was given, 720 of "knife and fork surprise," the like number of "teething exercise," finishing up with 720 of "ringers' delight," at all of which the course-ends came up without a trip. After the removal of the cloth each one retired to the drawing-room, where there was a good supply of vocal and instrumental music. The Misses Cornish coming well to the front with first and second violin, and "cello," Mr. Thomas Beacall, organist, presiding at the piano. Plain courses of Grandsire Caters and Triples were rung on the handbells, and various tunes. At 10 45, "Auld Lang Syne" was sung, thus bringing to a close a most enjoyable evening. **ONE WHO WAS THERE.**

ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.—RINGERS' SUPPER.—On Thursday, January 7th, the ringers and choir were entertained to supper at the rectory, by the Rector and Mrs. Morgan. Supper being called for 7.30, we sat down to an excellent repast, all doing full justice to a fine course of roast beef and mutton, other courses turning up in splendid style. After full justice to the good things provided was given, we made a move to the drawing-room, where singing and various games were indulged in until 11 o'clock. After shaking hands with the rector we made our way home all having spent a most enjoyable evening.

J. M.

BRANDESTON, SUFFOLK.—On Wednesday evening, February 3rd, through the kindness of the Rev. — Wright, the above company were invited to the vicarage, where a capital dinner was awaiting them. About 7.30 "Go" was called, and for an hour-and-a-half the course-ends continued to turn up in good style, the chief being "roast beef and mutton delight," "pigeon pie surprise," "plum pudding exercise," &c. After the cloth was drawn, pipes and tobacco were brought in, and some capital songs were rendered by Messrs. Tarrant, Bradlaugh, Bedingfield and Mr. Swales, who accompanied on the piano. Touches of Bob Major, etc., were rung on the handbells, and some tune-playing by Mr. Tarrant added much to the harmony of the evening. A vote of thanks to the vicar, and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," and the National Anthem, brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

WORCESTER CATHEDRAL GUILD.—The annual supper in connection with this Guild took place at Cramp's Restaurant, High street, on Monday, February 1st, but through the wretched state of the weather only twelve sat down, and judging by the good things provided, it evidently looked as though there would be a lively time. The warden (Rev. W. G. Melville) occupying the chair, said grace, and it was then seen that the members could ring changes on other things besides bells. Full justice having been done, the tables were cleared, and the rest of the evening was spent in harmony, those that wished to indulge in the fragrant weed were soon supplied with the long pipe and College mixture, which brought out an old ringers' saying, "When we smoke, we smoke." The programme included songs by Messrs. B. Hill, W. Cotton, G. Hinton, W. Powell, W. H. Johnson, and Mr. Brown. There were also several toasts, including the healths of the Warden, and their old friend the Rev. R. Cattley, who had for so many years taken an interest in the bells of Worcester Cathedral. The toast of success to the Worcester Cathedral Guild was also honoured, as was the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS," and the paper which had done so much to further the interests of change-ringing, not only in the United Kingdom, but throughout the world. Mr. Brown gave a few remarks on the way in which ringers conducted themselves a few years gone by, and urged upon those present to uphold the association, which he was sure had brought about belfry reform, and thereby done away with the misconduct once carried on in the house of God. The singing of the National Anthem brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

J.

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."

CHURCH AUTHORITIES AND BELLS.

SIR,—At a recent interesting meeting of the Ancient Society of College Youths convened by the kind invitation of A. P. Heywood, Esq., to commemorate Mr. W. T. Cockerill's magnificent performance on the St. Paul's Cathedral tenor, Mr. Heywood is reported in your columns to have said that "there was not one in ten thousand of those in charge of sacred edifices who cared two brass farthings about the bell fittings or the ringers' comfort." Mr. Heywood, with his wide experience, is well qualified to speak on every topic connected with the "noble art," but does he really mean us to take the above remarks literally? If he does, I venture to say that they convey an inaccurate, if not very exaggerated statement of the facts of the case. There is, of course, much room for improvement, and few will deny that when the fabric of churches has been restored, the bells, etc., have been forgotten, or their restoration indefinitely deferred to a more convenient financial season. But wherever bands are affiliated to diocesan, county, or district associations, we find in most instances (I do not say *all*) that the bells are pealable. In one parish in this diocese the vicar makes one of his curates responsible for the interests of the ringers (*O si sic omnes*!); the incumbents of all parishes affiliated to our guild are honorary members; many of them pay visits to their belfries, and several are ringers. Again, some incumbents who have no bells support us by their contributions. The annual reports of other societies will doubtless tell the same story. If all rural deans would make a point of personally inspecting belfries, and reporting the condition of unringable peals, and worn-out frames, to their diocesan, much might be done to ameliorate the state of affairs. But while admitting that much yet remains to be done in the interests of change-ringing, and that our various societies have not as yet secured that position and attention they merit (and which Mr. Heywood no doubt desires to see secured), I believe many of your readers will agree that the percentage of incumbents who care for their bell fittings and their ringers' comfort is infinitely higher than minus one per ten thousand.

CHARLES E. MATTHEWS,
Hon. Sec. Winchester Diocesan Guild.

METHOD OR METHODS.

SIR,—As my letter on the above subject caused some attention by readers of "THE BELL NEWS," I should like to express my views on the matter, and if possible, for the benefit of young ringers, I wish to say that my letter was wrote with no special reference to the Chiddingstone band, as I know none of the band, but, however, I wish them every success, as I am well aware of the difficulties and also the small amount of encouragement a young band generally gets, especially if they are out in the country. What I should like to draw any young ringers' attention to is the right and proper start or foundation of change-ringing, as I am sure the science is worthy of it. I remember several years ago, I was ringing with a company, and when well on the road for our proposed touch, we got into a bit of a muddle, and I just spoke to a man that was ringing next to me—here you are, you are 4-5 up, or 6-7 up, I forget now which, but instead of helping the man it confused him, and our proposed touch was at once a total wreck. Afterwards I asked him if he understood what I meant, and he said no, I know nothing about no 4-5 up or 6-7 down. Well, I said, how do you ring, by what method? And he began to explain about first and last, second and last; this being the first time I had heard anything about such a system. Then, I was confused, and then the battle began, but we parted on friendly terms, and I have got half-a-dozen books on change-ringing, old and new, and I can find no reference to such a system, therefore, I think the best thing a young ringer can do is to follow Snowdon's rules as near as he can, and lay down a road for himself, which is straight and easy to travel on, and there would be no more strange plans, as it is a well-known fact, what a youngster is taught he seldom forgets.

A. ROCK.

COLLEGE YOUTHS v. CUMBERLANDS.

SIR,—Taking up my "BELL NEWS" on Friday evening, and coming to the correspondence column, with all due respect to Mr. F. Thornton, I must say I opened my eyes with surprise at his suggestion respecting membership of the two societies. Myself, for one, take a decidedly opposite view of the suggestion. I think the requirements of the two societies are met in a most practical manner by the establishment of the St. James's Society, by bringing the members of the two societies in the bonds of brotherly love with one another, and at the same time to the advantage of suburban and provincial ringers who may be on a visit to London; if they have a friend in either society they can ring peals with him through this channel. Often peals have been rung with an equal number of members on each side, on 8, 10, and 12 bells, but there is no restriction, sometimes nine on one side and one on the other, and I think the county associations answer the

same purpose wonderfully well with ringers on a visit from county to county. What with forming committees and alteration of rules, I fail to see what advantage it is going to be for the good of change-ringing in general. I think there would soon be such confusion and strife as never was known in the history of the two societies. By all means let us remain on the amicable footing we are at the present time, and not disturb the friendly rivalry of the past and present generation.

EDWIN GIBBS.

REPLY TO THE REV. F. J. O. HELMORE.

SIR,—The reply to my letter from the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore was nothing more than I expected. It is such replies as that that has been the loss to the Association of good change-ringers, also honorary members. My reason for writing to the paper instead of privately, was to awaken the members to the rules, so that they could come to a meeting prepared. I, with other conductors, am quite willing to comply with rule 16, but to the addition we will not. Only fancy a member at the last committee meeting proposing almost in one breath that no alteration or addition to the rules shall be made until passed by a meeting of the members, of which one month's notice shall have been given, or words nearly to this effect, and then proposing the addition which was published, that to come into force at once. Rule 17 distinctly says no alteration or addition shall be made to the rules, except by a general or special meeting of the members, therefore let the committee as well as the members keep the rules till altered by such a meeting, which they must call, if they want to enforce the addition. If the members of the Association knew as much as I do the cause of those revelations at that district meeting, perhaps they would not be so surprised.

[This letter has been in abeyance for a time.—Ed.]

T. GROOMBRIDGE.
(The one interested.)

HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

The ringers at the above met for their annual dinner (the fourth since the augmentation of the bells to a ring of eight) on Monday, February 1st, at The Frighted Horse tavern, when the members of the band and friends to the number of a score or more sat down to a repast served in the smart and bountiful manner for which host Taylor has made himself noted.

Some interest attaches to this as the first gathering of the series at which one of the clergy was present. The Rev. C. E. E. Bulwer, curate at the parish church, who is a ringer, and takes great interest in all the doings of the local band, opened the proceedings with grace, but was compelled by a very important engagement to leave shortly afterwards, much to the regret of the whole company. The course-ends, which were brought up by a music quite as interesting, if not as ear-filling as that of the tower, came up with marvellous rapidity.

At the clearing of the cloth the veteran tower-keeper and leader, Mr. W. Verry, was unanimously voted to the chair, and in a few introductory remarks described the pleasure it gave him to see so many well-known faces around him. He went on to point out that Handsworth Tower had during the past year been subject to a drawback, so common in the Exercise, of losing men as soon as they had been trained to be of service. In giving the loyal toast of "Queen, Church and State," he was particularly happy in his allusion to the long and generally prosperous reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty. Needless to relate that this toast was enthusiastically received.

"Success and continued prosperity to the Handsworth Ringers" was given by Mr. Samuel Reeves, and Mr. Godden in responding advised his fellow-ringers not to take too despondent a view of their condition, owing to the loss described by their chairman. Despite such loss he stated—calling the company generally to verify his assertion—that they were at present stronger than they had ever been, and intended to be still more so in the future. In giving the toast of "The Visitors," he called attention to the fact that much was due to many of those then present, not only for the encouragement they gave to the social side of the question by their presence that evening, but for the valuable teaching and assistance they so frequently gave them in the tower. This having been duly honoured, a vote of thanks was passed to the host and hostess by Mr. T. Westwood for their catering.

It was very evident from the outset that each speaker was studying the "Art" of brevity, and that every one was bent on that social converse and harmony which the chairman very quickly announced was to rule for the remainder of the evening. Mr. H. Butcher presided at the piano, and during the evening excellent songs were rendered by Messrs. R. and J. Faux, H. Manton, W. H. and T. Verry, S. Reeves, H. Bastable, and the pianist.

A touch of Stedman Triples on handbells was rung by H. Avery, 1-2; H. Bastable, 3-4; W. Kent (conductor), 5-6; S. Reeves, 7-8; and later on an excellent course of Grandsire Caters by the same gentlemen with Mr. C. H. Watts taking a pair.

Closing time arrived all too soon, and by the reluctance with which it was obeyed, seemed to shew plainly that the gathering had been an enjoyable one.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of this association was held at Oldswinford, on Saturday, January 30th. Proceedings commenced with a short, bright service in church, a full choir being present, the service being intoned, and the anthem—"Praise the Lord," being exceedingly well rendered. A brief address of welcome came from the rector, from Matt. xvii. 4: "It is good for us to be here." The rev. gentleman made special allusion to the fact of their commencing their business by meeting in the House of God with prayer and praise. Afterwards the party repaired to the mission room, Heath Lane, where a liberal tea, through the kind hospitality of the Hon. Clerical Secretary of the Association (the Rev. A. B. Timbrell) was provided, following which the business meeting was held. The number of representatives was almost the largest the association has ever had, the following bands of ringers being represented: Areley Kings, Bromsgrove, Bridgnorth, Cradley, Dudley, Old Hill, Netherton, Kidderminster, Tipton, Wollaston, Stourbridge, Worcester, Malvern, Oldbury, Clent, Belbroughton, Oldswinford, Halesowen, and Wolverhampton. The Rev. A. B. Timbrell presided, and after the minutes of the last meeting had been confirmed, called upon the secretary to read the annual report.

Mr. Smith read the report, which stated the committee had much pleasure in presenting the report, the work having progressed financially and numerically, and in the quality of its performances. During the year thirty-two peals had been rung, being an advance of fifteen upon the number of last year. Special mention should be made of the peal on six bells in seven Treble Bob Methods at Netherton, and the peal of London Surprise Major just accomplished at Kidderminster, being the first in the Methods by members of the association. The committee were pleased to note the progress made by the King's Norton Guild during the year, and hoped their success would continue, also that made by the Oldswinford company, under the tuition of Mr. A. E. Parsons, of Old Hill, and trusted they would continue to make further advancement in the knowledge and proficiency of the art. During the year there had been four meetings, at Kidderminster, Worcester, Redditch and Evesham. At Kidderminster, two honorary members and two new companies, belonging to Welland and Hanley Castle, had joined the association. At Redditch, the Rev. Canon Newton was elected an honorary member, and it was also resolved that his band become members if their names were forwarded to the secretary, but the committee regretted that this had not been done. At the Evesham meeting the secretary was instructed to write to the Rev. G. N. Whittingham, vicar, asking him for permission for the Bengeworth ringers to have the use of the campanile bells for the practice of change-ringing once in a month, without interfering with the privilege of his own ringers, but the committee were sorry to state that this mild request was refused. Numerically, the association had increased about twenty-two performing members during the year, but regretted there was a falling off in the honorary members, only twenty-one having paid their subscriptions against twenty-three last year. The balance-sheet showed the receipts for last year were £32 17s. 11d. and the expenses £20 8s. 2d.; the total worth of the association was now £23 9s. 10d. The report was adopted.

On the motion of Mr. Spittle (Dudley), seconded by Mr. Mason (Old Hill), it was resolved to hold the annual meeting at Worcester, on Easter Monday.—Messrs. Grove (Kidderminster) and Pritchett (Kings Norton) were elected delegates to the Kentral Council.—It was resolved to give Mr. Parsons an honorarium for expenses incurred in getting to and from Old Hill to instruct the Oldswinford band, and eulogistic reference was made to the great improvement the ringers had made under his tuition.

Mr. Spittle moved a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding, and also for the bright service provided in church. He thought the step taken by the chairman was one in the right direction. It was well to remind ringers, as part of the church workers, that it was their duty after ringing other people to church, to go in themselves at least once a day.—Mr. Parsons seconded. If they could all put their hearts into the quarterly meetings as they had that day they would soon put the association on a better standing than it was at the present time. One of the best steps the officers of the Association ever took was when they invited the Rev. A. B. Timbrell to become clerical

secretary.—Mr. Small supported the motion, and suggested that the clergy should make more acquaintance with the ringers, which would result in getting a better band, and also in getting them into church. He was afraid the clergy stuck to the east end of the church and the ringers to the west.

The Chairman thanked them for the vote of thanks. It was quite unnecessary, because it had been the greatest possible pleasure to him to preside or have anything to do with anything that affected the service of the church. He was very glad to welcome them to Oldswinford for the first time, and he was glad to have been able to arrange such a meeting as was evidently so satisfactory to them. He was very pleased with his own band of ringers, they were young men whom he had known from boyhood, and they had grown up under his own eye, and he was very proud indeed of the work especially since they had been under Mr. Parsons, to whom they were very grateful. The ringers, too, were regular attendants at church, and communicants, and he should like to see it a rule of the association that the ringers should be communicants; he would much rather them be good Christians than good bellringers. He agreed with Mr. Small as to the lukewarmness of the clergy with regard to the ringers. He was much obliged to them for the reference to his choir, who always did their best to make things go nicely. He thanked them for the vote of thanks, and he would use his best endeavours to advance the interest of the Association.

A vote of thanks was also passed to the rector for the use of the bells. During the day visits were made to the Oldswinford and St. Thomas's towers, and touches were rung in the following Methods:—Grandsire, Plain Bob, Oxford Bob and Kent Treble Bob at Oldswinford; and at St. Thomas's 224 Bob Major, 240 and 336 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. A correspondent writes: "Among the touches rung after the meeting, on the bells of St. Thomas, Stourbridge, was one of 384 changes, of 'London Surprise Major,' by the famous band of St. Mary's, Kidderminster, which has held its premier position in the association for upwards of six years, under the leadership of the indefatigable and persevering 'Dick Grove.' This band has recently rung a peal of 5,000 changes in the same method, the first ever performed in Worcestershire."

ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.

On Saturday, February 6th, a meeting was held at the rectory to discuss the question of adding two new bells to the present ring of six, and judging from the spirit in which the well-attended meeting took the matter up, it is very likely that we shall in a short time have another ring of eight bells within easy reach of Sheffield. Mr. J. S. Booth promised a bell when the old six was recast by Messrs. Warner and Sons about 20 years ago, towards completing the octave, but the tower was then supposed to be unsafe. So a ring of six, with a tenor of 16½ cwt. was put into a structure not considered safe! For 20 years, however, it has carried the weight, and stood every possible test. On many a stormy night these bells have merrily rung through the howling of the wind and storm; and still the same lover of the bells adheres to his promise to give one bell. The sum of £30 was promised at the meeting toward the other bell, so let us hope that the liberal churchman who keeps to his promise for twenty years will soon have the gratification of hearing a ring of eight at Eckington, and live for more than twice twenty years to listen to their tuneful voices, E. J.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE, TAUNTON.

The Annual Meeting of the Guild in connection with this church was held in the belfry on January 23rd. The Vicar of the parish (Rev. Prebendary Askwith) presided. Mr. E. Harbour having resigned the office of Steward, the senior curate (Rev. J. V. Buckland) was elected to fill his place. Mr. T. W. Radford was also obliged to resign his position as conductor owing to his removal from the town. His resignation was accepted with much regret, as he had done so much to promote change-ringing in the tower. Mr. James Burge was unanimously elected to fill his place. Two more members were then presented to the President by the steward, and admitted to the Guild. The Rev. J. V. Buckland will in future be the correspondent of the Guild.

Notices.

The Lancashire Association, Rossendale Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held to-day, Saturday, Feb. 13th, at Christ Church (6 bells), Bacup. Bells ready at 2.30 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. Members of eight-bell towers are especially invited, as every opportunity will be given them for learning six-bell methods. J. H. BANKS, Branch Sec. Helmshore Road, Helmshore.

The Waterloo Society, London.—There will be a special business meeting of the above Society on Wednesday, February 17th, when all members possible are requested to attend.

VICTOR W. WEST, Hon. Sec.
71, Langton Road, Brixton, S.W.

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.—On Friday, February 19th, at the Society's head quarters, Bedford Head hotel, Maiden Lane, Strand, a special meeting will be held. It is earnestly requested that members will make an effort to be present, there being very important business to transact.

All Saints, West Ham, Essex.—There will be no practice at West Ham in future until further notice.

W. DORAN, Steeple Keeper.

The Herts. Association.—A district meeting will be held at Hatfield, on February 20th, when the tower of the parish church will be open for ringing from 3 p.m. Tea at The East Indian Chief, at 6 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Cheap Tickets issued to members travelling on the G. N. Railway to Hatfield, provided a sufficient number announce their intention of attending and inform me by Wednesday, February 17th, of the stations from which they will travel. Receipts for the current year's subscription must be produced at the Booking Office, on applying for the tickets.

E. P. DEBENHAM, Hon. Sec.
S. Albans, February 8th.

The Lancashire Association—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Luke's church, Heywood, on Saturday, February 20th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. All ringers invited, members or not.

E. B. SHAW, Branch Sec.
14, Thomas Street, Lees.

The Waterloo Society.—On Saturday, February 20th, the twenty-ninth anniversary of this society will be celebrated by a dinner at The York hotel, Waterloo Road; tickets 3s. 6d. each, may be had of the following committee: Messrs. H. N. Davis, 419, Old Kent Road, S.E.; T. West, 71, Langton Road, Brixton, S.W.; H. Barton, 36, Havil Street, Camberwell, S.E.; A. Hardy, 51, Kay Road, Stockwell, S.W.; F. G. Perrin, 42, Aylesbury Street, Walworth, S.E.; F. J. Pitts, 128, Leathwaite Road, Clapham, S.W.; or of WALTER C. HASTED, Hon. Sec.

The Lancashire Association, Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Phillip's church, Hulme, on Saturday, February 20th. Bells ready at 3.0 p.m. Business meeting to be held in the "British Workmen's" Club Room, at 7.0 p.m. Open invitation to all ringers. WALTER BROWN, Branch Sec.
54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

The Central Northamptonshire Association.—Quarterly meeting at Rothwell, near Kettering, on Saturday, February 20th. The bells are a ring of six. Tenor 22 cwt. Usual arrangements. E. J. DENNES, Hon. Sec. Wellingborough.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Petersfield, Hants., on Saturday, February 20th. Bells (8) available from 12 noon. Meeting at 4.15 in the belfry. The secretary will give notice of proposed alteration of Rule XII.

CHARLES E. MATTHEWS, Hon. Sec.
Hursley, Winchester.

St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—John-son Commemoration and the Guild's annual dinner will be held on Saturday, February 27th, at The Market hotel, Station Street, Birmingham. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. sharp. Tickets, free to full ringing members, to others 3s. each, may be obtained from the undersigned. The ring of twelve bells at St. Martin's, in the Bull Ring, will be open at 3.30 p.m. A. Percival Heywood, Esq., Chairman of the Central Council, has kindly consented to preside. Tickets should be applied for before the 24th inst.

W. H. GODDEN, Hon. Sec.
61, Roland Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

The Kent County Association, Maidstone District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Aylesford, on Saturday, February 27th, by kind permission of the Vicar. Tower open at 4 p.m. Short service at 5.30. Committee meeting at The Chequers at 6. Tea at 6.15. Applications for tea tickets to be made to me not later than February 22nd.

A. L. BRINE (REV.), Hon. Dis. Sec.
Bearsd.

The Sussex County Association.—(Central Division.)—A quarterly meeting will be held at Southover, Lewes, on Saturday, February 27th. Tower open from 3 p.m. A short service at 5 p.m. Tea at 5.30 (free). Members intending to be present should let me know not later than Tuesday, February 23rd, as the vicar (who provides the tea) requests me to let him know how many are likely to be present.

GEO. WILLIAMS, Hon. Div. Sec.
2, Grove Street, Brighton.

The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—A meeting will be held at Houghton-le-Spring, on Saturday, February 27th. (Fencehouses is the nearest railway station.) The Committee will meet at 4 o'clock, at The White Lion hotel. Meat tea will be provided at The White Lion at 4.45 p.m. at 1s. each. The bells of the parish church will be at the disposal of members during the day. Subscriptions for 1896-7 are now due. Those intending to be present please notify the same on or before February 25th to

THOMAS HUDSON, Hon. Sec.
314, High Street, West Sunderland.

Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—The next meeting of this Guild will be held at Christ Church, Bootle, on Saturday, February 27th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Hot Pot supper at 5.30 p.m. Business meeting at 6 p.m.

Rev. W. T. BULPITT, Hon. Secs.
W. BENTHAM,

THE DAVID WILSON FUND.

The following additional subscriptions have been received:—

	s.	d.
Mr. E. Smith	5	6
Mr. W. Snowdon (Leeds) ..	5	0
Mr. C. Pratt (Calverley) ..	2	0
Leeds Parish Church Society ..	10	0
Gillingham Society of Handell Ringers	5	0
Birstall	J. WEST.	

NOTE TO THE PEAL AT SADDLEWORTH.—Upon the completion of the above peal the band adjourned to The Church inn, where they were entertained to a substantial meal, kindly provided by Mr. John Holden, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all, and they take this opportunity of thanking that gentleman for his kind hospitality. They afterwards joined the local company, when the question was asked whose peal it was, and the figures were produced as a composition by Mr. Henry Dains. Mr. Samuel Wood then stated that it was composed by the late John Thorpe, and that he had called it nearly twenty years ago. Perhaps our friend Mr. Dains can throw some light on the matter as regards the real composer previous to its entry in the Ashton society's peal-book. The peal is a three-part one in eighteen courses, and was taken from the Oxford Diocesan Guild Report of 1895, page 153.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C. R.—Yes, certainly.

ENQUIRER.—We would rather not say anything on the subject. The agitation was contemptible, and the assertion you ask about is made upon the most incompetent authority.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED situation as Gardener, or any other capacity; use to horses, and willing to be generally useful. Total abstainer; good change-ringing Instructor.—Address X Y Z, care of Editor.

COULD anyone help me to get a situation; am willing to do anything. By trade a six-quarter Tapestry Weaver. Can ring Double Norwich, Stedman, Superlative, Cambridge, and London Surprise. Can conduct in method I can ring. I am willing to give my services as a ringer for getting employment. Married; 29 years of age; 15 years' character.—W. H. Smith, Lark Hill, Kidderminster.

SITUATION Wanted as under Gardener, or single-handed am not particular as to any other sort of work. Age 21. Five years good character. Change-ringer. Member of St. Mary's Society, Beddington.—A. Clayton.

WANTED, Situation as Sexton (understands duties), or any place of trust. Good change-ringer in all Standard Methods. Married; age 32; good testimonials. Member of Kent County Association and College Youths. Address, B.Y., care of Editor.

SITUATION Wanted as Foreman or Manager of Rubber Works. Thoroughly understands the business. Twenty-three years' experience in England and America. Can ring Standard methods.—John Wright, King's Norton, Birmingham.

WANTED by married man, age 28, situation as Fireman, used to Engine and Boilers. Ten years' experience. Can ring Grandsire Minor and Triples, or conduct. Apply—W., care of the Editor.

WANTED by married man, age 30, situation as Bread Baker, First hand or Good Second; Change-ringer in three Standard methods; Excellent references Apply, H. Blake, Fornham St. Martin, Bury St. Edmund's, Suffolk.

For Sale.

GENT'S CYCLE. Balls throughout; nearly new, List price £20. Take £9 10s. Apply A. Markwell, Ivy House, Wilburton.

For Exchange.

NEW Silver English Lever Watch for good Cushion Safety; value £4 4s.; or would sell for £3 10s. cash.—G., office of this paper.

GOOD DOUBLE BASS, three strings, brass machine head, for Good Safety Bicycle; or will take £5.—Apply, "R.", office of this paper.

PRINTING of an high-class description is executed at the office of this paper. A dozen Peal-cards for 1s. 1d., or eighteen for 1s. 6d., post free.

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

ROPE-SIGHT : 1s. 6d. FOURTH 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, etc., etc. (143 pages).

STANDARD METHODS: 2s. 6d. THIRD EDITION
Now Ready. 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. (210 pages).

TREBLE BOB. PART I. out of print and under revision.
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).

Forwarded, Post Free, on receipt of remittance, by WM. SNOWDON, 24, Basinghall Street, Leeds.

MR. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD'S WORK.

"DUFFIELD:" A MUSICAL METHOD FOR 8, 10, AND 12 BELLS, containing full directions for ringing, pricking, and proving the method; together with a collection of Peals of Major, Royal, and Maximus; also an Explanatory Appendix. By ARTHUR PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, M.A. Gratis on application to A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, DUFFIELD BANK, near Derby.

THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

NOW READY.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF SUFFOLK.—By JOHN JAMES RAVEN, D.D., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge; Vicar of Fressingfield-with-Wilbersdale; Honorary Canon of Norwich Cathedral; and President of the Norwich Diocesan Association).—WITH ABOUT NINETY ILLUSTRATIONS.—This most interesting work contains an account of all the Church Bells in the County of Suffolk—their makers and history—so far as they can be discovered. Incidental notices are introduced of the ancient uses of Bells—the individuals mentioned on them—and many historical events connected therewith. Introductory remarks on the general history of the Bells are prefixed to local portion of the work. The book is fully illustrated with engravings of ornaments, letterings, founders' marks, shields, etc., of which some will be found hitherto unknown. The latter portion of the work contains a complete list of Churches in the County, with the inscriptions on the Bells now belonging to them, as well as on many which have been re-cast. The Demy 8vo. Edition is limited to 500 copies, and is now offered at 20s. nett; or Bound in Half-morocco, Roxburgh style, 27s 6d. nett. Copies by post 1s. 6d. extra. The Large Paper Edition was subscribed for within a few days of the issue of the Prospectuses, and is now unobtainable.

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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, FEBRUARY 13, 1897.

The Metropolis.

THE SOUTH AND WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 4, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, TWICKENHAM,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART, No. 11. Tenor 21 cwt.

ARTHUR SCOTT Treble.	ALLEN H. TABER 5.
JOHN HOWES 2.	FREDERICK GODDARD 6.
HARRY NEWNHAM* 3.	JOHN BASDEN 7.
CHARLES EDWARDS 4.	HENRY SEWARD Tenor.

Conducted by A. H. TABER.

*First peal in the method, and first in the method on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. Howes, who hails from Kingston-on-Thames.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, BETHNAL GREEN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 14 cwt.

MATTHEW A. WOOD .. Treble.	REV. GEO. J. BAYLEY, M.A. 5.
WILLIAM BERRY* 2.	HARRY HOSKINS 6.
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY 3.	FREDERICK W. THORNTON. 7.
FRANK M. BUTLER 4.	JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK S. BAYLEY.

*First peal in the method.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 30 cwt.

JAMES SCHOLLES Treble	SAMUEL JOYCE 5.
HENRY SPRINGALL 2.	ERNEST CLAYTON 6.
EDWIN WALLAGE 3.	EMANUEL HALL 7.
WILLIAM TRUSS* 4.	SAMUEL HAYES Tenor.

Composed by THOMAS DAY and Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

*First peal in the method with a bob bell; first peal in the method on the bells, and rang at the first attempt. Rang as a birthday compliment to E. Clayton, he having attained his twenty-fourth birthday on February 5th.

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

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5056 CHANGES. Tenor 25 cwt.

FRANK BUCK Treble	WALTER J. SORRELL 5.
WILLIAM GARRARD 2.	HENRY R. NEWTON 6.
ARTHUR G. ELLIS 3.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE 7.
JOHN N. OXBORROW 4.	JAMES WILLSHIRE Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by JAMES WILLSHIRE.

First peal in the method as Conductor. The figures of this peal will be found on page 114 of Central Council Appendix for 1895, second peal on the page.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

(THE ST. MARGARET'S SOCIETY, BARKING.)

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, BARKING,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 22½ cwt. in E flat.

A. DEARDS MASON* Treble	ROWLAND FENN 5.
ALBERT C. HARDY 2.	ALBERT DEARDS 6.
THOMAS FAULKNER 3.	ALFRED WHIGHT 7.
CALEB FENN 4.	EDWARD A. DAVIES, Esq. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS FAULKNER.

*First peal and first attempt.

The Provinces.

GLOUCESTER.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.

On Thursday, February 3, 1897, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5184 CHANGES. Tenor 20 cwt. 48 lbs. in E.

FRED. G. MAY Treble	WILLIAM T. PEGLER 5.
FRANCIS E. WARD 2.	ERNEST E. DAVIS 6.
JOHN AUSTIN 3.	*ROBERT A. BARRETT 7.
FRANCIS E. HART 4.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER Tenor.

Composed by the late H. JOHNSON and Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

*First peal in the method.

ELY.—THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 4, 1897, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART. Tenor 18½ cwt.

ARTHUR PILGRIM Treble	ARTHUR MARKWELL 5.
GEORGE TAYLOR 2.	HENRY SHARP 6.
JOHN TAYLOR 3.	GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE 7.
WILLIAM KEMPTON 4.	*JOSEPH VAIL Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE.

*First peal. First peal in the method by all except the Conductor, and is the first in the method on the bells. Messrs. G. and J. Taylor, Kempton, and Woodhouse hail from Cambridge; Markwell and Sharp from Wilburton. It was rung as a birthday compliment to A. Markwell.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND THE
ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY.

On Thursday, February 4, 1897, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN .. Treble	GEORGE HOWCHIN 5.
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE .. 2.	CHARLES E. BORRETT .. 6.
FREDERICK H. KNIGHTS .. 3.	SAMUEL SMITH 7.
ALBERT G. WARNES .. 4.	WILLIAM BALES Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and

Conducted by CHARLES E. BORRETT.

This is the first peal of Kent Major on the bells.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, February 5, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
CARTER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 20 cwt. in E flat.

JOHN O. GRIFFITHS .. Treble	JAMES E. GROVES 5.
SAMUEL J. HUGHES .. 2.	WILLIAM H. HUGHES .. 6.
JOSEPH DAY† 3.	WILLIAM MORGAN 7.
RICHARD JONES 4.	*ERNEST COWPER Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

*First peal. †First peal of Grandsire.

BRIDGNORTH, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF DARLSTON BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
CARTER'S SIX-PART. Tenor 20 cwt. in E flat.

WILLIAM MAUND .. Treble	JAMES E. GROVES 5.
WILLIAM ESLEY .. 2.	HORACE W. OVERTON .. 6.
JOHN E. OVERTON .. 3.	*JOHN OVERTON 7.
HERBERT HAMMOND .. 4.	HARRY JONES Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN OVERTON.

*First peal as Conductor. First peal of Darlston by all except J. E. Groves. First in the method on the bells.

SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

SAMUEL WOOD .. Treble	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 5.
JOHN HOLDEN .. 2.	JAMES RADCLIFFE .. 6.
GEORGE E. TURNER .. 3.	JAMES S. WILDE .. 7.
ALFRED CROSS .. 4.	HARRY CHAPMAN Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY CHAPMAN.

Messrs. Chapman, Cross, and Turner belong to Pendleton; Wood and Broadbent to Ashton-under-Lyne; Holden to Mossley; Wilde to Hyde; and Radcliffe to Saddleworth. A note to this peal will be found on another page.

BELGRAVE, LEICESTER.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5072 CHANGES. Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

ISAAC HILLS .. Treble	FRANK HULL 5.
CHARLES CHASTY .. 2.	ALFRED H. MARTIN .. 6.
WILLIAM PETTITT .. 3.	JOHN B. MARTIN .. 7.
JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 4.	CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

The Brothers Martin hail from Higham Ferrers; Pettitt and Houghton from Irthlingborough; the remainder from Bedford. This is C. Chasty's fiftieth peal.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 9½ cwt.

G. E. BLAY* Treble.	H. HOLIFIELD 5.
T. SHORT 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 6.
W. ADKIN 3.	*J. G. HOLLOWAY 7.
E. ALDWORTH 4.	H. HYDE Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

*First peal of Stedman.

LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.

(THE MIRFIELD SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

HERBERT PEACOCK Treble.	RALPH ELLIS 5.
H. W. COLLINSON 2.	CHARLEY PEACOCK 6.
FRED ROBINSON 3.	BENJAMIN ROBINSON 7.
GEORGE THORNTON 4.	SAM PEACOCK Tenor.

Composed by the late OBADIAH LANG, of Liversedge, and
Conducted by BENJAMIN ROBINSON.

GAINSBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE
ST. PETER-AT-ARCHES SOCIETY, LINCOLN.

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5472 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

ROBERT E. CLARKE Treble.	GABRIEL LINDOFF 5.
GEORGE FLINTHAM 2.	*JAMES R. MACKMAN 6.
JOSEPH B. FENTON 3.	RICHARD DAWSON 7.
GEORGE W. BEMROSE 4.	CHARLES W. P. CLIFTON Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by G. LINDOFF.

This peal, which is the longest length rung in the county, has the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent in 6ths at a course-end, without 2nd ever before the tenor. *First peal of Major.

BIRMINGHAM.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.
Tenor 29 cwt.

ALFRED FLOWERS* Treble.	THOMAS COLLINSON 6.
ALFRED T. HYLAND* 2.	GEORGE HITCHMAN 7.
JOHN CARTER 3.	WILLIAM PAGE 8.
WILLIAM A. HANCOX* 4.	FREDERICK CLAYTON 9.
JAMES JONES 5.	JAMES GEORGE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

This peal has the 6th twenty-four times right. *First peal in the method. W. Page hails from Worcester, and George from Rugby.

OSSETT, YORKSHIRE.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5000 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 26½ cwt.

F. SCHOFIELD Treble.	G. H. HARDY 5.
G. CRAWSHAW 2.	W. DIXON 6.
G. MARSDEN 3.	W. BYRAM 7.
W. ILLINGWORTH 4.	D. STEPHENSON Tenor.

Composed by G. H. HARDY and Conducted by W. ILLINGWORTH.

Messrs. Byram and Hardy hail from Earlsheaton, and Marsden from Thurnscoe, near Rotherham. First peal conducted by W. Illingworth. [There is evidently an error in the number of changes.—Ed.]

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5024 CHANGES. Tenor 14½ cwt.

THOMAS ANDREWS* Treble.	*WALTER CHARMAN 5.
GEORGE WILLIAMS 2.	FREDK. W. RICE 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 3.	JOHN W. WHITING 7.
FRANK BENNETT 4.	HENRY H. CHANDLER Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal of Double Norwich. This is the first peal of Double Norwich on the bells. Each of the above band have rung upwards of 100 peals, the numbers being treble, 142; 2nd, 293; 3rd, 107; 4th, 105; 5th, 107; 6th, 105; 7th, 123; tenor, 162.

HALESOWEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 19½ cwt.

WILLIAM SHORT Treble.	HARRY MASON 5.
GEORGE N. COCKIN 2.	WILLIAM H. BARBER 6.
ADOLPHUS ROBERTS 3.	JOHN BARBER 7.
ALBERT E. PARSONS 4.	MATTHEW HACKETT Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT E. PARSONS.

SPELDHURST, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS CARD Treble.	ALBERT E. EDWARDS 5.
GEORGE TURLEY 2.	JAMES MAYNARD 6.
RICHARD PELLING 3.	*WILLIAM H. CARD 7.
STEPHEN PERKINS 4.	GEORGE A. CARD Tenor.

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH and Conducted by WILLIAM H. CARD.

*First peal as conductor. This composition has the extent of 5-6 in 6ths, the 2nd never there at a course-end, and was rang as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Perkins and G. A. Card, their brother-strings wishing them many happy returns.

LOW MOOR, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

H. SIMPSON Treble.	A. WILKINSON 5.
T. SIMPSON 2.	H. KERSHAW 6.
F. WOOD 3.	J. W. EMMETT 7.
E. WHEATER 4.	C. DRACUP Tenor.

Composed by WM. SOTTANSTALL, and Conducted by
C. DRACUP.

E. Wheeler hails from Bradford; the rest belong to the local company.

ERITH, KENT.

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt.

ARTHUR NEALE Treble.	ARTHUR TENNANT 5.
ARTHUR PEILL 2.	WILLIAM G. GROVE 6.
GEORGE CONYARD 3.	WILLIAM BEDWELL 7.
ERNEST E. HUNTLEY 4.	EDWIN BARNETT Tenor.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS and Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT.

This peal was arranged for Mr. E. E. Huntley, who hails from Bushey, Herts.

HANDSWORTH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 12 cwt. in F. sharp.

ALFRED SMITH* Treble.	WILLIAM H. GODDEN .. 5.
THOMAS VERRY 2.	REUBEN HALL 6.
SAMUEL REEVES 3.	WILLIAM VERRY 7.
THOMAS HORTON 4.	SIDNEY SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

*First peal; aged 15.

BROMBOROUGH, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WIRRAL BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 24 cwt.

JOSEPH WOODS Treble.	FRANK JONES 5.
HENRY W. WILDE* 2.	*THOMAS HUGHES 6.
JOHN HUGHES* 3.	*FREDK. THOS. SPENCE .. 7.
JOSEPH SHONE 4.	JAMES DILLON Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by HENRY WALTER WILDE.

*First peal in the method. This peal, which is now rung for the first time, contains all the combinations of 4, 5, and 6 in 5-6, and the 2nd and 3rd never in 5ths place at the course-ends. H. W. Wilde belongs to Belgrave; John Hughes to Earham; F. T. Spence to Grappenhall, and it is his first peal of Major.

DARLINGTON, DURHAM.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 10 cwt. 13 lbs.

RICHARD MONCASTER .. Treble.	WILLIAM D. LISTER .. 5.
ROBERT WILSON 2.	GEORGE J. LUNGLEY .. 6.
WILLIAM PATTON 3.	THOMAS LUNGLEY 7.
JAMES BAXTER 4.	WILLIAM H. PORTER .. Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and Conducted by WILLIAM PORTER.

Messrs. G. J. and T. Lungley belong to Trinity Church; the rest belong to the local company. Rung as a birthday compliment to Richard Moncaster, Master of the belfry, on the occasion of attaining his 50th year.

OLD WINDSOR, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

On Monday, February 8, 1897, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

WILLIAM WARE Treble.	THOMAS GOSLING 5.
JOSEPH W. GUTTRIDGE, JUN. 2.	ALFRED ANDREWS 6.
JAMES W. WILKINS 3.	JOSEPH GUTTRIDGE 7.
REUBEN FLAXMAN 4.	FREDERICK GUTTRIDGE .. Tenor.

Composed by JOSEPH J. PARKER, of Farnham Royal, and Conducted by JAMES W. WILKINS.

The conductor hails from Maidenhead. This is the first peal in the method by W. Ware and J. Guttridge, jun.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.—ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 8, 1897, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 20 cwt.

THOMAS NEWMAN Treble.	FREDERICK SWORDER .. 5.
RICHARD SWORDER 2.	WALTER WM. TUCKER .. 6.
GEORGE PRIOR 3.	HENRY JAMES TUCKER .. 7.
WALTER PRIOR 4.	JOSEPH SAMPFORD Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY JAMES TUCKER.

ASSTEAD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, February 8, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 14 cwt.

CHARLES RACE* Treble.	WILLIAM MARKS 5.
WILLIAM MESSAM 2.	ARTHUR DEAN 6.
HENRY WOOD 3.	EDWARD R. J. DUNK .. 7.
WILLIAM R. CROCKFORD .. 4.	HENRY WILKINSON Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD R. J. DUNK.

*First peal. H. Wilkinson was elected a member of the Guild previous to starting, and belongs to the local band. E. Dunk hails from Westerham; the rest from Leatherhead.

BRAMLEY, LEEDS, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, February 9, 1897, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following:

Tanner's Pleasure, Arnold's Victory, College Pleasure, Duke of York, Kent, Violet, and Oxford. Tenor 12 cwt.

FRED. BLACKETH* .. Treble.	*J. W. CHADWICK 4.
HARRY GAYTHORPE 2.	*JOHN BROWN 5.
J. W. T. HOLGATE† .. 3.	*EDWARD REDSHAW Tenor.

Conducted by J. W. T. HOLGATE.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. F. Blacketh hails from Armley; the rest belong to the local company.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 9, 1897, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. CHARLES TYLER,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5016 CHANGES.

LAZARUS PAYNE 1-2.	CHARLES TYLER 7-8.
WILLIAM HILLMAN 3-4.	WILLIAM J. ALLISS .. 9-10.
GEORGE PAYNE 5-6.	ALFRED W. GROVES .. 11-12.

Composed by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq., and Conducted by CHARLES TYLER.

First peal of Cinques by the Association, and by all the band. The above peal has an 8, 10, 12 six in the middle of every course. Referee—Mr. Henry Stringer. Witnesses—Messrs. Burt, Heasman, and Corner.

PEAL CORRECTION.—The peal of Grandsire Triples rang at Crawley on the 31st of January was a Sussex County Association peal.

Date Touches.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRAMPTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, January 17th, at the parish church, a date touch, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 4 mins., being 360 each of Stedman's Slow Course, Canterbury, St. Simon's, April Day, 240 Grandsire, and 217 Bob Doubles. W. Myall, 1; J. Cole, 2; J. Woolnough, 3; J. Larter (conductor), 4; J. Self, 5.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BRAMLEY (Leeds).—On Tuesday, February 2nd, a date touch of 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 9 mins., in the following Treble Bob methods: 240 each of Tanner's Pleasure, Arnold's Victory, College Pleasure, Duke of York, Violet, Woodbine, Oxford and 217 of Kent. H. Gaythorpe, 1; J. W. T. Holgate (conductor), 2; R. Thomas, 3; J. W. Chadwick, 4; J. Brown, 5; E. Redshaw, 6.

RANMOOR, SHEFFIELD (Yorks).—On Wednesday, January 27th, at the church of St. John the Evangelist, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 11 mins. C. Sawyer, 1; W. Goodwin, 2; F. Allen, 3; T. Sawyer, 4; S. Thomas (conductor), 5; R. W. Collier, 6; W. Plant, 7; R. Collier, 8. Composed by T. W. Moorhouse, of Wakefield. Rung on the occasion of the birthday of R. Collier, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

CROSTON, NEAR PRESTON.—On Monday, February 1st, for practice at the parish church, eight members of the above Guild rang a date touch of 1897 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 6 mins. T. Dalton (longest touch with a hunting bell), 1; J. Hale, 2; T. Banister, 3; W. Sumner (composer and conductor), 4; R. Hough, 5; J. Ascroft, 6; W. Walton, 7; J. Ascroft (longest), 8.

STAFFORD.—On Sunday evening, January 31st, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of 1897 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 7 mins. T. Guest, 1, A. Moreton, 2; H. Mountford, 3; R. Grant, 4; T. Perry (conductor), 5; W. Bennett, 5; R. Pickering, 7; T. Thompson, 8. Composed by John Howes, of Kingston-on-Thames.

LONDON.—On Wednesday, January 27th, at the church of St. Mary Matfelon, Whitechapel, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 13 mins. C. Kennedy, 1; J. Scholes, 2; F. G. Newman, 3; E. Clayton, 4; S. Parmenter, 5; E. Wallage (conductor), 6; E. Hall, 7; G. Barrall, 8. Composed by J. Barratt, of Stepney.

Low Moor (Yorks).—On Sunday, January 31st, at Holy Trinity Church for evening service, a date touch of 1897 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 7 mins. H. Simpson, 1; T. Simpson, 2; A. Wilkinson, 3; E. Wheeler, 4; J. Pratt, 5; H. Kershaw, 6; J. W. Emmett, 7; C. Dracup (conductor), 8.

LINDLEY (Huddersfield).—On Thursday, February 4th, at the parish church, a date touch of 1897 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 8 mins. A. Sykes, 1; S. Woolhouse, 2; G. Denbeigh, 3; A. Crossland, 4; G. T. Turner, 5; C. Craven, 6; J. A. Royston, 7; F. Schofield (conductor), 8. Composed by A. Sykes.

Miscellaneous.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

RODMERSHAM (Kent).—On Thursday, December 31st, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Coast, 1; G. Coast, 2; J. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon, M.A. (conductor), 4; E. Day, 5; S. Beach, 6. On Sunday evening, January 3rd, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Single Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Sedge, 1; G. Coast, 2; J. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon, M.A. (conductor), 4; E. Day, 5; C. Millway, 6. On Sunday evening, January 17th, for Divine Service, 720 Cambridge Surprise. E. Day, 1; S. Beach, 2; J. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon, M.A., 4; C. Millway, 5; H. Wood (conductor), 6. Also 720 Superlative Surprise. G. Coast, 1; S. Beach, 2; J. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon, M.A., 4; C. Millway, 5; H. Wood (conductor), 6. On Thursday, February 4th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (fourteen singles and four bobs). C. Sellow, 1; S. Beach, 2; C. Millway, 3; J. Dixon, M.A. (conductor), 4; J. Grensted, 5; E. Day, 6. On Saturday evening, February 6th, for Divine Service, 720 Superlative Surprise. E. Allen, 1; S. Beach, 2; J. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon, M.A., 4; C. Millway, 5; H. Wood (conductor), 6. Also 240 Cambridge Surprise with G. Coast, 1; E. Allen, 2; the rest as before. E. Allen hails from Borden.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

OSWALDTWISTLE.—On Sunday morning, January 5th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. W. Britcliffe, 1; J. Haworth, 2; J. Bentley, 3; I. Whalley, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 Bob Minor. J. Bentley, 1; W. Britcliffe, 3; the rest as before. First 720 by W. Britcliffe away from the treble. On Sunday, January 10th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Britcliffe, 1; J. Haworth, 2; J. Bentley, 3; T. Holden, 4; C. Sharples (conductor), 5; I. Whalley, 6. On Monday, January 25th, 720 Oxford Single. J. Britcliffe, 1; J. Haworth, 2; I. Whalley, 3; W. Britcliffe, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. First 720 on tower bells in this method by all the band, and rang at the second attempt. First 720 by J. Britcliffe. On Sunday morning, January 31st, for Divine Service, 360 Oxford Single. J. Bentley, 1; J. Haworth, 3; I. Whalley, 3; W. Britcliffe, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WINCHESTER.—On Saturday, January 30th, the following members of the Cathedral Society met for special practice of Stedman Triples, when over 2000 changes were rung, and among the touches brought round was a well-struck 504 and 324. W. J. Sevier, 1; G. Smith, 2; C. J. Chooet, 3; R. Hasted, 4; J. Harris, 5; Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, 6; W. H. George (conductor), 7; D. Froome, 8. Tenor 32 cwt.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

CLYST ST. GEORGE (Devon).—On Monday, February 1st, three 6-

scores of Stedman Doubles. J. Rickard, 1; F. Smith, 2; Rev. R. Gibbs, 3; C. Glass, 4; G. Start (conductor), 5; J. Potter, 6. This is the first 120 in the method by all the band, and the first on the tower bells by men of the parish.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN (Herts).—On Monday, January 11th, 360 Oxford Bob, 180 Bob Minor, 108 Grandsire, and 144 College Single. H. Carter, 1; A. Phillips, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Stedman. W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 1; G. Carter, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; H. Carter, 6. And 120 of Bob and Grandsire Doubles. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence (aged 12), 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; G. Carter, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, January 20th, 180 Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Phillips, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, January 24th, for Divine Service, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; G. Phillips, 6. Conducted by J. Heady and A. Phillips.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON (Somerset).—At the church of St. Mary Magdalene on Old Year's night, for evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Thomas, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; J. Hunt, 3; S. Radford, 4; A. Evans, 5; J. Fowler, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; A. Walker, 8. After service the old year was rung out with 910 Oxford Bob Triples. W. Thomas, 1; A. Walker, 2; S. Radford, 3; J. Burge, 4; T. W. Radford (conductor), 5; J. Fowler, 6; A. Evans, 7; J. Hunt, 8. The new year was rung in with 336 Grandsire Triples. T. W. Radford (conductor), 1; W. Thomas, 2; A. Walker, 3; A. Evans, 4; S. Radford, 5; J. Fowler, 6; J. Burge, 7; J. Hunt, 8. On Monday, December 28th, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 50 mins. A. Walker, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; J. Joyce, 3; J. Fowler, 4; A. Evans, 5; T. W. Radford (conductor), 6; J. Burge, 7; W. Thomas, 8. First quarter-peal in the method by all. On Tuesday, January 2nd, for practice, 910 Oxford Bob Triples. S. Radford, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; J. Hunt, 3; J. Fowler, 4; T. W. Radford (conductor), 5; J. Joyce, 6; J. Burge, 7; A. Evans, 8. On Wednesday, January 3rd, for Divine Service, 252 Oxford Bob Triples. J. Hunt, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; J. Burge, 3; J. Fowler, 4; A. Evans, 5; S. Radford, 6; T. W. Radford (conductor), 7; A. Walker, 8. On January 9th, 210 Oxford Bob Triples. A. Walker, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; J. Hunt, 3; J. Burge, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Joyce, 6; A. Evans (conductor), 7; W. Thomas, 8. On January 16th an attempt was made for a peal of Oxford Bob Triples, but it came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 25 mins. through a change-course. J. Jones, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; S. Radford, 3; J. Joyce, 4; T. W. Radford (conductor), 5; A. Evans, 6; J. Burge, 7; J. Fowler, 8. On January 17th, for afternoon service, 720 Oxford Bob Minor. E. Lloyd, 1; S. Radford, 2; J. Joyce, 3; W. Thomas, 4; J. Hunt, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6. This is the first in the method by all, and by the Association. On January 23rd 270 Grandsire Caters. J. Jones, 1; J. Hunt, 2; T. W. Radford, 3; S. Wyatt, 4; S. Radford, 5; J. Fowler, 6; J. Joyce, 7; A. Walker, 8; J. Burge (conductor), 9; W. Thomas, 10. On January 24th 336 Oxford Bob Triples. E. Lloyd, 1; A. Walker, 2; W. Thomas, 3; S. Radford, 4; S. Wyatt, 5; T. W. Radford (conductor), 6; J. Burge, 7; J. Hunt, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHIPPING.—On Wednesday, December 16th, 720 Duke of York. R. Kenyon, 1; W. Timbrell (conductor), 2; J. Kenyon, 3; E. Timbrell, 5; T. Seed, 5; F. Timbrell, 6. On Sunday morning, December 20th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent, standing as above. On Wednesday, December 23rd, 720 Woodbine standing as above. On Sunday, December 27th, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). R. Kenyon, 1; J. Seed, 2; J. Kenyon, 3; W. Timbrell (conductor), 4; E. Timbrell, 5; F. Timbrell, 6. On Sunday, January 11th, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-eight bobs and eighteen singles). Composed by J. Penning. R. Kenyon, 1; J. Seed, 2; F. Timbrell, 3; T. Seed, 4; W. Timbrell (conductor), 5; E. Timbrell, 6. On Thursday, January 14th, 720 Woodbine. R. Kenyon, 1; W. Timbrell (conductor), 2; J. Kenyon, 3; E. Timbrell, 4; T. Seed, 5; F. Timbrell, 6. On Sunday, January 17th, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). R. Kenyon, 1; F. Timbrell, 2; J. Kenyon, 3; W. Timbrell (conductor), 4; T. Seed, 5; E. Timbrell, 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. R. Kenyon, 1; E. Timbrell, 2; J. Kenyon, 3; W. Timbrell (conductor), 4; T. Seed, 5; F. Timbrell, 6. On Saturday, January 23rd, 720 Violet. R. Kenyon, 1; W. Timbrell (conductor), 2; J. Kenyon, 3; E. Timbrell, 4; T. Seed, 5; F. Timbrell, 6. First in the method by all, and on the bells. On Sunday, January 31st, 720 Kent. R. Kenyon, 1; W. Timbrell (conductor), 2; J. Kenyon, 3; E. Timbrell, 4; T. Seed, 5; F. Timbrell, 6. Also 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six bobs and twelve singles). Composed by J. M. Richardson. R. Kenyon, 1; J. Seed, 2; T. Seed, 3; W. Timbrell, 4; J. Kenyon, 5; E. Timbrell, 6.

RIBCHESTER.—On Sunday, December 20th, 720 Kent. R. Kenyon, 1; W. Timbrell (conductor), 2; J. Kenyon, 3; E. Timbrell, 4; T. Seed, 5; F. Timbrell, 6. And 720 Bob Minor standing as above. Also 720 in the same method. W. Timbrell (conductor), 1; J. Seed, 2; F. Timbrell, 3; B. Walton, 4; E. Timbrell, 5; T. Seed, 6. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 720 Grandsire. R. Kenyon, 1; W. Timbrell (conductor), 2; J. Kenyon, 3; E. Timbrell, 4; T. Seed, 5; F. Timbrell, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

BURNLEY (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, February 2nd, at Holy Trinity church, a date touch of 1897 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 15 mins. R. Hartley (longest touch), 1; F. Towns, 2; N. Townend, 3; D. Campbell, 4; J. R. Werring (composer), 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

TARPORLEY (Cheshire).—On Wednesday evening, February 3rd, for practice at St. Helen's church, 504 Plain Bob Triples, in 18 mins. W. Stockton, 1; J. Hunt, 2; H. Wright, 3; J. Rowley, 4; W. Rowley, 5; F. Vernon, 6; R. T. Holding (conductor), 7; A. Billington, 8. A 336 of Bob Major was also attempted, but unfortunately broke down just before the finish, the men standing as above with the exception of J. Richardson, 7; R. T. Holding, 8. R. T. Holding hails from Crewe; the rest belong to the Tarporley Society.

MACCLESFIELD.—At the annual meeting held at Macclesfield on Saturday, January 28th, the following touches were rung during the day. A 294 Grandsire Triples. F. Stonely, 1; A. Mottershead, 2; W. Carter, 3; M. Davenport, 4; W. Steell (conductor), 5; P. Long, 6; J. Wood, 7; J. Snape, 8. And 360 of Bob Minor. W. Isherwood, 1; J. Potts, 2; W. Carter, 3; W. Bowden, 4; J. Snape (conductor), 5; W. Walmsley, 6. And 720 Bob Minor. W. Ingham, 1; G. Potts, 2; W. Carter, 3; W. Isherwood, 4; J. Snape (conductor), 5; W. Walmsley, 6. And a 464 of Bob Major. J. Snape, 1; F. Stonely, 2; W. Steell, 3; M. Davenport, 4; W. Carter, 5; J. Wood, 6; G. Norbury, 7; W. Walmsley (conductor), 8. And 96 of Treble Bob Major. A. Mottershead, 1; F. Stonely, 2; W. Kenny, 3; W. Steell, 4; W. Carter, 5; J. Wood, 6; G. Norbury, 7; W. Walmsley (conductor), 8. And a 224 of Canterbury Pleasure Major. W. Ingham, 1; F. Stonely, 2; W. Kenny, 3; M. Davenport, 4; W. Steell, 5; J. Wood, 6; W. Carter, 7; W. Walmsley (conductor), 8. Messrs. Walmsley, Norbury, Steel, Stonely, Kenny and Mottershead hail from Macclesfield; Snape, Potts, Bowden, Isherwood and Wood from Poynton; Davenport and Ingham from Sutton; Carter from Bidulph, and Long from Bollington.

THE SOUTH AND WEST MIDDLESEX GUILD.

ISLEWORTH (Middlesex).—On Sunday afternoon, February 7th, for Men's Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 42 mins. J. Beadle (first quarter-peal), 1; F. Goddard, 2; W. Meaton, 3; S. Carter, 4; J. Aldridge, 5; C. Edwards, 6; G. Ransom (conductor), 7; A. Sheard (first quarter-peal), 8.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Friday, February 5th, at St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans'), in 43 mins. I. G. Shade (conductor), 1; M. A. Wood, 2; J. Scoles, 3; E. Wallage, 4; S. E. Joyce, 5; H. Springall, 6; —Clayton, 7; C. Kennedy, 8. Rung on the anniversary of the birthday of Mr. Clayton, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ARMLEY (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, January 3rd, at Christ Church, for evening service, 240 each of Duke of York and Woodbine, and 360 Violet. J. Guy, 1; F. Blackheth, 2; B. Cowling, 3; Joe Thackray, 4; John Thackray (conductor), 5; J. Heckingbottom, 6. On Sunday, January 10th, for morning service, 120 each Armley Pleasure and London Scholars, and 72 Kent and 360 Duke of York. J. Guy, 1; Joe Thackray, 2; B. Cowling, 3; John Thackray, 4; M. Broadbent (conductor), 5; J. Heckingbottom, 6. And for evening service, 240 each of Tulip and Primrose, 120 College Treble and 72 of Oxford, standing as before. John Thackray (conductor). On Sunday, January 17th, for morning service, a 420 Bob Minor. J. Guy, 1; Joe Thackray, 2; John Thackray, 3; M. Broadbent, 4; J. Heckingbottom, 5; J. Summersall (Pateley Bridge), 6. And for evening service, a 360 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Summersall (first touch of Treble Bob), 1; J. Heckingbottom, 2; B. Cowling, 3; John Thackray (conductor), 4; M. Broadbent, 5; J. Guy, 6. On Monday, January 18th, for practice, 720 of Oxford. J. Summersall (first in the method), 5; F. Blackheth, 2; B. Cowling, 3; John Thackray, 4; M. Broadbent (conductor), 3; J. Heckingbottom, 6. On Sunday, January 24th, for

morning service, a 720 of Armley Pleasure. J. Guy, 1; Joe Thackray, 2; B. Cowling, 3; John Thackray, 4; M. Broadbent (conductor), 5; J. Heckingbottom, 6. And for evening service, 720 Duke of York and 120 Merchants' Delight, standing as before, with B. Cowling's first 720 as conductor.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Wednesday, January 20th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 27½ mins. F. Hancock, 1; G. Norman (conductor), 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; W. Worthington, 5; A. Worthington, 6. A 720 Duke of York, in 27 mins. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; G. Norman (conductor), 5; A. Worthington, 6. The Messrs. Worthington hail from Staveley; the rest belong to the local band. Rung on the occasion of Mr. S. Carnelly's wedding. On Sunday evening, January 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Duke of York. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; G. Norman (conductor), 5; G. Marsden, 6. On Sunday, January 31st, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Duke of York. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; G. Norman (conductor), 5; G. Marsden, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Saturday, January 30th, at the church of St. James, Islington, 720 Grandsire Minor. H. Spencer, 1; G. Gains, 2; H. Franks, 3; J. Barry, 4; N. Alderman, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles. A. Reed, 1; G. Gains, 2; H. Franks, 3; J. Barry (conductor), 4; N. Alderman, 5; W. Spicer, 6. Mr. W. Spicer has been steeplekeeper at this church for fifty-six years.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BRIGHTON.—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, January 30th, at the residence of G. Williams, 1302 Grandsire Triples, in 34 mins. Mrs. G. Williams, 1-2; G. Williams (conductor), 3-4; K. Hart, 5-6; F. Bennett, 7-8.

WARNHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday, February 7th, at the parish church an attempt for a peal of Stedman Triples (for the 11 o'clock service) was lost after ringing 2 hrs. 5 mins. through a change-course. F. W. Rice, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; I. G. Shade, 3; F. Bennett, 4; J. W. Whiting, 5; W. Charman, 6; H. H. Chandler, 7; J. Cook, 8. In the afternoon 1696 Superlative Surprise Major. J. W. Whiting, 1; J. Rice, 2; I. G. Shade, 3; F. Bennett, 4; G. Williams (conductor), 5; E. Jordan, 6; G. Paice, 7; F. W. Rice, 8. Messrs. Williams and Bennett hail from Brighton; J. W. Whiting from Fareham; I. G. Shade from Greenwich; J. Rice, F. W. Rice and G. Paice from Crawley; E. Jordan from Capel; the rest are of the local band.

THE STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BUCKNALL (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, December 1st, 1896, at the parish church, a silent 720 of Cambridge Surprise. G. Clarkson, 1; W. Wheeldon, 2; D. Preston, 3; C. Preston, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg, 6. In this 720 the 5th was the observation bell. On December 25th, a 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Clarkson, 1; J. E. Wheeldon, 2; D. Preston, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 27th, a silent 720 of London Surprise. J. Berrisford, 1; W. Wheeldon, 2; J. E. Wheeldon, 3; C. Preston, 4; D. Preston, 5; W. Twigg, 6. The 2nd being the observation bell. J. Berrisford hails from Kingsley. On Thursday, December 31st, to ring out the old year, a 720 of Woodbine. G. Clarkson, 1; the others as before. The 5th the observation bell. On Sunday, January 3rd, 1897, a silent 720 of Chester Surprise, standing as before. The 3rd the observation bell. On Sunday, January 21st, a 720 of College Single. J. Preston, 1; C. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson (first 720 in the method with a bob bell), 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; D. Preston, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 24th, for morning service, a silent 720 Worcester Surprise. G. Clarkson, 1; W. Wheeldon, 2; J. E. Wheeldon, 3; C. Preston, 4; D. Preston, 5; W. Twigg, 6. Tenor the observation bell. and for evening service a silent 720 of Cambridge Surprise, standing as before. The 5th the observation bell. On Wednesday, January 27th, a silent 720 of Superlative Surprise, standing as before, 5th the observation bell. On Sunday, January 31st, for morning service a silent 720 of Bristol Surprise, standing as before, 5th the observation bell. And for evening a 240 of Superlative Surprise. D. Preston, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; the others as before.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION

HECKINGTON (Lincolnshire).—On Friday, December 4th, at St. Andrew's church, a quarter-peal of Union Triples in 47 mins. F. Warrington, 1; S. Skinner, 2; J. Hilton, 3; W. Dickinson (conductor), 4; J. Clark, 5; J. Holmes, 6; E. Houlden, 7; G. Ward, 8. On Thursday, December 24th, 546 Grandsire Triples. J. Holmes, 1;

F. Williams, 2; J. Hilton, 3; F. Warrington, 4; W. Dickinson (conductor), 5; J. Clark, 6; E. Houlden, 7; G. Ward, 8. F. Williams bails from Sleaford. On Monday, January 18th, 630 Union Triples. F. Warrington, 1; W. Dickinson (conductor), 2; J. Hilton, 3; S. Skinner, 4; J. Clark, 5; J. Holmes, 6; E. Houlden, 7; G. Ward, 8.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

BACUP.—On January 1st 720 Primrose. A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. J. Cockroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; Z. Lord, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 3rd, for morning service, 720 Kent, for afternoon service, 720 Violet Treble Bob. A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. J. Cockroft, 3; J. W. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; Z. Lord (conductor), 6. On Friday, January 8th, 720 Bob Minor, J. Smith, 1; D. Briggs (first 720), 2; L. Holt, 3; G. H. White, 4; G. Shottin, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. On Saturday, January 9th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. L. Holt, 1; G. Shottin, 2; Z. Lord, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 10th, for morning service, 720 York Surprise. Z. Lord, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. J. Cockroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Woodbine, standing as in the morning, except that L. Holt rang the treble. On Sunday, January 17th, for evening service, 720 Kent. A. L. Hardman, 1; Z. Lord, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Monday evening, January 18th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob. A. L. Hardman, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Barnes, 3; G. H. White, 4; Z. Lord, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 24th, for evening service, 720 College Single. Z. Lord, 1; J. Smith, 2; G. Shottin, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. Whittaker, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Friday, January 29th, 720 York Surprise. L. Holt, 1; G. Shottin, 2; E. J. Cockroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 31st, for morning service, 720 Superlative Surprise. G. Shottin, 1; Z. Lord, 2; E. J. Cockroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6.

GAINSBOROUGH (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, February 2nd, for practice, 504 Grandsire Triples. Rev. G. H. Ridout, 1; T. Pattison, 2; W. Tinker (conductor), 3; J. Tinker, 4; J. Ladd, 5; H. Kirton, 6; G. Wilson, 7; H. Plumpton, 8. Also 168 in the same method. *J. Fisher, 1; W. Tinker, 2; Rev. G. H. Ridout, 3; J. Tinker, 4; J. Ladd (conductor), 5; H. Kirton, 6; G. Wilson, 7; H. Plumpton, 8. *First touch on eight bells.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Sunday evening, February 7th, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. W. Smith, 1; J. Crane, 2; N. Davies, 3; T. Salter, 4; E. Hunt, 5; T. Wakeman, 6; J. Pagett (conductor), 7; J. Bennett, 8. Tenor 30 cwt.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, February 7th, for Divine Service at St. Luke's church, Chelsea, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 47 mins. G. Farndon, 1; C. Hindes, 2; C. F. Winney, 3; W. C. Ryde, Esq., 4; H. R. Newton (conductor), 5; W. Barber, 6; T. Barber, 7; G. Chesterman, 8.

OXTON (Cheshire).—On Thursday, January 28th, for practice at the parish church, 1260 Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. C. Owens, 1; H. Brocklebank, 2; J. Owens, 3; G. Newton, 4; J. Grant, 5; J. Evans, 6; J. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. Grimman, 8. This is the first quarter-peal by the local band.

PULFORD (Cheshire).—On Monday, February 1st, at the parish church, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor. J. Morgan, 1; H. W. Wilde, 2; R. Thomas, 3; R. Watkin, 4; R. Williams (conductor), 5; James Morgan, 6. First 720 in the method by all, and first in the method on the bells. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. *J. Watkin, 1; R. Thomas, 2; R. Williams, 3; R. Watkin, 4; H. W. Wilde, 5; J. Morgan (conductor), 6. *First 720 of Treble Bob.

ROYDON (Essex).—On Friday, January 29th, for practice, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Sewell, 1; J. Cavill, 2; J. Littlechild, 3; S. King, 4; A. Pearman, 5; W. Marrable, 6. Also two more 6-scores. J. Sewell, 1; W. Marrable, 2; J. Littlechild, 3; J. Cavill (conductor), 4; A. Pearman, 5; H. King, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt.

STONE, ISLE OF OXNEY (Kent).—On Tuesday, January 19th, at the parish church, 120 Grandsire Doubles. F. Wenham, 1; W. Ford, 2; C. Tribe (conductor), 3; C. Smith, 4; W. Cook, 5; T. Weller, 6. On Friday, January 29th, two 120s of Grandsire Doubles. F. Wenham, 1; W. Ford, 2; C. Tribe, 3; C. Smith, 4; W. Cook, 5; F. Bates, 6. The above are the first 120s by all except the conductor, and credit is due to all concerned, as they did not start to learn change-ringing till November.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, January 3rd, for Divine Service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor, six divisions, (thirty bobs and thirty singles). Composed by J. Hack, of Hayes,

Kent. C. E. Wilson, 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Saturday, January 9th, 720 Bob Minor, a six-part 720 (six bobs and fourteen singles). Composed by H. Harris, of Oldswinford, Worcestershire. J. Bell, 1; C. E. Wilson, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; J. Kelly, 5; H. Barker, 6. On Sunday morning, January 10th, 720 Bob Minor, a six-part 720, composed by H. J. Tucker, of Bishops Stortford. C. E. Wilson, 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. In the evening 720 Bob Minor, a three-part 720 (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles). Composed by F. Pitstow, of Saffron Walden, Essex. C. E. Wilson, 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Sunday morning, January 17th, 720 Grandsire Minor, a twelve-part 720 (forty-four bobs and four singles). Composed by R. Potter, of Retford, Notts. C. E. Wilson, 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. First 720 in the method by all the band with the exception of C. E. Wilson. In the evening 720 Grandsire Minor, a three-part 720 (thirty-six bobs and twenty-four singles). Composed by the Rev. E. W. Carpenter, of Bobbing, Kent. G. Somerville, 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; C. E. Wilson, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Saturday, January 23rd, 720 Oxford Single Bob Minor, a six-part 720 (eighteen bobs and fourteen singles). Composed by W. Wilcox, of Bidston, Cheshire. C. E. Wilson, 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival (first 720 in the method), 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Sunday morning, January 24th, 720 Oxford Single Bob Minor, a six-part 720 (twenty-eight bobs and fourteen singles). Composed by H. Wilde, of Duffield, Derbyshire. C. E. Wilson, 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Saturday, January 30th, 720 College Single Minor, a six-part 720 (eighteen bobs and fourteen singles). Composed by C. E. Wilson. G. Somerville, 1; J. Bell, 2; C. E. Wilson, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Rodger, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Sunday afternoon, January 31st, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor, six divisions (thirty bobs and thirty singles). Composed by H. Reader, of Hayes, Kent. G. Somerville, 1; J. Bell, 2; C. Wilson, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Rodger, 5; H. Harrison, 6. In the evening 720 Oxford Bob Minor, a two-part 720 (eight bobs and fourteen singles). Composed by J. J. Parker, of Farnham Royal, Bucks. G. Somerville, 1; J. Bell, 2; C. E. Wilson, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Rodger, 5; H. Harrison, 6. All the above were conducted by C. E. Wilson. Tenor 9 cwt.

WARRINGTON (Lancashire).—On January 10th, for Divine Service at St. Paul's church, 720 Plain Bob (twenty-six bobs and two singles), J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley (conductor), 3; J. Pomfrey, 4; W. Brammer, 5; F. W. Stout, 6. On Sunday, January 17th, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Oxford Single Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles), conducted by F. W. Stout, standing as before.

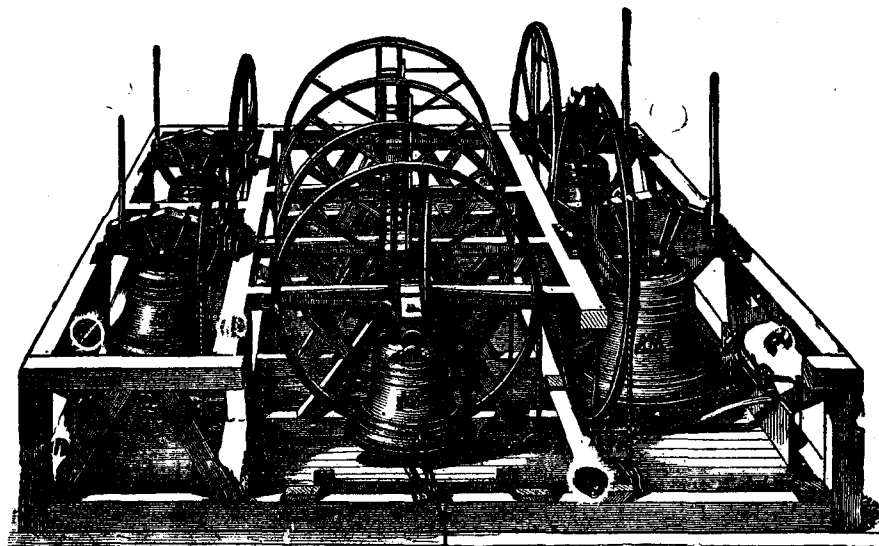
Obituary.

EDWARD MOSES.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—HALF-MUFFLED PEAL.—On Friday evening the 5th inst., at the Society's usual practice night at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, the bells were rung half-muffled—the usual whole pull and stand—as a token of respect to the memory of the late Edward Moses. This was followed by a touch of Treble Bob Maximus, in which Messrs. Baron, sen., Foskett, Davis, Dains, Barton, Bedwell, Ward, Perkins, Dench, Pitts, and Jacob took part. In the early part of the eighties Mr. Moses was a very regular attendant at meetings of the above-named society, and rung in many excellent performances during that period. On February 3rd, 1883, he took part in a peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, with the bells half-muffled in memory of the late Vicar, the Rev. — Marshall. Mr. Moses subsequently left London for Guildford, but finally settled in Reigate, where he resided for several years. During the last year or two he had been a great sufferer, and when the writer saw him in October and December he presented a wonderfully altered appearance. Since then he did but little work—part of one week only. He suffered from bronchitis, and later on dropsy supervened, and he died early in the morning of the 22nd of January. The interment took place on the 26th ult. It is a melancholy duty to chronicle the decease of one who was for many years a close friend. Edward Moses was located for many years in Worcester before he came to London, and while there he formed associations among many of his ringing brethren which were never loosened. His memory is still revered in that city by those ringers who are left among his former acquaintances. Then, as in after years, he was a constant and punctual attendant at practice, a safe and painstaking ringer, and a pleasant companion. He was 60 years of age at his decease.

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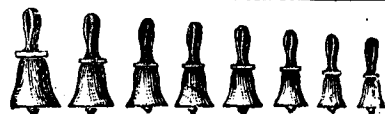
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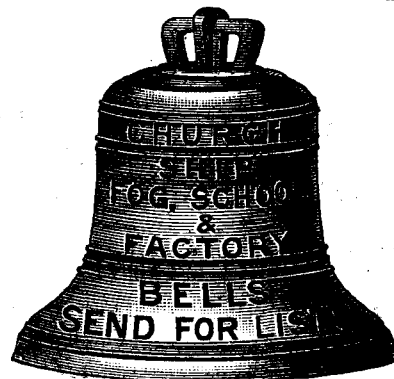
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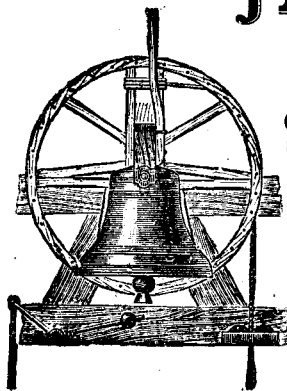
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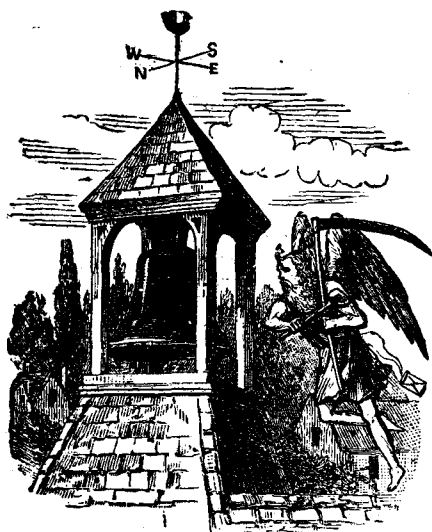
No. 776.—VOL. XV.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1897.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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Sherborne Abbey.	Corbridge-on-Tyne, do.
Sydney Town Hall,	Pontypool (Trevelth
N.S.W.	Church.)
Hammersmith Parish	Windermere Church.
Church.	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
Gateshead Clock Twr.	Dunstold Parish Ch.
Duke of Albany Memo-	Aylesford do.
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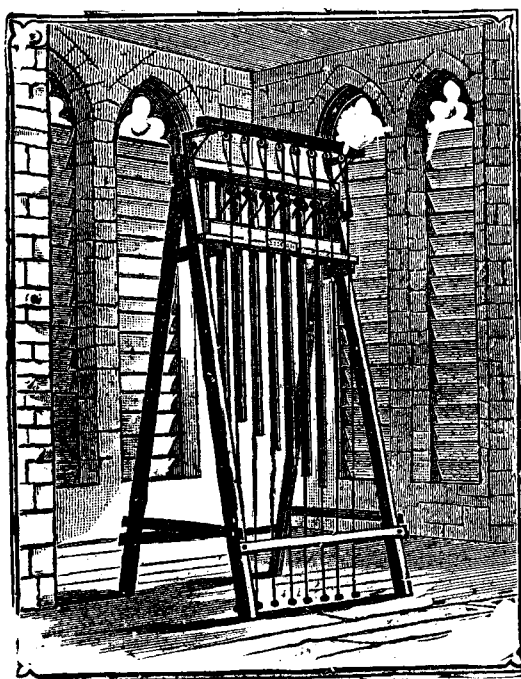
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No. 308.—Selection of Italian and German melodies (very pretty and effective)	1 6
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Both arranged for 6 ringers with two octaves in the chromatic scale—D 21 to D 7.	
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arranged as per list 7	3 0
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12 POPULAR AIRS, for Handbell Ringers, by W.
HALEY, Price 1s. Auld Lang Syne, Hark! 'tis the Bells,
Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule
Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, The
Bellingranger's Glee, The Star-Spangled Banner, Wait till the
Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

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* WORCESTERSHIRE *

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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 776.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1897.

[Vol. XV.

ST. PAUL'S BELLS, BEDFORD.

It will be in the recollection of our readers that last year the peal of bells at St. Paul's Church was re-modelled, two new trebles being added, while the third and tenor were re-cast, and the 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th were all tuned. When the bells were rung, however, it was found some of the old ones did not harmonise nicely with the new ones, being too light in comparison. When the whole peal was rung the richness of the other bells covered this defect, but the Church Committee and the bell founder thought that when the bells were struck singly—as they would be when the chimes were in use—their inferiority would be apparent. Arrangements were therefore made for the re-casting of five of the bells, and three of them were presented by Sir Frederick Howard, Mr. George Hurst, and Mr. T. Bull. Mrs. Elger wished to give the fourth bell in memory of her late husband, but as the bell had already been cast in accordance with his order when her offer was received, the inscription (cast in bell metal) had to be affixed in the form of a plate about 10 inches by six inches and screwed on the bellstock on the morning of the dedication ceremony. This inscription reads "This bell was given in memoriam. Thomas Gwyn Empy Elger, 9th January, 1897." It might be here mentioned as a remarkable fact that the late Mr. Elger gave the order for the five new bells, and received notices of their successful casting on the morning of his fatal seizure. While the first death knell rung upon the new tenor bell hung last September was for the late Archbishop of Canterbury, the late lamented Mr. Elger was the first Bedford citizen whose death knell was rung on this bell. Upon the fifth bell the inscription is: "To the glory of God. Thomas Bull, Esq., J.P., in the twenty-fifth year of his holding the office of churchwarden, gives this bell. 1897." The original weight of the bell was 7 cwt. 9 lbs., but the present weight is 8 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lbs. The sixth bell—which previously weighed 9 cwt. 3 qrs. 13 lbs., but now weighs 11 cwt.—bears the following inscription: "Given for the glory of God A.D., 1896. Frederick Howard Knight." The weight of the seventh bell has been increased from 12 cwt. 4 lbs. to 14 cwt. 1 qr. 25 lb., and on the bell is inscribed: "To the glory of God. George Hurst, Esq., a former churchwarden and five times Mayor of Bedford (the last time being in 1887, the Jubilee year of H M Queen Victoria), gives this bell in commemoration of the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's reign, and of his ninety-seventh birthday on February 10th, 1897." The two other new bells, the fourth and eighth, are inscribed: "John Taylor and Co., founders, Loughborough, 1897." The fourth bell originally weighed 6 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb., but its present weight is 7 cwt. 26 lb., and the weight of the eighth bell has been increased from 13 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb. to 15 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. About £60 is still required to defray the expenses of the eighth bell, with other little extras; donations will be gratefully received by Mr. F. A. Blaydes, treasurer, or Mr. Churchwarden Bull. The peal as it now is has been pronounced by competent judges to be very fine and in perfect harmony, the tenor particularly being undoubtedly one of the finest tenor bells in the country. A large congregation attended, the dedication ceremony being performed by the Archdeacon of Bedford, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. R. E. R. Watts, a former Vicar of St. Paul's, and now vicar of Wisbech. There were also present the Revs. Lambert Woodard (vicar), E. W. Adams, S. W. Goldsmith, W. Hartsmith, and G. F. Apthorp. The service opened with the processional hymn No. 437, and after several responses, the dedication prayers were said, after which a short peal was rung upon the new bells, the congregation standing. After this followed the sermon preached by the Rev. R. E. R. Watts, who took for his text the 28th chapter of Exodus and the 33rd verse: "And beneath upon the hem of it, thou shalt make pomegranates of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, round about the hem thereof; and bells of gold between them round about."

He also took the 10th Chapter of Numbers and the first two verses: "And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, make thee two trumpets of silver; of a whole piece shalt thou make them that thou mayest use them for the calling of the assembly and for the journeying of the camps." The preacher said he was not surprised, as he should otherwise have been, to see such a great concourse at the Church that day, being a week day, and at a service of that kind, because having ministered so long in Bedford he was quite aware of the attachment of the people to the bells. Some 250 years ago, as he dare say some of them were aware, England itself was a ringing island, and Bedfordshire was foremost in cultivating the national taste for bellringing. Probably many of them had seen an old manuscript at Oxford, in which there was a very remarkable composition of various ingredients, including music, poetry, prose, Latin, Greek, Hebrew, as well as English, setting forth the skill of the Bedford ringers, and the beauty of the church bells of Bedfordshire. The event they had met to celebrate that day was of special interest, because of the great difficulties and disappointments they had met with in their efforts in connection with the bells; but that day crowned the work, and the success of those efforts now appealed very strongly to those among them, who, like himself formerly, for the last twenty years had been sedulously trying from time to time to perfect the beauty of the things pertaining to that church which many of them loved so well. He would just mention that they had the presence that day of one who had been specially interested in the cause for a long time—the father of their Municipality, and formerly churchwarden of that parish, one whose age marched with the age of the century. That day, by God's mercy, he had attained the age of 97 years; he had been five times Mayor of the borough, and always a good friend to the church. He had presented one of the new bells in celebration of the 60th year of the reign of their beloved Queen. Another of the bells had been presented by one who served for 25 years in the office of Churchwarden, and another by a member of a family well-known in that town. Many of them could not but bear in mind that it was but a little while since that muffled peal was rung in the tower of that church. Many of them knew the late Thomas Gwyn Empy Elger, who was always a great friend to that church, and who was interested very much in the subject of bells. During his mayoralty 18 years ago, which the preacher well remembered, he originated and promoted the erection of the chimes, and he knew that Mr. Elger was a man of a character quite in harmony with that deep interest in the things belonging to the church. He was a man of very unobtrusive, but of very real personal piety, who humbly and quietly tried to lead a life of steady, persevering devotion to God and to the cause of His holy religion. He took the prayerbook for his guide in his daily devotional reading, which was always carried out quietly and without assumption, and which he believed was never omitted. They would have been glad if God had been pleased to spare him for that day, but God knew better, and had taken him, they could not doubt, to the blissful rest of Paradise in the more immediate presence of his Saviour Whom he served, awaiting that great day when all would hear the trumpet sound and they would all rise, every one to see and stand before the judgment seat of Christ. Might they so try and live now that they might rise and stand before the Judge with the saints, and that they might not only stand before Him as their judge but as their Saviour too. "Oh Lord Jesus Christ, by Thine agony and bloody sweat, by Thy cross and passion, grant that we and all dear to us may find mercy in that day." The service was then concluded by the singing of the hymn "Lift them gently to the steeple" and the Blessing. The offertory amounted to £7 4s.

After the service the bells were again rung, and three tablets which have been placed in the belfry were unveiled by Mr.

George Hurst, who at his very advanced age managed to climb up the steps into the belfry. The first tablet, which was presented by the Mayor upon his third election to that office was in commemoration of a peal being rung on the ten bells that day, it being the first attempt. This tablet is painted a nice blue (that being the borough colour) and surmounted with the borough arms carved and gilded. The panel is of mahogany, in one piece, and this material had been upon the Mayor's premises for quite forty years. The inscription is executed in gold letters, and is as follows:—

"THE BEDS. ASSOCIATION.—ST. PAUL'S COMPANY.—On Monday, November 9th, 1896, in three hours and thirty-eight minutes, was rung upon the ten bells in this tower, a peal of Grandsire Caters, 5003 changes. Tenor 28 cwt. 3 qrs. 6 lbs. in the key of D. Frederick Keech, treble; Frank Smith, 2; Charles Chasty, 3; Harry Tysoe, 4; Samuel J. Cullip, 5; William Shimmans, 6; Isaac Hills, 7; Charles W. Clarke, 8; Herbert Sharp, 9; Frank Hull, tenor. Composed by Arthur Knights and Conducted by C. W. Clarke, and contains the 5th and 6th their extant behind the 9th, and is now rung for the first time. This is the first peal on the ten bells, and by the ringers of the 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th and 6th bells, and by the Association, and was rung at the first attempt. Rung on the occasion of the election of George Wells, Esq., J.P., for the third time Mayor of the borough of Bedford, and by whom this tablet was presented.

JOHN M. CUTHBERT, J.P. } Churchwardens.
THOMAS BULL, J.P.

The other two were tablets in commemoration of six peals rung by the St. Paul's company since February, 1895, and were erected at the cost of the members.

Mr. George Hurst, who was asked on behalf of the ringers to unveil the tablets, said it gave him the very greatest pleasure to be called upon to unveil the tablets that day. The first one, which had been presented by the Mayor on the occasion of being elected for the third time, was in commemoration of a complete peal being rung upon the bells, and at the first attempt, which was a great honour to the ringers. They had got the finest ring of bells in the county, and he did not think there was a ring of ten bells to be found in any other town in Bedfordshire. They were also put up to commemorate the 60th year of the reign of their Queen, and as Bedford was the metropolitan town of the county he thought they should set an example to the other towns of having a good ring of bells.

The Rev. R. E. R. Watts said at Wisbech they had a very good ring of bells which he had said were softer than those at Bedford, but he could not say so any longer, and he should have to go back and tell his ringers that their peal was not so good as the one at Bedford. Mr. Bull seconded.

Mr. F. A. Blaydes briefly proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Hurst for coming that day to unveil the tablets, and referred to the death of Mr. Elger, who had taken a great interest in the bells, but who had been taken from them before the work could be completed.

Mr. Hurst briefly responded, and Mr. Evans remarked that 60 years ago he used to ring one of the bells in that belfry for the children to come to school. In the evening the Bedford ringers partook of supper together at the Town Hall. The Rev. G. F. Hills presided in the absence of the Vicar of St. Paul's, and the company included Mr. J. Tayler, of Loughborough, the bell founder; Mr. W. C. Hunt, North Shields; Mr. W. Pettit, Irthlingborough, and about twenty-five ringers. After the loyal toasts, the health of the bell-founders was drunk and acknowledged by Mr. Taylor. The clergy and churchwardens of St. Paul's were also toasted, the health of Mr. T. Bull (one of the churchwardens and donor of one of the new bells) being drunk with musical honours. The toast of the Beds. Association of Change-ringers was given by Mr. Taylor and responded to by Messrs. I. Hills and C. W. Clarke. On the proposition of Mr. F. A. Chasty a vote of thanks was accorded to the donors of the feast. Song were given by Messrs. Shimmans, Hunt, Lightfoot, Hull, and F. A. Chasty. A letter was read by Mr. Taylor respecting the addition of two new trebles to the bells of St. Peter's Church, Bedford, the estimate being £85, and the ringers present expressed their determination to use every effort to secure them.

A great deal of first-class harmony was contributed by various members, and touches of Grandsire Caters were rung upon the handbells by T. Constant, J. Sharp, W. Hall, C. Clarke and I. Hills.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A well-attended and successful meeting of this Association was held at Halesworth on Thursday, the 11th instant. The morning having been devoted to ringing at the parish church, at 1.30 about 65 members assembled for dinner at The Swan. An excellent repast was served and done justice to. The chair was occupied by the Rev. A. R. Upcher, Vicar of Halesworth, who at the close of the meal proposed the toast of "The Queen," referring to her long reign and the many blessings showered upon the nation during it. He also gave a hearty welcome to the Association, and expressed his belief, from his own experience, that it was doing good work. The Hon. Secretary conveyed the thanks of the meeting to the Vicar, Curate, and Wardens of Halesworth for their presence, and for the cordial welcome extended to the Association, remarking that it was always a great encouragement to ringers when the clergy came amongst them, and that the presence of the parochial clergy at their meetings, and their visits to the belfry, were always much appreciated and desired. They would all feel great regret at the absence of their genial president, Dr. Raven, who was away from home, under medical orders, for a complete rest and change. The sincere hope of all of them was that he might return in his usual health, and be with them at the next meeting in the early summer at Great Yarmouth. Adverting to the prospects and position of the Association, he said that there was a probability that before long the Committee would be in a position to invest about £50 of their balance in hand, and that when such a step became possible he should strongly advocate its being taken. Peal performances had not been so numerous in 1896, but their quality had advanced, special mention being made of the peals of Double Norwich Maximus at Ipswich, the Superlative Surprise at Redenball, and the practice of Double Norwich Major at several towers where it was previously unknown. Mr. Bulwer also gave the reasons which had convinced him that the Norwich Court Bob Maximus, of which a peal was accomplished at St. Peter Mancroft in 1817, was really Double Norwich Court: and said that he was therefore unable to regard the Ipswich performance as the first of its kind; although that did not in the least depreciate the merit of the achievement, or the skill of the company, which had now placed itself unquestionably at the head of the twelve-bell companies of England; and he congratulated the Association upon having within its ranks a twelve-bell band so deservedly distinguished. After eulogising the work done in the Halesworth district, and welcoming the many young members who were present at an Association meeting for the first time, he read out the list of members and probationers for election—six of the former, and four of the latter. These having been admitted, the company adjourned, some to the tower, some going to Wenhaston, and some remaining for touches on the handbells, till the early hours of the Great Eastern railway compelled an early separation.

In addition to the Vicar, and Hon. Secretary, the following were present at the dinner: Rev. E. Hopper, Rev. E. S. Finch, Rev. J. H. Pilkington, Rev. A. Scott Thompson, Rev. G. M. Norris; and representatives from Great Yarmouth, Pulham, Ipswich, Woodbridge, Ufford, and several other companies in the immediate neighbourhood.

THE ST. ALBANS CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of this Society was held at the rectory on Friday evening, when the President (Archdeacon Lawrance) occupied the chair. The report of the hon. secretary was received, as also was the hon. treasurer's statement of accounts, which showed a small balance on the right side. On the proposition of Mr. Hammond, seconded by Mr. Barnes, Mr. H. L. Waddington was re-elected hon. secretary for the ensuing year, while Mr. Battle was re-elected hon. treasurer for a like period. The Rector appointed Mr. Battle conductor, and Messrs. E. J. Randall, R. E. Hammond, and A. Hallett were elected to serve on the committee. A resolution was passed fixing the subscription of non-ringing members at not less than 2s. 6d. per annum. After other business of a routine character had been transacted, the meeting closed with votes of thanks to officers for past services, and the Rector for presiding.

PRACTICAL HINTS TO YOUNG CONDUCTORS
AND COMPOSERS.

CHAPTER XVI.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.—*continued.*

Before I enter upon my concluding paper on Grandsire Triples, I am requested to give the following compositions. The first is a peal in twelve parts by that industrious composer Mr. John Carter. It is thought to prove very useful to the young composer, and it is simple to call, if only on account of the singles being all together at the part-end. The part-ends run up natural, *i.e.* at a plain lead. Here it is:—

7 5 2 6 3 4	I	<i>continued—</i>
4 6 7 3 5 2	I	6 4 7 3 5 2 I
5 2 4 7 3 6	2	5 2 6 7 3 4 2
6 7 5 3 2 4	I	4 7 5 3 2 6 I
2 4 6 5 3 7	2	2 6 4 5 3 7 2
7 5 2 3 4 6	I	7 5 2 4 6 4 I
s 6 4 7 2 3 5	2	s 4 6 7 2 3 4 2
5 2 6 3 4 7	I	s 2 5 4 3 6 7 I
4 7 5 6 3 2	2	7 6 2 4 3 5 2
2 6 4 3 7 5	I	s 5 4 7 3 6 2 I
7 5 2 4 3 6	2	5 3 4 2 7 6 P.L.

Eleven times repeated. Bob for snigle at the last call of the sixth and twelfth parts.

Following are two quarter-peals by the composers whose names they bear. They bear the peculiarity of running into the plain course at each part-end; consequently they will come round at the end of each part, if the succeeding bob is not called. The part-ends of the first one are in the plain course order, like the variation peal of Holt's by Reeves, and thus will form a true touch wherever broken off. The second one cannot be so depended on. The first one is by Mr. Isaac G. Shade; the second one by his brother, the late Henry G. Shade, both of Greenwich. Though these are in five parts, they possess some merit on account of the features above explained.

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

Four times repeated.

Four times repeated.

A full complement of news filling up our paper this week, I am told, I am obliged to defer my remarks on calling Grandsire Triples round, from any position, until the next opportunity.

Several correspondents who have written, mostly upon one particular subject, are respectfully informed that what they are concerned about will be dealt with in as exhaustive a manner as I am able. The request concerning Stedman Triples I shall try to comply with, though it is no part of my undertaking. I tender my grateful acknowledgments to those gentlemen who have written privately to me, and beg to assure them that their kindness alone is sufficient encouragement for me to "keep going on."

ALEPH.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—Representatives who have been elected to the Central Council are respectfully reminded that in accordance with the decision of the Council at its last meeting, the next meeting will be held in London, at Whitsuntide, instead of Easter. The latest date for forwarding to the Hon. Sec. notices of motions, &c. (which must be in writing, and signed by two representative) will be therefore Saturday, May 8th.

Hon. Secretaries of Societies are respectively reminded that the subscription to the Council of 2s. 6d. for each representative is now due, and should be remitted to the Hon. Sec. and Treasurer *without delay*, together with the names and addresses of the representatives elected.

H. EARLE BULWER,

Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn, January 1st., 1897. Hon. Sec.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting in connection with this association was held at South Petherton, on Feb. 6th. Considering the wet weather and the difficulty of getting to and from South Petherton from other parts of the diocese, the meeting was well attended. About 24 members were present, the towers represented being St. James (Taunton), Milverton, Old Clevee, Norton-sub-Hamdon, Barrington, and Shepton Beauchamp. During the morning the members from Taunton attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples, which unfortunately came to grief after about 4,000 changes had been rung in good style. At three p.m. there was a short service in the parish church conducted by the vicar, the Rev. F. A. Lefroy, who also delivered a practical address to the members. After service, an adjournment was made to the Crown Hotel, where all sat down to a capital knife-and-fork tea. The master (Mr. C. E. D. Routflower), presided, and he was supported by the Revs. F. A. Lefroy (South Petherton), J. Hamlet (Barrington), A. Lethbridge (Shepton Beauchamp), A. G. Edwards (Norton-on-Hamdon), Mr. F. N. Quantock-Shulldham, hon. local secretary, and Mr. H. W. Tomkins, hon. sec. and treasurer. After tea, the usual business meeting was held. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and five honorary and 27 performing members were duly elected. The next meeting being the annual one, and due to be held at Bath, was fixed to take place on Saturday, May 1st. Votes of thanks to the vicar for the use of the church and bells and to Mr. Quantock-Shulldham for making arrangements for the meeting and for his generosity in providing conveyances free of charge for the use of the members, were passed unanimously. This concluded the business, and an adjournment was made to the tower, where further ringing was engaged in, touches of Grandsire Triples and Doubles being rung, and a plain course of Kent Treble Bob Major (the first by the association) was successfully brought round.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORTHWICH BRANCH.—The members of this branch held their Annual Meeting on Saturday, January 30th, H. Hatt Cook, the Chairman of the branch, presiding. Tea was partaken of at 5.30 p.m. After the tables were cleared, the Chairman congratulated the members present on the attendance, which was a record one for the branch. He also expressed the great pleasure it gave him to do what he could to further the aims of the Guild, especially so to improve and level up the ringing throughout the diocese. W. Foster, hon. sec., then read the annual report and balance-sheet, both of which were unanimously passed. It was decided that the Chairman should write to the Vicar of St. John's, Hartford, to the effect that the members of the branch were desirous of rendering all the help they could to train a band of ringers for the new peal of six bells which Messrs. Taylor are about to place in the tower in commemoration of the Queen's long reign. Ringing was indulged in during the afternoon and evening on the ring of eight at the parish church, and which included touches of Bob Major, Bob Minor, and Treble Bob. The following ringers, hailing from Davenham, rang their first 720 of Grandsire Minor away from home. A. Booth, 1; T. Bush, 2; J. Wakefield, 3; T. Wilkinson, 4; H. Yarwood, 5; J. Ashmole, 6.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. PETER'S, BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, February 2nd, being the second anniversary of the opening of this musical ring of six (tenor 13 cwt.) a peal of 5040 was arranged to be rung, but owing to one member not turning up the peal was postponed, and a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob rung by W. Lightfoot, 1; F. Lowe, 2; A. Robinson, 3; W. Shimmans, 4; F. Hull, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. (Messrs. Lightfoot, Shimmans, and Hull belong to the St. Paul's company.) There has been a marked progress during the past year in the ringing by the St. Peter's company, and great credit is due to Mr. S. Constant, their able conductor, for the painstaking way he has instructed them, and bringing them to their present state of efficiency, several peals of 5040 having been rung during the past year. It is proposed shortly to add two new trebles to this ring of six. Bedford will then possess the following peals: St. Paul's (the parish church), ten; St. Peter's, eight; St. Mary's, six.

THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Kirton on January 30th, which was not well attended, members from Frieston, Butterwick, and Friskney, with local ringers and friends, only numbering twelve. After a short service in the parish church, the company sat down to a first-class repast presided over by the Rev. H. J. Cheales, Vicar of Friskney, with the genial Vicar of Kirton in the vice-chair. At the business meeting which followed it was decided that the next place of meeting should be Wrangle. Two honorary members were elected. Some good ringing was done in the tower both before and after tea, all conducted by A. O. Barber.

PRESENTATION TO A WELL-KNOWN RINGER.

The societies connected with St. Albans Cathedral and the church of St. Peter in the same city have subscribed to a fund with a view to making a presentation to Mr. W. H. L. Buckingham, of Bushey, who formerly resided at St. Albans, and took a very lively interest in all matters connected with bellringing, being for two years conductor at the Cathedral. In recognition of the happy event of his marriage, which took place on the 9th instant, his ringing friends procured a handsome aneroid barometer, which was presented to him on behalf of the above-named by Mr. H. L. Waddington and Mr. E. P. Debenham.

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 DINNER TO MR. W. T. COCKERILL.

SIR,—In reference to the remarks of your correspondent, Mr. Matthews, upon the report of my speech on the above occasion, I had noticed the slip alluded to, but the absurdity seemed too palpable to require correction. I do not recall using the words "not one in ten thousand," to which exception is taken. If I did, a very meaningless exaggeration escaped me unawares. Nevertheless I can assure your correspondent that an increasingly wide experience brings home to me yearly more and more the inexplicable fact that no appreciable portion of the clergy take any real and intelligent interest in their ringers, such as they do in their choirs. There are of course notable exceptions whose very rarity gives them special prominence, but most of those who profess and wish to shew interest are content with a well-intentioned subscription or attendance, while preoccupation prevents them from throwing themselves sympathetically into the aims of the ringers with that earnestness which is instantly recognised as reality. While writing, I may, perhaps, also be permitted to correct a misapprehension which has brought me several letters of enquiry, viz., that I spoke against the practice of advanced methods—bye-the-bye I never used in this connexion such an obsolete word as "crank"—What I did say was, in effect, that while honouring to the full the energy of those who pushed on to these methods, it must not be forgotten that the handing down of the Art has been in large measure due to the successive generations of ringers who, in the large urban societies such as the Ancient Society of College Youths, have stuck to practising and teaching the popular methods, while rural bands, who with no responsibility beyond their own small company have achieved fame, are comparatively seldom to be found in active existence a generation or two later. The practice of Surprise methods in towns possessing large companies of ringers, though certainly to be encouraged in moderation, may, and often does result, unless astutely managed, in the alienation of some who are not admitted to this inner ring, and thus the healthy continuity of change-ringing is impeded. Upon the whole then, I am inclined to believe in the soundness of the policy of the old school, though I see no reason to prevent the popularising of not a variety, but one or two such methods as Stedman and Double Norwich, if only featureless productions like Canterbury and its allies, and abominations like Bob Triples and Grandsire Major might be abolished. But while irresponsible country bands may and should disport themselves in the advanced methods, it would seem that large town societies must, if they are to do their duty as the historic propagators of the Art, confine themselves chiefly to a few of the good and known ones. As bearing upon misrepresentation, it should be remembered that ringers' meetings are usually reported by the kind exertions of some ringer present, and that, while the facts are for the most part accurate, in regard to abstract remarks there is often a failure to convey the meaning of the speaker, either by the omission—

as in the above case—of a material part of the argument, or by an inexact grasp of the words actually used. Seeing how often, even with practised reporters, mistakes occur, it is well not to attach too much importance to apparently inconsistent statements when reported by the kindness of amateurs.

A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

THE SADDLEWORTH PEAL.

SIR,—My attention has been drawn to the note given with the Saddleworth peal in your issue of the 13th instant. In this note Mr. S. Wood makes an astounding statement, and in consequence I am asked if I can throw any light upon the subject. In responding thereto I give the history of this composition. It was first rung on November 13th, 1880, by members of the Royal Cumberland Society, at the Chapel-of-Ease, Islington, N., conducted by friend the late George Newson. It was first published in *Church Bells* about November 20th in the same year; also in vol. I of "THE BELL NEWS" for July, 1881, page 43, under the heading of "New and Original Compositions," compiled by the late Jasper W. Snowdon. It has subsequently been published in various Association's reports. It has been rung many scores of times, patronised by just upon twenty conductors in various parts of the country as my composition. My authorship has never been questioned, except by Mr. Wood, and this is his second endeavour. The first was made some fourteen years ago, a few years after the peal had been published. In that case he gave the figures to a friend of mine with his own name attached; whether it was rung as his composition I really don't know; but it seems rather curious that he should now seek to hand over the *very same peal* to his deceased friend the late John Thorp. I have to thank my friends of the Saddleworth band for allowing me the opportunity of explaining. I have never met any of them except Mr. Wood, and at that meeting he never mentioned a word about this composition.

HENRY DAINS.

147, Barnsbury Road, N.

MR. HELMORE'S REJOINDER.

SIR,—I wrote to Mr. Groombridge on January 23rd acknowledging the receipt of two peals recently conducted by him. He gave no assurance that they had been properly called; but as I heard from other sources that no manuscript had been used, I informed him that for this time they would be allowed. I also took occasion to request him to send me word in how many of his peals recorded as K.C.A. peals he had used visible aid to memory. In doing so I assured him that there was no wish on the part of our committee to impute unworthy motives to those who had been weak enough to adopt this practice, but that in their opinion it very seriously depreciated the value of a peal. To that letter I have received no reply. It now appears that he is the "One Interested" who accused the Committee, or rather myself as if I was solely responsible, of breaking rules. I confess I am disappointed, as he is a good ringer, and, if he will allow me to say so, a very nice fellow, but on this subject I am afraid terribly wrong-headed. How long his letter of last week has been written I do not know, as it is undated, and for some occult reason "has been in abeyance for a time." Passing by other matter in his letter, whether correct or not I will not occupy your space in arguing, I wish to direct attention to one sentence, viz.: "I, with other conductors, am quite willing to comply with rule 16, but to the addition we will not." This is tantamount to saying that he and others (if indeed he is authorised to speak for them) will give no assurance that a peal has been fairly called without illegitimate assistance. Of course in the face of any such defiance the duty of the Committee will be plain. But perhaps he will think better of his perverse resolve, if I suggest to him that no real addition to the rule has been made. The rule orders that "peals rung by members shall be entered in the peal-book," and "Accounts of peals must be sent to the Secretary within a month." A grave scandal has been brought to light (for my part I am rather disgusted that it was not revealed long ago) and as a consequence suspicion is cast more or less upon all peals rung by our Association. The Committee are therefore compelled to define more exactly what in their judgment constitutes a *peal*; and, trusting to the integrity of the members and their desire for the advance of genuine change-ringing, make the very simple and fair demand that in the account of any peal sent for entry in the peal book there shall be a certificate from the conductor that the 5000 changes or more that have been rung really deserve, as far as the calling is concerned, the name of a *peal*. That does not constitute any real addition to the rule, which can remain, if the members like, exactly as it stands at present; only in the next report a footnote can be appended giving the strict definition of a *peal*. Lastly, let me say if a committee have no power to enforce upon their Association strict compliance with the laws and customs of the Exercise, one principal reason for the existence of such a body is gone.

FREDK. J. O. HELMORE,
Hon. Sec. Kent County Association.

Canterbury, February 13th, 1897.

MEN AND MANNERS.

"A peal of Stedman Cinques on handbells retained in hand!" Well, I fully expected it. I have been looking for it for a month back and now it has come. Bravo! Charles Tyler—and the rest of the band of course, for one man cannot very well ring a peal himself alone. When the Henfield men rang Stedman Triples, I noticed more than one man trying his hand at an inside pair, and I naturally concluded Mr. Tyler was after higher game. Then came Stedman Caters at Christmas, and now Cinques. It favours somewhat of the palmy days of the late John Cox. Is there no modern Henry Haley to put a flea in the ear of this Henfield Captain? I do love to see a little bit of ringing antagonism. That is of course when the parties concerned know how far to go and when to stop. I have in my mind's eye two or three good bands who can ring Stedman Caters or Cinques if they want to. The question is why don't they do it? I may be wrong, but I don't think a peal of "Twelve in" has ever been rung in hand. I wonder whether the year 1897 will see it accomplished.

* * * *

Society must have its lion—like a child with a new toy—and now Dr. Nansen is its idol. Society's pet must be brand new. Its fancy is like a butterfly flitting from flower to flower, and the moment the hero of the hour becomes a trifle stale he is dropped. From Stanley to Chevalier, Buffalo Bill to Nansen and so on. I was about to include Mr. Cecil Rhodes, but as the halo around him is slightly misty Society has done well to let him slide, so to speak. Dr. F. Nansen did not discover the pole, and I admire him for speaking the truth. If he had told us he had found the spot where the needle would balance, it would have been rather difficult for anyone to have disputed him. When he made his first public appearance at the Royal Societies' Club, a sort of welcome song, translated from the Norwegian, was sung. The last verse ran:—

A Country's thanks for glorious deeds,
And a crown we weave of fame;
A place in Saga's hall we give
For Nansen's glorious name.
And thy heroic worth shall live
As long as fame shall be;
Aye! Norway's thanks for peerless deeds
Are the crown we weave for thee.

Very nice, no doubt, but is it not piling it on too thick? The heroes of humble life are countless. Firemen burnt or crushed to death in trying to save others, or lifeboat men going to their death to rescue strangers from a watery grave. Why, only last week a girl, struggling for life in broken ice, was rescued by her companion—a girl—but she gave her own life for her bravery, for she fell back and was drowned herself. That "mighty engine" the press, gave a couple of lines about it and forgot all about it.

* * * *

At the Savage Club, the explorer made the members smile. He said that if any present had met him last June, they would have declared that a better specimen of a savage could not be produced. He lived fifteen months without soap (big chance here for an advertisement) and that ought to qualify him for membership of that club! M'yes, I should think so. Dr. Nansen would not be lodged at the house of Jingle until he had been well-scraped. He said they had to boil their clothes in the cooking pot, but pshaw! that's nothing. Did not a certain Oirishman boil his leather trousers and palm them off on his unsuspecting visitors for tripe? But I frivol. But Nansen says that on meeting Jackson, the first indication of civilisation was the smell of soap! Here's a chance. F. Nansen could have made a nice round sum out of that last statement had he only said *whose* soap he could smell, but that's his look out, not mine.

* * * *

The Bucknall band I notice, have fixed in for a silent peal of Minor in seven Surprise Methods and so we may expect it in the course of a week or two, seeing they have now rung 720 each for practice. These men have evidently got some *go* in them, for they generally contribute a Treble Bob peal of Minor, (always in seven methods) and should they accomplish their desire they will have the honour of ringing the first silent 5000 of Surprise.

"Ringer's Festivities" did not occupy much space in last week's "BELL NEWS," but they made up in quality what they lacked in quantity. A week or so ago, some funny dog at Leicester sent a report here about a ringer's supper in which they *grappled* with ringers' delight, teething exercise, knife and fork surprise, &c. This week somebody has tried to go one better, viz.: "Roast beef and mutton delight," "Pigeon pie Surprise," &c. All this is very nice provided we don't get a surfeit of it. I am no gourmand, but I generally east a wistful eye on the ringer's supper page, and a *good* supper now and then (particularly now) makes one think that life is worth living for after all, and I think I could give a bit of weight away and a beating to many bigger men when it comes to "grappling." If there *should* be a vacant chair anywhere, and I may say I hate to see a vacant chair at a supper; there is one on this staff who is willing, nay, anxious to oblige anyone. It is not the O.C., nor is it P.S., but simply that low-down, grumbling person who writes over the name of

JINGLE.

THE YORK MINSTER SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, February 2nd, was celebrated the anniversary meeting of the ringers of York Minster bells, when the following members of the company met at noon at the Minster and rung a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples on the front eight: G. Breed, 1; T. F. Earnshaw, 2; T. Neill, 3; G. Worth, 4; R. Thompson, 5; A. Haigh, 6; T. Haigh (conductor), 7; W. Morell, 8. In the evening they met at the hostelry of Mr. G. Breed—The Lowther hotel—who provided a bountiful, well-cooked, and well-served dinner. After the cloth was drawn the members greatly enjoyed themselves under the presidency of Mr. T. F. Earnshaw, who proposed the loyal and other toasts. More especially that of "The Dean and Chapter" and "The Donors to the Feast," were honoured with acclamation for their kindness. The harmony was provided by Messrs. Hodgson, Haigh, Dawson, and others; and by courses and touches on the handbells, especially a short touch of Grandsire Triples by T. F. Earnshaw, 1-2; A. C. Fearnley, 3-4; G. Breed, 5-6; A. Haigh (conductor), 7-8. The musical proceedings were kept up with spirit till Mr. Bruce's Act put in the closing scene to bid us depart. H.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Market Deeping on Saturday, January 16th. Representatives from Peterborough, Morton, and the local company were in attendance. Dinner was held at The White Horse hotel, after which the business meeting was held, under the presidency of the Very Rev. the Dean of Stamford. The Rev. H. Law James was elected as representative on the Central Council. The next meeting, being the annual one, will be held at Stamford on Easter Monday. A vote of thanks was passed to the Dean of Stamford (Very Rev. W. W. Howard) for presiding, and for granting permission for the use of the bells. The company again visited the tower, and ringing in a variety of methods was done.

A RINGER'S WEDDING.

On Saturday, February 13th, at St. John's, Barnet, the marriage of Mr. Frank Blondell, of Guildford, with Miss Hawkins, of Barnet, was solemnized. Mr. Blondell was formerly of Barnet, and at one time hon. sec. to the Middlesex Association. Therefore the members of the Barnet guild determined if possible to celebrate the event by ringing a peal. The bells however were not available for the attempt to be made on Saturday, and on Monday, February 13th, the attempt being made which unfortunately had to be stopped after ringing 1288 of Grandsire Triples in good style, owing to illness close to the church. C. H. Martin, 1; J. Sumpter, 2; F. A. Milne, Esq., 3; J. W. Ginns, 4; J. Stevens, 5; A. H. Belton, 6; F. Blondell (conductor), 7; A. T. King Esq., 8. Mr. Blondell has taken up his abode at Guildford and carries with him the good wishes of his fellow-ringers for his future happiness and prosperity. On Sunday, February 14th, for morning service at the above church, 314 of Bob Major. A. Finch, 1; A. C. Chidwick, 2; F. A. Milne, 3; J. Sumpter, 4; J. Stevens, 5; J. W. Ginns, 6; A. H. Belton 7; F. Blondell (conductor), 8.

Ringers' Festivities.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL RINGERS' DINNER.—The annual dinner in connection with the Cathedral band of bell-ringers took place at the Eagle Hotel, Chichester, on Tuesday night, when the ringers were, as usual, supported by a capital muster of visitors. Prebendary Bennett occupied the chair, and among those present were Prebendary Codrington, D.D., Rev. S. J. Norman (Vicar of Merston), Councillors H. H. Moore, W. Gale, and P. Buchan, Messrs. F. Blagden Tompkins, J. W. Moore, R. Gambling, F. Chitty, C. Snowden, Bishop, &c. Mr. R. Walter (leader of the bellringers) was in the vice-chair.—At the conclusion of dinner, the Chairman apologised for the absence of the Venerable Archdeacon Mount, who was at present suffering from a weak throat and was seeking a change of air. They would be all glad to know, however, that he was improving (applause), although he could not venture back to Chichester in the prevailing damp weather. The Chairman mentioned that apologies for non-attendance had also been received from Canon Teulon, Rev. H. M. Davey, Rev. J. Cavis-Brown, and Rev. J. Spencer Walker. Following the loyal toasts, Councillor H. H. Moore proposed "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," and in doing so referred to the great activity being displayed by the Lord Bishop. He referred to Bishop Storey, who was translated to Chichester in the year 1478, and had left his mark upon the city by building and endowing the Market Cross. The endowment which that good man had left to keep the Cross in order had, however, like the stones, crumbled away. There was a special reason why the name of Bishop Storey should be rather prominent in the city this year. They had as their Chairman that evening the head of the Prebendal School, which was founded by Bishop Storey 400 years ago (applause). He understood that the old boys of the school were going to make a red-letter year of it, and he cordially wished them every success (hear, hear). Speaking of translations, he might perhaps surprise them when he said that 16 Bishops had been translated to Chichester and 21 from Chichester to other Sees.—Prebendary Codrington suitably responded to the toast.—Mr. F. B. Tompkins next submitted "The Visitors," mentioning that the Mayor would have been with them but for a previous engagement.—Councillor W. Gale, in responding, remarked that for a period of eleven years he was a member of the Bellringers' Guild, when it was first formed, and he claimed for it that it had done a great deal by putting the belfry into a condition second to none in the kingdom (applause). The Chairman, in proposing "The Chichester Cathedral Bellringers," gave it as his opinion that the members of the Chichester band of ringers were a body of men who deserved the highest respect and encouragement, and he extended to them his congratulations on having recently rung a peal of Grandsire Triples (applause). There was no other Cathedral in England which possessed a Campanile like Chichester. Touching on the question of the flagstaff, which in former years had been mentioned at that dinner, the Chairman said that at the present time the tower was not in a condition to bear it. He did not wish them for a moment to think that the tower was unsafe. It would last their time, as well as a good many more after them; but the constant swaying of the flag and post would require the upper part of the tower to be strengthened and put into a thoroughly sound condition. In conclusion, the Chairman expressed a hope that the ringers would successfully continue their work until they became, at least, the best guild of ringers in Sussex (applause). Mr. R. Walter, in responding to the toast, stated that during the past year the ringers had had 60 practices, 16 special rings, and 52 Sunday ringings, making a total of 128 in all. With respect to the Grandsire Triples peal referred to by the Chairman, he could say without fear or contradiction that it was a good peal from beginning to end. It was hoped that during the year the ringers would be able to accomplish two or three more peals, and also that before many years would be able to ring peals in other methods beside Grandsire Triple. As far as he was concerned, however, he had a special fondness for the latter method. "The Sussex County Association of Change-ringers" was proposed by Mr. J. W. Moore, who said that the benefits which the association had conferred on bell ringing in Sussex were quite apparent from the present reverent and artistic ringing throughout the county, and the

great improvement which had taken place in the belfries. He paid a warm tribute to the Hon. Secretary, Rev. J. G. Loder Cother, for the time and energy which he devoted to the work of the association. Mr. F. B. Tompkins, Hon. Treasurer of the County Association, responded to the toast, remarking that although the official statistics as to bellringing for the past year had not yet been published, he believed that Sussex would stand third in England in the matter of quantity, while in quality he believed the county would come out near the top of the list (applause). There were 112 churches in Sussex which possessed five or more bells, but of these only 48 were affiliated to the association, and no more than six rang peals in 1895. The Association possessed a membership of 560 and had a balance in hand. Mr. Tompkins concluded by mentioning that at Shoreham the bells had been re-cast and two new ones added, bringing up the number to eight (applause). The Rev. S. J. Norman proposed the last toast, that of "The Chairman," who, in acknowledging the toast, remarked that he was strongly opposed to any alterations and innovations in the Cathedral. During the course of the evening some excellent songs were rendered by Messrs. R. G. Vick, H. Barrett, T. A. Butland, and R. J. Acford, Mr. T. Fielden acting as accompanist.

THE BATTLE SOCIETY (SUSSEX).—On a recent Monday the members of this Society and friends met at the King's Head, on the occasion of their annual supper, which was provided in his usual excellent style by Host Hooker. The Rev. E. H. Rogers (curate) presided, and amongst those present were: Messrs. T. Cane, W. Franks, C. J. Hyland (secretary), F. Mathis, J. Mathis, E. T. B. Austin, W. Thomas, W. Eldridge, C. R. Carter, W. Eastland, W. Pepper, A. Smith, J. Sindon, F. Russell, E. Cruse, W. Metcalf, Colour-Sergeant King, and Messrs. Livermore and C. Lock (Blacklands, Hastings). The Chairman having submitted the loyal toasts, the Secretary mentioned that letters of apology had been received from the Dean, the churchwardens, and other gentlemen. Mr. C. J. Hyland proposed "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," Colour-Sergeant King replying on behalf of the Army, and Colour-Sergeant J. Mathis for the Reserve Forces. Mr. Cane proposed "The Bishop and Clergy and the Churchwardens," to which the Rev. Rogers made reply. Mr. E. T. B. Austin, in submitting "The Battle Society of Bellringers," said the pleasure of proposing the toast was enhanced by the fact that whereas in 1895 the members did not get through a single peal, they had last year successfully accomplished no less than four, at the same time, having to contend against various difficulties, especially the loss of three members well up in the campanological art during the year. With the toast he was pleased to couple the name of Mr. Walter Franks, a worthy conductor of a worthy band, an expert ringer, a capital instructor, always patient, and in every way qualified to advance the campanological art. (Hear, hear, and musical honours). Mr. Franks returned thanks for the enthusiastic reception of the toast, and said they had never given the peals alluded to by Mr. Austin till last year. They hoped to advance to more intricate methods, although it was impossible to advance with the members constantly changing. Mr. Franks submitted the "Honorary Members and Subscribers," thanking the former for the manner in which they had come forward during the past year. It had been stated that the ringers had not rung out the Old Year and rung in the New, and that the subscriptions had fallen off in consequence. He wished it to be known that service was being held in the church at midnight, and when that was over the ringers, having rung before the midnight service recommenced, had rung till one o'clock. Mr. Lock briefly responded. Other toasts were "The Visitors and Vocalists," "The Chairman," "The Press," "The Accompanist," and "The Host and Hostess." The proceedings were interspersed with songs, contributed by Messrs. Cane, Cruse, Franks, Russell, Thomas, &c., Miss Austin kindly acting as accompanist.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

At the annual meeting of the above Society the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Master, Mr. W. C. Hasted; Secretary, Mr. V. W. West; Steward, Mr. A. Hardy; Treasurer, Mr. C. E. Malim (re-elected).

HOW WE LOST OUR BELLS.

When the inventory of church goods and chattels was taken in the sixth year of Edward VI. we find that the tower of North Walsham church, Norfolk, possessed a ring of five heavy bells, the tenor weighing 28 cwt., and the treble about 9 cwt. There was also a Sanctus bell. The bells seem to have been well cared for in those days, and for upwards of 200 years afterwards items for their repair, and occasionally for recasting a cracked bell, may be found, among which the following may be noted:—

"1641. Pd to John Brend for new casting the Gabrell, adding to it newe mettall 1 lb and a half ijli viijs vjd." To John Beecroft for carrieng & recarrieng the said bell to Norwich ijs vjd."

In 1614 the 3rd bell, being cracked, was sent to Norwich to be "shott" by William Brend, for which "shooting" (i.e. casting) he was paid £7 10s., and for 1½ cwt. of additional metal £6 9s. 9d. A horse was hired for two days at the cost of 1s. 6d. for Nicholas Woolsey to go and see the bell new made, for which he was paid 1s. 4d. His out-of-pocket expenses amounted to 4s., whereof 8d. was for his dinner on the day the bell was cast, 1s. for beer for the bellfounder and his man; 2s. 4d. for his supper and charges on the next day when the bell was weighed.

In 1634 the 4th bell cracked, and she was also sent to Norwich to "goodman Brend" to be recast. His charge for recasting was £8 6s. 8d., and he had to warrant the bell sound for three years. A quart of wine and sugar, and a jug of beer, costing altogether 1s., were bestowed on him when he took the old bell away. Four shillings were spent on bread and beer to those who helped to take the bell down, and 10s. in expenses of those who helped to draw her up again, they being two days about it. The churchwardens' expenses "being three days at Norwich when the bell was a shooting" were £1.

Shortly after this there appear to have been six bells, beside the Sanctus bell, though how and when the addition was made does not transpire.

Now comes the sad part of the story. On May 16th, 1724, the south-west corner of the steeple fell down, breaking the clock and bells. The latter seem to have lain useless in the church for twenty-seven years afterwards. Then, in 1751, the parishioners applied for a faculty for the sale of the largest of the broken bells, to assist them in putting up a new table of the Ten Commandments. They represented that the bells had been lying broken and useless for so many years, and that the expense of rebuilding the tower would be about £800, exclusive of recasting the bells. The faculty was granted, and so the great bell was got rid of.

The remaining five seem to have been afterwards recast, and the tower repaired, for in 1813, according to the visitation returns, there were still five bells and a Sanctus bell. But the destruction of the peal did not stop, for in 1817 it was proposed to enlarge the gallery at an expense of £179, and a faculty for the sale of two of the five bells, said to be worth about £80, was applied for and granted. The two bells were sold, and the money applied to the above purpose, thus leaving only three bells and the Saint's bell. On April 26th, 1835, some more of the ruined tower fell, breaking two of the remaining bells. In the following year another faculty was applied for and granted to allow the sale of two broken bells, the proceeds, together with voluntary contributions, to go towards taking down about 40 or 50 ft. of the tower, building up the defective sides, and hanging the two remaining bells therein.

This was done, and the remaining bell and the Sanctus bell seem to have been recast at the completion of the repairs, and made into two consecutive bells, for they now bear the following inscriptions:—

First.—"Thomas Mears founder, London, 1842."

Second.—"Thomas Mears, founder, London, 1842. Rev. William Farley Wilkinson, Vicar, Martin James Sheppard, John Hust, Churchwardens."

The above tale of destruction of bells was by no means uncommon in Norfolk. In 1746 the parishioners of Trimmingham obtained a faculty for the sale of two of their three bells, the proceeds to go towards the repair of the church. The excuse was that "one was cracked and the other unhung."

A similar thing was done at Crostwick in 1753; the excuse being that "one was cracked and the other had no clapper!"

In some cases we find excuses for the sale of bells on the ground that "they were never used," or "that they were too small to be heard at a distance;" and even because (in cases where peals had been augmented) "formerly there were only so many in peal, and they did not see why more were necessary."

[The information for compiling the above, and "How we got our five bells," was chiefly obtained from the *Church Bells of Norfolk*, by Mr. J. L'Estrange, 1874.]

OLD TIMES.

We have received from a very old friend the following sketch. He tells us it is taken from a book entitled "Old London Bridge," and that it is a romance of the sixteenth century: the date of this account being the 19th February, 1547.

"Now began all over London the ringing of bells; but the bells, to hear which crowds upon crowds were seen hurrying, were those of Shoreditch; those bells long maintained their celebrity, and were such great favorites with Queen Elizabeth that she never passed them without making a long halt to listen to their music—the people all bareheaded kneeling around her.

"Few of our readers are perhaps aware of the sacred honors that bells had in our Roman Catholic times conferred upon them. Can it scarcely now be believed, that before a bell could be hung up in a steeple, it had to be first subjected to the holy rite of baptism? But such really was the case. The baptism was performed by the Bishop or his deputy. Most of the forms prescribed for the baptism of a child were gone through in giving a name to the bell.

"The Bishop and priests washed it in water, anointed it in the name of The Holy Trinity; it had Godfathers, who were persons of high rank; holy water, oil, salt, and cream were used, and tapers burnt. The bell was crossed by the Bishop, and even more psalms were read at this performance than there were at the christening of an infant.

"Bells were supposed to possess, after being duly christened, an enormous power over evil spirits, also over the elements; thunder and lightning were dreadfully afraid of bells; but the following prayer, which was offered up for the bell, will let the reader understand at once what was hoped and expected from it. Thus ran the prayer:

"LORD, grant that wheresoever this holy bell, thus washed and blessed, shall sound, all deceits of Satan, all dangers of whirlwind, thunders, lightnings, and tempests may be driven away, and that devotion may increase in Christian men when they hear it. O Lord, sanctify it by Thy Holy Spirit; that when it sounds in Thy people's ears they may adore Thee. May their faith and devotion increase; the devil be afraid, and tremble, and fly, at the sound of it. O Lord, pour on it Thy heavenly blessing; that the fiery darts of the devil may be made to fly backwards at the sound thereof; that it may deliver from danger of wind and thunder. And grant, Lord, that all that come to the church at the sound of it, may be free from all temptations of the devil. O Lord, infuse into it the heavenly dew of the Holy Ghost, that the devil may always fly away at the sound of it.

"Henry VIII. appears to have had as little respect for holy bells as he had for the Pope, for we find that the four largest in England, called 'Jesus bells,' which hung in the clockhouse near St. Paul's, were staked by him against £100., and lost to Sir Miles Partridge, at a cast of dice.

"We are not very much astonished at evil spirits, supposing them to have ears, being frightened at the sound, for even now there are in the city one or two peals of bells that, when they ring their loudest all at once, are enough to frighten Old Nick himself. But on the occasion we are recording, bad spirits were not even thought of; oh, no! the ringings were to put people into good spirits, and merry peals, indeed, now sounded from every steeple.

"The Shoreditch Youths—for be it known that bellringers, like post-boys, always retain their cognomen of juvenility, no matter what their real age may be—yes, the Shoreditch Youths, upon this occasion, were to outdo all their former outdoings, and so they did, for they executed a complete peal of Grandsire Triples! yes, Grandsire Triples, in which peal there were no less than five thousand and forty changes!

"We must confess we are happy that we were not there to hear them, for notwithstanding that each of the eight old youths worked away like a steam-engine, the performance took three hours and six minutes."

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THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

NOW READY.

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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, FEBRUARY 20, 1897.

THE manner in which the SIXTIETH year of the reign of Her Majesty is to be celebrated is becoming the question of the hour. The daily press is frequently telling us that public, private, corporate and other bodies are on the alert, and anxiously debating upon the many proposals which are put before them for the purposes of the forthcoming national celebration. The enthusiasm appears not to diminish, but to increase; a very satisfactory indication of forthcoming success.

The question which should arise in the mind of every one of our readers under these circumstances is: "Can this movement, and the ardour and zeal by which it is accompanied, be turned to any account in the direction of Church Bells?"

The memorials of the reign will be of every conceivable character, many of them of a practical and patriotic kind, while some will be sure to be found to err on the side of the ludicrous. But who can take exception to such a memorial of the Queen's long reign as a good ring of musical church bells? Only fanatics, or those verbose writers who at various times are allowed to air their logic

in the daily papers, and scribble the most exuberant balderdash about bells and ringers. A recent instance of this sort of thing appeared in the columns of the *Pall Mall Gazette* of February 15th, more ribald than usual. This, however, by the way.

Already it is pleasing to note that the energies of many of our brethren are directed towards this mode of signalling the lengthy reign of Her Majesty. Here we pause to dwell upon the action of Mr. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD with regard to St. Saviour's, Southwark. It will be in the recollection of all that Mr. HEYWOOD offered a most liberal contribution towards the cost of restoring these famous bells. This offer was declined. Yet "the authorities" will no doubt look upon the restoration of the building as one of the foremost memorials of the year. But without the sound of the bells to distinguish it as a temple of the English Church, the edifice may be regarded as a conventicle perhaps, or an hospital, or a barracks, or a railway station, according to the taste of the beholder. The fancy of architects runs riot in these days, and church towers have thereby become objects for imitation. We read that the sum of £40,000 pounds was placed in the architect's hands for the restoration of this church—a goodly sum, though not a penny too much. But if such an amount could be procured, it seems to us that it would have been a matter of no great difficulty to have raised the small sum (in comparison) of £500 required to restore the twelve bells. But we fear that at the present moment the interest felt by "the authorities" in this famous peal may be rated at less than the value of the proverbial "two brass farthings."

As we have just said, there are indications that bells will form no unimportant part in the remembrances of the year. We have alluded to several efforts that are being made for the augmentation of peals. There is an endeavour being made at Eckington, Derbyshire, which promises success; and at a festive meeting at Barking, in Essex, the churchwarden (Mr. A. E. DAVIES), himself a ringer, mentioned the propriety and wisdom of an increase to the Abbey peal. We hope this may be carried out, especially as the cost is small. But more instances are wanted where ringers may attempt to influence the authorities. No effort should now be spared where there is the slightest chance of success to effect alterations for the best in our belfries. Our friends must not flinch in their perseverance in such a noble crusade. They must become canvassers for subscriptions everywhere, and rouse the wealthy parishioners as well as the well-to-do tradesmen to a sense of the importance of the movement. The present year affords the best chance for it. Let not any one be discouraged by the apparent vastness of the work before him; he must be totally unaware of the existence of the impossible. The greater the labour in such a cause, the greater the satisfaction afterwards. Will that powerful organisation—the Oxford Diocesan Guild—enlist itself in such a work? The provision of a ring of twelve in that diocese, as a testimonial, say, to the beloved Master of the Guild. Is this thing impossible? We feel cer-

tain that it could be accomplished if the members began to work in their usual energetic manner. At all events, we cannot too strongly impress upon our ringing brethren the fact that there is no time like the present for an energetic and arduous campaign in the pursuit of bell-chamber reform and bell-restoration. We appeal to them to be on the alert; to be up and doing; to synchronize, so to speak, with the recent action of the President of the Central Council. How many rings of eight are there wanting restoration, and at the same time, augmentation, at the present day?

THE GROUP PORTRAIT.—Next week a splendid and faithful group portrait of the London Surprise long peal band will accompany this paper. When it is said that this has been produced regardless of cost, it is only saying the bare fact. The picture will be found well worth framing; and the portraits are held to be particularly excellent. Whoever loses opportunity of getting such an historical portrait as this will become, will lose it for ever. The number is also expected to contain a sketch of a remarkable ringing-chamber. This however we are not quite certain of, but the number will be an interesting one.—A few more photographs of the Jasper Snowden Memorial Window are left, which we can send at 7½d. per dozen to any address.

HANDBELL GIFT.—Next week we shall make a reference to this matter. The letters received upon the subject have not been so numerous as expected, but some suggestions have been made which we will do our best to carry into effect.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALFEGE, GREENWICH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5001 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt.

HARRY HOSKINS.. .. Treble.	REV. GEORGE J. BAYLEY .. 6.
FRANK M. BUTLER 2.	ISAAC GEORGE SHADE .. 7.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, SEN. .. 3.	FREDERICK W. THORNTON .. 8.
HERBERT JAMES SKELT .. 4.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. 9.
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY .. 5.	WILLIAM BERRY Tenor.

Composed by JOHN P. BRADLEY and
Conducted by FREDERICK S. BAYLEY.

This is the conductor's first attempt to conduct a peal upon ten bells. Also H. J. Skelt's first peal of Stedman's Caters, and the first attempt for a peal upon ten bells by Messrs. Hoskins and Berry, and the Rev. G. J. Bayley. The figures will appear in due course.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, February 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES, CAMBERWELL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

HAROLD N. DAVIS Treble.	GEORGE E. SYMONDS* .. 6.
ARTHUR R. DAVIS 2.	VICTOR W. WEST 7.
ARTHUR HARDY 3.	JAMES E. DAVIS 8.
FREDERICK G. PERRIN .. 4.	FREDERICK J. PITTS .. 9.
HARRY BARTON 5.	GEORGE W. WILD Tenor.

Composed by J. RILEY and Conducted by HAROLD N. DAVIS.

This is the first peal of Royal by the Society. First peal by G. E. Symonds who formerly belonged to Thornham Parva, Suffolk. This composition was rung in its reversed form, see Snowden's *Treble Bob*, part II., page 105.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, February 15, 1897, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, PUTNEY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 16 cwt.

JAMES W. DRIVER Treble.	JOHN N. OXBORROW 5.
ARTHUR G. ELLIS 2.	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY 6.
WILLIAM E. GARRARD 3.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL 7.
HENRY R. NEWTON 4.	WILLIAM BURKIN Tenor.

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH and Conducted by W. BURKIN.

The Provinces.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

(THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, February 9, 1897, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

T. JAKEMAN Treble.	*G. H. DONALD 5.
C. BROADBENT 2.	WM. JAKEMAN 6.
J. DONALD* 3.	J. LEIGH 7.
W. JAKEMAN 4.	J. CRABTREE Tenor.

Conducted by WM. JAKEMAN.

*First peal.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE BUSHEY SOCIETY.)

On Wednesday, February 10, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

JOSEPH J. ALLEN Treble.	EDWARD P. DEBENHAM 5.
WILLIAM E. OAKLEY 2.	FREDERICK EDWARDS 6.
WILLIAM J. S. THORN 3.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY 7.
ALFRED J. PATE 4.	FRANK A. SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD P. DEBENHAM.

This peal was rung as a compliment to Mr. W. H. L. Buckingham, on the occasion of his marriage to Miss A. Maud Watson, of Winton, Bournemouth.

CHILHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 11, 1897, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 18½ cwt.

MORTON W. PIERCE Treble.	HENRY G. FAIRBRASS 5.
FREDK. T. MARRIOTT 2.	EDWARD E. FOREMAN 6.
FREDK. G. BRETT 3.	PHILIP H. PIERCE 7.
REV. F. J. O. HELMORE 4.	*JOHN PEMBLE Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. J. O. HELMORE.

*First peal. E. E. Foreman hails from Hernhill, Faversham; Pemble from Wye; the rest from Canterbury.

BRIDGNORTH, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, February 11, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES E. GROVES Treble.	JOHN OVERTON 5.
ARTHUR H. ESLEY 2.	JOHN E. OVERTON 6.
WILLIAM MAUND 3.	HORACE W. OVERTON 7.
HERBERT HAMMOND 4.	HARRY JONES Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5060 CHANGES.

Tenor 22 cwt.

GEOFFREY A. MARTINEAU* Treble.	JOHN CARTER 6.
JOHN JENNINGS 2.	THOMAS COLLINSON 7.
JAMES JONES 3.	WILLIAM A. HANCOX 8.
CHARLES SPARKES 4.	GEORGE HITCHMAN 9.
W. ROCK SMALL 5.	JAMES GEORGE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

This peal has the 6th four times wrong and twenty-four times right, and is now rung for the first time. First peal in the method on the bells. *First peal of Royal. P.S.—The peal rang at St. Philip's, Birmingham, reported in our last issue, was J. George's 150th peal.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb.

ANDERSON Y. TYLER .. Treble.	ALPHAUS PERKINS 5.
WILLIAM V. NEWMAN* .. 2.	JAMES GARRATT 6.
WILLIAM GILBERT 3.	†WALTER PERKINS 7.
CLIFTON NEWMAN 4.	HENRY STUBBS Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by A. Y. TYLER.

†First peal with a bob bell. *First peal in the method, both ringing it at the first attempt. This composition contains the 4th and 6th their extent in 6ths place at five course-ends, the 2nd never there, and is the first peal in two equal parts with these properties.

TOWN MALLING, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

ANNABLE'S COMPOSITION. Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM SMITH Treble.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE 5.
JESSE CAPON 2.	EDWARD BONNER 6.
DAVID HALL 3.	JAMES W. LEONARD 7.
REV. ALGERNON L. BRINE 4.	PHILIP MASTERS Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. LEONARD.

The Rev. A. L. Brine hails from Bearsted; Groombridge from Sevenoaks. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Rev. J. H. Timmins. See notice on another page.

DONCASTER, YORKS.

On Saturday, February 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 30 cwt.

H. FEVRE† Treble.	*C. ARMITAGE 5.
C. SCOTT* 2.	R. BAYLES 6.
G. HALSWORTH* 3.	H. WILSON 7.
H. MARWOOD 4.	S. HOLMES Tenor.

Conducted by H. FEVRE.

†First peal as conductor. *First peal.

CROYDON, SURREY.

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

On Saturday, February 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 32 cwt. in E flat.

JOHN N. OXBORROW .. Treble.	JAMES WILLSHIRE 5.
WALTER J. SORRELL .. 2.	SAMUEL ANDREWS 6.
FRANK BUCK 3.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE 7.
HENRY S. ELLIS 4.	HENRY R. NEWTON Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by HENRY R. NEWTON.

A note to this peal will be found on another page. For figures of the peal see the Central Council Appendix for 1895, page 114.

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

On Saturday, February 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 41 cwt.

GEORGE HOLMES Treble.	ARTHUR CRAVEN 7.
JOHN HOLMAN 2.	ARTHUR BREARLEY 8.
JOHN H. BOWER 3.	DAVID BREARLEY 9.
GABRIEL LINDOFF 4.	CHARLES W. P. CLIFTON .. 10.
WILLIAM LOMAS 5.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. 11.
JOHN MULLIGAN 6.	THOMAS SYLVESTER .. Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY and Conducted by T. HATTERSLEY.

Messrs. Lindoff and Clifton, for whom this peal was kindly arranged, hail from Lincoln. This is G. Lindoff's 100th peal. A reference elsewhere.

SPALDING, Lincs.—THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

On Saturday, February 13, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

RICHARD MACKMAN Treble.	JOHN W. JARVIS 5.
FRANK CREASEY† 2.	*JAMES R. MACKMAN 6.
GEORGE LADD 3.	RICHARD CREASEY 7.
EDWARD JARVIS 4.	†JOHN H. ELEY Tenor.

Conducted by J. R. MACKMAN.

†First peal. *First peal as conductor. Messrs. Creasey (2) hail from Fulney; Ladd from Pinchbeck; J. R. Mackman from Lincoln.

SHREWSBURY.—THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES.

Tenor 43 cwt.

WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. Treble.	GEORGE BURROWS 6
GEORGE BYOLIN† 2.	THOMAS J. BRATTON 7.
HENRY A. HALL 3.	AARON GRIFFITHS 8.
JOHN OVERTON 4.	JAMES E. GROVES 9.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 5.	*HENRY KING Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

*First peal. †First peal of Caters. The greatest credit is due to the tenor-man for the way he rang his bell, he never having previously made an attempt for a peal or a long touch. The ringers of the treble and tenor belong to Hereford; 3rd, 6th, 8th and 9th to Wolverhampton; 4th to Bridgnorth; 5th to Slough; 7th to Welshpool; and 2nd to St. Almonds, Shrewsbury. This is the first peal of Grandsire Caters by the Hereford Guild.

LEICESTER.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 27 cwt. in E flat.

JOSIAH MORRIS Treble.	JOSEPH S. NEEDHAM 5.
GEORGE BURROWS 2.	JONATHAN HITCHCOCK .. 6.
WILLIAM P. COOPER .. 3.	JOHN F. MARLOW 7.
WILLIAM INGLESANT .. 4.	WILLIAM WILLSON Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by WILLIAM WILLSON.

This peal is the first of Grandsire Major rung in the county of Leicester, and the first in the method by all except the conductor. It is the first peal of Major by the ringers of the treble and 6th.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION. AND THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, KIDDERMINSTER.

On Sunday, February 14, 1897, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS' SIX-PART.

JAMES PAGETT 1-2.	WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 5-6.
FREDERICK CLAYTON .. 3-4.	*WILLIAM H. SMITH .. 7-8.

Conducted by WILLIAM H. BARBER.

*First peal on handbells.

HIGHAM FERRERS, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 22 cwt. 5 qrs. 17 lbs.

WALTER C. HUNT Treble.	THOMAS R. HENSHER 5.
CHARLES W. CLARKE 2.	JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 6.
ALFRED H. MARTIN 3.	JOHN B. MARTIN 7.
WILLIAM PETTITT 4.	GEORGE BROWN Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

W. C. Hunt hails from North Shields, and this is his first peal away from the tenor.

WOODLESFORD, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, February 13, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following;

College Exercise, City Delight, College Pleasure, Arnold's Victory, London Scholars' Pleasure, Duke of York, and Violet.

Tenor 9 cwt.

GEORGE W. STEEL Treble.	WILLIAM ABBISHAW 4.
J. C. ABBISHAW 2.	JOSEPH HAIGH 5.
J. W. T. HOLGATE 3.	WALTER CHAPMAN Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER CHAPMAN.

Holgate hails from Bramley; Haigh from Woodlesford; the rest from Rothwell.

TARPORLEY.—THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 13, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 10 cwt. 10 lbs. in G.

FREDERICK VERNON* .. Treble.	THOMAS JOHNSON 5.
GEORGE WRIGHT 2.	ALBERT HARDING 6.
GEORGE HARDING 3.	RICHARD T. HOLDING .. 7.
WILLIAM F. HARTSHORN .. 4.	*JOSEPH RICHARDSON .. Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD THOMAS HOLDING.

*First peal, also first peal on the bells. This peal was arranged in place of one that failed three weeks ago; unfortunately at the last moment two of the original band could not go, Mr. Davies having a bad attack of bronchitis, and Mr. Langford, whose wife was very ill, also asked to be excused, Messrs. Harding and Johnson kindly filling their places, with the result shewn above. Messrs. Vernon and Richardson belong to Tarporley; Wright to Whitchurch; Johnson to Sandbach; the rest hail from Crewe.

SWINTON, LANCs.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 15, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr.

EDWARD OWEN Treble.	JOHN BROCKBANK 5.
CHARLES CASH 2.	EDWARD CASH 6.
RICHARD PEARSE 3.	WALTER HESKITH 7.
DAVID CLARKE 4.	JOHN S. JONES Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD CASH.

This peal was rung to celebrate the silver wedding of Edward Owen, who has been a ringer at the above church since 1871. All the above belong to the local company.

LINCOLN.—THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION. (THE ST. PETER-AT-ARCHES SOCIETY.)

On Wednesday, February 16, 1897, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-AT-ARCHES,

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

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

JOHN W. WATSON Treble.	GABRIEL LINDOFF 5.
GEORGE FLINTHAM* 2.	*JAMES R. MACKMAN 6.
JOSEPH B. FENTON 3.	RICHARD DAWSON 7.
GEORGE BEMROSE* 4.	CHARLES W. P. CLIFTON Tenor.

Composed by G. LINDOFF and Conducted by RICHARD DAWSON.

*First peal in the method.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, February 15, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

5088 CHANGES,

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

HARRY SIMMONDS Treble.	GEORGE ESSEX 5.
HERBERT P. HARMAN* .. 2.	RICHARD T. HIBBERT .. 6.
E. J. MENDAY 3.	HARRY W. SMITH 7.
E. W. MENDAY 4.	THOMAS NEWMAN Tenor.

Composed by A. P. HEYWOOD, Esq., and Conducted by THOMAS NEWMAN.

*First peal in the method. This peal was rung as a birthday compliment to R. T. Hibbert, the band wishing him many happy returns.

READING, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

Tenor 15 cwt.

GEORGE L. BODDINGTON* Treble.	*ALFRED W. REEVES .. 5.
HENRY COFFEY 2.	*FREDERICK SWEETZER .. 6.
CHARLES GILES 3.	†ALBERT E. REEVES .. 7.
ALFRED E. REEVES 4.	*ARTHUR W. HIGGS Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT EDWARD REEVES.

*First peal of Stedman. †First peal of Stedman as conductor. This is the first peal of Stedman Triples ever rung in Reading by a local band, and the first peal of Stedman on the bells.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1897, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

Tenor 22 cwt.

CHARLES FAWKES* Treble.	WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT .. 6.
ARTHUR SPITTLE 2.	SAMUEL SPITTLE 7.
HARRY MASON 3.	JOHN SMITH 8.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. 4.	JOHN GOODMAN 9.
SAMUEL REEVES 5.	*HERBERT SHEPPARD Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON and Conducted by SAMUEL SPITTLE.

*First peal. A note to this peal will be found on another page.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(THE ST. STEPHEN'S GUILD.)

On Wednesday, February 17, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 cwt.

W. JAMES HINTON Treble.	ALBERT E. BAWN 6.
WILLIAM A. CAVE 2.	CHARLES H. TOMKINS .. 7.
CHARLES H. HORTON .. 3.	CHARLES H. GORDON .. 8.
WILLIAM KNIGHT 4.	FRANCIS PRICE 9.
FREDERIC ELLES 5.	WILLIAM COLSTON Tenor.

Composed by W. T. PATES and Conducted by W. JAMES HINTON.

A note to this peal will appear next week.

PEAL CORRECTION.—The peal reported last week from Twickenham should have been recorded as "Oxford Bob," not as "Union" Triples.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 1s. 2d.; cloth do., 1s. 8d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading, Berks.

Date Touches.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.

BEBINGTON (Cheshire).—On Monday, February 1st, at the parish church, a date touch, 1897 changes, in five Minor methods, being 97 Grandsire, 360 Canterbury, 360 Plain Bob, 360 College Single, and 720 Oxford Single. J. Smith, 1; H. Hough, 2; J. Hough, 3; J. Cliffe, 4; J. Wood, 5; E. Breeze (longest length as conductor), 6. Longest length by J. Smith. J. Wood hails from Bromborough.

Miscellaneous.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BROMLEY (Kent).—On Tuesday, January 26th, for practice, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor with the tenor covering. G. Durling, 1; E. Dunn, 3; J. Town, 4; H. Reader, 5; T. Richards, Esq., 6; J. Hack (conductor), 7; W. James, 8. On Sunday morning, January 31st, for Divine Service, the last 700 of Holt's Original. R. Kimms, 1; T. Durling, 2; E. Dunn, 3; H. Salevan, jun. (Sawbridgeworth), 4; P. Harman, 5; G. Simpson, 6; G. Durling (conductor), 7; W. James, 8. On Tuesday, February 2nd, for practice, 720 Bob Minor with the tenor covering. R. Roffey, 1; T. Richards, Esq., 3; J. Town, 4; E. Dunn, 5; G. Simpson, 6; G. Durling (conductor), 7; W. James, 8. On Sunday morning, February 7th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Town, 1; P. Harman, 2; E. Dunn, 3; H. Salevan, jun., 4; R. Humphery, 5; G. Simpson, 6; G. Durling (conductor), 7; W. James, 8.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Thursday, February 4th, for practice at St. Peter's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Mankelow, jun., 1; W. Pollard, 2; H. Ford, 3; P. Brooker, 4; G. Head (conductor), 5; A. Welsh, 6; H. Card, 7; H. Wood, 8. And 864 Treble Bob Major. W. Pollard, 1; A. Welsh, 2; G. Smithers, 3; P. Brooker, 4; E. Mankelow, sen., 5; G. Head, 6; W. Card (conductor), 7; S. Perkins, 8. Also 630 Oxford Bob Triples. E. Mankelow, jun., 1; G. Head, 2; J. Muggridge, 3; S. Perkins (conductor), 4; E. Mankelow, sen., 5; H. Porter, 6; A. Welsh, 7; H. Ford, 8. And 168 Stedman Triples. H. Porter, 1; P. Brooker, 2; G. Smithers, 3; A. Welsh, 4; W. Pollard, 5; H. Ford, 6; S. Perkins (conductor), 7; J. Muggridge, 8.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HATFIELD (Herts).—On Sunday evening, January 31st, for Divine Service, 1008 Bob Major. J. Powers, 1; A. Shepherd, 2; J. Shepherd, 3; J. Kentish, 4; R. Shepherd, 5; H. Shepherd, 6; H. Rowe (conductor), 7; J. Hollingsworth, 8. On Tuesday, February 2nd, a course of Canterbury Pleasure Major. J. Powers, 1; A. Shepherd, 2; J. Shepherd, 3; J. Kentish, 4; J. T. Kentish, 5; H. Shepherd, 6; J. Hollingsworth, 7; H. Rowe, 8. On Tuesday, February 9th, 252 Canterbury Pleasure Triples. G. Smith, 1; J. Powers, 2; J. Shepherd, 3; R. Shepherd, 4; J. Kentish, 5; H. Shepherd, 6; H. Rowe (conductor), 7; H. Tharby, 8.

THE SOUTH AND WEST MIDDLESEX GUILD.

EALING (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, January 26th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 43 mins. A. Taber, 1; F. Goddard, 2; H. Rowe, 3; J. Pratt, 4; W. Foster, 5; E. Harris, 6; J. Basden (conductor), 7; H. S. Reeves, 8. This was rung after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Bob Major as a farewell peal to H. G. Rowe, who is leaving the neighbourhood.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GRAPPENHALL (Cheshire).—On Friday, January 1st, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Mainwaring, 1; F. Spence, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; R. Lewis (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. On Sunday, January 3rd, 720 College Exercise. R. Lewis, 2; F. Spence (conductor), 5; the rest as before. On Sunday, January 10th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Mainwaring, 1; R. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; C. R. Greenall (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. Also 720 Kent. H. Moston, 2; R. Lewis (conductor), 5; the rest as before. On Saturday, January 16th, 720 Double Stedman's Slow Course. J. Mainwaring, 1; R. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; C. R. Greenall (first in the method), 6. On Sunday, January 17th, 720 Violet Treble Bob. J. Mainwaring, 1; R. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. Also 720 Bocking (twenty-one bobs). C. R. Greenall (first in the method), 2; R. Lewis (conductor), 6; the rest as before. On Sunday, January 24th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. J. Mainwaring,

1; R. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. Also 720 Braintree Treble Bob. H. Moston, 2; C. R. Greenall, 3; R. Lewis (conductor), 6; the rest as before.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Tuesday, January 5th, at St. John's church, 576 Oxford Treble Bob Major. A. Pilkington, 1; R. Moncaster, 2; W. Patton, 3; W. Lester, 4; H. Taylor, 5; J. Baxter, 6; G. Lungley, 7; W. Porter (conductor), 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Lister, 1; C. Moncaster, 2; W. Patton, 3; T. Scollick, 4; H. Taylor, 5; J. Baxter (conductor), 6; G. Lungley, 7; A. Pilkington, 8. On Sunday, January 10th, 560 Bob Major. T. Scollick, 1; C. Moncaster, 2; W. Patton, 3; A. Pilkington, 4; W. Porter, 5; W. Lister, 6; R. Moncaster, 7; J. Baxter (conductor), 8. On Sunday, January 17th, 672 Bob Major. T. Scollick, 1; R. Moncaster, 2; W. Patton, 3; A. Pilkington, 4; H. Taylor, 5; C. Moncaster, 6; W. Lister, 7; W. Porter (conductor), 8. And 640 Kent Treble Bob Major. A. Pilkington, 1; R. Moncaster, 2; W. Patton, 3; C. Moncaster, 4; H. Taylor, 5; W. Lister, 6; W. Porter, 7; J. Baxter (conductor), 8. On Sunday, January 31st, 560 Bob Major. T. Scollick, 1; C. Moncaster, 2; W. Patton, 3; A. Moncaster, 4; W. Porter, 5; J. Baxter (conductor), 6; W. Lister, 7; R. Moncaster, 8. And 336 Grandsire Triples. R. Moncaster, 1; C. Moncaster, 2; W. Patton, 3; J. Baxter, 4; H. Taylor, 5; W. Lister, 6; W. Porter (conductor), 7; T. Scollick, 8. For practice at Holy Trinity on Tuesday, January 26th, 720 Plain Bob. G. Smith (first 720), 1; T. Lungley, 2; W. Patton (St. John's), 3; G. Park, 4; R. Wilson, 5; G. W. Park (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent. R. Wilson, 1; G. Park (St. Cuthbert's), 2; W. Patton, 3; T. Lungley, 4; W. Porter (St. John's), 5; G. Lungley (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, February 7th, 720 Grandsire Minor. G. Kenworthy, 1; G. Lungley, 2; E. Cox, 3; W. Kingdon, 4; T. Lungley, 5; G. W. Park (conductor), 6.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, January 13th, at St. Mary's church, 720 New London Pleasure (nine bobs). F. Symonds, 1; H. Poulson, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; J. Moore, 4; R. Grimwood, 5; W. Hollocks (first 720 as conductor in the method), 6. On Sunday, January 31st, A. Symonds tapped a course each of Double Norwich Court Bob Major and Double Oxford Bob Major. On Saturday, February 6th, 720 New London Pleasure (nine bobs). A. Symonds, 1; F. Symonds, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; H. Poulson, 4; R. Grimwood, 5; W. Hollocks (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 7th, 720 in the same method (nine bobs). H. Poulson, 1; F. Symonds, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; T. Levitt, 4; R. Grimwood, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. First 720 of New London Pleasure by T. Levitt. Messrs. Levitt and Grimwood hail from Hitcham; Symonds (2) from Lavenham; Hollocks (2) belong to Preston.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On Friday, January 1st, at St. Giles' church, 504 Stedman Triples. G. Boddington, 1; H. Coffee, 2; A. Evans, 3; A. Ernest Reeves, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; F. Sweetzer, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8. On Sunday morning, January 3rd, 447 Grandsire Triples. A. Higgs, 1; G. Boddington, 2; A. Evans, 3; A. Ernest Reeves, 4; A. E. Reeves, 5; H. Dibley, 6; F. Sweetzer (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8. For evening service 420 Bob Triples. H. Dibley, 1; H. Coffee, 2; G. Boddington, 3; A. Evans, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; F. Sweetzer, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8. On Tuesday, January 5th, for practice, 336 Grandsire Triples. F. Sweetzer, 1; G. Boddington, 2; A. Evans, 3; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; A. Higg, 6; W. Newell, 7; W. Coldrey, 8. Also 504 Stedman Triples. G. Boddington, 1; H. Coffee, 2; F. Sweetzer, 3; A. Ernest Reeves, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; W. Newell, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8. On Sunday, January 10th, 546 Grandsire Triples. H. Dibley, 1; H. Coffee, 2; F. Sweetzer, 3; A. Ernest Reeves, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; A. Higgs, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8. On Sunday, January 17th, 518 Grandsire Triples standing as before with the exception of G. Boddington, 3. On Sunday, January 24th, 504 Stedman Triples. G. Boddington, 1; H. Coffee, 2; A. Evans, 3; A. Ernest Reeves, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; F. Sweetzer, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8. On Tuesday, January 26th, 360 Grandsire. H. Neville, 1; J. Tucker, 2; G. Boddington, 3; A. Ernest Reeves, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; H. Dibley, 6; F. Sweetzer (conductor), 7; A. Higgs, 8. Also 504 Stedman Triples and 420 Bob Triples. On Sunday, January 31st, 336 Grandsire Triples, conducted by A. E. Reeves.

BRADFELD (Berks).—On Monday, January 11th, 720 Bob Minor. P. Wooldridge, 1; V. Rowe (aged 14 years), 2; S. Chapman, 3; T. Rowe, 4; W. Bunce, 5; E. Holloway (conductor), 6. On Monday, January 18th, 720 Bob Minor. G. Henwood, 1; W. Lucas (Beenham), 2; S. Chapman, 3; J. Aberly (Englefield), 4; E. Holloway, 5;

F. Richardson (Beenham, conductor), 6. On Monday, January 25th, 720 Bob Minor. V. Rowe, 1; S. Chapman, 2; F. Richardson, 3; E. Holloway, 4; H. Keal, 5; W. Horne (conductor), 6.

MORTIMER (Berks).—On Saturday, February 13th, at St. Mary's church, 1032 Grandsire Triples, in 35 mins. H. Cox, 1; A. Pye, 2; J. Tucker, 3; C. Giles (conductor), 4; W. Jerram, 5; K. Mason, 6; H. Tucker, 7; F. Eatwell, 8.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.

BEBINGTON (Cheshire).—On Monday, January 18th, for practice, 720 College Single. J. Millington, 1; E. Breeze, 2; J. Hough, 3; J. Cliffe, 4; E. Spencer, 5; H. Hough (conductor), 6. On Monday, January 25th, 720 Oxford Single. J. Smith, 1; J. Cliffe, 2; J. Wood, 3; H. Hough, 4; E. Spencer, 5; E. Breeze (conductor), 6. Also 720 Plain Bob (fourteen singles and four bobs). J. Smith, 1; J. Cliffe, 2; E. Breeze, 3; H. Hough, 4; E. Spencer, 5; J. Wood (first 720 as conductor), 6.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Wednesday, January 28th, 420 Grandsire Triples. F. Jones, 1; G. Burrows, 2; H. Knight, 3; E. Nicholls, 4; R. Pickering, 5; H. A. Hall (conductor), 6; W. G. Hall, 7; J. Purser, 8. Also three courses of Bob Major, B. Dalton ringing the 3rd. On Wednesday, February 10th, 504 Grandsire Triples. F. Jones, 1; G. Burrows, 2; W. G. Hall, 3; E. Nicholls, 4; A. Griffiths, 5; H. Knight, 6; H. A. Hall (conductor), 7; J. Purser, 8. Also 168 in the same method. F. Jones, 1; E. Jenner, 2; H. Knight, 3; E. Nicholls, 4; G. Burrows, 5; H. A. Hall (conductor), 6; W. G. Hall, 7; E. Graham, 8. Tenor 23 cwt.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Thursday, February 4th, 1280 Treble Bob Major in 47 mins. A. Millard, 1; G. Plaskett, 2; F. Hill, 3; R. Fuge (first quarter-peal in the method), 4; G. Chappell, 5; J. Warren, 6; G. Grafham, 7; J. Whiting (conductor), 8. Composed by F. Bennett, of Brighton. And 576 in the same method. G. Chappell, 1; A. Millard, 5; the rest as before. Rung on the occasion of the birthday of J. Warren, the ringers wishing him many happy returns.

WINCHESTER.—On Friday, February 4th, at the Cathedral, 518 Grandsire Triples. J. Elkins, 1; G. Smith, 2; C. Chooet, 3; W. J. Sevier, 4; W. Lampard, 5; F. Smith, 6; R. Hasted (conductor), 7; C. Russell, 8; J. Harris, 9; D. Froome, 10. Also 168 in the same method. J. Elkins, 1; G. Smith, 2; C. Chooet, 3; W. Sevier (conductor), 4; W. Lampard, 5; F. Smith, 6; J. Harris, 7; C. Russell, 8; R. Hasted, 9; D. Froome, 10. These touches were rung with 6-8-10 covering.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

STREATHAM (Surrey).—On Monday, February 8th, at Immanuel church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. G. Barrington, 1; H. Daniels, sen., 2; D. Springall, 3; H. Pates, 4; H. Daniels, 5; W. Shephard, 6; G. Pell (conductor), 7; J. Waldock, 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to J. Waldock, the ringers wishing him many happy returns.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BARKING (Essex).—On Friday, February 5th, on handbells retained in hand, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 35 mins. C. Fenn, 1-2; R. Fenn, 5-4; T. Faulkner (conductor), 5-6; A. Whight (first quarter-peal on handbells), 7-8.

WRITTE (Essex).—On Saturday, February 6th, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Stedman Triples, but it came to grief after ringing 1 hr. 7 mins. G. Sorrell, 1; A. Edwards (conductor), 2; E. Davis, 3; A. Head, 4; W. Lincoln, 5; W. Piper, 6; T. Lincoln, 7; W. Emery, 8. On Sunday morning, February 7th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. H. Lincoln, 1; G. Sorrell, 2; E. Davis, 3; W. Emery, 4; W. Lincoln (conductor), 5; R. Wood, 6; F. Radley, 7; T. Lincoln, 8. Composed by H. J. Tucker. The above were rung as farewell touches to G. Sorrell, who is leaving for Carmarthen, South Wales.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HALESWORTH (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, January 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 504 Bob Triples. S. Kerrison, 1; A. Took, 2; F. Lambert (conductor), 3; E. Lincoln, 4; K. Howard, 5; J. Howard, 6; C. Kerrison, 7; W. Pierce, 8. Tenor 19 cwt in E.

GENTLEMEN'S Curb Alberts. Heavily Plated with Pure Gold. Guaranteed 18 carat, 4s. 6d., 22, 25, 6d., Double, 7s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. Member of Norwich Diocesan Association.—SKINNER, 3, Mayes Terrace, East Dereham.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

BURNLEY (Lancashire).—On Monday, February 8th, at Holy Trinity church, an attempt was made for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. E. Foden, but it unfortunately came to grief after ringing 4224 changes in 2 hrs. 36 mins. R. Hartley, 1; F. Towns, 2; N. Townend, 3; J. Werring, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Duxbury (Padiham), 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Thursday evening, February 4th, for practice at St. Andrew's church, a quarter-peal of Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1296 changes, in 49 mins. W. Shardlow, 1; W. Wallace, 2; J. W. Thompson, 3; C. Draper, 4; W. H. Found, 5; S. Maskrey, 6; C. E. Hart, 7; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 8. On Sunday afternoon, February 14th, at St. Werburgh's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins., previous to a Confirmation by the Bishop of Derby. F. Bradley, 1; W. H. Poyser, 2; T. Anthony, 3; A. E. Thompson, 4; R. Redgate, 5; J. W. Thompson, 6; L. Lomas, 7; T. Griffiths, 8. Conducted by F. Bradley. This quarter-peal contains fourteen 4-6s, fourteen 7-4s, fourteen 6-7s, and is the composition of Mr. J. Barratt.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Sunday, February 14th, for evening service at the church of St. Dunstan, Stepney, 1260 Grandsire Caters, in 50 mins. H. Springall (conductor), 1; T. Faulkner, 2; C. Fenn, 3; J. Scholes, 4; R. Fenn, 5; A. Hardy, 6; S. Parmenter, 7; S. Hayes, 8; E. Hall, 9; G. Barrell, 10. Composed by J. Bradley, of West Ham.

COLCHESTER (Essex).—On Sunday evening, January 17th, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Rashbrook, 1; *G. Burch, 2; F. Bumpstead, 3; W. Harvey, 4; W. Howell, 5; W. Burch, 6. On Sunday morning, January 31st, for Divine Service, 1008 Bob Major. W. Scott, 1; G. Rashbrook, 2; W. Howell, 3; G. Burch, 4; F. Bumpstead, 5; W. Harvey, 6; W. Schofield (late of Ardleigh), 7; W. Burch, 8. For evening service 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Harvey, 1; G. Burch, 2; F. Bumpstead, 3; W. Howell, 4; G. Rashbrook, 5; W. Burch, 6. On Monday, February 1st, for practice, 360 in the same method. G. Rashbrook (conductor), 1; G. Burch, 2; F. Bumpstead, 3; W. Howell, 4; *W. Schofield, 5; W. Burch, 6. *Longest length in the method.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Thursday, February 4th, for practice at Christ Church, 504 Grandsire Triples in 19 mins. C. Crunden (longest length), 1; A. Gower (first 504 with a bob bell), 2; A. Piper, 3; H. Fayers (longest length), 4; G. Howse, 5; A. Midmore, 6; B. Hobbs (conductor), 7; A. Miles (longest length), 8.

EDMONTON (Middlesex).—On Monday evening, February 15th, before the usual weekly practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. P. J. Darlington, 1; R. Goodchild, 2; F. Carter, 3; G. E. Peace, 4; W. A. Alps (composer and conductor), 5; A. W. Darlington, 6; L. J. Darlington, 7; W. G. Darlington, 8. The ringers of the 3rd, 4th and 5th belong to the Waltham Abbey Society.

LOUGHTON (Essex).—On Tuesday, January 12th, for practice at St. John's church, 504 Stedman Triples. F. Freeman, 1; G. Perry, 2; E. Bacon (conductor), 3; W. Pye, 4; J. Rann, 5; G. Carter, 6; E. Wightman, 7; W. Clark, 8. On Tuesday, January 26th, 336 Double Norwich. W. Pye (conductor), 1; W. Doran, 2; E. Bacon, 3; F. Freeman, 5; G. Carter, 6; W. Clark, 7; E. Wightman, 8. On Tuesday, February 2nd, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 48 mins. E. Wightman (first quarter-peal in the method), 1; G. Perry, 2; E. Bacon (conductor), 3; G. Carter, 4; J. Rann, 5; F. Freeman, 6; W. Clark, 7; J. Trapp, 8.

OLNEY (Bucks).—On Sunday, January 3rd, 720 Bob Minor. F. Hopper, 1; W. Wright (conductor), 2; T. Wright, 3; W. Jones, 4; R. Raban, 5; R. Perkins, 6. On Thursday, January 14th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. F. Hopper, 1; T. Wright, 2; W. Wright, 3; W. Jones, 4; R. Raban (conductor), 5; R. Perkins, 6. On Sunday evening, January 17th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. F. Hopper, 1; T. Wright, 2; W. Jones, 3; W. Wright (conductor), 4; R. Raban, 5; R. Perkins, 6. On Sunday evening, January 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. F. Hopper, 1; W. Wright (conductor), 2; T. Wright, 3; S. Smito, 4; R. Raban, 5; R. Perkins, 6.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Tuesday, February 9th, at the cathedral, in honour of the wedding of Mr. Buckingham, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples. H. Waddington, 1; H. Samuel, 2; S. Barnes, 3; A. Hallett, 4; R. Hammond, 5; T. Waller, 6; W. Battle (conductor), 7; G. Wright, 8. Also 168 in the same method with H. Samuel, 1; E. Wish, 2; G. Steabben, 8; the rest as before.

STEYNING (Sussex).—On January 10th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Bristow (first 504), 1; E. Rapley, 2; J. Smart, 3; C. Smart (conductor), 4; F. N. Bacon, 5; G. Gatland, 6; W. Woolgar, 7; H. Green, 8. For evening service 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Bristow, 1; J. Matthews, 2; H. Green, 3; W. Woolgar (conductor), 4; E. Rapley, 5; G. Gatland, 6; J. Smart, 7; C. Smart, 8. On January 12th, 504 Stedman Triples. W. Woolgar, 1; G. Gatland, 2; J. Smart, 3; E. Rapley, 4; C. Smart (conductor), 5; A. Gatland, 6; H. H. Chandler, 7; E. Turrell, 8. On January 17th 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Bristow, 1; C. Smart (conductor), 2; H. Green, 3; E. Rapley, 4; A. Gatland, 5; J. Smart, 6; W. Woolgar, 7; G. Gatland, 8. On January 17th 504 Stedman Triples. G. Gatland, 1; E. Rapley, 2; A. Gatland, 3; J. Matthews, 4; J. Smart, 5; C. Smart, 6; W. Woolgar (conductor), 7; H. Green, 8. On January 17th, 210 Court Bob Triples. H. Green, 1; A. Gatland, 2; J. Matthews (first in the method), 3; E. Rapley, 4; G. Gatland, 5; C. Smart (conductor), 6; J. Smart, 7; W. Woolgar, 8. On January 21st 360 Bob Minor. H. Green, 1; E. Rapley, 2; C. Smart, 3; J. Smart, 4; W. Woolgar, 5; G. Gatland (conductor), 6. On January 24th, 504 Stedman Triples. G. Gatland, 1; C. Smart (conductor), 2; E. Rapley, 3; J. Matthews, 4; J. Smart, 5; A. Gatland, 6; W. Woolgar, 7; H. Green, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Turrell (first 504), 1; J. Matthews, 2; H. Green, 3; J. Smart, 4; A. Gatland, 5; W. Woolgar (conductor), 6; C. Smart, 7; E. Rapley, 8. On January 26th, 504 Court Bob Triples. E. Bristow (first in the method), 1; G. Gatland, 2; C. Smart (composer and conductor), 3; W. Woolgar, 4; A. Gatland, 5; E. Rapley, 6; J. Smart, 7; H. Green, 8. On January 31st, 504 Stedman Triples, composed by John Carter. E. Rapley, 1; A. Gatland, 2; J. Matthews, 3; G. Gatland, 4; J. Smart, 5; C. Smart, 6; W. Woolgar (conductor), 7; H. Green, 8.

THORNHAM MAGNA (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, February 7th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Singles in 28 mins. H. Symonds, 1; B. Blake (conductor), 2; A. Symonds, 3; E. Youngs, 4; E. Duckham, 5. Tenor 13 cwt.

UPFORD (Suffolk).—On Thursday, February 4th, 1008 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. A. Ward, 1; W. Drew, 2; E. Todd, 3; C. Ward, 4; A. Barrell, 5; H. Smith (first touch), 6; E. Sherwood (conductor), 7; W. Ward, 8.

Obituary.

REV. JOHN HENRY TIMINS, M.A.

At an early hour on Wednesday, February 10th, there passed to his rest one of the best known of the clergy in Mid-Kent, viz., the Rev. J. H. Timins, for over fifty-two years Vicar of Town Malling, in his 85th year. In 1894 Mr. Timins resigned the living owing to ill-health, but continued to reside as before in his own house in Malling. The deceased gentleman was always a very active parish priest, and was much beloved and respected by his parishioners. He was buried on Saturday, the 13th inst., amid every token of respect, all the shops in the town being closed, and the window-blinds of all the houses being drawn. The funeral was attended by a body of Freemasons and by a number of the clergy of the district, three of whom had been at different dates curates of the late Vicar. The service, which was choral, was conducted by the Rev. Frank Timins and the Rev. W. L. Lawson, Vicar of the parish. After the service the bells were rung deeply-muffled, and in the evening a peal of Bob Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled by the local band, with Mr. Groombridge, of Sevenoaks, and the Rev. A. L. Brine, formerly a member of the band (while curate to Mr. Timins during his last seven years as Vicar) all members of the Kent County Association, of which Mr. Timins was an honorary life member.

OLD NUMBERS WANTED.

Mr. Attree writes as follows:—

SIR,—Before having the past nine years of my "BELL NEWS" bound, I should be glad to obtain the following numbers:—1888, July 21st and 28th; 1892, December 24th and 31st; 1894, February 10th, March 17th and 24th, and July 28th; 1896, September 1st. Any ringer having any of these to spare will oblige by forwarding same to

GEO. F. ATTREE,
8, Hanover Crescent, Brighton.

PEAL BOOK, Price 2s. 6d. A book specially ruled for entering peals, date touches, etc. Handbell music arranged for any number of bells. Send for catalogue. W. H. GIGGLE, Queen Street, Horbury, near Wakefield.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAJOR.By GABRIEL LINDOFF, *Lincoln.*

6144.—(The 60 course-ends.)

2 3 4 5 6 I 5 6

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

Twice repeated.

This is the first peal ever composed in any of the plain methods containing sixty course-ends in a round block without use of singles.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAJOR.By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 5

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

These last nine courses four times repeated—single for the second bob at 1 in the third and sixth parts.

Handbells Wanted.

WANTED.—A peal of eight handbells, second-hand, in good condition, cheap, for change-ringing. G. Stacey, Dulverton, Somerset.

WANTED.—A peal of eight, in good condition. Particulars to G. Pound, Boxley, Maidstone, Kent.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAJOR.By JAMES TANN, *Pulham, Norfolk.*

5312.

2 3 4 5 6 I 5 6

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

These eight courses repeated, calling first course 1 4 6 produces 32654.—The last eight courses repeated calling last course - 1 s6 produces 32456.

The whole repeated.

Has the 4th, 5th and 6th each 16 times in 6ths place.

TWO 1/4-PEALS OF GRANDSIRE
TRIPLES.By WILLIAM WALMSLEY, *Macclesfield.*

432567 4s 432567 4s
 574632 1s 574632 1s
 265374 1 265374 1

I 3 4 I 3
 5632 s s 5632 s -
 3625 s s 5326 s -
 6253 s - 2365 s s

2536 s - 6352 s s
 3562 s s 3526 s -
 6523 s s 5263 s -
 5236 s - 6235 s s

2365 s - 3256 s s
 6352 s s 2563 s -
 5326 s s 5632 s -
 3265 s - 3625 s s

2635 s - 6253 s -
 3652 s s 2536 s -
 5623 s s 5362 s -
 6235 s - 6325 s s

2356 s - 2356 s s
 5362 s s 3562 s -
 6325 s s 5623 s -
 3256 s - 2635 s s

2563 s - 3652 s s
 6532 s s 6523 s -
 3526 s s 5236 s -
 526374 s - 326574 s s

435726 1 543726 1 s
 624573 2 s 675243 1
 536724 1 s 236475 1 s
 245673 2 672354 3
 632745 1 s 346572 1 s
 546273 2 s 273654 2 s
 675432 3 542367 2
 246375 1 675234 2
 246375 1 s 246375 1 s

The first of these quarter-peals is the third composed by this author containing the twenty-four 7-4s all the right way. It is also the first produced on this plan.

The second one contains the same properties, and is the first composed on this plan, and the fourth quarter-peal by the same author.

TWO 1/4-PEALS OF GRANDSIRE
TRIPLES.By J. HOWES, *Kingston-on-Thames.*

2 3 4 5 6 7

2 3 4 5 6 7

7 5 2 6 3 4 I 4 6 2 3 7 5 3
 4 6 7 3 5 2 I 7 5 4 2 3 6 2
 6 7 4 3 5 2 4 3 6 7 4 2 5 2
 2 3 6 5 7 4 I 5 4 3 2 6 7 I
 3 6 2 5 7 4 4 4 3 5 2 6 7 4
 6 2 3 5 7 4 4 3 5 4 2 6 7 4
 7 4 6 3 5 2 2 7 2 3 6 5 4 I
 2 3 7 5 4 6 I 6 2 7 4 3 5 5
 3 7 2 5 4 6 4 7 3 6 2 5 4 3
 5 7 3 6 2 4 5 3 6 7 2 5 4 4
 5 2 4 3 P.E. 4 2 3 5 6 7 I

The twelve 7 4s.

The twelve 6 7s.

Twice repeated.

A 1/4-PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

By JAMES PAGETT, *Kidderminster.*

2 3 I 4 5 6 H L Q

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

Four times repeated.

DATE TOUCHES OF GRANDSIRE
TRIPLES.By J. HOWES, *Kingston-on-Thames.*

By observation of the 7th.—Before with a double; right twice; middle; right; before; in and out at three; right; middle; in and out at four; right. Twice repeated. Preceded by these odd changes: 1324567, 1234576, 1325467, 1235476, 1253467, 1235476.

The following three by E. COOK, *Cardiff.*

By observation of the 2nd.—Out the first lead; in and out at four; middle with a double; right twice; middle; before; in. Four times repeated. Preceded by the following odd changes: 234657, 326475, 326457, 324657, 342567, 324567, 235476.

By the bells before.—7 2 3 4 6 5 2 6 5 2 6 4 2 2 6 4 3. Twice repeated. Preceded by the following odd changes: 234657, 234675, 324765, 234765, 237456, 234756, 234576.

By the bells before.—7 4 2 5 2 7 4 3 5 6 2 4 7 2 7 6 5 4 5 3 4 3. Twice repeated. Preceded by the following odd changes: 243576, 423567, 425367, 245376, 254376, 253467, 235476.

The one following by T. BEACALL, *Bow, E.*

By observation of the bells before.—5 2 2 2 2 7 4. Four times repeated. Part-ends are plain leads, the first being 256473. All preceded by these odd changes: 1324567, 1324576, 1325467, 1235476, 1234576, 2135476, 2134567.

[The observation for bells before only apply to the first part of each touch.]

WANTED.—Young man about 18, to work circular saw—cutting small handles (not difficult work) and fill up time in timber yard. Constant work if change-ringer (peal of eight). Apply E. James, Hardy Patent Pick Co., Heeley, Sheffield.

Notices.

The Herts. Association.—A district meeting will be held at Hatfield, to-day, February 20th, when the tower of the parish church will be open for ringing from 3 p.m. Tea at The East Indian Chief, at 6 p.m. Business meeting to follow. E. P. DEBENHAM, Hon. Sec.
S. Albans, February 8th.

The Lancashire Association—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Luke's church, Heywood, to-day, Saturday, February 20th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. All ringers invited, members or not. E. B. SHAW, Branch Sec.
14, Thomas Street, Lees.

The Waterloo Society.—To-day, Saturday, February 20th, the twenty-ninth anniversary of this society will be celebrated by a dinner at The York hotel, Waterloo Road; tickets 3s. 6d. each, may be had of the following committee: Messrs. H. N. Davis, 419, Old Kent Road, S.E.; T. West, 71, Langton Road, Brixton, S.W.; H. Barton, 36, Havil Street, Camberwell, S.E.; A. Hardy, 51, Kay Road, Stockwell, S.W.; F. G. Perrin, 42, Aylesbury Street, Walworth, S.E.; F. J. Pitts, 128, Leathwaite Road, Clapham, S.W.; or of WALTER C. HASTED, Hon. Sec.

The Lancashire Association, Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Phillip's church, Hulme, to-day, Saturday, February 20th. Bells ready at 3.0. Business meeting to be held in the "British Workmen's" Club Room, at 7.0 p.m. Open invitation to all ringers. WALTER BROWN, Branch Sec.
54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

The Central Northamptonshire Association.—Quarterly meeting at Rothwell, near Kettering, to-day, Saturday, February 20th. The bells are a ring of six. Tenor 22 cwt. Usual arrangements. E. J. DENNES, Hon. Sec.
Wellingborough.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Petersfield, Hants., to-day, Saturday, February 20th. Bells (8) available from 12 noon. Meeting at 4.15 in the belfry. The secretary will give notice of proposed alteration of Rule XII. CHARLES E. MATTHEWS, Hon. Sec.
Hursley, Winchester.

St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—Johnson Commemoration and the Guild's annual dinner will be held on Saturday, February 27th, at The Market hotel, Station Street, Birmingham. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. sharp. Tickets, free to full ringing members, to others 3s. each, may be obtained from the undersigned. The ring of twelve bells at St. Martin's, in the Bull Ring, will be open at 3.30 p.m. A. Percival Heywood, Esq., Chairman of the Central Council, has kindly consented to preside. Tickets should be applied for before the 24th inst. W. H. GODDEN, Hon. Sec.
61, Roland Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

The Kent County Association, Maidstone District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Aylesford, on Saturday, February 27th, by kind permission of the Vicar. Tower open at 4 p.m. Short service at 5.30. Committee meeting at The Chequers at 6. Tea at 6.15. Applications for tea tickets to be made to me not later than February 22nd. A. L. BRINE (REV.), Hon. Dis. Sec.
Bearsted.

The Sussex County Association.—(Central Division).—A quarterly meeting will be held at Southover, Lewes, on Saturday, February 27th. Tower open from 3 p.m. A short service at 5 p.m. Tea at 5.30 (free). Members intending to be present should let me know not later than Tuesday, February 23rd, as the vicar (who provides the tea) requests me to let him know how many are likely to be present. GEO. WILLIAMS, Hon. Div. Sec.
2, Grove Street, Brighton.

The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—A meeting will be held at Houghton-le-Spring, on Saturday, February 27th. (Fencehouses is the nearest railway station.) The Committee will meet at 4 o'clock, at The White Lion hotel. Meat tea will be provided at The White Lion at 4.45 p.m. at 1s. each. The bells of the parish church will be at the disposal of members during the day. Subscriptions for 1896-7 are now due. Those intending to be present please notify the same on or before February 25th to THOMAS HUDSON, Hon. Sec.
314, High Street, West Sunderland.

Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—The next meeting of this Guild will be held at Christ Church, Bootle, on Saturday, February 27th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Hot Pot supper at 5.30 p.m. Business meeting at 6 p.m. REV. W. T. BULPIT, Hon. Sec.
W. BENTHAM,

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next monthly ringing meeting of this society will be held at St. Michael's church, Headingley (eight bells, tenor 20 cwt.), on Saturday, February 27th. Ringing from 3 to 5, and 5.30 to 9 p.m. Business meeting at The Shkrack inn. Nominations for the various officers to serve during the ensuing year will be received. Contributions are now due. Members will please note change of Secretary's address. R. BINNS, Hon. Sec.
18, Trivin Street, Higgs Field, Holbeck.

St. Margaret's Society, Westminster.—The next monthly meeting of this society will be held on Monday evening, February 22nd, at The Prince's Head, Princes Street, Westminster, after the usual ringing practice. All members are requested to attend. A. HARDY, Hon. Sec.
51, Kay Road, Stockwell.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Salop.—The next monthly meeting will be held at High Ercall on Saturday, March 6th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 4 p.m. J. MACKAY, Hon. Sec.
Leaton Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

Chester Diocesan Guild.—Wirral Branch.—The next monthly meeting and tea will be held at Lower Bebington, to-day, Saturday, February 20th, at 6 p.m. The tower will be open for ringing from 3 p.m. The leaders of the belfries are requested to let the Hon. Secretary know how many will attend. HENRY WOOLCOTT, Hon. Sec.
Grange Mount, West Kirby.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT CROYDON.—The peal recorded in another column was rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. H. R. Newton and S. E. Andrews, their brother-ringers wishing them many happy returns. It being the "off" night at our own tower the question was asked "Where shall we go?" and Croydon was selected. "You've got your work cut out this

time," said some of the knowing ones; "You will never manage a peal of Superlative single-handed with that tenor." But our spirits were not dampened. A start was made at ten minutes past six, and without a hitch a splendid peal was scored. On leaving the tower between thirty and forty ringers from Croydon, Beddington and Mitcham gave us quite an ovation, and all heartily congratulated us on our performance. The bells are very fine, and if only two trebles could be added, for which there is ample space, Croydon ringers could boast of a splendid peal of ten. The St. Stephen's Society wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Vicar and churchwardens for allowing the use of the bells, and also those friends who so kindly met and arranged matters for them.

THE DUDLEY PEAL.—This peal was rung in memory of the late wife of Frank Spittle, who died at Astoria, Oregon, U. S. America, he being formerly a member of this band; also the late William Micklewright, who first taught change-ringing in Dudley, and was for many years an ardent worker in spreading the science in this district. His memoir and portrait appeared in this paper a short time ago. He died at Stafford, much respected by all who knew him. Mason hails from Old Hill; Small from Tipton; Reeves from Westbromwich; Smith from Netherton; the rest belong to the local band.

THE PEAL AT SHEFFIELD.—This was G. Lindoff's 100th peal, made up as follows; six bells, 5, conducted 4; Bob Triples, 4, conducted 2; Bob Major, 7, conducted 5; Grandsire Triples, 23, conducted 14; Grandsire Major, 1; Grandsire Caters, 3, conducted 1; Union Triples, 2, conducted 1; Kent Treble Bob Major, 21, conducted 12; Kent Royal, 1; Kent Maximus, 1; Oxford Treble Bob Major, 6, conducted 5; Stedman Triples, 7, conducted 2; Stedman Caters, 4, conducted 1; Double Norwich Major, 11, conducted 5; Superlative Surprise, 3, conducted 3; Total 100, conducted 56.

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WANTED situation as Gardener, or any other capacity; use to horses, and willing to be generally useful. Total abstainer; good change-ringing Instructor.—Address X Y Z, care of Editor.

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SITUATION Wanted as under Gardener, or single-handed, am not particular as to any other sort of work. Age 21. Five years good character. Change ringer. Member of St. Mary's Society, Beddington.—A. Clayton.

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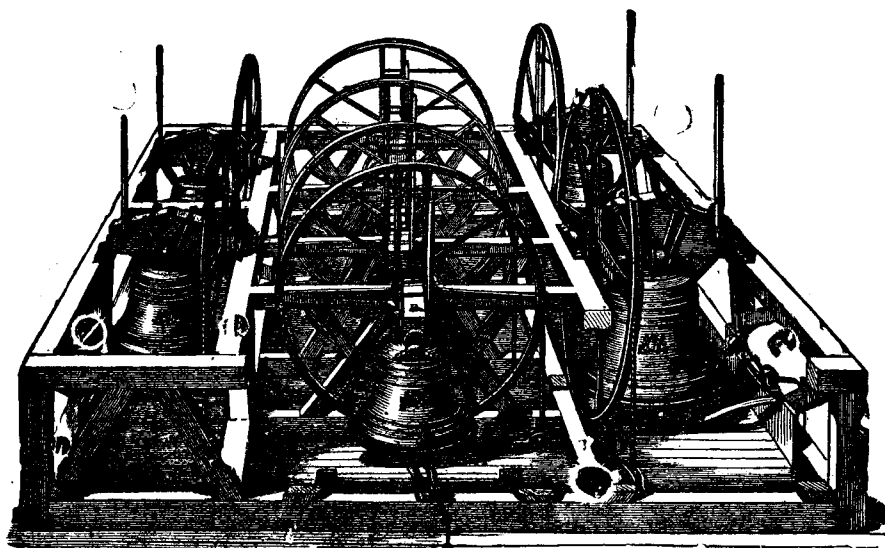
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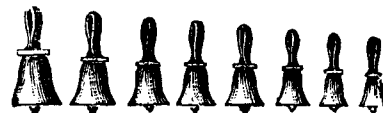
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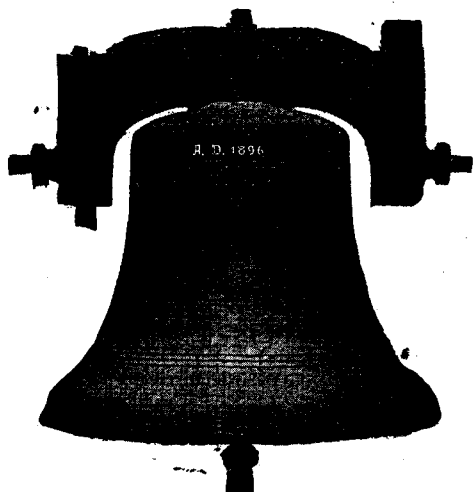
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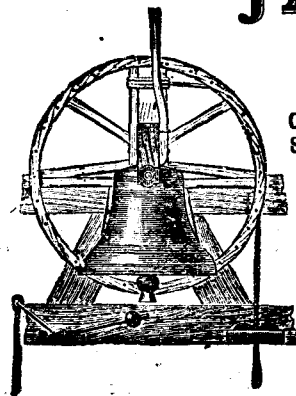
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No. 777.—VOL. XV.]

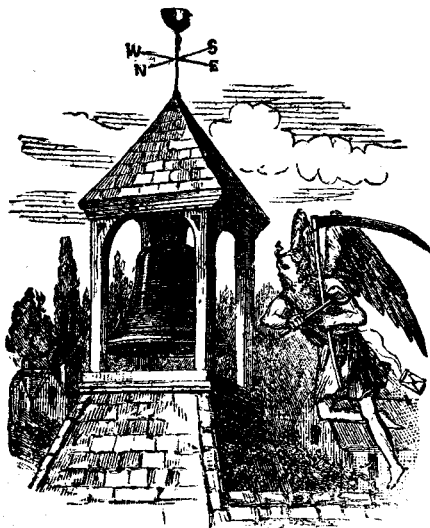
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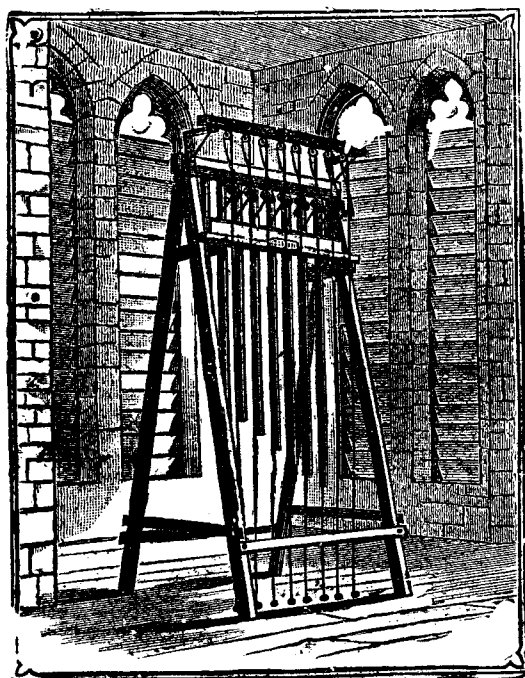
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 777.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1897.

[Vol. XV.]

THE LONG PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR AT DRAYTON.

In accordance with previous announcements, a photograph of the company who rang this peal is given with this issue of "THE BELL NEWS." Following will be found short pen-and-ink sketches of each performer:—

CHARLES HOUNSLOW.—1.

Born in Oxford on February 10th, 1832. Is a writer and decorator by trade. He first commenced ringing about 1852, and together with the late H. Boswell rang Grandsire Doubles at the church of St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, in the city of Oxford. He rang his first peal, Grandsire Triples, at Appleton, on March 4th, 1854, with the old Appleton company. Many a time he has walked to Appleton after his hard day's work, a distance of six miles each way, for a single hour's ringing; and only Grandsire or Treble Bob was rung in those days. Through his assiduity to the cause of change-ringing in Oxford for so many years, the present generation give him the honourable name of "Father" Hounslow, and he is much loved by his dutiful ringing sons. Mr. Hounslow is an excellent ringer, good at all methods, and a very fine striker. Until the publication of "THE BELL NEWS" he kept no record of his performances; but since the year 1883 he has rang 171 peals, some of which are record peals, viz.: 15,041 of Stedman Caters, 10,000 of Grandsire Caters, 13,000 of Grandsire Caters, and peals of London, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major, Stedman Triples, Caters and Cinques, Treble Bob Major, Royal and Maximus.

FREDERICK C. EXON.—2.

Born October 20th, 1875, at Bristol, and is a baker by trade. He commenced ringing at St. Giles, Oxford, in March, 1891, with a new company formed about that time to do Sunday ringing in that parish, under the instruction of Mr. A. Fox, and after mastering the first stages of 6-bell ringing there attended the practices of the St. Peter's company, when he made rapid progress. He rang his first peal—Bob Major—at St. Peter's in 1894. Since then he has rung sixteen peals in Stedman, Treble Bob and Surprise. He is a very careful ringer and striker.

CHARLES H. FOWLER.—3.

Born May 21st, 1875, at Oxford. Is a bookbinder by trade. He first commenced ringing by joining the All Saints' company in 1890, but he made no progress there. About that time two trebles were added to the existing ring of six in St. Peter's tower, and he joined that company under the tuition of his friend J. W. Washbrook. He rang his first peal—Grandsire Triples—at New College, on August 1st, 1891. Since that time he has rang fifty-seven peals in the following methods: Grandsire Triples, 4; Caters, 1; Stedman Triples, 18; Caters, 8; Bob Major, 1; Treble Bob Major, 2; Royal, 4; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 4; Superlative Surprise Major, 5; Cambridge Surprise Major, 1; London Surprise Major, 9. He is an excellent ringer and striker.

CHARLES H. EXON.—4.

Born March 7th, 1877, at Bristol; baker by trade. Started ringing with his brother at St. Giles's, Oxford, in 1891. He has rung nineteen peals, consisting of 6 London Surprise; 7 Stedman Triples; 3 Stedman Caters; 1 Treble Bob Royal; 1 Double Norwich; 1 Bob Major. He, together with his brother, had to start work as early as 1 o'clock in the morning of September 17th, 1896, so as to accomplish their delivery of the staff of life before leaving for Drayton to ring the 11,000; and it will be remembered that he had the misfortune to miss his train and had

to walk the whole of the distance home—nine miles—arriving there twenty-four hours after starting work on the morning of the 18th.

EDWIN HIMS.—5.

Born at Long Crendon, Bucks, June 27th, 1876. Occupation, grocers' assistant. He first commenced ringing in August, 1894, and made such rapid progress that he rang his first peal—one of Stedman Caters—December 13 of the same year. He is badly situated in business for ringing peals, so that his peals are few, only ten in number. He is nevertheless a good ringer and striker, and is always glad to give what little spare time he possesses to ringing, being at every practice, whether on 6, 8 or 10 bells, that occurs after his business hours.

THOMAS PAYNE.—6.

Born in Oxford, and is thirty-two years of age. He holds a responsible post for the Corporation of Merton College, Oxford, as keeper of their ancient library, and also as verger. He began ringing in the year 1881 at Holywell, Oxford. He has not kept a record of his peals, but has rung upwards of eighty in the various standard and Surprise methods. He is a good sound ringer, and makes few mistakes, and is the Hon. Sec. of the Oxford Society, a post to which he gives the most prompt attention.

THE REV. F. E. ROBINSON.—7.

It is quite unnecessary to make any lengthy reference to the above-named gentleman, as his personality is so well known.

His first peal was Grandsire, in October, 1859; his first of Stedman was in February, 1861. He has rung 493 peals altogether; 117 of these he has conducted. He conducted the first University peal in February, 1882; and the first Clerical peal October, 1884. His record peals when rung were 10,080 Double Norwich, January, 1888; 12,096 ditto, December, 1892; 13,247 Grandsire Caters, April, 1888; 12,041 Stedman Caters, March, 1888; 15,041 ditto (still longest length), December, 1881; 11,328 London Surprise, September, 1896 (still longest length). He has paid 116 visits to church towers, to give advice as to re-hanging bells, etc.; has attended sixty-five bell opening ceremonies, and preached thirty-seven sermons on these occasions and at Guild festivals. He has been Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild since its formation in 1881. He is a member of the College Youths, and has represented the Oxford Guild on the Central Council since its formation. It is hardly necessary to add that the rev. gentleman is a most ardent supporter of "THE BELL NEWS."

JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.—8.

Born July 27th, 1864, at St. Thomas's, Oxford. He is in business as a dairyman in the parish of St. Clement, Oxford. He first commenced ringing when [quite a small boy at the parish church of St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, where he used frequently to "play the wag" from school to pay a visit to the belfry, where with his old friend J. Jagger, now of Burton-on-Trent, would tie the clappers of the bells and pull away for hours at a time. It did not matter what was required to be done in the shape of bellringing, whether tolling for deaths or chiming three bells for daily services, he was the boy to do it regularly and punctually, and the old ringers used to fetch him from school to piece them out for ringing at weddings. However, it was not till the year 1880 that he had any idea of scientific ringing. About the latter end of that year a few young men formed themselves into a band with the idea of learning "half-pull," and right quickly did J. W. W. join them. They did not get along fast enough for him though, so he sought out an old band that could ring Grandsire Doubles, at St. Giles's, and with them rang his first 120, which was for afternoon service on a Sunday. The following Sunday he visited the same tower again with the in-

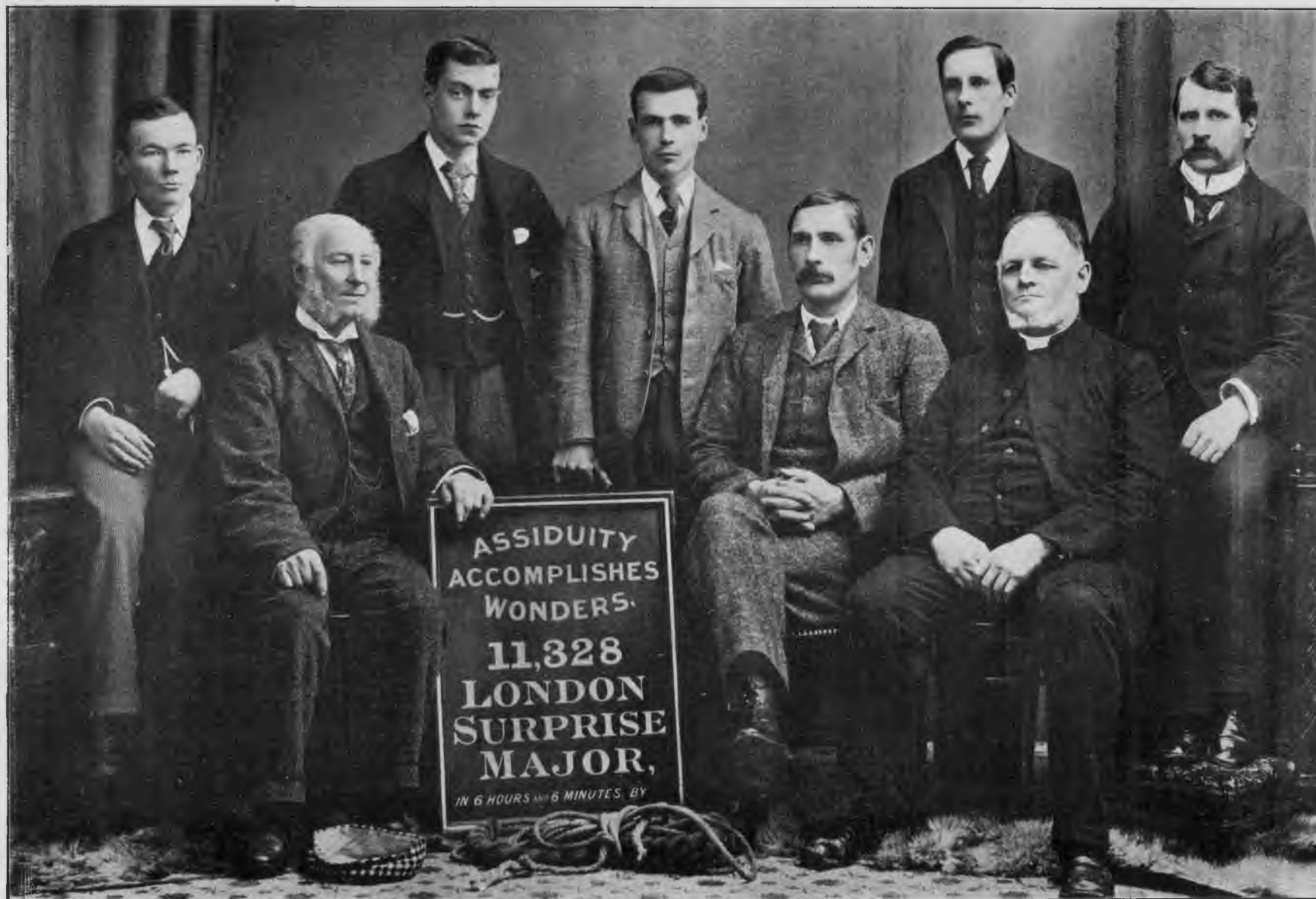
F. EXON, 2.

C. H. FOWLER, 3.

C. H. EXON, 4.

E. HIMS, 5.

T. PAYNE, 6.



C. HOUNSLOW, 1.

J. W. WASHBROOK, 8.
(Composer and Conductor.)

REV. F. E. ROBINSON, 7.
(Vicar of Drayton.)

The Company who rang the Long Peal of LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR (11,328 Changes), at the Church of St. Peter, Drayton, Berks., on Thursday, September 17th, 1896.

tention of conducting a 120. After permission from the old conductor he started to call a 120 from the 3rd. He called a bob the first lead, but he may as well have said nothing, for the 2nd came down in the hunt just the same, and he was promptly informed that he did not know how to call it, and that he must study it a little longer. That was taking the wind out of his sails, and he tried all sorts of dodges to be equal with them, but had, however, always to be satisfied with one 120, as they rang by figures and not by method. By this time the young band at St. Thomas's had made good progress, and were able to ring Grandsire Minor. This brought about visits from some of the old ringers of the Oxford Society. Hence rapid progress. Now the Oxford Guild was founded, and he rang his first peal, the first rang by the Guild, at Kirtlington, Oxon, which was conducted by his dear old friend Charles Hounslow. Since then he has rung 522 peals, and conducted 439, all of which have been published in "THE BELL NEWS." He is a member of nearly all the county Associations and Guilds. In the year 1889 he rang 121 peals, the last peal of the year being on the last day, December 31st, a 15,041 of Stedman Caters, which was the fourth record peal that he composed and conducted during that year, the others being 12,041 of Stedman Caters, 13,265 of Grandsire Caters, and 10,080 of Double Norwich.

UNVEILING OF A PEAL TABLET AT LONGTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Monday, February 5th, a peal-board, recording the first peal of Stedman Triples ever rung in that part of England known as "The Potteries," was unveiled by the Rev. G. Oliver (Rector of St. John's) in the ringing-chamber. The Rector, in his opening remarks said it gave him great pleasure to be there on such an occasion, and complimented the Stoke-upon-Trent ringers on having achieved such a performance, it not only being the first peal in this method rung in this district, but also the first peal of Stedman rung by the Stoke Archidiaconal Association. He took great interest in bellringing, and anything he could do towards promoting the art of change-ringing he would gladly do. Mr. Page, on behalf of the members, thanked the Rector for coming amongst them that evening to unveil the tablet, and also for his kind remarks. Perhaps it was only natural that they (the Stoke ringers) should feel elated over this performance, as six members of the company had never rung a peal of Stedman before, and as it was got at the second attempt, it was very creditable to them. The first attempt was made on the previous Monday, when after ringing 1 hr. 40 mins. they unfortunately broke down. He trusted that whenever ringers came up in that belfry and read the board, it would be an inducement to them to go and do the same, or even something better. Mr. Twigg, the lay secretary of the Association, having made a few remarks, Mr. Woods (leader of the Longton ringers) said that he heard the whole of the peal, and the striking was good throughout, and there was no fault to find with it whatever. After a few more remarks from the Rector the meeting closed, and the ringers all spent a very pleasant evening together. The following is the inscription on the tablet:—

"STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE-RINGERS.—ST. JOHN'S, LONGTON. On Monday, November 2nd, Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples, consisting of 5040 changes in 2 hrs. 58 mins. Performers: T. Austin, treble; S. Churton, 2; A. Brindley, 3; A. Clewes, 4; T. Mountford, 5; E. Davis, 6; H. Page, 7; J. Titterton, tenor. Conducted by H. Page. This is the first peal of Stedman Triples rung in the Potteries; also the first peal in this method rung by the above Association. Rev. G. OLIVER, Rector.

T. E. WALL,
H. P. EMBREY, } Churchwardens.

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

IN MEMORIAM.—Thomas Kilborn, for 50 years tenant of the Vicarage Farm, Wellingborough, and Sidesman of the parish church, died on February 13th, aged 77. On Thursday evening, February 18th, after the funeral, the bells, of whose music he was so fond and towards whose repair and improvement he was always a liberal contributor, sent forth in muffled tones a token of the town's respect for his memory. The bells were half-muffled, and a well-struck half-peal of Grandsire Triples, from Holt's Original, was accomplished in one hour and thirty-four minutes. Geo. Turnell, 1; Thos. R. Hensher, 2; William Wood, 3; F. Underwood, 4; Frank Wood, 5; E. West, 6; W. H. Ette, 7; T. Craddock, 8; conducted by Thomas R. Hensher.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A very successful meeting of this Association was held at Hatfield on Saturday, February 20th, and was attended by a thoroughly representative gathering of ringers from all parts of the county, there being present Messrs. H. Lewis, G. W. Cartmel, R. H. Weatherley (St. Albans), W. H. L. Buckingham, G. N. Price, E. Huntley (Bushey), J. Hare, A. Squires (Hitchin), G. Barker (Ware), W. H. Newell (Berkhamsted), T. Webb (Bal-dock), J. Crabb (Hunsdon), C. Bracey, R. Aldridge, J. Gray (Graveley), W. Lawrence (Little Munden), R. Shepherd, J. T. Kentish, J. Kentish, W. J. Rumney, H. Shepherd, H. G. Rowe, A. Shepherd, H. Tharby, J. Hollingsworth, J. Shepherd (Hatfield), E. Ovenden, E. Clarke (Essendon). Ringing commenced early in the afternoon with touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, and a course of Kent Treble Bob Major. At six o'clock tea was provided at The East Indian Chief, in first-rate style. On the removal of the cloth Mr. Henry Lewis was voted to the chair, and he commenced the business meeting by calling upon the assistant-Secretary (Mr. G. W. Cartmel) to read the minutes of the previous meeting. These having been confirmed the following were elected members of the Association: Messrs. W. T. Cockerill, E. P. O'Meara (London), G. N. Price (Bushey); provisional election confirmed), W. H. Newell (Berkhamsted), J. Barker (Ware), A. Squires (Hitchin), C. Bracey (Graveley).

Mr. Lewis proposed the re-election of Mr. E. P. Debenham as the representative of the Association on the Central Council, which was seconded by Mr. W. H. L. Buckingham, and carried. Mr. E. E. Huntley proposed that the annual meeting be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, in the afternoon, and the arrangements be carried out on similar lines to last year, which proved so very successful. Mr. J. Gray seconded, and it was carried unanimously. The assistant-Secretary brought forward the question of certificates, a specimen of which was exhibited in the room, and the design appeared to meet with the hearty approval of the meeting.

Votes of thanks to the Rector of Hatfield for the use of the bells, and to Mr. J. Shepherd for making the necessary arrangements were carried. Ringing was then recommenced.

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 FINAL REPLY.

SIR,—I should like to thank the Rev. Helmore for his flattering remarks, and at the same time inform him that I am open to prove each statement in my letter published in "BELL NEWS," of Feb. 13th. I have been in conversation and communication with several of the conductors who are accused of this so-called "scandal," and they are of the same opinion as myself, viz.: that, on principle they will send in no certificate with the account of the peal, till it has been passed by a general or special meeting of the members to do so, even if the peals are never booked. I should like to say that I called the attention of the proposer of that resolution, "re certificate" to a resolution passed at the same meeting, "re alterations of rules," and this was his reply. There is a rule that reports of peals must be sent to the Secretary, but the addition of "accompanied by a certificate" is an amendment, which can only take effect, as now decided, when passed at the annual meeting, and yet the Rev. Helmore says it does not constitute any real addition to the rule. I say it does, and the duty of the Committee was, if they wished to enforce it, to have called a special meeting and got it passed. I suppose we are to have a little more of last year's experience, viz.: alter a rule in June, and make it to work from the 1st January of the same year. I have been connected with several societies, but never knew business done in this manner before. With regard to this so-called "grave scandal," I think it has been made to look as black as possible, and what has been done I do not consider so grave as the dodge-calling referred to by Mr. John Carter, or that which has been done by a ringer residing not many miles from Greenwich Observatory, viz.: when he has seen that the part-end or course has been coming up wrong, to call out the change he wants struck, with the expectation that he will get it, but for which I knew a ringer that set his bell directly. With these remarks, my correspondence on the subject ceases, and I hope every member of the K.C.A. will strain a point to be present at the Annual Meeting in June.

Sevenoaks, 23rd February, 1897.

T. GROOMBRIDGE.

[Several other letters are unavoidably held over till next week.]

BARKING, ESSEX.—THE ANNUAL CHURCH DINNER.

The annual dinner of the clergy, church officers, ringers and choirs of St. Margaret's and St. Paul's churches took place at The Red Lion on Thursday evening, the 11th inst. A substantial repast was excellently served by Mr. and Mrs. Bosworth, to which about 50 sat down.

The Rev. P. M. Wathen, M.A., vicar, presided, and the vice-chair was occupied by Mr. Churchwarden Davies. Among those present were the Rev. S. Kirshbaum, Rev. A. G. Forbes, and Rev. A. E. Cracknell; Churchwardens Knowles and Weller; Messrs. H. Berry, J. Wells, W. Barnett, G. Chapman, D. T. Jackson, H. Spurway, G. Wardell, sidesmen; A. Hume, organist; R. Gastang, I. Wilson, Roland Fenn, J. Faulkner, S. Hayes, A. Deards, E. Lucas, A. Hardy, Roland Fenn, jun., Caleb Fenn, A. Whight, A. Carter, A. Carter, jun., A. Mason, I. Hopkins, hon. sec., &c.

The loyal toasts having been duly honoured, the vice-chairman proposed the Bishops and Clergy of the St. Albans Diocese. He observed that no parish in the Diocese was looked after with greater love and care by the bishops than Barking. As for the Rural Dean, his name would live in the hearts of all those who knew him as vicar, he was sure Mr. Henson would have been gratified if he could have been with them. They all knew what hard work the vicar and the assistant-clergy had to do and how much they had to rely on all loyal churchmen to assist them. The Chairman responded in a humorous speech. The Rev. S. Kirshbaum in acknowledging the toast referred to church officers of Barking as being representative men, and also reminded them of the importance of their work. Mr. H. W. Knowles and Mr. H. Chapman responded.

The Rev. A. G. Forbes proposed "The Church Council," and said it was certainly the oldest in the district. Mr. W. Barnett, in response, said they would do their best to serve the church and to assist the clergy. Mr. H. Berry proposed "The health of the St. Margaret's Society of Change-ringers." He said they were very proud of their ringers, and they had every reason to be, they had made great progress of late. Mr. Davies did not put them in the belfry and neglect them, but he was ever with them giving them help and encouragement. Five members of the society rang in an admirable manner two courses of Grandsire Caters, 216 changes. Caleb Fenn, 1-2; Roland Fenn, 3-4; Thomas Faulkner, 5-6; Albert Hardy, 7-8; Alfred Whight, 9-10, who at the close were warmly applauded.

Mr. Churchwarden Davies, who is also vice-president of the society, said it was formed in 1870, when Bishop Jermyn was vicar of the parish. At that time both tower and bells were in a most dilapidated condition, the tenor and fourth bells were both badly cracked. These were recast at a cost of about £100, and the belfry generally put in order, since that time the treble, second and sixth bells had been recast, and over £800 spent on the tower. He was pleased to see two veterans, Messrs. A. Carter and A. Whight, who joined the society with him, present. The number of members who had joined and given it up since, were too numerous to mention, their name was legion. They had not only wasted their own time but the time of those who instructed them, besides adding bitter disappointment to those who were really anxious to make progress in the art. He strongly advised no one to take up ringing unless they had a real love for it. He was very proud of the society now they had sixteen really good members. They were greatly indebted to Mr. Samuel Hayes and Mr. York Green for the trouble they had taken to instruct them, and also to his young friend, Thomas Faulkner, for the really wonderful way he had mastered the Art, so as to be able to call their peals for them. During the past year they had rang two peals of Stedman Triples, three peals of Kent Treble Bob Major, and two peals of Grandsire Triples on the tower bells, two of which were entirely by the St. Margaret's Society; also one peal of Bob Major (5056 changes) on handbells retained in hand, by T. Faulkner, R. Fenn, C. Fenn, and A. Hardy; conducted by T. Faulkner. Before sitting down he wished to throw out a hint to the gentlemen present, that if they wished to celebrate the long reign of Her Majesty, they could not do so in a more fitting manner than by subscribing for two more bells for the tower of St. Margaret's. It could be done for something less than £100.

Mr. J. Wells proposed "The Choir and Organist," and the toast was responded to by Mr. Middleditch and Mr. Hume.

The remaining toasts were "The Vicar," proposed by the vice-chairman, and "Mr. Davies," proposed by the chairman; "the host," by Mr. Weller; and "The Press." During the evening some capital songs were rendered by Messrs. Hopkins, Hume, Knowles, Mason, Dean, Tonkin, Bosworth, Cook, R. Fenn, and the Rev. A. E. Cracknell; Mr. A. Hume presiding at the piano.

WHITWICK (Leicester).—On Sunday, January 31st, for evening service at the parish church, 504 Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Ten-Part. J. Rawson, 1; J. T. Allen, 2; T. W. West, 3; W. West, 4; J. A. Moulton, 5; B. West (conductor), 6; L. Partridge, 7; F. Boam, 8.

PEVENSEY, SUSSEX.

On Tuesday, February 2nd, the village ringers turned out in full force to ring at the marriage of Mr. R. Sutton, oldest son of the Ven. Archdeacon of Lewes, Vicar of the parish, to Mrs. Du Pre. Unfortunately our captain could not leave his employment to participate in the ringing, but had given strict orders that only good ringing was to be indulged in on this occasion, practice was for practice-nights. Consequently nothing more ambitious than Doubles were attempted, and immediately after the ceremony had concluded three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, were rung by the following:—J. Bray, jun., 1; G. Penfold (conductor), 2; E. Beal, 3; T. Beal, 4; H. Colbran, 5; G. Bray, 6. Several more 120s were afterwards rung, and then a halt was called until the bride and bridegroom left the vicarage. A scout was sent out to report their departure. Presently some one shouted, "You're all wanted; come at once." Away went all, scenting refreshment (pardon this, Mr. Editor, we are aware that Walthamstow folk have declared for Wood, and decline refreshment from it), but were met by the captain, who said: "What a nice set of fellows you are, they are just off, and you not ringing." The rush made by the respected J. W. for the train after the long peal of London was nothing to the way everybody made for the tower, and the bells were going as the happy couple passed through the village. In the evening an attempt was made for 720 Grandsire Minor, with G. Cosstick on treble, but owing to a change-course, came to grief after ringing 540 changes. On Thursday, February 4th, the Archdeacon entertained the choir and bellringers to supper. Previous to this another attempt was made for a 720 Minor. But bless you, sir! the thought of that dinner destroyed all idea of good ringing, for when well beyond half way, everybody wanted to lead save one, and he was behind, in fact "nobody was nowhere." Everybody did lead, too, at the supper, except poor treble, who had toothache, and so was "behind." After supper the Archdeacon gave the toast of "Church and Queen," which was received with musical honours. Afterwards in proposing the health of the bellringers, he eulogised the way in which the bells were rung on the wedding day, and said one of his friends, who knew something of the subject he was talking about, remarked how nicely the bells were struck; he coupled with the toast the name of Mr. E. Brant (captain). Now everybody in this district knows him (E. B.) as a very modest man, but (Mr. Editor, I blush to record it) with all the cheek imaginable he got up and saying: "As I could not ring on the wedding day I cannot respond, so will leave that to my colleague who did," and down he sat as cool as the cucumber Mr. Plain Speaker wots of. Mark that word "colleague;" take the last four letters in it, and you know exactly how the colleague felt when pounced on like that.

During the evening the handbells were brought into use, and the company dispersed after giving cheers for the Archdeacon, Mrs. Sutton, and family.

The wedding had one triumph in ringing, for in the evening 120 Stedman Doubles were rung, standing as follows:—E. Brant (conductor), 1; J. Bray, jun., 2; E. Beal, 3; J. Beal, 4; G. Penfold, 5; S. Cosstick, 6. This is the first 120 in the method by all the band, and the first on the bells.

To wind up the week, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins., was rung at Westham Church on February 6th. H. Colbran, 1; G. Penfold, 2; J. Bray, jun., 3; T. Beal, 4; E. Beal, 5; E. Brant (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 known to have been rung on the bells. It may also be interesting to the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" to know that a good many years ago (before the days of our paper), that the ringers of Westham heard of a peal being rung which took three hours to do, and they very much doubted that a man could ring for three hours without stopping, so they decided to put it to the test, and they rung in rounds for three hours. This was told me in the presence of several others by the only one living who took part in it, and he is now an inmate of Eastbourne Union, and is nearly ninety years old.

E. B.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, February 2nd, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor. J. Ward, 1; W. Dixon, 2; J. Miller, 3; G. Griffin, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; A. Jacob (conductor), 6. And a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. A. Hird (first 120), 1; W. Pickworth, 2; A. Jacob (conductor), 3; W. Dixon, 4; J. Miller, 5; S. Wade, 6. On Sunday, February 14th, for morning service, 720 Grandsire Doubles. W. Pickworth, 1; E. King, 2; S. Wade, 3; A. Jacob (conductor), 4; W. Dixon, 5; J. Ward, 6. For evening service, 360 Grandsire Doubles. J. Plum, 1; E. King, 2; G. Griffin, 3; W. Dixon, 4; A. Jacob (conductor), 5; J. Ward, 6. And 240 Grandsire Doubles. J. Plum, 1; S. Wade, 2; G. Griffin, 3; W. Dixon, 4; A. Jacob (conductor), 5; W. Pickworth, 6. After evening service 720 Bob Minor. J. Ward, 1; W. Dixon, 2; G. Griffin, 3; J. Miller, 4; A. Miller, 5; A. Jacob (conductor), 6. And 216 Bob Minor. A. Jacob (conductor), 1; S. Wade, 2; G. Griffin, 3; J. Miller, 4; W. Dixon, 5; A. Miller, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

REOPENING AT ST. ANDREW'S, PLYMOUTH.

The fine ring of ten bells at the above church again saluted the ears of Plymouthians on Wednesday, the 17th instant, after having been silent for four months. The tenor is a 35 cwt. bell, cast by Mears in 1840, the trebles being added by the same firm in 1874; the rest are by Bilbie, 1749. The old cage, floor, and beams have been cleared out entirely, and a new iron cage, resting on an oak floor supported by steel joists, has been substituted. All the new fittings are of the most approved style and construction: new clappers, and everything of the best, the bellchamber being now a perfect model. All this has been carried out by Messrs. Warner and Sons, of the Cripple-gate foundry. The St. Sidwell's society of Exeter were invited to attend on the occasion on behalf of the Devonshire Guild, and a company arrived in Plymouth at 9.45 on the morning of the above day. As upon the visitors' arrival the bells had just completed a long touch of "stoney," they took advantage of this, and paid a visit the dockyard at Devonport, escorted thereto by Messrs. Ford and Taylor, and spent two hours very agreeably among steam hammers, lathes, and the rest of it, but the most interesting of all was the building of the first-class line of battleship "Ocean," of 13,000 tons, which had been laid down a few days previous.

After dinner, the company made for the tower, and were kindly met by most of their brother-members of the Guild residing in Plymouth, notably among them being Mr. John Bannister. Some touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters were rung. The bells "went" very well indeed except the tenor, which indicated that stiffness often apparent in new work; this will no doubt soon be put right.

After tea, the visitors rang Bob Major and Stedman Triples at Charles church, where is a ring of eight, tenor 24 cwt. Messrs. Davey, Moss, Richardson, Searl, Martin, Drake, Mudge, Carter, Turner, Akerman, and E. and F. Shepherd, were from St. Sidwell's, Exeter, and they were very kindly assisted by Messrs. Marsh, Taylor, Richards, Myers, Ford, and the Rev. J. M. Clarkson, Chaplain of H.M.S. *Impregnable*.

Leaving Plymouth by the 8.10 mail, the party arrived home at 10.25, "Jimmy" Moss entertaining the company with song and anecdote as usual. Devonshire now has two out of its three rings of ten in good ringing order. It is to be hoped that the Dean and Chapter of Exeter Cathedral (assisted by every loyal Exonian) will now turn their attention to that unrivalled peal (tenor 67 cwt.) hanging in the south-west tower of the Cathedral, and adopt the excellent suggestion contained in our editor's leading article of last week. What could they do better than increase the bells in number to twelve, and rehang them in a new frame, to commemorate Her Majesty's long and eventful reign?

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6th, the Quarterly Meeting was held at Eckington, and well attended. The business meeting was held at The White Hart inn, Mr. C. Severn presiding. The minutes were read and confirmed. It was resolved that the annual meeting and dinner be held on Easter Monday. Such meeting should, according to rule, be held at South Anston, but the meeting passed a resolution in favour of Norton, the ringers having a desire to hear the new bells there. The hon. secretary on behalf of the Norton company, consented to arrange about the change of meetings. Six young members were elected from Beighton, thus adding one more tower to the Association. Mr. S. Robinson (Eckington) was also elected; Messrs. J. Allen and A. Slater were elected auditors. Votes of thanks to Mr. Severn for presiding, and to the Rector for so kindly granting the use of the bells, were passed. Mr. Severn having replied, the meeting closed. Several 720s were rung during the afternoon, but the topic of the day was the meeting which was being held at the rectory for considering the augmentation of the bells. I also hear that Staveley will not be behind the times, meetings having been held there with the view of making the present eight into a ring of ten.

E. J.

PEAL BOOK. Price 2s. 6d. A book specially ruled for entering peals, date touches, etc. Handbell music arranged for any number of bells. Send for catalogue. W. H. GIGGLE, Queen Street, Horbury, near Wakefield.

MEARS ASHBY, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

FUNERAL.—On Thursday, February 4th, were laid to rest the remains of Mr. Alexander Arch, youngest son of Mr. C. Arch, of The Red Lion inn. The deceased, who died on January 30th, at the age of 28 years, was a well-known local bass singer, and a member of the church choir from his youth. His illness was a very short one, less than a week, congestion of the lungs following upon influenza. The coffin, which was of polished oak, with black furniture, and covered with wreaths, was borne to the grave by some of the friends of the deceased. Amongst the mourners were; Mr. C. Arch, sen. (father), Mrs. Coleman (sister), Messrs. C. Arch, A. Arch, and T. Arch (brothers), Miss K. Davis, Mr. Davis, Mrs. Clark, and others. It was evident by the large number of people who attended the impressive service that the deceased was held in high respect among the villagers. The members of the choir with the organist were present, and sang in melancholy tones Helmore's Burial Service, and hymns 230, 499, and 401, A.M. Wreaths and crosses, many of them very beautiful and bearing inscriptions expressive of valued services and deep regret and sympathy, were sent by the following: father, sister, brothers, and Kate; Vicar, organist, chorists, and ringers; Misses Stockdale; Messrs. J. B. and N. T. Whitworth; Officers and Brothers of the Charles Dickens Lodge, R.O.A.B.; Mr. and Mrs. Barker; Mrs. Middleton; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Simcoe; Mr. and Mrs. Neal, Sywell; Sywell friends; his sorrowing cousin; a friend; and the servants at the Manor House. The musical part of the service was conducted by the organist (Mr. R. F. Gibbs). The Vicar made a feeling allusion to the death and the loss of the valuable services of the deceased as chorister and ringer, and for the church generally, previous to his sermon on Sunday morning.—On Sunday evening the vicar (Rev. J. B. Fawcett) made further allusions to the sad event. The organist very impressively played the Dead March in "Saul," the congregation standing.—On the evening of the funeral a muffled peal was rung by deceased's fellow-ringers, his bell, the tenor, being silent. Alexander Arch was a member of the Central Northamptonshire Association of Bellringers and was respected and liked by all. It was only quite recently that he expressed his intention to purchase a peal of handbells for the use of the Mears Ashby Ringers. He had a great desire to see their bells increased to six.

THE BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

UNVEILING CEREMONY AT BARROW GURNEY.—On Saturday, Jan. 30th, at the parish church, a handsome peal-tablet was unveiled and dedicated by the Rev. J. A. W. Wadmore, recording the second peal rung on the bells. After the ceremony an attempt was made for Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but it came to grief. G. Clements, 1; A. Waters (conductor), 2; J. Young, 3; C. H. Gordon, 4; C. H. Horton, 5; J. Harvey, 6; J. Winsor, 7; C. E. Boutflower, 8. Messrs. Gordon, Horton and Boutflower hail from St. Stephen's, Bristol; Harvey and Winsor from Wraxall. A quarter-peal was afterwards rung in 42 minutes. The tablet, surmounted by the arms of the Association, is inscribed as follows:—

"BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE-RINGERS.—On Tuesday, June 16th, 1896, was rung in this Tower in 3 hours and 5 minutes, a peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes: Taylor's variation. G. Clements, Treble; R. Devenish, 2; C. Horton, 3; J. Bishop, 4; J. Harvey, 5; A. Waters, 6; J. Winsor, 7; A. Brown, Tenor. Conducted by A. Waters. Rung as a compliment to C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., on his return from his wedding tour."

VISIT TO MATLOCK, DERBYSHIRE.

On Thursday evening, February 18th, a band of seven ringers from Ashover paid a visit to Matlock, calling upon the Rector, asking for his permission to have a ring on the bells of the Parish Church. He referred them to Mr. Sladen, churchwarden, who very kindly procured the keys and accompanied them to the tower, lit the gas, and stayed with them to the finish, and thanked them for coming to ring their bells so efficiently, and hoped they would pay them another visit before very long, and give the parishioners another such treat. After raising the bells in peal, a 720 Bob Minor (4 bobs and 14 singles), was rung by the following: I. J. Beardow, 1; T. J. Beardow, 2; T. Beardow, 3; W. Buxton, 4; G. Beardow, 5; Hopkinson, 6; composed and conducted by Wm. Buxton. Another touch was rung by the following: I. H. Beardow, 1; T. J. Beardow, 2; T. J. Beardow, 3; W. Buxton (conductor), 4; T. Hopkinson, 5; G. Beardow, 6. Afterwards the bells were lowered in peal. Thanking the Rector and Mr. Sladen for the use of the bells, and after refreshment with mine host of The Red Lion hotel, the party made their way home, with a walk of four miles over the Derbyshire moors, where they landed safely, well pleased with their excursion.

T. J. B.

GENTLEMEN'S Curb Alberts. Heavily Plated with Pure Gold. Guaranteed 18 carat, 4s. 6d., 2s. 3s. 6d., Double, 7s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. Member of Norwich Diocesan Association.—SKINNER, 3, Mayes Terrace, East Dereham

Ringers' Festivities.

THE TEWKESBURY ABBEY SOCIETY.—By the kindness of the Mayor (Mr. Councillor T. W. Moore), the bellringers and officials connected with the Corporation and the Abbey Church, including the senior members of the choir, were entertained at the Hop-Pole Royal Hotel, on Thursday week, when there were upwards of 70 guests present. The company included the Mayor (in the chair), Rev. Vernon Holt, Alderman Baker, Councillors T. Collins, G. Banaster, C. C. Moore, and W. J. Gardner, and Messrs. Fredk. Moore, C. H. S. Moore, G. R. Barlow, W. H. Gray, C. Harris, H. C. Baillie, W. Darbyshire, R. Chandler, F. W. Moore, C. H. Midgley, H. W. Brown, N. G. Moore, S. Hosgood, W. Pearce, and J. Osborne. After the usual loyal and complimentary toasts, Mr. Frederick Moore proposed "The Churchwardens and Officials of the Abbey." He expressed regret at the unavoidable absence of his friend, Mr. F. J. Brown, who carried out the duties of churchwarden with much faithfulness and interest, and who in that capacity was deserving of the thanks of the community. Many thanks were also owing to the bellringers, and more particularly to their leader, Mr. Wathen, whose ambition it was to have two bells added to the peal—an ambition that the speaker hoped would be gratified. Mr. Charles Harris then proposed the health of the Bellringers. In doing so he made a pleasing allusion to the nature of their duties, and expressed his opinion that Tewkesbury now possessed one of the best set of bellringers it ever had. He coupled with the toast the names of Messrs. Josiah and John Wathen, J. Hall, and W. Haines. Messrs. John Wathen and J. Hall responded in suitable terms, both being of the opinion that the bells required re-hanging. Mr. Alderman Baker, as Treasurer of the Chimes Fund, stated that he had reason to believe that before the close of the present year, Mr. Wathen's ambition, spoken of by Mr. E. Moore, would be realised, and that two new bells would be provided and the old ones re-hung. Mr. James Osborne said a few words upon the chimes, as did Mr. Fouracre, who offered £1 rs. od. to the fund. The toasts were interspersed with some good songs by Messrs. G. E. Hayward, G. R. Barlow, F. W. Moore, G. P. Chinneck, F. H. Healing, W. Haines, jun., and S. C. Mayall, and the bellringers gave an excellent exposition of handbell ringing on eight bells.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.—On Saturday, Feb. 20th, the above society held its 29th anniversary dinner at the York Hotel, Waterloo Road, and was supported by about 40 members and friends. Previous to the dinner the tower of St. John's, Waterloo Road, was thrown open for the use of the members and friends. After several touches the company adjourned to the York Hotel, where a most sumptuous repast was provided by and to the credit of the Manageress. After full justice was done to the good things provided the harmony commenced, Mr. Perrin, the late master, in the chair, and Mr. H. S. Thomas in the vice-chair. The Chairman proposed "The Health of the Royal Family," commenting on Her Majesty's long and glorious reign in most suitable words, and which was most enthusiastically received. Mr. Baron, in a most eloquent manner gave "The Waterloo Society," giving a short but most interesting account of the Society at its commencement, saying how it pleased him to hear the bells so ably rang, and to see the work he had started being carried on in such a successful manner. The Chairman responding gave a short account of the work done by the Society during the past year. Mr. W. C. Hasted, gave "The Clergy and Church Officials," mentioning the good work done by the Clergy, Churchwardens and Steeple-keepers, at the society's towers, and other towers where they had the pleasure to ring. This was responded to by Mr. H. S. Thomas, who said the clergy liked to hear the bells rang, and it was a pleasure combined with a duty for steeplekeepers to make everything comfortable for those who rang the bells. Other toasts: "The Visitors" &c., followed. The occasion was again honoured by the presence of a few Great Marlow friends, viz.: Messrs. Truss, Evans, Goodchild, and Boreham. During the evening songs were contributed by Messrs. West, F. Davis, J. Davis, A. R. Davis, R. Davis, H. N. Davis, Truss (W.), Meads, Symonds, Hopkins, Charge, and others. Mr. H. P. Dinelli kindly gave two very fine selections on the mandoline, and the company were also indebted to Mr. Wier, who kept them roaring with laughter at his drollery, and with one or two selections on handbells a most enjoyable evening was spent, one of the most successful gatherings of the society being brought to a close with "Auld Lang Syne. The company then separated and went home quite satisfied that they had thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS SOCIETY, GLOUCESTER.—The ringers of the above society met for their annual dinner, on Thursday, Feb. 11th, at the Albion Hotel, and with a few friends, numbering nearly a score, sat down to an excellent spread served in splendid style by Hostess Ingram. At the head of the table, the Vicar of St. Michael's Church (Rev. George James, M.A.) presided, and Mr. Joseph Ward (churchwarden), occupied the vice-chair. Supper being over the toast of

"The Queen" was submitted from the chair by the vicar, who made suitable reference to Her Majesty's sixty years' reign. The toast having been heartily drunk, the remainder of the evening was spent in a very social manner. Several touches of Triples and Caters was successfully brought round under the leadership of the Rev. E. B. James. The following members took part—J. Austin, Rev. E. James, F. E. Hart, F. E. Ward, W. T. Pegler, and A. E. Pegler. Songs were sung by—Jackson, F. E. Ward, Fred. G. May, J. Stephens, J. Gillett, W. T. Pegler, Rev. E. B. James, and E. Hayward, the latter also gave a stump speech in his usual style.

THE RAINHAM SOCIETY, KENT.—On Saturday evening, Feb. 13th, the annual dinner of this society and friends, numbering 30, took place at "The Cricket Inn," where a good substantial repast was served. Mr. E. Jelly was in the chair, Mr. W. Hyland being vice. The company agreeably discussed a course of Roast Beef and Mutton Delight, Stake and Kidney Minor, Plum Pudding Surprise, then Fruit Pie, Jelly, and Blanc Mange Pleasure, were got through, all the course ends turned up well. After the cloth was cleared, pipes and tobacco were in sway for about 3 hours. The Chairman gave "The Queen," and afterwards the bellringers, coupling with the name of the leader of the band (Mr. E. Dunster). It was a pleasure to him to be amongst the bellringers. He knew a little of bellringing but not much of change-ringing. He should like to see something done to the bells to commemorate the Diamond Year of our Queen's long Reign.—Mr. E. Dunster said it gave him pleasure to see so many there. When he and some of his brother ringers started they used to ring by figures on boards until they were persuaded to join the Kent County Association, by that energetic instructor (Mr. Gabriel Lindoff), who had a hard task to drive change-ringing into them, but he succeeded at last. His name will never be forgotten by them. Mr. G. Lindoff's name was loudly applauded. Mr. J. H. Champion, in responding to the toast of "The Ringers" said he was one of Mr. G. Lindoff's pupils. Other toasts followed, and songs were rendered by Messrs. E. Dunster, F. Ockwell, G. Hadlow, A. Sampson, E. Gooding, C. Alexander, W. Champion, and others. Alas! 11 o'clock came too soon. A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman and vice-chairman was carried with acclamation. The National Anthem brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

Obituary.

REUBEN WHITTAKER.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of the above, one of the oldest ringers at St. Thomas's, Newhey, in his sixty-first year. He was one of the first ringers when the church was opened, but he retired from that position to join the choir. Until five or six weeks before his death, when he retired owing to failing health, he was sexton and caretaker of the church and schools. His health however continued to get worse, and despite medical care and attention, he died on Friday evening, February 12th. The funeral took place on Wednesday, February 17th, at St. Thomas's church, amid many tokens of sympathy and respect. Representatives were present from the local Conservative Club, and the Middleton Conservative Union, with which societies deceased been an ardent and enthusiastic worker. The coffin was borne by the present ringers, who, immediately after the funeral retired to the belfry and rang a muffled touch of Grand-sire Triples, 854 changes, out of respect for the deceased.

JOHN SLATER.

The death of the above ringer took place on Sunday, February 7th, at his residence, Hunt's Hill, Glemsford, Suffolk, after an illness of only four hours' duration. Deceased was in his eighty-second year. He had been a ringer at the parish church, Glemsford, nearly all his life, being conductor to the company a good many years. He had taken part in ten peals, seven of Treble Bob Major, one of Bob Major, and one of Bob Triples, all at Melford, and one in seven Minor methods at Glemsford, in which he rang the tenor. He also used to be a good double-handed ringer. The funeral took place on Saturday afternoon, February 13th, at Glemsford, when muffled touches of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob were rung before and after the ceremony by the following ringers of the neighbourhood as a last mark of respect to the deceased: Messrs. Papworth, Clark, and Gowers (Stanstead); Sillitoe and Howell (Sudbury); Maxim and Thompson (Cavendish); Connell (Melford); Wells, Garwood, Adams, Honeybell, and Bradman (Glemsford). Deceased leaves two sons who are well-known ringers, viz., Samuel and Zachariah.

RECEIVED—AND WILL APPEAR NEXT WEEK, contributions from the following: J. J. Parker, J. F. Errington, Worcester Cathedral Guild, C. L. Routledge, H., A.C., and others.—C. H. Simon (did not come to hand); A. G. (we shall comply); Norfolkian (the next illustration); Fair Play (we know not, and don't want to know, we have heard the same report); Excellent (can't you see that they appreciate the B. N.?). Willing (very).

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

ROPE-SIGHT: 1s. 6d. FOURTH 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, etc., etc. (143 pages).

STANDARD METHODS: 2s. 6d. THIRD EDITION
Now Ready. 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. 6d. 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. (210 pages).

TREBLE BOB. PART I. out of print and under revision.
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. (136 closely printed pages. Part II. (136 closely printed pages) may be had separately, 2s. 1s. 6d.)

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR. 1s. 6d.
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)]

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THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

NOW READY.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF SUFFOLK.—By JOHN JAMES RAVEN, D.D., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge; Vicar of Fressingfield-with-Withersdale; Honorary Canon of Norwich Cathedral; and President of the Norwich Diocesan Association.—WITH ABOUT NINETY ILLUSTRATIONS.—This most interesting work contains an account of all the Church Bells in the County of Suffolk—their makers and history—so far as they can be discovered. Incidental notices are introduced of the ancient uses of Bells—the individuals mentioned on them—and many historical events connected therewith. Introductory remarks on the general history of the Bells are prefixed to local portion of the work. The book is fully illustrated with engravings of ornaments, letterings, founders' marks, shields, etc., of which some will be found hitherto unknown. The latter portion of the work contains a complete list of Churches in the County, with the Inscriptions on the Bells now belonging to them as well as on many which have been re-cast. The Demy 8vo. Edition is limited to 500 copies, and is now offered at 20s. nett; or Bound in Half-morocco, Roxburgh style, 27s. 6d. nett. Copies by post 1s. 6d. extra. The Large Paper Edition was subscribed for within a few days of the issue of the Prospectuses, and is now unobtainable.

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One copy, 12 months	8s.
" 6 "	4s.
" 3 "	2s.

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 3000 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 27, 1897.

THE tenour of the observations in our last number with regard to the Queen's reign has been received with much approval in many quarters. We have received a great quantity of letters expressing much satisfaction at the comment which appeared. At present we are not able to dwell upon the topic which one of our correspondents has termed "a most important question." It is very pleasing to be at one with so many of our friends, and they may depend upon us not losing sight of the many suggestions they have made. We shall in all probability again refer to the subject in our next issue.

THE HANDBELL GIFT.—In carrying out another of these schemes, we propose to issue two coupons; one for bands of ringers, the other for private members. Secretaries of each ringing company will be requested to collect coupons from the members of his company only. There will be two sets of handbells given. We shall enlarge upon this next week. In the meantime we merely direct attention to the proposal.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Hon. Secretary would be greatly obliged if Honorary Secretaries of Societies would be kind enough to pay the contributions of their Societies for the current year as soon as possible: at the same time forwarding the names and addresses of their representatives, and the *numerical strength* of the Society represented. The subscriptions of the following Societies have been received and acknowledged up to date: Norwich Diocesan Guild, Durham and Newcastle, Essex, Oxford Diocesan, Devonshire, Bedfordshire, Hereford Diocesan, College Youths, South Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire, Kent County, St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham. H. EARLE BULWER, *Hon. Sec. C.C.*
20th February, 1897.

The Metropolis.

THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, FINCHLEY

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 of College Single Minor, and two each of Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, and Plain Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt.

WILLIAM J. MULLEY* .. Treble.	FRANK L. SPARKS 4.
WILLIAM WEBB 2.	*GEORGE J. MILES 5.
ERNEST H. TUBB* 3	FRANCIS CARROWAY Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS CARROWAY.

*First peal. The above was rung to celebrate the twenty-first birthday of G. Miles, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

THE SOUTH AND WEST MIDDLESEX GUILD.

On Wednesday, February 17, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, EALING,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION. Tenor 19½ cwt.

WILLIAM FOSTER Treble.	ALLEN H. TABER 5.
EVERED J. WALSON 2.	GEORGE RANSOM 6.
JOHN J. PRATT 3.	JOHN BASDEN 7.
EDWARD HARRIS* 4.	HENRY BROWNING Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BASDEN.

*First peal in the method, and first in the method on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor. Pratt hails from Hillingdon; Ransom from Isleworth; the rest belong to the local company.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, CLAPTON,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

WILLIAM D. SMITH Treble.	WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. 5.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 2.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE .. 6.
CHALLIS F. WINNEY 3.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. 7.
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY .. 4.	WILLIAM BURKIN Tenor.

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH and Conducted by W. BURKIN.

First peal in the method on the bells.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 22, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE, WOOLWICH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

HENRY HARMAN Treble.	WILLIAM JOHN JEFFRIES .. 5.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 2.	*HARRY FLANDERS 6.
HENRY GEORGE HILL 3.	FREDERICK W. THORNTON .. 7.
WILLIAM BERRY 4.	WILLIAM FOREMAN Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WILLIAM THORNTON.

*First peal.

The Provinces.

CHARLTON KINGS, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

(CHELTENHAM AND DISTRICT GUILD.)

On Tuesday, February 16, 1897, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 20 cwt.

CHARLES SPREAG* Treble.	WILLIAM T. PATES 5.
THOMAS R. HOOPER 2.	FREDK. W. TOWNSEND .. 6.
HENRY ROBERTS 3.	WILLIAM DYER 7.
WILLIAM BRINKWORTH .. 4.	WILLIAM BUSH Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY ROBERTS.

Rung as a last token of respect to Mr. Folley, he having been head-master of the parish schools for thirty-nine years. *First peal and first attempt.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 17, 1897, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. W. WATSON, ST. ANDREW'S ROAD,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

GEORGE R. PYE 1-2.	ERNEST PYE 5-6.
WILLIAM PYE 3-4.	WESLEY WATSON 7-8.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Umpires—J. Dale and E. Wightman, who each had a copy of the peal and marked every six as it was rung. First peal in the method on handbells by all, and first ever rung in the method in the eastern counties.

PRITTLEWELL, ESSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 18, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 17 cwt.

WILLIAM HUNT Treble.	CHARLES ANDERSON 5.
WILLIAM BEDWELL 2.	JOSEPH SMITH 6.
WILLIAM DOWSETT 3.	JOHN PERRY 7.
WILLIAM DUDLEY 4.	WILLIAM H. JUDD Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by WILLIAM H. JUDD.

First peal of Treble Bob on the bells. Stedman and Double Norwich to follow.

DRIGHLINGTON, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20th, 1897, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

E. KEIGHTLEY Treble.	W. HOLLINGS 5.
C. PRATT 2.	F. W. HARGREAVE 6.
R. CREASEY 3.	G. BOLLAND 7.
W. BOLLAND 4.	F. BIRKS Tenor.

Composed by the late W. SOTTANSTALL, and

Conducted by G. BOLLAND.

R. Creasey, for whom this peal was arranged, hails from Fulney, Lincolnshire; Keighley, Pratt and Hollings from Calverley; W. and G. Bolland and Hargreave from Tong; and Birks from Pudsey.

KILLAMARSH, DERBYSHIRE.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following;

Morning Exercise, Tulip Primrose, College Treble, London Scholars' Pleasure, City Delight, and Violet. Tenor 11 cwt.

HARRY GREAVES Treble.	GEORGE BURNHAM 4.
THOMAS BETTISON 2.	CHARLES SEVERN 5.
WILLIAM LAMBERT 3.	WM. HY. TURTON Tenor.

Conducted by T. BETTISON.

W. Lambert hails from Treeton.

HORSHAM, SUSSEX.

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE TRIPLES,
5040 CHANGES. Tenor 24 cwt. 3 qrs.

WALTER CHARMAN Treble.	JAMES GARMAN 5.
ARTHUR CHARMAN 2.	JOHN COOK 6.
WILLIAM HOOKER 3.	HENRY H. CHANDLER .. 7.
HENRY BURSTOW 4.	WILLIAM STANFORD .. Tenor.

Composed by W. CHARMAN and Conducted by HENRY H. CHANDLER.
First peal in the method by Messrs. A. Charman, W. Hooker, J. Garman, and J. Cook.

BLACKBURN.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(THE BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

JAMES SMITH, SEN., Treble.	JOHN WILLIAM STIRK .. 5.
FREDERICK TOWNS 2.	RICHARD ASHWORTH .. 6.
HENRY HAYES 3.	*JOHN BROWN 7.
JOHN ROWE WERRING .. 4.	TOM REDMAN Tenor.

Composed by JOHN ROWE WERRING and
Conducted by TOM REDMAN.

*First peal in the method. Jas. Smith, sen., and J. Brown belong to the Blackburn company; H. Hayes hails from Church; the rest from Burnley.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JAMES MATTHEWS Treble.	HARRY WESTON 5.
GEORGE GATLAND 2.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 6.
JOHN SMART 3.	CHARLES SMART 7.
FRANK BENNETT 4.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH .. Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This composition, in two equal parts, is now rung for the first time. Messrs. Williams, Bennett and Weston hail from St. Peter's, Brighton; J. S. Goldsmith from Southover, Lewes; the rest are of the local band.

ROCHESTER, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

W. ASHBEE Treble.	O. SULLIVAN 5.
E. RAYNER 2.	A. OSBORNE 6.
A. RING 3.	*W. BAKER 7.
J. P. KIDD 4.	J. RAYNER Tenor.

Conducted by W. BAKER.

This is the first peal on the bells, which have been augmented from six to eight by Messrs. Taylor and Co., and was rung at the second attempt. *First peal as conductor. First peal by the ringers of the treble, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th and tenor.

GRAPPENHALL, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE GRAPPENHALL YOUTHS.)

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following:

London Treble, Braintree, Bocking, College Exercise, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Pleasure, and City Delight.

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qrs.

HARRY MOSTON Treble.	SAMUEL HORSFALL 4.
FREDK. THOS. SPENCE .. 2.	CHAS. REG. GREENALL .. 5.
THOMAS BURROWS 3.	ROBT. GEO. LEWIS Tenor.

Conducted by FREDK. THOS. SPENCE.

Rung to celebrate the twenty-first birthday of R. G. Lewis, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

ROTHWELL, NEAR LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

(ROTHWELL BRANCH).

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt.

THOMAS NICHOLS Treble.	WALTER CHAPMAN 5.
ALFRED CHAPMAN 2.	WILLIAM ABBISHAW .. 6.
JOSEPH C. ABBISHAW .. 3.	STEPHEN STACEY 7.
GEORGE W. STEEL 4.	JOHN M. CHADWICK .. Tenor.

Composed by YORK GREEN and Conducted by ALFRED CHAPMAN.

This is a one-part peal taken from the Central Council Appendix for 1895, page 93, fourteenth peal.

SPELDHURST, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt.

ARTHUR GODLEY Treble.	THOMAS CARD 5.
ALFRED LAURENCE 2.	JAMES MAYNARD 6.
RICHARD PELLING 3.	GEORGE HEAD 7.
WILLIAM H. CARD 4.	GEORGE A. CARD Tenor.

Composed by THOMAS CARD and Conducted by GEORGE A. CARD.

First attempt at Major by A. Laurence, who hails from Tonbridge.

QUEDGELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.)

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 9½ cwt.

FRED. G. MAY† Treble.	ERNEST E. DAVIES .. 5.
WILLIAM C. JONES 2.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. 6.
WILLIAM T. PEGLER .. 3.	*HENRY MITCHELL .. 7.
JOHN AUSTIN 4.	REV. H. LAW JAMES .. Tenor.

Composed by J. S. WILDE and Conducted by REV. H. LAW JAMES.

This composition will be found in the Peal Appendix for 1895, page 87. †First peal of Treble Bob. *Fiftieth peal with the Association.

BEDFORD.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 23, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES.
Tenor 28 cwt. 3 qrs. 6 lbs. in D.

SAMUEL J. CULLIP Treble.	HERBERT SHARP 6.
CHARLES CHASTY 2.	ISAAC HILLS 7.
REV. W. W. C. BAKER* .. 3.	†FRANK HULL 8.
FRANK SMITH 4.	CHARLES W. CLARKE .. 9.
THOMAS R. HENSHER† .. 5.	WALTER C. HUNT Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

*First peal in the method. †First peal on ten bells. ‡First peal on ten bells away from tenor. This peal contains the 6th the extent wrong in the Tittums, and the inverted home position, and is now rang for the first time. This is the first peal on the new bells 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.

ECCLES.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE MANCHESTER BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, February 23, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 13½ cwt.

SAMUEL GREENHALGH .. Treble.	FREDK. DERBYSHIRE .. 5.
WALTER BROWN 2.	ALFRED CROSS 6.
FRANK SMITH 3.	RICHARD RIDYARD .. 7.
GEORGE E. TURNER .. 4.	HARRY CHAPMAN Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD RIDYARD.

Messrs. Derbyshire and Ridyard belong to Worsley; Brown to St. John's, Manchester; the remainder to Pendleton.

REIGATE, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION. (THE REIGATE SOCIETY.)

On Monday, February 22, 1897, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

FRANK LINTER Treble.	HENRY REEVES 5.
FRANCIS T. HOAD, SEN. .. 2.	FRANCIS T. HOAD, JUN. .. 6.
GEORGE THOMPSON 3.	WILLIAM ARGENT 7.
GEORGE F. HOAD 4.	A. MOSELEY Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS T. HOAD, SEN.

An attempt was made for this peal on Thursday, February 8th, but after ringing 4800 changes, the sixth rope broke and put an end to it that night, but we resolved to start again on the following Monday night, and after three hours and ten minutes excellent striking the welcome words "that's all" were heard. This is the first peal in this method by the Reigate Society.

The following five peals have been rung in consecutive order by visiting members and others of THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD:

WELSHPOOL, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1897, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 13 cwt. in F#.

WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. Treble.	WILLIAM JONES 5.
THOMAS J. BRATTON .. 2.	JAMES E. GROVES 6.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 3.	*JOHN LLOYD 7.
THOMAS BARNES 4.	FRED. S. JONES Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN LLOYD.

*First peal as conductor. Rung in honour of the marriage at Moreton Say, of F. Cholmondely, Esq. to the sister of the Earl Powis, who is president of the Welshpool society of ringers; the happy pair spending their honeymoon at Powis Castle. Mr. Bratton's only daughter was also christened the same day at the same church. Mr. A. Little, formerly of Messrs. Joyce, of Whitchurch, was to have been one of the band as a welcome to him.

FORDEN, NEAR WELSHPOOL, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

On Wednesday, February 17, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES:

Being Three 720s of Grandsire, and Four 720s of Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 10 cwt.

WILLIAM JONES Treble.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 4.
THOMAS BARNES 2.	THOMAS J. BRATTON .. 5.
WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 3.	J. E. GROVES Tenor.

Conducted by J. E. GROVES.

Supposed to be the first peal of Minor ever rang in Wales and is also the first peal of Minor by all the band.

LEIGHTON, NEAR WELSHPOOL, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

On Friday, February 19, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES:

Being a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, one of College Single, three of Plain Bob and Two of Grandsire Minor, each called differently, Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM JONES Treble.	THOMAS J. BRATTON .. 4.
THOMAS BARNES 2.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 5.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 3.	JAMES E. GROVES Tenor.

Conducted by J. E. GROVES.

First peal on the bells.

WELSHPOOL, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

On Saturday, February 20th, 1897, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 13 cwt.

THOMAS BARNES Treble.	ALBERT LITTLE 5.
WILLIAM MADDOX 2.	JAMES E. GROVES 6.
WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 3.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 7.
JOHN LLOYD 4.	THOMAS J. BRATTON .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by J. E. GROVES.

WELSHPOOL, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

On Sunday, February 21, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,
ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

AT "THE EAGLES," THE RESIDENCE OF MR. T. J. BRATTON, A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

THOMAS J. BRATTON* .. 1-2.	*JAMES E. GROVES .. 5-6.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 3-4.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 7-8.

Conducted by J. E. GROVES.

*First peal on handbells. The first peal on handbells ever rang in Wales. Umpire—Mr. John Lloyd, of Welshpool. Witness—Mr. John Tristram, of Hereford.

PEAL ADDITION.—The peal of Grandsire Caters rang at Dudley on February 16th for the late Mr. William Micklewright, was rung with the bells half-muffled. The note to the peal did not mention this fact.

Date Touches.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND (Kent).—On Saturday, February 20th, a date touch, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins., being 457 Plain Bob, 720 Kent, and 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Avis, 1; F. King, 2; R. Munn, 3; B. Spinner, 4; F. Hayes, 5; L. Silver (conductor), 6.

OXTON (Cheshire).—On Thursday, February 11th, for practice at St. Saviour's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 17 mins. C. Owens, 1; H. Brocklebank, 2; J. Owens, 3; G. Newton, 4; J. Grant, 5; J. Evans, 6; J. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. Grimmant, 8. First date touch by the local band. Tenor 20½ cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HEPTONSTALL (Yorks).—On Sunday morning, January 10th, for Divine Service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. J. Robertshaw, 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; F. Powell (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 College Single. T. Robertshaw (conductor), 1; J. Robertshaw, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; F. Powell, 6. On Sunday morning, January 17th, for Divine Service, 600 Bob Minor. A. Burn (conductor), 1; T. Robertshaw, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; W. Ingham, 5; R. Nowell, 6. For afternoon service 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. F. Robertshaw (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; J. Robertshaw, 5; R. Nowell, 6. On Wednesday, January 20th, for practice, 240 Bob Minor. J. Haigh, 1; J. Armstrong, 2; J. Foster, 3; F. Robertshaw (conductor), 4; W. Ingham, 5; R. Nowell, 6. And 360 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Robertshaw (conductor), 1; J. Armstrong, 2; J. Foster, 3; W. Ingham, 4; F. Robertshaw, 5; R. Nowell, 6. On Sunday morning, January 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Bob. A. Burn (conductor), 1; T. Robertshaw, 2; W. Ingham, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; J. Robertshaw, 5; R. Nowell, 6. For afternoon service 360 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Robertshaw (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Foster, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; J. Robertshaw, 5; R. Nowell, 6. Also 240 Bob Minor standing as before, with the exception of J. Haigh, 1; F. Robertshaw (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, January 31st, for Divine Service, 360 Canterbury Pleasure. A. Burn (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; J. Nowell, 6. For afternoon service 720 Woodbine Treble Bob standing the same as in the morning with the exception of T. Robertshaw (conductor), 1. On Sunday morning, February 7th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Burn (conductor), 1; T. Robertshaw, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; W. Ingham, 4; R. Nowell, 5; J. Nowell, 6. For afternoon service 720 College Single. T. Robertshaw (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; J. Robertshaw, 5; A. Nowell, 6. On Wednesday, February 10th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Haigh, 1; T. Robertshaw, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw (conductor), 4; R. Nowell, 5; J. Nowell, 6. First 720 by J. Haigh.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

RINGMER (Sussex).—On Sunday, February 7th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, composed by J. S. Goldsmith, in 41 mins. S. W. Shoesmith (Lewes), 1; F. Banks, 2; T. Miller, 3; H. Jones, 4; C. Painter, 5; A. J. Turner (Lewes, conductor), 6; J. S. Goldsmith (Lewes), 7; W. Helmsley, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

LEAFIELD (Oxon).—On Tuesday, February 9th, 720 Grandsire Minor. E. Collett, 1; E. Large, 2; A. Franklin, 3; J. Monk, 4; C. Hadland, 5; W. Large (conductor), 6. Also 360 in the same method. E. Collett, 1; A. Holloway, 2; E. Large, 3; P. Pratley, 4; W. Large (conductor), 5; J. Monk, 6. The Messrs. Large hail from Burford; Monk from Witney. The Leafield men are to be congratulated on the above, having only had six lessons from W. Large.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

COGGESHALL (Essex).—On Saturday, February 13th, an attempt was made for 6336 Oxford Treble Bob Major, but was lost after ringing 3 hrs. 52 mins. R. Potter, 1; C. Norfolk, 2; W. Dyer, 3; W. Elliott, 4; J. Sadler, 5; D. Elliott, 6; E. W. Beckwith (conductor), 7; J. Newman, 8. On Saturday, February 20th, at the church of St. Peter ad Vincula, 560 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. J. Nicholls, 1; W. Keeble, 2; W. Dyer, 3; D. Elliott (conductor), 4; J. Sadler, 5; C. Norfolk, 6; E. Beckwith, 7; J. Newman, 8. And 288 Kent Treble Bob. R. Potter, 1; the rest as before.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, February 14th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins. H. Lincoln, 1; W. Emery, 2; E. Davis, 3; A. Head, 4; W. Lincoln (conductor), 5; A. Whight (Barking), 6; T. Lincoln, 7; C. Scillitoe (first quarter-peal), 8. Composed by J. George, of Rugby.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Sunday morning, January 24th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (fifteen bobs) in 24 mins. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 720 Double Court (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Little (first 720 in the method), 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; J. Luckey, 5; T. Watts (conductor), 6. On Thursday, January 28th, for practice, 720 Arnold's Victory (nine bobs) in 24 mins. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all the band, and first in the method on the bells. Also 720 Worcester Surprise (nine bobs). J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; T. Watts, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. This makes W. Watts' 1,350th 720. And 720 Chichester Surprise (nine bobs). J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; I. Hammond, 5; T. Watts (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, January 31st, for Divine Service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob (nine bobs), 2nd the observation. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; J. Luckey, 5; T. Watts (conductor), 6. On Thursday, February 4th, for practice, 720 Sandal Exercise (nine bobs) in 24 mins. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all the band, and first 720 in the method on the bells. Also 720 Stansted Court (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Little (first 720 in the method), 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; T. Watts, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

KELVEDON (Essex).—On Wednesday, January 6th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Cambridge Surprise. H. Elliott, 1; E. Beckwith, 2; D. Elliott, 3; W. Keeble, 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott (conductor), 6. First 720 of Surprise by all except the conductor. On Wednesday, February 10th, 720 Duke of York by the same band. First in the method by all and on the bells. On Sunday, January 17th, for evening service, 720 Double Court. H. Gazzard, 1; H. Elliott, 2; J. Elliott, 3; W. Keeble, 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, January 27th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. D. Elliott, 1; H. Evers, 3; W. Hunwick, 5; the rest as before. On Saturday, January 31st, 720 Bob Minor. C. Mills, 1; H. Elliott, 2; W. Dyer, 3; W. Keeble, 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott (conductor), 6. Also 720 Double Court by the same band, conducted by W. Keeble. These touches were rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. J. Elliott, a member of the local company.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.

MACCLESFIELD (Cheshire).—On Sunday evening, February 14th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing all the twenty-four 5-6s the right way, in 46 mins. A. Mottershead, 1; F. Stoneley, 2; W. Walmsley (composer and conductor), 3; W. Matthews, 4; J. Armstrong, 5; W. Steel, 6; J. Norbury, 7; F. Goodchild, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in E. This is the first quarter-peal composed containing these qualities.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PORTISHEAD (Somerset).—On Sunday evening, February 14th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. H. West, 1; R. Cottle,

2; A. Gale, 3; L. Moore, 4; J. Nisbett, 5; W. Gillingham (conductor), 6. First 720 of Bob Minor by all, and first 720 of Bob Minor ever rung upon the bells.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL.—On Thursday, February 4th, at All Saints' church, 672 Stedman Triples. C. Horton, 1; G. Pearce, 2; W. Cave, 3; W. Hinton, 4; T. Radford, 5; H. Porch (conductor), 6; G. Daltry, 7; J. Viney, 8. T. Radford hails from Taunton. On Thursday, February 12th, at St. Peter's church, 504 Stedman Triples. G. Daltry, 1; C. Horton, 2; W. Hinton, 3; F. Gooding, 4; T. Radford, 4; W. Cave, 6; H. Porch (conductor), 7; P. Came, 8. By a curious coincidence this touch was rung on the eightieth anniversary of a peal rung on these bells by the society of Bristol Youths in the year 1817. On Saturday, February 13th, at All Saints' church, 564 Stedman Triples. C. Horton, 1; C. Tomkins, 2; W. Knight, 3; C. Gordon, 4; F. Elles, 5; F. Price, 6; W. Cave (conductor), 7; J. Bawn, 8.

TWERTON-ON-AVON.—On Saturday, February 6th, several members of the St. Stephen's Guild journeyed to this place for a peal of Treble Eight on St. Michael's bells, but unfortunately met short with the aid of the local men. Touches of Treble Bob and Stedman Triples were rung. A 672 Stedman Triples was rung by J. Smith Flower, 1; C. Tomkins, 2; C. Gordon, 3; C. Horton, 4; A. Bawn, 5; F. Price, 6; W. Cave (conductor), 7; C. Goodenough, 8. And 640 Kent Treble Bob Major. H. Brown, 1; C. Tomkins, 2; C. Gordon, 3; C. Horton, 4; A. Bawn, 5; F. Price, 6; W. Cave, 7; W. Hinton, 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to Mr. Lindsay, of Bath, who was buried that day. The ringers wish to thank the steeple-keeper for having all in readiness.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

ALTON (Hants).—On Thursday, February 18th, at the parish church, on handbells, retained in hand, 504 Grandsire Triples. A. Mussell, 1; A. Burgess, 2; A. W. Evans, 3; F. Stealey, 4; G. Gasson, 5; W. J. Brambley (conductor), 6; R. Applegath, 7; F. Noakes, 8. On Sunday, February 21st, for Divine Service in the evening, 350 Grandsire Triples. A. Mussell, 1; Miss F. Whyley, 2; A. W. Evans, 3; G. Gasson, 4; Rev. F. Whyley (conductor), 5; W. J. Brambley, 6; R. Applegath, 7; F. Noakes, 8.

CHIDDINGFOLD (Surrey).—On Saturday, February 6th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. H. Mullard, 1; A. Ashdown, 2; J. Russell, 3; T. Attwell, 4; A. Bartlett, 5; C. Eades, 6; F. Blondell (conductor), 7; W. Mitchell, 8. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of T. W. Burdock, of the local band, his brother-ringers wishing him every happiness.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

LONDON.—On Wednesday, February 10th, eight members of the above Society rang with the bells half-muffled the usual whole pull and stand, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Edward Moses, of Reigate, who was a member of this Society for several years. W. C. Hasted, 1; W. Webber, 2; V. W. West, 3; W. Truss, 4; H. Mulley, 5; W. Meads, 6; W. H. Passman, 7; F. J. Pitts, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WHITLEY.—The following touches have been rung recently at St. Paul's church. Two 720s of Bob Minor. W. Frazer, 1; W. Charlton, 2; T. Teasdale (conductor), 3; H. Ross, 4; J. Hern, 5; W. Thompson, 6. Two 720s of Double Oxford Bob. W. Charlton, 1; H. Ross, 2; T. Gofton (conductor), 3; T. Teasdale, 4; J. Hern, 5; W. Thompson, 6. Another two 720s in the same method. W. Frazer, 1; T. Gofton, 2; R. S. Story, 3; T. Teasdale, 4; J. Hern, 5; W. Thompson, 6. Two 720s of Oxford Treble Bob. W. Frazer, 1; T. Gofton, 2; T. Teasdale, 3; H. Ross, 4; J. Hern, 5; W. Charlton, 6. Two 720s of College Single, two 720s of Kent Treble Bob, and 720 Oxford Bob. W. Charlton, 1; T. Gofton, 2; T. Teasdale, 3; R. S. Story, 4; J. Hern, 5; H. Ross, 6.

NEWBURN.—On Wednesday, February 17th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Frazer, 1; T. Gofton, 2; T. Teasdale, 3; H. Ross, 4; J. Hern, 5; W. Thompson, 6. And two 120s of Bob Doubles. T. Teasdale, 1; T. Gofton, 2; J. Richardson (first 120), 3; W. Frazer, 4; R. Lisherson (first 120), 5; W. Thompson, 6.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT.—On Saturday, February 13th, at St. Peter's church, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing 2 hrs. 45 mins it unfortunately broke down. S. Chnrton, 1; J. Allen, 2; A. Brindley, 3; A. Clewes, 4; T. Austin, 5; H. Page, 6; E. Davis, 7; T. Rose, 8. Conducted by H. Page.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HINGHAM (Norfolk).—On Thursday, February 11th, for practice at

St. Andrew's church, a 1008 Bob Major, in 43 mins. W. Muffett, 1; G. Whitehand, 2; T. Cudbird, 3; W. Tuttle, 4; Rev. D. Hamer, 5; J. Ladd, 6; E. Eagling (conductor), 7; J. Skipper, 8. On Monday, February 15th, 720 Bob Major, in 29 mins., standing as before. Rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. W. Taylor.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Saturday, February 20th, at St. John's, Wilton Road, Pimlico, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 42 mins. J. Pettit, 1; G. Peace, 2; F. E. Dawe, 3; E. Horrex, 4; F. Jelf, 5; F. Carter, 6; W. A. Alps (conductor), 7; J. Read, 8. Messrs. Peace, Alps, Jelf, and Carter hail from Waltham Abbey.

THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

HENDON (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 10th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 360 Oxford Bob. J. Barrett, 1; C. Crampton, 2; F. Pratt, 3; H. Martin, 4; E. Pratchett, 5; C. H. Martin, 6. Also 560 Kent Treble Bob. F. Jones, 1; H. Martin, 2; E. Pratchett, 3; F. Pratt, 4; C. H. Martin, 5; C. Crampton, 6. On Wednesday, February 10th, in honour of the forty-second birthday of C. Crampton, who had been a ringer at the above church for upwards of twenty years, and also tower-keeper for the last sixteen years, 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). G. Miles (first 720 in the method), 1; C. H. Martin (conductor), 2; H. Martin, 3; F. Pratt, 4; E. Pratchett, 5; C. Crampton, 6. Also 360 Plain Bob. F. Scovey, 1; G. Miles, 2; E. Tubb, 3; J. Barrett, 4; C. H. Martin, 5; E. Pratchett, 6. And 240 Canterbury Pleasure. B. Pratchett, 1; E. Tubb, 2; F. Pratt, 3; C. H. Martin, 4; E. Pratchett, 5; C. Crampton, 6.

THE YORK MINSTER SOCIETY.

YORK.—On Saturday, February 20th, the following members of the above Society attempted a peal of Grandsire Cinques, but after ringing 1 hr. 50 mins. it came to grief. T. Haigh (conductor), 1; J. W. Cundall, 2; T. Neill, 3; J. Thompson, 4; T. F. Earnshaw, 5; G. Worth, 6; A. C. Fearney, 7; A. Haigh, 8; W. Morrell, 9; T. Hodgson, 10; G. Breed, 11; W. H. Howard and H. Brown, 12.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

EXETER.—On Sunday, February 14th, for Divine Service at St. Sidwell's church, a 546 of Stedman Caters. E. Shepherd (conductor), 1; A. W. Searl, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; C. Carter, 4; W. Drake, 5; F. Davey, 6; W. Richardson, 7; T. Mudge, 8; J. Moss, 9; W. Akerman, 10.

PLYMOUTH (Devonshire).—On Wednesday, February at St. Andrew's church, a 563 of Grandsire Caters. G. V. Richards, 1; E. Taylor, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; W. H. Marsh, 4; W. Drake, 5; A. J. Richards, 6; F. Davey, 7; T. Mudge (conductor), 8; J. Moss, 9; J. Martin and H. Myers, 10. Tenor 35 cwt.

BLETCHINGLEY (Surrey).—On Saturday, 13th, 1260 Grandsire Triples. J. Tidey, 1; W. Wilson, 2; F. Balcombe, 3; C. Maynard, 4; W. Mayne, 5; W. Hawkins, 6; W. Burkin (conductor), 7; G. Brown, 8.

CHELSEA.—On Wednesday evening, February 10th, for practice, 504 Stedman Triples. W. Moss, 1; H. R. Newton (conductor), 2; J. Steddy, 3; C. Hindes, 4; G. Farden, 5; J. Barber, 6; T. Barber, 7; G. Chesterman, 8. J. Steddy hails from Edenbridge.

COALLEY (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, February 16th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 30 mins. W. Dean, 1; R. Prout, 2; F. Prout, 3; C. East, 4; T. Savage, 5; G. Condict (conductor), 6. First 720 of Minor by all except G. Condict, and first 720 of Minor on the bells. And two 6-scores of Stedman. R. Prout, 1; C. East, 2; G. Condict, 4; W. Dean, 6. The company wish through the medium of this paper to thank Mr. Condict (who is leaving the neighbourhood) for his voluntary help and instruction to the local band. This 720 was rang at the last practice with the band, the good wishes of whom will go with him on his departure.

EVESHAM (Worcestershire).—On Sunday evening, February 14th, for Divine Service at the parish church, Bengeworth, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor. G. Williams, 1; F. Cook (conductor), 2; H. Middleton, 3; W. Arkell, 4; F. Johnson, 5; A. Attwood, 6. This is the conductor's 100th 720. A. Attwood hails from Kemerton.

GRAVELEY (Herts).—On Thursday, February 11th, for practice at St. Mary's church, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. L. Angel, 1; J. Aldridge, 2; P. Stratton (conductor), 3; R. Aldridge, 4; W. Elling (first 120), 5; C. Bracey, 6. On Sunday morning, February 14th, for Divine Service, five 6-scores, each called differently. L. Angel, 1; J. Gray, 2; G. Munns, 3; R. Aldridge, 4; P. Stratton (conductor), 5; C. Bracey, 6. For evening service two 6-scores. C. Bowen, 1; J. Gray, 2; P. Stratton (conductor), 3; J. Wright, 4; B. Aldridge, 5; C. Bracey, 6.

LEYLAND (Lancashire).—On Thursday, February 11th, for practice

at the parish church, 720 Lancashire Delight. J. Breatherton, 1; T. Bowling, 2; S. Watkinson, 3; R. Bowling, 4; W. Nelson, 5; J. Banister, 6. On Monday, February 8th, at St. James' church, 720 Lancashire Delight. J. Breatherton (conductor), 1; J. Miller, 2; S. Watkinson, 3; R. Bowling, 4; J. Miller, 5; W. Gore, 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TONBRIDGE DISTRICT.—The Annual Meeting of this district was held at Edenbridge, on Saturday, Jan. 30th, when in spite of the wet weather a good number of members attended from Chiddingstone, Chislehurst, Hever, Horsmonden, Penshurst, Seal Chart, Sevenoaks, Staplehurst, Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge, Westerham, Willesborough, and the local ringers. Ringing commenced about three o'clock, and the bells were kept going in various methods during the remainder of the day. The committee meeting was held at 4.30, at which 28 new practising members and probationers were elected, including two new bands, viz.: Hever and Sundridge, and three new hon. members from the latter place. The tea was provided in the Oddfellows' Hall, to which 68 members sat down. The Rev. J. E. Germon, curate of Edenbridge, and an hon. member of the association, had promised to take the chair, but he sent a note saying that as the Rector was ill and he had to take the full services next day, and he was suffering from a cold, he felt it would not be wise to come on such a wet night, but he hoped the members would have a successful meeting. The business meeting was held after the tea. Mr. W. Steed, of Tonbridge, presided. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The District Secretary then read his Annual Report, in which he said that the year 1896 might be said to have been a very successful one for the district. Three new bands joined, viz.: Chiddingstone, Penshurst and Marden. Bellhanging operations had been carried on in the district during the year, at Edenbridge, by the addition of two trebles, and the ringers of that place were to be congratulated on obtaining the funds for them in the face of great difficulties, and also for having rung the first peal on the bells. The bells at Penshurst have also been re-hung with all new fittings, and two bells added by Mr. T. Blackburn, of Salisbury, and were re-opened on Oct. 22nd, by a band selected from the district, with Mr. Blackburn, and an attempt for a peal of Stedman Triples made, which, however, was unsuccessful after about 1½ hours' good ringing. A peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung there on Jan. 9th of this year, by members of several bands in the district. The experiment of holding extra district meetings had proved fairly successful considering the action of the railway company in withdrawing the privilege of cheap fares. The meeting at Goudhurst was attended by 21 members, and the one at Chiddingstone, by 18 members. In conclusion he reminded the members that by increasing the number of practising members the expenses also increased, and he asked the members to try and obtain some more hon. members. He desired to thank those members who had assisted him during the year by arranging for meetings, &c., thus saving him a good deal of correspondence. Mr. W. Latter, of Tunbridge Wells, was unanimously re-elected District Secretary, on the proposition of Mr. Groombridge, of Sevenoaks, who remarked that he did not think anyone envied him the office, and he did not think they could find a better. Mr. Dunk, of Westerham, seconded. Mr. Latter briefly returned thanks, saying that it was very gratifying to him to know that his efforts met with their approval, this being the third year of his being elected to that office. He was very glad that such a good feeling existed amongst the members of the district, and he promised to continue to do his best for the district and for the association. Mr. W. Steed, of Tonbridge, and Mr. T. Groombridge, of Sevenoaks, were both nominated for the office of Representative on the Central Committee, and on being put to the vote Mr. Groombridge was elected. Mr. Groombridge briefly replied, and promised to do his best for the district. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Tonbridge, in May. Votes of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and to Mr. J. Steddy, and the rest of the Edenbridge ringers for making the arrangements concluded the meeting. Three of the visitors, viz.: Messrs. Latter, Steed and Groombridge were invited by the local ringers to remain for the night and to attempt a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, on Sunday morning. 'Go' was called at 5.50 a.m., and in spite of such interruptions during the latter part of the peal as the organist practising on the organ, the ringing of a school bell close by, and someone rattling the door, an excellent peal was brought round at 10.51, being the first peal in the method on the bells, particulars of which have appeared in this paper. The brothers Wallis are to be commended for making the bells pealable, which sadly need re-hanging with a new frame, but which is impossible to do at present owing to want of funds.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 1s. 2d.; cloth do., 1s. 8d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading, Berks.

Notices.

St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—Johnson Commemoration and the Guild's annual dinner will be held to-day, Saturday, February 27th, at The Market hotel, Station Street, Birmingham. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. sharp. Tickets, free to full ringing members, to others 3s. each, may be obtained from the undersigned. The ring of twelve bells at St. Martin's, in the Bull Ring, will be open at 3.30 p.m. A. Percival Heywood, Esq., Chairman of the Central Council, has kindly consented to preside. W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*
61, Roland Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

The Kent County Association, Maidstone District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Aylesford, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 27th, by kind permission of the Vicar. Tower open at 4 p.m. Short service at 5.30. Committee meeting at The Chequers at 6. Tea at 6.15. A. L. BRINE (REV.), *Hon. Dis. Sec.*
Bearsted.

The Sussex County Association.—(Central Division.)—A quarterly meeting will be held at Southover, Lewes, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 27th. Tower open from 3 p.m. A short service at 5 p.m. Tea at 5.30 (free). GEO. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Div. Sec.*
2, Grove Street, Brighton.

The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—A meeting will be held at Houghton-le-Spring, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 27th. (Fencehouses is the nearest railway station.) The Committee will meet at 4 o'clock, at The White Lion hotel. Meat tea will be provided at The White Lion at 4.45 p.m. at 1s. each. The bells of the parish church will be at the disposal of members during the day. Subscriptions for 1896-7 are now due. THOMAS HUDSON, *Hon. Sec.*
314, High Street, West Sunderland.

Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—The next meeting of this Guild will be held at Christ Church, Bootle, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Hot Pot supper at 5.30 p.m. Business meeting at 6 p.m. REV. W. T. BULPITT, *Hon. Secs.*
W. BENTHAM,

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next monthly ringing meeting of this society will be held at St. Michael's church, Headingley (eight bells, tenor 20 cwt.), to-day, Saturday, Feb. 27th. Ringing from 3 to 5, and 5.30 to 9 p.m. Business meeting at The Shkrack inn. Nominations for the various officers to serve during the ensuing year will be received. Contributions are now due. Members will please note change of Secretary's address. R. BINNS, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Trivin Street, Higgs Field, Holbeck

Society for the Archdeaconry of Salop.—The next monthly meeting will be held at High Ercall on Saturday, March 6th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 4 p.m. J. MACKAY, *Hon. Sec.*
Leaton Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Bucknall on Saturday, March 6th. Members intending to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. W. Twigg, 97, High Street, Bucknall, not later than Wednesday, March 3rd. A new peal-board will be unveiled at this meeting. REV. J. W. ALSTON, *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG,

St. Margaret's Society, Westminster.—There will be no practice at St. Margaret's church on Monday evening next, but will be resumed the following week as usual.

A. HARDY, *Hon. Sec.*
51, Kay Road, Stockwell.

South and West Middlesex Guild.—The next monthly meeting will be held (by kind permission of the Rev. R. Digby Ram), at Hampton on Saturday, March 6th. Ringing at 5.30. H. F. G. LUCK, *Hon. Sec.*
7, Warwick Place, Ealing.

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Thomas' church, St. Helens, on Saturday, March 6th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. HENRY COLEY, *Branch Sec.*
3, Rumbold Place, Liverpool.

Ely Diocesan Association.—Sudbury Archidiaconal Branch.—Members of the above are kindly requested to forward their yearly subscriptions (now due), to the Rev. W. W. Crump, Haddenham Rectory, Ely, at their earliest convenience. C. SILLITOE, *Secretary to the above Branch.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association, Yorkshire.—All members wishing to take part in the contest to be held this year, should pay their subscriptions on or before the 1st of March, or will not be eligible to ring. 19, Albert Street, GEO. H. SIMON, *Hon. Sec.*
Batley Carr.

NOTE TO THE PEAL AT BRISTOL.—The peal of Stedman Caters rung at Bristol and recorded in the peal column last week, is the first peal of Stedman rung in this city for a period of thirty-seven years, the last peal being rung at Christ Church (City) by the Redcliffe Society on January 30th, 1860, conducted by David Morgan. This is the first peal of Stedman by all the band except the conductor; also his first as conductor; also the first in the method by the St. Stephen's Guild and also on the bells, and is the quickest peal of Caters yet rung on these bells.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED Compositor (news). One who can assist in proof reading preferred. Must be a change-ringer. Apply W. K. Morton, Printer, Horncastle.

WANTED a steady, respectable man as Carter for Coal Trade, and fill up time in garden work. Must be used to horses. Permanent. Apply H. Lovett & Son, Coal Merchants, Sibley, Loughborough.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED a situation as first-class Finisher in the Bookbinding Trade; age 22. Change-ringer in Surprise methods.—Charles H. Fowler, 4, Pembroke Street, St. Aldates, Oxford.

WANTED situation as Gardener, or any other capacity; use to horses, and willing to be generally useful. Total abstainer; good change-ringing Instructor.—Address X Y Z. care of Editor.

COULD anyone help me to get a situation; am willing to do anything. By trade a six-quarter Tapestry Weaver. Can ring Double Norwich, Stedman, Superlative, Cambridge, and London Surprise. Can conduct in method I can ring. I am willing to give my services as a ringer for getting employment. Married; 29 years of age; 15 years' character.—W. H. Smith, Lark Hill, Kidderminster.

SITUATION Wanted as under Gardener, or single-handed, am not particular as to any other sort of work. Age 21. Five years good character. Change ringer. Member of St. Mary's Society, Beddington.—A. Clayton.

Compositions.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By WILLIAM WILLSON, *Leicester.*

5075.

With alternate round and tittum course-ends.

2 3 4 5 6	1	2	3	4
4 2 3 5 6	-	-	-	4 2 3 5 7*
2 5 3 4 7	-	s	-	2 5 3 4 6
3 4 5 2 6	-	s	s	3 4 5 2 7
5 2 4 3 7	-	s	s	5 2 4 3 6
2 3 4 5 6	-	s	-	2 3 4 5 7
3 5 4 2 7	-	s	-	3 5 4 2 6
4 2 5 3 6	-	s	s	4 2 5 3 7
5 3 2 4 7	-	s	s	5 3 2 4 6
3 4 2 5 6	-	s	-	3 4 2 5 7
2 5 4 3 7	-	s	s	2 5 4 3 6
4 3 5 2 6	-	s	s	4 3 5 2 7
5 2 3 4 7	-	s	s	5 2 3 4 6
2 4 3 5 6	-	s	-	2 4 3 5 7
4 5 3 2 7	-	s	-	4 5 3 2 6
3 2 5 4 6	-	s	s	3 2 5 4 7
5 4 2 3 7	-	s	s	5 4 2 3 6
4 3 2 5 6	-	s	-	4 3 2 5 7
3 5 2 4 7	-	s	-	3 5 2 4 6
2 4 5 3 6	-	s	s	2 4 5 3 7
5 3 4 2 7	-	s	s	5 3 4 2 6
3 2 4 5 6	-	s	-	3 2 4 5 7
4 5 2 3 7	-	s	s	4 5 2 3 6
2 3 5 4 6	-	s	s	2 3 5 4 7
5 4 3 2 7	-	s	s	5 4 3 2 6

*This course produced by 8th in three, all bobs.

From the last course-end given call—

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

Round as usual.

The block of forty-eight courses with the 6th and 7th their extent before each other, is called 8th in three throughout. By always calling her out with a single it reverses 6 7 each course. The author believes this peal to be the first in the method ever composed on this plan.

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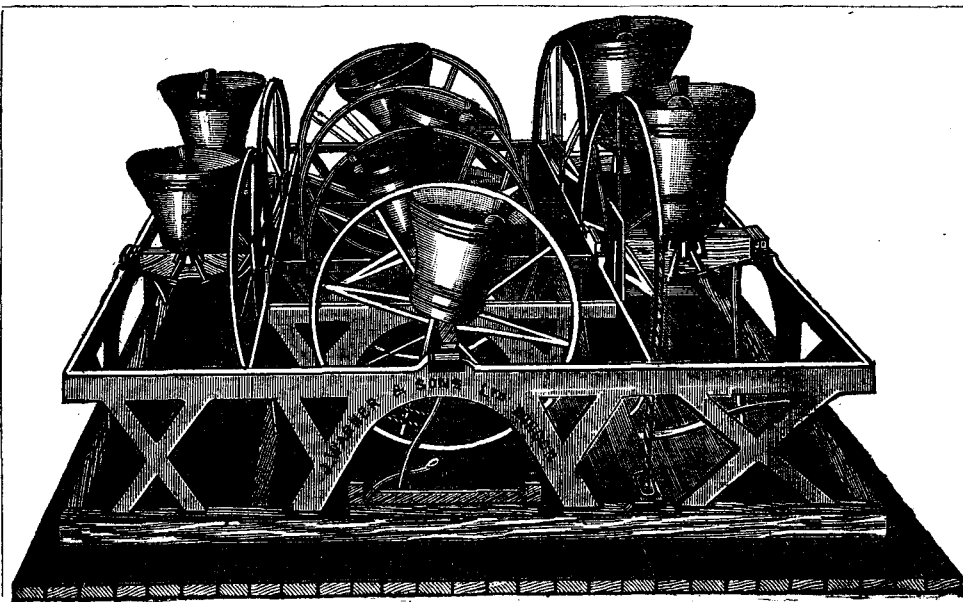
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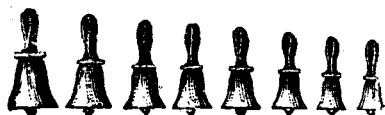
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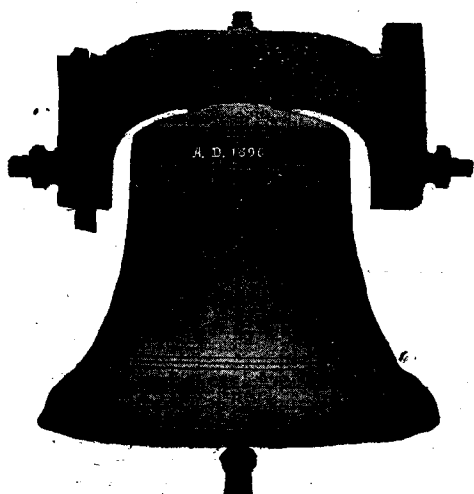
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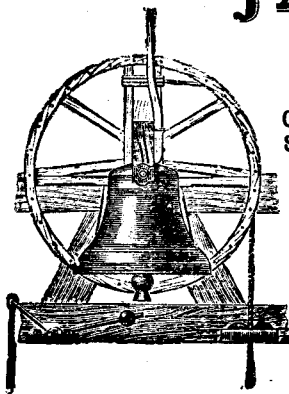
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And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 778.—VOL. XV.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1897.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

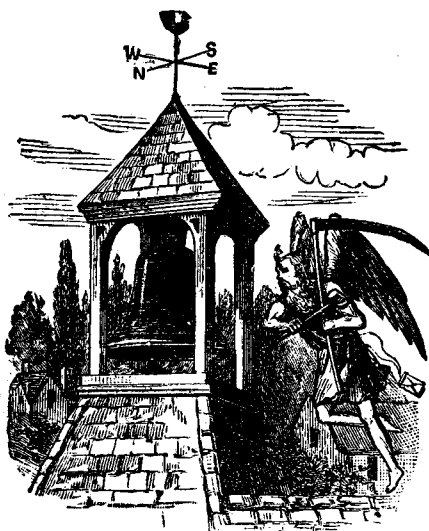
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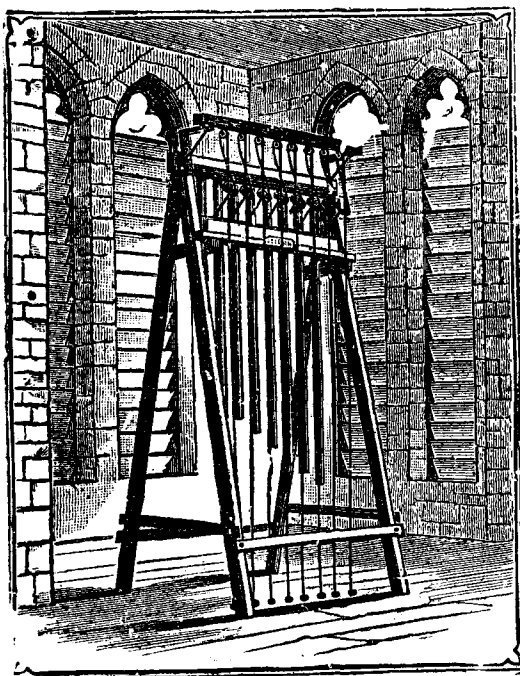
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 778.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1897.

[Vol. XV.]

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD ANNUAL "HENRY JOHNSON" COMMEMORATION DINNER.

As years roll on this annual gathering of ringers in the Midland District, of which the City of Birmingham is a centre, seems to increase in popularity, and judging by appearances, the meeting on Saturday last exceeded the anticipations of those who were responsible for the arrangements. At the hour advertised, 6 p.m., the dining-room at The Market hotel, in Station Street, presented a very busy—not to say crowded appearance.

Supporting the Chairman, A. Percival Heywood, Esq., we noticed such well-known faces as those of Messrs. J. S. Pritchett, M.A., John Day, Henry Bastable, J. Carter, W. Kent, the Rev. C. E. Earle Bulwer, &c., while round the room might be seen representative ringers from Wolverhampton, Walsall, West Bromwich, Tipton, Warwick, Cheltenham, Rugby, &c.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were received by the Secretary from W. Jones, Esq. (churchwarden of St. Martin's), H. A. Walker, Esq. (churchwarden of Aston), Mr. J. J. W. Carr, of the Smethwick Bell Foundry, and others.

At the close of the dinner, the Chairman, in proposing the toast of "Queen, Church, and State," referred to the fact that since the last time he addressed an audience in that room on a similar occasion in 1895, circumstances as regarded both Church and State had materially altered for the better. The Church, having repelled the attack made upon her in the Welsh Disestablishment Bill, was in a fairly prosperous condition, while the Government was of such a character in strength that it might safely be allowed to take care of itself. He therefore confined his remarks to the Queen, whose Diamond Jubilee they were about to celebrate in the present year. With an eloquent description of her many virtues, exhibited during her long and prosperous reign of sixty years, and instancing her ready sympathy with all classes of her subjects, whether in times of joy or of sorrow, his call was enthusiastically met by the meeting, the reception of the toast being greatly emphasised by the National Anthem, given as a solo by Mr. Matthison with the whole company joining in chorus.

After a short interval, the Chairman gave the toast of "The late Henry Johnson, may his memory be ever with us." The memory of the late Henry Johnson, he said, was deserving of every recognition at their hands, chiefly because he was of an upright character and integrity too seldom found, and because of his services to the Exercise, rendered not only through the excellence of his own compositions, but by the impetus his counsel and assistance gave to the work of his contemporary group of brilliant composers. Referring to the peal of Stedman Triples usually known as Thurstans' Original, that is the first peal obtained with common bobs and two *only* common singles, and which was conducted for the first time by the late Henry Johnson at St. Martin's on May the 18th, 1846, the Chairman explained the curious fact that it had only been recently discovered that this peal was probably mis-named as Thurstans' Original. (Before Thurstans' time peals of Stedman Triples had only been obtained with a variety of calls outside the method.) In a letter dated November the 24th, 1845, the late Henry Hubbard replies to a correspondent who had asked him for the figures of Hudson's peal of Stedman Triples, by giving him as a more convenient peal to call a composition, wherein the complete peal had been obtained by Mr. Thurstans, of Birmingham, with common bobs and common singles only. This shewed that what is generally known as the Original, and which is the finest obtainable composition, had been preceded by other compositions containing only common bobs and singles, while this one would be more correctly named as Thurstans' masterpiece. He

believed he was correct in stating that not only was Mr. Johnson the first to conduct the peal, but that he was the first to verify the composition, and it was probably owing to his encouragement and advice that Thurstans was induced to persevere until he had obtained it.

The audience having suitably honoured this toast, Mr. Day gave "The Rector and Churchwardens of St. Martin's." He mentioned the cordial relations which had always existed between the rector and the ringers at St. Martin's, and in referring to the rector's projected retirement after a faithful service of over thirty years, said it would probably be news to most of those present to hear that the Rev. Doctor had in his hearing stated that on newly coming to Birmingham, and taking his first service at St. Martin's, probably beset with the difficulties of his new position—for the Birmingham of that day was very different to the Birmingham of to-day—how much he had been comforted by the sound of the bells while the morning touch was in progress. Looking back on all those many years of his service in Birmingham, one could best gauge its value by noting the kindly feeling evinced towards the rector by members of all denominations. Mr. Day also went on to refer to the manner in which the ringers at St. Martin's were always met in their various requirements by the churchwardens, and especially regretted the absence of Mr. Jones, who was generally present on such occasions, and who had by his many kind actions in the past justly acquired the title of the Ringers' Warden. The reception of this toast was followed by a pianoforte selection by Mrs. Painter, and Mr. F. Smith then gave the toast of "Continued Success and Prosperity to the St. Martin's Guild of Change-Ringers." This speaker, prefacing his remarks with the observation that he had known nearly all that was best of the St. Martin's ringers for the past thirty-five years, went on to speak of the high aims of the members in the past. Noting that they had always been celebrated for the truth and accuracy of their performances, he urged the members of the present day to see that the traditions of the past were faithfully borne in mind and acted up to in the future. It was frequently the fashion to decry modern performances in favour of ancient ones, but speaking from his own sense of hearing, he was able to say that as accurate ringing could still be heard at St. Martin's as was ever heard there. As regards the truly fine ring of ten at Aston, he was sorry to say that he did not now hear them as frequently and to such advantage as formerly, and trusted that the Guild's Executive would take the matter up, and see that the claims of Aston's noted ring were not neglected. Coupling with this toast the name of the Presiding Ringing Master, Mr. John Day, the speaker caused some amusement by a confusion between Mr. Day and his uncle the late Mr. Thomas Day, the Treble Bob composer, from which he extricated himself with some adroitness by a graceful allusion to the family fame being centred so much in the name of Thomas Day. He also referred to the services of the other Ringing Masters, Messrs. H. Bastable and W. Kent, and went on to speak of the service now being rendered by his friend Mr. Russam, in training youthful ringers at Aston.

After a short interval, during which Mr. Manton gave a pleasant rendering of the sentry song from "Iolanthe," Mr. Day responded to the previous toast, mentioning the pleasure he always derived from his association with the St. Martin's Guild, and the Exercise generally, his ringing career dating back fifty-two years from last November, when he rang his first peal.

During a somewhat longer interval, Mr. Wills gave a very amusing drawing-room sketch, at the conclusion of which Mr. J. S. Pritchett, Vice-President of the Guild, gave the toast of "Success to the work of the Central Council," coupled with the health of its Founder, Mr. A. Percival Heywood. After giving a description of the functions of the Central Council, he went

on to express the opinion, founded on his own actual experience, that up to the present its work had been more of a theoretical than of a practical character. As an instance, he referred to the fact that a motion of his own, dealing with the relief of decayed or indigent ringers a motion, he considered as of a practical character and peculiarly suited for their consideration, had been shelved by that body. He then proceeded to describe in terms of unstinted admiration, the services rendered to the Exercise by Mr. Heywood, not only as the author of the existence of the Central Council and its able President, but in the untiring vigilance he displayed in the interests of ringers, travelling throughout the length and breadth of the country whenever he considered it advisable to explain and enforce particular views bearing on the exigencies of the times. This toast was vociferously applauded; and after a song by Mr. Matthison, and a plain course of Duffield Royal on the piano by Mrs. Painter, capably rendered, although the pianiste had only seen the music a few hours previously, Mr. Heywood rose to reply.

In a speech brimful of interest from start to finish, and which was enlivened by a fund of most entertaining anecdote, the speaker kept his audience wrapt in profound attention, while he dealt with various topics shewing most unmistakably how thoughtful and watchful he must be over the needs and requirements of the Exercise. Starting with a history of the formation of the Central Council from the grand meeting held in Birmingham, 1889, at the celebration of Mr. Johnson's 80th birthday, when about 150 of the leading ringers assembled together from all parts of England (but omitting any mention of the assiduous care, pains, and expense, incurred by himself in the organisation of that meeting, and which are probably only realised by the writer and a few others who saw its inner working at the time), he went to explain its constitution, and reminded the audience, by a parallel comparison with the Government of this country, that if the action of the representatives was at any time unsatisfactory to the general body of the ringers, it only became necessary to return members who more correctly represented their views, instead of revolutionising or breaking up the constitution of the Council itself. Referring to the remarks made by the previous speaker as to the formation of a benevolent fund, he mentioned that this was one of the particular points raised at the meeting in 1889, to which he had previously referred, and that it then, as at the more recent meeting, did not commend itself, because it was felt that the ground was already covered by the many and excellent Friendly Societies already in existence. Passing on to the fact that the status of ringers in England had been improved by their own exertions, almost unassisted by the clergy, in the formation of the various Societies and Guilds now existing, he went on to complain somewhat strenuously of the attitude generally exhibited by the clergy towards the ringers, as compared with other bodies of church-workers. Acknowledging the fact there were exceptions, some of the clergy not only doing justice to their ringers, but actually taking part in the ringing itself, he still held that the number of such was infinitesimal when compared with those who took no interest whatever. Many of his remarks were pointed with short anecdotes, and as a particularly racy example, we may instance one of his illustrations. Describing the trial of a prisoner for purloining bank notes, and who had observed a person in the immediate vicinity of the dock engaged in writing very assiduously, he stated that the prisoner, leaning over the dock, asked the writer what he was doing—"Oh! I am taking notes"—"Ah!" said the prisoner, "that's exactly what I am here for!" So in the case of church-workers, according to general usage, the prisoner might be taken as representing the ringer, and the reporter as a member of the choir. "Why in the name of goodness should this distinction be made?" And "if they heard of choir festivals, should there not also be ringing festivals, in which the clergy took an equal interest?"

As a further instance of the apathy with which the condition of bells was treated, he mentioned that he had only recently written a letter to the *Times* calling attention to the state of the bells at St. Saviour's, Southwark, where the church had recently been restored, and was only lately re-opened as a Cathedral for South London. While an enormous sum of money had been expended on the fabric, it was a fact that nothing had been done towards placing in good ringing order the grand ring of 12 bells, in many respects a most interesting and historical ring. Some-

what to his surprise this letter duly appeared, but did not elicit an equally public reply, the Bishop, to whom he gave much credit for astuteness, writing him privately and thus removing the subject from the publicity it would have obtained in the columns of a daily newspaper. Since then he had seen a list of objects connected with the Cathedral for which further amounts were required but in which the bells were not included. In his opinion it was very advisable that a return should be made of all notable rings of bells with their condition. Dealing with the complaints one saw from time to time in the newspapers as to the nuisance of bell ringing, he stated that it would be found that such complaints generally came from head workers as distinguished from hand workers. An overwhelming majority in this country were handworkers, who loved and appreciated bell-ringing; was it reasonable, therefore, that it should be interfered with by the complaints of a few overstrained head workers? With no desire to in any way fall foul of Church authorities, and instancing the ridicule and contempt with which his application to a Committee of the Church Congress was met, he could not help feeling most strongly that as a body of Church workers, the thirty or forty thousand bell-ringers in this country had been most sadly neglected.

At the conclusion of this speech, which in general interest for ringers as bearing on their needs of to-day, was the speech of the evening, Mr. Proctor's quartette were heard to great advantage in a glee, and the chairman then called upon Mr. W. R. Small for the next toast.

In proposing "Success to the Ringing Papers," Mr. Small thanked the chairman most heartily for his attitude in the cause of the ringers, and then dealing with his toast, mentioned the following papers in the order of their establishment. Starting with *Church Bells*, founded some twenty-seven years ago, he referred to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, a ringer himself, as the first to recognise the requirements of ringers in a newspaper, and to devote a portion of its columns to meet them. As regards "*THE BELL NEWS*," which had been started about seventeen years ago as a special organ for ringers, he attributed many of the improvements which had taken place both in men and methods to its efforts, and alluding to another publication, called upon his audience to wish each of them success.

This concluded the speech making, and the chairman having a long railway journey before him, shortly after vacated the chair, which was taken for the remainder of the evening by Mr. J. Day.

A good course of Stedman Cinques in hand was given by Messrs. Russam, Keut, Miller, Bastable, Witchell, and Short, and other vocal music was efficiently rendered by Messrs. Shinton, Maylott, and others, Mrs. Painter officiating at the piano throughout the evening in her usual effective style.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Hon. Secretary would be greatly obliged if Honorary Secretaries of Societies would be kind enough to pay the contributions of their Societies for the current year as soon as possible: at the same time forwarding the names and addresses of their representatives, and the *numerical strength* of the Society represented. The subscriptions of the following Societies have been received and acknowledged up to date: Norwich Diocesan Guild, Durham and Newcastle, Essex, Oxford Diocesan, Devonshire, Bedfordshire, Hereford Diocesan, College Youths, South Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire, Kent County, St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham. H. EARLE BULWER, Hon. Sec. C.C.

20th February, 1897.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH (Northants).—On Monday, February 23rd, for practice, 672 Superlative Surprise Major. W. Newman, 1; J. Houghton, jun., 2; W. Pettitt, 3; A. Perkins, 4; J. Garratt, 5; A. Martin, 6; A. Tyler, 7; J. Martin (conductor), 8. This is believed to be the first touch ever rung in the county.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, rs. 2d.; cloth do., rs. 8d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading, Berks.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of this Association was held at Houghton-le-Spring, on Saturday last. The weather being very fine, there was a good attendance of members, the following towers being represented: Whitley, Hexham, Stockton, St. John's Newcastle, St. Matthew's Newcastle, North Shields, Newburn, Jarrow, Bishopwearmouth, Sunderland and Chester-le-Street. The local ringers were also present to welcome the members.

As soon as a sufficient number arrived, a 720 of Woodbine was rung on the bells of the parish church, by the following: H. Dawson (Bishopwearmouth), 1; J. Anderson (Chester-le-Street), 2; Thomas Hudson (Bishopwearmouth), 3; Thomas Hudson, junr., 4; C. L. Routledge (Newcastle), 5; G. A. Ward (Chester-le-Street, conductor), 6. At 4.45 a meat tea was provided at The White Lion hotel, to which thirty-four sat down. After tea, the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Thomas Hudson, was voted to the chair, being supported by the Rev. W. Madden and Mr. G. J. Clarkson.

The Chairman referred to the long and happy reign of Queen Victoria, the whole company expressing their loyalty by rising from their seats.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector of the parish for so kindly granting the use of the bells, and to the Rev. W. Madden, for his presence. Mr. Madden in reply assured the members that the Rector and himself gladly welcomed the members to Houghton, and he could also say the same for the local ringers.

The question of how many representatives should be sent to the next meeting of the Central Council, was brought forward.

The Chairman explained that the association had three representatives on the Council, and that when the agenda for the next meeting was published, it could then be considered whether advantage should be taken of full voting power. It was unanimously resolved to leave the subject in the hands of the sub-committee.

Mr. Clarkson spoke of the very unsatisfactory condition of the bells of Westminster Abbey. He proposed that the Central Council be asked to call the attention of the Authorities to the neglected state of the bells and belfry of the Abbey Church, with the object of having them put into decent order. This suggestion was heartily approved of.

Satisfaction was expressed at the condition of the bells at the Cathedrals of Durham and Newcastle, the Durham Cathedral bells having been recently re-hung, and are now in good going order.

The election of new members then took place, seven ringing members being elected. The proceedings were interspersed with courses and touches of Grandsire Caters and Kent Treble Bob Royal on the handbells. The tower bells were kept going until nearly nine o'clock, almost every one present having had a pull.

STONE (ISLE OF OXNEY), KENT.

On Saturday, February 20th, the ringers of the neighbouring parish of Wittersham paid a friendly visit to the above church. They were met at the tower by their brother-ringers of Stone, and the bells having been raised in peal by the local ringers, the ropes were handed to the visitors, who made very good use of them in ringing rounds, then the local ringers handled the ropes and a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles was tapped off in fine style by the following: Frank Wenham, 1; W. G. Ford, 2; F. N. Bates, 3; C. Smith, 4; W. Cook, 5; T. Weller, 6; and also 120 of Plain Bob Doubles, C. Tribe ringing the 2nd, the rest as before. An adjournment was then made to the village inn, where harmony prevailed, and the hour passed much too quickly. The local ringers hope to pay a return visit shortly.

DEATH OF AN OLD RINGER.—There has just passed away, at the little village of Ringwould, near Dover, a very old and highly-respected ringer, Thomas J. Laming, who for fifty-five years has helped to ring the old year out and the new year in, never once missing. Laming had no opportunity of learning change-ringing, but he dearly loved hearing the bells going, and rang a week or two before his death.

A. R. B.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

The above Society held a successful quarterly meeting on Saturday, February 20th last, at Petersfield, Hants. Representatives attended from the following bands:—Winchester Cathedral, Havant, Fareham, Gosport, Portsea, Basingstoke, Hursley, Guildford, &c. The meeting was held in the belfry at 4.15, the Rev. C. E. Matthews, Hon. Sec., presiding, in the unavoidable absence of the Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, master. The minutes of the last quarterly meeting were passed, and the election of new members was then proceeded with. The Very Rev. W. R. W. Stephens, B.D., Dean of Winchester, was elected a patron; Revs. F. J. Causton (Petersfield), G. S. Gruggen (Amport), Colonel Hamilton (Hursley), were elected hon. members, while twenty-five performing members and one compounding member were duly proposed and seconded. Two new bands, Odiham and Shere, were affiliated to the Guild. The Hon. Sec. then gave notice of a proposed alteration of rule xii., viz.:—"That every 300 peals rung by the Guild be printed in pamphlet form, and supplied to members at cost price." The proposition met with some discussion, but was referred to the annual general meeting, which alone has power to alter rules. The next Quarterly Meeting was fixed for Saturday, May 8th, at Godalming, Surrey, proposed by Mr. George, seconded by Mr. Tomlins. Touches of Kent Treble Bob Minor, Stedman Doubles, Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major were brought round. The thanks of the meeting were accorded to the Rev. F. J. Causton for the use of the bells, which were found in excellent order.

VISIT TO CAVERSHAM, OXON.

On Saturday last, the 27th ult., the tower of St. Peter's was visited by the ringers of St. Mary's, Staines. The visitors were met and welcomed by Mr. T. Newman, who conducted them to the tower, where they enjoyed themselves for the greater part of the afternoon admiring the tone and go of the bells, and expressing themselves especially pleased with the ringing-chamber which they thought a model (thanks being due to the steeple-keeper). Having satisfied themselves with hand and backstrokes, Mr. Newman again proved himself an efficient conductor, this time piloting us to his residence where by his and Mrs. Newman's kindness a nice little tea was appreciated. By this time one or two more of the truant Caversham men had found the whereabouts of the company, so a move was made to The Moderation, where the Caversham men had kindly got a room for the evening. The handbells were now brought into requisition, and the Caversham tune-ringing party being famed in their neighbourhood, some very fine music was enjoyed, not the least enjoyable being several tunes by some of the visitors. Vocal harmony was not neglected in any way, so time rolled on too fast, and we had to jog off to the station sooner than we wanted to. A vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Newman and Mr. H. Simmonds, and after them the whole company, for helping to make the visit a most enjoyable one.

H.

THE LATE EDWARD MOSES.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Tuesday, January 26th, at the parish church, as a last token of respect to the late Edward Moses, with the bells deeply muffled, a 378 and 252 Grandsire Triples. P. Knight, 1; F. T. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; F. Linter, 3; G. Hoad, 4; T. Brown, 5; W. Argent, 6; F. T. Hoad, jun., 7; H. Reeves, 8. And in the evening a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. P. Knight, 1; F. T. Hoad, sen., 2; H. Reeves (conductor), 3; G. Hoad, 4; T. Brown, 5; W. Argent, 6; F. T. Hoad, jun., 7; J. Steadman, 8. The deceased has taken part in 56 peals in the following methods:—On six bells, 2; Grandsire Triples, 17; Stedman Triples, 3; Bob Triples, 1; Oxford Bob Triples, 1; Union Triples, 1; Kent Treble Bob Major, 14; Oxford Treble Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 1; Grandsire Caters, 7; Stedman Caters, 3; Kent Treble Bob Royal, 3; Stedman Cinques, 1; Kent Treble Bob Maximus, 1; Total 56. His first peal was a peal of Grandsire Caters, on August 4th, 1866, at All Saints' church, Worcester (in which the Editor of this journal took part), and his last a peal of Grandsire Triples at Horley, Surrey, on December 26th, 1896. He was also a member of the following Associations:—The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths; The Surrey and Sussex Associations; The Winchester Diocesan Guild; The St James's Society, London, and The Waterloo Society.

Ringers' Festivities.

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.—The Annual Supper to the choirs of the parish church, St. Barnabas, Elm Street, and the ringers, took place on Tuesday evening, February 23rd. The Vicar, the Rev. R. W. Wynter, presided, and was supported by the churchwardens, Messrs. Willan, Jackson, and J. T. Smith, several of the sidesmen, and the Rev. F. P. Williamson, curate of St. Barnabas. In proposing the toast of "The Parish Church Ringers and Probationers," the Vicar said how much he and the churchwardens and parishioners appreciated the punctuality, care, and consideration that characterized the carrying out of their various belfry duties. The fact of there being a time to chime, a time to ring joyously, a time to ring muffled, and a time to abstain altogether, was, he was pleased to say, well borne in mind. The ringers then gave some examples of change-ringing on two new peals of handbells lately purchased for their use, viz.: a set of twelve from Taylor, of Loughborough, No. 22 size in C; and a set of fourteen, No. 18 size in G, from Warner, of London. In all about eighty attended the supper, clergy, church officers, choirs, and ringers, spending a most pleasant evening together. The ringers much regretted the absence of Mr. T. R. Hensher, who was at Bedford, ringing his first peal of Caters. Mr. Dennes, belfry sidesman, spoke of the assistance Mr. Hensher had rendered them since coming to Wellingborough, and how much his knowledge and ability had helped them onward in the science of change-ringing.

THE ST. FRANCIS SOCIETY OF CHANGE-RINGERS, HOLBECK, LEEDS.—On Tuesday evening, February 16th, the above society held their first anniversary dinner in commemoration of the opening of the new church and peal of eight bells, on February 13th, 1896. Together with a number of the congregation they enjoyed a most sumptuous repast at the house of Mr. J. Paton, The Bellmount hotel. The cloth having been drawn, a most sociable evening was commenced. The president and instructor to the society (Mr. R. Binns) occupied the chair, and briefly explained the object for which they had gathered together. Harmony prevailed for some time, when the chairman rose to propose the toast of the evening, "Success to the St. Francis Society of Change-ringers," coupling the name of their good pastor (the Rev. Father McAuliffe), and in doing so alluded at some length to the duties of ringers, especially amateurs. The past twelve months that he had been amongst them as instructor, he had been the recipient of every kindness and attention. Many obstacles had presented themselves, but by the united patience and perseverance of the whole society, they had, he hoped, been all surmounted. He was also glad to say that the general routine of a belfry had been firmly established; and one most striking feature of the year was, he could safely say without the least hesitation, that out of forty members who had been taught to manage a bell, about ten remain who can ring Bob Major. That with the same attention in the future as in the past, they as regards striking the method they know, will become at no distant date a company of the most formidable competitors to be found in the north of England. They all possess one of the finest rings of eight in existence, of whom all Roman Catholics may be justly proud. He urged upon them that whatever they did was to try and maintain the high standard of excellence at all times when ringing, for their esteemed and beloved priest was a great admirer of the Art, and that he appreciated their endeavours was apparent from time to time, from the great pleasure he saw of their rapid progress. Mr. T. Sullivan, secretary of the society, also supported the remarks of the chairman, and alluded in the most affectionate terms of the rev. Father's anxiety for their success. He also said much credit was due to their instructor for the unwearied exertions he had displayed to bring them to such a state of efficiency. A plain course of Bob Major was next tapped on handbells in perfect style, and loudly applauded. Songs of every description, both comic and sentimental, were ably rendered by the following ladies and gentlemen: Miss Gaughan, Mrs. Gillott, Mrs. Meehan, Mrs. Paton, and Messrs. Niel, Watson, O'Hara, and Meehan, accompanied on the piano by Mr. T. Milnes. Mr. R. Varley next proposed, and Mr. C. Adams seconded the toast of "The host and hostess," Mr. and Mrs. James Paton, which

was drunk with musical honours. Mr. Paton, in responding, thanked all for the hearty manner in which the toast had been received. It was his greatest pleasure to cater in any way for the ringers of St. Francis, and any ringers from the surrounding towers, and would do all he could to help them to become one of the best change-ringing societies in the county. In concluding an interesting and most enjoyable evening, Mr. G. McKale proposed, and Mr. T. O'Hara seconded a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman and the ladies and gentlemen who had come forward and rendered such valuable assistance in making the event such a success.

ANNUAL DINNER OF THE EAST RETFORD SOCIETY.—On Saturday, February 20th, the members of this society held their annual dinner and meeting at The White Hart hotel. Mr. T. H. Denman occupied the chair, and Mr. H. Warburton (Master) the vice-chair. The evening's proceedings commenced with an excellent repast, to which the company did full justice; the bill of fare consisting of roast beef and boiled mutton exercise, and chicken surprise, etc. "Go" was called at 8.15 prompt, and was with the utmost alacrity obeyed, the various course-ends coming up with alarming rapidity, until 9 o'clock, when to the regret of all the conductor called "stand." After the loyal toast of "The Queen" had been duly honoured, Mr. Denman (the donor) rose and briefly addressed the meeting on various matters connected with tower and handbell ringing, and concluded his speech by coupling the name of Mr. Warburton with the toast, to which the latter briefly responded. The evening was interspersed with tunes on the handbells, speeches by various members, and two songs by Mr. Spurr (he being well up in the lung department with Little Tommy Top-Weight), whilst Mr. Denman, by the means of slides thrown on a screen by a powerful lantern, entertained the company with views of the streets of Naples, the ruined cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum, and other wonderful illustrations too numerous to mention. Towards the close of the evening Mr. Warburton proposed, and Mr. Haigh seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr. Denman for his generosity in providing such an excellent dinner, and also for his interesting and instructive entertainment with the lantern and slides. Mr. Denman replied, assuring the members it gave him much pleasure to meet them around the festive board once again, and he hoped to meet the same familiar faces on many other occasions in the future. A very enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the handbell ringers playing "Auld Lang Syne," and all singing "For he's a jolly good fellow." During the afternoon an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Major, but with our usual good luck it collapsed after ringing 1½ hrs., and we'd finished. H. H.

NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, the 27th ult., Mr. G. F. Clarke's selected band of ringers visited East Markham, for the purpose of ringing two 720s of Plain Bob. On arriving about 3.30 they were met by Mr. C. Crawford and his band ringers, who then ascended the belfry. The bells were soon in motion to a well-struck 720 of Bob Minor, the following being at the ropes: J. Hurst, 1; H. Cartwright, 2; M. Phillipson, 3; C. Clarke (conductor), 4; R. Miles, 5; W. Freeman, 6; in the second 720 the following manipulated the ropes: J. Hurst, 1; A. Street (conductor), 2; G. F. Clarke, 3; H. E. Page, 4; R. Miles, 5; C. Crawford, 6. This is Messrs. Cartwright, Page, and Freeman's first 720, to whom great credit is due. The East Markham band have now all rung a 720 of Minor. Messrs. Clarke, Miles, Street, Phillipson and Hurst hail from Retford, the remainder belong to the local company. The visitors were afterwards entertained to tea at the vicarage, by the kindness of the Vicar, the Rev. A. E. Briggs, and they desire sincerely to return through the medium of this paper, their warmest thanks for the use of the bells and his hospitality.

QUIDENHAM (Norfolk).—On Wednesday, February 17th, at St. Andrew's church, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles). J. Tite, 1; J. Sage, 2; G. Haylett, 3; R. Haylett, 4; A. Mann, 5; J. Woods (conductor), 6. Messrs. Tite and Mann hail from Banham.

GENTLEMEN'S Curb Alberts. Heavily Plated with Pure Gold. Guaranteed 18 carat, 4s. 6d., 22, 5s. 6d., Double, 7s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. Member of Norwich Diocesan Association.—SKINNER, 3, Mayes Terrace, East Dereham.

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."

"STANDARD" AND "ADVANCED" METHODS.

SIR,—In reference to that portion of Mr. Heywood's letter which refers to the ringing of what is called the advanced methods, I think nothing ought to stand in the way of the practice of Standard Methods on ten or twelve bells in such towns as London, Birmingham, Norwich, etc. I have known my own company come near a collapse more than once, through the ambition of individual members wanting to call eight-bell peals, in which statement my old friend, Mr. John Rogers, can bear me out.

H. SWAIN.

27, Bramerton Street, Chelsea, S.W.

BACK NUMBERS OF "BELL NEWS."

SIR,—I had hoped I should have been able to comply with my friend Mr. Attree's request, out of the large number of duplicate copies in my possession: but, unfortunately, I find those I have to dispose of are all of too early a date. Would you allow me to say that anyone wanting any of the following issues can have them by sending me sufficient to pay postage or carriage?

1884.—May 24th. July 26th. Aug. 2nd. Sept. 6th.—One of each.

1885.—June to December, inclusive, five or six clean copies of every issue throughout.

1886.—January and February, every issue; a large number of Jan. 16th, but only one of Feb. 20th. Three or four of each of other dates. March 6th (one), 20th and 27th (three or four of each). April 10th and 24th (three of each). May 1st (four), and 8th (three).

Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

H. EARLE BULWER.

A POINT SETTLED.

SIR,—I find that I was in error over the peal at issue. When I looked Mr. Thorp's peal record over, it was a 5088 with the 6th its extent at nine different course-ends, and was rung at Leesfield, February 22nd, 1868, and so he (Mr. Dains) is entitled to it; and in regard to me handing the peal over to Mr. Thorp, it came about this way: we went to Glossop and rang a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major; I gave the conductor (Mr. F. G. Newman) a peal to call, which is the one at issue, with my name to it; and after we had finished, Mr. Thorp said it was his, and that he had it above twenty years, which I would not believe till he showed me his peal-book with it in, and it appeared, from being one of the first to be put down, to corroborate his statement, so I gave it up to him. I entered it in my peal book as composed by Mr. J. Thorp, and he put it down in his as being composed by S. Wood. These are the true facts of the case (I may state further that I composed it in 1874), and I therefore relinquish all claim to the peal on behalf of myself and my late friend Mr. Thorp. Trusting this will satisfy Mr. Dains and settle the matter.

SAMUEL WOOD.

166, Margaret Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

SEASONABLE COUNSEL.

SIR,—As no doubt during this "Diamond Jubilee" year much will be done in the way of putting up new peals of bells and augmenting existing ones, will you allow me to offer a little advice on the subject through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS?" What I should like to impress upon the minds of those who may be contemplating any work of this kind is to be content with fewer and heavier bells, rather than put up large numbers of small bells. I may perhaps say that, as a general rule, no peal of eight should have a tenor higher than E flat (say from 19 to 23 cwt.); no peal of six should have a tenor above F, and no peal of five above G. There is a great rage in these days of change-ringing to increase the number of bells in the peal without increasing the weight. There have been plenty of peals of eight erected within the last thirty years with tenors of 10 cwt. and less: but for my part I would rather have a peal of five with a tenor of at least 15 cwt. than one of these. I know of some heavy peals of five with tenors over a ton, and to hear Doubles slowly struck on them is far grander than Double Norwich or Superlative on such light peals as I have described. No doubt from a change-ringer's point of view, the more the merrier, regardless of weight; but it should be borne in mind that bells have other uses beyond scientific amusement.

J. R. JERRAM.

GRANDSIRE CATERS.

SIR,—In asking you to insert a peal of Grandsire Caters—which I enclose—permit me to say a word respecting the peal which appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of last week under the name of William Will-

son. In his footnote Mr. Willson says "the author believes this peal to be the first in the method ever composed on this plan." Considering that I have called touches on this plan with Mr. Willson, and that only lately arrangements to attempt my peal only just failed, it is difficult to understand Mr. Willson's ignorance of the existence of my peal, which I have had for three or four years at least, a fact which I can prove to Mr. Willson's satisfaction if necessary. Why have I not published the peal before? To this very likely question I would say that, knowing how much has been said and written against a multiplicity of singles, I could never make up my mind to run the risk, thinking to ring the peal first. Perhaps Mr. Willson will explain.

Leicester.

GEORGE CLEAL.

BRUSQUENESS.

SIR,—It being my Sunday off at St. Peter-at-Arches last Sunday week I wended my way down to Washington, a small village within three miles of Lincoln, to have a pull on the nice little ring that that village possesses. Being there in good time I waited about in the churchyard till half-past ten, when the ringers began to turn up. I was bid good morning by most of the company, I went up with them and took a seat in the belfry till they raised the bells, they then began to place themselves for Bob Triples. I was asked by one of the company if I should like to have a pull, to which I replied I should, when to my surprise the worthy master, Mr. Clarke, stepped forward with the words: *If he rings I shan't!* This took me by surprise, and of course I apologised for intrusion into the belfry. The affair caused a little controversy among the ringers, and then the master said they would get on with some ringing. I stayed till they came down, and was accompanied half-a-mile homeward by Mr. Ash, the conductor, and he told me who was the cause of the misunderstanding. It is all jealousy throughout. I wonder what Jingle's opinion will be when he reads of it.

J. B. FENTON.

THE HANDBELL GIFT.

Before issuing the coupons for this affair, we want to make the scheme clear to our readers. There will be two coupons, each will be numbered in consecutive order week by week; one for a ringing company, the other for private members who from various causes may not be actual members of any ringing society. In the case of the company's coupon, the secretary or leader or foreman of the band may collect the coupons of his society only; each owner of the coupon to place his name and address upon them before handing them over. When these are returned to our office, the name of the company must be written distinctly outside the parcel. No collection of any kind will be allowed beyond the members of the company. This gift will consist of fifteen handbells, and the successful company may choose the bell-founder. The gift for a private member will consist of twelve bells; no collection of coupons will be allowed, and they must each be accompanied by the name and address of the holder thereon. Any breach of these regulations will jeopardise all chances of securing either gift. We hope our friends will try to make this such a success as will induce us to offer more presents, and of various kinds. Before we issue the coupons, we are willing to consider any further suggestions which our readers may like to make. By means of this scheme, a company or individual member can easily obtain a peal of handbells without cost. We ask the co-operation of our friends in this.

SNAITH (Yorks).—On Sunday, February 21st, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor (thirty bobs and twelve singles). R. Pocklington, 1; S. Pickup, 2; E. Pick, 3; G. Holmes, 4; R. Holmes, 5; J. D. Bullock (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-four bobs and eighteen singles). R. Pocklington, 1; S. Pickup, 2; J. Norton, 3; Tom Bullock, 4; R. Holmes, 5; G. Holmes (conductor), 6.

WICKEN (Northants).—On Sunday, February 14th, at the church of St. John the Evangelist, 720 Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. G. Valentine, sen., 1; J. Read, 2; R. W. Valentine, 3; R. Nichols, 4; G. Valentine, jun. (conductor), 5. Tenor 18 cwt. This is supposed to be the first 720 on the bells; also the longest touch by the ringers of the 4th.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Thursday, February 18th, at the parish church, with the bells deeply muffled as a last token of respect to Isaac Tullett, a 720 Plain Bob. W. Owden, 1; J. Rice, 2; G. Paice, 3; G. Illman, 4; B. Payne, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 21st, with the bells half-muffled, 240 Oxford Treble Bob. B. Payne, 1; J. Rice, 2; J. Sbarman, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Dench, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also 360 Plain Bob. J. Sbarman, 1; F. Rice, 2; G. Attfield, 3; G. Illman, 4; J. Rice, 5; F. Dench (conductor), 6. Deceased who had been a ringer for the past fifty years at Worth, was seventy years of age, and was carried to the grave by four of the local ringers.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROTHWELL.—At a Quarterly Meeting of the above Association, held at Rothwell on Saturday, ringers from Desborough, Kettering, Rothwell, Warkton, Wellingborough, Ecton, Earls Barton, Wollaston, and Rushden attended and took turns at the bells of the church of The Holy Trinity, a ring of six, tenor 22 cwt. They found them to go somewhat unpleasantly. The scheme for the restoration of this, one of the most interesting churches in Northamptonshire, now being carried out by stages, includes the "opening out" of the west arch, the re-hanging of the bells, and various other belfry improvements. The beautiful groined ceiling of the tower is now obscured by the ringing-room floor. The vicar of Rothwell, the Rev. W. S. Parker, most kindly provided the visitors with a meat tea, and lent a room in the newly erected Church House for their meeting, but indisposition unfortunately prevented him being with them. About forty partook of tea, including the Rev. C. M. Wetherall, Rector of Rushton, Rev. E. C. Channer, Vicar of Ravensthorpe, Mr. Toms, lay reader, and Mr. R. C. Lane, one of the four churchwardens of Rothwell. Mr. Lane, in responding to a vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for their kindness and hospitality, spoke of the pleasure it gave him to meet the members of the Association, and of the benefit he felt sure such gatherings were to them all. With regard to their bells, he stated that they meant in due time to put them in good order, "second to none," and possibly add two trebles. At the usual business meeting, Mr. Lane presided, and he and the Rector of Rushton consented to become honorary members. Mr. H. Toll, of Bedford, and Mr. W. C. Hunt, of North Shields, were elected "out of county" ringing members. The Secretary, Mr. E. J. Dennes, spoke of the loss the Association had sustained in the death of Mr. Alexander Arch, of Mears Ashby, and felt sure they would all regret to hear of the serious illness of Mr. G. Lewis, one of the senior ringers at Kettering. Gratification was expressed at the news that Finedon bells were to be increased to eight by adding two trebles, one in celebration of the Jubilee of the Vicar, the Rev. G. W. Paul, and the other of the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. Rothwell bells are very similar to those at Finedon, the tenor being of a deep rich tone, well calculated to make a good "cover" for a ring of eight. Peal-boards hanging in the ringing-room record a 5000 rung in 1749, and another in 1847. A peal of handbells brought over by the Wellingborough company were well used during the evening.

THE SOUTH AND WEST MIDDLESEX GUILD.

A meeting of this Guild was held by kind permission of the Rev. B. O. Sharpe, at St. Leonard's, Heston, on Saturday, February 6th. The following towers were represented: Ealing (Christ Church and St. Mary's); Isleworth, Hillingdon (St. Andrew's and St. John's); Staines, Slough, and Burnham. Numerous touches of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor, Plain Bob and Grandsire Minor were rung by mixed bands. At 7 o'clock an adjournment was made to the Church House for the purpose of dealing with the question of amalgamation with the Middlesex Association. It is now some months since a committee was specially appointed for the purpose of negotiating with a similar committee from the other side. A meeting of the joint committees took place in the City on Saturday, January 23rd, and the question was then unanimously and thoroughly discussed. It was recommended that the two Associations should unite, and that the amalgamation date from Whit-Monday next. The remaining details concerning the officers and management of the "County Association" were also discussed at some length. It was now incumbent upon the committee to refer back to the general body of members, the recommendations set down; for this purpose it was resolved to make use of the coming meeting on February 6th, a special notice in the meantime being sent round to the various towers concerned. The Rev. H. G. Bird occupied the chair, about twenty-eight members being present, and a lively discussion took place. A proposition in favour of the amalgamation being put to the meeting, was carried by a majority of ten. The recommendations drawn up by the committees, with reference to the officers and management, were also put to the meeting and carried *nem. con.* The first annual meeting will therefore take place at Ealing on Whit-Monday.

PEAL BOOK, Price 2s. 6d. A book specially ruled for entering peals, date touches, etc. Handbell music arranged for any number of bells. Send for catalogue. W. H. GIGGLE, Queen Street, Horbury, near Wakefield.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

One of the most successful district meetings ever held by this Association took place on Saturday, February 27th, at South-over, Lewes. The tower was open for ringing from 3 p.m.; but before that time quite a number of members had assembled from various places, so that punctually at the hour appointed the bells were set going, first to Grandsire Triples and then to Stedman. Other touches in these methods, with Bob Major, occupied the time until five o'clock, when a service was held. A shortened form of evening prayer was used and the hymn "O praise ye the Lord" was sung, followed by an appropriate address delivered by the Rector (Rev. W. E. Richardson), from the words "In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, Holiness unto the Lord"—Zech. xiv. 20. After the service an adjournment was made to the Mission Room, where, by the munificence of the Rector, who presided, a first-class meat tea had been prepared and to which full justice was done. Over forty sat down, including Mr. G. F. Attree (Master of the Association), Mr. G. Williams (Hon. Central Divisional Secretary), Mr. S. Saker (Hon. Eastern Divisional Secretary), Mr. J. Hambrook (churchwarden) and representatives from the following towers: Christ Church, Blacklands; Christ Church, Eastbourne; Ringmer; St. Nicholas, Brighton; St. Peter's, Brighton; Balcombe; Cuckfield; Lindfield; Crawley; Pevensey and Lewes. At the conclusion of the repeat the business was proceeded with. After passing the minutes of the meeting held at Crawley, four new members were elected; viz.: one non-resident, one from St. Nicholas, Brighton branch, and two from the local company. A letter was read from Mr. J. Parker, London, resigning his position as one of the representatives of the Association on the Central Council, owing to having been elected to represent the Royal Cumberland Youths on that body. On the motion of Mr. C. Hounsell, seconded by Mr. W. Tugwell, the resignation was accepted, the vacancy to be filled at the Annual Meeting. Mr. J. Gasson asked if anything had been done with regard to the matter of cheap railway fares. The Master said the committee of the Central Council were constantly in communication with the Clearing House, but no definite answer could be got from them. The London and Brighton, the South Eastern and the London and Chatham Railways were willing to grant cheap tickets, but until the other companies were agreed, it was impossible for the three first named to do so.

The Master then moved a most hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. W. E. Richardson for his kindness in providing such a bountiful meal, for the service, and for the use of the bells. He said it was one of the best district meetings ever held in Sussex, and it testified to the members' appreciation of the Rector's kindness by the numbers who had put in an appearance.

The Rev. W. E. Richardson briefly replied, and the members then returned to the tower, and touches of Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob, Treble Bob and Duffield Major, Superlative, New Cumberland and London Surprise Major were rung until 9 p.m., when the tower was closed. Some of the party then adjourned to The King's Head, where touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters and Stedman Triples on handbells passed away a pleasant hour.

MOSSLEY HILL CHURCH, LIVERPOOL.

On Monday evening, February 15th, a very large Cambridge quarter-chime clock was set going at the above church by Miss Robinson, the donor, who presented the same in memory of her brothers. The Ven. Archdeacon Diggle officiated at the opening services, assisted by an experienced choir. The clock is constructed on the solid horizontal cast-iron bed frame, planed on the top and bottom surfaces, and supported by strong iron brackets firmly bolted to the wall of the tower. The escapement and maintaining power are by Lord Grimthorpe. The pendulum is a $1\frac{1}{2}$ seconds, compensated with a bob of 500 lbs. weight. The bells are of the respective weights as follows: hour bell, 40 cwt.; large quarter bell, 26 cwt.; second quarter-bell, 15 cwt.; third, $12\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.; fourth, $10\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. The specification was drawn up by R. Bushell, Esq., of Liverpool, who has also superintended the erection; and the work was carried out by Messrs. William Potts and Sons, Clock Manufacturers, of Leeds and Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ANNUAL SUPPER OF NEWCASTLE AND DISTRICT RINGERS.

PRESENTATION TO MR. HOLMES.

This event commenced at seven o'clock on Wednesday, the 15th ultimo, the chair being taken after the first course by R. S. Story, Esq., President of the Durham and Newcastle Association. He was supported by Messrs. T. Hudson, Holmes, Harrison, etc., while Mr. F. Lees, occupying the vice-chair, had Messrs. W. Story, Routledge (2), Ferry, etc., as supporters. Those present represented Middlesbrough, Tanfield, Whickham, North Shields, Jarrow, Hexham, and four of the Newcastle towers. The supper—judging by the contented countenances round the table—was a complete physiological success, and was enlivened by the usual amount of good-humoured "chaff" flying around. It is at these times the stentorian tones of the Jarrow representative, and the piping treble of the little Mirfield hero, are most appreciated, except perhaps when they call "this is all" to a five thousand.

The Chairman in brief and pithy terms proposed "Church and Queen," and followed this with the toast of "Newcastle and District Ringers," coupled with Mr. Lees's name, which was drunk with musical honours, these latter being for Mr. Lees of course, and not for "our worthy selves."

Mr. Story again rising to his feet called on Mr. Harrison to bring to a happy consummation the event of his winning the great "Bell News Handbell Coupon Stakes." He said Mr. Harrison had made this the occasion of a most worthy and graceful act towards one of their number who was most highly esteemed and appreciated.

Mr. Harrison (carrying a weighty box, a handbell, and a green baize cloth) came on the scene, and explained to the company in his most humorous terms that which everyone knew before, but which at that happy moment was a necessary preliminary to what was to follow. In collecting the coupons for the competition, he said he had drawn his supply from as far north as Edinburgh, and southwards as far as Ipswich, while eastern and western and western limits were hard to define. He had explained at the outset of his little plan what his ultimate object was, and it spoke well indeed for Mr. Holmes to think of the amount of support he had received over such a wide area of the ringing world. The handbells were a most tuneful peal—15 size in C—by Shaw of Bradford, and he had had a box made in which to carry them, whilst the tenor was now suitably inscribed by an engraver. With these words he handed to Mr. Wm. Holmes the box and contents amidst a storm of real old English applause, and "Billy's" health was drunk with tip-top musical honours.

Here there was a bit of a "jumble in the striking," another toast (that of the Durham and Newcastle Association, coupled with Mr. Hudson's name) being proposed, but as it gave "little Billie" time to pull himself together and think of what he would say, he didn't grumble. Hence Mr. Hudson responded first to *his* toast, and then,

Mr. Holmes thanked Messrs. Harrison and Story for their kindly remarks, and expressed his delight at being the proud possessor of so fine a peal of handbells. He did not know when he was making his efforts for "Freddie" to gain the handbells that they were ultimately to come to himself. He heartily thanked Mr. Harrison and all subscribers for their handsome present, and asked that these expressions might be conveyed personally through Mr. Harrison or through the columns of "THE BELL NEWS."

Mr. Thomas Hudson, proposing "The Health of Mr. Harrison, of Jarrow," spoke of the amount of work the competition entailed, and how cheerfully and thoroughly it had been carried out—the prize was indeed well-deserved. The toast was enthusiastically received, and Mr. Harrison briefly responded.

These toasts and pleasant speeches were interlarded with several courses of Caters on the new handbells, and solos on them by Mr. Harrison. Songs were also sung by Messrs. W. G. Routledge, J. Passman, W. Story, W. Holmes, C. L. Routledge, etc. Mr. William Routledge proved an excellent and efficient pianist.

Mr. W. G. Routledge in a few words proposed "The Health of the Chairman," to which Mr. Story responded with similar brevity. The proceedings closed at eleven o'clock with "Auld Lang Syne."

PRACTICAL HINTS TO YOUNG CONDUCTORS AND COMPOSERS.

CHAPTER XVII.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES—continued.

The ability to call bells round is what the young conductor should strive his best to lay hold of. The knowledge is not only very useful on many occasions, but it gives those who know it an importance in the estimation of their fellows—a feature by no means despicable. A squabble during a touch or peal; a successful struggle to prevent a total collapse, almost invariably ruptures the calling lesson, whatever it may be, and the conductor is reduced to the necessity of calling "stand," or bringing the bells round. Surely the latter is the best, and the scientific mode. To this end the following hints are written. The benefit of the knowledge already gained of calling by observations of the bells before will now become apparent.

To bring round from any position in this method, on any number of bells, the back or heavy bells are the first to be dealt with. In Grandsire Triples the first object is to get 5 6 7 at home; there is very little else left to do. To get these bells into position the 7th should be called into the hunt, then call her out when the 6th is before, this short process will bring these two bells together. The next object being to get the 5th after the 7th, call her into the hunt and out when the 7th is before, with a double. These three bells will then be at home; and by continually calling bobs the lead after the 6th has made third's place the object is attained. I hope this is clear so far, to my young readers.

If, when 5 6 7 are got home, the 2nd should be found in the hunt, notice at once the relative positions of the 3rd and 4th. If the 4th should be after the 3rd, the bells will be in plain course, and will run round without any further calls being made. But if, when the 2nd is in the hunt, the 3rd is behind the 4th, the bells will be "out of course," and will require a single to get them round.

It is a very good plan for the young beginner, when he has brought the back bells home, to direct his attention to the 4th, and get that bell into the hunt as soon as possible; that being done, only one more call is necessary. I have already intimated that when 5 6 7 are brought together, a bob every succeeding four leads finishes the job. By this I mean that bobs should be called the lead after the 6th has made thirds. If the 4th is found in the hunt while this is going on, carefully watch the position of the 2nd and 3rd when the next bob, with the 6th in the position already named, is about to be called; if the 2nd is after the 3rd, the bells are wrong, and a single must be made instead of the bob, causing the 2nd to lie two blows in 2nds instead of making thirds; and the 3rd of course making that place, the bells thus running home.

To many this may appear a rigmarole, but it must not be forgotten that these papers are written for juniors, and when they thoroughly understand the foregoing, observation and practice will enable them to attain their object by quicker measures, perhaps. A practised bob-caller would, of course, first see in what position the bells were before he began his operations. The two back bells he may find already at home, he would then bring the 5th there at once, not interfering with 6 7 at all. And if the 5th was after the 7th he would not interfere with these, but would operate on the 6th. These three bells must be got together in the quickest way, and if they are all apart the plan above shown is the standard one.

The truth of the changes in calling round need not be thought of. Some conductors do not keep in their minds the formation of touches, and when requested to call, say a few bobs, and then call round.

ALEPH.

(To be continued.)

ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH, EPSOM.

Owing to the dilapidated state of the frame, and a broken clapper, the bells of St. Martin's, Epsom (the Parish Church), will not be rung until further notice.

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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, MARCH 6, 1897.

At a meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association on Saturday last, Mr. J. G. CLARKSON made a proposition which commended itself unanimously to those assembled. This was to the effect that the Central Council be asked to call the attention of the authorities of Westminster Abbey to the neglected condition of the bells and belfry of that church, with the object of having both put into decent order. Every ringer throughout the world, every antiquary, every fellow or member of the learned societies, every archæologist or ecclesiologist, every good churchman, in fact every Englishman worthy of the name, will agree to the very letter with the action of Mr. CLARKSON. The Abbey of St. Peter, Westminster, has a hold upon the mind stronger perhaps than that enjoyed by any other Christian temple. Its historical renown and associations give it a place in the hearts of most Englishmen beyond every other Abbey or Cathedral. Many of the most important and stirring events in British history are somehow or other associated with the sacred fabric; it is the scene of enthronization of our monarchs; and the most honored place of sepulture for our illustrious

dead. If it is possible to render any Christian church perfect in all its details, especially one connected with our national religion, surely the Abbey of Westminster is the very one. To this end a most important feature is wanted. The bells—those instruments which more than anything else make plain to what Christian community the Abbey belongs—are in a dreadful condition. The belfry which contains these bells has been grossly neglected for years, and unless some process of sanitation has been adopted lately, it is positively indecent. We wish with the utmost deference, nay, reverence, towards the Capitular body, to impress upon them the great necessity which exists for the entire removal of such a deplorable state of things. What would the Dean or Canons of the Abbey think if, when visiting any of the continental cathedrals, they were to find the bells in a miserable state of repair, and the approaches to them obnoxious from dirt and filth?

The attention of the Abbey authorities has more than once been drawn to this reproach, and appeals to them have been made, not only to have the bells put in order, and the belfry purified, but to provide a ring of bells worthy of the sacred edifice. That the Dean and Chapter had no separate fund available for such a purpose, we are ready to believe, especially the provision of a new ring of bells. But the assertion that it was their bounden duty, as custodians of the edifice, to keep it free from impurity, cannot easily be traversed. Now, however, is their grand opportunity. They can easily obtain sufficient funds, if they will exert themselves *now*. We take the liberty of suggesting to them that they should at once make an appeal to Churchmen at large for a sum sufficient to provide an entire new ring of ten or twelve bells, and the cleansing of the interior of the tower from top to bottom. Such a project carried to success would prove a most appropriate memento of the Queen's long reign. No one doubts for a moment the success of such an effort, if they will move in the matter. We believe that, under present circumstances, the sum required could be obtained ten times over. A scheme for a ring of ten or twelve bells of approved weight and key would be attractive through its novelty and appropriateness, and we have no hesitation in asserting that funds for such a praiseworthy national object would flow in with rapidity. We beg the Capitular body to try—the experiment will certainly be successful; by such a work they will, unwittingly perhaps, be handing their names down to posterity in a manner enduring and lasting.

RYE, SUSSEX.

An association has lately been formed in this town, called The Rye Handbell Ringers' Association, for the purposes of change-ringing and tune playing. About a dozen members have joined to make a start, and very good progress is being made. The following members rang three separate 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles at the last practice, viz.: A. Price, 1; J. Henley, 2; L. A. Vidler, 3; G. Henley, 4; C. Tribe (conductor), 5; S. Reed, 6; and G. Amon rang the treble to one 120. The above are the first 6-scores by Price, Vidler and Reed. Tune playing is also progressing very favourably considering the short time the association has been started.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, March 2, 1897, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHGATE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt.

ARTHUR MILLER Treble.	JOHN MILLER 5.
ARTHUR L. PRICE 2.	HERBERT W. NEWBY .. 6.
WILLIAM WARD 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
WILLIAM J. DELL* 4.	JOHN HOWARD* Tenor.

Composed by J. CARTER and Conducted by WILLIAM WARD.

*First peal on eight bells. First peal as Conductor. W. J. Dell was elected a member of the Society previous to starting for the peal.

The Provinces.

GREAT BENTLEY, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following:

Cambridge Surprise, Kent, Oxford, Double Court, College Single, Oxford Single, and Plain Bob.

HARRY BOWERS Treble.	CHARLES CLARKE 4.
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 2.	GEORGE M. RASHBROOK .. 5.
GEORGE ANDREWS 3.	*WILBY J. HAZELL Tenor.

Conducted by WILBY J. HAZELL.

*First peal as conductor. Messrs. Andrews and Clarke hail from Thorington; Hazell from Little Bentley; Rashbrook from Colchester; Nevard and Bowers are local men.

SHOREHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

FREDERICK DEARING* .. Treble.	EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 5.
GEORGE BAKER 2.	WILLIAM PALMER 6.
GEORGE A. KING 3.	JAMES N. FROSSELL .. 7.
ARTHUR A. FULLER 4.	KEITH HART Tenor.

Composed by FRANK BENNETT and Conducted by KEITH HART.

*First peal and first attempt. This is the first peal on the bells. [This report has been sent by two correspondents.—Ed.]

PLYMOUTH.—THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

(PLYMOUTH AND DEVONPORT BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, February 24, 1897, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT CHARLES CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 23½ cwt. in D.

C. LEGG Treble.	H. MYERS 5.
E. TAYLOR† 2.	W. H. MARSH 6.
REV. J. M. CLARKSON .. 3.	W. FORD 7.
E. HENDY 4.	*C. J. LEAT Tenor.

Conducted by E. TAYLOR.

†First peal of Grandsire as Conductor. *First peal. The above was rung as a compliment to the Rev. Canon Trefusis, on the occasion of his consecration as Suffragan Bishop of Crediton, Devon. The Rev. J. M. Clarkson is Chaplain to H.M.S. *Impregnable*.

CHISLEHURST, KENT.—KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 25, 1897, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE* Treble.	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY .. 5.
EDWIN BARNETT 2.	WILLIAM BEDWELL 6.
GEORGE CONYARD 3.	HARRY WARNETT 7.
ARTHUR J. NEALE 4.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT.

*First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY BRANCH.)

On Thursday, February 25, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5111 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt.

ALFRED FLOWERS Treble.	THOMAS COLLINSON 6.
JOHN JENNINGS 2.	JAMES JONES 7.
ALFRED T. HYLAND 3.	THOMAS W. CHAPMAN 8.
CHARLES SPARKES 4.	JOHN CARTER 9.
HARRY ARGYLE 5.	WILLIAM A. HANCOX .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

This peal has the 6th fourteen times wrong, seventeen times right, and twenty-four times behind the 8th, with all the 5 6s and 6 5s in the Titmums and handstroke home position. Argyle and Chapman hail from Nuneaton.

NORTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, February 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Two Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

THOMAS DIXON Treble.	*ARTHUR SLATER 5.
JOSEPH ATKIN 2.	THOMAS SAREL 6.
EDWIN JAMES† 3.	*JOHN ALLEN 7.
OLIVER DIXON 4.	WILLIAM BIGGIN Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, Chesterfield, and Conducted by WILLIAM BIGGIN.

*First peal. †First peal of Major, also first peal on the bells. Messrs. T. Sarel, T. Dixon and J. O. Dixon belong to the St. Mary's Society, Sheffield, the rest being local men.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 30 cwt.

NOAH DAVIS Treble.	ERNEST C. HUNT 5.
RICHARD E. GROVE 2.	ALBERT E. PARSONS 6.
JOHN O. BENNETT 3.	ADOLPHUS ROBERTS 7.
THOMAS J. SALTER 4.	WILLIAM H. SMITH Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW and Conducted by R. E. GROVE.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

ALFRED W. GRIMES* .. Treble.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. 5.
GEORGE WIGHTMAN 2.	†WILLIAM RUMSEY 6.
WILLIAM GRIMES 3.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	ARTHUR WOODS Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

*First peal on eight bells, and first attempt. †First peal in the method.

ROCHDALE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE ROCHDALE, ROSSENDALE, AND MANCHESTER BRANCHES.)

On Saturday, February 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

JAMES TAYLOR Treble.	EDMUND SCHOFIELD 5.
SAMUEL LORD 2.	WALTER TAYLOR 6.
JOHN HARRISON 3.	JAMES B. TAYLOR 7.
ROBERT WHITTLES* 4.	†GEORGE WALKER Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER TAYLOR.

*First peal. †First peal in the method. The ringers of 1, 2, and 6 hail from Newchurch; 7 from Waterfoot; 8 from Radcliffe; 5 from Rochdale, and 3 from Heywood.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

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

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

WALTER PERKINS Treble.	ALPHEUS PERKINS 5.
WILLIAM VERNON NEWMAN* 2.	WILLIAM PETTITT 6.
ANDERSON YORK TYLER .. 3.	JAMES HOUGHTON, SEN. .. 7.
JOHN B. MARTIN 4.	JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. Tenor.

Composed by the REV. H. EARLE BULWER and Conducted by JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN.

*First peal in the method with a bob bell, and first attempt. The composition will be found in the Central Council peal Appendix for 1895, being the first peal on page 80.

RUSHTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Being seven 720s each called differently.

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs.

ARTHUR ROBINSON Treble.	THOMAS R. HENSHER 4.
CLIFTON NEWMAN 2.	ERNEST UNDERWOOD .. 5.
HERBERT J. JULIAN 3.	WILLIAM R. HENSHEZ .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM R. HENSHER.

This is the first peal on the bells, and the first six-bell peal by all.

SKIPTON, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(AIREDALE BRANCH.)

On Sunday, February 28, 1897, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

W. BAILEY Treble.	*T. BURSLEM 5.
S. DOUGHTY 2.	H. HORNER 6.
E. B. METCALFE 3.	W. BILLOWS 7.
FRED. METCALFE 4.	W. D. HILLARY Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by W. BILLOWS.

*First peal. This peal has the 5th and 6th the extent in 5-6, with the 6th five times at home.

FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 1, 1897, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM WIGHTMAN .. Treble.	HORACE HOWLETT 5.
JAMES HEFFER, JUN. .. 2.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN 6.
WILLIAM FLORY 3.	ALBERT E. READ 7.
JOHN SELF 4.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. Tenor.

Composed by J. BARKER and Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

This peal has the 6th twenty-two times wrong and right. For calling see Sottanstill, page 202.

BEBINGTON.—THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WIRRAL BRANCH.)

On Monday, March 1, 1897, in Two Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES:

Being two 720s of Plain Bob, two of Oxford Bob, one of College Single, one of Canterbury Pleasure, and one of Grandsire.

FRANK JONES Treble.	JOSEPH CLIFFE 4.
HERBERT E. HOUGH 2.	JAMES DILLON 5.
JOSEPH WOOD 3.	EDWIN BREEZE Tenor.

Conducted by EDWIN BREEZE.

First 5040 in five methods by all the band, on the bells, and by the Guild. Messrs. Dillon, Jones, and Wood hail from Bromborough, the rest are local men. Rung as a birthday compliment to the Conductor.

HORSMONDEN, KENT.—KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 1, 1897, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES:

Being Two 720s of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob, each called differently, and One of Grandsire.

EDWIN LAMBERT* Treble.	WILLIAM H. LAMBERT .. 4.
GEORGE HODGE 2.	FREDERICK BUTCHERS .. 5.
FREDERICK J. LAMBERT .. 3.	JIM BEACH Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK J. LAMBERT.

*First peal. This peal was rung as a birthday compliment to G. Hodge.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.**THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.**
(THE DUFFIELD SOCIETY.)

On Monday, March 1, 1897, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt.

JOHN HOWE Treble.	ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 5.
GEORGE DAWSON 2.	BENJAMIN SUGDEN 6.
WILLIAM HICKLING 3.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. 7.
JOHN PATCHETT 4.	THOMAS DRAPER Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

This peal is on the two-part plan, and is believed to be the first of the class yet rung. The figures called given on another page. It is the conductor's 150th peal.

BIRMINGHAM—THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 2, 1897, in Three Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5137 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt. in C.

HENRY BASTABLE Treble.	WILLIAM MUNDY 7.
WILLIAM A. HANCOX 2.	WILLIAM SHORT 8.
WILLIAM H. BARBER 3.	THOMAS MILLER 9.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL 4.	FREDERICK CLAYTON .. 10.
BERNARD WITCHELL 5.	THOMAS REYNOLDS .. 11.
SAMUEL REEVES 6.	JOHN BUFFERY Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON and
Conducted by HENRY BASTABLE.

This peal has the first fifteen courses in the usual Titum position, and the last twenty-four with the large bells home at hand-stroke, and has not been rung before. It is the 200th peal rung by the conductor (see list elsewhere).

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(SUDBURY ARCHIDIACONAL BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, March 2, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 24 cwt.

CHARLES SILLITOE Treble.	WILLIAM J. NEVARD 5.
FRED. WELLS 2.	WILBY HAZEL 6.
ERNEST AMBROSE 3.	ARTHUR H. OSBORNE .. 7.
SAMUEL SLATER 4.	ARTHUR SYMONDS Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by CHAS. SILLITOE.

Mr. C. Sillitoe hails from Sudbury; Wells and Slater from Glemsford; Osborne from Bury St. Edmunds; Ambrose from Melford; Nevard and Hazel from Bentley; Symonds belongs to Lavenham.

**CAMBRIDGE.—CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD AND
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**

On Tuesday, March 2, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

IN MR. WOODHOUSE'S ROOMS, CAIUS COLLEGE,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.

REGINALD H. WHITFORD 1-2.	GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE 5-6.
REV. A. H. F. BOUGHEY 3-4.	JAMES RICKMAN 7-8.
FRANK LL. EDWARDS .. 9-10.	

Composed by H. J. TUCKER and
Conducted by GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE.

Umpire—C. Elsee. This is the first peal of Royal by the Guild and by all the band, and was rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

GRAPPENHALL, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(THE GRAPPENHALL YOUTHS.)

On Tuesday, March 2, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following:

Braintree, College Exercise, London Scholars' Pleasure, Woodbine, Duke of York, New London Pleasure, and Oxford.

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qrs.

JAS. MAINWARING Treble.	ROBT. GEO. LEWIS 4.
HARRY MOSTON 2.	FREDK. T. SPENCE 5.
SAMUEL HORSFALL 3.	CHAS. REG. GREENALL .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHAS. REG. GREENALL.

The above was rung to celebrate the birthdays of the Rev. Richard Greenall and W. Smith, the band wishing them many happy returns of the day.

Date Touches.

CALVERLEY (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, February 16th, at St. Wilfrid's church, a date touch of 1897 London Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 7 mins. F. Grimshaw, 1; W. Child, 2; E. Keighley, 3; C. Pratt, 4; J. Page, 5; W. Hollings, 6; J. Benson, 7; W. Davison, 8. Composed by J. Cordingley and conducted by W. Davison. Tenor 10½ cwt. This touch was rung as a mark of esteem to Mr. John Cordingley on his attaining his 70th birthday.

DARLASTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, February 7th, at the parish church, for evening service, a date touch of 1897 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 8 mins. T. Lowe, 1; S. Pitt, 2; S. Atkins (composer and conductor), 3; J. Adams, 4; J. Foster, 5; W. Smith, 6; E. Unitt, 7; T. Small, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. in E. Messrs. Atkins, Pitt and Adams hail from Willenhall; the rest belong to Darlaston.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—On Tuesday, February 16th, at the church of St. Nicholas, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 14 mins. H. Wright, jun., 1; W. Blyth, 2; R. Christian, 3; T. Tooley, 4; D. Hayward (conductor), 5; G. Orford, 6; J. Matthews, 7; H. Wright, sen., 8. First date touch by the Messrs. Wright.

SKIPTON (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, February 27th, at Holy Trinity church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. and 8 mins. E. Greenwood, 1; J. Soothill, 2; A. Smith, 3; F. Metcalfe, 4; S. Doughty, 5; R. W. Jennison, 6; W. Billows, 7; W. D. Hillary, 8. Composed by J. Soothill and Conducted by E. Greenwood. Messrs. Greenwood, Soothill, Smith and Jennison, hail from Keighley, the rest belong to Skipton.

STAND (Derbyshire).—On Thursday evening, February 18th, for practice at All Saints' church, a date touch of 1897 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 9 mins. W. Houghton, 1; F. Bradshaw, 2; A. Barrett (conductor), 3; W. Warburton, 4; J. Barlow, 5; S. Morris, 6; W. Hilton, 7; J. Bradshaw, 8. Composed by John Howes, Kingston-on-Thames. A. Barrett belongs to Radcliffe.

Miscellaneous.**THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday, January 3rd, at the parish church, 720 Bocking Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Grimwade, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent (conductor), 5; C. Howard, 6. On Tuesday, January 5th, 720 College Exercise. G. Melbourne, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Warren, 3; C. Bearman, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; C. Howard (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, January 12th, 720 College Exercise. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley (first 720 in the method), 2; W. Moore, 3; W. Grimwade, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. Howard (conductor), 6. On Thursday, January 14th, 720 Bob Minor. G. Melbourne, 1; W. Moore (conductor), 2; F. Radley, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent, 5; H. Butcher, 6. On Sunday, January 17th, 720 Bob Minor. G. Whybrow, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 31st, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent (conductor), 5; W. Grimwade, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob standing as before. On Tuesday, February 2nd, 720 New London Pleasure. G. Melbourne, 1; C. Howard (conductor), 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; F. Radley, 5; W. Grimwade, 6. On Tuesday, February 16th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Warren, 3; C. Bearman, 4; S. Sargent (conductor), 5; W. Grimwade, 6. H. Butcher hails from London.

RAYNE (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, February 16th, members of

the St Michael's Guild, Braintree, visited the parish church of All Saints, and rang 1260 of Grandsire Doubles, in 40 mins., each 6-score called differently. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; F. Slade, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; E. Watcher, 5. Tenor 10 cwt. This is the longest length by the 3rd, 4th and 5th ringers, who have learned to ring during the last few months, and great credit is due to them for the rapid progress they have made in the art. This is supposed to be the longest length ever rung upon the bells by a change-ringing band.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Wednesday, February 10th, for practice at St. Michael's church, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. Farrow, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; H. Coote, 5; E. Watcher, 6. Also another 6-score. A. Pilcher, 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pilcher (conductor), 3; W. Farrow, 4; W. Hammond, 5; H. Coote, 6. And on handbells 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. A. Pilcher, 1; H. Collins, 2; C. Howard (conductor), 3-4; H. Coote, 5; H. Pilcher, 6. Also 180 Bob Minor. W. Hammond, 1; H. Collins, 2; P. Holmes, 3; C. Howard (conductor), 4-5; H. Coote, 6. And 360 Bob Minor. W. Hammond, 1; H. Collins, 2; C. Howard (conductor), 3-4; W. Webb, 5; E. Watcher, 6. For Divine Service on Sunday morning, February 14th, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles and 300 Bob Minor. H. Collins, 1; E. Watcher, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; C. Howard (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. On Monday, February 15th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. P. Holmes (first 720 and first attempt), 1; E. Watcher, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; C. Howard (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. Also another 720 Bob Minor called differently. H. Collins, 1; the rest as before. Conducted by C. Howard. On Wednesday, February 17th, for practice, seven 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. H. Collins, 1; H. Pilcher, 2; W. Webb, 3; E. Watcher, 4; C. Howard (conductor), 5. Also two more 6-scores. C. Howard, 1; H. Collins, 2; W. Webb (conductor), 3; H. Pilcher, 4; E. Watcher, 5. For Divine Service on Sunday, February 21st, several more 6-scores. The bells at this church are rung for morning and evening service on Sundays regularly, and for practice on Monday and Wednesday evenings. All brother-ringers will be welcomed.

BARKING (Essex).—On Sunday, February 28th, for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Bob Major, 1264 changes (arranged from one of York Green's peals), in 46 mins. A. D. Mason (first quarter-peal of Major), 1; A. Deards, 2; T. Faulkner (conductor), 3; C. Fenn, 4; R. Fenn, 5; E. Lucas, 6; A. Whight, 7; A. C. Hardy, 8. On Monday, March 1st, on handbells retained in hand, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes (taken from Holt's Original) in 35 mins. C. Fenn, 1-2; R. Fenn, 3-4; T. Faulkner (conductor), 5-6; A. Whight, 7-8.

ST. OSYTH (Essex).—On Sunday, February 21st, before morning service at the parish church, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor. H. Bowers, 1; W. J. Nevard, 2; G. Andrews, 3; C. Clarke, 4; G. M. Rashbrook, 5; W. J. Hazell (conductor), 6. And after service a 720 Oxford Treble Bob standing as before, conducted by W. J. Nevard.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

HORLEY (Surrey).—On Sunday, February 14th, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 3850 changes in 2 hrs. 17 mins., the conductor called "stand" owing to a change-course. G. Thompson, 1; S. Kenward, 2; H. S. Reeves (conductor), 3; A. Songhurst, 4; G. Hoad, 5; F. Hoad, jun., 6; T. Sparks, 7; A. Moseley, 8. Messrs. Songhurst, Sparks, and Kenward belong to Horley; the rest to Reigate.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Sunday, February 14th, at the parish church, for evening service, a 588 of Stedman Triples. H. Reeves, 1; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; G. Thompson, 3; F. Linter, 4; G. Hoad, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Argent, 7; J. Steadman, 8. And after service a 504 of Stedman Triples. F. Linter, 1; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; G. Thompson, 3; E. Kenward, 4; F. Hoad, jun., 5; G. Hoad, 6; W. Argent, 7; J. Steadman, 8. And 350 Grandsire Triples. G. Thompson, 1; F. Hoad, jun., 2; F. Hoad, sen., 3; T. Brown, 4; F. Linter (conductor), 5; E. Kenward, 6; G. Hoad, 7; J. Steadman, 8. And on Monday, February 15th, for practice, a 224 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Thompson, 1; F. Hoad, sen., 2; F. Linter, 3; G. Hoad, 4; F. Hoad, jun., 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Argent, 7; H. Reeves, 8. And a 406 of Grandsire Triples. P. Knight, 1; F. Linter, 2; G. Thompson, 3; E. Kenward, 4; T. Brown, 5; F. Hoad, jun., 6; H. Reeves (conductor), 7; J. Steadman, 8. And 240 Stedman Triples. P. Knight, 1; G. Hoad, 2; F. Linter, 3; E. Kenward, 4; H. Reeves (conductor), 5; F. Hoad, jun., 6; W. Argent, 7; J. Steadman, 8. And on Thursday, February 18th, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing 4794 changes, in 2 hrs. and 55 mins. the 6th rope broke. F. Linter, 1; F. T. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; G. Thompson, 3; G. Hoad, 4; H. Reeves, 5; F. Hoad, jun., 6; W. Argent, 7; A. Moseley, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday evening, February 14th, for

Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 24 mins. R. Cruttenden, 1; W. Harden, 2; J. Capon, 3; J. Cox, 4; G. Burr, 5; J. Leonard (conductor), 6; P. Masters, 7; S. Leonard, 8. Messrs. Burr and Cox hail from Seal Chart; the rest belong to the local band.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On February 21st, 720 London Surprise. A. Cornford, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin (conductor), 5; W. Harper, 6.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Sunday evening, February 21st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. J. Acott, 1; J. Muggridge, 2; G. Henley, 3; J. Harris, 4; G. Smithers, 5; S. Perkins, 6; W. Latter (conductor), 7; H. Wood, 8. Messrs. Acott, Henley, and Harris hail from Brenchley, and this is their first quarter-peal.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On January 5th, at St. Paul's church, a course of Kent Treble Bob Royal. F. Keech, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; C. Chasty, 3; W. Lightfoot, 4; F. Hull, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6; I. Hills, 7; H. Tysoe, 8; F. Smith, 9; J. N. Frossell, 10. Also 224 Superlative Surprise Major. S. J. Cullip, 1; C. Chasty, 2; J. N. Frossell, 3; F. Hull, 4; I. Hills, 5; H. Tysoe, 6; F. Smith, 7; C. W. Clarke, 8. On January 12th, 540 Grandsire Caters. F. Ball, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; F. Hull, 3; H. Sharp (conductor), 4; C. Chasty, 5; W. Hall, 6; I. Hills, 7; H. Tysoe, 8; C. W. Clarke, 9; F. Keech, 10. Rung with the bells deeply-muffled as a token of respect to the late T. G. E. Elger, Esq., late Hon. Treasurer of this Association.

LITTLE STAUGHTON (Beds).—On January 13th, at the Reading Room, on handbells, 120 Grandsire Doubles. G. Saunders, 1; J. Saunders, 2; E. Wildman, 3; A. Wildman, 4; T. Foote (conductor), 5-6. This is the first change-ringing ever done in Little Staughton.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MATHON (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, January 5th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor. E. Smith, 1; J. Hopkison, 2; G. Jordan, 3; C. Layton, 4; C. Watkins, 5; A. Layton (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, January 12th, 720 Plain Bob. E. Smith, 1; C. Thomas, 2; G. Jordan, 3; F. Smith, 4; J. Thomas, 5; C. Watkins (conductor), 6. On Thursday, January 28th, 720 Plain Bob. G. Jordan, 1; C. Hall, 2; C. Thomas, 3; C. Layton, 4; J. Thomas, 5; A. Layton (conductor), 6. On Saturday, February 6th, 720 Plain Bob. G. Jordan, 1; F. Smith, 2; C. Layton, 3; C. Watkins, 4; J. Thomas, 5; A. Layton (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 7th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. Thomas, 1; J. Thomas, 2; F. Smith, 3; A. Layton, 4; C. Watkins, 5; C. Layton (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, February 17th, 720 Plain Bob. A. Layton, 1; C. Thomas, 2; F. Smith, 3; C. Watkins, 4; J. Thomas, 5; C. Layton (conductor), 6. This 720 was rung with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to William Jordan, who died on the 13th ult., aged 19, and was interred that day at Mathon, and was a promising young ringer.

BRIDGNORTH (Salop.).—On Saturday, February 27th, at St. Leonard's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. T. Overton, 1; J. E. Overton (conductor), 2; John Overton, 3; W. Maund, 4; H. Hammond, 5; W. Richards, 6; H. W. Overton, 7; H. Jones, 8. This is J. E. Overton's longest touch as conductor.

CRADLEY (Herefordshire).—On Sunday, February 7th, 720 Plain Bob. E. Smith, 1; E. S. Kings, 2; C. Layton, 3; A. Layton, 4; C. Watkins, 5; F. Smith (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 21st, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. C. Layton, 1; C. Thomas, 2; F. Smith, 3; A. Layton, 4; J. Thomas, 5; C. Watkins (conductor), 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HEENE (Sussex).—On Wednesday, February 17th, at St. Botolph's church, 672 Grandsire Triples. W. Lindup, 1; J. Paice, 2; H. Evans, 3; H. Meetens, 4; E. Lindup, 5; G. Norriss, 6; B. Bassett (conductor), 7; F. Lindup, 8. Longest length by F. and W. Lindup and Norriss. On Sunday, February 28th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 43 mins. T. Greenyer, 1; H. Meetens, 2; J. Paice, 3; G. Norriss, 4; H. Evans, 5; E. Lindup, 6; B. Bassett (conductor), 7; A. Arnell, 8. First quarter-peal by Messrs. Greenyer, Norriss, Lindup, and Arnell. This is also the first quarter-peal by the Heene band.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—On Monday, February 15th, for practice at the parish church, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Bailey, 1; J. Baker (first in the method), 2; W. A. Hall, 3; H. Clayton, 4; C. West (conductor), 5; F. Clayton, 6. And 360 Oxford Bob. J. Bailey, 1; J. Baker, 2; C. West, 3; H. Clayton, 4; F. Clayton, 5; W. A. Hall (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 21st, before evening service, 360 Oxford Treble Bob. H. Clayton, 1; G. Heath, 2;

C. Green, 3; J. Houghton, jun., 4; A. Y. Tyler, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. And after service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. L. Chapman, 1; G. Heath, 2; C. Green, 3; W. Hall, 4; J. Houghton, jun., 5; A. Y. Tyler (conductor), 6. Also 360 Bob Minor. J. Houghton, jun. (conductor), 1; J. Baker, 2; C. Green, 3; A. Y. Tyler, 4; W. A. Hall, 5; L. Chapman, 6. J. Houghton, jun., and A. Y. Tyler belong to Irthlingborough, Northants.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday morning, February 14th, at the parish church, eight members of the St. Lawrence's society rang a 504 Stedman Triples. J. Harrison, 1; W. R. Hexter, 2; W. Hexter, 3; J. R. Ward, 4; J. Poxon, 5; F. C. Wicks, 6; J. Bailey (conductor), 7; A. Makins, 8. And in the evening 840 Stedman Triples. J. Harrison, 1; A. Ricketts, 2; W. R. Hexter, 3; J. R. Ward, 4; J. Poxon, 5; F. C. Wicks, 6; W. Hexter (conductor), 7; A. C. Makins, 8. On Sunday evening, February 21st, 200 and 576 Duffield Major. J. Harrison, 1; W. Hexter, 2; J. R. Ward, 3; A. Ricketts, 4; J. Bailey, 5; F. C. Wicks, 6; J. E. Hexter, 7; J. Poxon (conductor), 8. And on Sunday, February 28th, a 910 of Grandsire Triples. J. Bailey, 1; J. E. Hexter, 2; J. Harrison, 3; W. Hexter, 4; J. Poxon, 5; F. C. Wicks, 6; J. R. Ward (conductor), 7; A. C. Makins, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—FYLDE BRANCH.

KIRKHAM (Lancashire).—On Thursday, February 18th, at St. Michael's church, 1512 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. R. Cookson, 1; W. Billington (conductor), 2; W. Kirby, 3; R. Redman, 4; H. Kirby, 5; T. Cookson, 6; N. Stanhope, 7; J. Kirby, 8. On Saturday afternoon, February 20th, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 20 mins., the ringers standing as above. This is the longest touch by all except W. Kirby and R. Redman.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PENARTH (South Wales).—On Sunday, January 3rd, for morning service, 720 Kent (nine bobs). J. Jones, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; W. B. Biss, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Cox, 6. This is W. Biss's 300th 720. Also for evening service, 720 Plain Bob. T. Northey, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; H. V. Wilkins (Birmingham), 3; W. B. Biss, 4; G. Watkins (Barry), 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, January 5th, for practice, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Vinnicombe, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; W. B. Biss, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Cox, 6. This makes T. Northey's 300th 720. And 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). T. Northey, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; W. B. Biss, 4; J. Cox, 5; J. Vinnicombe, 6. First in the method with a bob bell by J. Cox. On Sunday, January 10th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Jones, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; J. Vinnicombe, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Cox, 6. This makes J. Cox's 57th 720, fifty of which have been rung with the Penarth band. And for evening service, 720 Kent. J. Vinnicombe, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; T. Northey, 4; J. Cox, 5; H. V. Wilkins, 6. On Sunday, January 17th, for morning service, 720 Kent. J. Vinnicombe, 1; D. Thomas (conductor), 2; W. B. Biss, 3; F. Bartlett, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Cox, 6. This makes D. Thomas's 350th 720. And for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Vinnicombe, 1; W. B. Biss (conductor), 2; D. Thomas, 3; F. Bartlett, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Cox, 6. On Tuesday, January 19th, for practice, 720 College Single (eighteen singles and three bobs), composed by J. Crossley. J. Vinnicombe, 1; W. B. Biss, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; F. Bartlett, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Cox, 6. Also 720 Violet (nine bobs). T. Northey, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; W. Biss, 4; J. Cox (first with a bob bell), 5; J. Vinnicombe, 6. On Sunday, January 24th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Jones, 1; W. B. Biss, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; J. Cox, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Vinnicombe, 6. And for evening service, 720 Kent. D. Thomas (conductor), 1; F. Bartlett, 2; T. Northey, 3; A. Rowley, 4; H. V. Wilkins, 5; J. Cox, 6.

THE STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BUCKNALL (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, February 4th, at the parish church, a silent 720 of London Surprise. G. Clarkson, 1; W. Wheeldon, 2; J. E. Wheeldon, 3; C. Preston, 4; D. Preston, 2; W. Twigg, 6. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Preston, 1; C. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; D. Preston, 4; W. Wheeldon, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 14th, a silent 720 of Chester Surprise. G. Clarkson, 1; W. Wheeldon, 2; J. E. Wheeldon, 3; C. Preston, 4; D. Preston, 5; W. Twigg, 6. On Thursday, February 18th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Preston (first 720 in the method), 1; D. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; J. E. Wheeldon, 4; C. Preston, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 21st, a silent 720 of York Surprise. G. Clarkson, 1; W. Wheeldon, 2; J. E. Wheeldon, 3; C. Preston, 4; D. Preston, 5; W. Twigg, 6. The last three 720s

were rung with the bells muffled in memory of Mr. Joseph Twigg, father of Mr. W. Twigg, and grandfather of Mr. G. Clarkson, who died on Tuesday, February 9th, aged 86 years. Deceased was sexton of Bucknall for nearly forty years, and was a great lover of the bells.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GRIMSBY (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, February 20th, 672 Grandsire Triples. G. Weldon, 1; J. Chapman, 2; W. Hayhoe, 3; J. Baker, 4; A. O. Barber, 5; T. O. Nixon (conductor), 6; A. B. Shepherd, 7; E. Clayton, 8. Messrs. Barber and Clayton hail from Frieston, for whom this touch was arranged by T. Dixon, and they wish to kindly thank him and the local ringers for turning up to time.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN (Herts).—On Wednesday, February 9th, 216 Grandsire Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Laurence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Laurence (conductor), 6. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles, conducted by A. Smith. On Sunday afternoon, February 14th, for Divine Service, 120 each of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles. J. Heady, 1; A. Laurence, 2; A. Smith, 3; A. Phillips (conductor), 4; W. Laurence, 5; G. Phillips, 6. On Monday, February 15th, for practice, 360 Bob Minor and 108 Grandsire Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Laurence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Laurence (conductor), 6. And some Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles. On Tuesday, February 16th, the above walked over to Ardley, a distance of five miles, and rang 108 Grandsire Minor, and an attempt was made for a 720 in the same method, but was brought round owing to a mis-call the third lead from home. H. Carter, 1; A. Laurence (aged 13), 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Laurence (conductor), 6. These bells are a very pretty little ring tenor 10 cwt.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

ROMSEY (Hants).—On Saturday, February 6th, for practice, six courses of Grandsire Doubles. Rev. R. A. Sidebottom, 1; J. Elcombe, 2; G. Newman, 3; A. Newman, 4; T. Cole, 5; F. Sidebottom, 6. On Tuesday, February 9th, 168 Grandsire Triples. B. Paskins, 1; J. Elcombe, 2; G. Newman, 3; C. Cole, 4; H. Dunn, 5; A. Newman, 6; T. Cole, 7; G. Saint, 8. Also 518 in the same method. H. Dunn, 1; J. Elcombe, 2; G. Newman, 3; C. Cole, 4; R. White, 5; A. Newman, 6; F. Russen, 7; T. Cole, 8. Longest touch by C. Cole. And 168. W. Gifford, 1; F. Russen, 2; G. Newman, 3; C. Cole, 4; H. Dunn, 5; A. Newman, 6; T. Cole (conductor), 7; R. White, 8.

LEATHERHEAD (Surrey).—On Tuesday, February 16th, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Caters, but unfortunately came to grief after ringing 3000 changes in 2 hrs. through the tenor rope slipping wheel. W. Messam, 1; E. Dunk, 2; W. G. Crockford, 3; H. Wood, 4; H. Wilkinson, 5; J. Wyatt, 6; W. Marks (conductor), 7; A. Dean, 8; E. Hull, 9; F. Hudson, 10.

WINCHESTER.—On Wednesday, February 17th, for practice at the Cathedral, 532 Grandsire Triples. J. Elkins, 1; W. Lampard, 2; C. Choet, 3; R. Hasted, 4; J. Harris, 5; W. J. Sevier, 6; W. H. George (conductor), 7; C. Russell, 8. On Saturday, February 27th, for special practice of Stedman Triples, an attempt was made for a quarter-peal, composed by James Pagett, of Kidderminster, and published in "THE BELL NEWS" of February 20th, but after ringing 500 changes a trip occurred. Afterwards touches of 504, 420, and 168 were rung. W. J. Sevier, 1; G. Smith, 2; C. Choet, 3; R. Hasted, 4; W. Lampard, 5; Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, 6; W. H. George (conductor), 7; D. Froome, 8. Tenor 32 cwt.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

BURNLEY (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, January 19th, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 Kent. R. Hartley, 1; D. Campbell, 2; F. Towns, 3; J. R. Werring, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 24th, for morning service, a 720 Kent. R. Hartley, 1; D. Campbell, 2; T. Redman (conductor), 3; R. Ashworth, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; J. R. Werring, 6. On Tuesday, January 26th, a 576 of Kent. R. Hartley, 1; D. Campbell, 2; F. Towns, 3; J. R. Werring, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Sunday, January 31st, for morning service, a 576 Kent. R. Hartley, 1; F. Towns, 2; D. Campbell, 3; J. R. Werring, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. And for evening service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. T. Mouncey, 1; F. Towns, 2; J. R. Werring, 3; W. Ashworth, 4; N. Townend, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 7th, for morning service, 720 of Kent. R. Hartley, 1; J. R. Werring, 2; R. Ashworth, 3; T. Redman (conductor), 4; F. Towns, 5; T. Mouncey, 6. And for evening service, 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major. R. Hartley, 1; F. Towns, 2; N. Townend, 3; D. Campbell, 4; J. R. Werring, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8.

tor), 8. On Saturday, February 13th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. Smith, sen. (Blackburn), 1; J. Mather (Higher Walton), 2; R. Parkinson (Oswaldtwistle), 3; T. Redman (conductor), 4; J. Eccles (Higher Walton), 5; J. Scholey (Blackburn), 6. On Sunday, February 12th, for evening service, a 576 Kent. R. Hartley, 1; J. R. Werring, 2; T. Mouncey, 3; D. Campbell, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Duxbury (Padiham), 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Tuesday, February 16th, a 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six singles). R. Hartley, 1; F. Towns, 2; J. R. Werring, 3; D. Campbell, 4; N. Townend, 5; T. Redman, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; R. Ashworth (conductor), 8. And for evening service, a 704 in the same method. R. Hartley, 1; N. Townend, 2; F. Towns, 3; B. Campbell, 4; J. R. Werring, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6; T. Mouncey, 7; R. Ashworth, 8.

BANHAM (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, February 9th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor. J. Woods, 1; J. Barham (first 720), 2; R. Patrick, 3; J. Tite, 4; A. Mann, 5; J. Saunders (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 16th, another 720 in the same method. J. Woods, 1; J. Barham, 2; J. Tite, 3; W. Nudds, 4; A. Mann, 5; J. Saunders (conductor), 6.

CRETINGHAM (Suffolk).—On February 13th, four 6-scores of Bob Doubles. J. Creasey, 1; E. Hicks, 2; W. Wightman, 3; S. Wightman (conductor), 4; W. A. Bullock, 5. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire. J. Creasey, 1; A. S. Wightman, 2; W. Wightman, 3; G. Wightman (conductor), 4; S. Wightman, 5. Also on Thursday, February 18th, for practice, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. J. Creasey, 1; E. Hicks, 2; W. Wightman, 3; S. Wightman (conductor), 4; W. A. Bullock, 5.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS (Lancashire).—On Sunday, December 20th, 1896, at the parish church, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and twelve singles), in 24 mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; T. Townson, 2; W. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On Thursday, December 24th, 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 23½ mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; W. Dennison, 2; C. J. A. Cushing, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On Friday, December 25th, for morning service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), T. Watson (conductor), 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On Sunday, January 17th, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and eighteen singles), in 24 mins. J. Huddleston, 1; T. Townson, 2; W. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 7th, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (thirty-four bobs and ten singles), in 25 mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. Townson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On Sunday, February 14th, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. T. Watson, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson (conductor), 5; J. Burrows, 6.

FRAMSDEN (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, February 9th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor, on the back six. G. Vevvy, 1; W. Wightman, 2; G. Thurlow, 3; S. Wightman, 4; W. A. Bullock (first 720 on tower bells), 5; A. S. Wightman (conductor), 6. Also 360 Bob Minor. J. Creasey, 1; J. Ballam, 2; G. Perry, 3; S. Wightman, 4; A. S. Wightman (conductor), 5; A. Woods, 6. On Thursday, February 11th, 504 Bob Triples. A. Woods, 1; W. Wightman, 2; A. S. Wightman, 3; S. Wightman, 4; G. Wightman (conductor), 5; H. Last, 6; G. Vevvy, 7; J. Ballam, 8. This is the longest length by the treble and tenor in this method. On Tuesday, February 16th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Wightman, 1; J. Ballam (first 720 on tower bells), 2; S. Wightman, 3; G. Thurlow, 4; G. Vevvy, 5; A. S. Wightman (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. J. Creasey (first 720), 1; W. Wightman, 2; A. S. Wightman, 3; G. Vevvy, 4; W. A. Bullock, 5; S. Wightman (conductor), 6. Also two courses of Bob Triples. A. Woods, 1; W. Wightman, 2; A. S. Wightman, 3; G. Vevvy, 4; S. Wightman, 5; G. Thurlow, 6; W. A. Bullock, 7; J. Ballam, 8. The brothers Whitman belong to Creetingham; the rest are local men.

HADDENHAM.—On Thursday, February 18th, owing to the kindness of the Rev. W. R. Crookham, Vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Haddenham, giving the members of the St. Peter's Society, Wilburton, the use of the parish church, the following methods were rung: Two 720s College Singles. R. M. Croft, 1; J. Markwell, 2; H. Markwell, 3; A. Hazel, 4; H. Sharp, 5; A. Markwell (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob. Albert Markwell, 1; J. Markwell, 2; H. Markwell, 3; A. Hazel, 4; Arthur Markwell (conductor), 5; H. Sharp, 6. Also 720 Woodbine. James Markwell, 1; Joseph Markwell, 2; A. Markwell (conductor), 3; H. Markwell, 4; A. Hazel, 5; H. Sharp, 6. And 720 Bob Minor. Albert Markwell, 1; A. Hazel, 2; H. Sharp, 3; H. Markwell, 4; Arthur Markwell (conductor), 5; Jas. Markwell, 6.

KIPPERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, February 7th, 672

London Surprise Major. J. Pagett, 1; N. Davis, 2; J. Bennett, 3; W. Smith, 4; E. Hunt, 5; T. Salter (conductor), 6; J. Crane, 7; W. Barber, 8. On Saturday, February 13th, an attempt was made for a peal of Superlative Surprise, which came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 15 mins. J. Barber, 1; A. Parsons, 2; J. Bennett, 3; T. Salter, 4; W. Smith, 5; R. E. Grove, 6; F. Clayton, 7; W. Barber (conductor), 8. On Sunday, February 14th, 224 Cambridge Surprise Major. J. Pagett, 1; N. Davis, 2; J. Bennett, 3; G. Salter, 4; E. Hunt, 5; W. Smith, 6; F. Clayton, 7; W. Barber, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. On handbells at the house of Mr. J. Pagett, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Pagett (conductor), 1-2; W. Barber, 3-4; F. Clayton, 5-6. At the residence of Mr. Salter, on handbells, courses of Stedman Triples, and Grandsire Caters were rung by Messrs. Pagett, Salter (2), Smith, Barber, and Clayton.

KETTERING (Northants).—Recently, at the parish church, 672 Grandsire Triples. G. Toseland, 1; A. Robinson, 2; C. Newman, 3; J. Julian, 4; G. Lewis, 5; E. Underwood, 6; W. R. Hensher, 7; J. Spence (conductor), 8. And 1008 Grandsire Triples. C. Newman, 1; A. Robinson, 2; G. Lewis, 3; T. R. Hensher, 4; J. Julian, 5; J. D. Matthews, 6; T. R. Hensher, 7; J. Spence (conductor), 8. Also 608 Bob Major. G. Toseland, 1; E. Underwood, 2; A. Robinson, 3; J. D. Matthews, 4; G. Lewis, 5; C. Newman, 6; J. Julian, 7; W. R. Hensher, 8. And 768 Bob Major. G. Toseland, 1; C. Newman, 2; A. Robinson, 3; G. Lewis, 4; E. Underwood, 5; W. R. Hensher, 6; J. Julian, 7; J. D. Matthews (conductor), 8. Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples from Holt's Original. G. Toseland, 1; W. R. Hensher, 2; A. Robinson, 3; E. Underwood, 4; J. Julian, 5; T. R. Hensher (conductor), 6; J. D. Matthews, 7; J. Spence, 8. And 1008 Grandsire Triples. G. Toseland, 1; E. Underwood, 2; A. Robinson, 3; T. R. Hensher (conductor), 4; J. Julian, 5; J. D. Matthews, 6; W. R. Hensher, 7; J. Spence, 8. Also 700 Grandsire Triples. G. Toseland, 1; C. Newman, 2; A. Robinson, 3; E. Underwood, 4; G. Lewis, 5; J. Julian, 6; W. R. Hensher (conductor), 7; J. Spence, 8. And 336 Bob Triples. G. Toseland, 1; C. Newman, 2; A. Robinson, 3; E. Underwood, 4; G. Lewis, 5; J. Julian, 6; W. R. Hensher, 7; J. Spence (conductor), 8. Also 1050 Grandsire Triples. W. R. Hensher, 1; C. Newman, 2; A. Robinson, 3; J. Julian, 4; G. Lewis, 5; E. Underwood, 6; J. D. Matthews (conductor), 7; J. Spence, 8. **Handbell Ringing.**—A 672 Bob Major. E. Wonfor, 1; E. Underwood, 2; C. Newman, 3; A. Robinson, 4; J. D. Matthews, 5-6; W. R. Hensher (conductor), 7-8. Also 224 Bob Major. E. Wonfor, 1; A. Robinson, 2; J. D. Matthews (conductor), 3-4; W. R. Hensher, 5-6; C. Newman, 7-8. And 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. E. Wonfor, 1; A. Robinson, 2; J. Julian, 3; W. R. Hensher, 4; C. Newman, 5; E. Underwood, 6; J. D. Matthews (conductor), 7-8. Also a course of Bob Royal. E. Wonfor, 1; A. Robinson, 2; E. Underwood, 3; C. Newman, 4; J. Julian, 5; T. R. Hensher, 6; J. D. Matthews, 7-8; W. R. Hensher, 9-10. And a course of Grandsire Caters and two courses of Bob Royal. E. Wonfor, 1; G. Lewis, 2; C. Newman, 3; E. Underwood, 4; J. Julian, 5; A. Robinson, 6; J. D. Matthews, 7-8; W. R. Hensher, 9-10.

LONDON.—On Tuesday, February 16th, at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, 700 Grandsire Triples. G. Brush, 1; H. Cotton, 2; A. V. Selby, 3; W. Judd, 4; Rev. L. G. Percival (longest length), 5; W. Fox, 6; W. E. Garrard (conductor), 7; H. Wilson, 8. On Feb. 24th, on the occasion of the consecration of the Hon. and Rev. E. Carr Glyn as Bishop of Peterborough, 700 Grandsire Triples with 9-8-10 behind. G. Brush, 1; W. E. Garrard (conductor), 2; G. Langford, 3; W. Judd, 4; A. Bradley, 5; W. Fox, 6; W. Elson, 7; F. Edwards, 8; A. Bulgin, 9; G. Judd, 10. On Thursday, February 25th, at the church of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, for practice, the last 742 of Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, in 26 mins. C. H. Deer, 1; H. Green, 2; W. Truss, 3; T. H. Taffender (conductor), 4; W. Humberstone, 5; F. Clements, 6; W. Langdon, 7; W. H. Smith, 8. Longest touch by C. H. Deer.

SELBY (Yorks).—On a recent Sunday morning, for Divine Service at the Abbey Church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 29 mins. H. Cressey, 1; T. Collinson, 2; F. Cobbhirst (first 720 with a bob bell), 3; H. Fairlam, 4; F. Webburn, 5; F. Cryer (conductor), 6; A. Dobson, 7; T. Strudwick, 8. Rung on the front six. On February 14th, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 29 mins. H. Cressey, 1; T. Collinson, 2; F. Cobbhirst, 3; F. Webburn, 4; S. James, 5; F. Cryer (conductor), 6; A. Dobson, 7; H. Fairlam, 8. In the evening 672 Grandsire Triples, being the longest touch in the method by the band. T. Collinson, 1; F. Cobbhirst, 2; H. Fairlam, 3; F. Webburn, 4; S. James (conductor), 5; F. Cryer, 6; A. Dobson, 7; T. Strudwick, 8. On Sunday evening, February 21st, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor. H. Cressey, 1; T. Collinson, 2; F. Webburn, 3; H. Fairlam, 4; F. Cryer (conductor), 5; A. Dobson, 6; T. Strudwick (cover), 7. First 720 of Treble Bob by H. Cressey on the treble; first 720 with a bob bell by T. Collinson. For morning service 360 Bob Minor: ringers as above.

Compositions.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

By A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

5040.

2 3 1 4 5 6	S	H	L	Q
3 4 6 1 2 5 s2				
2 1 6 4 3 5	-			
(2 3 1 4 5 6)		-		s 14
3 5 6 4 1 2	-	-		
1 4 6 5 3 2	-		-	
3 4 2 5 1 6	-			
1 5 2 4 3 6	-		-	
5 4 1 3 2 6	-	-	-	
4 2 6 3 1 5	-	-		
2 1 5 3 6 4	-	-		
6 1 4 3 2 5	-			
1 2 5 3 4 6	-	-		
2 4 6 3 5 1	-	-		
4 5 1 3 6 2	-	-		
5 6 2 3 1 4	-	-		
1 3 2 6 5 4	-		-	
5 3 4 6 1 2	-			
3 6 5 1 4 2	-	-	-	
6 1 3 4 5 2	-	-		
5 4 3 1 6 2	-		-	
4 6 2 1 3 5	-	-		
3 1 2 6 4 5	-		-	
4 1 5 6 3 2	-			
1 6 4 3 5 2	-	-	-	
6 3 1 5 4 2	-	-		
4 3 2 5 6 1	-			
3 6 1 5 2 4	-	-		
6 5 3 2 1 4	-	-	-	
5 2 6 1 3 4	-	-		
2 3 4 1 6 5	-	-		
6 3 5 1 2 4	-			
3 2 4 1 5 6	-	-		

Repeat from s 14.

This composition, constructed from a two-part table, and published in 1890, is not known to have been previously rung, in which case it is the first peal of this class.

First rung at Duffield, on Monday, March 1st, 1897, Conducted by its Composer.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By WILLIAM WALMSLEY, Macclesfield.

6048.

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

Five times repeated, with s for B at 4 in the 3rd and 6th parts.

In this peal the 3rd is never in 6ths place, and the 2nd never in 5-6 at a course-end, nor is the 2nd ever before the 8th or after the 7th throughout the whole peal; also all the combinations of 4, 5, 6 in 5-6. The author does not claim any merit from the calling of the peal, only the adaptation, which produces the above mentioned qualities.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By WILLIAM WILLSON, Leicester.

5003.

2 3 4 5 6 9 7 8	I	2	3	4	5
6 5 3 2	-	-			
5 2 3 6	s	-	-		
3 6 2 5	s	-	s		
2 5 6 3	s	-	s		
5 3 6 2	s	-	-		
3 2 6 5	s	-	-		
6 5 2 3	s	-	s		
2 3 5 6	s	-	s		
3 6 5 2	s	-	-		
5 2 6 3	s	-	s		
6 3 2 5	s	-	s		
2 5 3 6	s	-	s		
5 6 3 2	s	-	-		
6 2 3 5	s	-	-		
3 5 2 6	s	-	s		
2 6 5 3	-		s		
6 3 5 2	s	-	-		
3 2 5 6	s	-	-		
5 6 2 3	s	-	s		
2 3 6 5	s	-	s		
3 5 6 2	s	-	-		
6 2 5 3	s	-	s		
5 3 2 6	s	-	s		
2 6 3 5 4 8 7 9	s	-	s		

Repeating these twenty-four courses, calling 9th in three all bobs in lieu of first course produces—

2 6 3 5 4 9 7 8	s	I	and 8 9
3 6 4 2 5	s	I	and 8 9
4 3 6 2 5	s	I	and 8 9
5 2 3 4 6	s	I	and 8 9
6 4 2 5 3	s	I	and 8 9
2 5 4 6 3	s	I	and 8 9
4 2 5 6 3	s	I	and 8 9

9th in and out at two as usual.

This peal contains the extent of alternate 8 7 9 and 9 7 8 course-ends with a fixed bell in 6ths; also the 5th and 6th behind the eighth and ninth on the plan.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By JAMES TANN, Pulham, Norfolk.

5040.

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

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By G. CLEAL, Leicester.

5021.

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

Repeat the last twenty-four courses omitting last call gives—

6 2 5 4 3 9 7 8
3 2 5 4 7 6 9 8 9th in with s and out.

* These twenty-four courses are produced by 8th in three, the middle call being a single; those courses marked s, the 3rd call is a single also.

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS.

By JOHN CARTER, Birmingham.

5016.

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

The extent of the 5th right with the 6th undisturbed.

TWO QUARTER-PEALS OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

By GEORGE ASTBURY, Flixton.

231456	4 8 12	231456	5 6 7 8 12 13
236451 s		345261	- - - -
631452		426315	- - - -
452316	- - s	125346	- - - -

Each four times repeated.

The first quarter-peal is the longest length yet composed in the method with such a small number of calls.

Notices.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Salop.—The next monthly meeting will be held at High Ercall, to-day, Saturday, March 6th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 4 p.m.
J. MACKAY, *Hon. Sec.*

Leaton Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Bucknall, to-day, Saturday, March 6th. A new peal-board will be unveiled at this meeting.
REV. J. W. ALSTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG, }

South and West Middlesex Guild.—The next monthly meeting will be held (by kind permission of the Rev. R. Digby Ram), at Hampton, to-day, Saturday, March 6th. Ringing at 5.30.
HY. F. G. LUCK, *Hon. Sec.*
7, Warwick Place, Ealing.

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Thomas' church, St. Helens, to-day, Saturday, March 6th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m.
HENRY COLEY, *Branch Sec.*
3 Rumsford Place, Liverpool.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Tuesday, March 9th, at 8 p.m. Business meeting afterwards at head-quarters.
W. T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*
37, Tradescant Road, South Lambeth, S.W.

Midland Counties' Association.—Notice.—Will all members whose present addresses are incorrect in the 1895 report, kindly notify me or their local secretaries at once.

J. O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.*
22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.

The Midland Counties' Association.—Nottingham District.—The annual meeting for the election of officers will be held in the belfry of All Saints' church on Saturday, March 13th, at 6.30 prompt. Ringing after business.
W. E. WHITE, *Local Hon. Sec.*
Cotgrave, Notts.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Alban's Church, Rochdale, on Saturday, March 13th. Bells ready at 4.30 p.m., meeting, 6 p.m., all ringers especially invited.

E. B. SHAW, } *Branch Sec.*
14, Thomas Street, Lees. }

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting of this branch will be held on March 20th, at St. Paul's Church, Ramsbottom. The bells will be ready for ringers any time during the afternoon. The Rev. J. J. Lewis has kindly offered to provide tea to those ringers sending their names to J. Wolstenholme, 33, Crow Lane, Ramsbottom, not later than the 16th. Business meeting to follow tea.
J. H. BANKS, } *Branch Sec.*
Helmshore. }

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MAIDSTONE DISTRICT.—The annual district meeting was held at Aylesford on Saturday, February 27th. The belfry was opened at 3 o'clock, and soon afterwards the bells were set going in various Standard methods, except during service time and tea time, till past nine o'clock. Ringers attended from Aylesford, Bearsted, Boxley, Harrietsham, Maidstone, and Malling, in the district; and from Borden, Charing, Gillingham, Milton-next-

Gravesend, Rochester, and Swanscombe outside the district. A short service was held at 5.30, at which hymns 270 and 280 A&M were sung by the ringers. This was followed by a District Committee meeting, at which Mr. Palmer was re-elected district representative, and the Rev. A. L. Brine was re-elected District Secretary, and two new full, and five new probationary members were elected. The senior curate presided at the capital knife and fork tea at The Chequers, at which over sixty members sat down. Much regret was felt at the absence, through severe illness, of the vicar, who had so kindly placed his church and bells at the disposal of the Association. After tea, before an adjournment was made in the direction of the tower, the following resolution (on the proposition of Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Leonard) was carried unanimously: "In the opinion of the Maidstone District, Whit-Monday is the day most convenient to ringing members for the annual general meeting of the Association."

S. PETER'S CHURCH, JARROW.

UNVEILING OF MEMORIALS.

On Wednesday evening, a special service was held in S. Peter's Church, Chaytor Street, the object being the unveiling of memorials to the late Bishop Burn, who was the first Vicar, and to the late Mr. Joseph Andison, a chorister and bellringer, who was one of the victims of the terrible shooting tragedy which took place at Jarrow, in January of last year. The memorial to the late Mr. Andison is a beautiful inlaid tablet placed on one of the sides of the church, bearing the following inscription: "To the Glory of God, and in memory of Joseph Andison, four years a chorister and six years a bellringer in the church. Born, April 17th, 1874; died, January 19th, 1896. The tablet cost £15; £4 5s. 5d. of this was given by ringers, members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association."

MR. BASTABLE'S TWO HUNDRED PEALS.

Among this week's records will be found one of a peal of Stedman Cinques rung at Birmingham, being the 200th peal rung by the above-named gentleman. They are: Grand-sire Triples 32, conducted 21; Major 2, conducted 1; Caters 13, conducted 3; Cinques 3, conducted 1. Stedman Triples 50, conducted 31; Caters 40, conducted 11; Royal 1; Cinques 22, conducted 11. Kent Treble Bob Major 8, conducted 4; Royal 8, conducted 5; Maximus 2, conducted 2. Bob Major 5, conducted 1. Bob Royal 2. Double Norwich Court Bob Major 7, conducted 1. Duffield Royal 2. Duffield Maximus 1. Superlative Surprise Major 1. In four methods 1, conducted 1. Total, 200; conducted 93.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

F. BENNETT.—We are sorry we cannot help you; try the publisher.

LEX.—We have had enquiries of a similar nature from you before. Napoleon I. was the incarnation of self, and figuratively speaking had a heart no larger than a nutmeg. Get his life by Sir Walter Scott.

R. S.—Yes; rang with both; the late W. Royle at Bethnal Green, and Mr. J. Barrow at Long Eaton.

PROTESTANT.—Theological questions we cannot advise upon.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED by young man a situation as in-door servant, or would not object to other work; age 25; 10 years' experience as footman; 3½ years in present situation. Can ring Minor methods, and Grand-sire and Plain Bob on eight. Member of Oxford Diocesan Guild. Address W. H., care of Editor.

WANTED a situation as first-class Finisher in the Bookbinding Trade; age 22. Change-ringer in Surprise methods.—Charles H. Fowler, 4, Pembroke Street, St. Aldates, Oxford.

WANTED situation as Gardener, or any other capacity; use to horses, and willing to be generally useful. Total abstainer; good change-ringing Instructor.—Address X Y Z, care of Editor.

COULD anyone help me to get a situation; am willing to do anything. By trade a six-quarter Tapestry Weaver. Can ring Double Norwich, Stedman, Superlative, Cambridge, and London Surprise. Can conduct in method I can ring. I am willing to give my services as a ringer for getting employment. Married; 29 years of age; 15 years' character.—W. H. Smith, Lark Hill, Kidderminster.

SITUATION Wanted as under Gardener, or single-handed am not particular as to any other sort of work. Age 21. Five years good character. Change-ringer. Member of St. Mary's Society, Beddington.—A. Clayton.

WANTED Situation as Sexton (understands duties), or any place of trust. Good change-ringer in all Standard Methods. Married; age 32; good testimonials. Member of Kent County Association and College Youths. Address, B.Y., care of Editor.

SITUATION Wanted as Foreman or Manager in Rubber Works. Thoroughly understands the business. Twenty-three years' experience in England and America. Can ring Standard methods.—John Wright, King's Norton, Birmingham.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED Compositor (news). One who can assist in proof reading preferred. Must be a change-ringer. Apply W. K. Morton, Printer, Horncastle.

TO HAIRDRESSERS.—Wanted a thorough good gents' hand. One that can ring standard methods preferred; also a boy to lather. State terms to E. J. Heathorn, Woolston, Southampton.

WANTED.—Young man about 18, to work circular saw—cutting small handles (not difficult work) and fill up time in timber yard. Constant work if change-ringer (peal of eight). Apply E. James, Hardy Patent Pick Co., Heeley, Sheffield.

Handbells Wanted.

WANTED.—A peal of eight handbells, second-hand, in good condition, cheap, for change-ringing. G. Stacey, Dulverton, Somerset.

WANTED.—A peal of eight, in good condition. Particulars to G. Pound, Boxley, Maidstone, Kent.

Handbells for Sale.

TO Handbell Ringers.—What offers, cash or exchange. Seventy-five Bells. 2½ to 11½ inches in diameter. Complete on wooden frame.—W. Mumby, Newark, Notts.

FOR SALE.—Complete set of Handbells in good condition, fully up to pitch, the property of the Birkby Baptist Chapel.—For particulars, apply to J. Wood and Sons, New Street, Huddersfield.

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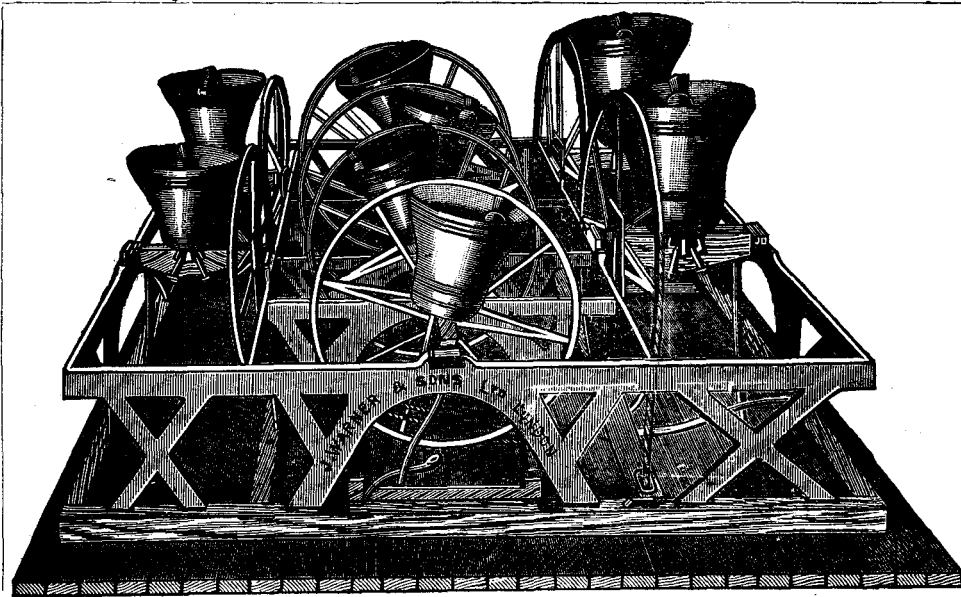
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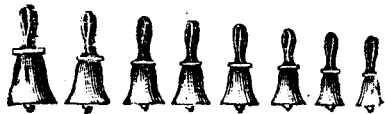
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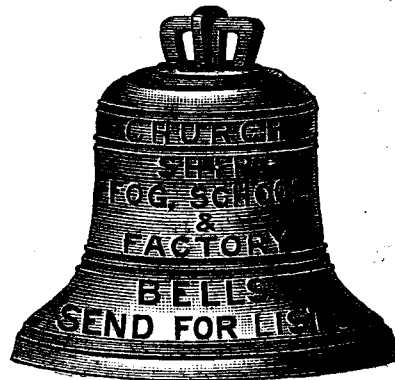
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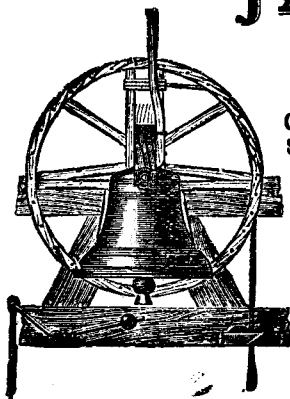
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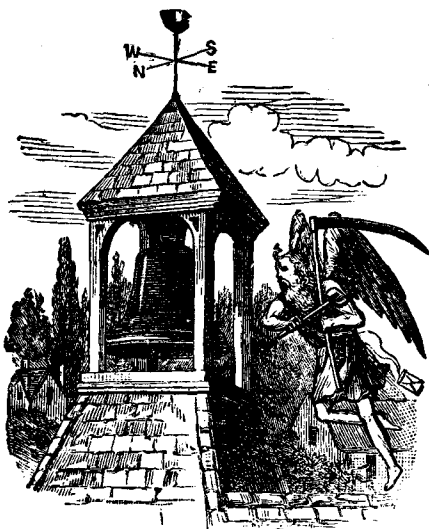
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Church.	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
Gateshead Clock Twr.	Dunstold Parish Ch.
Duke of Albany Memo-	Aylesford do.
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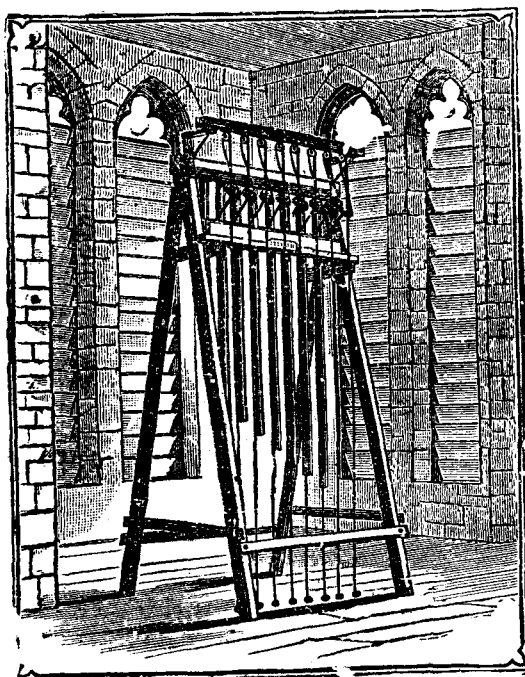
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| No. 319.—"Hark the Bonny Christ Church Bells," (for 6 ringers with thirteen bells thus: C D E F G A B C D E F G A | .. | 1 | 6 |
| No. 320.—"The Mountaineers' Waltz on Swiss Melodies." | .. | 1 | 6 |
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| Both arranged for 6 ringers with two octaves in the chromatic scale—D 21 to D 7. | | | |
| No. 104.—Glee "Time fly with greater speed," for two octaves, chromatic—G 18 to G 4. | .. | 1 | 0 |
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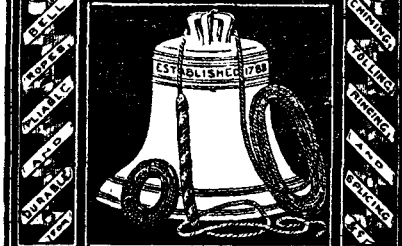
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 779.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1897.

[Vol. XV.]

THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 27th, a meeting of the Guild was held at Christ Church, Bootle, when upwards of 70 ringers attended from the following places: Aughton, Crosby, Bootle, Crossens, Hindley, Wigan, Sefton, Tue Brook, Ormskirk, &c. Previous to the meeting, by the kindness of the authorities, the Allan Line Steamer, Parisian, lying in No. 3 Alexandra Dock, was open for the visitors, of which due advantage was taken and were met on board by Mr. Hartnell, who showed them through this magnificent vessel, including saloon, officers' quarters, engine room boiler house, coal bunkers, chart room, &c., where everything was explained, being instructive as well as interesting. After leaving the vessel a move was made to the church, where a short service was held, the vicar, the Rev. Wynne Williams, giving a short address, taking for his text John xi. 5. After service the ringers adjourned to the schools, where a most substantial supper was provided, which was gracefully presided over by the ladies. A musical programme was arranged, and on the motion of the vicar, Mr. E. Hartnell occupied the chair, Miss Hartnell rendering with grace and effect a piano solo "Those Evening Bells," also singing "Home they brought her Warrior Dead" and "My Arab Steed." The Rev. C. A. Samwell gave a short humorous address, which brought forth rounds of applause, Mr. McLean sang "The White Squall" and "Down in the Valley of the Jubilee." Mr. A. Russell, in his humorous sketch "The Irishman on his Continental Travels," caused much laughter. Mr. Barton (Bootle) recited "Christmas Day in the Workhouse," Mr. Hall (Wigan), sang "A Friar of Orders Grey."

Mr. Hutton (Ormskirk), on behalf of the Guild, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the vicar for his kind and genial reception. He was sure those present would carry away with them the good advice propounded in his address. Such meetings he felt assured were bound to bring forth good results. The vote of thanks were seconded by Mr. W. Bentham, ringing secretary. Vote of thanks to Mr. Martin (to whom they were greatly indebted for the arrangement of the evening, and for the great interest he had taken in the Guild ever since its formation) and the ladies, were unanimously carried. Mr. Martin, in a short speech, pointed out the unsectarian nature of the Bells as far as their vitality were concerned, and the help and advantage all denominations derived from their use. Bearing in mind the fact that the bell towers were so far apart, it spoke well for the earnestness of the ringers that members of the Guild were present that evening in such goodly numbers. There were present the vicar (the Rev. Wynne Williams), Rev. W. T. Bulpit, corresponding Secretary, Mr. W. Bentham, ringing Secretary, Mr. John Martin, Treasurer, Revs. A. M. Samwell, C. A. Compton, Messrs. W. Short, Barton, and Dr. Moir (Bootle), Mr. Hutton (Ormskirk), Mr. R. Musker (Sefton), Mr. J. Roughley (Maghull), Messrs. J. James, Hindus, Alex. Smith, Underhay, E. Hartnell, W. Williams, &c. The following ladies were also present: Mrs. Hartnell, Williams, Barton, Misses Musker, Hartnell, Valentine, Ramsey, Bulpit, Atherton and Underhay. The supper arrangements were gracefully presided over by Miss Atherton, assisted by Mrs. Barton, Miss Ramsay, and Miss Valentine.

BARTON-UNDER-NEEDWOOD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Monday evening, March 8th, at St. James's Church, several plain courses of Grandsire Triples were rang, by the recently-formed band of amateur ringers. This band was only formed last autumn and great credit is due to the members for the rapid progress they have made in the art, only one having previously pulled a bell. Mr. Joseph Griffin came over from Burton and kindly gave his assistance, for which the members thank him.

LECTURE ON CHURCH BELLS AT LIVERPOOL.

The members and friends of the Toxteth Habitation of the Primrose League assembled in the Montpelier rooms, Granby Street, Liverpool, on the 15th ult., to hear a lecture on "Church Bells." Mr. T. Kneen (supported by a body of local gentlemen) presided, and briefly introduced the lecturer, Mr. Councillor W. J. Burgess, also the Walton handbell ringers.

Mr. Burgess then proceeded with his subject, which was handled in a masterly manner, the lecture proving a literary treat of the highest order. Humour, eloquence, poetry, and pathos, combined with historical reminiscences, conveyed to his audience an impression of ability which will certainly cause the members to look forward with interest to a second visit from Mr. Burgess. The lecture was illustrated by lime-light views, interspersed with handbell ringing, and embraced bells from the earliest ages to the present time, whilst the processes of bellfounding were all portrayed by admirable views, those which illustrated the industrial activity of the various departments of the bellfounding being particularly interesting. Very fine pictures of several cathedrals were shewn, notably those of St. Paul's and York Minster. Walton church (near Liverpool) was also shewn, and the lecturer, after describing the inscriptions on the bells, went on to say that the gentlemen who were providing the musical part of the programme were the tower bellringers at this church. He also read the lines called "The Speech of Walton Tenor Bell," which appeared in this paper a few weeks ago.

At the conclusion of the lecture Mr. Councillor Samuel proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Burgess, which was carried unanimously; a special vote of thanks was also accorded the handbell ringers for the musical treat they had afforded the audience, which was carried with acclamation. The following programme was played during the evening: "When there's love at home;" "Men of Harlech;" "Carrie Lee;" "O come all ye faithful;" "Follow on;" "Dare to be a Daniel;" and "Auld lang syne." The performers were: Messrs. C. E. Wilson (conductor), H. H. Barker, J. W. Bell, H. Harrison, J. Kelly, G. Somerville, and F. Waistell. The handbells used in connection with the above were supplied by Messrs. Shaw, of Bradford, Yorks.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Hon. Secretary would be greatly obliged if Honorary Secretaries of Societies would be kind enough to pay the contributions of their Societies for the current year as soon as possible: at the same time forwarding the names and addresses of their representatives, and the number of members of the Society represented. The subscriptions of the following Societies have been received and acknowledged up to date: Norwich Diocesan, Durham and Newcastle, Essex, Oxford Diocesan, Devonshire, Bedfordshire, Hereford Diocesan, College Youths, South Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire, Kent County, St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, Middlesex, Leeds and District, Midland Counties, Royal Cumberland, Chester Diocesan, Herts. County.
6th March, 1897. H. EARLE BULWER, Hon. Sec. C.C.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, March 2nd, at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. G. Somerville, 1: A. Richardson, 2; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Rodger, 5; H. Harrison, 6. A. Richardson hails from Bootle, and it is his first 720 in the method. Tenor 9 cwt.

NORTH'S ENGLISH BELLS AND BELL LORE.
Illustrated. Price 12s., postage 6d. Should be in the hands of Bell lovers.—W. H. EATON, Publisher, Leek, Staffs.

CHADDESLEY CORBETT, WORCESTERSHIRE.

The ringers of this parish church, with a few friends, were kindly invited by Mr. and Mrs. Wain, son-in-law and daughter of the worthy hostess of The Swan hotel, of this village, to a repast, the occasion being the removal of the family from the village after a residence therein for upwards of a quarter of a century. The ringers met at the tower previous to the supper when a date touch of Grandsire Triples was started for, and all went well till four leads from home, when the 5th rope broke and came down, thus putting an end to what would have been an excellently-struck date touch, much disappointment being expressed at such an abrupt termination. An adjournment was at once made to the hotel, where an excellent spread in the assembly room was partaken of, the disappearance of the edibles showing that the disappointment in the tower had not hurt the ringers' appetite. After the removal of the cloth, Mr. Wain was voted to the chair, and Mr. J. Broad to the vice-chair. Mr. Wain, on taking the position, said that Mrs. Wain and himself had decided to invite the ringers with a few other friends to supper with them that evening, and also to spend a few hours in harmony and conviviality, and he hoped all would enjoy themselves. He would call on Mr. Pratt for the first song, who with his usual ability gave "Where the stream gently ripples." Mr. J. Perrins next gave "Genevive," which was heartily applauded, he being in fine voice. Mr. J. Broad (Captain) then rose and said that he had a toast to give which he need not say would be heartily received, and that was "The Health of Mr. and Mrs. Wain." He knew that he was speaking the minds of the ringers when he said that they all highly appreciated the honour of being entertained by them. The toast was drank with musical honours. Songs were also given by Messrs. Broad, Gilbert, Chance, and others, when Mr. Pratt proposed "Many happy returns of the day" to Mrs. Wain, it being her birthday. Mrs. Wain in reply thanked them all for their kind wishes, and said it gave her great pleasure to meet the ringers of her native village once more. In talking these doings over with Mr. Wain they had decided to give them this supper, not only on their own account, but in remembrance of her dear father, who took such great interest in ringing and the ringers. Then followed a duet by Miss Fanny Horne and Mr. J. Perrins, "A storm in a Teacup," which was very well rendered. Mrs. Wain gave "Bid me goodbye," with all her old charm. Other songs followed, when "Dame Durden" was given by Mrs. Wain and Messrs. Perrins, Broad, and Bough, which was heartily enjoyed by all present. The company shortly after broke up, each and all having spent a most enjoyable evening, "Auld Lang Syne" being sung in true Scotch fashion.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, HARROGATE.

On Sunday, March 7th, with the bells deeply muffled as a last token of respect for the late Mr. James Courtney Haigh, who was a late churchwarden of St. Mary's, and during whose term of office, mainly through the instrumentality of his wife, two trebles were added to the peal of St. Mary's church, the following ringers—J. Fozard, 1; J. Mann, 2; J. Benson, 3; H. Robinson, 4; H. Dickinson, 5; J. Ireland, 6; H. Brown (conductor), 7, rang for morning service a touch of Plain Bob Minor with the seventh covering. And for evening service the usual whole pull and stand was rang on the eight bells by the following band: J. Mann, 1; F. Durdy, jun., 2; F. Durdy, 3; J. Benson, 4; H. Dickinson, 5; J. Ireland, 6; H. Brown, 7; W. Turner, 8. On Thursday, March 4th, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. F. Durdy, jun., 1; J. Benson, 2; H. Dickinson, 3; H. Robinson, 4; H. Brown, 5; W. Turner (conductor), 6. This is F. Durdy's first 720, and was rung on his second attempt, he being a promising young ringer of fourteen summers. And a course of Treble Bob Major. J. Fozard, 1; J. Benson, 2; J. Mann, 3; H. Robinson, 4; H. Dickinson, 5; F. Durdy, 6; H. Brown, 7; W. Turner (conductor), 8. This is J. Fozard's first course of Kent; also J. Benson's first course of Kent Major on a bob bell.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 1s. 2d.; cloth do., 1s. 8d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading, Berks.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL, LANCASHIRE.

MARRIAGE OF MR. F. MUSKER TO MISS M. A. HUGHES.

On Wednesday morning, February 3rd, amid a storm of snow and sleet, the marriage of the above took place at St. Mary's parish church, Walton, near Liverpool. The marriage took place at 8 o'clock in the morning, the nuptial knot being tied by the Rev. Canon Leigh, rector of Walton, and although the hour was so early, a good number of friends assembled to witness the ceremony. After it was over, Mr. and Mrs. Musker journeyed to London, where they spent their honeymoon. Mr. Musker is well-known in Walton, he being parish clerk of the church, a position he has held since the death of his father, which took place about five years ago. He comes of a ringing family, his father, uncles, and grandfather all being ringers in their day. He is also a ringer himself, and occasionally comes and pilots the treble through a 720, but owing to his duties he is not able to take an active part in all that goes on in the belfry.

In honour of the event recorded above, the ringers assembled on Saturday evening, February 6th, and rang 720 Oxford Single Bob Minor (twenty-four singles). G. Somerville, 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; C. E. Wilson (composer and conductor), 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. The above 720 was composed on Mr. and Mrs. Musker's wedding day. A 720 College Single Minor (eighteen bobs and fourteen singles) was also rung. May the future of Mr. and Mrs. Musker be bright and prosperous, is the sincere and hearty wish of the ringers of Walton.

"Since you have now joined hand in hand,
Life's journey to pursue;
May you be blessed with happiness,
And peace and plenty too;
Long life, health and prosperity,
Be yours while here below;
And may you meet in Heaven above,
Where joys eternal flow."

A RINGER'S WEDDING AT WHITWICK, LEICESTERSHIRE.

On Tuesday, February 16th, the wedding of Mr. J. T. Allen to Miss Emily Newman, was solemnised at the parish church. The ringers rung a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Rawson, 1; W. West, 2; A. Whitmore, 3; S. West, 4; A. Mould, 5; B. Webb, 6; L. Partridge, 7; F. Boam, 8. Composed by T. Ware, Old Windsor, conducted by A. Mould. Afterwards the ringers adjourned to The King's Arms, and partook of a very substantial supper, provided by host and hostess Beniston, to which full justice was done. The evening was spent in singing and tunes upon the handbells, time passing only too quickly. On Sunday, March 7 (for Divine Service), a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung: J. Rawson, 1; S. West, 2; A. Mould, 3; W. West, 4; H. Partridge, 5; B. West, 6; L. Partridge, 7; F. Boam, 8. Conducted by H. Partridge.

RINGERS WHO ARE ODDFELLOWS.

The following letters appeared in the *Oddfellows Magazine* for March:—

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In your Magazine for November, 1896, I notice a peal of 5040 changes being rung on six bells at Chipping, Lancashire, by Oddfellows, all being members of the same lodge, and considered the first peal on record by ringers all being members of the same lodge. In March Magazine, 1896, we find a peal rung on eight bells at Battle, Sussex, and believed to be the first peal rung by Oddfellows. In the April, 1889, Magazine we find a peal rung at St. Albans Cathedral by eight members of the Lord Bacon Lodge, St. Albans, also claimed to be the first by Oddfellows. Thus it is a very difficult thing to know who and when the first peal was rung by Oddfellows. One thing I must confess, and that is that several really good ringers on both six, eight, ten, and twelve bells can be found in all parts of the country, and members of the Manchester Unity. For example, in the Magazine for November, 1895, I find in Bro. P.P.G.M. John Holden's biography an excellent campanological career, ringing his first 720 the same year he joined the Manchester Unity, viz., 1862. Since then our

brother has rung in 69 peals on six and eight bells. We have here at Sandal, in the Loyal Good Intent Lodge, a fair example of campanological Oddfellows. I am at present G.M. of the above lodge, a life member of the Yorkshire Association of change-ringers, and rung in 5040s by both treble and extreme six bells; our N.G. is also one of our company, and a good ringer; our V.G. is also a member of our band and promises well for the future. One of our sick visitors is also an old ringer; in fact six out of the seven ringers in our society are members of the Wakefield District—five being of the same lodge. Thus we can on any occasion muster an Oddfellows' peal for anything connected with our society. We have also the vicar (Rev. R. N. Hurt) an ardent working honorary member, his wife as prominent in our female society as president; our organist is also an honorary member, and always officiates in our assemblies at the church; myself being connected with both ringers and choir for something like twenty years; and one thing I can safely say, that since our vicar came into the parish in 1879, he has never crossed swords with the ringers, and always had a good and regular set. Our peal was cast in 1812 by Messrs. Mears—weight of tenor, 13 cwt.—and is an exceptionally musical peal, and we should at any time be pleased to welcome any campanological Oddfellow either in the lodge room or belfry. There is no doubt that during the last generation ringers were invariably looked upon as a set of degraded beings, and very often not without good reason; but through the introduction of change-ringers' societies—presided over by able and energetic officers—they are lifted from their almost obscure position, and placed on a higher social, moral, and religious platform, and change-ringing is classed among the arts and sciences of the present day. A good ringer must be possessed of a good memory, and if that is turned to account in Oddfellowship, you will invariably find a good working brother.

Yours fraternally,

WM. REYNER, P.P.G.M.,
Good Intent Lodge, Wakefield District.

From the fact that a clock-keeper was employed at St. Paul's cathedral in 1286, it is presumed that there must have been a clock, but no details respecting it have been discovered. There was a clock at Westminster in 1290, and two years later £30 was paid for a large clock in Canterbury cathedral. Thirty pounds represented a large sum of money in the year 1292. About 1326 an astronomical clock was erected at St. Albans. It was the work of Richard de Wallingford, a blacksmith's son of the town, who rose to the position of Abbot there. In the earlier half of the fourteenth century are traces of numerous other clocks in England. According to Haydn's "Dictionary of Dates," in the year 1530 the first portable clock was made. This statement does not agree with a writer in another periodical. The date, we are therein told, when portable clocks were first made, cannot be determined. They are mentioned in the beginning of the fourteenth century. The motive power must have been a mainspring instead of a weight. The society of Antiquaries of England possess one with the inscription in Bohemian that it was made at Prague by Joseph Zech in 1525. It has a spring for motive power.

DEATH OF WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR.—We may infer from a circumstance in the closing days of William I., that from the remote period there was a religious service at eight o'clock at night. It will be remembered that the king died from the injuries received by the plunging of his horse caused by the animal treading on some hot ashes. Shortly before his death he was roused from the stupor that clouded his mind, by the ringing of the vesper bell of a neighbouring church. He asked if it were in England, and if it were the curfew bell that he heard. On being told that he was in his "own Normandy," and the bell was for evening prayer, he "charged them bid the monks pray for his soul, and remained for awhile dull and heavy."

A CURIOUS REGULATION.—At Tamworth, in 1390, a by-law was passed, and it provided that no man, woman, or servant, should go out after the ringing of the curfew from one place to another unless they had a light in their hands under pain of imprisonment." For a long period it was the signal for closing public houses.

HOW DEEPING FEN WAS DRAINED.

Nearly eighty years after, in the year of grace 1155, there might have been seen sitting, side by side, and hand in hand, upon a sunny bench on the Bonneswold slope, in the low December sun, an old knight and an old lady, the master and mistress of Bourne.

Much had changed since Hereward's days. The house below had been raised a whole story. There were fresh herbs and flowers in the garden, unknown at the time of the conquest. But the great change was in the fen, especially away toward Deeping, on the south-eastern horizon.

Where there had been lonely meres, foul water-courses, stagnant slime, there were now great dykes, rich and fair corn and grass lands, rows of white cottages. The newly-drained land swarmed with stocks of new breeds: horses and sheep from Flanders, cattle from Normandy; for Richard de Rulos was the first—as far as history tells—of that noble class of agricultural squires who are England's blessing and England's pride.

* * * * *

So there the good man, the beginner of the good work of centuries, sat looking out over the fen, and listening to the music which came on the southern breeze, above the low of the kine, and the clang of the wild fowl settling down to rest, from the bells of Crowland minster far away.

They were not the same bells which tolled for Hereward and Torfrida. Those had run down in molten streams upon that fatal night when Abbot Ingulph leapt out of bed to see the vast wooden sanctuary wrapt in one sheet of roaring flame, from the carelessness of a plumber who had raked the ashes over his fire in the bell-tower, and left it to smoulder through the night.

Then perished all the riches of Crowland, its library too, of more than seven hundred volumes, with that famous Nadir, or Orrery, the like whereof was not in all England, wherein the seven planets were represented, each in their proper metals. And even worse, all the charters of the monastery perished, a loss which involved the monks thereof in centuries of lawsuits, and compelled them to become as industrious and skilful forgers of documents as were to be found in the minsters of the Middle Age.

* * * * *

And yet—so strangely mingled for good and evil are the works of men—that lying brotherhood of Crowland set up, in those very days, for pure love of learning and of teaching learning, a little school of letters in a poor town hard by, which became, under their auspices, the University of Cambridge.

So the bells of Crowland were restored, more melodious than ever, and Richard of Rulos doubtless had his share in their restoration. And that day they were ringing with a will, and for a good reason, for that day had come the news that Henry Plantagenet was crowned King of England.

"Lord," said the good old knight, "now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace." This day, at last, he sees an English king head of the English people.—*Hereward the Wake.*

AMERICA'S FIRST BELL.

In Chicago there is a bell with a wonderful history. It is about the size of a railroad restaurant dinner bell. It is a dark greenish-brown colour, and bears on one side the letter F. It is placed in a show case with several other relics, but it is the most precious of the lot. It is the first bell that was ever rung across the waters of the New World. It was the church bell of Isabella, the city founded by Columbus in San Domingo in 1492. This is the story of the bell. It is of bronze; of excellent workmanship, and was presented to the church in Isabella by King Ferdinand. In 1494 the discovery of gold in the mountains of Cuba caused a general movement towards the interior, and everything portable was removed to the new tower at this place. The city was destroyed by an earthquake in 1564. More than 300 years afterwards, in 1868, a shepherd who was nosing around among the ruins, found this bell near the tower among some tangled vines. A fig tree growing near by had thrust its branches into the ruined tower, and had by growth forced the bell from its place and held it in the tree. It is a venerated relic, and is called the "bell of the fig tree."

UNVEILING OF TABLETS AT ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM.

On Monday, February 22nd, a very large gathering assembled in the belfry of the above church to assist at the unveiling by the Lord Bishop of Coventry of tablets recording three peals rung upon the bells. Visitors were present from among the local ringers, and from the following neighbouring towns: Handsworth, Old Hill, Solihull, Tipton, West Bromwich, etc.

His lordship having opened the proceedings with a short prayer,

Mr. John Carter (Ringing Master) said he felt great pleasure in being present on such an occasion. The first tablet recorded a peal of Bob Royal rung on February 22nd, 1896, on the occasion of the wedding of H. Webley, Esq. (of Messrs. P. Webley and Sons, of Birmingham) this day being the anniversary of his marriage, and his wife being the donor of the tablet. Mr. Webley was his (Mr. Carter's) employer, and the employer also of several members of that ringing company. The second tablet was the record of a peal of Treble Bob Royal, the first of that kind rang on the bells for many years. The third was a peal of Forward Royal, the first ever rung in Birmingham. These performances spoke highly for the perseverance and unanimity of the ringers, and he hoped that they would in the future hold and work together with the same spirit and heartiness as they had done in the past.

The Bishop was then invited to unveil the tablets and accept them as the property of the Church.

The Bishop, in performing the ceremony of unveiling, expressed the pleasure he felt at being present. He thanked Mr. Carter and the ringers for the tablets, and added his congratulations on the successful accomplishment of the peals recorded thereon. He was happy to accept them as the property of the church, and more so from the fact that they had been erected by the ringers themselves. Unfortunately he did not understand anything about the art of change-ringing. He remembered once reading a book on the subject which mentioned that the treble hunted the tenor, or something to that effect, but he was obliged to admit his ignorance of what was meant. Still, he liked to hear the bells rung, both for Divine Service and for peals. He was sure that the love of the Art actuated the great body of the ringers. He concluded by once more thanking them for the tablets, and wished them every success in their future attempts at peals, which he knew must necessitate much practice and perseverance.

Mr. W. R. Small said that his lordship's presence at such a gathering was most gratifying, and gave him and his friends great pleasure. He would urge that occasional visits of the clergy and wardens to their respective belfries would be a great incentive to union among ringers, and would bring them and the Church into closer connection. The formation of ringing guilds and societies, primarily fostered by the powerful and constant advocacy of "THE BELL NEWS," was the cause in the first instance in bringing ringers and clergy together.

The ringers then attempted two courses of Grandsire Caters, which was unfortunately brought to a premature close by the breaking of the 9th rope.

Dr. Edward Malins expressed his regret at the untoward accident, and was kind enough to offer, with a view to putting matters right, the gift of a set of bellropes, the best that could be bought, if the Church would accept them. Dr. Malins made some very encouraging remarks to the ringers, and alluding to our old friend John Carter as a genius in the Art, both at composing and conducting, he said he was always pleased to hear the bells rung, and trusted that the company would be successful in ringing many peals with the new ropes.

Mr. Hugh A. N. Smith (churchwarden) said that nothing gave him greater pleasure than hearing the bells, and hoped that the celebrated St. Philip's company of Birmingham, with their renowned leader, would continue to attempt, and be successful, in the achievement of many more peals.

Mr. George Walker proposed a vote of thanks to his lordship and the visitors for their presence, and also to Dr. Malins for his promised benefaction of ropes.

The ringers then adjourned to give due effect to the toast of "Long life and happiness to Mr. and Mrs. Webley."

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AT BURNHAM, BUCKS.

On Saturday, February 15th, a most successful meeting of ringers took place at Burnham, when the following towers were represented: Burnham, Bray, Boyne Hill, Farnham Royal, Stoke Poges, and Winkfield. Proceedings commenced soon after three o'clock with a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor by three of the local men and three from Farnham Royal, conducted by C. Clarke. Then followed a 360 of College Single, in which the Rev. R. P. Newhouse took part, conducted by J. J. Parker. A 360 of Grandsire was also rung, conducted by J. W. Wilkins. In the course of the evening similar touches were rung, including Plain Bob, Treble Bob, and Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, when G. Alder, J. Elderfield, and others took part in the conducting. At 5.30 about twenty-four sat down to a most excellent tea at the vicarage, kindly provided by the Rev. R. Rumsey, Vicar of Burnham, for which Mr. Wilkins proposed a hearty vote of thanks, on behalf of those present, to the rev. gentleman, and expressed a hope that the clergy of the various parishes would receive them as heartily as Mr. Rumsey had done that evening. The Vicar in reply said that it gave him very great pleasure in meeting so many ringers there that evening, and he felt sure that such meetings as those, for the practice of change-ringing, could not fail to stir up interest in the Art.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Bray four weeks hence.

THE WORCESTER CATHEDRAL GUILD.

The Annual General Meeting in connection with this Guild was recently held at the Guild Room, Edgar Tower, the Warden of the Guild, the Rev. W. G. Melville, in the chair, and a fair number of members were present.

The Warden, in opening the meeting, thanked those members who had filled the offices for the past year, and said it gave him great pleasure to see how the Guild was carried on, and the great interest the members took in the art of change-ringing, and he was only sorry there was no tower in the city which was available for them to ring another peal.

The minutes of the last meeting were then read and passed, and the Warden presented the balance-sheet, and it was seen that there was a fair surplus to be carried to this year's funds.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, with the following results: Mr. G. Hinton was elected Master for the next twelve months; Mr. W. Cotton deputy-Master; Mr. W. H. Johnson re-elected Secretary; Mr. B. S. Hill re-elected delegate to represent the Guild at the Association meetings; and Messrs. W. Page and G. Checketts were elected to join the officers to form a committee. A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

UFFINGTON, NEAR STAMFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE.

The ring of five bells at this place, four of them bearing the following inscription: "Thomas Norris made me: 1640"; the treble cast by Warner and Sons in 1867, or thereabout, have just been under the careful attention of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the well-known Whitechapel foundry, and great credit is due to this firm for the manner in which they have carried out the necessary improvements. A new treble has been added, the old cracked tenor and 3rd recast, the 5th and old 2nd quarter-turned, new clappers, wheels re-rimmed, the frame strengthened, and new and heavier hammers for the clock, etc. The tone of the new bells is everything to be desired, and the inhabitants of Uffington have now an excellent ring of six, tenor 12½ cwt. in F. They were rung first on Friday, the 17th ult., by A. Cooke (Stamford), 1; M. Broughton (sexton; age 73) 2; R. Gray, 3; H. Broughton, 4; W. Wells, 5; W. Gray, 6. On the Thursday following another trial upon them was essayed by A. Cooke, 1; M. Broughton, 2; H. Adams, 3; E. Smith, 4; W. Wells, 5; F. Barber (of the foundry staff), 6. Messrs. W. and R. Gray also took part. The go of the bells was admirable, and favorably commented upon by all. A. C.

GENTLEMEN'S Curb Alberts. Heavily Plated with Pure Gold. Guaranteed 18 carat, 4s. 6d., 2s. 5s. 6d., Double, 7s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. Member of Norwich Diocesan Association.—SKINNER, 3, Mayes Terrace, East Dereham.

Review.

"THE CHURCH BELLS OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, THEIR INSCRIPTIONS, USAGES, AND TRADITIONS."—By Alfred Heneage Cocks, M.A., F.Z.S., F.R.G.S., (Joint) Hon. Secretary Bucks Architectural and Archæological Society.—(London: Jarrold and Sons.)

This book is the only one of its kind which is the production of a half-pull ringer. The copy before us is a handsome quarto volume of 760 pages, very well printed and bound, and forms a splendid companion to the works of the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, Rev. Dr. Raven, North, Stalschmidt, and others. Mr. Cocks must have worked very hard indeed to produce such a valuable and interesting addition to bell literature. There has been some time spent in its preparation, but not a day too much, having in view the great difficulties there were to be encountered in procuring accurate and reliable information. The contents are vastly interesting, from the title-page down to the copious index; the author's introduction is a homily which may be read by churchmen with profit, while it is valuable to the clergy and churchwardens for correction and reproof. The following quotation from this part of the work will be very appropriate at the present time:

"One cannot critically interview the church bells of an entire county (besides many elsewhere) without having a few ideas impressed upon him. Of these, probably the most valuable is an insight into some of the most obvious reasons why bells crack. Without going so far as to say that such a thing *never* happens from causes beyond human foresight and control,—yet of this I am sure, that it is *rarely* that a bell cracks without its being directly attributable to sheer neglect on the part of those to whose charge it, as Church property, is committed. And though the care and use of the bells be delegated to the steeple-keeper or sexton, and ringers; the responsibility of seeing that *they* understand their duty towards the bells, and perform it, rests with the incumbent of the parish, and in a lesser degree, with the churchwardens.

"If all incumbents—(it is not often a layman gets a chance of sermonising the clergy, so it is only fair that any non-ringing clerical reader so far, should read patiently to the end of my homily!)—if, therefore, all incumbents would remember the intrinsic value of the bells in their towers—a valuable item in the Church's temporalities, to say nothing of the antiquarian interest attaching to many of them—and would remember that bell hangings are *machines*, even if not quite so complicated as a steam-engine, and that all machines want a little attention;—the lamentable and disgraceful state of many of the belfries in—no doubt—every county, would cease; and we bell-hunters would no longer get the almost stereotyped, semi-apologetic statement, on making our request for the key, 'I'm afraid you will find a great mess up there, but, to tell you the truth, I have never been up to them.' I would most respectfully, but strongly, urge every incumbent to go and see for himself: if he find the rungs of the ladder out, or the very baulks rotten, or the steps of the newel stairs so abraded by the tread of centuries as to be almost non-existent, surely he will not rest content until these defects are made good; not by a wholesale and expensive sweeping away of all that is old, but by the careful renewal of a stone step here, or a few rungs there, and then, when at length he can get up without risking his life or limbs, let him go and pay the poor neglected bells a visit. In many cases—I had almost written *most* cases—he will fancy himself no longer in the Church, but in a farm-yard, or possibly on one of the guano islands off the coast of Peru. It is no exaggeration to say, that the bell-chamber frequently contains *cartloads* of sticks, straws, and other rubbish brought in by birds for their nests. The avi-fauna comprises Jackdaws, Starlings, House Sparrows, and sometimes a pair of Barn Owls, and occasionally domestic Pigeons; the invertebrates, which are easily overlooked at the moment, will demonstrate their presence during the night ensuing by keeping the explorer awake: these are lice, and fleas, parasitic on the starlings; while very likely everything,—bells, stocks, frame, etc., will be as white from the deposit of guano, as if they had been whitewashed.

"I can hardly imagine that any incumbent who has once penetrated to the bell-chamber, will long neglect the fixing of some small-meshed wire netting over the windows, and follow that up by ousting the accumulation of animal and vegetable rubbish. In at least one tower in the county *mineral* rubbish, in the shape of quantities of stones, may be added to the list, and I had not been many minutes among the bells there, before I found myself exposed, through the large, unprotected windows, to a vigorous cannonade of good-sized 'rocks.' Not owing

to any hostility on the part of the natives, but from a habit of the boys, on leaving school, who find these open windows a capital target; the speaking of the bells, each time a stone crashes in among them, adding great zest to the amusement."

We could go on with this to the end with pleasure, did space permit. The whole of the introduction is of immense value, and ought to be reprinted in pamphlet form and circulated everywhere.

Following the introduction is a short but useful Glossary, or "A few Technical words found in connection with Church Bell-hangings, chiefly Archaic, and some obsolete."

The work is divided into three parts, the first giving a full account of the various church bells in the county, and their founders, in chronological order. Part II. deals exhaustively with local usages—such old customs connected with the ringing of bells as survive, or are traditionally known to have existed; the Latin inscriptions on church bells in the county, all translated for the benefit of the unlearned; and a description of two ancient handbells found near Buckingham. Part III. has a detailed account of the inscriptions on the bells in Bucks churches in alphabetical order, with the diameter of each bell, notes on their uses, and extracts from churchwardens' and other accounts relating to them.

The illustrations are very numerous, and many of them we think must be new to the reader. The extracts from the various churchwarden's accounts are all interesting, and in many cases positively comic. At a future time some of these may be extracted for the edification of our readers.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The usual monthly ringing meeting of this society was held on Saturday, February 27th, at St. Michael's, Headingley. There was a fairly good attendance of members and ringing friends from Armley, Bramley, Tong, Holbeck St. Francis, Calverley, Leeds, Armitage Bridge, York. St. Chad's Headingley, and the local company. Various touches were rung in the following methods: Bob Major, Kent and Oxford Minor, Stedman Triples, Duffield Major, and Double Norwich. A business meeting was held during the evening at The Skyrack inn. The President, Mr. J. W. T. Holgate, occupied the chair. The minutes of previous meeting were read and passed, proposed by Mr. H. Lockwood, seconded by Mr. H. Williams. The nominations for officers to serve during the ensuing year was then made. The election of auditors was next proceeded with, with the following result, Mr. J. J. Logan and Mr. H. Lockwood. The headquarters of the society's meeting house was announced to be removed from the "Crown and Fleece," to the "Old Nag's Head," opposite the parish church, Kirkgate, Leeds, where the next monthly meeting will be held. A most hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Wood, and Churchwardens for use of their grand ring of eight bells, also the local company for their kind arrangements, which was proposed by Mr. J. Thackray, seconded by Mr. M. Kiloran. Mr. H. Williams responded on behalf of the above authorities.

The usual vote of thanks to the chair concluded the proceedings. Handbell ringing then commenced. Courses of Oxford Minor, Bob Major, and Grandsire Royal and one tune, was loudly applauded. Special thanks are also due through these columns to the obliging steeplekeeper, Mr. T. Flint, for his kind attention to the visitors in every respect, and the worthy landlord of the meeting-house for his kind hospitality.

TEWKESBURY (Gloucestershire.)—On Tuesday, February 23rd, at the Abbey, a 1024 of Bob Major in 42 mins. W. Hampton, 1; A. Bloxham, 2; C. Dyson, 3; J. Hale, 4; S. Cleal, 5; T. Devereux, 6; John Wathen, 7; J. Wathen (conductor), 8.

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NOW READY.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF SUFFOLK.—By JOHN JAMES RAVEN, D.D., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge; Vicar of Fressingfield-with-Withersdale; Honorary Canon of Norwich Cathedral; and President of the Norwich Diocesan Association).—WITH ABOUT NINETY ILLUSTRATIONS.—This most interesting work contains an account of all the Church Bells in the County of Suffolk—their makers and history—so far as they can be discovered. Incidental notices are introduced of the ancient uses of Bells—the individuals mentioned on them—and many historical events connected therewith. Introductory remarks on the general history of the Bells are prefixed to local portion of the work. The book is fully illustrated with engravings of ornaments, letterings, founders' marks, shields, etc., of which some will be found hitherto unknown. The latter portion of the work contains a complete list of Churches in the County, with the Inscriptions on the Bells now belonging to them, as well as on many which have been re-cast. The Demy 8vo. Edition is limited to 500 copies, and is now offered at 20s. nett; or Bound in Half-morocco, Roxburgh style, 27s. 6d. nett. Copies by post 1s. 6d. extra. The Large Paper Edition was subscribed for within a few days of the issue of the Prospectuses, and is now unobtainable.

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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, MARCH 13, 1897.

WE hear upon good authority that a proposal has been made to increase the ring of six at Hornchurch, a village near Romford, Essex, to a ring of eight, in commemoration of Her Majesty's Diamond Reign. We need not repeat what we have previously advanced in support of such proposals as lasting memorials of the great event, which we all hope will take place this year in the history of our nation, but there are one or two special features in connection with the ring at Hornchurch to which we might refer. The present ring require re-hanging with more modern appliances. This we trust will not be overlooked. If it is, the ringing of peals will be few and far between. The most important feature, however, is that with the addition of two maiden trebles, one of the most musical rings of eight in the county would be the result. The late GEORGE NEWSON, while living at Romford, was always ready and willing to go to Hornchurch for a 720 in any method, and our departed friend did not hesitate to express an opinion that the present ring of six were the most melodious he had ever listened to. We trust that the authorities will take the precaution not to permit of the increase otherwise than by a couple of perfect trebles, and so retain the tone of the present six intact.

The Metropolis.**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.***On Friday, March 5, 1897, in Three Hours,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, BOW, E.***A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;***IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.*

JAMES SCHOLLES	Treble.	EMANUEL HALL	5.
JAMES PETTIT	2.	SAMUEL HAYES	6.
YORK GREEN	3.	HENRY SPRINGALL	7.
SAMUEL JOYCE	4.	WILLIAM DAVIES	Tenor.

Composed by YORK GREEN and Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

W. Davies hails from Liverpool.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.*On Saturday, March 6, 1897, in Three Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES, CRIPPLEGATE,***A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES.**

JAMES PETTIT	Treble.	*WILLIAM WILLSON	7.
CHALLIS F. WINNEY	2.	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY	8.
THOMAS TAFFENDER	3.	WILLIAM D. SMITH	9.
EDWIN HORREX	4.	*FREDERICK W. THORNTON	10.
FRANK BUCK*	5.	WILLIAM DAVIES	11.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN.*	6.	WALTER PRIME	Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON and Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

*First peal of Stedman Cinques. W. Davies hails from Liverpool; W. Willson from Leicester.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.*On Saturday, March 6, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, COLEMAN STREET,***A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.***Tenor 14 cwt.*

SAMUEL E. JOYCE	Treble.	EDWARD WALLAGE	5.
MATTHEW A. WOOD	2.	I. GEORGE SHADE	6.
JAMES SCHOLLES*	3.	*ERNEST CLAYTON	7.
HENRY SPRINGALL	4.	CHARLES KENNEDY	Tenor.

Conducted by I. GEORGE SHADE.

*First peal of Stedman. The above is the first peal of Stedman on the bells. It is seventy years ago since a peal was rung at this church, and is also the second peal in 150 years.

The Provinces.**ABINGDON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Thursday, February 25, 1897, in Three Hours,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,***A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;***THURSTANS' RERVERSED. Tenor 21 cwt.*

HENRY HOLIFIELD	Treble.	TOM SHORT	5.
JOHN BROWN	2.	EDMUND ALDWORTH	6.
WM. H. T. ADKINS	3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK	7.
GEORGE STANILAND*	4.	GEORGE HOLLOWAY	Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

All the above belong to the local company with the exception of the conductor.
*First peal of Stedman.**DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Saturday, February 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,**AT THE PARISH CHURCH,***A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.**

REV. F. E. ROBINSON	Treble.	HERBERT P. HARMAN	5.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW	2.	CHARLES H. FOWLER	6.
WILLIAM J. SMITH	3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK	7.
PERCY A. HIND	4.	JAMES MOGRIDGE	Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.**THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.***On Tuesday, March 2, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,***A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;***IN THE BURTON VARIATION.*

GEORGE PITT	Treble.	EDWARD ISAAC STONE	5.
JOHN BENSTEAD	2.	ARTHUR WAKLEY	6.
GEORGE PESTELL BURTON	3.	HARRY WAKLEY	7.
GEORGE ROBINSON	4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY	Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

First peal in the method by Messrs. Benstead and Burton.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.*On Tuesday, March 2, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,**AT THE PARISH CHURCH,***A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;***HOLT'S TEN-PART.*

RHYS HAWES	Treble.	FRANK BOREHAM	5.
JOHN EVANS	2.	FRED BIGGS	6.
HARRY STRATFORD	3.	RALPH BIGGS	7.
FRANK BIGGS	4.	JOSEPH EVANS	Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN EVANS.

This peal was rung by a local band to celebrate the wedding of Mr. Coningsby Ralph Disraeli with Miss Marion Grace Silva, of Testcombe, Hants.

APPLETON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.*On Thursday, March 4, 1897, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,**AT THE PARISH CHURCH,***A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5247 CHANGES.***Tenor 14½ cwt. in E.*

ALFRED WHITE	Treble.	CHARLES HOUNSLOW	6.
G. H. PHILLOTT	2.	FREDERICK MUSTY	7.
CHARLES H. FOWLER	3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON	8.
WILLIAM T. PATES	4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK	9.
WILLIAM BRINKWORTH	5.	STEDMAN WHITE	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

Messrs. Phillott, Pates, Brinkwood, and Musty belong to Cheltenham. The above peal was rung to celebrate the forty-fifth anniversary of this famous ring of bells.

WOMBOURN, STAFFORDSHIRE.**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.***On Friday, March 5, 1897, in Three Hours,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BENEDICT,***A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.***Tenor 10 cwt. 12 lbs.*

PERCY SADLER*	Treble.	*ROBERT PICKERING	5.
HERBERT KNIGHT	2.	GEORGE BURROWS	6.
ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT	3.	AARON GRIFFITHS	7.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL	4.	JAMES E. GROVES	Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

*First peal of Major; and first peal of Bob Major on the bells. Rung to commemorate the 87th birthday of the vicar, the Rev. W. J. Heale, M.A.; also as a birthday compliment to R. Pickering, G. Burrows and P. Sadler.

TONG, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, March 6, 1897, in Three Hours,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,***A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;***Being 720 each of the following;*

College Treble, Arnold's Victory, City Delight, College Pleasure, Duke of York, Violet, and Oxford. Tenor 12 cwt.

FRANK BIRKS	Treble.	WILLIAM BOLLAND	4.
GEORGE BOLLAND	2.	HENRY ODDY	5.
EDWARD ODDY	3.	FREDK. W. HARGREAVES	Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE BOLLAND.

F. Birks hails from Pudsey; the rest belong to the local company.

HALEWOOD, LANCASHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(GRAPPENHALL AND WIRRAL BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 6, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

HUBBARD'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qrs.

JOSEPH SHONE Treble.	FRANK JONES 5.
JOSEPH WOODS 2.	*CHAS. REG. GREENALL .. 6.
THOMAS BURROWS* .. 3.	JAMES DILLON 7.
ROBERT GEORGE LEWIS* 4.	FREDK. THOS. SPENCE .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDK. THOMAS SPENCE.

*First peal of Major; also first as conductor. Messrs. Shone, Woods, Jones, and Dillon hail from Bromborough; the remainder from Grappenhall. The above was rung as a birthday peal to the conductor, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

BORDEN, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 6, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. CARTER'S SIX-PART. Tenor 23 cwt.

STANLEY HUTSON Treble.	ERNEST ALLEN 5.
GEORGE WILLSHIRE 2.	CHARLES WILLSHIRE .. 6.
WILLIAM TASSILL 3.	CHARLES MILLWAY 7.
RICHARD STAINES 4.	ROBERT WELLER Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES WILLSHIRE.

G. Willshire hails from Quex Park, Birchington, and it is his first peal in the method, and rang at his first attempt.

ROTHWELL, NEAR LEEDS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, March 6, 1897, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt.

ALFRED CHAPMAN Treble.	WALTER CHAPMAN 5.
JOSEPH C. ABBISHAW .. 2.	WILLIAM ABBISHAW 6.
WILLIAM CHILD 3.	ALFRED NAYLOR 7.
GEORGE W. STEEL 4.	JOHN M. CHADWICK Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and

Conducted by JOHN M. CHADWICK.

This peal has the 5th and 6th the extent each way in 5-6. W. Child hails from Headingley, Naylor from Leeds.

ASHTEAD, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 6, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

EDWARD R. J. DUNK .. Treble.	GEORGE C. SCOWEN 5.
JOHN WYATT 2.	ARTHUR DEAN 6.
WILLIAM R. CROCKFORD.. 3.	†HENRY WILKINSON 7.
ALFRED E. BASSETT .. 4.	WILLIAM COOK Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY WILKINSON.

†First peal in the method as conductor.

EDENBRIDGE, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 7, 1897, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

RICHARD JENNER† .. Treble.	JAMES WALLIS 5.
WILLIAM STEED 2.	THOMAS WALLIS 6.
JAMES HEASMAN* 3.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. 7.
JOHN STEDDY 4.	†JOHN PRESTON Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by JOHN PRESTON.

†First peal of Major. *First in the method with a bob bell. †First peal of Major as conductor. Groombridge hails from Sevenoaks; Steed from Tonbridge; the rest belong to the local band.

KILDWICK, YORKSHIRE.

On Monday, March 8, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following:

New London Pleasure, Violet, Kent, Oxford Delight, Duke of York, Oxford, and Woodbine. Tenor 10 cwt.

WM. MOSLEY Treble.	CHARLES LAW 4.
SETH TILLOTSON 2.	CHRISTOPHER BROWN .. 5.
JOHN BODDY 3.	JOHN HILL Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BODDY.

All the above belong to the local company. Longest length by W. Mosley. First 5040 away from the treble by C. Brown.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 10, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

HERBERT MARTIN* .. Treble.	EDWARD P. DEBENHAM .. 5.
WILLIAM E. OAKLEY .. 2.	WILLIAM HEWITT 6.
GEORGE N. PRICE 3.	HENRY G. ROWE 7.
ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. 4.	*HARRY MANSFIELD Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD P. DEBENHAM.

First peal.

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—FYLDE BRANCH.

KIRKHAM (Lancashire).—On Thursday, February 25th, for practice, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins. R. Cookson, 1; W. Billington (conductor), 2; W. Kirby, 3; R. Red man, 4; H. Kirby, 5; T. Cookson, 6; N. Stanhope, 7; J. Kirby, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qrs.

BILSTON (Staffordshire).—On Monday, March 1st, at St. Leonard's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 12 mins. J. Harper, 1; S. Pitt, 2; S. Atkins (composer and conductor), 3; J. Brown, 4; T. Lowe, 5; J. Adams, 6; W. Smith, 7; W. Eyre, 8.

Miscellaneous.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On Tuesday, March 2nd, at St. Giles' church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. C. Giles, 1; J. Tucker, 2; H. White, 3; A. E. Reeves, jun., 4; F. Hopgood, 5; F. Sweetzer, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Dibley, 8.

DUCKLINGTON (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, February 14th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Minor in 23 mins. M. Fisher, 1; H. Druice, 2; J. Fisher, 3; E. Douglas, 4; W. Watts, 5; N. Spindlow (conductor), 6.

FREELAND (Oxon).—On Wednesday, February 17th, the Ducklington ringers visited this place, and by kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. W. Ulyat, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 24 mins. E. Douglas, 1; M. Fisher, 2; H. Druice, 3; J. Fisher, 4; W. Watts, 5; N. Spindlow (composer and conductor), 6. And eight 6-scores of Doubles, in which C. Edwards and one of the local men took part. This is the first 720 on the bells (which are a new peal by Mears and Stainbank), by a band of ringers from one tower.

BEENHAM (Berks).—On Wednesday, February 26th, at the parish church, an attempt was made for a peal in four Minor methods, which failed towards the end of the third 720 in 1 hr. 11 mins. T. Greet-ham, 1; W. Lucas, 2; F. Richardson, 3; H. Keal, 4; W. Horne, 5; J. Hatto (conductor), 6. Afterwards a 720 Oxford Bob in 22 mins. F. Wigmore, 1; W. Lucas, 2; W. Horne, 3; H. Keal, 4; J. Hatto, 5; F. Richardson (conductor), 6. In the evening touches of College Single and Kent Treble Bob were rung, in which E. Holloway and V. Rowe, from Bradfield, took part. The above was rung on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. Richard Webb, an inhabitant of Beenham. On Thursday, February 25th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Wigmore, 1; H. Richardson, 2; W. Lucas, 3; W. Horne, 4; F. Richardson, 5; J. Hatto (conductor), 6.

NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

ORDSALL (Notts).—On Sunday morning, January 10th, for Divine Service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. M. Phillipson, 1; A. Street, 2; W. Johnson, 3; H. Lambert, 4; G. Clark, 5; J. White (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, January 12th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. M. Phillipson, 1; H. Merrills, 2; A. Street, 3; H. Lambert, 4; G. Clarke, 5; J. White (conductor), 6. Also 720 College Single. M. Phillipson, 1; A. Street, 2; R. Potter, 3; H. Lambert (conductor), 4; G. Clarke, 5; J. White, 6. On Thursday, January 31st, for Divine Service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. M. Phillipson, 1; A. Street, 2; W. Preston, 3; H. Lambert, 4; G. Clark (conductor), 5; J. White, 6. For afternoon service 720 New London Pleasure. W. Preston, 1; H. Blagg, 2; G. Clark, 3; H. Lambert, 4; H. Haigh (conductor), 5; J. White, 6. In the evening 720 College Single. M. Phillipson, 1; A. Street, 2; G. Clark, 3; H. Lambert (conductor), 4; W. Preston, 5; J. White, 6. On Tuesday, February 2nd, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. M. Phillipson, 1; A. Street (conductor), 2; G. Clark, 3; R. Potter, 4; R. Miles, 5; J. White, 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure. M. Phillipson, 1; A. Street, 2; R. Potter, 3; H. Lambert, 4; G. Clark, 5; J. White (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 14th, 720 Bob Minor. M. Phillipson, 1; H. Merrills, 2; A. Street, 3; H. Lambert (conductor), 4; W. Johnson, 5; J. White, 6. In the evening another 720 standing as above. Messrs. Potter and Miles hail from West Retford; Haigh from East Retford; Preston from Worksop; the rest belong to the local company. On Tuesday, February 16th, Mr. Crawford, of East Markham, with his son and a youth named Brett, visited this place and rang 720 Bob Minor in 25 mins. A. B. Crawford (aged 12), 1; A. Street (aged 15, conductor), 2; T. Brett (aged 14), 3; C. Crawford, 4; R. Miles, 5; J. White, 6. This 720 reflects the highest credit on the performers, especially the first three ringers, as a similar performance has not hitherto been achieved by three ringers the same age in one 720, and by members of the above Association. A word of praise is also due to Mr. Crawford, sen., for the pains he has taken in training the East Markham ringers.

WEST RETFORD (Notts).—On Wednesday, February 17th, for practice, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob in 26 mins. A. Street, 1; R. Potter, 2; G. Clark, 3; H. Lambert, 4; H. Haigh, 5; J. White (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method on the bells.

EAST RETFORD (Notts).—On Sunday, February 21st, for Divine Service, 540 Bob Royal. F. Abbot, 1; A. Collingburn, 2; G. Clayton, 3; G. Metcalfe, 4; G. Winter, 5; T. Denman, 6; T. Spurr, 7; H. Warburton, 8; H. Haigh (conductor), 9; J. B. Joyes, 10. On Thursday, February 25th, 1344 Bob Major in 51 mins. F. Bramley, 1; E. Collingburn, 2; G. Clayton, 3; G. Metcalfe, 4; T. Spurr, 5; H. Warburton, 6; G. Winter (composer), 7; J. B. Joyes (conductor), 8. Rung on the occasion of the twenty-first birthday of E. Collingburn, one of the local band. This is the first quarter-peat by the ringers of the first three bells, and the longest completed touch by all in the method. The ringers afterwards enjoyed the liberal hospitality of Mr. Collingburn at The Vine inn.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WINCHESTER.—On Sunday afternoon, February 21st, for Divine Service at the cathedral, on the back eight, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Lampard, 1; W. Lampard, 2; W. Withers, 3; R. Hasted (conductor), 4; J. Elkins, 5; W. Andrews, 6; J. Harris, 7; C. Russell, 8. Longest length with a bob bell by J. Elkins.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

RUMBURGH (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, February 3rd, 720 each of Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles. T. L. Wilson, Esq., 1; F. Lambert (conductor), 2; F. Clarke, 3; S. Bird, 4; W. Hunt, 5. Also 360 Grandsire. F. Woods, 1; T. L. Wilson, Esq., 5; the rest as before.

HUNTINGFIELD (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, February 17th, 720 Grandsire Doubles. T. Mower, 1; J. Mudd, 2; W. Bloomfield (conductor), 3; H. Barrell, 4; A. Ransby, 5.

HALESWORTH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, February 21st, 504 Bob Triples. S. Kerrison, 1; W. Peirce, 2; J. Howard, 3; A. Took, 4; F. Lambert (conductor), 5; G. Tovell, 6; C. Kerrison, 7; G. Lee, 8. Also 252 Bob Triples. E. Easter, 4; W. Lee, 8; the rest as before. On Monday, February 22nd, on handbells, 352 Grandsire Triples. G. Lee, 1; W. Peirce, 2; A. Took, 3-4; F. Lambert (conductor), 5-6; R. Howard, 7-8. Also 360 Stedman Doubles. A. Took, 1; W. Peirce, 2; F. Lambert (conductor), 3-4; Mrs. F. Lambert, 5-6.

WISSETT (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, February 24th, for practice, a 6-score each of the following: St. Simon's, Morning Star, April Day, Plain Bob, Canterbury, Grandsire, and Old Doubles. S. Kerrison, 1; A. Took, 2; F. Lambert (conductor), 3; W. Peirce, 4; C. Kerrison, 5. Also 480 Grandsire. S. Kerrison, 1; C. Kerrison, 2; W. Kemp, 3; W. Durrant, 4; F. Dunnett, 5.

KELSALE (Norfolk).—On Saturday, February 27th, at the parish church, an attempt was made for G. Lindoff's peal of Treble Bob, 6336 changes, but after ringing 5500 changes in 3 hrs. 20 mins., it came to grief. A. Ward, 1; F. Watling, 2; W. Lambert, 3; J. Larter, 4; F. Thompson, 5; G. Thompson, 6; W. Drew (conductor), 7; G. Hardy, 8. Ward hails from Ufford; Lambert from Rendham; Larter from Wenbaston.

TIBENHAM (Norfolk).—On Sunday, February 21st, for afternoon service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Manser, 1; F. Borrett (conductor), 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Hammond, 4; C. Baker, 5; G. Websdale, 6.

PULHAM ST. MARY (Norfolk).—On Sunday, February 28th, for evening service, 560 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. J. Tann (conductor), 1; J. Betts, 2; F. Borrett, 3; D. Ruth, 4; R. W. Whiting, 5; C. Baker, 6; C. Tann, 7; E. Poppy, 8. And a course of Oxford Treble Bob Major. J. Tann, 1; J. Betts, 2; F. Borrett, 3; D. Ruth, 4; F. Surridge, 5; J. Botwright, 6; C. Baker, 7; E. Poppy, 8.

WROXHAM (Norfolk).—On Sunday, March 7th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. Miss Beatrice Gower, 1; R. Gorbald (first 720), 2; W. Sharpe, 3; W. Appleton, 4; W. Wilson, 5; J. Gower (conductor), 6.

COTTISHALL (Norfolk).—On Monday, March 8th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor, in 24 mins. Miss Beatrice Gower, 1; W. Stebbone, 2; W. Sharpe, 3; W. Appleton, 4; W. Wilson, 5; J. Gower (conductor), 6.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

TARPORLEY (Cheshire).—On Sunday, February 21st, for evening service at St. Helen's church, 504 Plain Bob Triples. J. Sheen, 1; J. Hunt, 2; H. Wright, 3; J. Rowley, 4; W. Rowley, 5; F. Vernon (conductor), 7; W. Stockton, 8. All the above belong to the Tarporley Society. On Thursday, February 25th, 336 Bob Major. W. Stockton, 1; J. Sheen, 2; H. Wright, 3; J. Hunt, 4; W. Rowley, 5; F. Vernon, 6; J. Richardson, 7; R. T. Holding (conductor), 8. Also 252 Plain Bob Triples. Rev. F. Clifton-Smith, 1; J. Hunt, 2; H. Wright, 3; F. Vernon, 4; W. Rowley, 5; J. Richardson, 6; R. T. Holding (conductor), 7; C. Elson, 8. R. T. Holding hails from Christ Church, Crewe, and he is instructor to the Tarporley Society.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OXHEY (Herts).—On Wednesday, February 17th, for practice, 336 Grandsire Triples. P. Read, 1; C. George, 2; H. French, 3; W. Norris, 4; William Norris, 5; H. Martin, 6; G. Price (conductor), 7; J. Alexander, 8. On Sunday, February 21st, for Divine Service, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Carpenter, 1; C. George, 2; H. French, 3; Walter Norris, 4; William Norris, 5; H. Martin, 6; G. Price (conductor), 7; P. Read, 8. Also 168 Grandsire Triples. P. Read, 1; F. Glennerster, 2; Walter Norris, 3; C. George, 4; William Norris, 5; H. Martin, 6; G. Price (conductor), 7; J. Alexander, 8. On Monday, February 22nd, 720 Grandsire Minor. P. Read (first 720), 1; W. Carpenter, 2; H. Martin, 3; Walter Norris (first 720), 4; C. George, 5; G. Price (conductor), 6; J. Alexander, 7. On Wednesday, February 24th, for practice, 168 Grandsire Triples. P. Read, 1; W. Carpenter, 2; H. French, 3; C. George, 4; William Norris, 5; H. Martin, 6; G. Price (conductor), 7; J. Alexander, 8. Also 210 Grandsire Triples. F. Glennerster, 1; W. Carpenter, 2; C. George, 3; H. French, 4; William Norris, 5; H. Martin, 6; G. Price (conductor), 7; J. Alexander, 8. Also several 6-scores of Bob Doubles. P. Read, 1; W. Carpenter, 2; H. Martin, 4; G. Price, 5; J. Alexander, 6.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

KILLMARSH (Derbyshire).—On Sunday morning, February 7th, for Divine Service, 720 College New Treble. And for evening service 720 Ringers' Surprise and 240 Duke of York. H. Greaves, 1; T. Bettison (conductor), 2; J. Emsen, 3; G. Burnham, 4; C. Severn, 5; H. Turton, 6. First 720 of Ringers' Surprise by all. On Sunday, morning, February 14th, for Divine Service, 720 Carlisle Surprise. And for evening service 720 Duke of York and 120 City Delight. These two 720s were rung with the bells muffled in respectful memory of Mr. John Batty, aged seventy-six years, who was parish clerk here for upwards of forty-eight years, and was interred during the afternoon, the ringers standing as before. On Sunday evening, February 21st, for Divine Service, 720 Tulip. J. Emsen, 1; H. Greaves, 2; T. Bettison (conductor), 3; G. Burnham, 4; C. Severn, 5; W. Turton, 6. On Sunday morning, February 28th, for Divine Service, 720 London Surprise and 120 Oxford. H. Greaves, 1; T. Bettison, 2; J. Emsen, 3; G. Burnham, 4; C. Severn (conductor), 5; W. Turton, 6. For evening service 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Emsen (conductor), 3.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Sunday, February 7th, at the church of St.

Mary the Virgin, for morning service, a 720 Plain Bob Minor. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; G. Jordan, 4; J. Luckey, 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6. And for afternoon service, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; G. Jordan, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. On Thursday, February 11th, for practice, a 720 Ely Surprise, 5th the observation, in 25 mins. J. Cavill (first 720 in the method), 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. And 720 Double Bob Minor. H. Little (first 720 in the method), 1; J. Luckey, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; G. Jordan, 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 14th, for morning service, a 720 of Double Court Bob. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. And for afternoon service, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. On Thursday, February 18th, for practice, a 720 Duke of Wellington (nine bobs) in 25 mins. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all the band, and first 720 in the method on the bells. And 720 London Scholars' Pleasure. H. Little (first 720 in the method), 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; J. Luckey, 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 21st, for morning service, a 720 College Single. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SCHOLARS, STAMFORD.

STAMFORD (Lincolnshire).—On February 1st, at St. Mary's church, on the back six, 720 Oxford Bob Minor, in 27 mins. E. Gale, 1; E. Popple, 2; R. S. Cox, 3; C. R. Lilley, 4; F. Dennison, 5; Rev. H. Law James (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt. On February 18th, at St. Michael's church, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. E. Gale, 1; E. Popple, 2; C. Harper, 3; R. S. Cox, 4; F. Dennison, 5; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. On February 23rd, at All Saints' church, for practice, 300 Bob Minor. E. Gale, 1; E. Popple, 2; F. Dennison, 3; R. S. Cox, 4; C. Harper, 5; C. R. Lilley, 6. And 120 Grandsire Doubles. C. Harper, 2; C. Lilley, 5; C. Hardy, 6; the rest as before. Tenor 16 cwt.

PETERBOROUGH (Northants).—On Saturday, February 27th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. C. R. Lilley (conductor), 1; E. Popple, 2; R. Wyche, 3; R. S. Cox, 4; C. Harper, 5; F. Dennison, 6. Tenor 8 cwt. All the above hail from Stamford.

THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

CROSTON (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, February 22nd, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. T. Dalton, 1; J. Hale, 2; T. Banister, 3; W. Summer (conductor), 4; R. Hough, 5; J. Ascroft, 6; W. Walton, 7; J. Ascroft, 8. Composed by C. Charge, of London, and was published in "THE BELL NEWS" of February 15th, 1896.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, February 23rd, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 42 mins. S. Flint, 1; P. Harvey, 2; J. Pilkington, 3; J. Sholicar, 4; W. Fairclough (conductor), 5; W. Bentham, 6; E. Counce, 7; T. Maitland, 8.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—Recently at the parish church by the local band, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. Conducted by R. A. Barrett. And 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 26 mins. Conducted by A. A. Waite. And 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in twenty-six and a-half mins. Conducted by Mr. Waite. And 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 25 mins. H. Mitchell, A. A. Waite, G. Miles, R. A. Barrett (conductor), C. Browett, G. Smith, A. E. Davies.

HEMPSTEAD (Gloucestershire).—Recently at the parish church, by the local band and a few friends, a 720 of College Single Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. And 720 Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. And 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 25 mins. And 720 of Court Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 25½ mins. And 720 of College Single Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. And 720 of Court Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 24½ mins. And 720 of Court Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. All the above were conducted by W. T. Pegler. The following members taking part. H. Mitchell, R. A. Barrett, J. Austin, W. T. Pegler, A. E. Pegler, E. E. Davies, G. Taylor, F. May, Rev. H. L. James.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Sunday morning, March 7th, at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. J. Bonney, 1; I. Shade (conductor), 2; J. West, 3; G. Symonds, 4; E. Hughes, 5; T. Newman, 6; I. Dart, 7; W. Berry, 8.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LLANDAFF.—On Sunday, February 21st, at the Cathedral for morning service, the first part of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; W. B. Biss, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; C. Lloyd (conductor), 4; J. Harris, 5; J. H. Aldridge, 6; J. Clutterbuck, 7; R. Brothwell, 8. Also 714 in the same method. W. Lloyd, 1; W. B. Biss, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; C. Lloyd (conductor), 4; J. Harris, 5; J. H. Aldridge, 6; J. Clutterbuck, 7; J. Thomas, 8. On Monday, February 22nd, for practice, 168 Grandsire Triples. R. Hopkins, 1; C. Lloyd, 2; W. Lloyd, 3; R. C. Balcombe, 4; W. Coombes, 5; J. Harris, 6; J. Clutterbuck, 7; R. Brothwell, 8. Also 336 in the same method. J. H. Aldridge, 1; W. Lloyd, 2; R. E. Balcombe, 3; W. Biss, 4; A. Rowley, 5; J. Harris, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; R. Brothwell, 8. Also 672 Bob Major. W. Lloyd, 1; J. Harris, 2; W. Biss, 3; O. W. Laing, 4; A. Rowley, 5; C. Clutterbuck, 7; R. V. Wilkins, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BORDEN (Kent).—On Monday, February 8th, for practice at the parish church, a 504 of Stedman Triples. C. Millway, 1; E. Allen, 2; W. H. B. Wilkins, 3; G. H. Kite, 4; R. Staines, 5; C. Willshire (conductor), 6; W. Tassell, 7; R. Weller, 8. On Sunday, February 21st, for Divine Service, a 504 Stedman Triples. S. Hutson, 1; E. Allen, 2; R. Staines, 3; G. H. Kite, 4; C. Millway, 5; C. Willshire (conductor), 6; W. Tassell, 7; R. Weller, 8. And 504 of Grandsire Triples. C. Willshire, 1; S. Hutson, 2; R. Staines, 3; W. J. Walker, 4; E. Allen, 5; C. Millway (conductor), 6; W. Tassell, 7; R. Weller, 8. On Monday, February 22nd, for practice, a 516 Union Triples. S. Hutson, 1; W. H. B. Wilkins, 2; W. Tassell, 3; G. H. Kite, 4; E. Allen, 5; C. Willshire (conductor), 6; C. Millway, 7; R. Staines, 8. On Sunday, February 28th, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples. S. Hutson, 1; E. Allen, 2; R. Staines, 3; G. H. Kite, 4; C. Millway, 5; C. Willshire (conductor), 6; W. Tassell, 7; R. Weller, 8.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON (Somersetshire).—On Saturday, February 13th, at St. Mary's church, 406 Oxford Bob Triples. E. Lloyd, 1; T. Radford, 2; W. Thomas, 3; A. Evans, 4; S. Wyatt, 5; J. Fowler, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; J. Hunt, 8. And 216 Grandsire Caters. E. Lloyd, 1; T. Radford, 2; S. Radford, 3; J. Hunt, 4; W. Thomas, 5; A. Evans, 6; H. Poole, 7; S. Wyatt, 8; J. Burge (conductor), 9; J. Fowler, 10. On Sunday, February 14th, 224 Bob Major. W. Thomas, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; J. Hunt, 3; A. Evans, 4; G. Harbour, 5; S. Radford, 6; J. Burge, 7; T. Radford (conductor), 8. Also 210 Oxford Bob Triples. E. Lloyd, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; W. Thomas, 3; J. Hunt, 4; T. Radford, 5; S. Radford, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; H. Bosley, 8. On Sunday, February 21st, 336 Oxford Bob Triples. E. Lloyd, 1; A. Evans, 2; J. Hunt, 3; S. Radford, 4; J. Joyce, 5; J. Fowler, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; H. Bosley, 8.

WEST MONKTON (Somersetshire).—Recently at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. W. Thomas, 1; J. Joyce, 2; J. Hunt, 3; S. Radford, 4; A. Evans, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 on the bells. And 120 Stedman Doubles. J. Burge (conductor), 1; S. Wyatt, 2; J. Joyce, 3; S. Radford, 4; A. Evans, 5; J. Fowler, 6. First touch of Stedman on the bells.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

RICHMOND (Yorks).—On Monday, January 25th, at the parish church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor. A. Shelton, J. Kirby, J. Frenchum, R. Briscoe, W. Phillips, and R. Borrowes (conductor). First 720 by all except the conductor. On Monday, January 31st, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor by the same company. On Sunday, February 7th, 720 Bob Minor. A. Shelton, J. Kirby, W. Phillips, J. Rushton, T. Kirby, R. Borrowes (conductor). On Sunday, February 21st, 720 Bob Minor. A. Shelton, R. Briscoe, J. Frenchum, J. Rushton, T. Kirby (first 720 as conductor), R. Borrowes.

BUSHLEY (Worcestershire).—On Monday, January 4th, at the parish church, a 720 Bob Minor in 22 mins. J. Nichols, 1; C. Jones, 2; A. Bloxham, 3; T. Devereux, 4; F. Walker, 5; J. Wathen (conductor), 6. And on the occasion of the choir and ringers' supper at the vicarage, January 14th, this being the Rev. F. R. Dowdeswell's birthday, the ringers rang, as a mark of esteem and appreciation, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Nichols, 1; C. Jones, 2; A. Bloxham, 3; A. Nichols, 4; F. Waker, 5; J. Wathen, 6. On Monday, January 18th, a 720 Bob

Minor. D. Wilkes, 1; J. Nicholls, 2; C. Jones, 3; A. Nicholls, 4; F. Walker, 5; J. Wathen, 6. On Monday evening, January 25th, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. George Jones, of Tewkesbury, with Miss Ellen Nicholls, eldest daughter of Mr. Henry Bushley, the ringers succeeded in ringing 720 of Plain Bob Minor as a mark of respect to the bride and bridegroom. D. Wilkes, 1; C. Jones, 2; J. Wathen, 3; A. Nicholls, 4; F. Walker, 5; J. Nicholls, 6. Conducted by Mr. Jones, being his first 720 as conductor. On Monday, February 22nd, for practice, a 720 Bob Minor, in 22 mins. J. Nicholls, 1; A. Bloxham, 2; C. Jones (conductor), 3; A. Nicholls, 4; F. Walker, 5; J. Wathen, 6. And on Monday, March 1st, a 720 of Bob Minor. G. Taylor (first 720 in the method), 1; J. Nicholls, 2; C. Jones, 3; A. Bloxham, 4; F. Walker, 5; J. Wathen (conductor), 6.

CHADDLESLEY CORBETT (Worcestershire).—On Sunday evening, March 7th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 5 mins. F. Broad, 1; H. Martin, 2; E. Gilbert, 3; J. Chance, 4; W. Hemming, 5; J. Perrins, 6; J. Broad, 7; T. Roberts, 8. Conducted by E. Gilbert, and composed by J. Howes, of Kingston-on-Thames. Great credit is due to the ringer of the treble for the way he rung his bell, he being only fifteen years of age.

DARLSTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, February 28th, at the parish church, 503 Grandsire Triples. J. Mark, 1; G. Morgan, 2; S. Atkins (composer and conductor), 3; T. Lowe, 4; J. Brown, 5; W. Smith, 6; E. Unitt, 7; J. Jones, 8.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH (Northants).—On Monday, January 18th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. J. Mawby, 1; W. Newman, 2; J. Allen, 3; A. Tyler (conductor), 4; W. Pettit, 5; A. Perkins, 6. On Sunday morning, January 24th, for Divine Service, 544 Double Norwich. A. Perkins, 1; W. Newman, 2; W. Pettit, 3; J. Garratt, 4; J. Houghton, jun., 5; C. W. Clarke, 6; J. Houghton, sen., 7; A. Tyler (conductor), 8. On Monday, January 25th, 336 Double Norwich. J. Seemark, 1; W. Newman, 2; W. Pettit, 3; J. Houghton, jun. (conductor), 4; A. Tyler, 5; J. Martin, 6; J. Houghton, sen., 7; A. Perkins, 8. And 224 Superlative Surprise Major. W. Newman, 1; J. Houghton, jun., 2; W. Pettit, 3; A. Perkins, 4; J. Garratt, 5; A. Martin, 6; A. Tyler, 7; J. Martin, 8. On Monday, February 8th, 1448 Double Norwich. J. Allen (longest length), 1; W. Newman, 2; W. Pettit, 3; A. Perkins, 4; J. Garratt, 5; A. Tyler, 6; J. Houghton, sen., 7; J. Houghton, jun. (conductor), 8. On Monday, March 1st, for practice, 928 Superlative Surprise Major. W. Newman, 1; J. Martin, 2; W. Pettit, 3; A. Perkins, 4; J. Garratt, 5; J. Houghton, jun., 6; A. Martin, 7; A. Tyler (conductor), 8. Longest length in the method by all.

ISLIP (Northants).—On Saturday, February 27th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). R. Rowell, 1; E. Baker, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; J. Allen, 4; R. Squires, 5; J. Guess (conductor), 6. Also a 720 in the same method. R. Rowell, 1; R. Squires, 2; J. Guess, 3; E. Baker, 4; J. Betts, 5; R. Dunkley (conductor), 6. Messrs. Rowell, Squires, and Baker hail from Peterborough; Dunkley and Guess from Lowick; the rest belong to Islip. The ringers wish to thank the rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells.

LONDON.—On Thursday, March 4th, at the church of St. Magnus, London Bridge, 423 Stedman Caters. J. Pettit, 1; H. Springall, 2; J. Waghorn, jun., 3; A. J. Perkins, 4; I. G. Shade, 5; H. Hoskins, 6; W. Truss, 7; H. Beams, 8; W. Davies (conductor), 9; W. T. Cockerill, 10. Also a course of Duffield Royal and three courses of Kent Treble Bob Royal.

OXHEY (Herts).—On Monday, February 8th, 360 Grandsire Minor. W. Carpenter, 1; C. George, 2; H. Martin, 3; W. Norris, 4; F. Glennerster, 5; G. Price (conductor), 6; J. Alexander, 7. On Wednesday, February 10th, for practice, 168 Grandsire Triples. C. George, 1; W. Carpenter, 2; F. Glennerster, 3; H. French, 4; W. Norris, 5; H. Martin, 6; G. Price (conductor), 7; H. Read, 8. On Friday, February 12th, 720 Grandsire Minor. *W. Carpenter, 1; *C. George, 2; H. Martin, 3; *W. Norris, 4; H. French (conductor), 5; G. Price, 6; J. Alexander, 7. *First 720. Also 360 Grandsire Minor on the back six. W. Carpenter, 1; C. George, 2; H. Martin, 3; H. French, 4; W. Morris, 5; G. Price (conductor), 6.

Correspondence.

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

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

APPROVAL.

SIR,—I notice in "THE BELL NEWS" of last week, that at the annual meeting of the Maidstone district, a resolution was carried unanimously that Whit-Monday was the most convenient for mem-

bers to attend the annual meeting. I hope the fact will also not be overlooked that the bauds in the Tonbridge district were canvassed, and without exception were all in favour of the above-mentioned day, and I trust the committee will see their way clear to comply with the members' request.

Edenbridge.

JOHN STEDDY.

A SUGGESTION.

SIR,—I should like to ask the members through your columns, to make a resolve to send the reports of their performances on the first week of each month, and not to defer them for three months at once, for then I think it would be much more pleasant reading, and space would be gained for more reading than at present. Hoping no secretary will think I want to exclude any of the reports as at present sent.

W. H. HOWARD.

THE PEAL AT FORDEN.

SIR,—In your issue of February 27th appears the account of the peal of Minor rung on February 17th, at the parish church, Forden, Welshpool, conducted by J. E. Groves. The footnote to the peal states that it is the first supposed peal of Minor ever rung in Wales. This is a mistake, as a peal of Minor comprising one 720 of Grandsire, and six 720s of Plain Bob, each called differently, was rung at the church of St. Augustine, Penarth, on January 2nd, 1893, in 2 hrs. 54 mins., conducted by C. Smith. This was rung previous to the Llandaff Diocesan Association being formed. Also on February 2nd, 1895, a peal of Minor, comprising one 720 of Grandsire, and two each of Kent, Oxford, and Plain Bob, each called differently, was rung at the same tower, conducted by D. Thomas. This was the first peal of Minor by the above Association, and the first in four Minor methods by all the band.

CHARLES LLOYD.

74, Craddock Street, Riverside, Cardiff

GRANDSIRE CATERS.

SIR,—Mr. Cleal, in last week's "BELL NEWS," questions the originality of the 9 6 8-9 7 8 alternate course-ends. A long discussion has proved to me conclusively that he has had this plan by him, also his peal, for some years, and so it should be honestly awarded to him. At the time, I was entirely ignorant of this, as no peal had been arranged for him to my knowledge. I first figured with "9 in two, and 8 9" which turns the course-ends without singles, but not to the extent I required, and ultimately got to singling "8 in 3," but this had been done by him for some years I am now convinced. Regarding music, I think the plan of alternate 8 7 9 and 9 7 8 is superior; and unless anyone has a prior claim, I think it belongs to me.

Leicester.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

SIR,—It may be satisfactory to Mr. Clarkson and others to know that for some weeks I have been in possession of a notice of motion dealing with the disgraceful state of things at Westminster Abbey; and that this motion will give the Council the opportunity of taking all needful action; other notices on the same subject will, therefore, hardly be necessary.

H. EARLE BULWER, Hon. Sec. C.C.

BELFRY PRAYERS.

The Archdeacon of Middlesex, the President of the Middlesex Association, has been good enough to formulate the following prayers for belfry use, and has obtained the sanction and approval of the Bishop of London for their general use in his Lordship's diocese.

We think this action on the part of the Archdeacon is one from which, in these days of so much apathy on the part of the clergy, we may derive much encouragement, and that the Bishop should have approved the prayers for belfry use, shews that he at least is not unmindful of the position which all ringers ought to occupy as Churchworkers. It is hoped that the clergy will encourage the use of these prayers, and by this means strengthen the connection of ringers with the Church.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, who of old didst ordain the sound of the golden bells on the robe of the high priest to be a figure of the voice of Thy Son, the great High Priest: Grant that the sound of these our bells may be as a message from Him to the people, bidding them to come and adore devoutly in Thy sanctuary: through the same JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.

O LORD, we beseech Thee mercifully to bless us who are appointed to the ministry of calling Thy people to worship in Thy holy House: preserve us from evil accident and misfortune; give us the grace of reverence and a sober mind: and bring us all hereafter to take part in the worship that the holy angels offer Thee in heaven: through JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.

Notices.

Midland Counties' Association.—Notice.—Will all members whose present addresses are incorrect in the 1895 report, kindly notify me or their local secretaries at once.

J. O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.*
22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.

The Midland Counties' Association.—Nottingham District.—The annual meeting for the election of officers will be held in the belfry of All Saints' church, to-day, Saturday, March 13th, at 6.30 prompt. Ringing after business. W. E. WHITE, *Local Hon. Sec.*
Colgrave, Notts.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Alban's Church, Rochdale, to-day, Saturday, March 13th. Bells ready at 4.30 p.m., meeting, 6 p.m., all ringers especially invited.

E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*
14, Thomas Street, Lees.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting of this branch will be held to-day, March 20th, at St. Paul's Church, Ramsbottom. The bells will be ready for ringers any time during the afternoon. The Rev. J. J. Lewis has kindly offered to provide tea to those ringers sending their names to J. Wolstenholme, 33, Crow Lane, Ramsbottom, not later than the 16th. Business meeting to follow tea. J. H. BANKS, *Branch Sec.*
Helmshore.

The Heavy Woollen District Association, Yorkshire.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Birstal, on Saturday, March 20th, at 5.30 p.m., at the meeting house, The Black Bull inn. Entrances to the Eight Bell Contest close April 3rd. All companies in the association are requested to send a list of their stationed company, signed by the vicar or churchwardens, to me as early as possible. GEO. H. SIMON, *Hon. Sec.*
19, Albert Street, Batley Carr.

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Brookfield Church, Gorton, on Saturday, March 20th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting at 7 p.m.; open invitation to all ringers. WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

Chester Diocesan Guild.—Wirral Branch.—The next monthly meeting and tea will be held at Heswall, on Saturday, March 20th, at 6 p.m. Tower open from 3 p.m. Leaders are requested to let the hon. sec. know how many will attend. HENRY WOOLCOTT, *Hon. Sec.*
Grange Mount, West Kirby.

The Sussex County Association.—Western Division.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Lyminster, on Saturday, March 27th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m. The Vicar of Lyminster has offered to provide tea. Secretaries to forward number not later than the 25th. J. W. G. LODER-COTHER, *Hon. Sec.*
Yapton Vicarage, Arundel.

The Kent County Association.—Rochester District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at St. Helen, Cliff-at-Hoo, on the 3rd of April. Tower to be open at 4 p.m. Committee meeting at 6 p.m. A. OSBORNE, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*
65, Clive Road, Rochester.

The Essex Association.—A District Meeting of the above will be held at Bocking, near Braintree, on Easter Monday. Preliminary notice. HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Ass. Sec.*

Compositions.

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL.

5040.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

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

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

Last six courses three times repeated.

A PEAL OF UNION CATERS.

By ARTHUR KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

5003.

2 3 4 5 6 I 2 3 6

4 2 5 6 3 I 3 4 2

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

The last eleven courses three times repeated, calling the first course 2-6, produces 42356. Round by 9th in and out at 2.

A 1-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By WILLIAM WALMSLEY, *Macclesfield.*

2 3 4 5 6 7

4	6	2	3	7	5	3
6	2	4	3	7	5	4
7	5	6	4	3	2	2
2	4	7	3	5	6	1
6	5	2	7	3	4	2S
4	3	6	2	7	5	2S*
4	2	3	5	6	7	P.L.

Five times repeated. Bob for *single in 3rd and 6th parts. Contains all the twenty-four 7-5s all the right way; also all the 5-6-7s, and their extent coursing each other, viz., eighteen leads. Also Whittingtons and six 5-6s.

YORK MINSTER.

On Sunday, March 7th, being Assize Sunday, when the Judges attend the morning service, the following members of the society rung for the said service two courses of Treble Bob Maximus in fifty-eight minutes. A. C. Fearnley, 1; J. W. Cundall, 2; T. Neill, 3; Jas. Thompson, 4; F. T. Earnshaw, 5; R. Thompson, 6; W. H. Howard, 7; A. Haigh, 8; W. Morrell, 9; T. Hodgson, 10; T. Haigh, 11; G. Breed (conductor), 12. Tenor 54 cwt. W.H.H.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED by young man a situation as in-door servant, or would not object to other work; age 25; 10 years' experience as footman; 34 years in present situation. Can ring Minor methods, and Grandsire and Plain Bob on eight. Member of Oxford Diocesan Guild. Address W. H., care of Editor.

WANTED a situation as first-class Finisher in the Bookbinding Trade; age 22. Change-ringer in Surprise methods.—Charles H. Fowler, 4, Pembroke Street, St. Aldates, Oxford.

WANTED situation as Gardener, or any other capacity; use to horses, and willing to be generally useful. Total abstainer; good change-ringing Instructor.—Address X Y Z, care of Editor.

COULD anyone help me to get a situation; am willing to do anything. By trade a six-quarter Tapestry Weaver. Can ring Double Norwich, Stedman, Superlative, Cambridge, and London Surprise. Can conduct in method I can ring. I am willing to give my services as a ringer for getting employment. Married; 29 years of age; 15 years' character.—W. H. Smith, Lark Hill, Kidderminster.

SITUATION Wanted as under Gardener, or single-handed, am not particular as to any other sort of work. Age 27. Five years good character. Change ringer. Member of St. Mary's Society, Beddington.—A. Clayton.

WANTED Situation as Sexton (understands duties), or any place of trust. Good change-ringer in all Standard Methods. Married; age 32; good testimonials. Member of Kent County Association and College Youths. Address, B.Y., care of Editor.

WANTED Situation as Coachman. Small garden not objected to. Married; age 32; two children, youngest 5. Change-ringer; member of the Sussex County Association. Nine-and-half years' excellent character from the Archdeacon of Lewes. Address—E. BRANT, Pevensey Vicarage, Hastings.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED Composer (news). One who can assist in proof reading preferred. Must be a change-ringer. Apply W. K. Morton, Printer, Horncastle.

TO HAIRDRESSERS.—Wanted a thorough good gent's hand. One that can ring standard methods preferred; also a boy to lather. State terms to E. J. Heathorn, Woolston, Southampton.

WANTED.—Young man about 18, to work circular saw—cutting small handles (not difficult work) and fill up time in timber yard. Constant work if change-ringer (peal of eight). Apply E. James, Hardy Patent Pick Co., Heeley, Sheffield.

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WANTED.—A peal of eight handbells, second-hand, in good condition, cheap, for change-ringing. G. Stacey, Dulverton, Somerset.

WANTED.—A peal of eight, in good condition. Particulars to G. Pound, Boxley, Maidstone, Kent.

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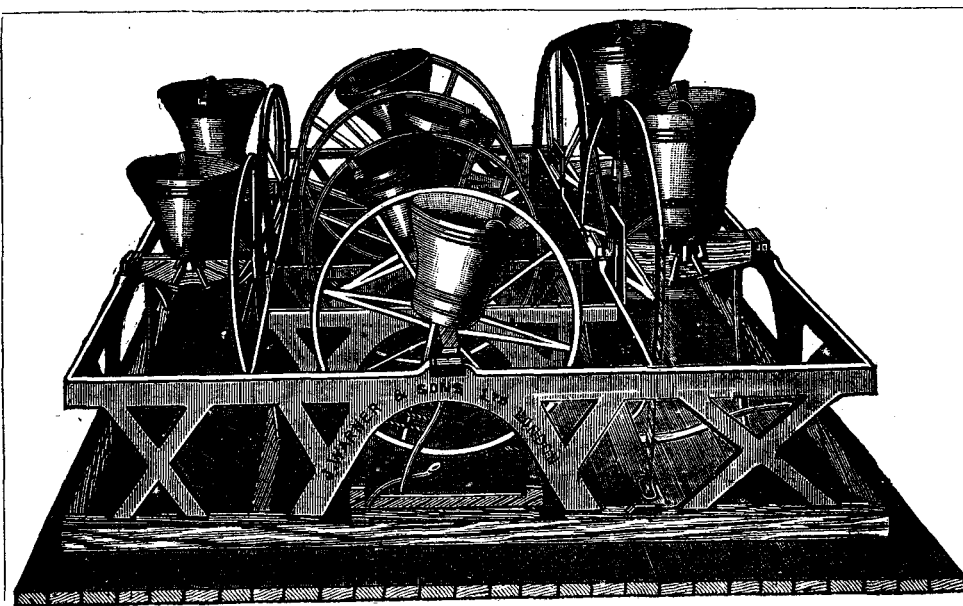
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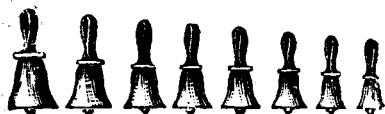
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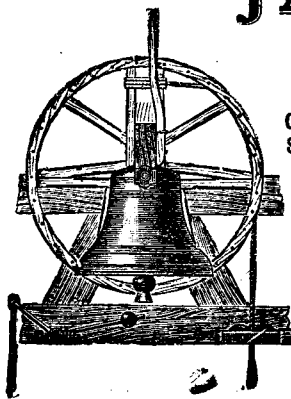
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No. 780.—VOL. XV.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 1897.

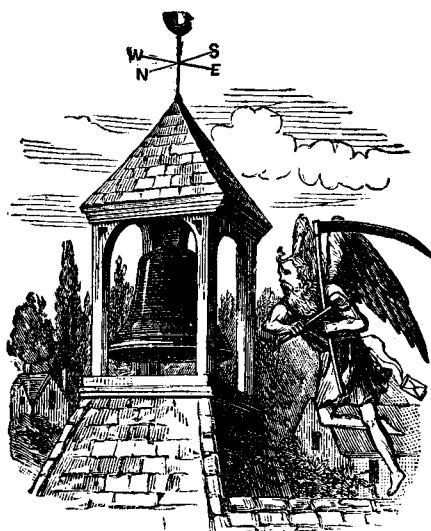
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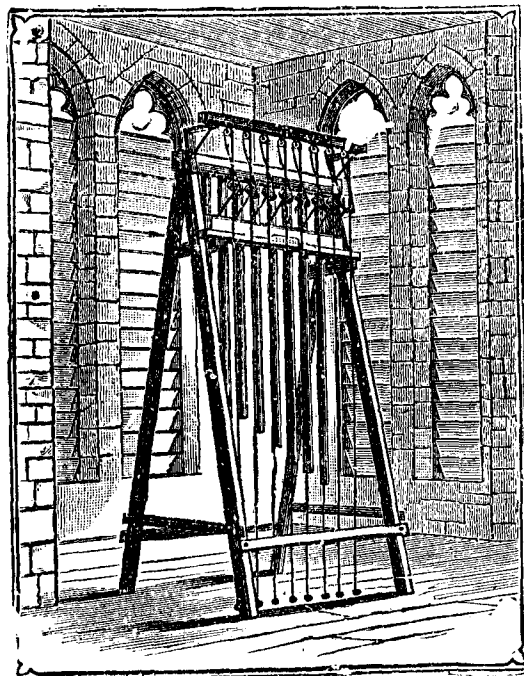
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 780.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 1897.

[Vol. XV.]

THURSTANS' "ORIGINAL."—THE MEANING OF THE TERM.

By A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

At the last meeting of the Central Council, I undertook to put in print all the information that could be gathered as to the claim of Thurstans' well-known four-part composition to be called his "Original." That this wonderful production stands and will remain as the first composition in Stedman Triples is generally acknowledged; but the question that has of late agitated many enquiring minds is not as to the propriety of a title of honour being bestowed, but whether the title by common consent selected is warranted by facts. I do not purpose to go at any length into the history of composition in the method, for this has already been fully treated in the late Mr. Snowdon's papers on the subject published in "THE BELL NEWS," and in those of the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Mr. W. H. Thompson, and myself, given through the same channel. The only point I desire to set at rest is the relative precedence of Thurstans' two first productions. His first composition is given by Mr. Snowdon ("BELL NEWS," January 17th, 1885) as composed in 1839. This production is on the "Bob-and-Single" plan which was intermediate between the early "multi-bob" and the later "twin-bob" procedure. Since it contains, in addition to common bobs and singles, two special calls, it cannot be rightly classed as a true composition in the method, and may, therefore, be shelved as regards the present enquiry. In 1842 a much nearer approach was made to a legitimate composition, which was rung at Aston, Birmingham, on August 8th of that year, conducted by Thomas Day. An endless controversy arose as to whether this was the production of Thurstans, or of Lates, his rival. It was finally entered in the peal-book in the joint names of the two. I am, however, informed by Mr. John Day, the nephew of the conductor, that the credit of the peal was believed by Mr. T. Day to be fairly claimed by Lates; and the evidence adduced, for which there is hardly space, appeared to me sufficiently conclusive on the point. Now this composition was obtained by common bobs and two special calls, and was therefore not legitimate, and I refer to it merely to show, for reasons which will appear presently, that the one aim of the composers of that day, was to obtain a composition containing common bobs and two singles only. The above peal therefore was a near approach to the desired goal.

The late Mr. Johnson informed Mr. Snowdon that in 1842 he received from Thurstans a composition "on an entirely original plan." This contained the four quarters of the famous four-part peal; in fact it *was* the peal, except that the connection between the parts was made by four special singles, instead of by the subsequent two common singles and the "omits" and "extras." Doubtless, though this composition was never rung, its plan remained in the head of the composer till, by some inspiration of wit or luck, he subsequently hit on the solution of the difficulty.

But in the meantime Thurstans was not idle. He produced a composition in five similar parts each containing, besides bobs, two common singles, or ten in all. Here was undoubtedly the first legitimate production in the method. Mr. Snowdon gives 1847 as the year of this composition ("BELL NEWS"

January 24th, 1885) with the 2nd the observation bell; in explanation of which I may say that I was told by Mr. H. Johnson that a Bristol light-bell ringer applied to Thurstans, wishing to call a peal in the method, and that the latter "transposed a peal for him." As a matter of fact the composition was much older, for a letter, which I have seen, exists from H. Hubbard to a ringer at Dereham with the postmark "October 20th, 1845" upon it, giving this very composition with the 7th the observation bell. Oddly enough the writer makes no remark as to there being anything out of the common in the absence of special calls; and yet this appears to have been undoubtedly the first composition of *bona fide* Stedman Triples. He merely says that "the common singles will be found more convenient to make than Mr. Hudson's doubles."

How long previous to October 20th, 1845, Thurstans had composed this peal we have no means of knowing, but he apparently set little store by it, as no known attempt was till long after made to ring it in Birmingham. On May 18th, 1846, his notable four-part peal was rung on the front eight at St. Martin's, conducted by Mr. Johnson, who told Mr. Snowdon that he had received the ms. from Thurstans—his intimate friend—some months previously. Mr. John Day informs me that the reason this peal was not at once rung, was doubtless that just then no peal of eight in Birmingham was available, but that, meeting short for a ten-bell practice, Mr. Johnson prevailed on them to start for the peal. Mr. Johnson described to me more than once how on coming down from the tower he met the ingenious and inquisitive Lates, who eagerly queried: "Why, Harry, that came round with a common single?" Now it would appear very unlikely, in view of the dates and other considerations alluded to, that this composition preceded the five-part one; and the absence of any endeavour to put the latter forward as of special merit points to a desire to obtain a composition with two singles only. This view is strengthened by the notorious excitement over the "Lates-Thurstans" peal, although two "doubles" here take the place of legitimate singles. Further confirmation has been afforded by Mr. Day, who a few days ago explained to me that the prevailing idea was to get Stedman with only a couple of calls other than bobs, after the manner of the Grandsire compositions. This evidence bears again on the "Lates-Thurstans" peal which, in regard to its two special calls, answered almost exactly to Holt's ten-part production.

"Holt's Original" though preceded by "bob-and-single" peals, was at all events the composer's first achievement. In Thurstans case this was evidently not so, and the question which has been asked can be answered only one way:—that the celebrated four-part is not his "Original," if we are to give the word the meaning attached to it in parallel cases. As the settlement of the difficulty forms no part of my present purpose, I here leave the subject, merely suggesting that if the frequent title of "composition" is considered too indefinite, perhaps the term applied to it in Mr. Snowdon's writings of "Thurstans' Masterpiece" might commend itself.

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THE ST. STEPHEN'S GUILD, BRISTOL.

On Wednesday, the 23rd inst., the annual dinner of the above Guild was held at The George hotel, Narrow Wine Street, Bristol, presided over by the Rev. C. H. Joberns, rector of St. Stephen's, and President of the Guild. Amongst those present were the Rev. —. Phelps, rector of St. John's, Messrs. Water and Goodenough (Bath); Walker (Birmingham); and C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq. (Treasurer). The churchwarden was unable to attend owing to illness. After dinner was over, the loyal toast was given and duly honoured. Mr. Pickard then gave the toast of the "Rector and Wardens." He said that the Guild were very fortunate in having such a rector and wardens, as they did everything possible for the welfare of the ringers. Without a doubt the members of the Guild were the best band of ringers in the county, and most of the good change-ringers were members. Referring to Mr. Heywood's speech in London a short time ago, that not one minister in ten took an interest in ringers, he could not say whether it was right or not, but if it was, then they had that one in Bristol, and were justly proud of him. The toast was drunk with musical honours.

The Rev. C. H. Joberns, in reply, said he was much obliged for all the good things said about him, and only hoped he deserved them, if not, he would try to deserve them in the future.

A course of Grandsire Cinques was then rung on handbells by Messrs. Gordon, Bawn, Hinton, Price, Elles, and Tomkins.

Mr. Boutflower responded on behalf of the churchwarden, Mr. C. J. Hill.

The toast of the evening was then submitted by the Rev. C. H. Joberns—that of "The St. Stephen's Guild." It was only two years old, and was a very thriving infant indeed. A lot of anxiety was felt at the start, owing to the great mortality amongst human infants. He thought perhaps it would go the same way, but it was now going on as well as could be wished. He only hoped the Guild would prosper in years to come.

Mr. Cave (secretary), replied as to the funds of the society and number of members and peals rung this year, viz., 2: one of Treble Bob Major, and one of Stedman Caters. Mr. Staddon then obliged the company with a song. Mr. Bawn was then called upon to propose the next toast, which he said gave him great pleasure to do. He was sure that the Guild would always welcome any visitors who may happen to visit the city, and he would now propose the toast of "The Visitors," coupling with it the names of the Rev. —. Phelps, Messrs. Wake, Goodenough, and Walker.

The Rev. —. Phelps, in reply, assured them how honoured he felt in being with them that evening, meeting old friends and making new ones. Ringers were always welcome to come and ring on his bells. In his own village many years ago, he was only used to hearing one bell on all occasions, and when anyone died "the parson told the sexton and the sexton tolled the bell." He was also greatly pleased to be there that evening, considering that in the George hotel, the Orphans' Glee Society used to hold their meetings. The other gentlemen having replied, Mr. H. Price sang a comic song which was encored.

Mr. Boutflower then proposed the next toast, that of "Our Conductor, Mr. W. J. Hinton." Ringers in Bristol, he thought were greatly indebted to Mr. Hinton for the state of ringing there to-day, and that great thanks were due to him for his efforts. Mr. Hinton was always ready to help any young ringers coming on. On Saturday last, he had been in Cheltenham with Mr. F. Ward, who had asked him to congratulate the St. Stephens Guild and their conductor, on the fine peal of Stedman Caters rung in Bristol last week. He now gave them most sincerely the toast which was enthusiastically received and drunk with musical honours.

Mr. Hinton, in reply, thanked them all for the kind way his name had been received.

The Rev. C. Joberns having to leave the company, Mr. J. N. Wake proposed the toast of "The Chairman," which was duly honoured and replied to.

A course of Stedman Triples was rung on handbells by F. Elles, J. Hinton, F. Price, and C. Tomkins. Messrs. Wake, Tomkins, Goodenough, Hinton, Stock, and Elles gave recitations

and songs. Towards the close of the evening, the health of the vice-chairman (Mr. Pickard) was drunk with musical honours.

The toast of "Our Host and Hostess" was received with loud applause and replied to by mine host Ansell. The company broke up about 12 p.m.

UNVEILING A PEAL TABLET AT WOOBURN, BUCKS.

On Monday evening, March 8th, the local ringers with friends from Marlow Boyne Hill and Maidenhead, assembled at the parish church for the purpose of unveiling a peal tablet erected in the belfry. The vicar (Rev. J. B. Kirby, M.A.) offered a prayer, after which Mr. A. E. Nye, of Marlow, gave a short account of the attempts for the peal, which was the first rung by members of the Royal Cumberland Society on the bells. After thanking the vicar for his presence there that evening, Mr. Nye asked him, on behalf of the ringers, to unveil the tablet. The Vicar having complied in a few well-chosen words, expressed the pleasure it gave him to be present that evening, and congratulated the ringers on their success and perseverance. The tablet contained the names of Messrs. J. Garrell, F. Healey, and W. Coleman (Wooburn), W. Fussell (Slough), G. Martin and C. Smith (Maidenhead), and J. C. Truss and A. E. Nye (Marlow), all being members of the Royal Cumberland Society and also of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. J. C. Truss (conductor), W. Coleman's first peal. Touches of Grandsire Triples and 6-scores of Stedman were rung during the evening on the bells.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Hon. Secretary would be greatly obliged if Honorary Secretaries of Societies would be kind enough to pay the contributions of their Societies for the current year as soon as possible: at the same time forwarding the names and addresses of their representatives, and the number of members of the Society represented. The subscriptions of the following Societies have been received and acknowledged up to date: Norwich Diocesan, Durham and Newcastle, Essex, Oxford Diocesan, Devonshire, Bedfordshire, Hereford Diocesan, College Youths, South Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire, Kent County, St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, Middlesex, Leeds and District, Midland Counties, Royal Cumberland, Chester Diocesan, Herts. County.
6th March, 1897. H. EARLE BULWER, Hon. Sec. C.C.

DEATHS OF COVENTRY BELLRINGERS.—Within the past few days two of the oldest campanologists in this district have passed away, in the persons of Messrs. Samuel Elliott and Thomas Temple. As far back as 1859 these ringers showed a keen interest in the campanological art, and since that time they have taken part in many peals commemorative of great events. They rang in a peal on the occasion of the marriage of the Prince of Wales, thirty-four years ago, when change-ringing in Coventry had not fallen into the decadent condition in which it now is. Mr. Temple was an expert ringer, with considerable knowledge of the theory and practice of an art little understood by the public nowadays. He was equally proficient too, in the use of handbells, and seemed always willing to impart his knowledge to young men who took sufficient interest in the work. A regular attendant in St. Michael's steeple, he was later on appointed tower keeper of St. John's, and for some years had charge of the Christmas ringing at that church. Mr. Elliott's funeral, which took place on Sunday afternoon, was attended by several local ringers and friends. The bells of Trinity church were tolled, and in the evening a muffled peal was rung. On Tuesday, during Mr. Temple's funeral, the same course was adopted. A funeral bell was tolled at St. John's. The interment on Tuesday was at the cemetery, and was conducted by the Rev. A. G. Robinson, the new rector of St. John's. It was attended by a number of old ringers and others who knew and esteemed Mr. Temple for his many good qualities.

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Notices.

Midland Counties' Association.—Notice.—Will all members whose present addresses are incorrect in the 1895 report, kindly notify me or their local secretaries at once.

J. O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.*
22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting of this branch will be held to-day, March 20th, at St. Paul's Church, Ramsbottom. The bells will be ready for ringers any time during the afternoon. Business meeting to follow tea. J. H. BANKS, *Helmshore, Branch Sec.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association, Yorkshire.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Birstal, to-day, Saturday, March 20th, at 5.30 p.m., at the meeting house, The Black Bull inn. Entrances to the Eight Bell Contest close April 3rd. All companies in the association are requested to send a list of their stationed company, signed by the vicar or churchwardens, to me as early as possible.

GEO. H. SIMON, *Hon. Sec.*
19, Albert Street, Batley Carr.

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Brookfield Church, Gorton, to-day, Saturday, March 20th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting at 7 p.m.; open invitation to all ringers. WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

Chester Diocesan Guild.—Wirral Branch.—The next monthly meeting and tea will be held at Heswall, to-day, Saturday, March 20th, at 6 p.m. Tower open from 3 p.m.

HENRY WOOLCOTT, *Hon. Sec.*
Grange Mount, West Kirby.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—As a service is to be held in the Church of St. Giles, Cripplegate, on March 23rd, the practice of this society will be held at the Church of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, on that evening, at 8 o'clock. Business meeting afterwards at head quarters. W. T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*,
37, Tradesant Road, South Lambeth.

The Sussex County Association.—Western Division.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Lymminster, on Saturday, March 27th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m. The Vicar of Lymminster has offered to provide tea. Secretaries to forward number not later than the 25th. J. W. G. LODER-COTTER, *Hon. Sec.*,
Yapton Vicarage, Arundel.

The Kent County Association.—Rochester District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at St. Helen, Cliff-at-Hoo, on the 3rd of April. Tower to be open at 4 p.m. Committee meeting at 6 p.m. A. OSBORNE, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*,
65, Clive Road, Rochester.

The Essex Association.—A District Meeting of the above will be held at Bocking, near Braintree, on Easter-Monday. The towers of the following places will be open: Braintree (6 bells), Bocking (6 bells), Stisted (6 bells), Rayne (5 bells). A brake will leave Braintree church at 1.30 p.m. for Bocking, and Bocking at 2 p.m. for Stisted, returning in time for tea at The Black Boy, Bocking, at 4.30 p.m. The business meeting will follow the tea. The brake will convey ringers back to Braintree station, for the 7.10 p.m. train. Members intending to be present must signify their intention to me not later than the previous Tuesday.

HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Ass. Sec.*
Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Ely Diocesan Association.—The local meeting of the above association will be held on Easter-Monday, April 19th, at Market Downham, Norfolk. All friends are invited. R. M. CROFT, *Sec.*

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—The annual meeting and dinner will be held at Norton, on Easter-Monday. Preliminary notice. E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*,
26, Meersbrook Bank Road, Sheffield.

Compositions.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By HENRY W. WILDE, *Belgrave, Chester.*

5024.

2 3 4 5 6 W B H

5 3 2 6 4 S - -

2 5 3 6 4 - -

3 2 5 6 4 - -

5 6 3 2 4 - -

3 5 6 2 4 - -

6 2 3 5 4 - -

3 6 2 5 4 - -

2 3 6 5 4 - -

5 2 3 4 6 - -

4 5 3 2 6 - -

3 2 4 5 6 - -

4 3 2 5 6 - -

2 4 3 5 6 - -

3 5 2 4 6 - -

2 3 5 4 6 - -

4 2 3 6 5 - -

6 4 3 2 5 - -

3 2 6 4 5 - -

6 3 2 4 5 - -

2 6 3 4 5 - -

3 4 2 6 5 - -

2 3 4 6 5 - -

Repeated.

This peal contains all the combinations of 4, 5, and 6, in 5-6; and the 3rd is never in 5-6, and the 2nd never in 6ths place at the course-ends.

A ½-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By J. S. GOLDSMITH, *Lewes.*

2 3 4 5 6 7

S 5 7 2 6 3 4 I

3 4 5 2 6 7 2

4 5 3 2 6 7 4

6 7 4 3 2 5 2

5 3 6 2 7 4 I

6 7 5 3 4 2 3

S 3 2 6 4 7 5 I

P.L. 3 4 2 5 6 7 I

Five times repeated with a bob for last single in the 3rd and 6th parts; contains twenty-four 6-7s

A ½-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By THOMAS COLLINSON, *Birmingham.*

1260.

2 3 4 5 6 7

7 5 2 6 3 4 I

2 3 7 5 4 6 3

3 7 2 5 4 6 4

7 2 3 5 4 6 4

6 5 7 4 2 3 I

2 3 6 7 4 5 2

P.L. 2 4 5 6 7 3 3

Four times repeated.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED by young man a situation as in-door servant, or would not object to other work; age 25; 10 years' experience as footman; 3½ years in present situation. Can ring Minor methods, and Grandsire and Plain Bob on eight. Member of Oxford Diocesan Guild. Address W. H., care of Editor.

WANTED a situation as first-class Finisher in the Bookbinding Trade; age 22. Change-ringer in Surprise methods.—Charles H. Fowler, 4, Pembroke Street, St. Aldates, Oxford.

WANTED situation as Gardener, or any other capacity; use to horses, and willing to be generally useful. Total abstainer; good change-ringing instructor.—Address X Y Z, care of Editor.

COULD anyone help me to get a situation; am willing to do anything. By trade a six-quarter Tapestry Weaver. Can ring Double Norwich, Stedman, Superlative, Cambridge, and London Surprise. Can conduct in method I can ring. I am willing to give my services as a ringer for getting employment. Married; 29 years of age; 15 years' character.—W. H. Smith, Lark Hill, Kidderminster.

SITUATION Wanted as under Gardener, or single-handed, am not particular as to any other sort of work. Age 21. Five years good character. Change ringer. Member of St. Mary's Society, Beddington.—A. Clayton.

WANTED Situation as Sexton (understands duties), or any place of trust. Good change-ringer in all Standard Methods. Married; age 32; good testimonials. Member of Kent County Association and College Youths. Address, B.Y., care of Editor.

WANTED Situation as Coachman. Small garden not objected to. Married; age 32; two children, youngest 5. Change-ringer; member of the Sussex County Association. Nine-and-half years' excellent character from the Archdeacon of Lewes. Address—E. BRANT, Pevensey Vicarage, Hastings.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED Composer (news). One who can assist in proof reading preferred. Must be a change-ringer. Apply W. K. Morton, Printer, Horncastle.

TO HAIRDRESSERS.—Wanted a thorough good gents' hand. One that can ring standard methods preferred; also a boy to lather. State terms to E. J. Heathorn, Woolston, Southampton.

Handbells Wanted.

WANTED.—A peal of eight handbells, second-hand, in good condition, cheap, for change-ringing. G. Stacey, Dulverton, Somerset.

WANTED.—A peal of eight, in good condition. Particulars to G. Pound, Boxley, Maidstone, Kent.

Handbells for Sale.

TO Handbell Ringers.—What offers, cash or exchange. Seventy-five Bells. 2½ to 11½ inches in diameter. Complete on wooden frame.—W. Mumby, Newark, Notts.

FOR SALE.—Complete set of Handbells in good condition, fully up to pitch, the property of the Birkby Baptist Chapel.—For particulars, apply to J. Wood and Sons, New Street, Huddersfield.

HANDBELLS.—A peal of Fifty-six for sale—F 26 to H C or—in excellent condition; also Portable Padded Table, 14ft. long, and hangings trimmed with gold braid and fringe. A bargain.—F. Masfield, Albert Street, Newcastle, Staffs.

PRINTING of a high-class description is executed at the office of this paper. A dozen Peal-cards for 1s. 1d., or eighteen for 1s. 6d., post free.

Two Peals of Handbells to be Given Away!

EVERY RINGER HAS A CHANCE.

LOOK OUT FOR THE COUPONS

NEXT WEEK.

HOUGH-ON-THE HILL, GRANTHAM.

On Saturday, March 6th, the members of the local company visited Fulbeck through the kind invitation of the Rev. F. Vere Wilson, for the purpose of ringing trial peals on the bells of the church of St. Nicholas. The bells have only just arrived from the foundry of Messrs. Taylor, Loughborough, where they have all been tuned, and one completely recast. They are now hung in a new iron frame, and the ringers who stood at the ropes on Saturday, were loud in their praises of the perfect "go" of the bells. They aver that they are all that can be desired. This must be gratifying to the above firm, but still more so to Mr. S. Smith, who has had the hanging and all other arrangements to personally superintend. On arriving shortly before 3 o'clock, the Hough band accompanied by some of the local company rang 720 Grandsire Doubles, each 6-score called differently. W. Maw, 1; C. Nicholson, 2; J. Hoyes (conductor), 3; F. Tunnadine, 4; S. Nicholson, 5; W. Nicholson, 6. Tenor about 13 cwt. Also two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. J. Lamb, 1; C. Nicholson, 2; J. Hoyes (conductor), 3; F. Tunnadine, 4; S. Smith (Loughborough), 5; R. Porter (Fulbeck), 6. Several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were also rung. R. Porter, 1; W. Maw, 2; J. Hoyes, 3; S. Nicholson, 4; S. Smith (conductor), 5; W. Nicholson, 6.

Ringling was now suspended for a short time to give the visitors an opportunity of refreshing themselves. They were entertained to an excellent meat tea at the hall, through the liberality of W. D. Fane, Esq., and they desire sincerely to return, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," their warmest thanks to the worthy gentleman for his hospitality.

After tea a 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 27 mins., the men standing as in the first 720 of the afternoon. An attempt at Oxford Bob Minor, which came to grief halfway, owing to a change of course was the next item, the men standing as before except the ringer of the treble, which was manipulated by J. P. Paley (Caythorpe). Several six-scores were rung by Job Lamb, 1; W. Maw, 2; J. P. Paley, 3; S. Smith, 4; W. Cragg (Caythorpe), conductor, 5; R. Porter, tenor. The concluding peal was a well-struck six-score by Job Lamb, 1; J. Hoyes, 2; J. P. Paley, 3; R. Porter, 4; W. Cragg (conductor), 5; W. Maw, tenor.

BRAY, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday last, a very successful meeting of ringers took place at Bray, for the purpose of practising six-bell methods. Thirty-two ringers were present from the following towers: Bray, Burnham, Farnham Royal, Winkfield, Stoke Poges, Marlow and Boyne Hill. The proceedings commenced soon after 3 o'clock, when touches in the following methods were rung: Grandsire, Plain Bob and Oxford Bob Minor and Grandsire Doubles, conducted by J. J. Parker, C. Clark, J. Basden, W. E. Yates, T. Goodchild and others. At 5.30 the ringers were entertained to a most excellent tea, kindly provided by the Vicar, the Rev. C. A. Raymond. After full justice had been done to the good things provided, Mr. J. J. Parker, on behalf of those present, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kindness in entertaining the members that afternoon, and also for the use of the tower and bells.

The Vicar, in reply, said it gave him very great pleasure in meeting so many ringers. He hoped they had all enjoyed themselves, and would make good progress in the art of ringing by holding meetings of this sort at the six-bell towers. Afterwards the following rang 720 changes of Oxford Bob Minor, in 27 mins. T. Goodchild, 1; G. Basden, 2; J. Elderfield, 3; J. Parker, 4; G. Alder, 5; C. Clark (conductor), 6. Tenor 32 cwt. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Lane End, on Easter Monday.

BARTON-UNDER-NEEDWOOD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Monday evening, March 8th, at St. James's Church, several plain courses of Grandsire Triples was rung by the recently formed band of amateur ringers. This band was only formed last autumn, and great credit is due to the members for the rapid progress they have made in the art, only one having previously pulled a bell. Mr. Joseph Griffin came over from Burton and kindly gave his assistance, for which the members thanked him.

THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.
ANNUAL DINNER.

The eleventh annual dinner of the above Guild took place on Saturday evening, February 27th, at the Storey's Gate tavern, Westminster, when twenty sat down to an excellent repast. The Vicar occupied the chair and was supported by churchwarden Avant. After the cloth was removed the usual toasts were given and duly honoured. The Vicar, upon proposing "The Health and Success of the Guild," said he was proud to be president of such a band and hoped to see them soon at the top of the tree as ringers.

The Secretary, in replying, stated that during the year the Guild had succeeded in ringing a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal, three of Double Norwich, one each of Duffield, Superlative and Stedman Triples, besides taking part in peals with other bands. This year three peals of Superlative had already been scored and other methods were being practised. During the evening excellent songs were rendered by Messrs. H. R. Newton, H. S. Ellis, W. J. Sorrell, N. J. Pitstow, the Bros. John and James Pryer, and several others, also two banjo solos by two friends of Mr. Newton. Handbell ringing was also indulged in, and when at last "Auld Lang Syne" was sung, more than one declared that the evening had been far too short.

PRITTLEWELL, ESSEX.—UNVEILING A PEAL TABLET.

On Monday, March 16th, St. Mary's was the scene of a brilliant illumination on the stairs, when the Vicar, the Rev. T. O. Reay, attended to unveil a tablet recording the first peal on the bells. Proceedings commenced with a well-struck touch of Grandsire Triples, brought round in a workmanlike manner by the band who rang the peal. After which the Vicar unveiled the tablet, and in a few well-chosen remarks complimented the ringers on the progress they had made and thanked them very heartily for services so regularly and cheerfully rendered, reminding them that the pillars of the church were a better example to ringers than the buttresses, the inference being of course that the pillar shows up inside, while the buttresses remain out. A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kindly sympathy, followed by a good course of Kent, brought the proceedings to a close. The tablet reads as follows:—

St. Mary's Prittlewell; opening peal. On Monday, October 26th, 1896, eight members of the local company (being also members of the Essex Association), rang on these bells Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 3 hrs. and 10 mins. John Perry, 1; William Bedwell, 2; William Dowsett, 3; William Dudley, 4; Charles Anderson, 5; Joseph Smith, 6; William H. Judd, 7; James Pryor, 8. Conducted by William H. Judd. The Rev. T. O. Reay, M.A., Vicar.

RAUNDS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE CHURCH BELLS.—The bells of St. Peter's Church having been reported to be in an unsafe condition in consequence of the decayed state of the bell frame, the church council decided to invite Messrs. Taylor and Son, of Loughborough, to come and inspect them. Mr. Taylor has since reported on the dilapidated state of the bell frame and the necessity of having a new one. It was suggested in the council that it would be a very suitable way of commemorating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee to have a new frame, tune the whole peal of bells, and re-hang them with modern fittings, and at the same time increase the peal to eight. Sectional estimates of the cost of the work have been submitted. We understand that £300 is required for the work needed. If this can be raised Mr. J. K. Smith has generously promised to give the two new bells required to complete the octave. The tenor and fifth bells were re-cast by Warner, 1878. The rest are dated 1732, except the second, which is 1723.

EVERSHOLT (Beds).—On Saturday, February 13th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, 720 Bob Minor. S. Avis, 1; M. Matthews, 2; E. Herbert, 3; H. Harris, 4; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 5; Rev. W. Baker, 6.

GENTLEMEN'S Curb Alberts. Heavily Plated with Pure Gold. Guaranteed 18 carat, 43. 6d., 22. 5s. 6d., Double, 7s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. Member of Norwich Diocesan Association.—SKINNER, 3, Mayes Terrace, East Dereham.

Correspondence.

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

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

RINGING ODDFELLOWS.

SIR,—In your record of the 13th inst. Mr. Reyner gave some statistics on Ringing Oddfellows connected with the Manchester Unity. We have in our village with about 3000 inhabitants, not less than twelve ringers connected with our Lodge, and four are at present service ringers; two of the company are P.P.G.M.'s, so I think we can claim a fair share of Ringing Oddfellows. The writer is a P.P.G.M. and C.S. of the Kirkburton District, and was appointed to that office in December, 1871, and has attended ninety-nine district quarterly meetings out of a possible 100, so I think you will consider that a fair average attendance for a degraded ringer to accomplish; and also two of our present service ringers were members of the Local Board and members of our Urban District Council, and at the first election of members when the new Act came into force, one of our company with thirty candidates for twelve seats was at the head of the poll. So I think if ringers at one time were looked upon by the public as a degraded race of people, either ringing societies or something else, I should say self-respect has wrought a great change in the opinion of our inhabitants at any rate. I have been a ringer for over forty years, and have rang at a great many places, and I can vouch for the respectability and good conduct of all ringers I have had the pleasure of meeting. If Ringing Oddfellows would take the trouble and attend our Lodge and District Lectures they would have signs etc. given, which, if used, would enable them to find out Bro. Oddfellows in any village or town they go to. I should be pleased if Mr. Holden or some other Oddfellow would take the trouble to form a company of P.P.G.M.'s to ring on either six or eight bells a peal in Yorkshire, which could in my opinion be accomplished. I could furnish two from Kirkburton. I can vouch for one, and that is

Kirkburton.

J. PICKERING.

THE MIDDLESEX AMALGAMATION.

SIR,—Kindly allow me to make a few remarks on the report of the Heston meeting of "The South and West Middlesex Guild" in your issue of the 6th instant, re the amalgamation with the Middlesex Association, also to explain to members who were not there, the action taken in the matter by Mr. A. Taber and myself. The report does not state that the committee was formed at the annual meeting on Whit-Monday last, to discuss the matter with the like of the "Middlesex Association," but were not empowered to settle anything; a special meeting was to be called for them to lay the scheme before the members to settle it. On January 23rd, the first and only meeting was held. Judge our surprise when we found on Sunday, January 31st, a notice inviting all members to the meeting on the following Saturday, to finally settle the question! I must say that we did not take it seriously, as we could not see how it could be done, but we were soon given to understand differently when the meeting commenced; and what a difference had come over the committee, those most against it at first seemed then just the opposite! To begin with, I rose on a point of order, and expressed to the best of my ability, that the committee had exceeded their duty by issuing a notice couched in that way. Mr. Taber tried to propose that, after hearing the committee's report, etc., the meeting be adjourned, and a circular-letter be sent to all members, both honorary and ringing, so that all would have a chance of voting; but we were soon given to understand that, so far as honorary members were concerned, they had no voice in the government of any society, etc. How is it then, that a number of them are elected on the General Committee? No, they would have none of it, they had met to settle it, and as the largest half of those who eventually voted for it, made their first appearance at a meeting, you can quite see how anxious they were to get it over; there were twenty-eight or twenty-nine members present, and thirteen voted for and only three against, the other dozen or so being neutral; at least seven of the thirteen had not been to a monthly meeting before; and no doubt were, some of them at least, paying off some fancied score they had, as I will endeavour to show presently. The three who were against have been at every meeting held, several members kindly paid a tribute to Mr. Taber and myself, remarking that we had been the making and the mainstay of the Guild, for which we return thanks. Asked to give my views, I tried to explain that as London practically separated them from us, I thought that, for the good of the cause, we had better go on as we were, and I added that several good, prominent members had told me that they would have nothing to do with it if passed. I thought it would do more harm than good; it seems some construed that into including myself, if they did they were wrong. Someone remarked that we could give it a trial and if it didn't answer we could go back to the old arrangement, which of course is easier said than done. At the close of the meeting, of course, I myself accepted the inevitable,

and made up my mind to go on till Whit-Monday, and try and do my duty as heretofore, and it would have made no difference to me till then. When parting with our worthy president, I certainly expressed a thought that there was something underneath, and that I believed that some of them had voted as a sort of vote of censure on Mr. Taber and myself, and soon we knew it was so. It occurred to me that, as after Whit-Monday all peals rung by the joint associations would be booked together, I asked one or two of the committee whether anything was said about the peals we have rung up till now, and what we might ring before then, and I believe our secretary was asked to enquire, as I think that we ought to have a book and have them booked up. Well, before we could hardly know what was the matter, some of them began to unbottle the friendly spirit we had just had preached to us; in fact the abuse was showered on us so fast we could not give much attention at all: such as this, "you always pick your land;" "you encourage men to stop away from their own tower;" "you never gave anyone any instruction," etc. One very old friend finishing me up by "Jack; after what you said to-night, I'll never ring with you again, so you're done" (*sic*). I might say that this last touched me a bit, as I don't think I could ever bring myself to say such a thing to anyone, the others I treat with the contempt they deserve, only I think that I shall take more rest from running about so much. It will give you some idea when I say that Mr. Taber and myself had been ringing that week six nights out of seven: one peal, and all the others practice. I might say that I have spoken to several, asking if they could give me any information as to this outburst. I have asked singly, and when several were together, and they fail to see where there was any cause whatever. In conclusion, I regret to say that I cannot give our friends details of the scheme, only that we are to go on as we have been going—like two separate associations, so joined that the peals count together as to points, etc., and that we may meet mutually together. Trusting we have explained ourselves, etc.

JOHN BASDEN.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—The quarter-peal published in last week's issue should have been a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1897 changes). I am very sorry I made such a gross blunder, but it was done in haste, as it was post time when I wrote it, and had been thinking of quarter-peals a few moments previous.

H. MARTIN.

Chaddesley Corbett, Worcestershire.

THE PEAL OF MINOR AT FORDEN.

SIR,—Mr. Groves informed me of the Penarth peal too late to apologise in your issue of the 6th inst. I beg on behalf of the band to do so now. I had my doubts about it and caused the following note to appear in a contemporary.—"Not remembering what our brother-ringers have achieved in South Wales, the band are under the impression that this is the first peal of Minor rang in Wales and would be glad to be corrected." I trust our South Wales friends will soon ring one in seven Minor methods. I had contemplated bringing this off here in the near future, but I think our friends in the south are entitled to the honour, so will give them until the Diamond Jubilee celebration to accomplish it. Trusting they will be successful.

T. J. BRATTON.

SIR,—In reading through the various reports of meetings, etc., in last week's "BELL NEWS," I noticed that one band of ringers had made good progress in the Art of change-ringing in a very short time. If you will allow me, Mr. Editor, I should like to sing the praises of a young band of ringers who are members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild; for as recently as the end of last November they were unable to ring the plain course of Grandsire Doubles without the assistance of a coach. Now I hear they are able to ring six 6-scores in this method, each called differently, and that they will shortly go on to Minor. All this work has been done by themselves, as they have not had the slightest help since the above-named date. This, I think is very creditable, and shews what can be done where men are united and determined to push forward.

A Member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

WRAGBY, LINCOLNSHIRE

On Friday evening last, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. G. M. Morton, 1; J. T. Walsh, 2; G. Cottingham, 3; W. Barr, 4; A. Howes, 5; J. H. Chapman, 6. Tenor 10 cwt. First 720 by G. M. Morton, and rung at the first attempt. Messrs. G. M. Morton, A. Howes, and J. T. Walsh belong to the Horncastle band; the rest belong to Wragby. The bells, which were recently rehung by Messrs. Warner and Sons, are a very musical ring of six, the "go" of which is all that can be desired, and reflect great credit on that firm. Thanks are due to Mr. J. H. Chapman, the steeplekeeper, for having all in readiness, and to the Rev. J. H. Bolland, vicar, for the use of the bells. It is hoped that before long the above band will be able to record a 5040.

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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, etc., etc. (143 pages).

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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.

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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)]

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THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

NOW READY.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF SUFFOLK.—By JOHN JAMES RAVEN, D.D., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge; Vicar of Fressingfield-with-Withersdale; Honorary Canon of Norwich Cathedral; and President of the Norwich Diocesan Association).—WITH ABOUT NINETY ILLUSTRATIONS.—This most interesting work contains an account of all the Church Bells in the County of Suffolk—their makers and history—so far as they can be discovered. Incidental notices are introduced of the ancient uses of Bells—the individuals mentioned on them—and many historical events connected therewith. Introductory remarks on the general history of the Bells are prefixed to local portion of the work. The book is fully illustrated with engravings of ornaments, letterings, founders' marks, shields, etc., of which some will be found hitherto unknown. The latter portion of the work contains a complete list of Churches in the County, with the Inscriptions on the Bells now belonging to them, as well as on many which have been re-cast. The Demy 8vo. Edition is limited to 500 copies, and is now offered at 20s. nett; or Bound in Half-morocco, Roxburgh style, 27s. 6d. nett. Copies by post 1s. 6d. extra. The Large Paper Edition was subscribed for within a few days of the issue of the Prospectuses, and is now unobtainable.

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 1897.

THE very interesting article entitled "Thurstans' Original—the Meaning of the Term," from the pen of Mr. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD (to be found on another page), will be welcome indeed to every one of our readers, especially those whose inclinations lead them to such enquiries and their solutions. We are enabled by means of this last contribution of Mr. HEYWOOD's to banish from our minds many of the speculative theories we have hitherto nourished with regard to the authorship of Stedman Triples. The metropolis of the Midlands has often been called "the home of Stedman Triples," and such a title is now strengthened,—in fact, established.

There is no necessity whatever to descant upon the results of Mr. HEYWOOD's investigations in such an interesting subject; every one can read his article alluded to for themselves; and we think there will be a great number of the Exercise who after its perusal will be considerably relieved and satisfied upon the matters therein contained. Legends connected with other composers

in different parts of the country in relation to the authorship of Stedman Triples may now be dropped altogether. There is one feature which always occurs to view when Stedman Triples is talked of, and that is the figures given by SHIPWAY of the peal of NOONAN'S. To look forward to the elucidation of this composition is hopeless, we know. It has been attempted by all those who possessed the requisite knowledge calculated to enable them to solve the difficulty, yet the difficulty remains. Is it possible to throw any further light on this matter? The President of the Central Council might at some time be inclined to make further investigations to this end; then the gleam of a ray of hope would be seen.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.—We are somewhat in arrear with our illustrations, but this is owing to the difficulties of atmosphere which our photographers and engravers say they labour under. We have however just received several plates to operate upon, which it is hoped, will be acceptable to our readers. Next week will appear a very nice photograph of East Dereham church in Norfolk, a church with a separate bell-tower. Our next portrait will be that of Mr. GEORGE BOLLAND, of Tong, Yorkshire. Mr. BOLLAND has been said to be the "king of six-bell ringers," so our six-bell brethren will not therefore lose the opportunity of having his portrait. We shall announce other portraits later on. To those gentlemen who have promised us their photographs, we may say that we should be pleased to receive them at the earliest opportunity.

THE HANDBELL GIFT.—In our next number the coupons for these gifts will commence. As has already been shown, there will be two coupons—one will be called the "company's coupon." This will be for a set of fifteen handbells, for the use of a ringing company—the ringing company having the most by the date mentioned to secure the gift, of course under the conditions specified. Ringing companies competing for this gift must comply with the following regulations: Every member of a ringing company having this paper weekly, must sign his name and address on the coupon, and hand it to the secretary or leader of his company, who will forward all of them together at the time indicated. The other we shall call a "private member's coupon," which will be for a peal of twelve bells. Those who intend competing for this must affix their names and addresses to each, and return them by the day specified. Those having the greatest number will gain the prize. The following regulations must be carefully noted. First, the coupons will be printed close together, and they must not be separated. Both coupons must be returned intact, but only the one signed which is for use. Companies must return both coupons, with a pen drawn across the one not used, and private members the same. The coupons must on no account be separated. No collection of coupons from friends will be allowed. We want all to have a chance of getting these gifts. A ringer who is a member of a company may hand his coupon to the leader, and also if he has two or more copies of the paper weekly, he can try for the private members' gift as well. If we find that this is popular, we will increase the gifts. Will our readers make this known among their friends? Next week, we repeat, the coupons will commence. We will answer any enquiry on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 1s. 2d.; cloth do., 1s. 8d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading, Berks.

The Provinces.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 10, 1897, in Two Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. W. WATSON, ST. ANDREW'S ROAD,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

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

GEORGE R. PYE 1-2.	ERNEST PYE 5-6.
WILLIAM PYE 3-4.	†EDGAR WIGHTMAN .. 7-8.

Conducted by GEORGE R. PYE.

Umpire—W. Watson, who had a copy of the peal and marked every six-end as it was rung. *First peal on handbells.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SUDBURY ARCHIDIACONAL BRANCH.)

On Thursday, March 11, 1897, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

THOMAS CADGE* Treble.	ERNEST AMBROSE 5.
HENRY DUCE 2.	SAMUEL FORD 6.
FREDERICK CONNELL .. 3.	†CHARLES G. BIXBY .. 7.
AMOR AMBROSE 4.	*STEWART RICHOLD .. Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD and Conducted by CHARLES G. BIXBY.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. This is the first peal in the method ever rang by the Melford company. The band congratulated Mr. C. G. Bixby at the finish of the peal, and wish to thank the rector, Rev. G. St. John Topham, for kindly assisting them to accomplish the peal in every way possible.

CAMBRIDGE.—THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, March 12, 1897, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,

IN MR. WOODHOUSE'S ROOMS, CAIUS COLLEGE,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

REGINALD H. WHITFORD 1-2.	GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE 5-6.
JAMES RICKMAN 3-4.	FRANK LL. EDWARDS .. 7-8.

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE and

Conducted by GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE.

Umpire—H. Staffurth. This is a 6-part peal, and contains the 6th the extent each way, and is now rung for the first time. It was rung as a farewell to Mr. F. Edwards, who is leaving Cambridge this term.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM HOLMES Treble.	*ALBERT C. FEARNLEY .. 5.
THOMAS NEIL 2.	FREDK. J. HARRISON .. 6.
ROBERT S. STORY 3.	THOMAS H. HAIGH .. 7.
EMMETT W. J. LINCOLN.. 4.	*WILLIAM H. HOWARD .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS H. HAIGH.

*First peal of Stedman, and hail from York, along with Messrs. Neill and Haigh; also first peal of Stedman as conductor by Mr. Haigh. This was a very creditable performance on the part of Mr. Howard, considering that he is in his 76th year.

MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S SOCIETY, MELBOURNE.

On Saturday, March 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

GEORGE C. TUNNICLIFFE Treble.	ALBERT H. WARD 5.
FRED. HOLLINGWORTH .. 2.	SAMUEL MASKREY 6.
HARRY HOLLINGWORTH .. 3.	CHARLES E. HART 7.
CHARLES DRAPER 4.	WILLIAM EARLE Tenor.

Composed ARTHUR E. BAMES, of Melbourne, Australia, and
Conducted by FRED. HOLLINGWORTH.

This peal is now rung for the first time.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt. in E flat.

HAROLD N. DAVIS Treble.	FRANK BOREHAM 6.
WILLIAM TRUSS 2.	SIDNEY T. GOODCHILD .. 7.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 3.	*GEORGE MARTIN 8.
JOHN C. TRUSS 4.	RALPH H. BIGGS 9.
JOHN EVANS 5.	*BENJAMIN PAGE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by HAROLD N. DAVIS.

*First peal on ten bells and first attempt. This is the first peal rang on these ten bells for 105 years.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM, AND THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, March 13, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTAN'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. Treble.	GEOFFREY A. MARTINEAU .. 5.
THOMAS HORTON 2.	WILLIAM KENT 6.
JAMES GEORGE 3.	SAMUEL REEVES 7.
WILLIAM H. GODDEN .. 4.	REUBEN HALL Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

This peal is in five equal parts, and is supposed to have been composed by the late Thomas Thurstans prior to October 20th, 1845, and is now rung for the second time. This is Mr. Martineau's first peal of Stedman.

MANCHESTER.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 25 cwt.

GEORGE E. TURNER .. Treble.	SAMUEL WOOD 6.
JOHN SHEPHERD* 2.	*PHILIP W. DAVIES* .. 7.
THOMAS BRADLEY* .. 3.	†HARRY CHAPMAN 8.
SAMUEL BOOTH* 4.	JOHN EACHUS 9.
SAMUEL GREENHALGH* .. 5.	ALFRED CROSS Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD and Conducted by HARRY CHAPMAN.

*First peal of Royal. †First peal of Royal as conductor. Messrs. Turner, Greenhalgh, Chapman and Cross belong to Pendleton; Shepherd to Bacup; Bradley to Hyde; Booth and Wood to Ashton; Davies to Bangor, North Wales; Eachus to the local band.

KILLAMARSH, DERBYSHIRE.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, March 13, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following:

Chester, Carlisle, Lincoln, Ely, Rochester, London, and Wells.

HARRY GREAVES .. Treble.	GEORGE BURNHAM 4.
THOMAS BETTISON 2.	W. H. TURTON 5.
WM. LAMBERT 3.	CHARLES SEVERN Tenor.

Conducted by T. BETTISON.

RODMERSHAM, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 13, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following.

Cambridge Surprise, Plain Bob, Superlative Surprise, Oxford Single Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford Treble Bob, and Kent Treble Bob.

Tenor 10 cwt.

GEORGE COAST .. Treble.	JOHN DIXON, M.A. 4.
SIDNEY BEACH 2.	*CHARLES MILLWAY 5.
JOSEPH GEORGE GRENSED 3.	HENRY WOOD Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY WOOD.

*First peal of Minor.

HIGHAM FERRERS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.

Tenor 22 cwt. 3 qrs. 17 lbs.

CHARLES R. LILLEY .. Treble.	ALFRED H. MARTIN .. 5.
JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 2.	FRANK HULL 6.
CHARLES CHASTY 3.	JOHN B. MARTIN 7.
WILLIAM PETTITT 4.	CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. Tenor.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS and Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

This is a two-part peal, and contains the full combinations of the 4th, 5th and 6th in 6ths place, and is now rang for the first time. The brothers Martin, belong to Higham Ferrers, Houghton and Pettitt to Irthlingborough, the remainder to Bedford. This is the first peal on eight bells by C. R. Lilley.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD AND THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 13, 1897, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5075 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt.

JAMES E. GROVES .. Treble.	JOHN OVERTON 6.
HERBERT KNIGHT 2.	HORACE OVERTON 7.
WILLIAM G. HALL† .. 3.	HENRY A. HALL 8.
ROBERT PICKERING* .. 4.	AARON GRIFFITHS 9.
GEORGE BURROWS 5.	FARRINGTON JONES .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

*First peal of Caters. †First of Caters with a bob bell. Rang as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

EDENBRIDGE, KENT.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 13, 1896, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S VARIATION OF WARHBROOK'S FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. Treble.	WALTER HAWKINS 5.
EDWARD R. J. DUNK .. 2.	JACK PRESTON 6.
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY .. 3.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. 7.
WILLIAM BURKIN 4.	*JOHN MALYAN Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE.

*First peal of Stedman. The first peal of Stedman on the bells.

HORBURY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 14, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following:

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

Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE HORNER .. Treble.	HERBERT ROWLEY 4.
ELI BROOKE 2.	GEORGE F. PICKLES 5.
GEORGE HUNT 3.	ROBERT THICKETT Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT ROWLEY.

STALEYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.

(THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.)

On Sunday, March 14, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt.

THOMAS TAYLOR .. Treble.	SAMUEL HILL 5.
THOMAS WROE 2.	ABEL FIELDING 6.
PHILIP W. DAVIES 3.	JAMES ADAMS 7.
SAMUEL BOOTH 4.	SAMUEL WOOD Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

First peal of Major by P. Davies, who hails from Bangor, North Wales.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 15, 1897, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 22 cwt.

RICHARD ROUND Treble.	JOHN SMITH 5.
WILLIAM TALBOT 2.	WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT .. 6.
JOHN WILLIAM SMITH 3.	SAMUEL SPITTLE 7.
EDWARD HAMPTON 4.	JOHN GOODMAN Tenor.

Composed by JOHN REEVES and Conducted by S. SPITTLE.

This is the first peal of Treble Bob Major on the bells, and the first by all the above ringers. The first five ringers hail from Netherton; the rest belong to the local band. This peal is taken from "Shipway," part 3 page 214.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

On Monday, March 15, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5059 CHANGES.
Tenor 27½ cwt.

EDWARD S. MORGAN .. Treble.	FRANK BROWN 7.
PHILLIP W. DAVIES 2.	SAMUEL BOOTH 8.
BENJAMIN THORPE 3.	HARRY CHAPMAN 9.
THOMAS WROE 4.	ALFRED CROSS 10.
GEORGE TURNER 5.	SAMUEL WOOD 11.
WILLIAM PYLE 6.	ALBERT ADAMS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

First peal in any method for Mr. Thorpe. First peal of Cinques for Messrs. Davies and Pyle.

BACUP, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(ROSSENDALE BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, March 16, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

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

JOHN SHEPHERD Treble.	JAMES B. TAYLOR 5.
JOHN A. BROWN 2.	JOSEPH SUTCLIFFE 6.
ARTHUR W. WHITWORTH .. 3.	WILLIAM ASHWORTH 7.
JAMES T. STANDRING .. 4.	WILFRID LAW Tenor.

Composed by J. NICHOLL and Conducted by JOHN SHEPHERD.

This was Mr. Taylor's first peal of Treble Bob, and was rung to commemorate his birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

PEAL CORRECTION.—In the peal of Grandsire Triples at Southgate, on March 2nd, the ringer of the second should have been A. L. Preece, not Price, as published.

Miscellaneous.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SUDBURY BRANCH.)

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, February 28th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, 720 New London Pleasure (nine bobs). F. Symonds, 1; H. Poulson, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; T. Levitt, 4; R. Grimwood (conductor), 5; W. Hollocks, 6. H. Poulson has now left Preston, and is now living within the sound of the bells of St. Paul's, London.

LAVENHAM (Suffolk).—On Monday evening March 8th, 1008 of Bob Major. W. Boby, 1; F. G. Symonds (longest touch on tower bells), 2; H. Smith, 3; J. Moore, 4; A. Symonds, 5; W. Snell, 6; R. Grimwood, 7; T. King (composer and conductor), 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples, all standing as before. R. Grimwood hails from Hitcham; the others are local men.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHIDDINGSTONE (Kent).—On a recent Sunday, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. T. Belton, 1; F. Butcher, 2; E. Bridger, 3; A. Longley, 4; H. Huntley, 5; G. Edwards (conductor), 6; F. Whibley, 7; R. King, 8. Longest touch by the ringer of the 5th, who only commenced ringing three months previous. Also 168 Grandsire Triples. T. Belton, 1;

G. Edwards, 2; R. Chandler (first touch with a bob bell and first attempt), 3; F. Whibley, 4; H. Huntley, 5; A. Longley, 6; F. Butcher, 7; R. King, 8.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Thursday, February, 25th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 41 mins. A. Welsh, 1; E. Mankelow, 2; W. Latter, 3; G. Head, 4; W. H. Card, 5; W. Steed, 6; S. Perkins (conductor), 7; H. Wood, 8. W. Steed hails from Tonbridge, and this is his first quarter-peal of Stedman.

BOBBING (Kent).—On Sunday, February 21st, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor. H. Good, 1; W. Hyland, 2; W. Walker, 3; E. Apps, 4; A. Trowell, 5; W. Wilkins (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 7th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Trowell, 1; C. Millway (conductor), 2; J. Grinstead, 3; W. Walker, 4; W. Hyland, 5; W. Wilkins, 6. First in the method and first attempt by A. Trowell.

THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, February 9th, at the parish church, 2520 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 23 mins. S. Flint, 1; J. Pilkington, 2; W. Fairclough, 3; J. Watts, 4; W. Taylor, 5; J. Park, 6; W. Bentham (conductor), 7; G. Prescott, 8. It was intended to go for a peal, but only the first half was rung on account of the tenor running bad. On Tuesday, February 16th, for practice, 546 Union Triples. Jno. Sholicar, 1; Jas. Sholicar (conductor), 2; W. Bentham, 3; W. Taylor, 4; J. Pilkington, 5; J. Watts, 6; G. Prescott, 7; T. Mastland, 8. Also 560 Bob Major. S. Flint, 1; A. Halton, 2; J. Sholicar, 3; W. Bentham (conductor), 4; W. Taylor, 5; J. Park, 6; J. Watts, 7; G. Prescott, 8.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN (Herts.).—On Monday, February 22nd, a 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence (aged 13 years), 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, February 24th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor and 120 Oxford Bob Minor, standing as above, and 120 Grandsire Doubles. H. Carter, 1; A. Phillips, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; J. Heady, 4; A. Smith, 5; A. Wright, 6; this is A. Wright's first 120, who is just learning. And Sunday, February 28th, for morning service, a 6-score each of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles. H. Carter, 1; A. Phillips, 2; J. Heady, 3; W. Lawrence, 4; A. Smith, 5; G. Phillips, 6. Conducted by A. Phillips and J. Heady. And for afternoon service a 720 of Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Saturday, February 27th, the above paid a visit to Watton, a distance of three miles, and rang touches of Bob Minor and 360 of Grandsire Minor, standing as above. And 120 of Grandsire Doubles. A. Phillips, 1; J. Heady, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; W. Lawrence, 4; A. Smith (conductor), 5; H. Carter, 6. On Monday, February 29th, for practice, 360 of Oxford Bob. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; A. Phillips, 3; J. Heady, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. And 216 Grandsire Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HECKINGTON.—On Friday, March 5th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Hilton, 1; S. E. Skinner (conductor), 2; J. Hilton, 3; F. Warrington, 4; J. H. Clark, 5; J. T. Holmes, 6; E. Houlden, 7; G. Ward, 8. Longest length by treble man. On Sunday, March 7th, 504 Grandsire Triples. F. Hilton, 1; J. T. Holmes, 2; J. Hilton, 3; F. W. Warrington, 4; J. H. Clark (conductor), 5; W. Dickinson, 6; E. Houlden, 7; G. Ward, 8.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

KETTERING (Northants).—On Sunday, February 21st, for evening service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 36 mins. G. Toseland, 1; J. Julian, 2; E. Underwood, 3; J. D. Matthews, 4; W. R. Hensher, 5; C. Newman, 6; T. R. Hensher (conductor), 7; J. Spence, 8. This quarter-peal contains all the twenty-four 7-4s all the right way, Queens, Tittums and Whittingtons.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BOLTON.—On Friday, March 5th, at the Saviour's church, for practice, 720 Bob Minor, in 29 mins. J. Banks, 1; J. Heathcote, 2; R. Fiddies, 3; J. Calderbank, 4; W. Hulme, 5; A. E. Wreaks (conductor), 6. Tenor 20½ cwt. This is the first 720 in the method by the local company, and the first by all except Messrs. Hulme and Wreaks.

PRESTON (Lancashire).—On March 6th, 720 College Single. J. Mather (conductor), 1; F. Timbrell, 2; J. Miller, 3; W. Timbrell (conductor), 4; F. Timbrell, 5; J. Mather, 6. Also a few courses of Grandsire Triples. J. Mather, 1; F. Timbrell, 2; W. Timbrell, 3; E.

Timbrell, 4; R. Sanderson, 5; W. Mawdsley, 6; T. Strickland, 7; J. Robinson, 8. The above was rung at the annual meeting of the Preston branch of the above Association.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Wednesday, March 10th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 35 mins. R. Simm, jun., 1; J. Simm, 2; E. Wallis, 3; F. Lees, 4; H. Ball, 5; W. Holmes (conductor), 6. Tenor 37½ cwt.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH (Northants).—On Saturday, March 6th, an attempt was made for a peal of Superlative Surprise Major, but the conductor called "stand" after ringing 4000 changes owing to a miscall. J. Houghton, sen., 1; J. Martin, 2; W. Pettit, 3; A. Perkins, 4; J. Garrett, 5; J. Houghton, jun., 6; A. Martin, 7; A. Tyler (conductor), 8. Longest length in the method by all.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

HEADINGLEY (Yorks).—On Tuesday, March 2nd, for practice at St. Michael's church, 1632 Duffield Major. A. Stokoe, 1; J. Whitaker, 2; T. Flint, 3; B. Shaw, 4; J. Logan, 5; H. Williams (conductor), 6; W. Wood, 7; A. Haste, 8.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

FROME (Somersetshire).—On Tuesday, March 2nd, at St. John's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. F. McCaffrey, 1; W. Bishop, 2; C. Summers, 3; F. Rebbeck, 4; E. Fricker, 5; H. Netley, 6; J. Rebbeck (conductor), 7; W. Shepherd and W. Singer, 8. Tenor 36 cwt. This quarter-peal contains the twenty-four 6-7s, and was the first taken part in by the treble and tenor men.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HORBURY (Yorks).—On Sunday, January 10th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles.) E. Carr, 1; W. H. Giggie, 2; G. Hart (conductor), 3; G. Horner, 4; G. F. Pickles, 5; R. Thickett, 6. On Sunday, January 17th, a 720 Tulip. A. Yelland, 1; E. Brooke, 2; G. Hunt, 3; H. Rowley (conductor), 4; G. F. Pickles, 5; R. Thickett, 6. On Sunday, January 25th, a 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure. W. H. Giggie, 1; W. Idle, 2; G. Hunt, 3; H. Rowley (conductor), 4; G. F. Pickles, 5; R. Thickett, 6. W. Idle hails from Dewsbury. On Sunday, January 31st, a 720 of Court Bob. E. Carr, 1; E. Brooke, 2; G. Hunt, 3; H. Rowley (conductor), 4; G. F. Pickles, 5; R. Thickett, 6. On Sunday, February 13th, 720 of Oxford Bob standing as above. On Saturday, February 13th, a 720 of Arnold's Victory and 720 Killamarsh Treble Bob. A. Yelland, 1; W. Idle, 2; E. Brooke, 3; G. Hunt, 4; H. Rowley (conductor), 5; G. F. Pickles, 6. On Sunday, February 14th, a 720 College Exercise. W. H. Giggie, 1; E. Brooke, 2; G. Hunt, 3; H. Rowley (conductor), 4; G. F. Pickles, 5; R. Thickett, 6. On Sunday, February 21st, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure (thirty bobs and two singles.) E. Carr, 1; W. H. Giggie, 2; G. Hunt (conductor), 3; E. Brooke, 4; G. F. Pickles, 5; R. Thickett, 6. On Sunday, February 28th, a 720 Plain Bob (sixteen bobs and singles.) E. Carr, 1; E. Brooke, 2; G. Hunt, 3; G. Horner, 4; G. F. Pickles (conductor), 5; R. Thickett, 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—On Sunday, March 7th, at the parish church, for evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. R. Sharman, 1; J. Newnham, 2; G. Attfield, 3; F. W. Rice, 4; R. Jordan, 5; J. Rice (conductor), 6; G. Paice, 7; F. Merritt, 8.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Monday, March 8th, for practice at the parish church, 504 Grandsire Triples in 21 mins. A. Gower, 1; H. Vernon, 2; C. Lewis, 3; J. Billings, 4; E. Willoughby, 5; W. Avann, (conductor), 6; J. Lewis, 7; S. Lewis, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

PANGBOURNE (Berks).—On Friday, March 5th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Doubles, in 23 mins. W. Parsons, 1; A. Webb, 2; J. Nicholls, 3; G. Ashley, 4; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 5; W. Brown, 6. First 720 of Doubles by all except the conductor.

MAPLEDURHAM (Oxon).—On Thursday, March 4th, at the parish church, on handbells, retained in hand, 120 Grandsire Doubles. A. Brown, 1-2; J. Hopgood (conductor), 3-4; W. Brown, 5-6. Also a silent 120 of the same, standing as before. Rung at the first attempt. Witnessed by Captain Drawbridge, C.A. These are the first 120s double-handed by residents of Mapledurham.

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

LONDON.—On Saturday, March 13th, in an unsuccessful attempt for a peal at St. John's church, Hackney, six courses of Superlative Surprise Major in 45 mins. J. Oxborrow, 1; A. Ellis, 2; F. Buck, 3; H. Ellis, 4; W. Sorrell, 5; S. Andrews, 6; C. Brice (conductor), 7; H. Newton, 8. Afterwards three courses of Cambridge Surprise Major with W. D. Smith, 1; J. Oxborrow (conductor), 8; the rest as before.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GOSPORT (Hants).—On Saturday, February 6th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob Minor. F. Reynolds, 1; A. Tomlins, 2; J. Symons, 3; J. Gould, 4; R. Fuge, 5; A. Pye (conductor), 6. Also 672 Stedman Triples. H. Westbrook, 1; J. Hewett, 2; H. Reynolds, 3; E. Reynolds, 4; J. Symons, 5; A. Pye, 6; A. Tomlins (conductor), 7; J. Gould, 8. This touch has fifty-eight bobs and six singles.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WILBURTON.—On Wednesday, March 10th, the bells of St. Peter's were rung half-muffled out of respect to the late Mr. John Fitch, who had been parish churchwarden for a good many years. The following methods were rung: 720 College Single. R. M. Croft, 1; J. Markwell, 2; James Markwell, 3; A. Markwell (conductor), 4; H. Sharp, 5; A. Hazel, 6. And 720 Gaandsire Minor. R. M. Croft, 1; A. Markwell (conductor), 2; J. Markwell, 3; H. Sharp, 4; H. Markwell, 5; A. Hazel, 6. Also a touch of Bob Minor.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Monday, February 1st, at Christ church, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob. J. Smith, 1; D. Briggs, 2; E. J. Cockcroft, 3; G. H. White, 4; Z. Lord, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 7th, for evening service, a 720 Woodbine. A. L. Hardman, 1; G. Shotten, 2; Z. Lord, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 14th, for Confirmation Service, a 720 of Killamarsh Treble Bob. L. Holt, 1; E. J. Cockcroft, 2; G. Shotten, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. After service a 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Shotten, 1; J. Brown, 2; J. Shepherd, 3; J. Sutcliffe, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. And for evening service, 720 College Pleasure. L. Holt, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. J. Cockcroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Friday, February 19th, for practice, a 720 College Single. J. H. Barnes, 1; W. Briggs, 2; J. Briggs, 3; G. H. White, 4; G. Shotten, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 21st, for morning service, a 720 London Surprise. A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Smith, 2; Z. Lord, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. And for evening service, a 720 of York Surprise, standing and conducted as in the morning, except that G. Shotten rang the treble. On Monday, February 22nd, for practice, a 420 Durham Surprise. First in the method by all the band. A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. J. Cockcroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; Z. Lord (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 28th, for morning service, a 720 of Durham Surprise. A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Smith, 2; G. Shotten, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. Messrs Brown, Shepherd and Sutcliffe hail from St. Saviour's, Bacup.

ALTON (Hants).—On Saturday, March 13th, for practice, at the parish church, a 210 of Grandsire Triples. Rev. F. Whyley, 1; W. Brawley, 2; Miss F. Whyley (conductor), 3; A. Evans, 4; Miss W. Whyley, 5; A. Burgess, 6; R. Applegath, 7; F. Noakes, 8.

ASPLEY GUISE (Beds).—On Saturday, February 20th, at St. Botolph's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. S. Avis, 1; Cyril Herbert, 2; D. Harris, 3; E. Herbert, 4; M. Lane, 5; W. Chibnall (conductor), 6. And 720 Bob Minor. S. Avis, 1; Chas. Herbert, 2; M. Matthews, 3; M. Lane, 4; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 5; E. Herbert, 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. M. Matthews, 1; E. Herbert, 2; D. Harris, 3; Cyril Herbert, 4; W. Chibnall, 5; M. Lane (conductor), 6. On Saturday, February 27th, 720 Bob Minor. R. Wells, 1; H. Checkley, 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; E. Herbert, 4; M. Lane, 5; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 6.

BORDEN (Kent).—On Sunday, March 7th, for Divine Service in the morning, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, in 43 mins. G. Kite, 1; T. Wilson, 2; C. Millway, 3; G. Willshire, 4; C. Willshire (conductor), 5; R. Staines, 6; W. Tassell, 7; R. Weller, 8. For Divine Service in the evening a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins., composed by Cornelius Charge. G. Willshire, 1; S. Hutson, 2; T. Wilson, 3; G. Kite, 4; C. Millway (conductor), 5; W. Wilkins, 6; W. Tassell, 7; R. Weller, 8. Messrs G. Willshire and T. Wilson hail from Quex Park, Birchington.

CAMBRIDGE.—On Monday, March 15th, at the church of St. Mary-the-Great, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. G. Taylor

1; Rev. A. H. F. Boughey (Trinity), 2; J. Taylor, 3; W. Kempton, 4; F. Edwards (Ridley), 5; G. Woodhouse (Caius, composer and conductor), 6; W. Eusden, 7; W. Mansfield, 8. Tenor 31 cwt. Rung as a farewell to F. Edwards.

DEAL (Kent).—On Sunday morning, March 7th, for Divine Service at St. Leonard's church, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles) in 23 mins. A. Denne, 1; H. Denne, 2; H. Sone, 3; G. Denne (conductor), 4; E. Newman, 5; H. Castle, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt. in G. E. Newman hails from Mereworth.

LONDON.—On Wednesday, March 10th, at St. Luke's church, Chelsea, 1008 Stedman Triples. W. Moss, 1; H. Newton (conductor), 2; G. Fardon, 3; J. Steddy, 4; C. Hindes, 5; T. Barber, 6; C. Charge, 7; G. Chesterman, 8.

OLD HILL (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, March 9th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins. W. S. Foxall, 1; W. Bird, 2; G. Bird, 3; O. Pearson, 4; H. Cartwright, 5; G. Parish (first quarter-peal), 6; W. Green (conductor, first quarter-peal), 7; W. Adams, 8.

SNAITH (Yorks).—On Friday, February 26th, for Divine Service on the occasion of the institution of the Rev. C. Sykes to the vicarage of this place, 720 Bob Minor (thirty bobs and twelve singles). G. Holmes, 1; S. Pickup, 2; E. Pick, 3; J. Norton, 4; R. Holmes, 5; J. Bullock (conductor), 6. After service 720 in the same method (forty-two singles). Also a 216 in the same method. In the evening 720 Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles). R. Pocklington, 1; J. Norton, 2; E. Pick, 3; G. Holmes, 4; R. Holmes, 5; J. Bullock, 6. On Sunday evening, February 28th, 720 Bob Minor (thirty singles and four bobs). R. Pocklington, 1; J. Bullock, 2; J. Norton, 3; S. Pickup, 4; R. Holmes, 5; G. Holmes (conductor), 6.

STEYNING (Sussex).—On February 2nd, for practice at the parish church, a 504 of Court Bob Triples. E. Bristow, 1; A. Gatland, 2; J. Matthews, 3; E. Rapley, 4; G. Gatland, 5; W. Woolgar, 6; C. Smart (conductor), 7; J. Smart, 8. On February 7th, for morning service a 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Bristow, 1; E. Rapley, 2; H. Green, 3; C. Smart, 4; J. Smart, 5; G. Gatland, 6; W. Woolgar (conductor), 7; E. Turrell, 8. And for evening service, a 1008 of Stedman Triples. C. Smart (conductor), 1; J. Matthews, 2; J. Smart, 3; G. Gatland, 4; E. Rapley, 5; A. Gatland, 6; W. Woolgar, 7; H. Green, 8. On February 9th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. E. Turrell, 1; H. Green, 2; J. Smart, 3; E. Rapley, 4; C. Smart (conductor), 5; G. Gatland, 6; W. Woolgar, 7; E. Bristow, 8. On February 14th, for morning service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. E. Bristow, 1; G. Gatland, 2; H. Green, 3; W. Woolgar (conductor), 4; E. Rapley, 5; A. Gatland, 6; J. Smart, 7; C. Smart, 8. And for evening service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. E. Bristow, 1; A. Gatland, 2; H. Green, 5; G. Gatland, 4; E. Rapley, 5; J. Smart, 6; J. Woolgar (conductor), 7; E. Turrell, 8. On February 18th, for handbell practice, two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Green, 1; J. Smart, 2; W. Woolgar, 3; G. Gatland, 4; C. Smart (conductor), 5-6. On February, 21st, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. E. Turrell, 1; H. Green, 2; J. Matthews, 3; E. Rapley, 4; G. Gatland, 5; A. Gatland, 6; W. Woolgar (conductor), 7; J. Smart, 8. On February 21st, a 504 Stedman Triples. G. Smart (conductor), 1; J. Smart, 2; E. Rapley, 3; G. Gatland, 4; W. Woolgar, 5; A. Gatland, 6; J. Matthews, 7; H. Green, 8.

TREETON (Yorks).—On February, 28th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor. Owen Sadler (first 720 in the method), 1; W. Allwood, 2; S. Walker, 3; W. Lambert, 4; J. Sadler, 5; T. Whitworth (conductor), 6. On March 4th, for practice, 720 City Delight. A. Woofenden, 1; W. Allwood (first in the method), 2; S. Walker, 3; T. Whitworth, 4; J. Sadler (first in the method), 5; W. Lambert (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 7th, for evening service, 240 each of City Delight, College Exercise, London Scholars and Killamarsh Treble Bob. A. Woofenden, 1; T. Whitworth, 2; S. Walker, 3; T. Sadler, 4; W. J. Nicholson, 5; W. Lambert (conductor), 6.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Saturday, February 6th, on handbells, retained in hand, 720 Bob Caters. Chas. Herbert, 1-2; H. Harris, 3-4; E. Herbert, 5-6; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 7-8; S. Avis, 9-10. On Monday, February 15th, at St. Mary's tower, 336 and 464 Bob Major. W. James, 1; E. Herbert, 2; C. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; D. Harris, 6; Rev. W. Baker, 7; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 8. On Monday, February 22nd, 464 Bob Major. E. Herbert, 1; M. Lane, 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; D. Harris, 6; Rev. W. Baker, 7; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 8. And 504 Bob Triples. W. Jones, 1; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 2; M. Lane, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; D. Harris, 6; E. Herbert, 7; Rev. W. Baker, 8. Also 336 Bob Triples. W. James, 1; H. Harris, 2; E. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; M. Lane, 6; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 7; R. Marshall, 8. And 224 Bob Major and 224 Kent Treble Bob Major. M. Matthews, 1; M. Lane, 2; E. Herbert, 3; C. Herbert, 4; S. Avis, 5; D. Harris, 6; Rev. W. Baker, 7; Cyril Herbert, 8.

YAXHAM RINGERS (NORFOLK), 1823.

There was five ringers in Yaxham did dwell,
They went into the steeple to ring the five bells;
And for twenty peals they did all pull down,
Saying the first man that lost it should pay a crown.

The first peal they pulled for was Stedman's Slow Course,
The bells they went well, but the third she was hoarse;
The alteration of hunts was rung off very plain,
There's not five more ringers can ring them again.

There was little Charles Meachen, the treble did sing,
She was a small bell, but so well she did ring;
He stroke her so well, he ne'er made a clamour,
He stroke her as if she was stroke with a hammer.

There was young Chamberlain Bulwer, rung the second you know,
She was a small bell, but how well she did crow;
When they pulled down, if the bells made a clap,
With his right foot, he began for to scrap.

There was Stradling John Hudson, the third he did ring,
She was a split bell, but he swung her well in;
There he stood stradling, steered like a pig,
And his hair stood as upright as if he got on a wig.

There was Jerry Smith, the fourth Bell did ring,
She was a large bell, and he swung her well in;
There he stood champing, and ne'er made a smile,
The baccho juice running from his mouth all the while.

There was Major Boulter, the tenor did ring,
She was a large bell, and he well pulled her in;
He stood underneath her, just like an old block,
And he made them all start, when he called a bob.

There was William Stringer, the candles did snuff,
He kept a snuffing, till he thought 'twas enough;
There he kept snuffing, and begun for to steer,
For he was so dry, for the want of his beer.

On the first of December, the year '23,
These peals were rung off, you plainly may see;
Go into the steeple, look upon the board,
You see all the names, they can afford.

These ringers went on with their hearts full of glee,
They said if they got it, they'd have a good spree;
They stroke them so well, they never made no clamours,
They stroke them as if they were stroke with hammers.

The peal board is still in the tower. F. G. B.

Obituary.

MR. JOHN RIDGWAY.

We regret to announce the death of the above ringer, who for about thirty years, had been steeple-keeper and ringer at St. Alkmund's church, Derby. He died on Sunday, March 7th, and was interred on Thursday, March 11th, at the age of 67 years. After the funeral a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 54 mins. with the bells deeply muffled, as a last token of respect. T. Anthony, 1; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 2; J. Howe, 3; F. Bradley, 4; L. S. Lomas, 5; J. W. Thompson, 6; J. Newbold, 7; G. Slack, 8. Composed by T. Collinson, of Birmingham. The deceased joined the Midland Counties Association in 1884, and had rung the treble in many good peals, of which however he had kept no record.

HERBERT ROBINSON.

We record with deep regret the death from consumption of this ringer, on Thursday, February 25th, at the early age of 32. When the peal of eight bells were placed in Drighlington church in 1880 he joined the company who then commenced learning to ring, and continued with them many years, eventually, however, leaving them, and joining the Tong company. Failing health compelled him to relinquish ringing, and with a view to try if a more milder climate would be beneficial, he made a journey to Australia, and resided there about two years, returning home only a fortnight prior to his death. He joined the Yorkshire Association in 1881, and had rung seven peals of 5040 changes. His remains were interred in the churchyard at Drighlington on Sunday, February 28th, the bells being muffled for the sad occasion, and Grandsire Major was rung on handbells over the grave by Messrs. Birks (Pudsey), G. Bolland, F. Hargreaves and H. Oddy, of Tong. T.M.

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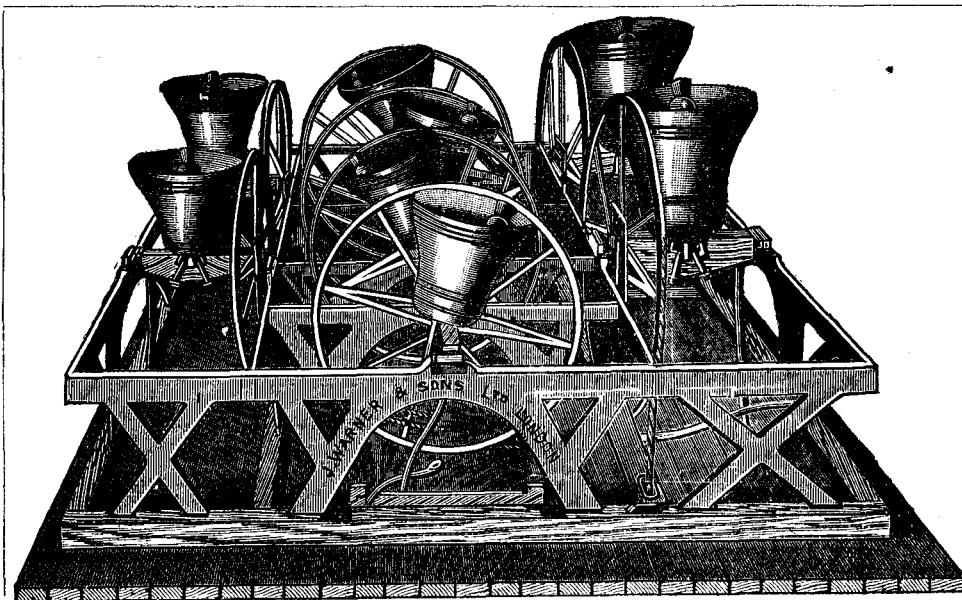
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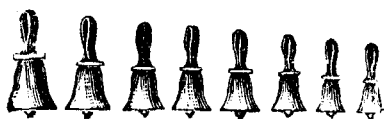
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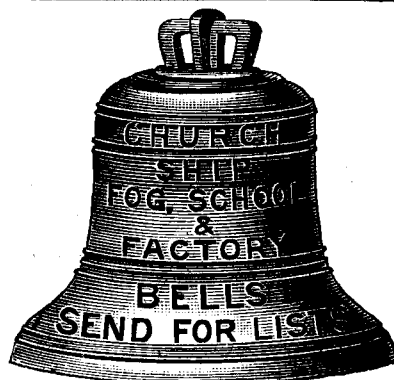
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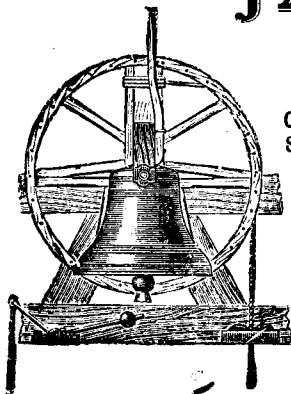
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No. 781.—VOL. XV.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1897.

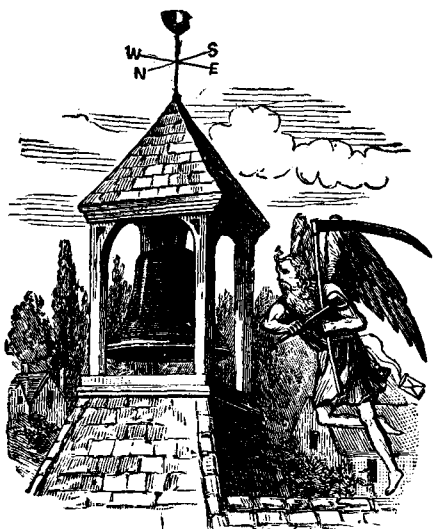
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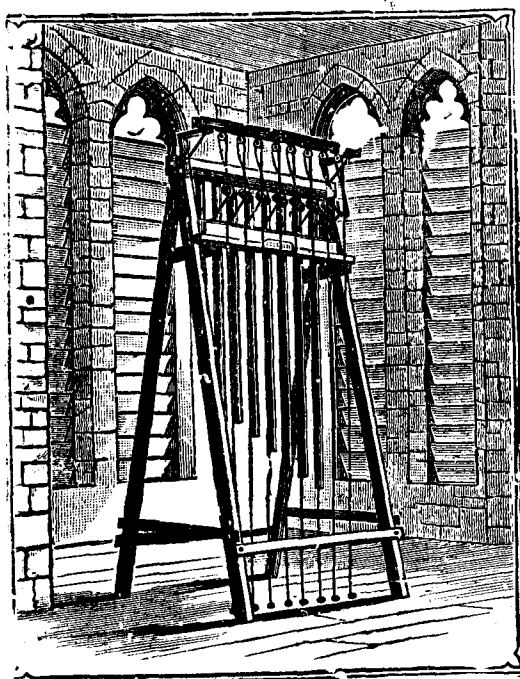
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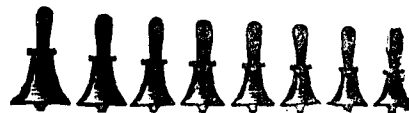
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 781.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1897.

[Vol. XV.]

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS, EAST DEREHAM, NORFOLK.

[Vide Illustration.]

The first church of Dereham was founded by Anna, king of the East Angles A.D. 635 to 654, who also founded a convent of which his daughter Withburga was Prioress. This holy virgin died A.D. 654, and from the place whereat she was buried issued forth a spring of purest water gifted with many healing virtues, and became of wonderful repute for the healing of diseases, mental and bodily; whereupon the new Abbot of Ely became desirous of obtaining possession of her body. The Abbot and monks journeyed to Dereham, and made a great feast, during which time the monks unfastened the tomb, and in the dead of night took the coffin, placed it on a car, and embarked on the river at Brandon. This pious theft was perpetrated on July 8th, 974. The tomb, which is enclosed by railings, is plainly seen in the photograph. This church can have been nothing but a structure of timber. When the great survey was made by the Commissioners of William the Conqueror, about twenty years after the battle of Hastings, Dereham was but an inconsiderable village, and the church a humble little edifice. But when the rectory fell to the patronage of the Bishop of Ely, he seems to have built the first stone church for the little township; the remains of which may still be seen in the chancel-arch. This church, which appears to have been erected during the first half of the twelfth century, was probably the work of Nigel, Bishop of Ely, 1133-1169; and there is reason to believe that it was a small cruciform church, with an apse at the east end, dedicated to St. Nicholas. Hardly had a century passed before the Dereham people began to enlarge their church. They pulled down the little semicircular apse, and built on the beautiful chancel, which still exists and retains all its original architectural features. The nave was also greatly lengthened, and an aisle built on the south. This was carried out A.D. 1250. Half a century later the northern aisle was added. Shortly after this the old tower fell, and the present one was erected not later than 1400. But from its structure it was never intended to bear the strain of a peal of bells. Thus we have the present grand edifice, consisting of chancel, nave, transepts with eastern chapels, north and south aisles, south porch, central lantern tower, and detached bell tower.

In an account so brief as this must necessarily be it will be as well to begin at the east and work our way toward the west.

THE CHANCEL.—The original sedilia and beautiful double piscina grace the south wall of the sanctuary, while in the opposite wall is a niche which has been used as an ambury but which probably contained the Easter sepulchre, the apex terminating in a head in which is a socket for a candle. The Early English buttresses outside the east wall, containing sunk panels with protruding heads, are worthy of notice. Just inside the chancel-arch in the north wall may be seen the door to the rood loft, by which access was obtained to a room above the beautifully-painted ceiling of the south chapel. This room, or cell, still exists; others have been thrown into the church by the removal of their floors. The north chapel, dedicated to St. Thomas of Canterbury, contains the tomb of the poet Cowper, who was buried May 3rd, 1800. The ceiling of the south chapel bears the *Agnus Dei*. Close by is a chest of Flemish workmanship, with an old and peculiar lock, the keyhole of which is protected by a figure of Our Lord bound with cords. The central tower contains a double triforium arcade, and stands on four fine arches. An ancient Sanctus bell hangs on the roof, which dates to the 15th century. The font, which stands at the west end, is a fine specimen of the usual Norfolk type, its panels containing representations of the seven Sacraments and the Crucifixion, and its base good quatre foils; its date is 1468. The south porch contains flintpanelling niches, water stoups, and a

representation of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the spandrels of the arch. On either side of the west window, externally, is an ogee headed niche, now empty. The nave was restored in 1885, when the enormous galleries were removed. The Nave, which consists of five bays is a mixture of architectural style. The total length of the church is 175 feet; width of nave 60 feet; width at transept 85 feet; length of chancel 50 feet; width 30 feet; height of central tower, 70 feet.

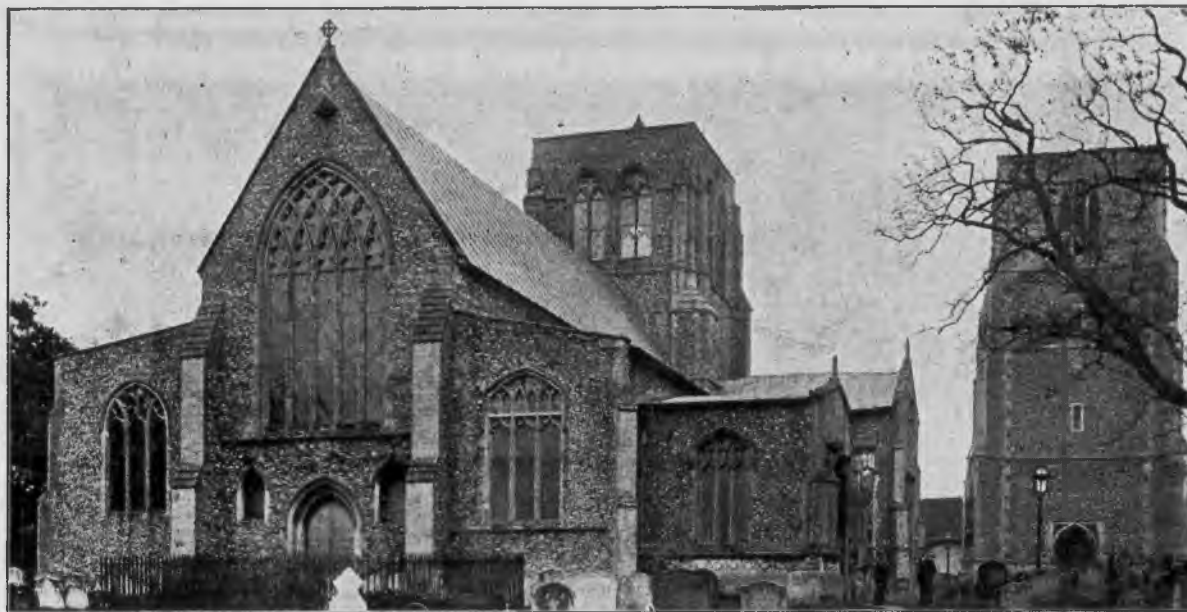
THE DETACHED BELL TOWER.

In early times it is believed that the bells were hung in a tower detached from the church. This seems to have become dilapidated at the close of the 15th century. But a belfry was almost an essential feature of a Mediaval church, so money was collected and legacies were left and a new tower was commenced on a very ambitious scale. This tower, which lies 50 feet to the south of the chancel, is quadrilateral in shape, the base of it being 32 feet square. It is supported at the angles by handsome buttresses 8 feet by 4 feet, the walls being 8 feet thick; and the height is 86 feet from the ground; the room containing the bells being about 23 feet square. The building was going on as late as 1536 but was never finished, and as it was when the Reformation set in so it remains to the present day. This belfry was utilised as a prison so late as 1799. A band of French privateers were captured off Yarmouth, and were taken prisoners. On their way to Norman Cross (Hunts) they rested for the night at Dereham, and were shut up in the belfry. But during the night they broke out. One of the prisoners, Jean de Narde, son of a Notary of St. Malo, hid himself in a tree, and on being found was shot down like a crow and was buried near the tomb of St. Withburga, October 6th, 1799. In 1717 there were six bells; in 1753 they had become eight, most of which have been re-cast. The tenor is 24 cwt. in E flat. The inscriptions are unimportant. Nine peals have been rung upon them, viz: Bob Major, 4; Grandsire Triples, 2; Stedman Triples, 1; Oxford Treble Bob Major, 1. All but one of these are recorded on peal-boards in the ringing-chamber. They are in fine ringing order and are rung for Divine Service on Sundays at 10.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Practice on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. Arrangements made to meet visitors by applying to the steeple-warden, Mr. S. F. Burleigh, 13, Church Street. The present Vicar is the Rev. H. J. L. Arnold, M.A.

The following customs are observed:—The ringers of the Harvest Bell every morning at 8, during harvest, and the Curfew Bell at 7 p.m. on Fridays, other days at 8 p.m., from October 2nd, to Xmas, and January 7th, to March 7th. The photograph of the church which accompanies this number is copyright; but the possessor has kindly given us permission to publish it.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of the Central Committee of the above Association, held at St. Margaret's parish room, Rochester, on Saturday, March 20th, Rev. E. W. Carpenter in the chair, it was decided to hold the Annual General Meeting at Canterbury, on Whitsun Monday, June 7th, instead of Saturday, June 19th, as previously arranged, this latter date being for several reasons inconvenient to the Canterbury authorities. It was also decided, on the propositions of the Hon. Sec., seconded by Mr. T. Groombridge, to suggest to the members at the annual meeting, that the rule relating to the entry of peals in the peal book be framed in accordance with the Central Council's advice or determination at their meeting on Whitsun Tuesday. The Rev. A. L. Brine (hon. sec., Maidstone District), proposed, and Mr. A. Palmer (Maidstone) seconded, that this ruling take effect from December 31st, 1896. There was a good attendance, no less than thirteen members being present.



THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS, EAST DEREHAM, NORFOLK.

[*Supplement to "THE BELL NEWS,"*]

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

UNVEILING OF PEAL TABLETS AT BUCKNALL.

The usual monthly meeting of the above association was held at Bucknall, on Saturday, March 6th, and was very well attended, there being present, the Rector (Rev. G. T. Birch, Rev. J. W. Alston (Vicar of Cobridge), and Hon. Sec. G. Edwards, Esq. (Chairman of the District Council) and about 34 members from the following towers, viz: Stoke, Longton, Wolstanton, Hanley, Tunstall, Leek, Cheddleton, Norton and Bucknall. Ringing commenced about four o'clock with a 360 Kent Treble Bob. At 5.30 the ringers assembled in the belfry to witness the unveiling of two new peal tablets. The rector, in calling upon Mr. Edwards to unveil the tablets, said he was very pleased to see Mr. Edwards present that day as he knew he was a very busy man, but in spite of his many business calls, managed to devote a considerable time to public matters.

Mr. Edwards, in responding to the call, said he was very pleased to be amongst them that day for the purpose of unveiling those tablets, for although he knew nothing about ringing, he thought it reflected great credit on the ringers of Bucknall, for the way in which they had persevered in their ringing as the peal boards then in the belfry would testify, and if they went on much longer at their present rate they would soon want another room in which to put them. He well remembered the time, only a few years ago, when the bells were first hung as living close by he had rather too much of them, but now it was a pleasure to listen to them on account of the progress made by the ringers.

He then formally unveiled the tablets, the first recording a peal rung on Tuesday, August 25th, 1896, which was of oak with gilt letters, and read as follows: "St. Mary's Association of Change-Ringers, Bucknall. On Tuesday, August 25th, a peal of 5040 changes in 2 hours and 56 minutes, in seven different Surprise Minor methods, was rung upon these bells, being a 720 each of the following: Lincoln, Ely, Rochester, Coventry, Carlisle, and Chelsea; Performers—George Hobbs, 1; Charles Preston, 2; William Wheeldon, 3; Daniel Preston, 4; John E. Wheeldon, 5; William Twigg, 6. Conducted by all the band." The other which was done in coloured ink and placed in an oak frame, read as follows: "St. Mary's Association of Change-Ringers, Bucknall. On Tuesday, November 3rd, 1896, a peal of 5040 changes was rung on these bells, in seven different Treble Bob methods, being a 720 each of the following: Lichfield, Worcester, and Chichester Surprise, London Scholars Pleasure, Duke of York, Woodbine, and Kent. Performers—George Clarkson, 1; Daniel Preston, 2; Charles Preston, 3; William Wheeldon, 4; George Hobbs, 5; William Twigg, 6. Conducted by George Hobbs. This is George Clarkson's first peal, also George Hobbs' first as conductor. Rev. G. T. Birch, rector; John Fenton, William T. Gynes, Churchwardens" This was also at the foot of the other board.

A vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. Edwards by the Rev. J. W. Alston, seconded by Mr. Twigg, and supported by Mr. H. Page (Stoke).

The members then adjourned to Bucknall Cottage, the residence of Mr. H. Clarkson, where a substantial tea (provided by the ringers of Bucknall) was partaken of. After satisfying the inner man the ringers returned to the belfry where ringing was kept up with much spirit until about nine o'clock. A 720 Kent being rung by the following: T. Hassell (Cheddleton), 1; T. Miller (Wolstanton), 2; S. Churton (first 720 in the method) 3; H. Shuker (Cheddleton) 4; H. Page (Stoke), 5; W. Twigg, 6.

A GOLDEN WEDDING, A JOLLY OUTING, A PEAL, AND A SUPPER.

Play up Treeton!! It is quite time the "Old East" began to make up a little, and both produce some peals, and a report in which to record them. Well here is a start. Who will be the next?

Saturday last saw our Treeton band on the alert, and a casual observer would say they had something on. So they had. "Our Boss" as they call him, had asked his helpers to ring a peal at Wentworth, in honour of, and to celebrate the Golden Wedding of his parents, and joyfully they agreed. Promptly at 1.15 they mounted Johnny Payne's waggonette, with "Old Andrew" as

spare man. Allwood followed on his "bike" but forgot to turn up for supper, which I am sure he regretted. Away we went through Rotherham, where we did not call for a drink, leaving Rawmarsh Church to the right, on to the Mausoleum, and the old Roman Ridge, when all at once "Tally Ho," and behold there are the Fitzwilliam fox hounds, Reynard bolts across the fallow before the hounds see him, and away for the Mausoleum wood. Two minutes later we meet two carriages from the "house" and espy in one the old Earl, fresh and healthy, despite his extreme age, and evidently enjoying the hunt as much as if he were still in the heyday of his youth. Close behind him comes Ireton, the "Whip," and later on a tired hound trying to rejoin the pack, but as one of the party remarked, he would probably find at the same time some "long oats," which I took to mean Ireton's other "Whip." Reaching the village, the "boss" called on friend Foster, the worthy steeple-keeper. Not being quite ready, his partner with matronly pride, exhibited some 15 or 20 peal cards, recording her absent son's performances, who is "ringing the changes" in the Ealing district.

Friend Foster handed over the keys, and we found the bells in capital order, thanks to his care. We soon had them the "other way up" and at 4 o'clock Lambert called "College Pleasure next." Nine minutes under the three hours, we had scored the first peal in the new church and the first peal on the bells for at least thirty years. Friend Foster and several others waiting on the steps, came in with congratulations immediately the rounds came up. The next thing was to get rid of the thirst, which we did at the George and Dragon, assisted by old friends, over from Rawmarsh, whose congratulations also were welcome. Then to supper which mine host at the Rockingham Arms, provided for 7.30, and which everybody pronounced delicious, including your humble servant. After that, away to see the "Old Folks at Home," congratulate them, receive their thanks for the honour done them unsought and unasked. We found, however, the Vicar had taken us down. He, good soul, on receiving a request for permission to ring the peal had promptly called on the old folks, and if you please, got in his congratulations first. A few tunes and changes on handbells here and elsewhere by request, and we prepared to return home, having enjoyed a very fine day, eighteen miles driving, rung a wedding peal, and better still we turned up for service in the morning.

"Old Andrew" says he wants to ring the treble to a peal on his 60th birthday, which arrives, July 4th. All right Andrew you shall have a peal if we can ring one. Then another for the "Long Reign." Now ye knights of the "Old East" Cloppers, play up, and let us fill that cup with peals.

By the way I wish somebody would give us two more bells. I don't see why all the good things in that way should walk off in other directions when we want them so badly at Treeton. Hurry up please, don't all speak together. W. J. N.

HOOK NORTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

On Sunday afternoon a visit was paid by the Chipping Norton ringers to the tower of this parish church, under the auspices of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. The ringers rang several touches of Grandsire from about half-past two till a quarter to four in a very efficient and able manner, under the conductorship of Mr. John F. Barlow, the secretary of the Guild for the Chipping Norton Deanery. The ringers were much pleased with the fine tone and weight of these bells, and paid a high tribute to the workmanship of Mr. J. Barwell, of Birmingham, by whom they have been restored and rebung. They say that these bells are now in as nearly a perfect condition as possible. The tenor, which weighs about 21 cwt., is now easily rung by one man, formerly taking two men, as did also three of the other bells. The steel girder frame has places reserved for two lighter bells, which, if added, as we hope they will be, would make this one of the finest peals of eight in this part of the country. This was probably the first time that half-pull ringing has ever been rung on these bells.

NORTH'S ENGLISH BELLS AND BELL LORE.
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PRACTICAL HINTS TO YOUNG CONDUCTORS AND COMPOSERS.

CHAPTER XVIII.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES—(concluded.)

It was shown in the last paper how to call Grandsire Triples round. It was also intimated that the rule given for that purpose would not be followed always to the letter by expert conductors, as their knowledge and experience would enable them to see more clearly the positions of the bells than a pupil, and would go to work accordingly. Some would note that the bells were in such a position that getting them home at the handstroke instead of at the backstroke would be the quickest process. In these closing remarks upon Grandsire Triples, I think it will be well therefore to deal with the coming round at handstroke. The "in-and-out-of-course" arrangement of Grandsire Triples has been fully explained in a previous paper. It will be borne in mind that the handstroke changes are "out" and the backstrokes "in." The "round" being an in-course change, must therefore come at backstroke, unless we turn the bells by a single. Directly a single is made the handstroke changes becoming "in," rounds must therefore appear then at the handstroke.

To bring Grandsire Triples round at the handstroke lead of the treble, it is necessary to use a course-end, *i.e.* a change from which the bells may run round, at a plain lead. For the present purpose we will select the course-end, or change, 1357264. After this change is rung the bells run home at hand next lead. We deal with the three back bells of this change in the same manner as we dealt with 5 6 7 when calling round the bells at backstroke. Having got these three bells, 5 6 7, into the required position, call a bob every lead after the 6th has made thirds place, when if they are out of course, the above change will appear. But when the 7th is in the hunt, carefully observe the relative positions of the 3rd and 5th. Should the latter be about to make thirds, call a bob, but if the former call a single, then the required course-end will come, and as above stated, the bells run round next lead. I have now finished my remarks on Grandsire Triples. The information imparted will be of great assistance, I hope, to the composition and conducting of other plain methods having a bell in the hunt with the treble, such as Union, Oxford Bob, etc. I am afraid there is very little to be obtained in the composition of Grandsire Triples that can now be considered original, at any rate, so far as touches are concerned. But though this is so, the charming features of the occupation are not exhausted by any means, and the art of composition, though in roads already well-trodden, is a very interesting process, and teaches more theory than would otherwise be obtained.

ALEPH.

[To be continued.]

TROWBRIDGE, WILTSHIRE.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday afternoon, March 13th, a party of the St. John's Ringers, Frome, visited the parish church, Trowbridge, where they were joined by a few of the local men. The bells were raised and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260) was rung: W. Prescott, 1; W. Bishop, 2; C. Summers, 3; J. Hayward, 4; W. McCaffrey, 5; E. Fricker, 6; J. Rebbeck (conductor), 7; W. J. Shepherd, 8. Afterwards a touch of 504 was rung with F. McCaffrey, 1; W. Prescott, 2; W. Bishop, 8; the others standing the same as in the quarter-peal. Having partaken of refreshments, another 504 was rung in the same order as the previous one, with the exception that the second and tenor ringers were transposed. Tenor 23 cwt.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 20th, the Rev. B. Darby, Secretary to the above association, entertained the committee members at the village of Harthill. We were met at the Kiveton Park Station at 5.50 p.m., and taken thither by conveyance. On arriving at Harthill, we were met by the Rector, and after a good hearty shake of the hand he very courteously showed us through the interior of the church, which contains a variety of antiquities (too numerous to mention here) explaining the meaning of all connected with the ancient fabric. The belfry staircase was next ascended where six members pulled off a splendid struck 720 changes of Violet Treble Bob in 27 minutes. J. White, 1; D. Russon, 2; Rev. B. Darby, 3; H. Haigh, 4; S. Smith, 5; R. Beeston, 6. At 6.30 a move was made for the Beehive inn, where hostess Storey had prepared an excellent tea to satisfy the cravings of the inner man, and it is needless to say that full justice was done to it by the hungry committee. After the cloth had been drawn the business meeting followed to make arrangements for the annual meeting to be held at Retford, on Easter Monday. A discussion, in which Messrs. Haigh, Crawford, Beeston, S. Smith and Russon took part, with reference to being represented on the Central Council of ringers was left in abeyance for another meeting. At the conclusion of business, Mr. Barrowcliffe moved, and Mr. Haigh seconded, that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to the Rev. B. Darby for his generosity in entertaining the ringers to tea, for the use of the conveyance and also for the use of the bells. Carried unanimously.

The Rector replied, assuring the members it was a pleasure to meet them once again, he was glad to see a better attendance than was the case last year. He was also obliged to the proposer and seconder for the kind way in which they had mentioned his name, and he should be pleased to welcome them another year. After an inspection had been made of the new peal book which is handsomely got up, the meeting closed, and another visit was made to the ringing chamber where a well-struck 720 changes of Kent Treble Bob was successfully accomplished by the following in 26 minutes: G. Barrowcliffe, 1; H. Haigh, 2; D. Russon, 3; T. Smith, 4; S. Smith, (conductor) 5; C. Crawford, 6. This was the best attended committee meeting since the establishment of the Association in 1887, the members present representing the following towers: S. Smith (Anston), R. Beeston (Blyth), H. Haigh (East Retford), W. Drake (West Retford), J. White (Ordsall), C. Crawford (East Markham), G. Barrowcliffe (Worksop), D. Russon (Shireoaks), and T. Smith (Harthill). A rather curious incident happened whilst making preparations for the homeward journey. A horse and four-wheeled conveyance were standing outside The Beehive inn in readiness to convey us to the railway station to catch the 9.49 train. The driver had scarcely left the box to inform us all was ready, when to our astonishment Kirkland's Donovan bolted off, and gradually increasing speed up hill and down, rounding sharp curves, and finally landing at the station with an empty conveyance without doing injury to anyone or any damage whatever, although several passers by had narrow escapes, and had to get out of the way as speedily as possible. One and three quarter miles, and only fifteen minutes to accomplish the distance over ploughed fields in the darkness looked anything but pleasant. "Can we do it, lads" says Private Drake? "It's doubtful, but we may, says another." "Then here's going to be a tryer," says another; and away we all went in full gallop, and just landed at Kiveton Park Station as the iron horse steamed in. The following is the order in which the amateur sprinters reached the winning post: J. White, 1; C. Crawford, 2; D. Russon, 3. Suffice it to say we all landed safely home, none the worse for our adventures. H. H.

BELL RESTORATION.

We are very pleased to hear that the ring of ten at the parish church of St. John, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, are to come under the restorers' hands immediately. The work to be done will be complete of its kind—new frame, new fittings, new bell-chamber floor, retuning; and the 8th is to be recast. Mr. James Barwell, bellfounder, of Birmingham, has been entrusted with the contract. The same firm has also just carried out much needed improvements at Pershore Abbey, in the same county. These include a recast of the 4th, and rehangings, with that bell, the 7th and tenor.

MEN AND MANNERS.

Like the flowers that bloom in the spring tra la, once more I appear upon the scene. Just as I feel like sitting down and writing till the page is full, the printer's-er-satellite bursts in upon me with the following, "Mr. Jingle:—I can find room this week for about one and half columns of some of your 'men and manners'; cut it short and no poetry." I suppose the foreman printer thinks himself somebody? He expects his "orders" to be obeyed! does he? Well, perhaps they will, and then again perhaps they won't. For weeks that printer has crowded me out, and now he is crowding me in. Boycotting poems of every sort, with his insolent orders to "cut it short"; that I don't know where to begin. The eyes of the country are fixedly set on that little spot of *grease*, where plucky Prince George and his Noble Sire upset the fat all in the fire; that the Powers would War for Peace. Such a holy horror of war have they? To them 'Abdul the damned' is a brother. They are ready to do his dirty work, will fire on the Christians in aid of the Turk, but they dare not trust each other. 'Their word is their bond,' the same old plea, of reform for years we have heard. Ready and willing, but never to act, perchance the secret lies in the fact, that their bonds are worth more than their word! There will now be an interval of five minutes while we smile at the foreman printer.

* * * * *

I ought to say that the foreman printer is all right when you know him. He means well I have no doubt. Since I have been on the staff I have noticed the abnormal amount of 'side' he puts on when the chief is away. He calls my copy 'scrawl,' my poetry 'doggerel,' passes remarks about my slouch hat and offer sprizes to the successful comp. who can 'discover' the jokes in my page, until we cannot hit it together. Still as I have said before, he is all right when you know him. As quarterday comes round his ill humour vanishes and his familiarity with me grows almost alarming. He slaps me on the back, calls me 'old boy' and enquires after my health in the most felicitous terms. Then comes the usual 'adjournment' to see a man, after which he speedily relapses into his old mood. However, as it is quarterday next week we shall be friends again. My kind regards to your blithe and bonny cashier!

* * * * *

Philip of Spain was a monarch whom nobody would describe as a social democrat. Still, in an order to the Viceroy of the Indies dated December 20th, 1593, the King said:—"The workmen employed in the erection of fortresses and in the Royal factories shall work eight hours per day only, four in the morning and four in the afternoon, the engineers must see that the time for work is such that the men are exposed as little as possible to the heat of the sun and that their health is to be preserved as much as possible." This is a good example to modern contractors of labour. Speaking of contracts, Johnny Chinaman is not such a simpleton as he looks. In New Zealand, as in California, the Chinaman flourishes like a green bay tree, but the Chinese employer has to resort to strategy to make good his position. In Otago, where Scotchmen are in the majority, a contract for mending the road was to be let, and the most acceptable bid was signed "McPherson." Notice was sent to the said McPherson to call and sign the contract, when lo, he appeared in his glorious yellow face and pigtail. "But," said the President aghast, "your name cannot be McPherson?" "All lightee," cheerfully answered ching, ching, "me all fly, nobody catchee contract here unless he named Mac." The tender was accepted.

* * * * *

My remarks on the handbell peal of Cinques at Henfield, have got me into trouble. I was under the impression that a peal of twelve in hand not been rung. I have received information from several gentlemen that there are at least three records in existence. Mr. Tyler, of Henfield, and Mr. P. W. P. Meadows, of Otley, Suffolk, both call my attention to the two peals of Bob and Treble Bob Maximus rung in 1889 and 1889 respectively. How I came to overlook the last peal I cannot say, but it occurred to me almost before my words were in print that I had seen one somewhere, and going through some old "BELL NEWS" I found it. Mr. D. Brearley, of Sheffield, also claims a peal of twelve in for

his tower, viz:—On November 24th, 1816 was rung at the house of W. Hall, Bailey Lane, Sheffield, a peal of 5280 Oxford Treble Bob Maximus, in three hours and thirty-three minutes, conducted by Mr. William Hudson. This peal must have been rung on pretty large sized bells considering the time it occupied. The Sheffield peal reminds me that Mr. Catchpole, of Ipswich, some time ago interrogated Mr. C. H. Hattersley, through this paper, regarding one or two handbell peals supposed to be rung in Sheffield, but elicited no reply. This points to the want of a little work on handbell ringing and past performances which would be, I believe appreciated by the Exercise.

* * * * *

The clergy of the Camberwell district are doing good work by drawing the attention to the fearful over-crowding which takes place in that neighbourhood. The officers of health have at last been aroused from their microscopical contemplation of possible nonexistant bacteria to a knowledge of the awful state of things which has for a long time been allowed to go on under their very noses. The poorer part of Camberwell is principally inhabited by costermongers and their families, and there are many instances where not only the whole family live in a single room, but stable the donkey in the same room with themselves. The medical officer in his report, says the clergy have slightly exaggerated the conditions, but I very much doubt it. He says, too, "it is scarcely worth while for the landlords to keep the houses clean." I venture to say that they would have to be kept clean if they belonged to the corporation. The whole matter is one in which legislation is sorely needed, although it appears rather difficult to deal with it. If these wretched people are not to be allowed to keep the donkey in their living rooms what is to be done? How, in fact are they to live? They cannot afford to hire a stable or build one in the back yard, and yet they cannot ply their trade without the moke. In the interest of public health it cannot be allowed to continue, and the clergy are doing a good action in stirring it up.

* * * * *

Mr. Fenton "wants to know, you know" what I think about the ringing squabble at Washborough but he will have to wait. Those who get into squabbles must get out of them, for look you, there are two sides to every question, and three to some. Not having heard the other side, it would be unfair on my part to express an opinion, still, if Mr. Fenton's version is correct, he would do well by not going where he is not wanted. If they are so unsociable—and I have myself seen similar companies, I would suggest the introduction of a Wringer into this *Washborough* which will be none the worse for a good wash. To let such ringers severely alone is the plan adopted by.

JINGLE.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Hon. Secretary acknowledges, with thanks, receipt of the contributions for the current year from the following societies, since the date of previous notice:—Gloucester and Bristol, Worcestershire, Winchester Diocesan, Surrey, Birmingham and District. He would be greatly obliged if the Hon. Secretaries of the following societies, who were on the list for 1896, would be kind enough to pay the contributions for 1897, without further delay, at the same time forwarding the names and addresses of their representatives, and the number of members in the society represented:—Archdeaconry of Stafford, Yorkshire, Bath and Wells, Sussex County, S.W. Middlesex, Salisbury Diocesan, Lancashire, Liverpool Diocesan.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Hon. Sec., C.C.

Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn, 20th March, 1897.

NESTON (Cheshire).—On Thursday, February 25th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Warnham Court. E. Molyneux, 1; J. Edwards, 2; J. Meador, 3; W. Williams, 4; W. Briscoe, 5; J. Sutton, 6; T. Evans, 7. On Sunday, March 7th, for Divine Service, 720 Warnham Court, conducted by E. Molyneux. For evening service 720 Darling Point Minor (twenty-six singles), conducted by W. Briscoe. On Monday, March 8th, 720 Warnham Court (thirty singles), standing as before, conducted by E. Molyneux.

Notices.

Midland Counties' Association.—Notice.—Will all members whose present addresses are incorrect in the 1895 report, kindly notify me or their local secretaries at once.

J. O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.*
22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.

The Sussex County Association.—Western Division.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Lyminster, on Saturday, March 27th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m. The Vicar of Lyminster has offered to provide tea.

J. W. G. LODGE-COTTER, *Hon. Sec.*
Yapton Vicarage, Arundel.

The Kent County Association.—Rochester District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at St. Helen, Cliff-at-Hoo, on the 3rd of April. Tower to be open at 4 p.m. Committee meeting at 6 p.m. A. OSBORNE, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*
65, Clive Road, Rochester.

The Essex Association.—A District Meeting of the above will be held at Bocking, near Braintree, on Easter-Monday. The towers of the following places will be open: Braintree (6 bells), Bocking (6 bells), Stisted (6 bells), Rayne (5 bells). A brake will leave Braintree church at 1.30 p.m. for Bocking, and Bocking at 2 p.m. for Stisted, returning in time for tea at The Black Boy, Bocking, at 4.30 p.m. The business meeting will follow the tea. The brake will convey ringers back to Braintree station, for the 7.10 p.m. train. Members intending to be present must signify their intention to me not later than the previous Tuesday.

HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Ass. Sec.*
Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Ely Diocesan Association.—The local meeting of the above association will be held on Easter-Monday, April 19th, at Market Downham, Norfolk. All friends are invited.

R. M. CROFT, *Sec.*

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—The annual meeting and dinner will be held at Norton, on Easter-Monday. Preliminary notice.

E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*
26, Meersbrook Bank Road, Sheffield.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Thomas's, Moorside, Oldham, on Saturday, April 10th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30. All ringing friends invited.

E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*
14, Thomas Street, Lees.

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Trevechin, Pontypool, in the Schoolroom, at three p.m., on Easter Monday. There will be a short service in church at 2.30. Members who have not already done so are kindly requested to pay their subscriptions for current year at this meeting. The bells will be available for ringing. D. H. GRIFFITHS, Salisbury Road, Cardiff. H. G. WHITE, 58, Paget Street, Cardiff, *Hon. Secs.*

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The yearly meeting of this Society will be held at head-quarters, Leeds (12 bells) to-day, March 27th. Ringing from 3 to 4 and from 5 to 9.30. Meeting House, The Old Nag's Head, Kirkgate, opposite the church. Business—the election of officers, passing of balance sheet, etc. R. BINNS, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Irwin Street, Hogg's Field, Holbeck.

The Heavy Woollen District Associa-

tion, Yorkshire.—A Special Committee Meeting will be held at The Woolpack inn, Almondsbury, on Saturday, April 3rd, at 5.30 p.m. Business important.

GEO. H. SIMON, *Hon. Sec.*
19, Albert Street, Batley Carr.

The Ely Diocesan Association.—Sudbury Branch.—A meeting of this Branch will be held at Lavenham on Easter Monday. Further particulars next week. CHAS. SILLITOE, *Branch Sec.*

Kent County Association.—Rochester Branch.—The meeting proposed to be held at Cliffe-at-Hoo, owing to an accident to one of the bells, will be held at Gillingham instead, on Saturday, April 3rd. Tower open at 3.30.

A. OSBORNE, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*
65, Clive Road, Rochester.

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The Annual Meeting of this Association will be held in the Chapter House, Worcester Cathedral, on Easter Monday, April 19th, at 2 o'clock prompt. The very Rev. the Dean has kindly consented to preside. Tea will be provided for all members sending their names to me not later than Wednesday, April 14th. The cathedral tower will be open for ringing after evensong at 5 p.m. JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*
36, Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of this Association will be held at Kids Grove on Saturday, April 3rd. Members intending to be present must give notice to Mr. J. Mason, Cooper Street, Kids Grove, not later than Wednesday, March 31st.

REV. J. W. ALSTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
WM. TWIGG,

Handbell Ringing Contest.—The annual handbell ringing contest for the Hollingworth silver challenge cup will take place in the Odd Fellows hall, Uppermill, on Saturday, April 10th. Draw to take place at 6 o'clock prompt. Bells G, 18 size. Entrance fee, 2s. each company. First prize—Hollingworth Silver Cup and £1; 2nd prize—£1; 3rd prize—10s. Entries to be sent to J. PILLING, *Sec.*
Lee Street, Uppermill, near Oldham.

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Southport, on Saturday, April 3rd. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. Members are earnestly requested to make an effort to be present. HENRY COLEY, *Branch Sec.*
3, Rumbold Place, Liverpool.

St. Margaret's Society, Westminster.—The monthly business meeting of this society will be held on Monday, March 29th, at The Princes Head, Princes Street, Westminster.

A. HARDY, *Hon. Sec.*
51, Kay Road, Stockwell, S.W.

THE ST. MARGARET'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.

All subscribers to Mr. Fraser's wedding present are requested to attend on Monday, March 29th. C. WARD.

CORRECTION.—The 720 of Bob Minor rung at Wragby, Lincolnshire, which appeared in our last issue, should read "conducted by J. H. Chapman (Wragby)."

The peal of Grandsire Cinques rung at Ashton-under-Lyne on Monday, March 15th, was an Ashton-under-Lyne Society's peal.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED by young man a situation as in-door servant, or would not object to other work; age 25; 10 years' experience as footman; 3½ years in present situation. Can ring Minor methods, and Grandsire and Plain Bob on eight. Member of Oxford Diocesan Guild. Address W. H., care of Editor.

WANTED a situation as first-class Finisher in the Bookbinding Trade; age 22. Change-ringer in Surprise methods—Charles H. Fowler, 4, Pembroke Street, St. Aldates, Oxford.

WANTED situation as Gardener, or any other capacity; use to horses, and willing to be generally useful. Total abstainer; good change-ringing Instructor.—Address X Y Z, care of Editor.

COULD anyone help me to get a situation; am willing to do anything. By trade a six-quarter Tapestry Weaver. Can ring Double Norwich, Stedman, Superlative, Cambridge, and London Surprise. Can conduct in method I can ring. I am willing to give my services as a ringer for getting employment. Married; 29 years of age; 15 years' character.—W. H. Smith, Lark Hill, Kidderminster.

SITUATION Wanted as under Gardener, or single-handed, am not particular as to any other sort of work. Age 21. Five years good character. Change ringer. Member of St. Mary's Society, Beddington.—A. Clayton.

WANTED, Situation as Sexton (understands duties), or any place of trust. Good change-ringer in all Standard Methods. Married; age 32; good testimonials. Member of Kent County Association and College Youths. Address, B.Y., care of Editor.

WANTED Situation as Coachman. Small garden not objected to. Married; age 32; two children, youngest 5. Change-ringer; member of the Sussex County Association. Nine-and-half years' excellent character from the Archdeacon of Lewes. Address—E. BRANT, Pevensey Vicarage, Hastings.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED Compositor (news). One who can assist in proof reading preferred. Must be a change-ringer. Apply W. K. Morton, Printer, Horncastle.

TO HAIRDRESSERS.—Wanted a thorough good gents' hand. One that can ring standard methods preferred; also a boy to lather. State terms to E. J. Heathorn, Woolston, Southampton.

Handbells Wanted.

WANTED.—A peal of eight handbells, second-hand, in good condition, cheap, for change-ringing. G. Stacey, Dulverton, Somerset.

WANTED.—A peal of eight, in good condition. Particulars to G. Pound, Boxley, Maidstone, Kent.

Handbells for Sale.

TO Handbell Ringers.—What offers, cash or exchange. Seventy-five Bells. 2½ to 1½ inches in diameter. Complete on wooden frame.—W. Mumby, Newark, Notts.

FOR SALE.—Complete set of Handbells in good condition, fully up to pitch, the property of the Birkby Baptist Chapel.—For particulars, apply to J. WOOD AND SONS, New Street, Huddersfield.

HANDBELLS.—A peal of Fifty-six for sale—F 26 to C or—in excellent condition; also Portable Padded Table, 14ft. long, and hangings trimmed with gold braid and fringe. A bargain.—F. Masfield, Albert Street, Newcastle, Staffs.

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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, MARCH 27, 1897.

THE event of the next meeting of the Central Council is casting its shadows before. The Honorary Secretary is publishing a weekly list in our columns of the Associations which have come up to the scratch, accompanied by the usual appeal for promptness in the operation. In a few weeks the Council's business paper, or agenda, will appear; and there is a variety of conjectures afloat with regard to the topics which will be brought forward for consideration. In the near future we may see perhaps that speculation on the Council's "agenda" has become of a most exciting kind, equal to that animation exhibited by taxpayers throughout the country on the eve of the Budget.

We are made aware that one subject the Council will be asked to debate upon will be the abominable condition of the interior of the bell-tower of Westminster Abbey. Every one of our readers will fervently hope that something beneficial will accrue from such a discussion. Clerical bodies, like those of Westminster, are, however,

hard to move; we know the reception which Mr. Heywood's suggestion concerning St. Saviour's met with, though accompanied as it was by a munificent offer. If we could read that the Honorary Secretary of the Council had been appointed to the decanal stall, or that some of our ringing clergy were to be preferred to canonries at the Abbey, we should know that a reform was in sight.

From more than one quarter a suggestion has been made that in publishing the business paper of the Council the names of the proposers of the various subjects should be included therein. Doubtless the Executive will yield to this readily, unless they have good cause to the contrary. We merely mention this matter by request.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 19, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF S. ALFEGE, GREENWICH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

HERBERT JAMES SKELT .. Treble.	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY .. 5.
HARRY HOSKINS 2.	WALTER INGHAM 6.
ISAAC GEORGE SHADE .. 3.	JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 7.
WILLIAM FOREMAN 4.	FREDERICK W. THORNTON Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN COX and
Conducted by FREDERICK S. BAYLEY.

Rang to celebrate the twenty-sixth anniversary of the marriage at this church of Mr. and Mrs. W. Foreman. This is F. S. Bayley's first attempt at conducting a peal of Treble Bob, and W. Foreman's first peal in the method with a bob bell.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 20, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL, MITCHAM,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES. Tenor 16 cwt.

HENRY R. NEWTON Treble.	HENRY S. ELLIS 5.
ARTHUR G. ELLIS* 2.	JOSEPH FAYERS 6.
FRANK BUCK 3.	SAMUEL E. ANDREWS .. 7.
CHARLES T. P. BRICE .. 4.	JOHN N. OXBORROW .. Tenor.

Composed by YORK GREEN and Conducted by JOHN N. OXBORROW.

J. Fayers belong to Mitcham; the rest to the St. Stephen's Society, Westminster.
*First peal in the method.

THE ST. MARGARET'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.

On Saturday, March 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

HAROLD N. DAVIS Treble.	HARRY BARTON 6.
WILLIAM TRUSS† 2.	*WALTER C. HASTED .. 7.
ARTHUR HARDY* 3.	*ARTHUR J. NEALE 8.
FREDERICK G. PERRIN .. 4.	*WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 9.
VICTOR W. WEST 5.	JAMES GEORGE Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by WM. H. BARBER.

†First peal of Royal and first attempt. *First peal of Bob Royal and the first by the society. The conductor, who hails from Clent, Worcestershire, was elected a member of the above society previous to starting, and this is his first attempt at calling a touch or peal on ten bells.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD
of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 1s. 2d.; cloth do., 1s. 8d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading, Berks.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, March 23, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY ABBOTTS, KENSINGTON.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERES, 5009 CHANGES; Tenor 32 cwt.

EDWIN HORREX Treble.	WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. 6.
HENRY R. NEWTON 2.	FRANK BUCK 7.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 3.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE .. 8.
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY .. 4.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. 9.
JAMES W. DRIVER 5.	*WILLIAM FOX Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by W. E. GARRARD.

*First peal. This peal was arranged for a welcome to the Rev. Canon Somerset Pennefather as vicar of Kensington, and was rung at the conclusion of the service of Induction.

The Provinces.

KINGS NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

On Wednesday, March 17, 1897, in One Hour and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT THE OLD SCHOOL ROOM, KING'S NORTON,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

FREDERICK CLAYTON .. 1-2.	W. S. PRITCHETT 5-6.
W. H. BARBER 3-4.	WILLIAM PALMER 7-8.

Conducted by W. S. PRITCHETT.

Referee—Mr. Fred. Sumner.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 18, 1897, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

JAMES HOUGHTON, SEN. .. Treble.	JAMES GARRATT 5.
JOHN B. MARTIN 2.	JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 6.
WILLIAM PETTITT 3.	ALFRED H. MARTIN 7.
ALPHAËUS PERKINS 4.	ANDERSON TYLER Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by ANDERSON TYLER.

This peal was taken from the Central Council Peal Appendix for 1895; first peal on page 104. Further reference to this peal will be found on another page.

BACUP.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROSSENDALE BRANCH.)

On Thursday, March 18, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THURSTONS' BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 10 cwt.

F. HOWORTH Treble.	J. SUTCLIFFE 5.
J. A. BROWN 2.	J. SHEPHERD 6.
A. WHITWORTH 3.	WM. ASHWORTH 7.
J. T. STANDRING 4.	J. JACKSON Tenor.

Conducted by J. SHEPHERD.

This was the finest struck peal on the bells, there being no tripping from end to end.

BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.—LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 11½ cwt.

RENNIE HARTLEY* Treble.	JOHN WILLIAM STIRK .. 5.
FREDERICK TOWNS 2.	RICHARD ASHWORTH .. 6.
NOAH TOWNEND 3.	JOHN ROWE WERRING .. 7.
DAVID CAMPBELL 4.	TOM REDMAN Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and Conducted by TOM REDMAN.

*First peal. This peal contains the 6th, the extent in 5-6 at six course-ends each way.

**BRIGHTON.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION,
THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

(ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, BRIGHTON.)

On Thursday, March 18, 1897, in Two Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. G. WILLIAMS, 2, GROVE STREET.

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

FRANK BENNETT† ..	1-2.	*KEITH HART ..	5-6.
GEORGE WILLIAMS ..	3-4.	*HARRY WESTON ..	7-8.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Umpire—Mrs. G. Williams, who had a copy of the peal, and ticked off the bob leads as they were rung. *First peal on handbells. †First peal on handbells double-handed. This is the first handbell peal by the St. Peter's Society, also the first double-handed peal by the Winchester Diocesan Guild.

**HOUGHTON CONQUEST, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

(THE ST. PAUL'S COMPANY, BEDFORD.)

On Saturday, March 20, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Being 720 each of the following:

College Exercise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob,
Double Court, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt. in F♯.

CHARLES R. LILLEY..	Treble.	HERBERT SHARP ..	4.
ISAAC HILLS ..	2.	CHARLES WM. CLARKE ..	5.
CHARLES CHASTY ..	3.	FRANK HULL ..	Tenor.

Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the rector for the use of the bells, and also Mr. Smart, the steeple keeper, for having everything in readiness.

CREWE.—THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 20, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-four-½ Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 21 cwt.

GEORGE CHATFIELD*	Treble.	RICHARD LANGFORD ..	5.
ALBERT HARDING ..	2.	GEORGE HARDING ..	6.
WILLIAM F. HARTSHORNE ..	3.	RICHARD T. HOLDING ..	7.
JOSEPH DAVIES† ..	4.	JOHN DENTITH* ..	Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM FRED. HARTSHORNE.

*First Peal. †First Peal away from the Tenor.

HORSHAM, SUSSEX.—SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

FREDERICK W. CRIPPS ..	Treble.	GEORGE PAICE ..	5.
GEORGE ATTFIELD ..	2.	HENRY H. CHANDLER ..	6.
JOHN COOK ..	3.	JOHN R. SHARMAN ..	7.
WALTER CHARMAN ..	4.	ALFRED COX ..	Tenor.

Composed by A. E. BAMES and Conducted by FREDK. W. CRIPPS.

This peal is now rung for the third time, and was rung once previous to the Melbourne Derbyshire peal. Published in last week's "BELL NEWS."

WAKEFIELD, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.)

On Monday, March 22, 1897, in Two Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. WM. KING, "THE GRAZIERS,"

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

THOMAS MARS ..	1-2.	J. W. MOORHOUSE ..	5-6.
ALBERT SCOTT ..	3-4.	JAS. MOORHOUSE ..	7-8.

Composed and Conducted by J. W. MOORHOUSE.

Umpire—Mr. George Cheesborough. First peal on handbells by all the band, and the first ever rung in Wakefield.

BENINGTON.—EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 20, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Being Seven 720s each called differently.

Tenor 14 cwt.

E. ROLLINSON ..	Treble.	JOHN SHARP ..	4.
J. PHILIPS ..	2.	A. O. BARBER ..	5.
E. CLAYTON ..	3.	JOSEPH SHARP ..	Tenor.

Conducted by A. O. BARBER.

First peal of Minor on the bells. First 5000 of Minor by all except Joseph Sharp, being his first peal with a bob bell. Great credit is due to E. Rollinson for the way in which he rang the treble, he is fifteen years of age, and only commenced change-ringing last winter. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor. Phillips and Rollinson hail from Butterwick, the rest from Frieston.

DRIGHLINGTON.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

FREDK. W. HARGREAVES	Treble.	JOHN W. MOORHOUSE ..	5.
THOMAS SIMPSON ..	2.	HERBERT KERSHAW ..	6.
ALBERT SCOTT ..	3.	FREDERICK W. DIXON ..	7.
EDWIN WHEATER ..	4.	HENRY SMITH ..	Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and Conducted by FREDK. W. DIXON.

This peal contains the 6th the extent each way in 5-6, and the 4th the extent in 6ths. F. Hargreaves hails from Tong; Simpson and Kershaw from Low Moor; Scott and Moorhouse from Wakefield; Wheeler from Bradford; Dixon from Guiseley; Smith from Leeds.

ROTHWELL, NEAR LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.

**THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LEEDS AND
DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**

On Saturday, March 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt.

THOMAS NICKOLS ..	Treble.	WALTER CHAPMAN ..	5.
ALFRED CHAPMAN ..	2.	WILLIAM ABBISHAW ..	6.
JOSEPH C. ABBISHAW ..	3.	STEPHEN STACEY ..	7.
GEORGE W. STEEL ..	4.	JOHN M. CHADWICK ..	Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and

Conducted by JOHN M. CHADWICK.

Rung to commemorate the twenty-first birthday of G. W. Steel. His brother ringers wishing him "Many happy returns of the day."

WENTWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

**THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE
ASSOCIATIONS.**

(THE TREETON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 20, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Being 720 each of the following:

College Pleasure, College Exercise, London Scholars, City Delight, Killamarsh Treble Bob, Duke of York and Oxford.

Tenor 13 cwt.

J. H. BROTHWELL ..	Treble.	T. SADLER ..	4.
T. WHITWORTH ..	2.	W. J. NICHOLSON ..	5.
S. WALKER ..	3.	WM. LAMBERT ..	Tenor.

Conducted by WM. LAMBERT.

This peal was rung to commemorate the golden wedding of the parents of the 5th ringer, and is the first peal rung on the bells since they were transferred to the new church, and the first peal on the bells for over thirty years.

PEAL BOOK, Price 2s. 6d. A book specially ruled for entering peals, date touches, etc. Handbell music arranged for any number of bells. Send for catalogue. W. H. GIGGLE, Queen Street, Horbury, near Wakefield.

BRISTOL, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.—THE ST.
STEPHEN'S GUILD, BRISTOL.

On Saturday, March 20, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST STEPHEN THE MARTYR.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM JAMES HINTON..Treble.	FRED. G. MAY 6.
FRANCIS E. WARD 2.	CHARLES H. TOMKINS .. 7.
JOHN AUSTIN 3.	CHARLES H. GORDON .. 8.
WALTER T. BENNETT .. 4.	FRANCIS PRICE 9.
HENRY PRING 5.	WILLIAM A. CAVETenor.

Composed by HENRY HALEY and Conducted by WM. JAMES HINTON.
Messrs. Austin, Bennett and May hail from Gloucester; Mr. Ward from Cheltenham. First peal of Stedman Caters by Messrs. Pring and May, and quickest peal of Caters on the bells.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD AND
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 20, 1897, in Four Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 7019 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt.

FARRINGTON JONESTreble.	HENRY DAWKES.. .. 6.
HENRY A. HALL 2.	HERBERT KNIGHT 7.
WILLIAM G. HALL 3.	AARON GRIFFITHS 8.
GEORGE BURROWS 4.	JAMES E. GROVES 9.
ROBERT PICKERING 5.	ISAAC PURSERTenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Miss Nellie, eldest daughter of the late Mr. H. Roden, of Penn, with Mr. T. Marshall, of Southport. This is the first peal of Caters by the local band for fifty-two years. Longest peal by all except Messrs. Griffiths and Groves, and the longest by members of the Hereford Guild.

DEANE, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Monday, March 22, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JAMES HALLIWELL*..Treble.	JOHN MOSCROP 5.
THOMAS PEERS 2.	*WILLIAM DUCKWORTH .. 6.
JOSHUA HARPER 3.	*RICHARD HEALD 7.
JAMES TAYLOR*.. .. 4.	TITUS BARLOWTenor.

Composed by W. SHIPWAY and Conducted by JAMES HALLIWELL.

*First peal. First peal of Bob Major by the Bolton Branch.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 23, 1897, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

HENRY STRINGERTreble.	GEORGE PAYNE 5.
WILLIAM HILLMAN 2.	WILLIAM JOHN ALLISS .. 6.
LAZARUS PAYNE 3.	ALFRED W. GROVES.. .. 7.
GEORGE GATLAND 4.	CHARLES TYLERTenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by CHARLES TYLER.

This composition has the 6th twenty-four times each way. G. Gatland belongs to Steyning; the rest are local men.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX,

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 23, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
A VARIATION OF THURSTANS.

HARRY WESTON.. ..Treble.	CHARLES SMART 5.
FRANK BENNETT 2.	ALFRED J. TURNER 6.
GEORGE BAKER 3.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.. .. 7.
GEORGE WILLIAMS 4.	KEITH HARTTenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Messrs. Goldsmith and Turner are of the local band; C. Smart, from Steyning; the rest of the band from St. Peter's, Brighton. This is the quickest peal on these bells.

Miscellaneous.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—PRESTON BRANCH.

CHIPPING.—On Wednesday, February 10th, at the parish church, 720 Woodbine. R. Kenyon, 1; W. Timbrell (conductor), 2; J. Kenyon, 3; E. Timbrell, 4; T. Seed, 5; F. Timbrell, 6. On Sunday, February 14th, 720 Plain Bob. W. Timbrell (conductor), 1; J. Gornall, 2; J. Kenyon, 3; E. Timbrell, 4; F. Timbrell, 5; T. Seed, 6. On Wednesday, February 17th, 720 Woodbine. R. Kenyon, 1; F. Timbrell, 2; J. Kenyon, 3; W. Timbrell (conductor), 4; E. Timbrell, 5; T. Seed, 6. And 720 Duke of York. R. Kenyon, 1; F. Timbrell, 2; J. Kenyon, 3; E. Timbrell, 4; W. Timbrell (conductor), 5; T. Seed, 6. On Saturday, February 20th, 720 Duke of York. R. Kenyon, 1; F. Timbrell, 2; J. Kenyon, 3; W. Timbrell (conductor), 4; E. Timbrell, 5; T. Seed, 6. And 720 Kent (fifteen bobs), standing as before. On Sunday, February 21st, 720 College Single standing as above. On Wednesday, February 24th, 720 Duke of York and 720 Woodbine standing as above. On Sunday, February 28th, 720 Plain Bob. R. Kenyon, 1; J. Seed, 2; J. Kenyon, 3; F. Timbrell, 4; W. Timbrell (conductor), 5; E. Timbrell, 6. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). R. Kenyon, 1; F. Timbrell, 2; J. Kenyon, 3; W. Timbrell, 4; E. Timbrell (conductor), 5; T. Seed, 6. And 720 Duke of York, standing as above, conducted by W. Timbrell. J. Gornall belongs to Penwortham.

THE SALOP GUILD.

SHREWSBURY.—On Friday, February 13th, at St. Alkmund's church, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but came to grief after ringing 1 hr. 18 mins. R. Dolman, 1; T. Burd, 2; F. Taylor, 3; G. Taylor, 4; W. Taylor, 5; A. Fullick, 6; J. Groves (Wolverhampton, conductor), 7; J. Wynn, 8. All the above are local men with the exception of the conductor. On Friday, March 5th, on handbells in St. Alkmund's belfry, several touches of Grandsire Minor. W. Espley, 1; W. Stockdale, 2; G. Byolin (conductor), 3; 4; G. Taylor, 5-6. On Sunday evening, March 7th, for Divine Service, 210 of Grandsire Triples. W. Espley, 1; W. Owen, 2; W. Taylor, 3; G. Taylor, 4; A. Espley, 5; F. Taylor, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; R. York, 8. Also several courses of Grandsire Triples with W. Stockdale and G. Lloyd taking the treble. Great credit is due to Messrs. Espley, Stockdale, and Lloyd, who have only started change-ringing two months ago; aged 14 and 17 years respectively.

CONDOVER (Salop).—On Sunday, February 14th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. W. Greenleaf, 1; J. Groves (conductor), 2; H. Hall, 3; W. Taylor, 4; G. Burrows, 5; C. Vickers, 6; A. Griffiths, 7; J. Burrows, 8. W. Greenleaf hails from Hereford; Groves, Hall, Burrows, and Griffiths from Wolverhampton; Taylor, Vickers, and J. Burrows from Shrewsbury.

WELLINGTON (Salop).—On Sunday evening, February 28th, for Divine Service at the church of All Saints, 420 Grandsire Triples. J. Rowley, 1; W. Owen, 2; G. Taylor, 3; F. Taylor, 4; R. Rowley, 5; T. Bratton (conductor), 6; T. Pritchard, 7; J. Eveson, 8. Messrs. Owen, Taylor (2) hail from Shrewsbury; Bratton from Welshpool; the rest are local men.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday evening, February 7th, at Giles' church, a 518 of Grandsire Triples. H. Dibley, 1; H. Coffee, 2; G. Boddington, 3; A. E. Reeves, jun., 4; F. Sweetzer, 5; W. Higgs, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; C. House, 8. On Tuesday, February 9th, a 720 of Bob Minor. H. Dibley, 1; H. Coffee, 2; G. Boddington, 3; A. W. Reeves, 4; F. Sweetzer, 5; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 14th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. Sergt. Hudson (Coldstream Guards), 1; H. Coffee, 2; G. Boddington, 3; A. E. Reeves, jun., 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; W. Higgs, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8. On Sunday, February 21st, a 504 of Bob Triples. H. Dibley, 1; H. Coffee, 2; G. Boddington, 3; A. E. Reeves, jun., 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; F. Sweetzer, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; C. House, 8. On Tuesday, February 23rd, a 420 of Plain Bob Triples. H. Dibley, 1; H. Coffee, 2; G. Boddington, 3; A. W. Reeves, 4; C. Giles, 5; F. Sweetzer, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; J. Nicholls (Pangbourne), 8. On Sunday, February 28th, a 504 of Stedman Triples. J. Tucker, 1; H. Tucker, 2; A. Evans, 3; A. E. Reeves, jun., 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; F. Sweetzer, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, February 21st, at St. Giles' church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Fox, 1; C. Exon, 2; H. P. Harman, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; F. Exon, 5; E. Hims (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, February 24th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. C. Fowler, 1; C. Exon, 2; F. Exon, 3; H. P. Harman, 4; E. Hims (conductor), 5; A. Fox, 6. H. P. Harman hails from Bromley, Kent.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Tuesday, January 26th, for practice, 720 Oxford Bob Minor. T. Ansell, 1; E. Jordan, 2; E. Holloway, 3; C. Taylor, 4; T. Stedman, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 2nd, 720 Bob Minor. T. Ansell, 1; D. Jordan, 2; T. Fairs, 3; C. Taylor, 4; E. Holloway, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 16th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Ansell (first in the method), 1; T. Stedman, 2; E. Holloway, 5; C. Taylor, 4; T. Fairs, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, February 21st, for Divine Service, 360 Superlative Surprise. E. Holloway, 1; E. Jordan, 2; R. Jordan, 3; C. Taylor, 4; T. Stedman, 5; D. Jordan, 6. For evening service 360 Cambridge Surprise. T. Stedman, 2; E. Jordan, 5; the rest as before. On Tuesday, February 23rd, 720 Kent. T. Ansell, 1; J. Akehurst, 2; T. Fairs, 3; C. Taylor, 4; E. Holloway, 5; T. Stedman, 6. And 240 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Ansell, 1; T. Stedman, 2; E. Holloway, 3; C. Taylor, 4; T. Fairs, 5; J. Akehurst, 6. Conducted by T. Stedman. On Monday, March 1st, on the occasion of the marriage of W. G. Hayward, of Buckland, Surrey, to Emma, eldest daughter of the late Mr. C. Edwards, of Capel brickyard, 720 College Pleasure. E. Holloway, 1; J. Akehurst, 2; T. Stedman, 3; C. Taylor, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Stedman, 1; E. Holloway, 3; the rest as before. Also 720 Kent. T. Ansell, 1; T. Stedman, 2; J. Akehurst, 3; E. Jordan, 4; E. Holloway, 5; C. Taylor (conductor), 6. And 720 Violet. D. Jordan, 1; T. Stedman, 2; E. Holloway, 3; C. Taylor, 4; J. Akehurst, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6.

TITCHFIELD (Hants).—Recently at the parish church, for a trial of the bells previous to the opening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. C. Privett, 1; F. Hill, 2; G. E. Chappell, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; G. W. Grafham, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. On February 2nd, on the occasion of the dedication of the bells, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. C. Privett, 1; J. E. Warren, 2; G. E. Chappell, 3; J. Staples, 4; G. W. Grafham, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. And 720 Bob Minor. J. Staples, 1; Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, 2; G. E. Chappell, 3; J. E. Warren, 4; A. P. Goddard, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. And 720 Oxford Single Bob. J. Staples, 1; G. E. Chappell, 2; J. E. Warren, 3; Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, 4; G. W. Grafham, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6.

SHEDFIELD (Hants).—On February 27th, after confirmation service, at the parish church, a 720 Oxford Single Bob. S. Cummins, 1; G. Plaskett, 2; W. Cooper, 3; G. E. Chappell, 4; J. E. Warren, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. Miss Alice White, 1; G. E. Chappell, 2; G. Plaskett, 3; A. Millard, 4; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor. Miss Alice White, 1; S. Cummins, 2; W. Cooper, 3; J. W. Whiting, 4; G. E. Chappell (conductor), 5; J. E. Warren, 6.

WICKHAM (Hants).—On March 20th, for practice, at the parish church, a 720 of Superlative Surprise Minor. W. F. Churcher, 1; G. Plaskett, 2; A. Millard, 3; J. E. Warren, 4; G. E. Chappell, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all the band.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DUFFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, March 16th, at All Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 51 mins. T. Draper, 1; G. Dawson, 2; W. Hickling, 3; J. Patchett, 4; A. E. Thompson, 5; H. George, 6; B. Sugden (conductor), 7; S. Dawson, 8. Composed by T. Thurston. H. George hails from Ripley. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

EARLS BARTON (Northants).—On a recent Saturday, at the parish church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 25 mins. O. Chapman, 1; G. Johnson, 2; H. Line, 3; F. Jones, 4; A. White, 5; W. Willis (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all. Tenor 14 cwt.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL.—On Thursday, February 25th, at Stephen's church, with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. J. C. Wall who was buried that day, touches of Stedman Caters and Grandsire Royal. On Tuesday, March 2nd, for practice, 845 Stedman Caters, On Sunday, March 7th, at St. John's church, after the re-opening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Hinton (conductor), 1; C. Horton, 2; F. Elles, 3; J. Pickard, 4; W. Knight, 5; C. E. Boufflower, 6. And touches after service in the evening. This church has been closed for some time, owing to the roof being under repair. On Sunday, March 14th, at St. Stephen's church, 762 Stedman Caters in 27 mins. W. Hinton (conductor), 1; C. Gordon, 2; C. Horton, 3; W. Knight, 4; A. Bawn, 5; F. Perrin, 6; F. Elles, 7; J. Pickard, 8; F. Price, 9; W. Colston, 10.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GRAPPENHALL (Cheshire).—On Sunday, February 7th, 720 Brain-

tree. J. Mainwaring, 1; H. Moston, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; C. Greenall (conductor), 5; F. Spence, 6. On Tuesday, February 9th, 720 Plain Bob. J. Mainwaring, 1; S. Horsfall, 2; H. Moston, 3; J. Ashcroft, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. On Sunday, February 14th, 720 College Exercise. J. Mainwaring, 1; H. Moston, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. Also 720 London Scholars' Pleasure. H. Moston, 1; R. Lewis, 2; C. Greenall, 6; the rest as before. On Sunday, February 21st, 720 Violet Treble Bob. J. Mainwaring, 1; H. Moston, 2; S. Horsfall, 3; R. Lewis, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. On Sunday, February 28th, 720 each of Oxford and Killamarsch Treble Bob. J. Mainwaring, 1; R. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Sunday morning, February 7th, 672 London Surprise Major. J. Pagett, 1; N. Davis, 2; J. Bennett, 3; W. Smith, 4; E. Hunt, 5; T. Salter (conductor), 6; J. Crane, 7; W. Barber, 8. On Sunday morning, February 28th, 448 London Surprise Major. W. Smith, 1; A. Parsons, 2; N. Davis, 3; J. Bennett, 4; E. Hunt, 5; T. Salter (conductor), 6; J. Pagett, 7; W. Barber, 8. On Sunday evening, March 7th, 384 Superlative Surprise. T. Wakeman, 1; W. Smith, 2; G. Salter, 3; N. Davis, 4; J. Bennett, 5; T. Salter (conductor), 6; J. Crane, 7; J. Pagett, 8.

WOLVERLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, January 19th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor. H. Frazier (first 720), 1; T. Salter, 2; G. Salter, 3; P. Perry (first 720), 4; W. Perry, 5; J. Buffery (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 9th, 360 Double Court. G. Salter, 1; N. Davis, 2; H. Harman, 3; J. Pagett, 4; T. Salter (conductor), 6; W. Smith, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OSWALDTWISTLE.—On Sunday, February 7th, 720 Oxford Single. J. Bentley, 1; J. Haworth, 2; I. Whalley, 3; W. Britcliffe, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 16th, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). J. Bentley, 1; J. Haworth, 2; I. Whalley, 3; W. Britcliffe, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. First in the method by all the band. On Sunday evening, February 21st, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor standing as above. On Tuesday, March 23rd, 720 Plain Bob. J. Bentley, 1; R. Sharples, 5; I. Whalley, 3; W. Britcliffe, 4; C. Sharples (conductor), 5; R. Parkinson, 6. On Sunday morning, February 28th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Single. J. Bentley, 1; J. Haworth, 2; I. Whalley, 3; W. Britcliffe, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 2nd, for practice, 720 Canterbury Pleasure standing as above. First in the method ever rung by a local band on the bells; also first attempt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday morning, for Divine Service, at St. Michael's church, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; E. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; E. Watcher, 5; W. Hammond, 6. Also two more 6-scores. E. Watcher (conductor), 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; W. Hammond, 5; H. Coote, 6. And for evening service, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Farrow, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher (conductor), 3; W. Webb, 4; W. Hammond, 5. On Monday, February 82nd, a 6-score Grandsire Doubles. W. Farrow, 1; H. Collins, 2; A. Willshire (first 6-score), 3; W. Webb, 4; E. Watcher (conductor), 5; W. Hammond, 6. Also three more 6-scores. H. Collins, 1; E. Watcher, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; F. Slade (conductor), 5; W. Eammond, 6. On Wednesday, February 24th, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Farrow, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher (conductor), 3; W. Webb, 4; W. Hammond, 5; H. Coote, 6. On Sunday, February 28th, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; W. Farrow, 2; P. Holmes, 3; H. Pilcher, 4; H. Coote, 5; W. Hammond, 6. And for evening service, several 6-scores of Grandsire. W. Farrow, 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pilcher (conductor), 3; W. Webb, 4; W. Hammond, 5; A. Chaplin, 6. And 360 of Bob Minor. H. Collins, 1; E. Watcher, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; A. Chaplin, 5; F. Slade (conductor), 6. On Thursday, March 4th, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Collins, 1; Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; C. H. Howard (conductor), 4; T. Hammond, 5; W. Coote, 6. On Sunday, March 8th, for morning service, two 6-scores of Grandsire. W. Farrow, 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pilcher (conductor), 3; W. Webb, 4; E. J. Prince, 5; W. Hammond, 6. And for evening service, a 360 of Bob Minor. H. Collins, 1; E. Watcher, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; A. Sanders, 5; W. Burst (conductor), 6. On Monday, March 8th, a 720 Oxford Treble Bob. E. Hands, 1; C. H. Howard, 2; J. T. Barker, 3; E. Chaplin, 4; E. Clandon, 5; A. Chaplin (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor. A. Barker, 1; T. Collins (first 720 with a bob bell), 2;

H. Emery, 3; W. Webb, 4; E. Watcher, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. And on handbells a course of Grandsire Triples. J. T. Barker, 1-2; E. Claydon, 3-4; C. H. Howard, 5-6; C. Hynds, 7-8. On Sunday, March 15th, for morning service, 600 Grandsire Doubles. W. Webb, 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; C. H. Howard (conductor), 4; W. Hammond, 5; H. Coote, 6. Rev. H. T. W. Eyre and T. Hammond hail from Great Totham; Willshire from Rayne; Chaplin (2), from Stisted; Burst and Saunders from Greensted Green; Messrs. Barker, Hands, Claydon and Emery from Stebbing; the rest belong to the local company.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Tuesday, February 9th, for practice at St. Matthew's church, 840 Bob Triples. R. Dwyer (longest touch), 1; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 2; J. Dawson, 3; W. Liddle, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; G. Dix, 6; J. Keen, 7; R. Hall, 8. On Tuesday, March 16th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 30 mins. R. Duke, 1; R. Hall, 2; S. Ferry, 3; J. Dawson, 4; W. Holmes, 5; E. Ferry (first in the method as conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of Kent Minor on the bells, and first in the method by Messrs. Duke, Ferry, and Dawson. Messrs. Dix and Keen hail from North Shields.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday, March 14th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. N. Brand, 1; R. Hall, 2; J. Brownell, 3; L. Waugh, 4; J. Keen, 5; G. Dix (conductor), 6. R. Hall hails from Newcastle, and this is his first 720 in the method with a bob bell.

THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

BARNET (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, February 28th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Dolton (first 500), 1; F. Milne, 2; A. Chidwick, 3; J. Sumpter (conductor), 4; J. Stevens, 5; H. Newby, 6; A. Miller, 7; A. King, 8. On Sunday morning, March 7th, for Divine Service, 360 Bob Minor with 6-8 covering. W. Dolton, 1; A. Chidwick, 2; J. Sumpter, 3; F. Milne, 4; J. Stevens, 5; E. Dolton, 6; A. Belton (conductor), 7; A. King, 8.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Sunday, February 7th, for morning service at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 Oxford Single Bob Minor, two-part 720 (twenty bobs and two singles). And in the evening, a 720 Oxford Single Bob Minor, five-part 720 (thirty bobs and thirty singles). C. E. Wilson, 1; J. W. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Saturday evening, February 13th, a 720 Grandsire Minor, two-part 720 (forty-two bobs and ten singles). G. Somerville, 1; C. E. Wilson, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Sunday morning, February 14th, a 720 Grandsire Minor, three-part 720 (thirty-six bobs and twenty-four singles). G. Somerville, 1; J. W. Bell, 2; C. E. Wilson, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. H. Barker, 5; H. Rodger, 6. On Saturday evening, February 20th, a 720 Grandsire Minor, four-part 720 (forty bobs and eight singles). On Sunday morning, February 21st, a 720 Plain Bob Minor, two-part 720 (thirty-four bobs and six singles). C. E. Wilson, 1; J. W. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. And in the evening a 720 Plain Bob Minor, five-part 720 (twenty-five bobs and ten singles). G. Somerville, 1; J. W. Bell, 2; C. E. Wilson, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Rodger, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Saturday evening, February 27th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, three-part 720 (fifteen bobs and eighteen singles). G. Somerville, 1; J. W. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; C. E. Wilson, 4; H. H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Sunday morning, February 28th, a 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor, ten divisions (forty-two singles). And in the afternoon a 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor, 6-courses (forty singles). G. Somerville, 1; J. W. Bell, 2; C. E. Wilson, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. All the above 720's are the composition of J. J. Parker, Farnham Royal, Slough, Bucks, and were conducted by C. E. Wilson. Tenor 9 cwt.

Correspondence.

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

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

THE PEAL OF TREBLE BOB AT STALEYBRIDGE.

SIR.—I notice in your issue of March 20th a peal of Treble Bob Major rung at Staleybridge, Cheshire, by the Ashton-under-Lyne society, in which it is stated that it was the first peal of Major by P. W. Davies, who hails from Bangor, North Wales. I may say it is not the first peal of Major, but it may be the first peal of Major in the method by him, for I notice in "THE BELL NEWS" of September 26th, 1896, a peal of Bob Major rung at Bangor, North Wales, on Wednesday, September 23rd, 1896, in which P. W. Davies rang the tenor, so I wish to say it was not his first peal of Major.

Shrewsbury.

GEORGE J. TAYLOR.

[We printed the footnote of the peal exact as copy sent.—ED.]

A CONTRADICTION.

SIR.—In your issue of the 20th inst. the footnote to a peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans' five-part) rung at West Bromwich on the 13th inst., states that "it is now rung for the second time." Allow me to state that it was first rung at Cliffe-at-Hoo in Kent about 1887 or 1888, conducted by F. G. Newman, and the next time at Putney, Surrey, about 1889, conducted by H. R. Newton, and in which I took part.

W. H. GEORGE.

SIR.—Thurstans' five-part peal of Stedman Triples was rung at Henfield in September last, so that the West Bromwich peal could not be the second time of its being rung.

C. TYLER.

A JUBILEE PEAL.

SIR.—I wish to call the attention of my brother-ringers to what I may call a Diamond Jubilee peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, which was composed by the late Mr. William Sottanstill, of Sowerby, Yorkshire, and which will be found in his works, part 2, page 463, a peal of 3130 changes, being as many changes as our Queen will have reigned weeks at the Diamond Jubilee.

FRED. SCHOFIELD.

THE MIDDLESEX AMALGAMATION.

SIR.—In your last issue you have a long composition from Mr. Basden, in which the spirit has moved him to explain the action taken by himself and Mr. Taber at the Heston meeting; I wish the spirit had moved him a little more to explain why he, from the first, has been so determined an opponent of the scheme. It is a fact that at the annual meeting at Isleworth, a letter from the Hon. Sec. of the Middlesex Association was read, suggesting an amalgamation of the two societies, without as I thought, any good reason; our President and also our Master would have none of it, but my proposition that we appoint a small committee to meet the Middlesex committee, was carried. Mr. Basden was asked to stand, he refused. Now I contend he should have been the first to accept, but I think he was afraid of being converted. From that time to the Heston meeting was about seven months, surely all those that take any interest in the working of the Guild had made up their minds one way or the other. Mr. Basden's objection to the meeting not being in order was a little surprise, as our meetings have not always been strictly in order, but had the meeting been postponed as suggested, I feel confident the result would have been the same. His remarks upon the members who were present (not seen at a meeting before) seems to suggest it was a packed meeting, I can answer for myself, I asked no man to vote either way, I certainly asked all members in our tower to attend if possible, and he did the same. Now, as to the vote of the hon. members, as a rule, I believe they pay their subscriptions, but take no interest in the working of the Guild, I for one should not like to see a vital question affecting the future of the Guild settled by the vote of hon. members. Now for the adjourned discussion at the Blue Bell. Poor John had a rough time of it, but he seemed in his humble way to keep pace with the rest, there was some personal matter between himself and a few that might have been left out, but the greatest blow, as he puts it, from an old friend, should not have made him as (sic) as he would have us believe, might I suggest that the excitement of the meeting and a certain amount of lubrication had something to do with it, John has heard something of this kind before. Your readers may draw their own conclusions when I say that the old friend walked six miles on the following Wednesday to ring with him, and offered his services to ring in a birthday peal to Mr. Basden, mind you I am not taking this man's part, such a remark never ought to have been made, but we are none of us perfect. I am one of those that contend that Jack and Joe have been the mainstay of the Guild, all honour to them in electing him to the mastership, the members show they appreciate his services. In conclusion, let me say, in my opinion, when he saw the majority were in favour of the scheme, he should have treated us in a more liberal spirit and cast in his lot with us, we should now be looking forward to our meeting at Whitsun with pleasure. I don't suppose I shall trouble you with any more of my compositions. When I tell you this is my first attempt, you will excuse me if I have repeated, but I think it will run true. Whatever comes of this controversy it won't alter my friendship for them, and I hope they will always let me sign myself

TOM BEADLE.

RINGING TOUR.

SIR.—The time is at hand when many people will be contemplating arrangements for their annual holiday. Many ringers are also cyclists and it has been suggested that a "cycling and ringing tower" of a week or ten days duration be organised. Suggestions are invited and ringers desirous of forming the party are requested to communicate with C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., Master of the Bristol and Gloucester, and Bath and Wells Diocesan Associations, or with the undersigned, stating methods rung.

W. J. PICKARD.

Bank, Bedminster, Bristol, 22nd March, 1897.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

By HENRY DAINS, *London*.

5568.

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

Twice repeated.

This composition is the first with the qualities upon the plan yet published, having both the 5th and 6th at two course-ends each way in 5-6 in three equal parts. By calling the first four courses of either two parts as follows—

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

the changes are reduced to 5120.

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham*.

5016.

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

The extent of the 5th right with the 6th undisturbed.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By ARTHUR CRAVEN, *Deepcar, Sheffield*.

7680.

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

Four times repeated.

This is the longest length yet composed without bobs before. By calling the 3rd course of one part 2M 2H, reduces the peal to 7040 by bringing up the part-end. If this is done in four parts, the peal is reduced to 5120.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By HENRY W. WILDE, *Belgrave, Cheshire*.

5376.

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

Five times repeated with bob instead of single at 4, except in the 4th part. This peal contains all the combinations of 4, 5 and 6 in 5-6, the 2nd and 3rd never in 6ths place at the course-ends. May be reduced to 5040 by calling bob instead of single in the third course of any one part, which will bring up the part-end in the fifth course.

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY MAJOR.

By WILLIAM WALMSLEY, *Macclesfield*.

5008.

2 3 4 5 6	W	I	N	M	R
4 2 3 5 6	-				-
3 2 6 5 4	-	-	-	-	-
6 3 2 5 4	-	-	-	-	-
2 6 3 5 4	-	-	-	-	-
2 6 4 3 5	-	-	-	-	-
4 2 6 3 5	-	-	-	-	-
3 6 2 4 5	-	-	-	-	-
2 3 6 4 5	-	-	-	-	-
6 2 3 4 5	-	-	-	-	-
3 2 5 4 6	-	-	-	-	-
5 3 2 4 6	-	-	-	-	-
2 5 3 4 6	-	-	-	-	-
2 5 6 3 4	-	-	-	-	-
6 2 5 3 4	-	-	-	-	-
3 5 2 6 4	-	-	-	-	-
2 3 5 6 4	-	-	-	-	-

Repeat the last eight courses four times, adding s w in the 4th and 6th parts. In this peal the 2nd is never in 5-6 at a course-end. It has only 4, 5, 6 in 6ths place at course-ends, with all their combinations in 5-6. This is the first peal composed in the method containing the above qualities, and is produced in the least possible number of changes. If the calling of the first eight courses be five times repeated, it would be 5088 with the same qualities.

NOTE TO THE IRTHLINGBOROUGH PEAL.

This was the first peal of Superlative Surprise Major ever rung in Northamptonshire, and the first by the Association; also the first by all the band, and was rung at the second attempt. The band only met three times to practice the method previous to attempting the peal, the first time ringing 224, the second 672, then a 928, and it was determined to go for the peal on March 6th, when after ringing 4000 changes the conductor called "stand" owing to a mis-call. Another start was made on the 18th, when a grand peal was rung, the bells running round splendidly in 3 hrs. 1 min. It is a noteworthy fact that the ringers of the 3rd, 4th, 5th 6th and tenor did not know what change-ringing meant three years ago.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

By JOHN P. BRADLEY, *West Ham*.

2 3 1 4 5 6 4 5 1 6

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

*Produced by bobs at 1, 2; 4 single, 6, 7, 11. Second part three times repeated, produces 162354, round at 2, 4, 5, 9, single. First rung at St. Alfege, Greenwich, on Saturday, February 13th, 1897, conducted by Frederick Shelburne Bayley.

A DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By EDGAR BENNETT, *Beddington*.

1897.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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

Odd changes

3 4 2 5 6 7 8 9 2
7 5 3 9 4 8 2 6 1
2 6 7 4 8 3 9 5 3
2 3 4 5 6 9 7 8 at 2

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

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

9th in and out at 2.

ARTHUR SYMONDS (Lavenham).—Your 720 of Bob Minor will appear next week.

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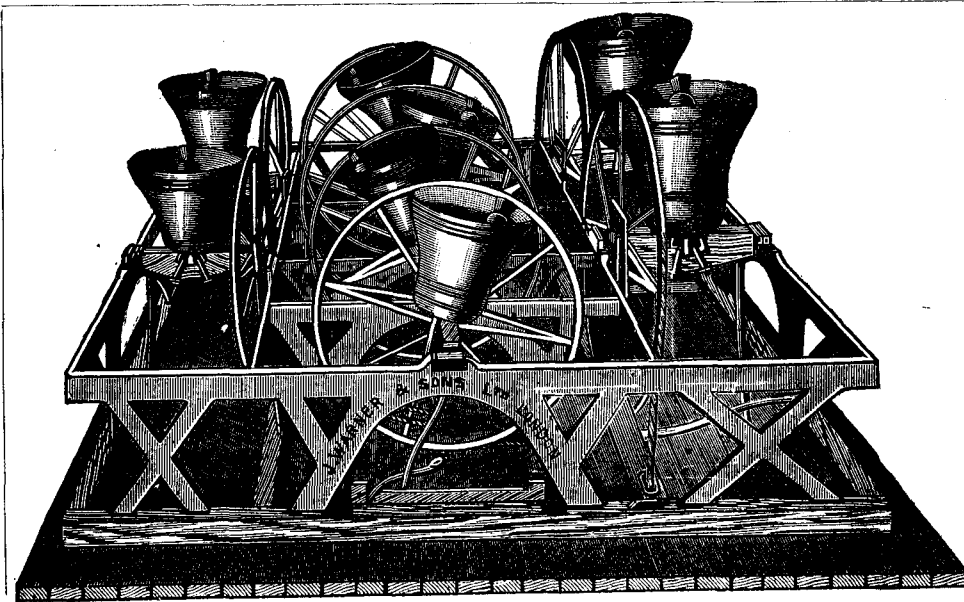
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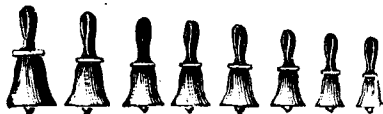
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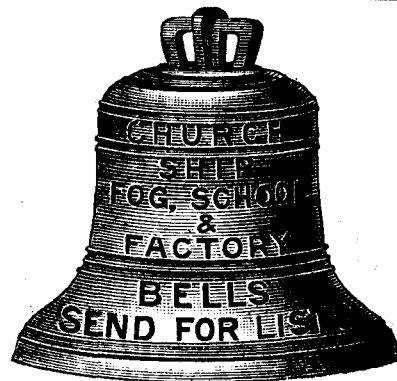
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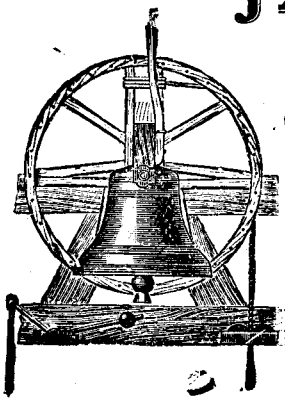
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No. 782.—VOL. XV.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1897.

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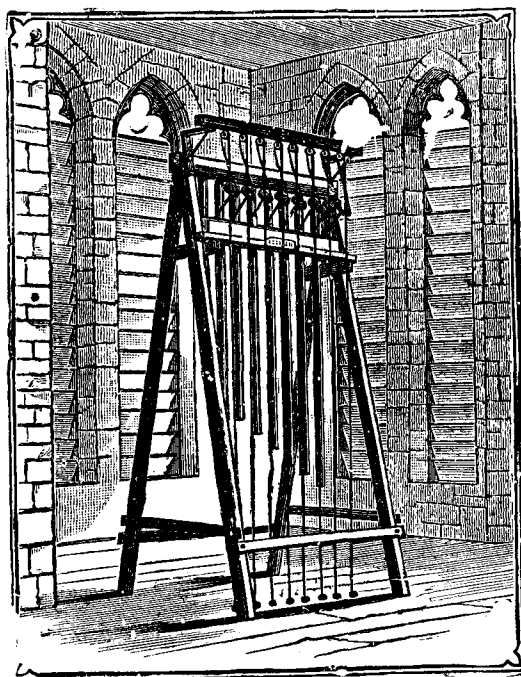
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Both arranged for 6 ringers with two octaves in the chromatic scale—D 21 to D 7.			
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arranged as per list 7	..	3	0
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 782.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1897.

[Vol. XV.]

RE-OPENING OF BELLS AT HALWELL, DEVON.

On Tuesday, March 23rd, the beautiful bells of the parish church of Halwell, Devon, were reopened, after a silence of many months. Divine Service was held in the afternoon and evening, which in spite of the unsettled weather, were heartily joined in by large congregations. The service in the afternoon was the re-dedication service, when during the singing of the Hymn, No. 393, after the third Collect, the choir, the ringers, the churchwardens, and the clergy proceeded to the tower, where the Rev. Canon Edwards, with prayer and exhortation, rededicated the bells to the service of ALMIGHTY GOD. The rev. Canon afterwards preached from Numbers x. 32, and encouraged his hearers in their work of renewing the material fabric of the church, and in building up their spiritual life. The other clergy present were the Revs. J. B. Hughes, C. Martin, W. G. Mallett, A. Bartholomew, and the Vicar. In the evening the Rev. Prebendary Houghton, Vicar of West Alvington, preached. The choral part of the services was capitably rendered by the choir, the organ in the afternoon being presided over by Miss Wheeler, and in the evening by Miss Yabsley.

At 4.30 tea was provided in the St. Leonard's Hall, the tables being presided over by Mesdames Wheeler, Ellis, and the Misses Pepperell, Nicholls, Yabsley, and Widdicombe. The offertories, as also the proceeds from the tea, were in aid of the Restoration Fund.

During the day ringers from various neighbouring parishes operated at the ropes, and one and all testified to the excellent condition of the bells, the re-hanging of which was ably carried out by Mr. Harry Stokes, of Woodbury, Exeter.

BELL RESTORATION AND AUGMENTATION AT NORTHLEACH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

At a meeting of the Northleach Church Restoration Committee, held at the Institute on Thursday evening, March 25th, it was unanimously decided to entrust the contract for restoring the present ring of six bells in the tower, and the addition of two new bells to complete the octave, to Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry. One of the new bells will be named the "Queen's Diamond Jubilee Bell," and will be subscribed for by the parishioners as a fitting memento of Her Majesty's record reign.

THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

This report, a book of sixty pages, has just been issued to the members of the Guild. In it the Honorary Secretary says that "the Guild continues to show evidence of growth and progress. The increase in membership was 35 in 1895, in 1896 it has been 103. The fact is in a great measure due to the formation of the new Deddington branch, which already numbers 72 members." It is to be hoped that our Deddington friends will estimate at its proper value the advantages which will accrue to them from their connection with the Guild. The report proceeds to say that "there are now 100 belfries in union with the Guild—a gain of 14. The mere record of this growth will show that the work

falling on the Hon. Secretary of the Guild is exceedingly heavy. A membership of 1250 necessarily entails a large amount of correspondence, and it is too great a tax upon the time of one man. The committee have therefore accepted the gratuitous services of Mr. A. W. Pike, of Caversham, as assistant Hon. Secretary. This is a very public-spirited act on the part of a working man, and the thanks of the Guild are due to Mr. Pike."

The next paragraph deals with matters financial. There is a balance in hand of £41., but the agreeable feelings which the possession of such a sum is apt to engender is damped by the fact that to the printer of the peal-book the Guild owes £5. How is this? Because out of the 500 copies printed, only 150 have been sold! With a membership of 1250, such indifference is positively humiliating.

The Master of the Guild also makes a report, as follows:—

"The year 1896 will ever be memorable for the long peal of London Surprise, 11,328 changes, rung at Drayton on September 17th, which it is believed is the greatest possible length in that method.

"Laudable activity has prevailed in the Reading branch, and a branch for the Deddington deanery has made a successful beginning.

"A beautiful new ring of eight has been put into the tower of Stratford Mortimer, and a pretty little six into that at Freeland, both from Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's foundry.

"It is hoped during 1897 to augment the ten at the Cathedral by the addition of two trebles, so that there may be a peal of twelve in the Diocese."

Let us hope this will not be the only augmentation within the Diocese. Is not the loyalty among the inhabitants of the royal borough of Windsor intense enough to lead them to restore and augment the ring of bells at their parish church as a memento of Her Majesty's long reign? The six bells at Farnham Royal have been crying out for two more companions for a long time; this increase would be very appropriate.

CONCERNING THE BELLRINGER.—The bellringer is one who works for the love of his art, and he has few admirers. This, however, troubles him very little so long as he can excite the admiration of his fellow-ringers. But it is not the sound of the bells that charms the ringer so much as the pulling of them. To ring changes is to the bellringer a most fascinating and interesting recreation, and if the unfortunate people who are merely listeners understood the various methods, and could follow what was going on in the tower, they would not condemn the art of bellringing quite so strongly as they do now. It would be impossible to give the slightest outline of the study of change-ringing here, and it must therefore suffice to say that there are various methods of changing the bells, all of which require a large amount of study. The most common method is that called "Grandsire," and it is to the ringing of a peal of this kind that the young ringer first aspires. A "peal" of "Grandsire Triples" consists of 5040 changes, and is rung on eight bells, seven of which change, with the tenor behind, i.e. ringing at the end of each change. On an average peal of bells this takes about three hours, and great are the preparations when a band enters upon this formidable task. Slippers are substituted for boots; coats, collars, and ties are thrown aside, and everything done to free the limbs of the ringers. If the peal breaks down by some member ringing out of place, the whole company have to start again.—*Evening News.*

Compositions.

THREE PEALS OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN CARTER, Birmingham.

5008.

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

Has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right; 2nd and 3rd never in 6ths place at the course-ends; with all the combinations of 6-4s and 6-5s in 5-6.

5024.

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

Continued—

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

Has only the 4th, 5th, and 6th in 6ths place at the course-ends, with the 6th twenty-four times right and twelve times wrong.

6144.

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

Has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right, without a bob at 1 while the 6th is wrong, and the 5th twelve times wrong.

The following three peals in the same method are by G. LINDOFF, of Lincoln.

5056.

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

Continued—

4 5 2 3 6	I	4	5	6
5 2 4 3 6	-	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 6	-	-	-	-
2 3 6 4 5	-	-	-	-
5056.				
2 3 4 5 6	I	4	5	6
5 4 3 2 6	-	-	-	-
4 2 3 5 6	-	-	-	-
6 5 2 4 3	-	-	*	-
3 5 6 4 2	-	-	*	-
2 5 3 4 6	-	-	-	-
4 3 5 2 6	-	-	-	-
3 2 5 4 6	-	-	-	-
2 4 5 3 6	-	-	-	-
3 5 4 2 6	-	-	-	-
5 2 4 3 6	-	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 6	-	-	-	-
4 5 2 3 6	-	-	-	-
5 3 2 4 6	-	-	-	-
2 3 6 4 5	-	-	-	-

5056.

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

Each to be twice repeated, adding three bobs at 6 in 2nd part, to each of courses marked.* These peals contain the in-course extent of 4th, 5th and 6th in 6ths, and 6th in-course extent in 5ths.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By ARTHUR CRAVEN, Deepcar, Sheffield.

5504.

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

Contains the 5th the extent each way in 5-6 at 5 course-ends, and the 4th and 5th the extent 6th place. The 4th 5 course-ends in that position, and the 6th six, and is the only peal ever composed with such qualities.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE.

By F. BENNETT, Brighton.

5184.

2	3	4	5	6	M	IN	5ths	W	H
5	3	4	6	2	-	X	-	-	-
4	6	3	2	5	-	X	-	-	-
4	2	6	3	5	-	X	-	-	-
3	2	4	6	5	-	X	-	-	-
2	4	3	6	5	-	X	-	-	-
4	3	2	6	5	-	X	-	-	-
3	5	2	6	4	-	X	-	-	-
5	2	3	6	4	-	X	-	-	-
2	3	5	6	4	-	X	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By F. BENNETT, Brighton.

5024.

2	3	4	5	6	W	B	M	H
2	3	6	4	5	-	2	-	-
6	2	3	4	5	-	-	-	-
3	6	2	4	5	-	-	-	-
2	4	3	6	5	-	-	-	-
3	2	4	6	5	-	-	-	-
4	3	2	6	5	-	-	-	-
2	6	3	5	4	-	1	-	-
3	2	6	5	4	-	-	-	-
6	3	2	5	4	-	-	-	-
2	5	3	6	4	S	-	-	-
3	2	5	6	4	-	-	-	-
5	3	4	2	6	-	-	-	-
4	2	5	3	6	-	-	-	-
5	4	2	3	6	-	-	-	-
2	5	4	3	6	-	-	-	-
4	3	2	5	6	-	-	-	-
2	4	3	5	6	-	-	-	-
3	5	2	4	6	-	-	-	-
2	3	5	4	6	-	-	-	-
5	2	3	4	6	-	-	-	-
4	5	3	2	6	-	-	-	-
3	2	4	5	6	-	-	-	-

Repeated.

First rang at St. Mary's, New Shoreham, on February 20th., 1897, conducted by Keith Hart.

A 1/2-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By J. W. MOORHOUSE, Wakefield, Yorks.

2520.

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

Five times repeated; bob for single at the 3rd and 6th part-ends. Contains the twenty-four 7-4s, 4-6s, and 6-7s all the right way in the least possible number of changes.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By EDGAR WIGHTMAN, Woodford, Essex.

5024.

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

Repeated.

This peal has the 5-6 each twelve course-ends in 5ths, and fourteen times each in 6ths place. The 2nd is never in 5-6 at a course-end.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

By F. DENCH, Cumberland Youths.

5696.

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

This peal has the 6th her extent in 5-6, and is the longest peal in one part yet published without parting the tenors.

WANTED a situation as first-class Finisher in the Bookbinding Trade; age 22. Change-ringer in Surprise methods.—Charles H. Fowler, 4, Pembroke Street, St. Aldates, Oxford.

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL.

By JOHN CARTER, Birmingham.

5040.

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

Three times repeated.

Single half-way and end.

720 OF GRANDSIRE MINOR.

By H. G. ROWE, College Youths.

23456

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

Twice repeated.

A 720 OF BOB MINOR.

By ARTHUR SYMONDS, Lavenham, Suffolk.

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

NOTE TO THE PEAL AT HACKNEY.—This is the first peal in the method on the bells and was rung at the second attempt. Also the first peal of Major in the tower. The last on the bells was in 1848 in the old tower of S. Augustine, a peal of Treble Bob, conducted by the late H. W. Haley, sen., and in which Mr. M. A. Wood, of Bethnal Green (the only survivor of the band) took part. The St. Stephen's Society, wish, through this paper, to thank the Rector for the use of the bells, and also Mr. Smith for so kindly getting everything in readiness.

CURRENT TOPICS.

Before commencing these lines I made every effort I could to perform that process known as "invoking the Muse," but alas! without success. Then I tried "Ye sacred Nine"—but these ladies were not giving anything away. That was very unkind of them. I had the desire of coming out strong in the poetic line this week, very strong indeed, stronger in fact than antiquated cheese. Therefore I ransacked my library of ringing literature, and brought out the old *Clavis*, because one is apt to get a surfeit of inspiration from the classical poetry that work holds. And it was thus I came across the words—or they came across me—"Ye sacred Nine: assist a daring bard," etc.—I think it is "band" in the original. But no assistance was forthcoming, and therefore I gave it up, and proceeded to settle down to my usual prose. Poetry is not my forte; the laureate of the "B.N." can therefore rest in peace.

Well, my dear old friends and readers, how are you all! If I have been absent from you in the letter, I have been with you in the spirit. Our world—your world and mine—has been full of events since I last had the honour to appear before you. Many interesting occurrences have occurred; [it occurs to me that this grammar is defective] many eventful events have eventuated [I'll learn all my Dr. Johnson before I write again]; any many coincidences have coincided. Bless me! I have got out-of-course, quite. I must ponder o'er the instructions of my learned collaborateur "Aleph," with reference to getting in again; and with a bran-new Lindley Murray I may be enabled to avoid in future even the semblance of any ology, taut or otherwise.

"Yes my friends"—as the immortal Chadband would say—a deal of stir has taken place in the ringing world since last on this page we met. There has been first, a great variety of splendid performances—[I was going to say "performed"] achieved. That peal at St. Paul's, for instance, where Mr. Cockerill rang the tenor—not "single-handed," as it has been stated, but by the use of his two hands and arms, joined to his own unflinching perseverance and pluck. There has been some rare good fellows among College Youths' Secretaries, and W.T.C. is to the fore among them. Then the peal at Drayton, commemorated by a grand photographic group of the ringers. *En passant*, I think every one will admit that the "B.N." came out rather strong with regard to this peal. Now I should like to suggest publicly that our friend Mr. Cockerill should consent to have his profile appear in connection with our paper. I am assured that if he sees no difficulty in the way the matter can be arranged with the greatest pleasure in life. His brethren, both foreign and domestic, would thus gratify their senses by possessing the shadow, though unable to grasp the substance, of a gentleman who is the theme of their admiration.

"A great deal of stir" I have just said, has obtained lately. Not always a pleasant stir, or palatable. The most unimpeachable authority tell us that offences will be sure to come; but foreshadows the degradation of those from whom they proceed. This has been impressed upon us of late from more than one quarter. It is very painful to speak in plain language of what I term the "ringers' social evil"—lying, envy, hatred and malice, and all uncharitableness. We ought not to smother the fact that we have all these among us. I don't want to preach or croak—we are all human—but if ringers would repulse upon every possible occasion that social pest—the slanderer—we should soon be getting on. There is no difficulty or loss in giving the cold shoulder to such people, for they are generally of weak mind and small intellect. Brethren, keep this fact before you, and at the first occasion snub in unmeasured terms the slanderer, whether he nails your friend or foe.

I see the "Gift" business is coming along again. This is said to show enterprise, and may be it does. It is merely my own opinion of course, but I think such affairs tend to lessen the respect which creditable journalism should always enjoy. Nevertheless in these gifts there is not the slightest flavour of a gambling notion; and they are of a nature which must prove

very acceptable to those fortunate enough to obtain them. I suppose the end in view is to increase the circulation of this paper; but really, my ringing brethren, I appeal to you, ought such a bait to be needed? It is another appalling and scornful reproach against us, that we will not support our own literature. How long is this to be?

Some time ago an incident was related to me which bore a resemblance to a curious misprint appearing in last week's "B.N." A gentleman thought fit to print and publish a few memorials of some of his ancestors who had been distinguished in various capacities in the public service. It was set forth that one of these ancestors had been Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas. A wag of a compositor engaged on the work managed, just before it was printed, to substitute a capital F for the P in the last-named word. The joke was not considered opportune by those principally concerned, but no doubt the perpetrator enjoyed it. Last week, an over-zealous but not too wide-awake compositor on the "B.N." staff thought he had made a big stroke. Casually glancing at a column of type set up ready for press he detected in a letter to the editor from Mr. Pickard of Bedminster, Bristol, the word "tour." This was pounced on at once with immense glee, and altered without any reference to the context, to "tower." I hear that a tableau was enacted in the office the following Monday morning, when a note was received from Mr. Pickard, objecting that for such an error he should be responsible. That compositor's zeal has led him into an unpleasant and somewhat devious path.

What is known as "Bell Restoration" is proceeding, but not so rapid as could be wished. The present condition of affairs at St. Saviour's, Southwark, I hold to be disgraceful. The "authorities," figuratively of course, cock their fingers to their noses whenever a restoration of those bells is alluded to. They wrap themselves up in their dignity, and sit upon those who from every point of view are more entitled to be heard than themselves upon such a subject. But what has struck me is the quiescent demeanour of the several Churchwardens, who at one time seemed to be aware that they were the lawful guardians of the most celebrated bells which London contains. They would appear to be flabbergasted at the idea that their church has become a Cathedral. What does that matter? More the reason why they should insist upon their bells being restored, and the belfry put in order—beautified, to use an ancient word. Are they aware of the monetary value of these bells? And if so are they prepared to let them decay and rot, for the want of a little exertion to collect a few paltry pounds? Parishioners of St. Saviour's, Southwark, assemble in vestry at the first opportunity and insist strongly upon the bells of your church receiving proper attention without any delay. Pay no more rates, voluntary or otherwise, until the complete restoration of your bells has been determined on.

The leading article a few weeks ago on Westminster Abbey bells and belfry was looked upon in my neighbourhood as being right up to the door. I hope there were readers of our paper to be found who took care that the Dean and Chapter should have a copy of that number to read. I addressed a copy to them, but every ringer ought to have done the same. These things should be looked to with earnestness. When grievances are sifted in this way, every one should bring their influence to bear. Let us suppose fifty others did as I did, viz.: sending the "B.N." of that date to the Dean, with the article encircled by a black line, don't you imagine that it would have set them a-thinking. Not a doubt of it. Then mind in the future. The Chapter of Westminster are supposed to be beyond the reach of ordinary mortals, but public opinion is a wonderful instrument when wielded with vigour and union. What a play could be made upon the fact that the custodians of the greatest of our national edifices allowed therein conglomeration of filth and dirt, while lifting periodically their easily-gotten stipends.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

GENTLEMEN'S Curb Alberts. Heavily Plated with Pure Gold. Guaranteed 18 carat, 45. 6d., 22, 55. 6d., Double, 75. 6d. and 85. 6d. Member of Norwich Diocesan Association.—SKINNER, 3, Mayes Terrace, East Dereham.

Obituary.

JAMES COLLIS.

We regret to announce the death of the above ringer at the age of eighty-five, which took place on Friday, February 26th. The funeral took place on Thursday, March 4th, his remains being carried to the grave by the local ringers. After the funeral a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) was rung in 26 mins. with the bells deeply muffled. C. Smith, 1; H. Girling, 2; F. Cooper, 3; A. Wilson, 4; G. Churchyard, 5; E. Cooper, 6. And another 720 (nine bobs and six singles) with the bells half-muffled. C. Smith (conductor), 1; F. Cooper, 2; F. Ing, 3; the rest as before. The deceased was a lover of ringing in his early years; he learnt to ring in the time of R. Purl (sexton), who was succeeded by S. Ward, with whom he learnt to raise a bell. He rang at the Queen's Coronation and also at the Jubilee. Deceased was well respected, being an old inhabitant.

E. W. DOWNS.

On Tuesday, March 9th, the death of the above ringer took place. Deceased was for many years a change-ringer at Glemsford and Clare. He was born on February 5th, 1810, so he was therefore in his eighty-eighth year. He was proficient in Bob Minor, Treble Bob, and Double Court Minor, and was at one time (about 1830) a regular attendant in the belfry of Clare Church, generally ringing the 6th bell, the Clare company at that time being proficient in Bob Major. He rung the 3rd through seven 720s of Bob Minor at Stanstead in 1832, and this was the longest length he took part in. It may be said that he was the last survivor of the Glemsford old company. He was an engineer, and was the proprietor of the Glemsford Foundry. He rehung the Glemsford church bells in the present new tower in 1864. The funeral took place on Tuesday, March 16th, in Glemsford churchyard, when touches of Treble Bob Minor both before and after the service were rung with the bells deeply muffled by Messrs. Wells, Bradman, Slater (2), Honeybell, Garwood (conductor), Gowers, and Papworth. Mr. Charles Sillitoe played the Dead March in *Saul* on the fine organ of the parish church.

EDWARD ELBOURN.

We regret to record the death of the above ringer, which took place at his residence, Broadway, Amersham, on Monday, February 8th, at the age of sixty-two. He was well known in London, especially among the Royal Cumberlands and St. James' Society, both of which he was a member. He always took great interest in change-ringing, and would walk miles in all weathers to ring a touch or peal, most generally ringing the tenor. He was a good workman, being an engineer and fitter by trade. He had rehung several peals of bells, and also fitted and tuned several peals of handbells. He was a member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild Committee, and was always to be seen at the Annual Meetings. He had taken part in about twenty peals. His remains were interred in the parish churchyard on Saturday, February 13th, after which the local ringers rang the bells muffled as a last token of respect.

JAMES PICKUP.

With deep regret we have to mourn the loss of the above, who was the oldest ringer in the Rossendale Branch of the Lancashire Association, who died on Monday, March 22nd. Muffled touches of Grandsire Triples were rung to his memory every night during the week by Messrs. Taylor (4), Ashworth, Eastwood, Lord, Wright, Ormerod, and Harrison. The deceased was interred at the parish church, Newchurch, on Saturday, March 27th. After the funeral a 720 of Bob Minor was rung. T. Harrison (conductor), 1; J. B. Taylor, 2; Z. Lord, 4; G. Lord, 4; J. Smith, 5; J. Kershaw, 6. Z. Lord hails from Christ Church, Bacup; Smith from Rawtenstall; G. Lord from Accrington; Taylor from Waterfoot; Harrison and Kershaw from Newchurch. The last four were members of the same band as the deceased. Several other touches of Grandsire Triples were also rung. T. Harrison, 1; S. Lord, 2; J. Taylor, 3; O. Eastwood, 4; W. Taylor (conductor), 5; W. Warburton, 6; J. Wright, 7; J. Kershaw, 8.

ROBERT SHARP.

The above who was for twenty-nine years a member of the choir of Wilbye church, and for eighteen years one of the ringers, died on Saturday, March 20th, aged thirty-five. The funeral took place in the pretty village churchyard on Wednesday afternoon, March 24th, the entire choir and many of the parishioners being present to testify their respect for one who had carried out his varied duties in a conscientious and punctual manner. The organist played "I know that my Redeemer liveth" as the funeral procession entered the church, and the "Dead March" afterwards. At the conclusion of the

impressive service at the graveside, the choir sang "Peace, perfect peace." Later in the evening a muffled peal was rung on the four heaviest bells, deceased's bell (the new treble) being left silent. The whole peal of five were chimed muffled for the services on the Sunday after his death. Deceased was a member of the Central Northamptonshire Association, and a competent handbell player. As a ringer his characteristic was careful striking, in which particular he set a good example to many a more ambitious change-ringer.

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 TABLET AT YAXHAM, NORFOLK.

SIR,—I see in "BELL NEWS" March 20th, the verses and the ringing at Yaxham, Norfolk, in 1823, and I think that the copy of the tablet ought to be in "THE BELL NEWS," with the verses, for the benefit of your readers. I now send you the copy.

"Yaxham, Norfolk.—On Monday, 1823, Dec. 1st, was rung in this steeple, the following 20 peals in 2 hours and 10 minutes. Stedman, Mermaid, Gog, St. Simon's Doubles, St. Dunstan's Doubles, New Doubles, London Doubles, Old Doubles, Plain Bob Doubles, New Grandsire, Old do., Cambridge Exercise, Do. Delight, Antelope, College Single, Dream, Hudibras, Fortune, Alteration of Hunts, and Quinester. Charles Meachen, 1; Clambr. Bulwer, 2; John Hudson, 3; Jeremiah Smith, 4; Conducted by R. Boulter, 5." S. SLATER.

A SOLUTION.

SIR,—In your last issue of "THE BELL NEWS" is published a peal of Canterbury Major by William Walmsley, Macclesfield, with a footnote stating that it is the first peal composed in the method containing the full combinations of 4, 5, and 6 in 5-6; also that if the first eight courses be five times repeated, it will be 5088. If that gentleman will refer to "THE BELL NEWS" of November 15th, 1890, he will find the same peal by me as 5088, which I called soon after, and again last year to Double Oxford Bob Major. I may also add that I have peals in two, four, and six parts containing the same qualities he mentions, and in the same number of changes, all of them being composed about the same time.

E. BARNETT.

Crayford.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

SIR,—I was pleased to read the few lines from the pen of my friend, W. J. N., and most heartily congratulate the boss and his men. By the way, I wish somebody would let us into the secret how the boss gets his ringers. Treton must have at least ten practical ringers for their six bells. No wonder about turning up for morning service with such a strong reserve company. Surely they will pull off the cup, next Whit-Monday, and fill it with something better than peals; we have got the bells, you have got the men. Why, when our boss wants a peal he has to call on the Sheffield and Treton veterans to assist. Cheer up, old friends, and set the ball rolling; nothing venture nothing win; the old East may yet have a bright future before it. Don't forget to pay our friend (Arthur) a visit at The New Inn, on Easter-Monday. Will our friends from the other East Derby pay us a visit and let us talk a bit about making some of their five bell peals into six, if not more? And why not unite the old and the new? What say you, boss, about this? I think we can get friend Allibone to pen a line on this. Come, Tom, let's hear what you have got to say. Why should we invade Yorkshire when there's work at home. If you don't get Yorkshire pudding at our friend Slater's on Easter-Monday, you shall have some Derbyshire tap.

E. J.

AN EXPLANATION.

SIR,—On referring to "THE BELL NEWS" for September last, I find that Mr. C. Tyler did conduct Thurstans' five-part peal of Stedman Triples, but as there are two five-part peals by the same composer (both of which I have conducted), and Mr. T. does not say which of the two peals his was, how could I tell, when the composition was handed to me. I was informed it had only been rung once, hence my saying "for the second time." This, I think, makes it more important that the different peals by the same composers should be fully explained when they are sent for insertion after being rung. I am quite willing to take a back seat, even if it is the last time of its being conducted; and I trust you will pardon me if I have been the cause of your valuable space being occupied unnecessarily.

S. REEVES.

10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

PEAL BOOK, Price 2s. 6d. A book specially ruled for entering peals, date touches, etc. Handbell music arranged for any number of bells. Send for catalogue. W. H. GIGGLE, Queen Street, Horbury, near Wakefield.

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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).

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THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

NOW READY.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF SUFFOLK.—By JOHN JAMES RAVEN, D.D., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge; Vicar of Fressingfield-with-Withersdale; Honorary Canon of Norwich Cathedral; and President of the Norwich Diocesan Association).—WITH ABOUT NINETY ILLUSTRATIONS.—This most interesting work contains an account of all the Church Bells in the County of Suffolk—their makers and history—so far as they can be discovered. Incidental notices are introduced of the ancient uses of Bells—the individuals mentioned on them—and many historical events connected therewith. Introductory remarks on the general history of the Bells are prefixed to local portion of the work. The book is fully illustrated with engravings of ornaments, letterings, founders' marks, shields, etc., of which some will be found hitherto unknown. The latter portion of the work contains a complete list of Churches in the County, with the inscriptions on the Bells now belonging to them, as well as on many which have been re-cast. The Demy 8vo. Edition is limited to 500 copies, and is now offered at 20s. nett; or Bound in Half-morocco, Roxburgh style, 27s. 6d. nett. Copies by post 1s. 6d. extra. The Large Paper Edition was subscribed for within a few days of the issue of the Prospectuses, and is now unobtainable.

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1897.

THERE is a rumour current that His Grace the Archbishop of CANTERBURY has declined the invitation to become President of the Sussex Association. Whether this is correct or otherwise we are not in a position to say; we hope such is not the case. Dr. TEMPLE is a man who knows what he is about; he is apt to say what he thinks; and if one particular incident of his career which was at the time open to question is disregarded, he is the last among the hierarchy to eat his words, or alter his honest convictions. We believe that from the time the Surrey Association was founded it has always had as its President the Primate of All England; and if it is a fact that the present first subject of Her Majesty has refused to identify himself in the same manner with such an influential body of Churchmen as the Surrey Association comprises within its ranks, we shall have no hesitation in saying that the action presents an affront to those with whom it should be the strenuous policy of every class and degree of the clergy to maintain the most exemplary and cordial relationship. The Church, as an institution, it ought to be remembered,

is not the exclusive birthright or privilege of any class. The nobility, clergy and gentry have not, nor ought to have, any rights of Churchmanship peculiar to themselves. Even the monarch upon the throne, beyond the executive power consequent upon the position, is no more a member of the Church than the meanest subject who faithfully and religiously conforms to its ordinances. The poorest beggar to be found in the streets is a member of the Church equally with the highest, if his conformity thereto is sincere, genuine, and spontaneous. And therefore with all respect we say it is the duty of every Churchman, no matter what his capacity, influence, or degree, to assist by his presence and patronage every movement and every organization which the Church recognises. We would tell the Archbishop, and every other Churchman in fact, that the policy of conforming to the full with the work of Church Bell Ringers is a wise one. Ringers all over the world, we have no hesitation in saying, form the best bulwark of Church Defence that it is possible to conceive. The duty of those in authority in the Church is therefore plain. And that is to give encouragement to the work of the ringer, and to make that work pleasant and agreeable by sympathy, patronage, and warm and continual support and co-operation.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Hon. Secretary acknowledges, with thanks, receipt of the contributions for the current year from the following societies, since the date of previous notice:—Gloucester and Bristol, Worcestershire, Winchester Diocesan, Surrey, Birmingham and District. He would be greatly obliged if the Hon. Secretaries of the following societies, who were on the list for 1896, would be kind enough to pay the contributions for 1897, without further delay, at the same time forwarding the names and addresses of their representatives, and the number of members in the society represented:—Archdeaconry of Stafford, Yorkshire, Bath and Wells, Sussex County, S.W. Middlesex, Salisbury Diocesan, Lancashire, Liverpool Diocesan.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Hon. Sec., C.C.

Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn, 20th March, 1897.

The Metropolis.

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

On Saturday, March 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-AT-HACKNEY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lbs.

WILLIAM D. SMITH Treble.	JAMES WILLSHIRE 5.
JOHN N. OXBORROW 2.	SAMUEL E. ANDREWS 6.
FRANK BUCK 3.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE 7.
HENRY S. ELLIS 4.	HENRY R. NEWTON Tenor

Composed by NATMAN J. PITSTOW and Conducted by C. T. P. PRICE.

A reference to this peal appears in another column.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, March 30th, 1897, in Two Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. WHIGHT, ST. ANN'S ROAD, BARKING,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES.

CALEB FENN 1-2.	THOMAS FAULKNER 5-6.
ROWLAND FENN 3-4.	YORK GREEN 7-8.

Composed by YORK GREEN and Conducted by THOMAS FAULKNER.

Umpire—Alfred Whight. All the above are members of the Essex Association.

The Provinces.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD AND THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 24, 1897, in Two Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,

AT THE GLOBE TAVERN, GRANVILLE STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

ROBERT J. HUNT 1-2.	WILLIAM H. BARBER 5-6.
WILLIAM A. HANCOX* 3-4.	WILLIAM SHORT 7-8.

Composed by C. H. MARTIN and Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.
Referee—J. Porter. *First peal on handbells. First peal of Major on handbells by all.

DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, (DERBY BRANCH).

On Wednesday, March 24, 1897, in Two Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. C. E. HART,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF DARLSTON BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

WALTER WALLACE 1-2.	ALBERT H. WARD 5-6.
FRANK BRADLEY 3-4.	SAMUEL MASKREY 7-8.

Composed by H. W. WILDE and Conducted by FRANK BRADLEY.
Referees, Messrs. Draper and Willis, who ticked off every lead-end as they were rung. This peal is now rung for the first time.

BRENCHLEY, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 26, 1897, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being Seven 720s, each called differently.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

JOHN ACOTT Treble.	JARVIS LAMBERT HARRIS .. 4.
EDWIN LAMBERT 2.	JIM BEACH 5.
GEORGE HENLEY 3.	FREDERICK JOHN LAMBERT Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK J. LAMBERT.

This is the first peal by Messrs. Acott, Henley and Harris, who belong to Brenchley; the others to Horsmonden. It is believed to be the first peal on the bells.

FAREHAM, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

ALICE WHITE* Treble.	GEORGE E. CHAPPELL .. 5.
ALFRED E. REEVES* 2.	JOHN TUCKER 6.
GEORGE W. GRAHAM 3.	CHARLES GILES 7.
ROBERT FUGE† 4.	HENRY WHITE Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by HENRY WHITE.

*First peal in the method. †First peal in any method. Alice White and H. White hail from Basingstoke; A. E. Reeves, J. Tucker C. Giles from Reading; G. W. Graham from Fareham; R. Fuge from Porchester; G. E. Chappell from Wickham; and was rung on the occasion of Miss Edith Whiting's birthday, daughter of J. W. Whiting.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

EDWIN BRISTOW* Treble.	EDWIN RAPLEY 5.
CHARLES SMART 2.	GEORGE GATLAND 6.
HORACE GREEN 3.	JOHN SMART 7.
WILLIAM WOOLGAR 4.	ARTHUR GATLAND Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES SMART.

*First peal, and rang at the second attempt. †First peal in the method. Great credit is due to the ringer of the treble, who has only learnt change-ringing two months previous to this peal. This is the first peal by a local band for three years.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

A. W. GRIMES* Treble.	HORACE HOWLETT 5.
WILLIAM C. RUMSEY 2.	WILLIAM FLORY 6.
WALTER LAST† 3.	GEORGE PERRY 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	WILLIAM GRIMES Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM FLORY and Conducted by WILLIAM GRIMES.

*First peal in the method and first attempt. †First peal in any method and first attempt, having only commenced ringing about three months. This peal has only 4, 5 and 6, in 6th place at the course-ends, and is now rung for the first time. Rung as a birthday compliment to the composer, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day. Messrs. Perry and Thurlow hail from Framsdon; Flory, Howlett and Last from Framlingham, the rest are local men.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

JAMES TANN Treble.	ERNEST POPPY 5.
JAMES BETTS 2.	FREDERICK BORRETT 6.
ROBERT WHITING 3.	FREDERICK SMITH 7.
DAVID RUTH 4.	JAMES SOUTAR Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES TANN.

First peal in the method by Messrs. Betts and Ruth.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

WILLIAM VERNON NEWMAN Treble.	JOHN B. MARTIN 5.
ALFRED H. MARTIN 2.	WILLIAM PETTITT 6.
CHARLES CHASTY 3.	JAMES GARRATT 7.
JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 4.	CHARLES W. CLARKE .. Tenor.

Composed by J. S. WILDE and Conducted by CHAS. W. CLARKE.

This peal was taken from the Central Council Peal Appendix for 1895, being the first peal on page 107. Messrs. Clarke and Chasty hail from Bedford; the Messrs. Martin from Higham Ferrers; the others belong to Irlthlingborough.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, March 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5147 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt.

WILLIAM G. HALL Treble.	*THOMAS PERRY 6.
ALFRED MORETON* 2.	JAMES E. GROVES 7.
GEORGE BURROWS 3.	*WILLIAM BENNETT 8.
BENJAMIN DALTON 4.	AARON GRIFFITHS 9.
ROBERT PICKERING 5.	HERBERT KNIGHT Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

*First peal of Caters and hails from Stafford.

NORTON, DERBYSHIRE.

OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, March 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6208 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

THOMAS DIXON Treble.	JAMES A. DIXON 5.
G. OLIVER DIXON 2.	THOMAS G. SAREL 6.
THOMAS WHITWORTH 3.	JOHN ALLEN 7.
JOSEPH ATKIN 4.	WILLIAM BIGGIN Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by THOS. DIXON.

The peal has the 4th and 6th their extent in 5ths, and the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th the extent in 6ths. Rung to commemorate the forty-third birthday of J. Atkin.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.—SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 28, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

FREDERICK W. RICE .. Treble.	KEITH HART 5.
GEORGE PAICE 2.	JOHN RICE 6.
JOHN R. SHARMAN 3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7.
WILLIAM STEED* 4.	ROBERT JORDAN Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal of Stedman. Mr. Steed (for whom this peal was arranged) hails from Tonbridge.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.—SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(HENFIELD BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, March 30, 1897, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ORIGINAL.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

CHARLES TYLER .. Treble.	WILLIAM HILLMAN 5.
HENRY STRINGER 2.	GEORGE PAYNE 6.
WILLIAM JOHN ALLISS .. 3.	ALFRED W. GROVES .. 7.
LAZARUS PAYNE 4.	ARTHUR HODGES Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED GROVES.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND THE
ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, March 30, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5004 CHANGES.

Tenor 43 cwt.

CHARLES E. BORRETT .. Treble.	ALBERT G. WARNES 6.
ROBERT CHRISTIAN 2.	GEORGE HOWCHIN 7.
ROBERT D. TOOLEY* 3.	FREDERICK H. KNIGHTS .. 8.
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE .. 4.	FREDERICK DAY 9.
THOMAS R. TOOLEY 5.	FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR HUBBARD and

Conducted by CHARLES E. BORRETT.

The composition contains forty-eight titum courses with the 6th at home throughout.

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FLIXTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, March 23rd, at St. Michael's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 9 mins. J. Royle, 1; J. M. Ridehalgh, 2; J. Hunter, 3; J. Gratrix, 4; S. Collier, 5; J. Eachus, 6; G. W. Shaw, 7; T. Harper, 8. Composed by E. Cook and conducted by J. M. Ridehalgh. Messrs. Gratrix and Eachus hail from Prestwich and Manchester respectively; the rest are of the local band.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

COLWALL (Herefordshire).—On Monday, March 1st, a date touch of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. Evans, 1; S. Hope (longest touch), 2; J. Field, 3; G. Peacy, 4; C. Layton (conductor), 5; H. Allen, 6; T. Williams, 7; W. Smart, 8. Composed by E. Cook.

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Thursday, February 25th, for practice at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, 720 London Surprise (nine bobs) in 25 mins. Composed by N. Spindlow, of Ducklington. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also 720 College Double Bob. *H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; J. Luckey, 5; T. Watts (first 720 in the method as conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, February 28th, for Divine Service, 720 York Surprise in 25 mins. T. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 720 College Exercise in 24½ mins. T. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts,

4; T. Watts, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. On Thursday, March 4th, for practice, 720 Duke of York in 25 mins. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. A 720 Wells Surprise in 24 mins. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; W. Watts, 4; G. Gray, 5; T. Watts (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, March 7th, for Divine Service, 720 Superlative Surprise in 24 mins. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; W. Watts, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 720 Cambridge Surprise in 25 mins. *A. Deards, 1; T. Faulkner, 2; T. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. This makes W. Watts' 720 of Cambridge Surprise. On Wednesday, March 10th, in honour of the thirty-seventh anniversary of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales' wedding day, 720 City Delight in 24 mins. 5th the observation. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also 720 College Pleasure. *H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; G. Jordan, 5; T. Watts (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. Messrs. Deards and Faulkner hail from Barking, Essex. Tenor 13 cwt.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Sunday, March 21st, for morning service, 280 Grandsire Triples and 288 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Emery, 1; E. W. Davis, 2; A. Head, 3; T. Lincoln, 4; G. W. Serrell, 5; R. Wood, 6; F. G. Radley, 7; W. Lincoln (conductor), 8. For evening service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with all the combinations of 5-6-7 (composed by the Editor). H. Lincoln, 1; *G. Piper (Widford), 2; W. Newman (Chelmsford), 3; *J. Tarbun (Widford), 4; E. W. Davis, 5; W. Lincoln (conductor), 6; A. Head, 7; T. Lincoln, 8. *First quarter-peal.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

DAVENHAM (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, March 16th, for Confirmation at St. Wilfrid's church, five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. A. Booth, 1; T. Bush, 2; J. Ashmole, 3; T. Wilkinson, 4; H. Yarwood (conductor), 5; W. Hine, 6. After service 720 Grandsire Minor. Also 108 Bob Minor with J. Wakefield, 3; J. Ashmole (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BRADFIELD (Berks).—On Monday, March 15th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. V. Rowe, 1; E. Holloway, 2; S. Chapman, 3; W. Lucas, 4; W. Bunce, 5; F. Richardson (conductor), 6. On Saturday, March 20th, in an attempt for a peal, 720 College Single, two 720s of Oxford, two of Canterbury, and two of Plain Bob, was unfortunately lost in the last 720 after ringing 2 hrs. and 32 mins. H. Keal, 1; W. Lucas, 2; E. Holloway, 3; E. Bruce, 4; F. Richardson (conductor), 5; W. Horne, 6. Messrs. Keal, Lucas, and Richardson hail from Beenham; Bruce from Reading; Horne from Ufton; Holloway belongs to the local band.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Sunday morning, March 14th, for Divine Service, 630 Grandsire Triples. H. Humphries, 1; W. Shirley, 2; E. Large, 3; C. Packer, 4; T. Bond, 5; H. Smith, 6; W. Large (conductor), 7; J. Packer, 8. For evening service 1260 Grandsire Triples in 43 mins. H. Humphries, 1; W. Shirley, 2; E. Large, 3; T. Bond, 4; H. Bond, 5; H. Smith, 6; W. Large (conductor), 7; J. Packer, 8. Taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of March 13th, composed by W. Walmsley, of Macclesfield.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PENARTH.—On Sunday, February 14th, at St. Augustine's church, for morning service, 720 Plain Bob. R. C. Balcombe, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; W. B. Biss, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Vinnicombe, 6. First 720 of Minor and first attempt by R. C. Balcombe. On Thursday, February 18th, for the wedding of Miss Constance Emily Warren Beasley, daughter of Mr. Beasley, General Manager of the Taff Vale Railway, Northcliff, Penarth, to Dr. Edward Walter Joscelyne, of Southwick, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, also 240 and several touches of Plain Bob. J. Jones, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; W. B. Biss, 4; J. Vinnicombe, 5; T. Northey, 6. On Sunday, February 18th, 300 Plain Bob. T. Northey, 1; R. C. Balcombe (first attempt with a bob bell), 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; F. Barrett, 4; J. Vinnicombe, 5; H. V. Wilkins, 6. For evening service 720 Plain Bob. D. Thomas (conductor), 1; R. C. Balcombe, 2; J. Vinnicombe, 3; A. Rowley, 4; T. Northey, 5; W. B. Biss, 6. First with a bob bell by R. C. Balcombe. On Tuesday, February 23rd, for practice, 720 Kent (nine bobs). R. C. Balcombe, 1; D. Thomas (conductor), 2; W. B. Biss, 3; F. Bartlett, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Vinnicombe, 6. First in the method and first attempt by R. C. Balcombe. Also 720 Kent. O. W. Layng, 1; D. Thomas (conductor), 2; W. B. Biss, 4; T. Northey, 5; H. C. Shepherd, 6. Messrs. Layng and Shepherd hail from Swindon. And 720 Plain Bob. J. Jones, 1; R. C. Balcombe, 2; D. Thomas, 3; O. W. Layng, 4; W. B. Biss (conductor), 5; H. C. Shepherd, 6. On Sunday, March 7th, 720

Oxford Treble Bob. J. Jones, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas, 3; J. Vinnicombe, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. First in the method as conductor. For evening service 720 Kent (nine bobs). J. Vinnicombe, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; J. Cox, 3; D. Thomas, 4; T. Northey, 5; H. V. Wilkins (first in the method as conductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 9th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob. R. C. Balcombe, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; T. Northey, 4; O. W. Layng, 5; H. C. Shepherd, 6. Also 504 Kent Treble Bob.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, March 20th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). A. Symonds, 1; W. Hollocks, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; T. Levitt, 4; R. Grimwood, 5; T. King (conductor), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

UPCHURCH (Kent).—On Sunday evening, March 7th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles). H. Clout, 1; W. Walker, 2; W. Hyland (conductor), 3; H. Witherden, 4; G. Dennis, 5; H. Shipp, 6. On Sunday, March 14th, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four singles and twenty-six bobs). H. Clout, 1; H. Shipp, 2; H. Witherden, 3; W. Walker, 4; G. Dennis, 5; W. Hyland (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 21st, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Clout, 1; H. Shipp, 2; W. Hyland, 3; W. Walker, 4; G. Dennis, 5; W. Seamer (conductor), 6.

SHORNE (Kent).—On March 7th, at the parish church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. G. Avis, 1; C. Bennett, 2; C. Waterman, 3; R. Bennett, 4; J. Purt, 5; G. Morrad (conductor), 6. On March 10th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor. G. Avis, 1; C. Bennett, 2; C. Waterman (conductor), 3; R. Bennett, 4; J. Purt, 5; G. Morrad, 6. First in the method by the ringers of 2, 4, 5. On March 14th, for evening service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (thirty bobs and thirty singles). G. Avis, 1; C. Bennett, 2; C. Waterman (conductor), 3; R. Bennett, 4; J. Purt, 5; G. Morrad, 6. On March 17th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Bennett, 1; C. Waterman, 2; J. Purt, 3; R. Bennett, 4; C. Bennett, 5; G. Morrad (conductor), 6. On March 19th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob (six bobs and thirty singles). H. Bennett, 1; C. Waterman (conductor), 2; R. Bennett, 3; J. Purt, 4; G. Morrad, 5; C. Bennett, 6.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Thursday, March 18th, for practice, 224 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. J. Muggridge, 1; A. Welsh, 2; G. Smithers, 3; W. Pollard, 4; W. H. Card, 5; G. Head, 6; W. Latter, 7; S. Perkins (conductor), 8. This is the first touch of Double Norwich by all the band.

DOVER (Kent).—On Saturday, March 13th, at St. James' church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles) in 29 mins. A. Denne, 1; H. Denne, 2; E. Potter, 3; G. Denne (conductor), 4; S. Binfield, 5; H. Castle, 6. And 360 Bob Minor in 14 mins. W. Seely, 1; E. Potter, 2; H. Denne, 3; E. Newman, 4; S. Binfield, 5; H. Castle (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

ST. MARTIN'S SCHOLARS, STAMFORD.

UFFINGTON.—On Monday, March 1st, 720 Oxford Bob Minor. W. Turner, 1; C. Lilley, 2; C. Harper, 3; R. Cox, 4; F. Dennison, 5; Rev. H. Law James (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Dennison, 1; C. Lilley, 2; R. Wyche, 3; R. Cox, 4; C. Harper, 5; Rev. H. Law James (conductor), 6. These are the first changes on these bells since the addition of the new treble and recasting of the 4th and tenor by Mears and Stainbank. They are a beautiful ring of six, but the ropes are not sufficiently stretched to give any opinion about the hanging.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CHEAM (Surrey).—On Tuesday, March 16th, at St. Dunstan's church, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs) in 22 mins. C. Northfield, 1; F. Northfield, 2; W. Canning, 3; J. Reynolds, 4; F. M. Northfield, 5; C. Gomme (conductor), 6.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Monday, March 8th, for practice at the parish church, 224 Kent Treble Bob Major. P. Knight, 1; F. Hoad, sen., 2; G. Thompson, 3; F. Linter, 4; G. Hoad, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Argent, 7; F. Hood, jun., 8. And 210 Grandsire Triples. G. Thompson, 1; P. Knight, 2; G. Hoad (conductor), 3; F. Linter, 4; T. Brown, 5; E. Kenward, 6; F. Hoad, jun., 7; A. Moseley, 8. Also 216 Stedman Triples. P. Knight, 1; F. Hoad, sen., 2; G. Thompson, 3; E. Kenward, 4; G. Hoad, 5; W. Argent, 6; F. Hoad, jun. (conductor), 7; A. Moseley, 8. On Sunday evening, March 14th, for Divine Service, 420 Stedman Triples. P. Knight, 1; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; F. Linter, 3; G. Hoad, 4; E. Kenward, 5; F. Hoad,

jun., 6; W. Argent, 7; A. Moseley, 8. And 560 Bob Major. P. Knight, 1; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; G. Thompson, 3; E. Kenward, 4; T. Brown, 5; W. Argent, 6; G. Hoad, 7; F. Hoad, jun., 8.

THE SALOP GUILD.

SHREWSBURY.—On Friday, March 12th, for practice at St. Alkmund's church, 600 Grandsire Triples. J. Wall, 1; G. Scarratt, 2; W. Taylor, 3; G. Taylor, 4; F. Taylor, 5; A. Fullick, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; R. York, 8. On Monday, March 15th, in the belfry of the above church, on handbells, several courses of Grandsire Triples. E. Byolin, 1-2; G. Taylor, 3-4; G. Byolin (conductor), 5-6; R. Dolman, 7-8. Also several courses. W. Espley, 1; W. Stockdale, 2; G. Taylor, 3-4; G. Byolin (conductor), 5-6; E. Byolin, 7-8. Great credit is due to E. Byolin for the way he rang the two bells he only having started change-ringing about three months ago, and his age only being now ten years. Our correspondent adds: "We should like to know if anybody at the age of ten has taken two bells before in Grandsire Triples upon handbells." On Thursday, March 18th, for practice on handbells in the belfry of St. Chad, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Espley, 1; G. Tipton, 2; E. Jones, 3; G. Taylor, 4; A. Fullick (conductor), 5-6. And several 6-scores. J. Lewis, 1; W. Stockdale, 2; G. Tipton, 3; E. Jones, 4; G. Taylor (conductor), 5-6. Also several courses and 240 Grandsire Minor. E. Jones, 1; W. Stockdale, 2; G. Scarratt, 3; A. Fullick, 4; G. Taylor (aged 17, conductor), 5-6. On Friday, March 19th, for practice at St. Alkmund's church, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Lewis, 1; G. Taylor, 2; W. Taylor, 3; G. Byolin (conductor), 4; Rev. J. Mackay, 5; W. Espley, 6. Also several 6-scores with W. Espley and W. Stockdale ringing the treble.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Saturday, March 20, at St. Mary's church, after an unsuccessful attempt at a peal of Treble Bob, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (taken from Haley's Variation), in 38 mins. H. G. Hill, 1; H. J. Skelt, 2; H. Hoskins, 3; I. G. Shade, 4; J. Waghorn, jun., 5; W. Foreman, 6; J. C. Harvey, 7; F. W. Thornton, 8. Conducted by I. G. Shade.

GREENWICH (Kent).—On Sunday morning, March 21st, for a Volunteer and Yeomanry Church Parade at St. Alfege church, various touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters, conducted by I. G. Shade. For evening service, eleven courses of Grandsire Caters. H. Hoskins, 1; W. Berry, 2; J. J. Lamb, 3; H. J. Skelt, 4; W. J. Jeffries, 5; W. Foreman, 6; I. G. Shade (conductor), 7; F. W. Thornton, 8; H. Flanders, 9; C. Langdon, 10.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WELSHPOOL.—On Wednesday, February 3rd, at The Eagles inn, on handbells retained in band, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). T. Grice, 1; J. Lloyd, 2; W. Maddox, 3; T. Barnes, 4; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 5-6. On Wednesday, February 17th, 840 Grandsire Triples. T. Bratton, 1-2; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 3-4; J. Groves, 5-6; W. Greenleaf, 7-8. The above was the first two parts of Parker's twelve-part. On Friday, February 19th, 420 Grandsire Triples, with T. Barnes, 7-8. On Sunday, February 21st, on a miniature peal of eight, the same band rang well into the third part of Parker's twelve-part peal. At St. Mary's church 420 Bob Triples. W. Jones, 1; W. Maddox, 2; T. Bratton, 3; A. Lloyd, 4; W. Jones, 5; T. Barnes, 6; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 7; F. Jones, 8. Some touches of Stedman, Grandsire, and Darlaston Bob Triples were rung, conducted by T. J. Bratton.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OXHEY (Herts).—On Sunday morning, March 7th, for Divine Service, 420 Grandsire Triples. F. Glennerster, 1; W. Carpenter, 2; H. French, 3; Walter Norris, 4; William Norris, 5; C. George, 6; G. Price (conductor), 7; P. Read, 8. Also 168 Grandsire Triples. J. Fletcher, 8; the rest as before. For evening service 360 Grandsire Minor. P. Read, 1; W. Carpenter, 2; C. George, 3; William Norris, 4; F. Glennerster, 5; G. Price (conductor), 6; J. Fletcher, 8. On Monday, March 8th, for practice, 420 Grandsire Triples. P. Read, 1; W. Carpenter, 2; H. Martin, 3; Walter Norris, 4; C. George, 5; F. Glennerster, 6; G. Price (conductor), 7; J. Alexander, 8. On Sunday morning, March 14th, for Divine Service, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Carpenter, 1; William Norris, 2; H. Martin, 3; C. George, 4; H. French, 5; Walter Norris, 6; G. Price (conductor), 7; P. Read, 8. For evening service 336 Grandsire Triples. P. Read, 1; W. Carpenter, 2; H. French, 3; C. George, 4; H. Martin, 5; William Norris, 6; G. Price (conductor), 7; J. Alexander, 8.

THE SOUTH AND WEST MIDDLESEX GUILD.

ISLEWORTH (Middlesex).—On Sunday, March 21st, for Divine Ser-

vice at All Saints' church, 720 Grandsire Minor with 6-8 covering, in 26 mins. *E. Beadle, 1; F. Ransom (conductor), 2; *A. Scott, 3; F. Goddard, 4; *J. Beadle, 5; *A. Sheard, 6; C. Edwards, 7; *C. Humphreys, 8. *First in any method.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, March 13th, at St. Andrew's church, 720 Merchants' Delight in 28 mins. J. Smith, 1; J. W. Smith, 2; W. Micklewright (conductor), 3; S. Spittle, 4; W. Talbot, 5; E. Hampton, 6. And another 720 in the same method in 27 mins. J. Smith, 1; S. Spittle, 2; J. W. Smith, 3; W. Talbot, 4; E. Hampton, 5; W. Micklewright, 6. On Sunday morning, March 14th, 720 Bob Minor in 26½ mins. H. Price, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. W. Smith (conductor), 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Talbot, 5; E. Hampton, 6. In the evening 720 Woodbine in 26 mins. J. Prestidge, 1; J. Smith, 2; J. W. Smith, 3; W. Talbot, 4; E. Hampton (conductor), 5; R. Round, 6. On Tuesday, March 16th, 720 Plain Bob in 28 mins. H. Price, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; J. W. Smith (conductor), 4; S. Spittle, 5; J. Smith, 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure in 26½ mins. J. Prestidge, 1; W. Talbot, 2; J. W. Smith, 3; R. Round, 4; E. Hampton, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. The above touches were rung with the bells half-muffled as a last mark of respect to the late H. P. Skidmore, who died at his residence in Devonshire on Tuesday, March 9th, and whose remains were interred on the 16th inst. in the family vault in St. Andrew's churchyard. The bells were presented to the church by the deceased gentleman's mother in the year 1871.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WORTLEY NEAR SHEFFIELD (Yorks).—On Friday, March 12th, on handbells, 1360 Bob Major. T. McKegg, 1-2; J. Dronfield, 3-4; A. Craven (Deepcar, conductor), 5-6; W. Dronfield, 7-8. Longest length on handbells by Messrs. McKegg and Dronfield (2). On Sunday, March 14th, at the house of Mr. D. Brearley, Woodbine Villas, Deepcar, 560 Bob Major. T. McKegg, 1-2; J. Dronfield, 3-4; A. Craven, 5-6; D. Brearley (conductor), 7-8. And various other touches conducted by D. Brearley. On Sunday evening, March 14th, 336 Bob Major. A. Craven (conductor), 1-2; J. Dronfield, 3-4; T. Robbins, 5-6; W. Dronfield, 7-8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(EASTERN DIVISION.)

ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, March 14th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 504 Grandsire Triples. A. Novis, 1; C. Weller, 2; S. Watson, 3; H. Harvey, 4; G. Watson (conductor), 5; F. Kennett, 6; G. Taylor, 7; H. Denman, 8. First 504 by all.

THE ST. ALBANS CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Sunday evening, March 21st, at the Cathedral, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. *H. L. Waddington, 1; †H. J. Samuel, 2; A. Hallett, 3; J. E. Randall, 4; R. E. Hammond, 5; W. H. Buckingham, 6; W. Battle, 7; F. S. Barnes, 8. *Longest touch from tenor. †Longest length with a bob bell.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Monday, March 1st, at St. Paul's church, a 503 of Grandsire Caters. A. Barker, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; F. Smith, 4; C. Chasty, 8; W. Lightfoot, 6; I. Hills, 7; F. Keech, 8; H. Tysoe, 9; F. Hull, 10. On Monday, March 7th, a 540 of Stedman Caters. H. Sharp, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; C. Chasty, 3; F. Smith, 4; W. Hall, 5; H. Tysoe, 6; I. Hills, 7; F. Hull, 8; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 9; J. Sear, 10. And a 395 of Grandsire Caters. F. Ball, 1; F. Hull, 2; A. Barker (first touch in the method), 3; H. Sharp, 4; H. Tysoe, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. Chasty, 8; F. Smith, 9; J. Sear, 10.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CRANLEIGH.—On Wednesday, March 17th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Duke of York. J. Knight, 1; A. Stemp, 2; G. Farnfield, 3; A. Charman, 4; E. Dibley, 5; W. Charman (conductor), 6. First in the method by all, and first on the bells.

FARNHAM (Surrey).—On Sunday, March 14th, for evening service at St. Andrew's church, 714 Grandsire Triples (the last part of Holt's Original), in 25 mins. A. E. Smith, 1; H. Garfath (conductor), 2; A. LeClercq, 3; F. A. Barnett, 4; J. Hawkes, 5; C. Fry, 6; A. E. Healey, 7; H. Herrington (longest touch), 8.

PORTSEA (Hants).—On Sunday, March 14th, at St. Mary's church, for morning service, a 504 of Stedman Triples. J. Harris, 1; E. Newman, 2; C. Groves, 3; J. T. Matthews (first in the method), 4;

E. Reynolds, 5; J. Harper, 6; A. E. Tomlins (conductor), 7; J. Dover, 8. And for evening service, a 240 of Stedman Triples. C. Groves, 1; J. Harris, 2; E. Reynolds, 3; J. Symons, 4; E. Newman (first as conductor), 5; J. Harper, 6; J. Gould, 7; J. T. Matthews, 8.

BUSHLEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, February 21st, 720 Bob Minor. J. Nicholls, 1; A. Bloxham, 2; C. Jones (conductor), 3; A. Nicholls, 4; F. Walker, 5; Jos. Wathen, 6.

BARNESLEY (Yorks).—On Thursday, March 18th, for practice, 120 Oxford. C. D. Potter, 1; C. Bell, 2; C. Holling, 3; W. Richardson, 4; G. S. Tyas, 5; R. Sparks, 6. Also 720 by the same band, consisting of 120 each of Violet, New London, Duke of York, City Delight, Arnold's Victory, College Pleasure, and London Scholars' Pleasure.

CAMBRIDGE.—On Monday, March 22nd, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (twelve bobs). G. Taylor, 1; W. Kempton, 2; H. Mansfield, 3; Rev. A. Boughey, 4; J. Taylor, 5; G. F. Woodhouse (conductor), 6. In this variation the tenors always come up the right way.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Sunday, March 7th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 Plain Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), in 23 mins., with the tenor covering. E. Williams, 2; J. Prickett, 3; H. Morgan, 4; R. Thompson (conductor), 5; J. Morley, 6; G. Watkins, 7; W. Smith, 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to G. Watkins, who hails from Barry. For Divine Service in the evening 518 Grandsire Triples, the first part of Holt's ten-part. E. Williams, 1; R. Thompson (conductor), 2; J. Prickett, 3; W. Freestone, 4; S. Hopton, 5; J. Morley, 6; G. Watkins, 7; W. Smith, 8. Also 252 Bob Triples. E. Williams, 1; S. Hopton, 2; J. Prickett, 3; G. Williams, 4; R. Thompson, 5; G. Watkins, 6; J. Morley (conductor), 7; W. Freestone, 8. On Sunday, February 21st, for evening service, 360 Oxford Bob Minor, 7-8 covering. M. Close, 1; R. Thompson (conductor), 2; J. Prickett, 3; H. Morgan, 4; S. Hopton, 5; J. Morley, 6; F. Bye, 7; A. Couldrick, 8. First of Oxford Bob Minor by all and on the bells.

COLCHESTER (Essex).—On Sunday morning, March 14th, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, 1264 Bob Major in 50 mins. W. Scott, 1; W. Howell, 2; G. Rashbrook (conductor), 3; *G. Burch, 4; F. Bumpstead, 5; W. Harvey, 6; W. Schofield, 7; W. Burch, 8. *Longest length. For evening service 1036 Grandsire Triples in 40 mins. W. Scott, 1; W. Howell, 2; R. Stannard (conductor), 3; G. Kashbrook, 4; F. Bumpstead, 5; W. Harvey, 6; W. Burch, 7; W. Schofield, 8.

DARTFORD (Kent).—On Sunday morning, March 14th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. S. Everson, 1; G. Morris, 2; J. Saxby (conductor), 3; G. Cullum, 4; F. French, 5; H. Alford, 6; H. Castle, 7; C. Culmer, 8.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, March 20th, at the house of Mr. S. Slater, on handbells, 1008 Double Norwich. Z. Slater, 1-2; O. Garwood, 3; S. Slater, 4; W. Howell, 5; F. Wells, 6; J. Bradman, 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. Longest touch in the method by Messrs. Howell, Wells, and Bradman. The above hope to accomplish a peal in this method after a little more practice. Messrs. Sillitoe and Howell hail from Sudbury; the rest belong to Glemsford.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, March 4th, for evening service at St. Mary's church, 360 Grandsire Doubles. J. Plum, 1; E. King, 2; S. Wade, 3; G. Burrows, 4; A. Jacob (conductor), 5; H. Childs, 6. Also 360 and 216 Bob Minor. J. Ward, 1; G. Griffin, 2; S. Wade, 3; G. Burrows, 4; W. Dixon, 5; A. Jacob (conductor), 6. After evening service 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Dixon, 1; G. Griffin, 2; F. C. Newman, 3; W. Ward, 4; A. Miller, 5; A. Jacob (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 16th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. J. Ward, 1; G. Griffin, 2; S. Wade, 3; W. Dixon, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; A. Jacob (conductor), 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

LONGDON (Worcestershire).—On a recent Monday, by the Bushley Society, 720 Bob Minor. J. Nicholls, 1; A. Bloxham, 2; C. Jones, 3; A. Nicholls, 4; F. Walker, 5; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 6.

MACCLESFIELD (Cheshire).—On Saturday, March 13th, four of the company from St. George's Heavily, Stockport, paid a visit to St. Michael's, Macclesfield, and rang on the back eight, assisted by the local ringers, a plain course of Grandsire Triples. W. W. Steel, 1; T. Baxter, 2; W. Walmsley, 3; W. Matthews, 4; A. Sidebotham, 5; T. Marshall, 6; J. W. Bailey, 7; A. Mottershead, 8. First attempt by the ringer of the 2nd. Also 688 Plain Bob Major. F. Stoneley, 1; J. Norbury, 2; W. W. Steel, 3; W. Matthews, 4; T. Marshall, 5; A. Sidebotham, 6; J. W. Bailey, 7; W. Walmsley (conductor), 8. And 96 Kent Treble Bob Major. A. Mottershead, 1; F. Stoneley, 2; W. W. Steel, 3; W. Matthews, 4; T. Marshall, 5; A. Sidebotham, 6; J. W. Bailey, 7; W. Walmsley (conductor), 8.

NORTHAMPTON.—Recently at St. Giles's church, three courses of Grandsire Caters. H. Key, 1; T. Hall, 2; A. Moore, 3; J. Mackay,

4; A. Arnold, 5; W. Fairey, 6; W. Robert, 7; E. Huxley, 8; A. Stewart, 9; J. Freeman, 10. And a 360 Grandsire Triples. H. Key, 1; W. Roberts, 2; A. Moore, 3; W. Fairey, 4; A. Stewart (conductor), 5; A. Arnold, 6; J. Mackay, 7; W. Manning, 8. And a 335 of Bob Major. H. Key, 1; T. Hall, 2; A. Moore, 3; W. Fairey, 4; J. Mackay, 5; F. Harris, 6; E. Huxley, 7; A. Stewart (conductor), 8. And a 120 Stedman Doubles. J. Mackay, 1; A. Moore, 2; A. Arnold, 3; W. Fairey, 4; A. Stewart, 5; E. James, 6. And a 504 of Bob Triples. H. Key, 1; A. Moore, 2; A. Arnold, 3; W. Fairey, 4; J. Mackay, 5; F. Harris, 6; A. Stewart (conductor), 7; W. Wilford, 8. On Sunday, March 21st, on the occasion of the Mayor and Corporation attending morning service, a 503 of Grandsire Caters was lost after ringing 450 changes. H. Key, 1; T. Hall, 2; A. Arnold, 3; A. Moore, 4; J. Mackay, 5; W. Fairey, 6; A. Stewart (conductor), 7; F. Harris, 8; W. Roberts, 9; J. Freeman, 10. And a 350 Grandsire Triples. W. Hunt, 1; W. Fairey, 2; A. Arnold, 3; A. Moore, 4; A. Stewart (conductor), 5; J. Mackay, 6; W. Roberts, 7; E. James, 8. And after service two courses of Grandsire Caters. W. Hunt, 1; T. Hall, 2; A. Moore, 3; A. Arnold, 4; A. Moore, 5; J. Mackay, 6; A. Stewart, 7; F. Harris, 8; W. Roberts, 9; J. Freeman, 10.

PETERBOROUGH.—On Monday, March 1st, on the arrival of the new Bishop (Dr. Carr Glyn), 720 Bob Minor. R. Rowell, 1; G. Baker, 3; E. Baker, 4; R. Squires, 5; T. Measures, 6; E. Read (conductor), 7; J. Palmer, 8. On Tuesday, March 2nd, in honour of the enthronement, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles). J. Binks, 1; E. Baker, 3; E. Read (conductor), 4; G. Baker, 5; T. Measures, 6; R. Squires, 7; J. Palmer, 8. Also 360 Bob Minor standing as before. And 168 Grandsire Triples. J. Binks, 1; E. Read, 2; G. Baker, 3; E. G. Baker, 4; R. Squires, 5; T. Measures, 6; Rev. H. Law James (conductor), 7; J. Palmer, 8. On Monday, March 15th, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles) with 6-8 covering. R. Rowell, 1; E. Read, 2; E. Baker (conductor), 3; G. Baker, 4; T. Measures, 5; J. Binks, 6; R. Squires, 7; J. Palmer, 8. And 144 Bob Minor (four bobs and two singles). R. Rowell, 1; G. Baker, 3; E. Baker (conductor), 4; E. Read, 5; T. Measures, 6; R. Squires, 7; J. Palmer, 8. First 720 as conductor by E. Baker.

PRESTWICH (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, March 21st, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles) in 28 mins. J. Gratrix, 1; A. Percival, 2; J. Heywood, 3; W. Stevens (conductor), 4; H. Percival, 5; F. Hyde, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. F. Hyde belongs to the Manchester Town Hall Society.

STISTED (Essex).—On Tuesday, March 2nd, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. C. Duncombe, 1; H. Saunders, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; Edgar Chaplin, 4; E. Radley (conductor), 5; A. Chaplin, 6. And 360 Kent Treble Bob. C. Duncombe, 1; H. Saunders, 2; E. Radley, 3; Edgar Chaplin, 4; Ernest Chaplin, 5; A. Chaplin (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 9th, 360 Canterbury Pleasure. C. Duncombe, 1; H. Saunders, 2; E. Radley, 3; Edgar Chaplin, 4; Ernest Chaplin, 5; A. Chaplin (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 16th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. C. Duncombe, 1; H. Saunders, 2; E. Radley, 3; Edgar Chaplin, 4; Ernest Chaplin, 5; A. Chaplin (conductor), 6. On Sunday afternoon, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. C. Duncombe, 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; Ernest Chaplin, 4; E. Radley, 5; A. Chaplin (conductor), 6. Messrs. Collins and Pilcher hail from Braintree; the rest belong to the local company.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Sunday, March 14th, at Christ Church, 784 Grandsire Triples. S. Ansell, 1; J. Parker, 2; S. Wade, 3; W. Ward (conductor), 4; A. Preece, 5; A. Miller, 6; H. Newby, 7; J. Miller, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. Longest touch by the ringers of the treble and 3rd.

TONBRIDGE (Kent).—On Tuesday, March 16th, for practice, 514 Grandsire Triples. W. Wolfe, 1; G. Stonestreet, 2; *J. Smith, 3; B. Wadmore, 4; A. Laurence, 5; W. Steed (conductor), 6; T. Card, 7; G. Rabbitt, 8. *Longest length. On Sunday morning, March 21st, for Divine Service, 1050 Grandsire Triples, taken from Reeves' Variation of Holt's ten-part in 43 mins. J. Chivers, 1; G. Stonestreet (conductor), 2; W. Wolfe, 3; A. Laurence, 4; G. Card, 5; T. Card, 6; W. Steed, 7; J. Smith, 8. Longest length by W. Wolfe, and longest length as conductor by G. Stonestreet.

WINSHILL (Derbyshire).—On Thursday, February 25th, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. J. Plummer, 1; W. Wylde, 2; G. Wright, 3; F. Shepherd, 4; J. Woodward, 5; J. Jaggar (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 28th, 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. Wright, 1; W. Wylde, 2; W. Shepherd, 3; F. Shepherd, 4; J. Woodward, 5; C. Golder (conductor), 6. On Monday, March 15th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), in 54 mins. C. Brown, 1; W. Wylde (conductor), 2; G. Wright, 3; F. Shepherd, 4; J. Woodward, 5; J. Plummer, 6. The above was rung as a last tribute of respect to the late Thomas Turner, who passed away after a short illness at the age of 60. He was interred in St. Mark's churchyard on Monday, March 16th, the Rev. L. S. Noble officiating at the grave, in the presence of his sorrowing relations and friends. May he rest in peace.

Notices.

The Kent County Association.—Rochester District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at St. Helen, Cliff-at-Hoo, to-day, Saturday, April 3rd. Tower to be open at 4 p.m. Committee meeting at 6 p.m.

A. OSBORNE, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*
65, Clive Road, Rochester.

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Southport, to-day, Saturday, April 3rd. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. Members are earnestly requested to make an effort to be present.

HENRY COLEY,
3, Rumford Place, Liverpool. *Branch Sec.*

Kent County Association.—Rochester Branch.—The meeting proposed to be held at Cliffe-at-Hoo, owing to an accident to one of the bells, will be held at Gillingham instead, to-day, Saturday, April 3rd. Tower open at 3.30.

A. OSBORNE, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*
65, Clive Road, Rochester.

The Heavy Woollen District Association, Yorkshire.—A Special Committee Meeting will be held at The Woolpack inn, Almondbury, to-day, Saturday, April 3rd, at 5.30 p.m. Business important.

GEO. H. SIMON, *Hon. Sec.*
19, Albert Street, Batley Carr.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of this Association will be held at Kildgrove to-day, Saturday, April 3rd.

REV. J. W. ALSTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
WM. TWIGG, }

Chester Diocesan Guild.—Crewe Branch.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held at Acton, near Nantwich, to-day, Saturday, April 3rd. Bells ready 2.30 p.m., meeting 4.30 p.m.

R. LANGFORD, *Branch Sec.*
58, Rigg Street, Crewe.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Tuesday, the 6th inst. Business meeting afterwards at headquarters.

W. T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*
37, Tradescant Road, South Lambeth, S.W.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Thomas's, Moorside, Oldham, on Saturday, April 10th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30. All ringing friends invited.

E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*
14, Thomas Street, Lees.

Handbell Ringing Contest.—The annual handbell ringing contest for the Hollingworth silver challenge cup will take place in the Odd Fellows hall, Uppermill, on Saturday, April 10th. Draw to take place at 6 o'clock prompt. Bells G, 18 size. Entrance fee, 2s. each company. First prize—Hollingworth Silver Cup and £1; 2nd prize—£1; 3rd prize—10s. Entries to be sent to

J. PILLING, *Sec.*
Lee Street, Uppermill, near Oldham.

The Chester Diocesan Guild.—Wirral Branch.—The next monthly meeting and tea will be held at St. Saviour's church, Oxtan, on Saturday, April 10th, at 6 p.m. Tower open from 3 o'clock. The leaders are requested to inform the Hon. Secretary how many members will attend.

HY. WOOLCOTT, *Hon. Sec.*
Grange Mount, West Kirby.

The Essex Association.—A District Meeting of the above will be held at Bocking, near Braintree, on Easter-Monday. The towers of

the following places will be open: Braintree (6 bells), Bocking (6 bells), Stisted (6 bells), Rayne (5 bells). A brake will leave Braintree church at 1.30 p.m. for Bocking, and Bocking at 2 p.m. for Stisted, returning in time for tea at The Black Boy, Bocking, at 4.30 p.m. The business meeting will follow the tea. The brake will convey ringers back to Braintree station, for the 7.10 p.m. train. Members intending to be present must signify their intention to me not later than the previous Tuesday.

HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Ass. Sec.*
Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Ely Diocesan Association.—The local meeting of the above association will be held on Easter-Monday, April 19th, at Market Downham, Norfolk. All friends are invited.

R. M. CROFT, *Sec.*

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Trevelin, Pontypool, in the Schoolroom, at three p.m., on Easter Monday. There will be a short service in church at 2.30. Members who have not already done so are kindly requested to pay their subscriptions for current year at this meeting. The bells will be available for ringing.

D. H. GRIFFITHS, Salisbury Road, } *Hon.*
H. G. WHITE, 58, Paget Street, } *Secs.*

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The Annual Meeting of this Association will be held in the Chapter House, Worcester Cathedral, on Easter Monday, April 19th, at 2 o'clock prompt. The very Rev. the Dean has kindly consented to preside. Tea will be provided for all members sending their names to me not later than Wednesday, April 14th. The cathedral tower will be open for ringing after evensong at 5 p.m.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*
36, Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

The Ely Diocesan Association.—Sudbury Branch.—A meeting of this Branch will be held at Lavenham on Easter Monday. The bells of Lavenham (8) and Preston (6) will be available for the day. A meat tea will be provided at 1s. 6d. each, half-price to those shewing cards of membership for 1897, and life members. Members intending to be present must signify their intention to me not later than Tuesday, April 13th.

CHAS. SILLITOE,
Branch Sec.

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—The annual meeting and dinner will be held at The New Inn, Norton, on Easter-Monday, April 19th, 1897. Dinner on the table at 1.30 prompt, tickets 2s. each, including refreshments. Members not wishing to dine must return their notice to the Secretary on or before Saturday, April 10th. The new ring of eight bells will be open for ringing from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. All ringing will be arranged by the Secretary, time allowed to each company according to the number of members present.

E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*
26, Meersbrook Bank Road, Norton, Sheffield.

The East Derbyshire Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Clay Cross on Easter-Monday, April 19th. Bells (6) open at 9.0 a.m. Service in church at 4.15 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m., 1s. each. Business meeting after tea.

T. ALLIBONE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Benhilton (Sutton) on Easter Monday. Tea at the Shaftesbury Coffee Tavern, High Road, at 6 p.m. Representatives should notify Mr. Chas. Dean, "Royston," Court Road, Sutton, of the number who intend being present. The

bells of Benhilton (8) and Cheam (6) will be available by kind permission of the Vicar.

R. B. BLANCHARD, *Hon. Sec.*
3, Shrubbery Road, Streatham, S.W.

Midland Counties' Association.—Preliminary Notice.—The annual meeting will be held at Leicester on Easter Monday, April 19th. Full particulars in next week's issue.

JOHN O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.*
22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The quarterly meeting in connection with this society will be held on Saturday, April 24th, at the parish church, Barton-under-Needwood. Bells will be available for ringing during the afternoon. Tea will be provided for all those sending in their names on or before the 20th inst., at 1s. per head, to

S. REEVES, *Hon. Sec.*
10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED.—Situation as gardener, single-handed or where help is given; age 29; single; change-ringer. R. Arnold, Betchworth, Surrey.

WANTED by a young man, light employment; age 23; change-ringer in four methods. Address, A. B. C., care of editor.

WANTED by widower, age 47, situation as stone-dresser or general miller, willing to take caretaker's place or any place of trust; 27 years' first-class reference; can ring standard methods and take charge of bells. A. Whight, 80, St. Ann's Road, Barking.

YOUNG MAN, 23, requires situation as clerk or position of trust; change-ringer and member of Durham and Newcastle Association; seven years' reference. Apply, Fred. P. Howcroft, 20, Westward Street, Middlesbrough, Yorkshire.

BOOT TRADE.—Change-ringer would be glad to hear of job on rivet or machine-sewn work, strong work preferred. R., care of editor.

SITUATION WANTED as gardener, single-handed or good second; age 21; experienced; member of Surrey Association. R. Botting, Church Gate, Betchworth, Surrey.

GARDENER AND PARISH CLERK.—Understands both well; married; age 35; change-ringer, standard methods on eight or ten bells. Apply, office of this paper.

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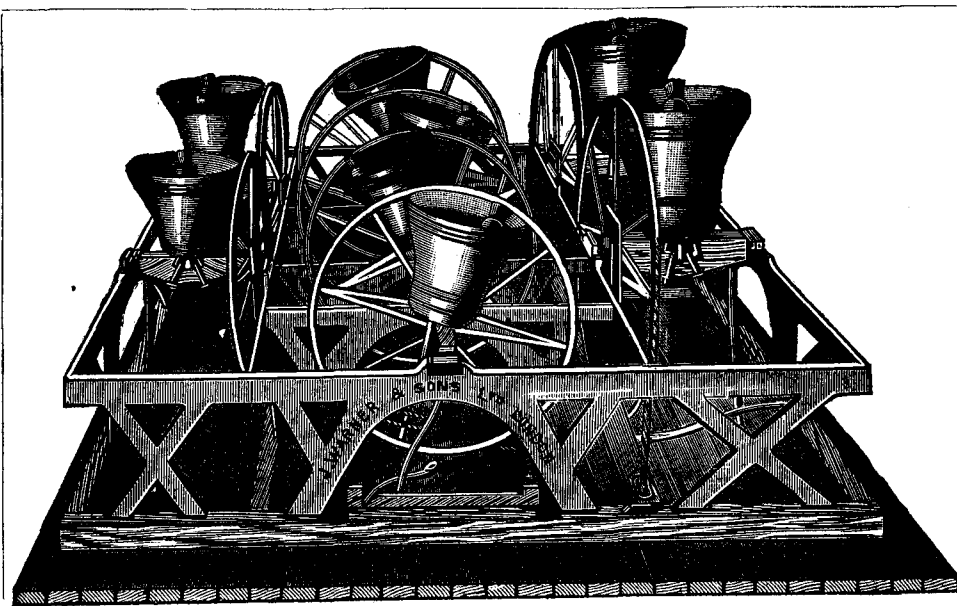
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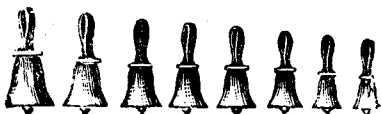
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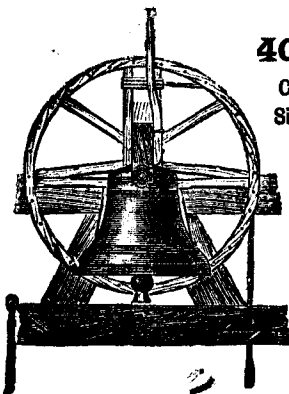
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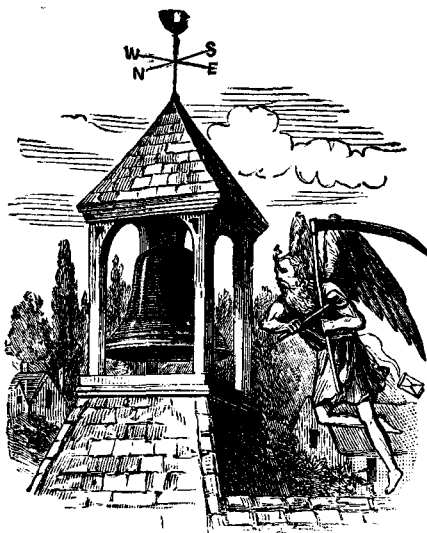
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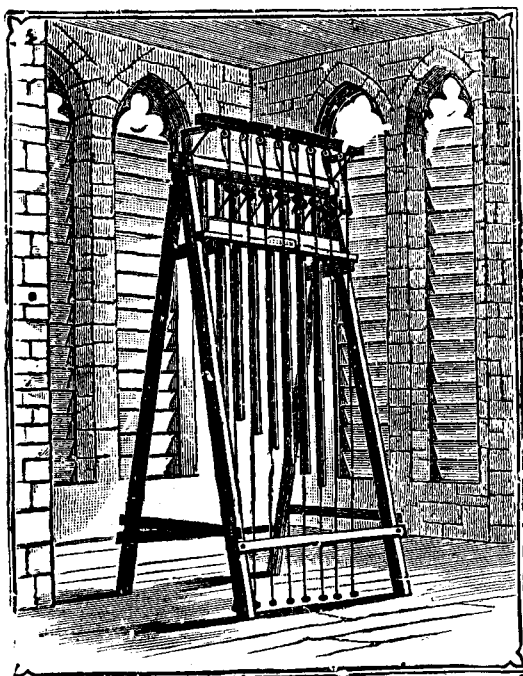
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 783.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1897.

[Vol. XV.

EASTER PEALS.

A correspondent has written on the number of peals recorded during Lent. Although a ringer, he is first a churchman, and during many years of quiet work to promote belfry reform, has never in the Lenten season rang an open bell in peal. He continues:—"The bell tower, as well as the costly furniture it contains, is Church property, designed to assist the work and teaching of the Church. Ringers should note this, and however indifferent to the interests of ringing clergy and churchwardens may be, remember that the status, even of a parish ringer, is a privilege and not a right. Those who, unmindful of the Church's seasons, as well as the local surroundings of sickness and death, rush to the tower, either for physical exercise, amusement, or record peals are not true Church bellringers. They may develop the highest science of change-ringing, but is it always on approved occasions and in honour of the Church? If from any other motive, erect undedicated private peals for the purpose. Lent is a great opportunity for 'instructors' and 'dumb practices,' for a special Easter peal ought to proceed.

"Well do I remember my difference with a Vicar on one occasion. I had accepted an invitation to try and improve the ringing at his church. He asked me to arrange our first open practice for the Ash-Wednesday evening service. Though somewhat tardily acquiescing, I have influenced a few belfries in favour of silence after Shrove Tuesday.

"Then, in the early morning hours, comes the joyous outburst of the Easter peal, consonant with nature's spring brightness and the teaching of the great festival. Those ringers who have never tried cannot appreciate an 'Easter Ringing' perfected by the dumb practice and training of Lent. How much more forcibly does it speak to church people of Easter and a right use of the bells! There is a music in them now, not to be heard when they are ringing for horse-racing, elections, local successes, or even a Christmas gift. We, who have so cruelly and so long lashed the clappers, shall be busy on Easter Day, before each and every church service.

"How nice it will be to hear the bells again! They always ring here so well at Easter! Such is now the common remark where belfries observe the 'rule of silence' for six weeks, and there is a large element of belfry reform contained in the above words, instructive alike to clergy and laity, churchwardens and ringers."

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—AIREDALE BRANCH.

The members of the Kildwick company of the above-named branch journeyed to Silsden on Saturday afternoon last, a distance of about two miles. Silsden is in the old parish of Kildwick. The company, having rung the first 720 on the bells when they were opened in November last, were anxious to ring on them the first 5040 also, and in this they succeeded; the record of which will be found in its proper place. Mr. F. Mosley, one of the local company, was present during the peal, and can testify to its having been truly rung.

The bells are a very musical ring of six, cast by Messrs. Warner and Sons about eighteen months ago.

Special thanks are due to the Vicar for kindly granting permission for the peal, and to the Silsden company (especially Mr. T. Lambert) for having everything in readiness.

STONE, ISLE OF OXNEY, KENT.

On Saturday, March 27th, the ringers of the above parish church paid a visit to the pretty village of Rolvenden, having received a kind invitation from their brother ringers, and a very pleasant and enjoyable evening was spent. The respected captain, Mr. F. Wenham, is the fortunate possessor of a horse and cart, and so he kindly found room for three of the band to ride with him while the remainder rode the favourite bike. On arriving at Rolvenden the party found Messrs. Burden, senr. and junr. waiting to conduct them to the tower, together with Mr. G. Johnson, who had "biked" over from Appledore, and Mr. W. Batehup, who had walked from Wittersham. They were soon in the tower, coats off and bells up, and as this was their first attempt to ring eight bells, to most of them it seemed rather strange, but they soon settled down to the work, and with the help of three of the local band rang five separate 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 7 6 8 behind, the striking being very good. Then, after ringing Queens and Tittums, the bells were lowered in peal, and then after a parting glass with ringing friends tracks were made for home. The company would like to add a word of praise about the clean appearance of the belfry; and the bells go like tops. The following took part in the ringing during the evening: Messrs. E. and F. J. Burden and C. Judge, of the local band; Mr. G. Johnson, of Appledore, C. Tribe and W. Batehup, of Wittersham, and Messrs. F. Wenham, W. Cook, F. R. Bates, W. Ford and T. Weller, of Stone.

LECTURE ON RINGING.

An extremely interesting lecture on "The Origin and Development of the Art of Campanology" was delivered by Mr. G. J. Clarkson, at the Stockton Literary and Philosophical Society's meeting, on Wednesday evening. Mr. J. E. Brooks, C.E., president of the society, presided, and there was a good attendance, amongst those present being a number of ladies. The lecturer has for some years been an ardent bellringer, and has made the subject not only a theoretical but a practical study, and he was therefore enabled to give his audience many interesting details. Mr. Clarkson besides dealing historically with the subject, gave practical illustrations of bellringing through the medium of several of the Stockton parish church bellringers, who rang under Mr. Clarkson's direction several very pretty and interesting changes on handbells.

The president, Mr. Norman R. Byers, Mr. Fred. L. Dodds, and Mr. J. W. Gatt took part in the discussion on Mr. Clarkson's paper, and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the lecturer for his able services.

THE CROSSENS (NEAR SOUTHPORT) SOCIETY, LANCASHIRE.

A unique mark of appreciation has been shown to this company of ringers. Mr. William Scarisbrick, of Hanau, desired them to invite their friends to a party. As a consequence some 120 guests met on Saturday evening, in St. John's School, and among those present were Mr. and Mrs. C. Scarisbrick, Mr. and Mrs. Talbot Scarisbrick, and the Rev. W. T. and Mrs. Bulpit. The rooms were beautifully draped and decorated, an excellent supper was provided in the infant school, and every attention was paid to the comfort and enjoyment of the guests. The strains of Herr de Mersey's band greatly enlivened the proceedings, which were entirely of a social character. The Crossens ringers are a voluntary band, and do what few companies can boast of, ring three times each Sunday.

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PRACTICAL HINTS TO YOUNG CONDUCTORS
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CHAPTER XIX.

GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

Grandsire upon an even number of bells has been stigmatised as an abomination, not altogether without reason, perhaps. When the dodging is in progress, there is necessarily one bell behind which has no other bell to dodge with, and it therefore has to lie still four blows, and even six at a bob. This is very unpleasant to the trained ear, especially when the bell behind is a light one. Grandsire certainly does not lend itself to an even number of bells, and to use it in this way is to destroy the beauty and symmetry of its formation.

Nevertheless, many peals have been rung. The Birmingham Amalgamated Society have rung several on handbells, one, if I mistake not, being a 10,000, or thereabouts. Mr. John Carter is the author of numerous peals, and many other composers as well. The late Henry Hubbard, in his "Elements of Campanalogia," never alludes to Grandsire Major in that work except inserting (in the appendix) two compositions, by the late Mr. Emanuel Stokes, of Birmingham, which I think are as good compositions of the kind as can be had.

Taking these things into consideration, I am of opinion that it will be best to say no more about this number of bells, but proceed at once to Caters. A good bob-caller of Caters cannot feel the slightest difficulty in calling Major if he wishes to do so, because a knowledge of the former comprises all that which is required for the latter. I may say, before I leave this Major, that it is about the most difficult, with regard to composition, of all methods with a plain treble hunt.

GRANDSIRE CATERS.

Now we have arrived upon our last stage; and in view of that which presents to the observant ringer and intelligent conductor a vast area of pleasure and enjoyment. In his remarks upon Grandsire Caters Shipway has the following: "Taking all its merits into consideration, it has been justly deemed the most universally-pleasing of all methods . . . is acknowledged, even by the most indifferent admirers of church bell ringing, to be very entertaining."

The state of the courses is exactly the same as Grandsire Doubles, *i.e.* all the changes, both back and handstroke, are in-course, but when a single is made they are all out, and consequently the bells cannot be brought round without another single. We can thus have the bells round at either hand or backstroke, as we please, but the former is the most approved.

In what has preceded this paper, there has been no limit put to the positions or places where bobs may be called, but in Caters (or in Major) such liberty is circumscribed, we cannot call bobs indiscriminately. The big bells, *i.e.* 7 8 9, must never be parted, even throughout a long peal; the cardinal principles as applied to Major, Caters, Cinques, and Maximus, are that the bells above the 6th must have fixed positions, and be kept constantly together, except under conditions hereafter to be stated.

On the three bells above-mentioned there are six changes, a fact which every one knows; *e.g.* these three bells have six different positions, which are here given:—

7 8 9	7 9 8
*9 7 8	9 8 7
8 9 7	8 7 9

The one marked thus * is the tittums position. I have read that previous to the late Mr. Benjamin Annable's day, the ringing of Caters was an awful jumble, the light and heavy bells mixed up

anyhow; but says an old writer, "he threw the bells into the tittums, in which harmonious position they will ever remain."

Let us see how this tittums position is arrived at in the quickest way, from rounds. Here it is:—

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Bob

1 7 5 2 9 3 8 4 6

1 7 9 5 8 2 6 3 4

1 7 8 9 6 5 4 2 3

Bob

1 4 6 7 3 8 2 9 5

Bob

1 2 3 4 5 6 9 7 8

This is the earliest from rounds possible; the observation for calling it is—"7th in and out at three, with a double." The back bells being now in this position, there they must remain until further developments are necessary; 10,000 changes can however be had with them in this position.

A bob at six leads from the above gives—

1 3 4 2 5 6 9 7 8

This is another 9 7 8. We vary a little by calling an 8 9. A bob at five leads from this last 9 7 8 produces—

1 2 6 3 4 7 5 8 9

Another bob six leads hence brings up—

1 6 3 2 4 7 5 8 9.

We have here two 978s and two 89s. If they are placed in order from rounds the matter may be more clear, thus—

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

1 7 5 2 9 3 8 4 6 1

1 4 6 7 3 8 2 9 5 3

1 2 3 4 5 6 9 7 8 1

1 3 4 2 5 6 9 7 8 6

1 2 6 3 4 7 5 8 9 5

1 6 3 2 4 7 5 8 9 6

Observe the behind bells in these changes. There are two 978s and two 89s. Broadly speaking, Grandsire Caters is called by 978s and 89s. To bring an 8 9 is by a bob the lead after the 7th has made thirds place; to get up a 9 7 8 is a bob the next lead but one after the 7th has made thirds. For present purposes the 7th will be a good observation.

ALEPH.

[To be continued.]

RYE, SUSSEX.

The members of the Rye Handbell Association paid a visit to Stone, in Kent, on Tuesday last, when several of them made their first attempt at ringing church bells in rounds, and as may be supposed the striking was not perfection, but was, taking everything into consideration, very satisfactory. The local band rang a 120 of Bob Doubles in splendid style, which was much enjoyed by the visitors, and they are longing for the time to come when they can do likewise. The peal of eight in the Rye tower is now being re-hung by Taylor and Co., and then with a new floor to deaden the sound, and an apparatus for silent practice, and several very promising recruits from the above association, Rye promises to be a prominent centre for change-ringing in the near future.

LONG PEAL NOTICES.—Six members of the Yorkshire and Old East Derbyshire Associations intend, all being well, to attempt a long peal of Surprise Minor to-day, Saturday, April 10th, at Killamarsh; to start at 2.30 p.m.—On Easter Monday, April 19th, an attempt will be made for a long peal of Grandsire Caters by members of the Midland Counties Association and the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, at St. Peter's, Wolverhampton; commencing at 8.45 a.m.

MEN AND MANNERS.

Hi Hi! Ho Ho! hurrah for the Speaker Plain,
To give him his dues, he woos the muse,
But woos her all in vain
He— * (not if I know it my boy, signed: Foreman Printer).

Oh very well, please yourself. I simply thought it would look better to start off with. All I wish to say in the first place is that I was glad when they said unto me "Plain Speaker is in harness again, so look out for squalls." It really was about time somebody got to again. There is a host of staff hands who call in on Tuesdays and ask if there is plenty of copy. They imagine that they "draw," and to speak the truth they do. They draw their salary and that is all. As Joshua the Jovial remarks "we want but little here below, but want it pretty often." Some of these days I shall write the biography of the Noble Staff, with artistic portraits up to date, and then I shall get level with one or two whose "counting-houses" look strangely like those usually seen in the Rogues' Gallery. *Verb. sap.*

Take them all round, they are a passable crew. I am glad to say I have effected a social revolution in the office the last twelve months. I am now actually treated with respect, whereas formerly contempt was the article in store. It was the same some years ago when I wrote for another journal. The foreman printer of that establishment used to weigh in with the most awful invectives ever heard, simply because he couldn't read the copy at a glance. He would hold it upside down, sideways, and every way possible, declaring all the while that "he never did, not since he had the measles did he ever see such scrawl." Still, I am thankful I am not alone. Paul Lewis Courier, when assailed by a French professor once quietly remarked, "I fancy he must be vexed. He calls me rebel, plagiarist, impostor, thief, forger, madman, leper, a horrible, filthy, monkeyfaced ragpicker, whereas he simply means that he and I are not of the same opinion, and this is the way he has of putting it."

The Irthlingborough branch of the "Bedford Association" and "Central Northamptonshire" Society is to be highly commended for the perseverance and pluck of its members. If 'tis not in mortals to command success they have deserved it, and also got it. I have noticed this energetic company for the last two or three years how they have been rising step by step from Grandsire Triples to Superlative Surprise. This is no doubt due to the Martin brothers (no relation to Maria of that ilk I hope) and to achieve a peal of the above method in such a small space of time since commencing practice speaks volumes for the tenacity of the band and the conductor, Mr. Anderson Tyler. Who will be the next to go and do likewise? By the way, nobody seems to tackle any Surprise method on ten bells! Is there any bogie in the way? It seems to me that Surprise on Royal changes would give the ringer more time to look around what he was doing than in Major, and in this Royal Commemoration Year a peal of Surprise Royal would be most befitting. We can see in all directions, ringers who have accomplished peals of Surprise Major, and then, they think the top of the ladder is reached, and care no more for peal ringing except when pressed. The top of the ladder has never yet been reached in reality. We applaud, and most rightly so, every high class achievement, but more remains unaccomplished. Surprise Royal would open up a new field of aspiration, but where is the man to pioneer it?

The public press is full of the preparations for the Jubilee Procession. The latest news is that over two thousand ambulance men will line the route in case of emergency. There is sure to be someone injured if not killed, and the eight hospitals on the line of procession not being deemed sufficient, military field hospital tents will be called into requisition. Seeing that fatalities are almost bound to ensue, it is a question for thoughtful people to consider whether such gigantic displays should be entertained in the interests of public safety, simply for the glorification of sightseers. I grumble also at the hoggish greed of certain landlords and property owners who are shewing their

loyalty by evicting the poorer tenants, so as to let their windows and rooms for fabulous sums. Loyal or disloyal, I think it should be pointed out to Her Majesty that whilst the procession seems, like many other arrangements of modern society, admirably destined to provide amusement for Wealth, Fashion, and also profit for the goldseeking sycophants, it is also likely to cause considerable inconvenience and hardships on Her Majesty's poorer subjects, they neither being allowed to see the pageant or to sublet their windows for the opportunity. I venture to say that if Her Majesty was acquainted with the fact that numbers are forced to leave their homes to satisfy the hydra-headed landlord, she would speedily change the route again, seeing that the present one was chosen for the purpose of enabling those lower down in the social scale to witness what neither they nor their children will ever see again.

A "Washingboro ringer" says:—"Can't a ringer ring with whom he likes to?" Well, not always. You see it all depends on circumstances. For instance, if I had learnt a band to ring all they know, had also done my best to get their bells rehung and augmented, and had succeeded in doing so at considerable time and trouble; if after this, out of pure jealousy (if one can use that adjective in connection with bad feelings) one or more of these learners refused to take a rope, well, he couldn't ring with me again unless he apologised. If "too many cooks spoil the broth," it looks very much as if one cook too many has been spoiling the Lincolnshire broth. In the future, I would advise you to "let well alone," very much so.

Harking back to the Jubilee demonstration, it is interesting to read how different opinions on the subject are expressed in various parts of the world. An Indian paper says:—"It is proposed to spend considerable sums of money this year in every town in England to celebrate the Queen's long reign. Everywhere there are to be holidays and festivities. How can any subject of Her Majesty have the heart to throw away money in wilful, wasteful expenditure; how can any be festive when millions of their fellow-subjects here are dying an agonising death for the lack of what will be wasted." The New York Journal says:—"Charity begins at home, and before we devote our means elsewhere, we ought to fill up the empty stomachs on our own doorsteps. If we have any blood left in our hearts, we should make it our business to discover why a social system which enables one family to throw away £50,000 on a ball or supper, compels thousands of others equally deserving to struggle with starvation all the year round." This is all very well, and I am of the same opinion, but—The Royal "Show" will certainly cause money to circulate and find employment to thousands otherwise unemployed, and that is most certainly preferable to being locked up in banks, a point not to be lost sight of.

Naturally, from a ringers' point of view, the best way of celebrating the event is to see what improvement can be made in the steeple. While others are agitating for a town clock or village pump, our course is clearly that of urging the rehanging and if necessary the augmentation of the bells. There are numbers of people who would be willing to contribute to something of the kind *this* year, but when next year dawns it will be in more ways than one "as cold as ice." Therefore, be up and doing, and make hay while the sun shines. Bells are not a pleasure to everyone at all times.

In the words of Shakespeare (or was it Hogg?)

What is one man's sausage is another man's dog!

Thus, the time is now, for the majority of folk like bells at births, marriages or funerals and festive occasions, and this year we will give them as much as they will stand of a

JINGLE.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. Walter Hobbs, late of 35, Milton Street, Tonbridge Road, Maidstone, has removed to Sprotlands Cottage, Willesborough, Ashford, Kent.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—WESTERN DIVISION.

The most successful meeting of this division was held at Lyminster, on March 27th, nearly thirty members being present from some eight towers. After various touches during the afternoon twenty-six sat down to a substantial tea, provided by the vicar of the parish, Rev. Gerald Moor, and his pleasant and helpful wife. The good things having been disposed of, the business meeting took place, a few new members were duly elected, amongst them being the vicar himself as hon. member. A cordial vote of thanks to him for his generous kindness during the afternoon was duly tendered and suitably acknowledged, after which the members inspected the really beautiful grounds full of spring beauty, and then adjourned to the belfry for some more ringing. The meeting was notable, not only because of the kindness of Mr. Moor, but also because one of the leading laymen of the parish, Admiral Parkin, visited the belfry, as did the good friend and late treasurer of the association, the Rev. F. B. Tompkins.

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."

NOONAN'S PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

SIR,—In a recent editorial you refer to Noonan's reputed peal of Stedman Triples as presenting an interesting and unsolved problem to the curious. I do not remember your exact words. When younger I, like most possessors of a "Shipway," had a turn at the puzzle, with the result of quickly finding that I was wasting time over a poor composition of a bad type, rendered wholly undecipherable by the idiotic mode in which Shipway, who frequently refers to his wonderful "scales," chose to present it. He states that it contains 710 bobs, twenty-two singles, and 108 omits. The latter can be so read as to be correct, but there is some ambiguity even about this. Only twenty-one singles are given, but if this were the sole omission, it is conceivable the matter might be rectified. Instead, however of 710 bobs, 696 only appear. The missing fourteen must be due, if the omits are correct, to not less than two misprints and probably to more. Even if the figures throughout were correctly printed, it would be an unenviable task to prick the 840 six-ends, seeing that, in the total absence of course-ends and similar parts, no mistake which did not turn the course could possibly be discovered, except by the chance notice of a repeat, till rounds came up. But with fourteen bobs and one single to insert by guess-work, in the hope of bringing a systemless composition to an end in the right number of sixes, the problem becomes at once so wholly beyond the capacity of the short space of life to which even ringers can aspire, that further argument will be wasted. If, however, there exists a campanologist of courage and perseverance so unlimited and in common sense so deficient that he is determined to devote his best years to the solution of the enigma, let me save him from a not improbable limitation of freedom in the future by suggesting that, even in the event of his grey hairs being crowned with the success of a resulting peal, he will have absolutely no certainty that such a composition, whether true or false, is the identical one produced by Noonan; for half this number of unallocated calls is sufficient to give scope for endless variation in peals of the multi-bob class.

A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

AN APOLOGY.

SIR,—I beg to apologise to Mr. Barnett, of Crayford, for having published one of his compositions. I did it quite innocently, and therefore freely give up all claim. I have not got a collection of peals in that method (Canterbury Major), and not having any recollection of seeing a similar peal, I ventured to publish it, hence the result. I have got "THE BELL NEWS" by me for a period of over fourteen years, but what a toil it would be to go through some 700 and odd copies of "B.N." every time an aspirant thought he had got an original composition, to see if such was the case. Then, again. It is not everybody who saves their copies, or may not have been a ringer very long. What are the latter to do with their supposed original productions? Why, they are afraid to publish them, and probably many a valuable composition is lost. If there had been a collector of peals in Canterbury I should have submitted the peal in question to that person, who would of course put me right, and saved all this unpleasantness. It is gratifying to know that we have got collectors for some methods, and I am sure that not only myself, but others would

appreciate a collector of Canterbury. I have not got the time to devote to such a undertaking, or I would do it myself with the greatest of pleasure. Will some one volunteer to do it? But to return again to the peal, which is evidently Mr. Barnett's. He says he published it last year to Double Oxford Bob. I may say that Mr. H. W. Wilde has kindly wrote to me to say that he published it on July 14th, 1894, to the latter method, which no doubt he did, quite as innocently as I did, as he stated to me that he had not got "THE BELL NEWS" for November 15th, 1890, when the peal was first published as Mr. Barnett's. Here again another obstacle comes in the way, that of the calling of some compositions being adaptable to more than one method, as is shewn by the above. Some Canterbury will work on Double Norwich, and one of the two latter, and sometimes both will work on Plain Bob, which shews at once that a compiler of any one of these methods must have a knowledge of composition in all of them. I published a 6048 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major in "THE BELL NEWS" for the 6th of last month, with the extent without the 2nd being either before or after the tenors. Now Mr. H. W. Wilde, of Belgrave, Chester, informs me that he composed the same peal in 1893, with the singles on the 2nd and 3rd (instead of the 4th and 5th as I published it), which of course causes the 2nd to be after the 7th for nine courses. Now Mr. Wilde did not publish it, and I perchance happened to publish an improvement on it, and as I have before said the extent in the method of the qualities I claimed for it. I should be pleased to hear someone else's opinion about it. Perhaps Mr. Trollope or Mr. Dains will oblige.

W. WALMSLEY.

88, High Street, Macclesfield.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

SIR,—Mr. S. Reeves, of West Bromwich, a week or two ago referred in your columns to two five-part Stedman Triples compositions by Thurstans. I find, on communicating with him, that he was misled by the two forms in which the only five-part peal by this composer exists; a mistake he is by no means the first to make. I venture to trouble you with this notification, lest a false impression of the matter should get abroad.

A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

SIR,—The five part peal of Stedman Triples rung at Henfield in September last was the one published in "THE BELL NEWS" of September 20th, 1890.

C. TYLER.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

SIR,—I am pleased to see Mr. James's letter in last week's "BELL NEWS." I have not time to-day to say much, but I endorse his remarks. Why not unite the "Old" and the "New." It has been discussed before I believe. Will Mr. Allibone and his friends pay us a visit at Norton on Easter Monday? As President of the "Old East" I offer them a cordial welcome. Can we not put aside all petty feelings, and work together for the good of the common cause. I think the name of the amalgamated societies was previously the bone of contention. Here is a suggestion: Accept our name, and we offer you a joint share in our cup. Now friend Allibone, turn up to dinner with your assistants, and let us discuss it.

Woodlands, Treeton, Rotherham.

W. J. NICHOLSON.

SIR,—I think the members of both East Derbyshire Associations must thank "E. J." for (as it were) publishing the banns—the uniting of both Associations. I don't think I shall do much wrong if I do the same, and say "this is the second time of asking, etc." I think, like "E. J." there is plenty of work in Derbyshire without invading Yorkshire. I do hope several of our pretty peals of five will be made six or more during this jubilee year, but I am afraid the old tale will be told—short of funds. Which peal in Derbyshire if augmented would make a better eight than North Wingfield? also Ashover. The disaster at Bolsover has I hear, proved a blessing in disguise, for I believe it is intended putting eight in the tower when restored after the fire. I hope at the annual meetings of both Associations the members will express themselves for or against this desired object of uniting, if such can be done amicably, and I see no reason it should not be so. I am sorry to say I shall have to be content with Derbyshire tap on Easter Monday, but they who do get Yorkshire pudding I trust will thoroughly enjoy it. That both meetings will be successful and well-attended is the earnest wish of

T. ALLIBONE,

North Wingfield, Chesterfield.

Hon. Sec. E.D.A.C.R.

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Notices.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Thomas's, Moorside, Oldham, to-day, Saturday, April 10th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30. All ringing friends invited.

E. B. SHAW, Branch Sec.
14, Thomas Street, Lees.

The Chester Diocesan Guild.—Wirral Branch.—The next monthly meeting and tea will be held at St. Saviour's church, Oxtun, to-day, Saturday, April 10th, at 6 p.m. Tower open from 3 o'clock.

HY. WOOLCOTT, Hon. Sec.
Grange Mount, West Kirby.

The Royal Cumberland Society.—There will be no practice at the Chapel of Ease, Holway, on Wednesday, April 14th. The usual practice will commence again on the 28th.

A. JACOB, Hon. Sec.

The Essex Association.—A District Meeting of the above will be held at Bocking, near Braintree, on Easter-Monday. The towers of the following places will be open: Braintree (6 bells), Bocking (6 bells), Stisted (6 bells), Rayne (5 bells). A brake will leave Braintree church at 1.30 p.m. for Bocking, and Bocking at 2 p.m. for Stisted, returning in time for tea at The Black Boy, Bocking, at 4.30 p.m. The business meeting will follow the tea. The brake will convey ringers back to Braintree station, for the 7.10 p.m. train. Members intending to be present must signify their intention to me not later than the previous Tuesday.

HENRY T. W. EYRE, Ass. Sec.
Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Ely Diocesan Association.—The local meeting of the above association will be held on Easter-Monday, April 19th, at Market Downham, Norfolk. All friends are invited.

R. M. CROFT, Sec.

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Trevechin, Pontypool, in the Schoolroom, at three p.m., on Easter Monday. There will be a short service in church at 2.30. Members who have not already done so are kindly requested to pay their subscriptions for current year at this meeting. The bells will be available for ringing.

D. H. GRIFFITHS, Salisbury Road, } Hon.
H. G. WHITE, 58, Paget Street, } Secs.

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The Annual Meeting of this Association will be held in the Chapter House, Worcester Cathedral, on Easter Monday, April 19th, at 2 o'clock prompt. The very Rev. the Dean has kindly consented to preside. Tea will be provided for all members sending their names to me not later than Wednesday, April 14th. The towers of St. John and St. Nicholas (six bells) will be open for ringing during the day. The cathedral tower will be open for ringing after evensong at 5 p.m. JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

36, Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

The Ely Diocesan Association.—Sudbury Branch.—A meeting of this Branch will be held at Lavenham on Easter Monday. The bells of Lavenham (8) and Preston (6) will be available for the day. A meat tea will be provided at 1s. 6d. each, half-price to those shewing cards of membership for 1897, and life members. Members intending to be present must signify their intention to me not later than Tuesday, April 13th. CHAS. SILLITOE, Branch Sec.

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—The annual meeting and dinner will be held at The New inn, Norton, on Easter-Monday,

April 19th, 1897. Dinner on the table at 1.30 prompt, tickets 2s. each, including refreshments. The new ring of eight bells will be open for ringing from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. All ringing will be arranged by the Secretary, time allowed to each company according to the number of members present.

E. JAMES, Hon. Sec.
26, Meersbrook Bank Road, Norton, Sheffield

The East Derbyshire Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Clay Cross on Easter-Monday, April 19th. Bells (6) open at 9.0 a.m. Service in church at 4.15 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m., 1s. each. Business meeting after tea.

T. ALLIBONE, Hon. Sec.

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Benbilton (Sutton) on Easter Monday. Tea at the Shaftesbury Coffee Tavern, High Road, at 6 p.m. Representatives should notify Mr. Chas. Dean, "Royston," Court Road, Sutton, of the number who intend being present. The bells of Benbilton (8) and Cheam (6) will be available by kind permission of the Vicar.

R. B. BLANCHARD, Hon. Sec.
3, Shrubbery Road, Streatham, S.W.

Midland Counties' Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Leicester on Easter Monday, April 19th. The following towers will be open for ringing from 10.30 a.m., viz: St. Margaret's (ten bells), St. Martin's (ten bells), St. Mark's (eight bells) and St. Saviour's (eight bells). A short service with an address by the Rev. A. M. Rendell, vicar of St. Margaret's, will be held at St. Margaret's church at 3 p.m., to which all members are earnestly invited. Committee meeting at 4 p.m., followed by a general meeting, both at St. Margaret's Coffee House, Lower Church Gate. Tickets for tea, 1s. each. Members intending to be present at tea are requested to forward their names to Mr. George Cleal, 211, St. Saviour's Road, New Evington, Leicester, not later than Thursday, April 15th, as the number must be guaranteed. Parties of eight or more can obtain fare-and-a-quarter tickets by giving three days' notice at any station.

J. O. LANCASHIRE, Hon. Sec.
22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.

The Hertford Association.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans, on Easter-Monday, when the towers of the Cathedral and St. Peter's church will be open for ringing from 2 p.m. Divine service at the Cathedral at 5 o'clock, address by the Venerable the Archdeacon of St. Albans. Tea at the Town Hall, at 5.45, charge to members, 6d. each. A meeting for the election of officers and general business to follow. Members and visitors intending to be present are requested to communicate with me by Wednesday, April 14th, in order that proper arrangements may be made for cheap tickets (where practicable) and seating accommodation at the tea. Members are reminded that the subscription for 1897-8 will be payable at the meeting; members in arrear with their subscriptions are requested to remit them without further delay.

St. Albans. E. P. DEBENHAM, Hon. Sec.

The North Notts Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Retford, on Easter-Monday, April 19th. Service will be held in West Retford church at 2.30 p.m. Business meeting in the schoolroom adjoining the church, immediately after the service. Tea in the Oddfellows' club-room, The Half Moon inn, at 4.30 p.m. The towers of East and West Retford and Ordsall churches will be open for ringing all day. Members of kindred associations will be heartily welcome.

B. DARLEY, Hon. Sec.

The Bedfordshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Bedford on Easter-Monday. Special service at St. Paul's church, at 3 p.m.; preacher, Rev. W. W. Crump, hon. sec. Ely Diocesan Association. Tea and business meeting at All Hallows Lane School, at 4 p.m. The following towers will be open for ringing: St. Paul's (ten bells), St. Peter's (six bells), and St. Mary's (six bells).

W. W. C. BAKER, Hon. Sec.
Ridgmont Vicarage, Bletchley.

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—A meeting of the above Branch will be held at St. James's church, Rusholme, on Saturday, April 24th; bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting at 7 p.m., open invitation to all ringers. WALTER BROWN, Branch Sec.

54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

The North Lincolnshire Association.—The annual general meeting will be held at Lincoln, on Saturday, April 24th. Tea in the Co-operative Hall, Silver Street, at 4.45 p.m., free to members who have paid their subscription; non-members, 1s. 2d. each. A business meeting will be held directly afterwards. The belfries in the city will be open to ringers during the afternoon and evening, except during the hours of service. Those intending to be present are requested to write to me on or before Wednesday, April 21st.

REGINALD BOND, Hon. Sec.
Newland Street West, Lincoln.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting of this Branch will be held at Haslingden, on Saturday, April 24th. The bells will be ready at 3.30 p.m.; business meeting at 6.30. J. H. BANKS, Branch Sec.

Helmshore Road, Helmshore.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The quarterly meeting in connection with this society will be held on Saturday, April 24th, at the parish church, Barton-under-Needwood. Bells will be available for ringing during the afternoon. Tea will be provided for all those sending in their names on or before the 20th inst., at 1s. per head, to

S. REEVES, Hon. Sec.
10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

The Middlesex Association.—The next meeting of this association will be held on Saturday, May 8th, at St. Matthew's church, Upper Clapton, by the kind permission of the Rev. J. R. Cullin. The tower will be open soon after 5 p.m., and there will be a business meeting at 8 p.m., in a room adjoining the church. The hon. secretary hopes that members will endeavour to be present, and he extends, on their behalf, a cordial invitation to all friends of the association who are ringers.

ARTHUR T. KING, Hon. Sec.
18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—Owing to the bell-hanging operations in progress at the Abbey and other towers in Bath, the annual meeting proposed to be held in the city on May 1st, is unavoidably postponed to a later date, due notice of which will appear.

HY. W. TOMKINS, Hon. Sec. and Treas.
The Cottage, Old Cleeve, Washford.

The Yorkshire Association.—Preliminary Notice.—Negotiations are pending with Messrs. Swan and Leach to run a special half-day excursion for the meeting at Pontefract, on May 15th, by G. N. R., with bookings for Leeds, Bradford, Keighley, Dewsbury, Wakefield, and intermediate stations. Further particulars in due course. BEN. T. COPLEY, 14, Hillside Terrace, BrADFORD. Hon. Sec.

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1897.

MR. HEYWOOD has effectually disposed of Noonan's peal of Stedman Triples; and after his comment upon it no one will have any desire for its revival. We are glad to have provoked such an exposition. The cryptic reputation of the puzzle is now exploded, and though it may have obtained some credit as being the first peal in the method on seven bells ever rang, there are those who think that such an inordinate quantity of bobs in Stedman Triples has a great tendency to impair or destroy such a claim. Most of us know the story of that old fellow who had been a tenor-man all his life, boasting at last that he had just rang the 6th in a touch of Stedman Triples, wisely or unknowingly hiding the fact that the conductor called a bob at every six, from the start to the finish, thus keeping 6 7 together behind until the bells run home at 60 changes. A peal of Stedman Triples having 710 bobs seems to be merely a widening of this joke. Perhaps it is useless to say that such a composition would not in the present day be recognised. With our present

knowledge of so many excellent peals, it may appear remarkable that amid the talent which was existent in the early days of ringing, something better was not produced. The art of composition was then the study of only a few among the Exercise, but some of them were giants at the work. They failed however to grasp the idea of Stedman Triples; they were without the inspiration necessary for such a task. It was left for a later generation to take it in hand successfully, and put to flight and shame the claims of such essays as the one we now take leave of.

GOOD FRIDAY coming next week, we shall have to publish one day earlier. Everything for insertion therefore in our next number, must reach us not later than Wednesday morning, the 14th instant.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Hon. Secretary acknowledges, with thanks, receipt of the contributions for the current year from the following societies, since the date of previous notice:—Gloucester and Bristol, Worcestershire, Winchester Diocesan, Surrey, Birmingham and District. He would be greatly obliged if the Hon. Secretaries of the following societies, who were on the list for 1896, would be kind enough to pay the contributions for 1897, without further delay, at the same time forwarding the names and addresses of their representatives, and the number of members in the society represented:—Archdeaconry of Stafford, Yorkshire, Sussex County, S.W. Middlesex, Salisbury Diocesan, Lancashire, Liverpool Diocesan.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Hon. Sec., C.C.

Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn, 3rd April, 1897.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 3, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTON, TOWER STREET.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt.

JAMES SCHOLLES Treble.	EMMANUEL HALL 5.
HENRY SPRINGALL 2.	ERNEST CLAYTON 6.
WILLIAM TRUSS 3.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. 7.
EDWARD WALLAGE 4.	EDWARD P. O'MEARA .. Tenor

Composed by the late JOHN COX and
Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

The above was rung on the thirty-eighth birthday of James Scholes, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. The ringers wish through this paper to thank the Rector and Churchwardens for the use of the bells on the occasion.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, April 3, 1897, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, ISLEWORTH.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 18½ cwt.

HORACE W. COTTON* .. Treble.	FREDERICK GODDARD .. 5.
EVERED J. WALSON 2.	†WILLIAM FOX 6.
WILLIAM E. JUDD* 3.	GEORGE A. RANSOM 7.
WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. 4.	THOMAS BEADLE Tenor.

Conducted by W. E. GARRARD.

*First peal. †First peal away from the tenor. E. J. Walsom hails from Ealing; Messrs. Goddard, Ransom and Beadle from Isleworth; the remainder from Kensington.

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THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 3, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHGATE,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 25 cwt.

HENRY STUBBS Treble.	ALBERT PITTAM 5.
HENRY WOOD 2.	ARTHUR JACOB 6.
ARTHUR PREECE 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
WILLIAM WARD 4.	FREDERICK DENCH Tenor.

Composed by FREDK. DENCH and Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

The figures of this composition appears on another page. First peal of Major by Mr. Preece, who is late of Gloucester.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, April 3, 1897, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, WATERLOO ROAD,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

HARRY BARTON Treble.	WILLIAM BEDWELL 5.
ERNEST H. NIXON* 2.	HAROLD N. DAVIS 6.
FREDERICK G. PERRIN .. 3.	ALFRED W. BRIGHTON .. 7.
WILLIAM S. SMITH 4.	FREDERICK J. PITTS Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and Conducted by WILLIAM BEDWELL.

*First peal in the method. Mr. Smith was elected a member previous to starting.

The Provinces.

BRIGHTON—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, March 31, 1897, in Two Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. G. WILLIAMS, 2, GROVE STREET,
ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

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

MRS. GEORGE WILLIAMS 1-2.	KEITH HART 5-6.
GEORGE WILLIAMS .. 3-4.	HARRY WESTON 7-8.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Umpire—V. Scardifield. This is the first peal by either of the above societies in which a lady has taken part. Rang at the second attempt.

STAFFORD.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, April 3, 1897, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES. Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM BENNETT .. Treble.	ALFRED MORETON 6.
THOMAS PERRY 2.	HERBERT KNIGHT 7.
ROBERT PICKERING 3.	AARON GRIFFITHS 8.
ROBERT GRANT* 4.	JAMES E. GROVES 9.
THOMAS GUEST* 5.	*THOMAS THOMPSON Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

*First peal of Caters. The ringers of 3, 7, 8 and 9, hail from Wolverhampton, the rest belong to the local band.

SILSDEN, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(AIREDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 3, 1897, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following:

Oxford Delight, Violet, Kent, Woodbine, New London Pleasure,
Duke of York, and Oxford.

WILLIAM MOSLEY .. Treble.	CLARENCE HOLMES 4.
SETH TILLOTSON 2.	CHRISTOPHER BROWN .. 5.
JOHN BODDY 3.	JOHN HILL Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BODDY.

Reference to this peal will be found elsewhere.

WISSETT, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 6, 1897, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being Six 6-scores each of Morning Star, Plain Bob and Old Doubles, and Twelve each of April Day and Grandsire Doubles.

Tenor 12 cwt.

FREDERICK LAMBERT .. Treble.	WILLIAM PEIRCE 3.
ARTHUR TOOK 2.	*WILLIAM DURRANT 4.

CHARLES KERRISON .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK LAMBERT.

Rung to celebrate the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. F. Lambert. These bells were last restored in 1818. *First peal.

KEMPSTON, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE ST. PAUL'S COMPANY, BEDFORD.)

On Saturday, April 3, 1897, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Being 720 each of the following:

Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, College Single, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM BARKER .. Treble.	HERBERT SHARP 4.
CHARLES R. LILLEY 2.	CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. 5.
CHARLES CHASTY 3.	FRANK HULL Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT SHARP.

*First 5040 by ringer of treble (aged 16 years). First 5040 in seven methods by C. R. Lilley.

BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.—LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 3, 1897, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

KENNIE HARTLEY .. Treble.	HENRY HAYES 5.
NOAH TOWNEND 2.	RICHARD ASHWORTH .. 6.
FREDERICK TOWNS 3.	HARTLEY HEYWORTH .. 7.
JOHN WILLIAM STIRK .. 4.	TOM REDMAN Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, of Deepcar, Sheffield, and

Conducted by TOM REDMAN.

First peal of Major on the bells. H. Hayes hails from Church; H. Heywood belongs to the local company; the rest are from Holy Trinity. This peal has the sixth the extent in 5-6 at six course-ends each way.

SHEFFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 3, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH (R.C.) OF ST. MARIE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 25 cwt.

THOMAS DIXON .. Treble.	HERBERT JONES 5.
THOMAS WHITWORTH .. 2.	THOMAS G. SAREL 6.
G. OLIVER DIXON 3.	JAMES A. DIXON 7.
JAMES EVINSON* 4.	THOMAS SYLVESTER .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY HALEY and Conducted by THOS. DIXON.

*First peal.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 3, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL (REVERSED).

Tenor 11½ cwt. in F sharp.

CHARLES PORTER† .. Treble.	ABRAHAM SHUTTLEWORTH 5.
ARTHUR EDWARDS 2.	WILLIAM J. PIPER 6.
JAMES TARBUN* 3.	ALFRED TARBUN 7.
GEORGE PIPER* 4.	*RICHARD DINES Tenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR EDWARDS.

†First peal away from the tenor. *First peal. This is the first peal ever rang by an entirely Widford company.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, April 3, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES SHAW .. Treble.	W. JAKEMAN 5.
WILLIAM WILD 2.	THOMAS BRADLEY 6.
JOHN H. BRIERLEY 3.	JOHN LEIGH 7.
WALTER SLATER 4.	SAMUEL WOOD Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN THORP and Conducted by W. JAKEMAN.

Messrs. Jakeman, Leigh, and Wood hail from Ashton; the rest belong to the local company.

BUCKNALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 6, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following:

London, Chester, York, Cambridge, Superlative, Bristol, and Worcester. Tenor 11½ cwt. in A flat.

GEORGE CLARKSON .. Treble.	CHARLES PRESTON 4.
WILLIAM WHEELDON 2.	DANIEL PRESTON 5.
JOHN E. WHEELDON 3.	WILLIAM TWIGG Tenor.

A SILENT PEAL.

This is the first silent peal of Minor ever rung. It was rung without any intimation being given as to where the bobs came, and as each 720 came into rounds from the backstroke the next method was commenced at the following handstroke without a word being spoken.

Miscellaneous.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRAMFIELD (Suffolk).—On Monday, March 8th, for practice, several 6-scores of Doubles in the following methods: Plain Bob, Grandsire, April Day, Morning Star, Old Doubles, and St. Simons, the following ringers taking part: Messrs. Took, Punchedard, Durrant, Chatten, Thain, Walker, and Lambert.

WISSETT (Suffolk).—On Monday, March 15th, two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. A. Took, 1; W. Peirce, 2; S. Bird, 3; C. Kerrison, 4; F. Lambert (conductor), 5. Also two courses of Stedman. T. Wilson, Esq. (Rumburgh), the rest as before. And 480 Grandsire. W. Hunt (Rumburgh), 5; the rest as before.

HALESWORTH (Suffolk).—On Thursday, March 18th, on the occasion of a Confirmation Service by the Bishop of Thetford, 252 Bob Triples and 336 Bob Major. W. Peirce, 1; T. Took, 2; F. Lambert, (conductor), 3; E. Easter, 4; R. Howard, 5; G. Tovell, 6; J. Howard, 7; C. Kerrison, 8.

CRATFIELD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, March 21st, 360 Bob Minor. W. Bloomfield (Huntingfield), 1; J. Mouzer, 2; S. Smith (conductor), 3; J. Bills, 4; J. Walker (Bramfield), 5; J. Punchedard (Bramfield), 6.

RUMBURGH (Suffolk).—On Thursday, March 11th, for Divine Service, 600 Grandsire Doubles. T. Wilson, Esq., 1; F. Lambert (conductor), 2; F. Clarke, 3; S. Bird, 4; W. Hunt, 5.

HUNTINGFIELD (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, March 10th, a 6-score each of the following methods: Plain Bob, April Day, Old Doubles, Morning Star, and Grandsire. F. Mower, 1; A. Took, 2; W. Bloomfield, 3; J. Mudd, 4; F. Lambert (conductor), 5.

DISS (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, March 23rd, for practice, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans). E. Hayward, 1; W. Wiskens, 2; F. Borrett, 3; W. Salter, 4; G. Archer, 5; A. Hammond, 6; J. Souter (conductor), 7; A. Hart, 8. First quarter-peal by all except the conductor. And 224 Double Norwich. E. Hayward, 1; W. Wiskens, 2; W. Chenery, 3; W. Salter, 4; G. Archer, 5; A. Hammond, 6; F. Borrett, 7; J. Souter, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—FYLDE BRANCH.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Friday, January 1st, at St. Peter's church, 720 College Single (thirty singles and three bobs). Composed by F. Meadows, of Otley, Suffolk. G. Maries, 1; J. Pendlebury, 2; E. Forshaw, 3; W. Gillett, 4; J. Moore, 5; W. Tomlinson, 6. On Sunday, January 3rd, 720 Plain Bob (twenty singles). Composed by C. E. Wilson, of Walton, Lancashire. On Sunday, January 24th, 720 Oxford Single Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). First in the

method by all. On Thursday, January 31st, 720 Plain Bob (fourteen singles and six bobs). On Saturday, February 13th, 720 Oxford Single Bob (twenty-six singles and thirty-four bobs). On Sunday, March 14th, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), standing as above. On Sunday, March 21st, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. Pendlebury, 3; the rest as before. On Sunday, March 21st, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Forshaw, 3; the rest as before. On Sunday, March 28th, 720 Oxford Single (eighteen singles and three bobs). C. Pendlebury (first in the method), 3; E. Forshaw, 4; the rest as before. All the above were conducted by G. Maries. Tenor 10½ cwt.

THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

BARNET (Middlesex).—On Monday, February 22nd, for practice, 224 Bob Major. E. Tubb, 1; W. Dell, 3; F. Milne, 3; J. Sumpter, 4; J. Stevens, 5; F. Carroway, 6; A. Belton, 7; C. H. Martin, 8. Also a touch of Grandsire Triples, in which F. Sparks took part. Messrs. Carroway, Sparks, and Tubb hail from Finchley. On Monday, March 1st, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples came to grief after ringing 2000 changes. W. Dell, 1; F. Milne (conductor), 2; J. Sumpter, 3; J. Ginns, 4; J. Stevens, 5; C. H. Martin, 6; A. Belton, 7; A. T. King, 8. On Monday, March 15th, 168 Grandsire Triples. S. Wade, 1; C. H. Martin, 2; J. Sumpter, 3; W. Ward, 4; A. Preece, 5; A. Belton, 6; J. Parker (conductor), 7; A. T. King, Esq., 8. And 504 Stedman Triples. C. H. Martin, 1; J. Miller, 2; F. Milne, 3; W. Ward, 4; A. Preece, 5; J. Parker (conductor), 6; A. Miller, 7; A. T. King, Esq., 8. Also 224 Bob Major. A. Chidwick, 1; F. Milne, 2; W. Dell, 3; J. Sumpter, 4; J. Stevens, 5; A. Miller, 6; A. Belton, 7; C. H. Martin, 8. And 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Dolton, 1; S. Wade, 2; A. Chidwick, 3; J. Sumpter, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; A. Preece, 6; A. Belton, 7; J. Miller, 8.

HENDON (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, February 16th, at St. Mary's church, 240 Cambridge Surprise. C. Crampton, 1; H. Martin, 2; F. Pratt, 3; E. Pratchett, 4; F. Carroway, 5; C. H. Martin, 6. Also 120 Woodbine Treble Bob, and 120 Stedman Doubles. On Sunday, February 28th, 720 Plain Bob. F. Jones, 1; C. H. Martin, 2; F. Pratt, 3; J. Barrett, 4; H. Martin (conductor), 5; C. Crampton, 6. On Wednesday, March 10th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. Tubb (first 720 in the method), 1; C. H. Martin (conductor), 2; F. Carroway, 3; F. Pratt, 4; G. Miles (first 720 in the method with a bob bell), 5; H. Martin, 6.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex). On Saturday, March 27th, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples came to grief after ringing 3000 changes. A. Chidwick, 1; F. Milne (conductor), 2; W. Dell, 3; J. Sumpter, 4; J. Miller, 5; C. H. Martin, 6; A. Belton, 7; A. T. King, Esq., 8.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON.—On Sunday evening, February 28th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 504 Stedman Triples. A. Walker, 1; S. Wyett, 2; S. Radford, 3; J. Joyce, 4; A. Evans, 5; J. Burge, 6; T. Radford (conductor), 7; W. Thomas, 8. First 504 by all except the conductor. Rung as a farewell touch to A. Walker, who is leaving for Birmingham. On Sunday, March 7th, 168 Stedman Triples. W. Thomas, 1; S. Wyett, 2; A. Evans, 3; J. Joyce, 4; S. Radford, 5; J. Burge, 6; T. Radford (conductor), 7; J. Fowler, 8. On Sunday, March 14th, 270 Grandsire Caters. J. Hunt, 1; A. Evans, 2; S. Radford, 3; W. Thomas, 4; T. Radford, 5; J. Joyce, 6; S. Wyett, 7; J. Fowler, 8; J. Burge (conductor), 9; H. Bosley, 10. And 112 Grandsire Triples. E. Lloyd, 1; J. Hunt, 2; S. Radford, 3; A. Evans, 4; S. Wyett, 5; T. Radford, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; W. Thomas, 8. On Sunday, March 21st, 120 Stedman Triples. J. Hunt, 1; W. Thomas, 2; J. Joyce, 3; A. Evans, 4; S. Wyett, 5; S. Radford, 6; T. Radford (conductor), 7; J. Burge, 8. On Sunday, March 28th, 210 Oxford Bob Triples. E. Lloyd, 1; J. Hunt, 2; S. Radford, 3; T. Radford, 4; J. Joyce, 5; J. Fowler, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; A. Evans, 8. And 336 Grandsire Triples. E. Lloyd, 1; J. Hunt, 2; S. Wyett, 3; S. Radford, 4; T. Radford (conductor), 5; J. Burge, 6; A. Evans, 7; J. Joyce, 8. Recently at St. James' church several plain courses of London Surprise Minor. On Sunday, February 28th, 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Yandell, 1; H. Creed (first attempt), 2; H. Poole (conductor), 3; A. Doble, 4; E. Burgess, 5; J. Maddock, 6. On Sunday, March 21st, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. T. Doble, 1; A. Doble, 2; H. Poole (conductor), 3; E. Burgess, 4; J. Maddock, 5; W. Thorn, 6. On Sunday, March 28th, 720 Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. T. Doble (conductor), 1; A. Doble, 2; H. Poole, 3; J. Maddock, 4; E. Burgess, 5; J. Yandell, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

BLACKBURN.—On Saturday, March 27th, at the church of the Holy Trinity, on the occasion of the branch meeting, 288 Kent Treble Bob.

G. Goodwin (Blackburn), 1; F. Towns (Burnley), 2; R. Ashworth (Burnley), 3; W. Timbrell (Chipping), 4; J. Mather (Preston), 5; J. Werring (Burnley, conductor), 6; J. Brown (Blackburn), 7; J. Scholey (Blackburn), 8. Also 576 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Brown, 1; J. Werring, 2; W. Timbrell, 3; H. Hayes (Church), 4; T. Redman (conductor), 5; R. Ashworth, 6; J. Mather, 7; J. Scholey, 8. And 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Brown, 1; F. Towns, 2; I. Whalley (Oswaldtwistle), 3; R. Parkinson (Oswaldtwistle), 4; R. Ashworth, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6.

'THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WINCHESTER.—On Sunday morning, March 28th, for Divine Service at the Cathedral, 305 Grandsire Caters. J. Elkins, 1; G. Smith, 2; W. Andrews, 3; W. Lampard, 4; C. Chooet, 5; R. Hasted, 6; J. Harris, 7; W. J. Sevier, 8; W. H. George (conductor), 9; W. Payne, 10. Tenor 32 cwt.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BRIGHTON.—On Sunday evening, March 21st, for Divine Service at St. Nicholas, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. H. Rann (conductor), 1; W. Palmer, 2; F. Bacon, 3; E. Randall, 4; J. Fox, 5; E. Merritt, 6; J. Jay, 7; R. Fentiman, 8. Composed by J. S. Goldsmith, of Southover, Lewes.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

HELMESHORE (Lancashire).—On March 31st, at St. Thomas's church, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor. H. Steff, 1; T. P. Brandwood, 2; R. Wallwork, 3; J. Banks, 4; T. Wallwork, 5; J. H. Banks (conductor), 6.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

BRIXTON (Surrey).—On Sunday, March 21st, at the church of St. John the Divine, Vassall Road, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans' composition), in 49 mins. H. N. Davis (conductor), 1; *W. H. Passmore, 2; W. Truss, 3; A. Hardy, 4; G. E. Symonds, 5; F. G. Perrin, 6; V. W. West, 7; †G. Mulley, 8. *First quarter-peal with a bob bell. †First quarter-peal.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BROMLEY (Kent).—On Wednesday evening, March 9th, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. J. Town, 1; W. Wright, 2; T. P. Richards, Esq., 3; J. Hack, 4; E. Dunn, 5; T. Harford, 6; G. Durling (conductor), 7; W. James, 8. Rung to commemorate the birthday of the ringers of the 4th and 5th, their brother-ringers wishing them many happy returns. On Sunday, March 14th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, composed by W. Smith, of Penge, and contains eighteen 4-6s. J. Town, 1; J. Hack, 2; T. P. Richards, Esq., 3; E. Dunn, 4; P. F. Harman, 5; G. Simpson (first quarter-peal in the method with a bob bell), 6; G. Durling (conductor), 7; W. James, 8.

PENGE (Surrey).—On Thursday, March 18th, at the church of St. John, 720 Bob Minor. G. Conn, 1; J. Town, 2; H. Edwards, 3; T. Richards, 4; W. Batson, 5; G. Wickens (conductor), 6. On Thursday, March 25th, 720 Canterbury Minor. G. Conn, 1; W. Batson, 2; H. Edwards, 3; J. Marshall, 4; J. Town (100th 720), 5; G. Durling (conductor), 6. G. Durling hails from Bromley; Town from Beckenham, Kent.

RODMERSHAM (Kent).—On February 14th, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Sedge, 1; G. Coast, 2; J. G. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon, M.A. (conductor), 4; E. Allen, 5; S. Beach, 6. On February 20th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. E. Day, 1; S. Beach, 2; J. G. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon, M.A., 4; C. Millway, 5; H. Wood (conductor), 6. Also 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles), standing as before. And 720 Superlative Surprise, standing as before. On February 28th, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Sedge, 1; H. Coast, 2; G. Coast, 3; J. G. Grensted, 4; E. Day, 5; C. Millway (conductor), 6. On March 7th, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Hollands, 1; H. Coast, 2; G. Coast, 3; J. Dixon, M.A. (conductor), 4; J. G. Grensted, 5; S. Beach, 6. On March 28th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Coast, 1; E. Day, 2; J. G. Grensted, 3; T. Dixon M.A. (conductor), 4; W. Wilkins, 5; C. Millway, 6. Allen hails from Borden; Wilkins from Bobbing.

LEWISHAM (Kent).—On Sunday morning, March 14th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 504 Stedman Triples. W. Bedwell, 1; G. Daynes, 2; E. Nixon, 3; A. Bedwell, 4; H. Barrett, 5; T. Taylor, 6; H. Warnett (conductor), 7; T. Kettle, 8. For evening service 1152 Kent Treble Bob Major. A. Bedwell, 1; G. Daynes, 2; E. Nixon, 3; T. Deal, 4; H. Barrett, 5; T. Taylor, 6; W. Bedwell, 7; H. Warnett (conductor), 8. Rung in honour of the conductor's birthday, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

STANFORD-ON-SOAR (Notts).—On Sunday morning, February 28th, after Divine Service, with the bells half-muffled, 720 Bob Minor as a tribute of respect to the late Mrs. Gibson, wife of the vicar's warden. A. Trigg, 1; H. Whittle, 2; W. Perrin, 3; J. Yates, 4; G. Doughty, 5; E. Reader, 6. On Sunday, March 7th, 720 Kent Treble Bob, being the first in the method by all except the conductor. On Sunday, March 14th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Matthews, 1; the rest as before. On Sunday, March 21st, 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Matthews, 1; W. Tyler, 5; the rest as above. Messrs. Matthews and Tyler belong to the Loughborough parish church society. All the above were conducted by E. Reader.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRIDGEND (South Wales).—On Monday, February 15th, at St. Illtyd's church, 720 Plain Bob. W. Hardwick, 1; J. Evans, 2; R. Bunstone, 3; J. South (first with a bob bell), 4; D. J. Hurford, 5; R. Evans (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 21st, 720 Plain Bob. D. J. Hurford, 1; J. Evans, 2; W. Hardwick, 3; J. South, 4; R. Bunstone, 5; R. Evans (conductor), 6. On Monday, March 15th, 720 in the same method. R. Evans, 1; J. Evans, 2; W. Hardwick, 3; J. South, 4; D. J. Hurford (first as conductor), 5; R. Bunstone, 6. On Sunday, March 21st, 720 Plain Bob (ten bobs and six singles). J. South, 1; J. Evans, 2; R. Evans (conductor), 3; W. Hardwick, 4; R. Bunstone, 5; D. J. Hurford, 6.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HEPTONSTALL (Yorks).—On Sunday morning, February 14th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Burn (conductor), 1; T. Robertshaw, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; W. Ingham, 5; J. Robertshaw, 6. On Sunday morning, February 21st, for Divine Service, 720 Duke of York. A. Burn (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; J. Robertshaw, 5; J. Nowell, 6. For afternoon service 720 in the same method, standing as in the morning with the exception of T. Robertshaw (conductor), 1. On Sunday, February 28th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Burn (conductor), 1; T. Robertshaw, 2; J. Foster, 3; J. Armstrong, 4; W. Ingham, 5; J. Robertshaw, 6. For afternoon service 720 Duke of York. A. Burn (conductor), 1; T. Robertshaw, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; W. Ingham, 4; J. Robertshaw, 5; J. Nowell, 6. On Sunday morning, March 7th, for Divine Service, 360 New London. A. Burn (conductor), 1; T. Robertshaw, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; W. Ingham, 4; J. Robertshaw, 5; J. Nowell, 6. For afternoon service 720 Violet Treble Bob. T. Robertshaw (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; J. Robertshaw, 5; J. Nowell, 6. On Sunday morning, March 14th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Burn (conductor), 1; T. Robertshaw, 2; J. Foster, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; J. Nowell, 6. For afternoon service 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Burn (conductor), 1; J. Robertshaw, 2; W. Ingham, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; P. Powell, 6. On Sunday morning, March 21st, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. A. Burn (conductor), 1; J. Armstrong, 2; J. Foster, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; J. Robertshaw, 5; R. Nowell, 6. For afternoon service 720 Oxford Treble Bob, standing as in the morning with the exception of W. Ingham, 1; F. Robertshaw (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, March 28th, for Divine Service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. A. Burn (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; J. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; J. Nowell, 6. For afternoon service 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. Robertshaw (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; J. Nowell, 6.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Sunday, February 28th, 1200 changes of Minor, being 720 of Oxford Bob and 480 of Plain Bob, in 37 mins. F. Trueman, 1; J. Maxey, 2; C. West, 3; T. Frossell, 4; H. King, 5; W. J. Davison (conductor), 6. On Saturday, March 13th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. C. West, 1; S. Lowe, 2; W. J. Davison, 3; A. Robinson, 4; H. King, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 14th, 360 Oxford Bob. H. King, 1; F. Trueman, 2; J. Maxey, 3; A. Ingram, 4; J. Harpin, 5; W. West, 6. Also 720 Plain Bob (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 22 mins. A. West, 1; T. Frossell, 2; W. West, 3; W. J. Davison (conductor), 4; J. Harpin, 5; F. Trueman (aged 15), 6. On Monday, March 15th, 360 Plain Bob. H. King, 1; A. Ingram, 2; C. Brockell, 3; T. Frossell, 4; J. Harpin, 5; W. J. Davison (conductor), 6. Also 1080 Bob Minor. W. West, 1; J. Maxey, 2; A. Ingram, 3; T. Frossell, 4; J. Harpin, 5; W. J. Davison (conductor), 6. Also 1800 Plain Bob. W. West, 1; J. Maxey, 2; A. Ingram, 3; T. Frossell, 4; J. Harpin, 5; W. J. Davison (conductor), 6. The above was rung as a birthday compliment to W. West, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. On Sunday, March 21st, 360 Bob Minor. W. West, 1; T. Frossell, 2; J. Maxey, 3; H. Tysoe, 4; J. Harpin, 5; C. West (con-

ductor), 6. Also 720 Double Court. — Lilley, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; W. J. Davison, 3; C. Chasty, 4; C. West, 5; A. Martin, 6. And 360 Kent Treble Bob. C. W. Clarke, 1; A. Perkins, 2; — Lilley, 3; A. Y. Tyler, 4; H. Tysoe, 5; J. Houghton, 6. On Saturday, March 27th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. West, 1; W. J. Davison, 2; S. Lowe, 3; A. Robinson, 4; H. King, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 28th, 720 College Single. J. Harpin, 1; F. Trueman, 2; H. King, 3; W. J. Davison, 4; J. Maxey, 5; C. West (conductor), 6.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, March 25th, at the residence of Miss R. Poynder, Waldeck Avenue, a 720 Bob Minor on handbells. Miss R. Poynder, 1-2; Miss L. Heppell, 3; Miss A. Hart Smith, 4; Samuel Constant (conductor), 5-6. First 720 by the ladies and first by the conductor *double-handed*. And on Thursday, April 1st, a 720 of Bob Minor, at the same residence. Miss R. Poynder, 1-2; Miss E. Lee, 3; Miss A. Hart Smith, 4; Samuel Constant (conductor), 5-6. First 720 by Miss Lee. On Sunday, April 4th, at St. Peter's church for evening service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. F. Parrott, 1; S. Lowe, 2; H. Toll, 3; F. Lowe, 4; A. Robinson, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 2nd, for practice, a 720 of Double Court. F. Parrott, 1; Harry Toll, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; A. Robinson, 4; S. Lowe, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. And 360 of Woodbine. W. Barker, 1; S. Constant, 2; Harry Toll, 3; S. Lowe, 4; A. Robinson, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 7th, for evensong, a 720 of Bob Minor. F. Parrott, 1; A. Robinson, 2; Frank Lowe, 3; W. Davison, 4; S. Lowe (conductor and first attempt), 5; S. Constant, 6. On Sunday, March 28th, for mattins, a 360 of Grandsire Minor. F. Parrott, 1; Harry Toll, 2; F. Lowe, 3; A. Robinson, 4; W. Shimmans, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. And a 360 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Lowe, 1; S. Lowe, 2; A. Robinson, 3; W. Shimmans, 4; Harry Toll, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. And for evensong a 720 of Double Court. F. Parrott, 1; S. Lowe, 2; F. Lowe, 3; A. Robinson, 4; S. Constant (conductor), 5; Harry Toll, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Sunday morning, March 28th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. C. Porter, 1; A. Tarbun, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; G. Piper, 4; J. Tarbun, 5; W. J. Piper, 6; A. Edwards (conductor), 7; R. Dains, 8.

WRITTE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, March 28th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 46 mins., taken from Haley's Variation. G. Sorrell, 1; W. J. Piper, 2; E. Davies, 3; A. Head, 4; W. Lincoln, 5; T. Lincoln, 6; A. Edwards (conductor), 7; W. Emery, 8.

WITHAM (Essex).—On Tuesday, March 2nd, at the church of St. Nicholas, 720 Double Court. C. Mills, 1; A. Chalk, 2; D. Elliott (conductor), 3; W. Keeble, 4; H. Evers, 5; E. Beckwith, 6. And 720 Bob Minor. J. Willsher, 1; D. Elliott (conductor), 2; E. Chaplin, 3; the rest as before. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. Chaplin, 1; H. Evers, 2; W. Keeble, 3; D. Elliott (conductor), 4; E. Garnett, 5; E. Beckwith, 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

FEERING (Essex).—On Tuesday, March 16th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. G. Mays, 1; J. Willsher, 2; W. Hunwick, 3; G. Hum, 4; C. Rogers, 5; J. Newman (conductor), 6. And another 720. G. Mays, 1; W. Hunwick, sen., 2; W. Hunwick, jun., 3; G. Hum, 4; W. Keeble (conductor), 5; C. Rogers, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

KELVEDON (Essex).—On Wednesday, February 24th, at St. Mary's church, 720 College Exercise. H. Elliott, 1; E. Beckwith, 2; D. Elliott, 3; W. Keeble, 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott (conductor), 6. First in the method on the bells, and by all the band. Also 720 New London by the same band. On Sunday evening, March 7th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. E. Mills, 1; H. Elliott, 2; J. Elliott, 3; W. Keeble (conductor), 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott, 6. This is a one-part 720, containing forty-two singles.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

KINGSLEY (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, March 27th, at the church of St. Werburgh, 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. Bradshaw, 1; J. Wheel-
don, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; G. Berrisford, 4; J. Moreton, 5; H. Corn-
well (conductor), 6. This is G. Clarkson's first 720 away from his
own tower with a bob bell. Messrs. Clarkson and Wheeldon hail
from Bucknall; the rest are local men.

BUCKNALL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, March 7th, for morning
service, a silent 720 of Bristol Surprise. For evening service a silent
720 of Superlative Surprise. G. Clarkson, 1; W. Wheeldon, 2; J. E.
Wheeldon, 3; C. Preston, 4; D. Preston, 5; W. Twigg, 6. On Tues-
day, March 9th, a silent 720 of Cambridge Surprise. D. Preston, 3;
G. Hobbs, 5; the others as before. On Sunday, March 14th, a silent
720 of Chester Surprise. J. E. Wheeldon, 3; D. Preston, 5; the rest
as before. On Wednesday, March 17th, a silent 720 of London Sur-
prise, standing as before. On Sunday, March 21st, for morning ser-

vice, a silent 720 each of Cambridge and Superlative Surprise. For evening service a silent 720 each of Bristol and Worcester Surprise, standing as before. On Tuesday, March 23rd, an attempt was made to ring a silent peal in seven Surprise methods, but it came to grief when half-way through the last 720, the methods completed being 720 each of London, Chester, York, Cambridge, Superlative and Bristol. On Thursday, March 25th, another attempt was made, but it came to grief after ringing 720 each of London and Chester. On Sunday, March 28th, for morning service, a silent 720 of York Surprise. For evening service a silent 720 of Superlative Surprise. On Tuesday, March 30th, another attempt was made for the peal, but it again came to grief after ringing 720 each of London, Chester, York and Cambridge, the ringers standing as before.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SCHOLARS', STAMFORD.

UPPINGTON (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, March 1st, 720 of Oxford Bob. W. Turner, 1; C. R. Lilley, 2; C. Harper, 3; R. S. Cox, 4; F. Dennison, 5; Rev. H. Law James (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Dennison, 1; C. R. Lilley, 2; R. Wyche, 3; R. S. Cox, 4; C. Harper, 5; Rev. H. Law James (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. First 720 of Kent by Messrs. Dennison, Cox and Harper, and first 720 on the bells, which have been augmented to six. Treble new bell, and 4th and 6th recast.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On Monday, March 29th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, the last 700 of Holt's Original. C. Swain, 1; J. Tucker, 2; F. Hopgood (conductor), 3; A. Osborne, 4; A. Watmore, 5; J. Swain, 6; R. Swain, 7; R. Sawyer, 8. Also 111 Grandsire Triples. R. Sawyer, 1; R. Swain, 2; F. Hopgood, 3; A. Osborne, 4; A. Watmore, 5; J. Swain, 6; W. Wilkins (conductor), 7; J. Tucker, 8. After service 518 Grandsire Triples. C. Swain, 1; H. Tucker, 2; F. Hopgood (conductor), 3; J. Tucker, 4; A. Watmore, 5; A. Osborne, 6; R. Swain, 7; R. Sawyer, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. W. Wilkins hails from Maidenhead, Berks.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Thursday, March 18th, at the church of All Hallows Barking, Tower Hill, E.C., a 2176 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. and 25 mins. J. Scholes, 1; S. E. Joyce, 2; E. Wallage, 3; E. O'Meara, 4; W. Truss, 5; H. Springall (conductor), 6; E. Clayton, 7; E. Hall, 8. Rung as compliment to W. Truss, he having attained his twenty-first birthday on that day. Tenor 20 cwt. in E. On Sunday, March 21st, for morning service at St. Botolph, Aldgate, a 1260 of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. Composed by J. Bradley. T. Bernardin, 1; J. Scholes, 2; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 3; W. Truss, 4; S. Parmenter, 5; E. Clayton, 6; E. Hall, 7; C. Kennedy, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in Db. And for evening service at St. George's in the East, a 1260 of Stedman Triples (Brook's variation), in 50 mins. E. Hall, 1; E. Clayton, 2; E. Wallage, 3; J. Scholes, 4; H. Springall, 5; A. W. Barkus, 6; S. E. Joyce (conductor), 7; C. Kennedy, 8. Rang in honour of the twenty-first birthday of the conductor, also the first quarter-peal in the method he has called. Tenor 31 cwt. in Db.

BRANDESTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, February 27th, 720 Double Court Bob. W. Bedingfield, 2; T. Bradlaugh, 3; *P. Bedingfield, 4; *A. Meadows, 5; *H. W. Baldry (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. On Tuesday, March 2nd, three 18-scores of Bob Minor with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late W. Walpole, formerly a member of this company. W. Bedingfield, 1; H. Baldry, 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; P. Bedingfield, 4; A. Meadows, 5; H. W. Baldry (conductor), 6. On Thursday, March 4th, at the house of Mr. A. Meadows, on handbells, 720 Bob Minor, in 20 mins. H. Bedingfield, 1-2; H. W. Baldry (conductor), 3-4; A. Meadows, 5-6. On Saturday, March 27th, 2528 Bob Major, in 1 hr. 14 mins. H. Bedingfield, 1-2; W. G. Crickmer (conductor), 3-4; H. W. Baldry, 5-6; A. Meadows, 7-8.

BRIGHTON (*Handbell ringing*).—On Saturday, March 27th, at the residence of G. Williams, 2, Grove street, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but it came to grief after ringing nearly 3000 changes in 1 hr. and 15 mins. Mrs. G. Williams, 1-2; G. Williams (conductor), 3-4; K. Hart, 5-6; H. Weston, 7-8. Umpire—V. Scardifield. On Saturday, April 3rd, a 504 Grandsire Triples. K. Hart, 1-2; F. Bennett, 3-4; G. Williams (conductor), 5-6; V. Scardifield, 7-8.

MORTIMER (Berks).—On Saturday, March 20th, at the parish church, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. H. Cox, 1; H. Mason, 2; W. Ballard, 3; T. Neville, 4; W. Jerram, 5; F. Hopgood

(conductor), 6; W. Newell, 7; F. Eatwell, 8. And by the same band a 420 in the same method, conducted by W. Newell.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Monday, February 22nd, for practice, a 504 Stedman Triples. C. Privett, 1; Alice White, 2; E. Hill, 3; H. Westbrook, 4; A. Coghlan, 5; G. Grafham, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; G. Grant, 8. On Sunday, March 7th, for afternoon Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. Miss Alice White, 1; C. Privett, 2; F. Hill, 3; G. Chappell, 4; G. W. Grafham, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. On Sunday afternoon, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans') in 40 mins. C. Privett, 1; A. E. Reeves, 2; J. Tucker, 3; F. Hill, 4; G. Chappell, 5; C. Giles, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; G. Grant, 8.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—On Tuesday, March 16th, at All Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. *G. Strutt, 1; J. Wright (composer and conductor), 2; †E. Stacey, 3; W. Tiller, 4; J. Howes, 5; H. Newnham, 6; J. Strutt, 7; J. Chandler, 8. Tenor 33 cwt. *Longest length. †Longest length with a bob bell. This touch contains the twenty-four 6-7s.

LONDON.—On Thursday, March 25th, for practice at the church of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, 672 Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original in 26 mins. W. Smith, 1; W. Truss, 2; H. Green, 3; W. Langdon, 4; J. Taffender (conductor), 5; F. Clements, 6; W. Humberstone, 7; W. Cobbett, 8.

MARKET DEEPING (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, January 16th, 720 Plain Bob. E. Gale, 1; C. Harper, 2; Rev. H. Law James, 3; C. Lilley, 4; W. Wadsley, 5; J. Fowler, 6. And 720 Oxford Bob. E. Gale, 1; E. Popple, 2; C. Lilley, 3; C. Harper, 4; W. Wadsley, 5; Rev. H. Law James, 6. Also 720 Single Court. E. Gale, 1; E. Popple, 2; C. Lilley, 3; F. Dennison, 4; J. Rawlinson, 5; Rev. H. Law James, 6. And 720 Double Court. E. Gale, 1; E. Popple, 2; C. Harper, 3; C. Lilley, 4; F. Dennison, 5; Rev. H. Law James (conductor), 6.

NEWPORT (Monmouthshire).—On Sunday evening, March 28th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Woolos, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. H. Russell, 1; J. Jones, 2; H. Millard, 3; T. Butler, 4; J. Cox, 5; G. Condict, 6; J. Trowbridge (conductor), 7; T. Longville, 8.

RADCLIFFE (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, March 23rd, for practice at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 26 mins. F. Bradshaw, 1; W. Baines (first 720), 2; F. Emerson, 3; J. Hardman, 4; A. Barrett (conductor), 5; W. Fielding, 6.

ROCHDALE (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, February 15th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles), in 25 mins. J. Lingard, 1; J. Harrison, 2; E. Shepherd, 3; J. Crossley (conductor), 4; E. Schofield, 5; R. E. Hoyle, 6. J. Harrison hails from Heywood. On Monday evening, March 1st, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles). W. Turner, 1; J. Lingard, 2; E. Schofield, 3; R. Sladen, 4; J. Sladen (conductor), 5; J. S. Marshall, 6. First 720 in any method by the ringers of the treble and 4th. On Monday evening, March 22nd, for practice, 720 Bob Minor, in 24 mins. W. Turner, 1; J. Lingard, 2; E. Schofield, 3; R. Whittles (conductor), 4; J. Stott (Rochdale parish church), 5; J. S. Marshall, 6.

SKAITH (Yorks).—On Sunday morning, March 14th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 360 Bob Minor (four bobs and three singles). For evening service 720 Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). R. Pocklington, 1; S. Pickup, 2; E. Pick, 3; J. Norton, 4; R. Holmes, 5; J. Bullock (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, March 28th, for Divine Service, 720 Darling Point Minor (twenty bobs and five singles). R. Pocklington, 1; S. Pickup, 1; E. Pick, 3; G. Holmes, 4; R. Holmes, 5; J. Bullock (conductor), 6.

THORNBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, March 21st, for evening service at St. Mary's church, 420 Stedman Triples. A. Burchell, 1; C. H. Horton (conductor), 2; W. Symes, 3; S. Phipps, 4; S. Culmore, 5; J. Poole, 6; F. K. Howell, 7; W. Gale, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. With the exception of C. Horton all the above belong to the St. Mary's Amateur Society, and the above touch is the longest by all except the ringers of the 2nd, 6th and 7th. C. H. Horton hails from St. Stephen's, Bristol.

WILLESBOROUGH (Kent).—On Monday, March 22nd, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and twelve singles) in 35 mins. C. Young, 1; H. Goodwin, 2; W. Spice, 3; J. Swinerd, 4; W. Hills, 5; T. Tabrett (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles) in 24½ mins. W. Hobbs, 1; W. Hills, 2; J. Swinerd, 3; C. Young, 4; E. Dixon, 5; T. Tabrett (conductor), 6. Messrs. Spice and Goodwin hail from Charing; Tabrett from Ashford; the rest belong to the local band. W. Hobbs has but recently taken up his abode in Willesborough.

Compositions.

TWO PEALS OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By G. LINDOFF, *Lincoln.*

5184.

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 5 6

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

Repeated.

Has the 6th twelve times wrong and her extent right; 2nd or 3rd never in 6ths.

6624.

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 5 6

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

Twice repeated; has the sixty course-ends.

The following peal in the same method is by W. MICKLEWRIGHT, of Dudley.

5024.

2 3 4 5 6 I 4 5 6

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

Continued—

I 4 5 6

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

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

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

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By ARTHUR CRAVEN, *Deepcar, Sheffield.*

5120.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

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

Has the 6th her extent wrong and right at six course-ends.

First rung at Burnley, November 21st, 1896, conducted by T. REDMAN.

DISCLAIMER.—Mr. J. Carter gives up all claim to the peal of Bob Royal in our last. It belongs to Mr. H. J. Tucker.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE.

By F. BENNETT, *Brighton.*

5472.

2 3 4 5 6 M IN 5ths W H

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

Twice repeated.

Has the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent in 5-6 upon this plan. By adding a bob at the first course of any one part reduces the peal to 5088.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

By F. DENCH, *Cumberland Youths.*

5056.

2 3 4 5 6 B M W H

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

This peal has the 4th and 6th their extent in 5-6, at ten course-ends each in 6ths place, with 2nd and 3rd only once. It is the first two-part peal in the method ever composed with these properties in the minimum number of changes, and the 2nd 5056 of Superlative in two equal parts yet obtained.

First rung by the Royal Cumberland Youths at Christ Church, Southgate, Middlesex, on April 3rd, 1897, conducted by JAMES PARKER.

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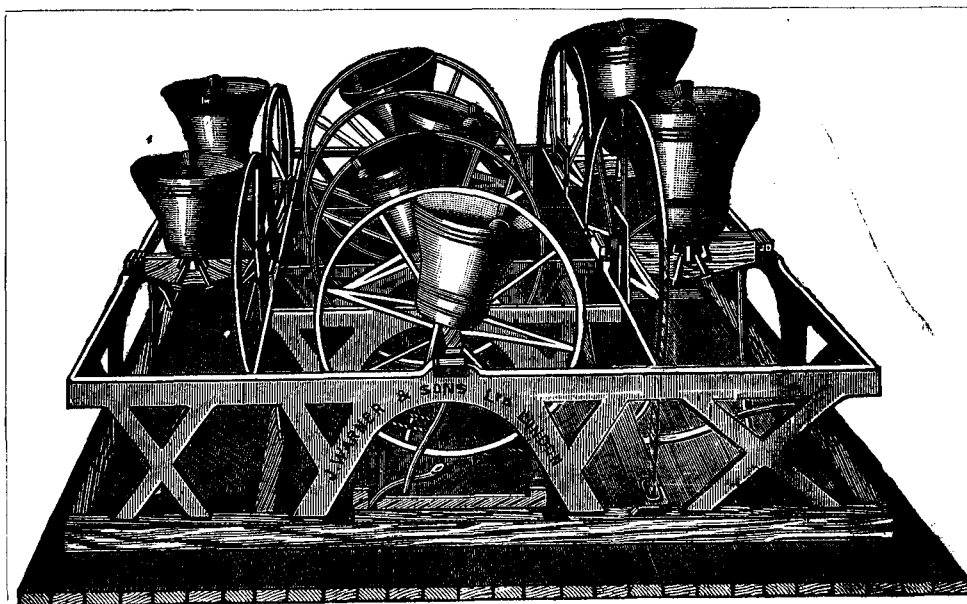
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Northampton In-
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Manchester
Royal Exchange,
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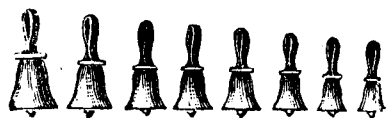
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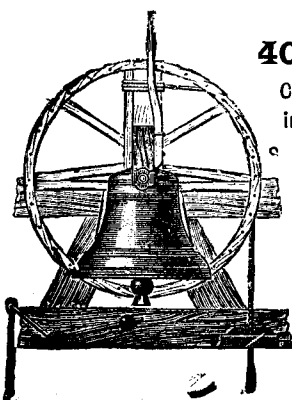
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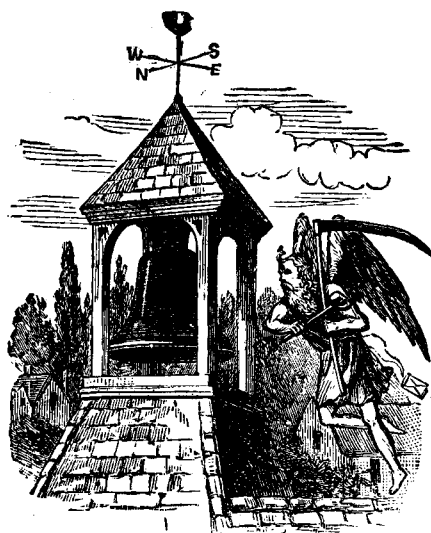
No. 784.—VOL. XV.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1897.

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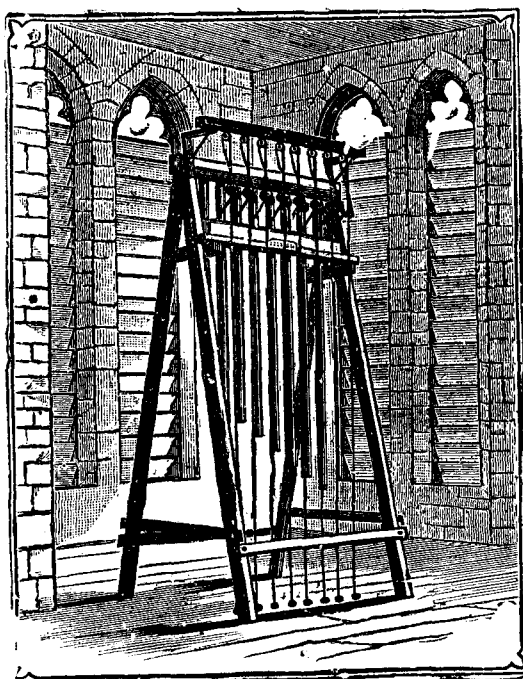
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No. 297.—The Poachers of Lincolnshire—"It's My Delight on a Shiny Night."	..	1	6
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No. 319.—"Hark the Bonny Christ Church Bells," (for 6 ringers with thirteen bells thus: C D E F G A B C D E F G A	..	1	6
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Both arranged for 6 ringers with two octaves in the chromatic scale—D 21 to D 7.			
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arranged as per list 7	..	3	0
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12 POPULAR AIRS, for Handbell Ringers, by W. HALEY, Price 1s. Auld Lang Syne, Hark! 'tis the Bells, Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, The Bellringer's Glee, The Star-Spangled Banner, Wait till the Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

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DIRECTIONS FOR GIVING ORDERS &
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 784.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1897.

[Vol. XV.]

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—RESTORATION OF BELFRY AT FOLKESTONE.

On Thursday, March 31st the ringers of the parish church, Folkestone, assembled in the belfry to celebrate the completion of much-needed improvements therein. Here they were met by Mr. Knight, the Churchwarden, and other gentlemen who had liberally subscribed to the repair fund, who were then shewn what had been done to make the ringing-chamber more in keeping with the rest of the parish church.

The whole of the interior has been cleaned down, and the walls lined with pitch-pine match-boarding, and surmounted with capping and moulding, a new staircase from the turret put in, and last, but not least, well-fitting doors to exclude the draught. When this had been duly admired, attention was drawn to Mr. Finn unveiling a peal-board which he had executed, recording the peal of Grandsire Triples rung last year. Then the bells were set in motion, and with the assistance and help of Mr. G. Finn (of Brabourne), Mr. Potter (of Dover), Mr. Goodbourn (of Aldington), and Messrs Gower and Crunden (of Hythe), with the local company, several well-struck touches of Grandsire Triples were successfully brought round.

After the bells were lowered the ringers and visitors, to the number of thirty-five, adjourned to The Hervey hotel, where the host had indeed excelled himself in providing a spread for those who had been getting an appetite. The bountiful repast being completed, the tables cleared, and the loyal and appropriate toasts having had justice done to them, the harmony of the evening was opened by a well-struck touch of Grandsire Triples by the ringers, and then a very agreeable period was passed, songs being given by Messrs. Moat, Reader, Pilcher, Marchant, Glanfield and Clifford, which were interspersed with touches of Treble Bob and Bob Royal on the handbells. One feature of the evening was the handing round by the Chairman (Colonel Penfold, C.C.) of the snuffbox of the late James Harrison, who was captain of the band for fifty-years, and who, as the Chairman said, although a rate-collector, was respected during life, and lamented at death, by all who knew him. Eleven o'clock came all too soon; the National Anthem and Auld lang syne bringing a most successful ceremony, and the sixteenth annual supper of the Folkestone company, to a pleasant ending.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—The following 720s have been rung at St. Mary's church during the last six months ending March 31st: Sixteen 720s of Oxford Bob, six of Court Bob, five each of Grandsire and College Single, and one each of Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob. Fifteen 720s were conducted by J. J. Parker, eight by C. Clarke, seven by J. Elderfield, two by G. Basden, one by A. Crook, and one by G. Alder of Burnham, being his first 720 as conductor. The following also took part in the ringing: J. and R. Bovington, J. Parker, R. Flaxman (Slough), A. Day (Burnham), A. Reade (Burnham), E. Carter (Burnham) his first being a 720 of Oxford Bob on February 24th, and G. Gutteridge (Stoke Poges) his first being a 720 of Oxford Bob on March 10th.

GENTLEMEN'S Curb Alberts. Heavily Plated with Pure Gold. Guaranteed 18 carat, 4s. 6d., 22, 5s. 6d., Double, 7s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. Member of Norwich Diocesan Association.—SKINNER, 3, Mayes Terrace, East Dereham.

OUR QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE.

A "LOVER OF BELLS" writes:—

"Benenden, Biddenden, and Cranbrook, in Kent, possess three beautiful rings of eight bells, but they are in a neglected and disgraceful state. Surely the inhabitants of these three parishes cannot do anything better to commemorate our Queen's Diamond Jubilee than to put in thorough repair their beautiful rings of bells.

"Our forefathers went to a great expense in putting these bells into their beloved Church. Then is it not the duty of their children to keep them in order?

"Instead of blowing the parishioners out with bad tea and dry bread and butter, let them rehang their bells. Which will last longer,—and the money better spent? England is termed "The Ringing Isle!" Come Benenden; come Biddenden; come Cranbrook; be ye English."

JUBILEE BELLS AT WOLVERHAMPTON.

A new ring of eight bells is to be placed in the tower of St. Luke's church, Blakenhall, Wolverhampton, through the munificence of a local gentleman. Messrs. Barwell, of Birmingham, are entrusted with the work. The tenor will be about 10 cwt., in the key of G. The bells will be dedicated on June 19th next, when it is proposed to attempt a peal.

MIDDLEWICH, CHESHIRE.

At a largely-attended meeting of Middlewich churchpeople a few days ago it was resolved to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee by restoring the ring of six bells at the parish church, and adding two new ones, at a cost of about £400. Towards this, subscriptions amounting to £200, including £100 from Colonel Franee Hayhurst, have already been promised. A committee has been appointed to carry out the scheme.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

SUMMARY FOR 1896.—In the year 1896 sixty-five 720s of Minor were rung at Stockton-on-Tees parish church, viz.: fifteen of Kent Treble Bob, fourteen of York Surprise, eleven of Woodbine, nine of Oxford Treble Bob, eight of Durham Surprise, five of Evening Exercise, and three of Worcester Surprise. Of these thirty-one were conducted by T. Stephenson, twenty-nine by G. J. Clarkson, two by W. Newton, and one by J. H. Blakiston.

Since the commencement of the present year thirteen peals in the above methods have been rung.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONG PEAL ATTEMPT.—To-day, Saturday, April 17th, twelve members of this society will attempt to ring a long peal of Stedman Cinques at the church of St. Michael, Cornhill; commencing at two o'clock.

PEAL BOOK, Price 2s. 6d. A book specially ruled for entering peals, date touches, etc. Handbell music arranged for any number of bells. Send for catalogue. W. H. GIGGLE, Queen Street, Horbury, near Wakefield.

PRACTICAL HINTS TO YOUNG CONDUCTORS
AND COMPOSERS.

CHAPTER XX.

GRANDSIRE CATERS (*continued.*)

In the last paper it was stated that broadly speaking Grandsire Caters was called by 978s and 89s, and it was shown how these were respectively produced. We can have two 978s and two 89s alternately, as follows:—

```

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

```

This represents twelve courses in the tittum position, with the 5th behind the 9th. If it is examined the 5th will be found to be a fixed bell—after the 9th. It is obvious that we can only have twelve courses in the tittums with one bell behind the 9th, therefore if the tittums position is to be kept intact, and without the use of singles, another bell must be placed there. From Annable's time it has always been regarded that the most musical effect in Caters is to have either the 5th or 6th behind the 9th, so that what should be aimed at is to keep these bells as long in that position as possible. But we can only have them there twelve courses each. If singles are used—two only is necessary—we can have twelve more, and this amounting to forty-eight courses will, with the introductory and coming-home courses, produce a 5000.

Having got the extent of the 5th behind the 9th, it becomes necessary, then, to throw another bell there. This is effected in different ways. In the last course above given, the 4th is in the hunt, and if a bob is called the next lead, the 5th is brought into the hunt out of the way, and the 2nd is thrown into its position, viz.: behind the 9th. Here it is seen:—

```

1 4 3 6 2 7 5 8 9
      B
1 5 2 4 9 3 8 6 7
1 5 9 2 8 4 7 3 6
1 5 8 9 7 2 6 4 3
1 5 7 8 6 9 3 2 4
      B
1 3 6 5 4 7 2 8 9

```

This brings the 2nd behind the 9th. Another plan is to call the 9th before with a double, and if we take the same course—end we shall what is effected; thus:—

```

1 4 3 6 2 7 5 8 9
1 4 2 3 5 6 9 7 8
1 4 5 2 9 3 8 6 7
      B
1 8 9 4 7 5 6 2 3
      B
1 6 7 8 3 9 2 4 5
1 6 3 7 2 8 5 9 4
1 6 2 3 5 7 4 8 9

```

This mode causes the 4th—the bell that previously was in the hunt—to appear behind the 9th. There is yet another plan which may be mentioned, and that is “a bob a full course after a 978.” Let us give an example, thus:—

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1 2 3 4 5 6 9 7 8
1 5 3 2 9 4 8 6 7 7
      etc.

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Continue this and the 3rd will be found behind the 9th. Thus each of the five bells can be brought behind the 9th in turn, and this enables us to have peals in the tittums position of various lengths, without the use of singles.

ALEPH.

[To be continued.]

Review.

THE CHURCH AND OTHER BELLS OF KINCARDINESHIRE; Being a complete account of all the Bells in the County, their History, Uses and Ornaments; with notices of their founders, and an article on the more interesting belfries, to which is prefixed a short general survey of Bells in Scotland.—By F. C. EELES.—*Aberdeen*: W. JOLLY AND SON; *London*: ELLIOT STOCK, Paternoster Row.

This work has evidently been a labour of love with its accomplished author, who has done for his home county in Scotland such reverent service as has been rendered to so many English counties by the noted workers in the same field, viz.: T. North, Dr. Raven, the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, and other accomplished ecclesiologists. So far as our knowledge goes Mr. Eeles is the first to deal with this entertaining subject with reference to Scotland, and having a virgin mine to work has brought to light many treasures of art and archæology.

Many beautiful photographic reproductions of founders' marks, lettering, and ornamentation embellish the volume and serve to illustrate the political disunion that obtained between the northern and southern portions of our island previous to the latter end of the seventeenth century: inasmuch as during the time covered, English bell foundries abounded, while the art was non-existent in Scotland, a large number of beautiful bells, some happily still existing, and records of others were obtained from the low countries, Louvain, Mechlin and Middleburgh, and one of the largest, the great bell of Forfar, “is one mass of inscription and ornament,” and was cast in 1656 by Gert Meyer, of Stockholm.

That Mr. Eeles is an enthusiastic lover is evidenced by an expression he makes use of in his introduction—“Bell founding is an art in the truest sense of the term”—and proceeds to give good reason for his faith.

A very full, and presumed complete, list of the bells in Kincardineshire, not only parish church bells, but also those appertaining to chapels, municipalities and even private mansions, with their known, weights, diameters, marks and lettering occupies the body of the book, as also illustrations of quaint and interesting bell turrets and belfries.

An appendix describes modern bells with the methods of hanging for change-ringing, and gives some most interesting particulars of the foundation, rise and development of the principal bell foundries of Ireland and England, and is illustrated with specimens of the most modern methods of bell hanging, both singly and in peal.

On the whole Mr. Eeles' book is an excellent specimen of what such a volume should be, and must prove a most welcome addition to the shelves of those who are lovers of bells from an artistic and archæological point of view, while to the, unhappily not numerous, change-ringers north of the Border, it should be an incentive, as showing them that there is more in their beloved instruments than mere vehicles of sound.

WARRINGTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday, February, 28th for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley, 3; J. Pomfrey, 4; W. Brammer (conductor), 5; F. W. Stout, 6. On Sunday, March 14th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs and two singles), standing as before, conducted by A. Oxley. On March 15th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob (forty singles), standing as before, conducted by F. W. Stout. On March 22nd, for practice, 720 Grandsire (thirty-four bobs and two singles), standing as before, conducted by W. Brammer. On Monday, March 29th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs). H. Moston, 1; W. Brammer, 2; A. Oxley, 3; C. R. Greenall, 4; G. Lewis (conductor), 5; F. W. Stout, 6. The ringers of 1, 4 and 5 hail from Grappenhall.

CURRENT TOPICS.

It is all Jubilee! Jubilee here, there and everywhere! The daily papers and all other papers, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, and quarterly, are full of it. Nothing but Jubilee! Everything else goes down the drain. And then the novel ideas which seize people. It's most remarkable where they have hid these grand notions all this time. There is to be Jubilee ale and Jubilee beer; Jubilee Scotch and Irish, and Jubilee tea and coffee. We are also to have new Jubilee hospitals, parks, recreation-grounds, skating-rinks, frying-pans and dust-bins. Don't think I am opposed to the due celebration of Her Majesty's long reign; not a bit of it. I am as loyal a subject as any one who may read these lines; but really—don't you know—a line ought to be drawn somewhere. Fortunately we have not yet got to Jubilee Treble Bob or a Jubilee bell-rope, or a Jubilee lubricator, or a Jubilee sexton. But at the present rate of going on we shall soon have all these.

Whatever comes, it is certain we shan't have too many Jubilee bells. I am afraid we shall in this respect have to be thankful for small mercies. There is one remarkable manner in which a worthy Alderman of an important suburb of London intends to perpetrate the Jubilee. This gentleman has given an immense sum to be capitalised in order that the town council of the borough may for ever on each recurring anniversary of the Jubilee have a glorious feed! The amount given for this purpose is a large one. Ye gods and little fishes! What next? The endowment of an annual corporation feed of turtle, and all the rest of it. But this thing is said to be among the proclivities of Aldermen and Corporations.

The sum of money given for the above-mentioned useless and foolish purpose would have done good in many ways. At any rate it could have been used to erect a couple of peals of ten bells, and if I remember rightly, something of this sort the town which has the honor to have this gentleman for an Alderman is in want of. But there's no accounting for taste.

I find the ladies are having a fair innings just now. Miss Alice White has been ringing some more peals; Mrs. Williams (of Brighton), another peal double-handed; the Misses Whyley, of Alton, touches in the belfry; and I know not how many more. I am told also that the records this week had an account of ladies ringing in a 720 of Treble Bob in the tower. We shall have a lady composer and a bob-caller before long. They are studying all the ringing-books and the observations and hints of "Aleph," I hear. Who would have thought it years ago? But ladies, let me ask you, isn't it the best thing you know of from a recreative point of view, both mental and corporeal?

That letter of Mr. Walmsley's last week seems to call for some explanation or comment from some one who understands these things better than your humble servant. I always thought that Canterbury Pleasure was merely a variation or mutilation of Plain Bob. If this is the case, why not snuff one of them out altogether? The nomenclature is I believe at the bottom of it all. The words "Canterbury Pleasure" look imposing, and the eye is gratified by its appearance on a peal-board. Not so with "Plain Bob." It's time this was done away with. We go in for effect nowadays. May be many suggestions of this sort can be made. It is time we altered "Grandsire" to something else, don't you think? Surely some one can strike out a new line.

The notices last week indicated a goodly show of meetings for Monday next. If all things go well on that day, there ought to be something to show. Easter may be regarded as the opening of the season, and we may expect to see the paper full of news, compelling large numbers about every third week. The season of Lent has this year been quiet, not in the matter of peal-ringing, but in meetings of various kinds. After this week there will be more energy shewn. Long peals are in preparation, and we shall all hope they may be secured. Mind the attendances

at Church on Easter-Monday. Though I think there is very little complaint now about this kind of abstinence.

The correspondent who wrote upon "Easter Peals" is quite right in his statement, no doubt. But what are the clergy—the natural and proper adjudicators upon the question—doing? Why nothing. As long as they allow the thing to be done, surely ringers, who naturally suppose the incumbent knows what is right and proper, cannot be expected to take the initiative. Where one clergyman insists upon a Lenten silence one hundred declines to interfere, and another section is quite apathetic about it. The majority of ringers are no doubt in favor of ringing. I think that if the clergy don't set the example, ringers ought not to be blamed. We never hear the clergy objecting to other pursuits in Lent, the University boat-race for instance, I am afraid when you try to choke men with mere ordinances, it has a tendency to make them hypocrites. If we keep the bells silent in respect of Lent, we ought to shape every other part of our daily conduct during the season in accordance therewith. Otherwise it is a case of the camel and the gnat.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

AN AUSTRALIAN LETTER.

Melbourne, Australia.

Will you kindly give us a notice in your paper of the following:—

On Monday evening, February 8th, the members of St. Patrick's Cathedral Bellringers' Society met for practice, and successfully rang a half-peal of Stedman Triples, in 1 hr. 33½ mins., conducted by J. C. Nolan. Weight of tenor, 19½ cwt. in F. The men standing: M. O'Shea, treble; E. Bryning, 2; J. P. Nolan, 3; E. O'Shea, 4; J. C. Nolan, 5; A. Bames, 6; W. Coppock, 7; J. Sheehan, tenor. The striking being very good up to the last 20 changes, but they came home safe.

We are steadily improving in this method, and intend trying for a full peal in a week or two.

Thanking you for past kindness, I remain, with good wishes to brother ringers,

J. W. COPPOCK,
Hon. Sec. St. P. C. B. Society.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ROCHESTER DISTRICT.—The quarterly meeting of this branch was held at Gillingham on Saturday, April 3rd, members attending from Shorne, Frindsbury, Rainham, Rochester, and Borden. Four new members were admitted to the Association; Shorne being fixed upon as the place for the next meeting, to be held in June. Some very good touches of Grandsire Triples and Treble Bob Major were rung.

THE PEAL AT CAVERSHAM.

This peal is now rung for the first time, and is the first in the method on the bells. It is supposed to be the first peal of London ever rung in the Diocese of Oxford by a local band of ringers. It is a credit to the company, as it was thought when first starting on the method, a peal of London would never be rung in Caversham, and the band were told they would have to have a man or two from Oxford or somewhere else, as a Caversham band would not be able to ring one. However, a start was made last spring, when each man was provided with a rule of the method, which was learnt and rung a lead at a time, till the plain course was accomplished. Next, the bobs for three courses, which seemed a harder task than ever, but, not to be outdone, they struggled on till the three courses were rung. Nothing else was added to these three courses during the summer, but in October another start was made, and after a little more practice a well-struck quarter-peal was rung, and in December the first attempt was made for the peal, and fifty minutes' good striking was heard, when a bob was called a whole pull too late, which brought the attempt to grief. On Saturday last the fifth attempt was made; at 4.15 "Go" was called, and all went on well till the welcome words "that's all" were heard at 7.10 p.m., finishing a well-struck peal of London Surprise Major.

DIAMOND JUBILEE BELLS.

St. George's church, the parish church of Clun, Shropshire, the residence of J. G. Buchanan, Esq., the popular Master of the Hereford Diocesan Guild, is another church to be added to the list of places where the ringers are making efforts to have their bells restored as a memorial of the "Diamond Jubilee."

No doubt our readers will remember that a similar effort was made at the Queen's Jubilee, but the scheme had to be ultimately withdrawn in favour of the church organ, and now again, after a lapse of ten years, the ringers, with Mr. Buchanan as chief mover, have formed a scheme to have the bells recast, rehung and increased to a peal of eight, as a most suitable Diamond Jubilee memorial for Clun, and have a very fair chance of success. At present the bells are a poor-toned peal of six, tenor about 10 cwt., cast in 1868, and have had very little substantial repair, and are now in a very dilapidated condition and quite unringable.

The main body of the church was thoroughly restored about twenty years ago at a cost of £7000, but funds at that time would not allow of a start being made with the tower and bells. Since that time the Vicar (the Rev. C. Warner) has had the buttresses of the tower re-built at his own expense, and it is now again secure for another hundred yeas.

The bell restoration scheme has met with the hearty approbation of the Vicar and churchwardens, and two bells have already been promised, one by the Vicar and one by the Misses Creswell. Collecting cards will be placed in the church on Easter Sunday, and if the scheme meets with the support of the parishioners as it deserves, arrangements will be made for making a start with the work.

The following article on the subject appeared in the April number of the "Clun Valley Parochial Magazine," which we have pleasure in reprinting:—

"Our beloved Queen's Record Reign: Contributed by one of the Ringers.—The time is fast approaching when we shall be called upon to join in the general celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of our gracious Queen Victoria, an event quite unprecedented in English History during a space of 800 years, and quite memorable in the annals of the world. In no kingdom was there such progress made in the prosperity and happiness of the people, or such growth, intellectual, moral, social and material made as in the long reign of Queen Victoria the Good.

"In all parishes throughout the land permanent memorials, in addition to other festivities, will be erected in one way or another to celebrate this glorious reign, and our readers will no doubt remember several of the various schemes brought forward as a Clun Memorial at the Queen's Jubilee ten years ago—the cottage hospital, church organ, Clun water-works, Jubilee coach. All of these are now safely accomplished.

"The long delayed retoration of our church bells is now being brought forward as a most suitable commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee for Clun parish. The bells, after a long reign of 230 years, with but little substantial repair, are now in a very dilapidated condition.

"We hope this scheme will meet with the approbation and hearty support of all our parishioners; and who can take exception to such a memorial of the Queen's long reign as a good peal of musical church bells?

"At various times our belfry has been visited by experts, who are all of opinion that a thorough restoration is very much needed, and recommend that the old bells be recast and new metal added to make a peal of eight, with entirely new frame and fittings, thus making them worthy of the beautiful church to which they belong.

"A sum of not less than about £390 is needed to carry this

into effect, and collecting cards will be placed in the church, which the parishioners are requested to get filled up and return to the vicar by June 14th, when, if the promises amount to a sufficient sum, an early opportunity will be given for paying it in and carrying out the work.

"An excellent opportunity is now afforded to any generously disposed lady or gentleman of presenting a 'Memorial' or 'Thanksgiving' bell to the parish, and it has been suggested that several might combine and give a bell which could be inscribed 'The Farmers' Bell,' or 'The Tradesmen's Bell,' or the children in the parish might collect for the smallest bell to be called 'The Children's Bell,' etc.

"Two such bells have been already promised, and offers of others will be most gratefully received.

"Mr. Buchanan will be pleased to give any information to any one desiring to do so, and we trust that the parishioners will give this scheme their most generous support, and thus bring our beautiful church one more step towards completion."

W. M.

BELL USAGE.

[From the Introduction to "CHURCH BELLS OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE," by A. H. COCKS, M.A.]

We take the liberty of extracting the following from the above-named excellent book. It will not only interest the general reader, but can be read with profit at the present time, when restorations and augmentations of bells are being thought of.

An idea one gains by belfry exploration, is some notion of the age of the cages in which the bells hang, and of the fittings by which they are therein suspended. To take this point first: the oldest form of "straps," i.e., the iron braces by which the bell is suspended to the stock, are flat plates, with holes punched in them, and nailed on to the stock. Those for the single canons were at first V-shaped, the canon resting in the angle. Some of these are undoubtedly very old (three, and perhaps four centuries and more), but one can only judge for oneself by the workmanship and general appearance, taking into consideration too, the form and fashion of the stock, as to the age of any given example. It sometimes happens, moreover, that a local carpenter, employed to rehang bells, uses the old nailed straps on a new stock, or the blacksmith is employed to make new straps from the old as pattern. Later on, the V-shape was modified into a J-shape, i.e., a single plate ending in a hook for the canon. The straps for the paired side-canons have always apparently ended below in an eye or slot, through which, and the canons, a dog is passed horizontally. Speaking generally, nailed straps were superseded about the first half of the seventeenth century, by round-iron rods ending in a slot at the upper end, while the lower was hooked, or slotted, as before. These slotted upper ends pass through an iron "plate" resting horizontally across the top of the stock, and "keys," or thin pieces of doubled iron are inserted in the slots, and keep the straps in position.

Besides the two or more pairs of straps on the outside of the stock, there is another pair (except in some of the smallest bells) connected with the "argent-hole," and passing to it through the stock. I do not know how these were originally fastened at the top, but perhaps they were always "keyed." At any rate it is not unusual to find such a mixture at the present time.

Both these old methods have the very serious objection that when the bell becomes loose on the stock, as from shrinkage of the wood, and gradual stretching of the iron—it infallibly will—there is no ready means of tightening it again; and this brings us to one of the ordinary reasons why a bell cracks at the shoulder. When a bell is rung, its "way" is checked more or less gradually, at the end of each revolution, by the ringer down below; but if a bell is at all loose on its stock, all the ringer can do is to check the wheel and stock; the bell continues to revolve a short distance further, independently, and is brought up at last, suddenly, by the straps; receiving a violent

wrench. It is only necessary to continue these violent wrenches long enough, and the bell is sure either to crack across the crown, or to lose its canons. Of course, like the proverbial pitcher going to the well, a bell that is not given fair play, may last "ninety-nine times," but break it must some day. To remedy this—somewhere I think about the middle of the last century—a (screw) thread and nut were substituted for the slot and key at the upper end, and now it is the duty of every steeple-keeper, or whoever acts in that capacity (usually the sexton), where bells are so hung, to keep them screwed up as they slacken; and how lamentably few of these officials ever do so! Not—let me do them the justice of saying—from any intention of neglecting their duty, but because such a thing never entered their thoughtless heads!

The other common cause of a bell cracking at the shoulder, is the making of the stay too strong. Every ringer knows that a novice is apt to "bump the stay," which, if only a slight piece of wood, breaks on receiving at all a hard rap. The result is startling to the astonished tyro, but no further damage is done, and the broken stay is replaced for a shilling or two. But many a "local carpenter," thinking to be very clever, and avoid all chance of such unpleasant surprises, puts on a stay of appalling strength (for extreme examples, see Little Horwood, Nether Winchendon, etc.) It is quite common to find both stays and sliders made of wrought iron.

A beginner, at such a place, may bump the stay as hard and as often as he pleases, and it will not break. What then does happen? Why, after a little of this violence, something must go, and this, if not the stay, must be the bell. Either the canons are broken off by the shock, or the bell splits across the crown (for examples see Westbury, Hardmead, Newton Blossomville, etc.)

However, a bell whose canons are broken off, may have holes bored through the crown, and be so bolted to the stock; and hang thus mutilated* for centuries. Also a split crown does not necessarily imply a cracked tone, and the bell may continue good for years, especially if an iron band be shrunk round the shoulder in time (see Gt. Marlow.)

But we now come to damage at the lower end of a bell, and here the least accident is immediately fatal. Given the slightest crack through the sound-bow, and the tone is gone.

Here, of course, the clapper is the chief offender. Even a perfectly well-regulated clapper, doing its duty in a perfectly legitimate manner, must, in course of time, always striking the same spot, wear a bell out. To avoid this, every bell, after about a couple of centuries' use (the time, of course, depends on the amount of use), requires "quarter-turning."

Some bellfounders will fit a bell (not of their own make) with a clapper far too heavy for it, with an obvious eventual result. Occasionally churchwardens will buy a second-hand clapper, which is not the right length for the bell for which it is intended:—result equally obvious (example, see Ivinghoe.) Then, again, the best of clappers will break a bell, if used for "clocking," "clogging," or "clapping," as it is variously called. This very common practice has been proved to be most pernicious, and should under no circumstances ever be permitted (Example, Soulbury, etc.)

There is another destructive instrument at work in the majority of towers, in the shape of the clock-hammers which strike the bells. At the best of times they are nasty things, for they strike the bell at right angles to the direction of its swing, and such dead blows must be unwholesome. The hammers are raised by the action of the clock, and then being released, fall on the bells by their own weight, and are (theoretically) kept off them when at rest by a spring. The springs, however, gradually get weak, and fail to raise the hammer clear of the bell, so that after every blow the hammer remains resting on the bell, and by checking the vibrations, tends to crack it. Some clock-makers,

* It has become the fashion, I am sorry to say, at the present day, to break off the canons of a bell, with a view to making it ring more easily; and hanging it by boring its crown. This barbarity has unhappily spread to this county while this book has been passing through the press. I can only enter my humble protest against the practice, and beg those in authority not to suffer themselves to be persuaded by either bell-hangers, or ringers; charm they never so sweetly! (There are also now in the county a couple of ugly-looking recent specimens, cast without canons.)

if left to work their own sweet will, and thinking merely to produce a good effect, without considering the consequences, put a hammer heavy enough for a ton bell, on an unfortunate little one of 5 cwt. or less. This also must, of course, end fatally sooner or later.

Well-meaning, but ill-judged "quarter-turning" may lead "out of the frying-pan into the fire," and bring about the very result it was intended to stave off. For instance, a bell at North Crawley was worn very thin, by the action of the clapper, in the course of over two and a half centuries; it therefore was quarter-turned, the fact being ignored that a clock-hammer had been for years striking severe blows on a spot on the exterior surface of the sound-bow, midway between the clapper scars. The inner side of this weak spot was now exposed to the blows of the clapper. The proper course in this case would have been to employ a qualified bell-hanger, who would have turned the bell the eighth, instead of the quarter of a circle (too difficult a job for the "local carpenter" to attempt), and thereby secured a fresh surface, both for the clapper and the hammer to strike on. However, this bungle did not prove fatal to the bell, for it was soon afterwards destroyed by a still more expeditious process, as mentioned half a dozen lines further on.

The remaining ordinary causes for a bell splitting are all due to checking the vibration. A bell (which is not rung, but only chimed) is sometimes allowed to drop so much, and so unevenly, from the stock, through the slackening of the straps, that its lip on one side binds against the cage, or even the wall (examples, Granborough, Hedgerley, etc.) Effect—gradual, but none the less certain.

Many a bell has been broken by a foul blow: as the unlucky bell already mentioned at North Crawley, where, its clapper being broken, one of the ringers mounted to the bell-chamber, and struck the bell with the broken clapper held in his hand. Effect—instantaneous.

Or, again, as at Stoke Hamond, where a boy struck a bell with its clapper held by hand, and then kept the clapper pressed against the sound-bow, thereby putting a sudden termination to the existence of an interesting pre-reformation bell. At Swanbourne, no less than three bells are said to have been cracked by "hammering."

It is not an uncommon accident for a clapper to break during ringing; and I have been told of two instances in this county, within the last few years, where the severed portion, in flying out, has jammed between the lip of the revolving bell and its cage, with the result of breaking the bell. This is a catastrophe which cannot always be foreseen; but, of course, clappers should be examined now and again, and in the event of a flaw being discovered, ringing should not be again permitted until the defect is made good.

Ringing should under no circumstances be permitted in any tower where the frame is at all shaky. This is by no means a supererogatory caution.

I do not suppose that I have enumerated all the ways in which a bell may be split, but if all the above be avoided, it would be a decided step in the right direction.

THE ST. MARYS SOCIETY, MOSELEY, BIRMINGHAM.

On a recent date, the members of this society were entertained by the Vicar, the Rev. W. H. Colmore, to a substantial dinner at The White Horse, Congreve Street, Birmingham. After the cloth was drawn the usual loyal and complimentary toasts were honoured, and the members gave various selections on the handbells, including a course of Grandsire Major by Messrs. E. Barnacle, J. Witts, C. Cross, W. Austin, A. Brazier, E. Smith, E. Hawthorne, and G. Dickinson. The members of the choir gave some songs and glees, a most enjoyable evening being spent, finishing up in a very harmonious manner by the singing of the National Anthem.

A JUBILEE CIRCULAR.—Messrs. Carr, Bellfounders, of Smethwick, Birmingham, have sent us a copy of their Jubilee Circular, printed in gold and colours. Messrs. Carr evidently intend to make their establishment known as far as they can in connection with bell work through the year of the Diamond Jubilee.

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

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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).*

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JOHN JAMES RAVEN, D.D., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge; Vicar of Fressingfield-with-Withersdale; Honorary Canon of Norwich Cathedral; and President of the Norwich Diocesan Association).—WITH ABOUT NINETY ILLUSTRATIONS.—This most interesting work contains an account of all the Church Bells in the County of Suffolk—their makers and history—so far as they can be discovered. Incidental notices are introduced of the ancient uses of Bells—the individuals mentioned on them—and many historical events connected therewith. Introductory remarks on the general history of the Bells are prefixed to local portion of the work. The book is fully illustrated with engravings of ornaments, letterings, founders' marks, shields, etc., of which some will be found hitherto unknown. The latter portion of the work contains a complete list of Churches in the County, with the Inscriptions on the Bells now belonging to them, as well as on many which have been re-cast. The Demy 8vo. Edition is limited to 500 copies, and is now offered at 20s. nett; or Bound in Half-morocco, Roxburgh style, 27s. 6d. nett. Copies by post 1s. 6d. extra. The Large Paper Edition was subscribed for within a few days of the issue of the Prospectuses, and is now unobtainable.

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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, APRIL 17, 1897.

A VERY excellent performance on six bells was reported last week by the Stoke-on-Trent Association, to wit, seven 700s of as many different Surprise methods. Under any conceivable conditions this would be regarded as an exhibition of great talent, but the fact that it was rung without any intimation of any of the calls being given, pronounces it as a display of extraordinary skill and knowledge, and ensures it a high position among famous ringing records. Perfection of this sort has not been arrived at without much practice and assiduity. The performers must be very highly complimented upon their perseverance and skill. It is a unique piece of work; and stands out in relief as another instance of the power and efficacy of union.

If for a moment we can look upon ringing as a mere recreation or sport, how is it possible to draw any sort of comparison between the achievement we are alluding to and other processes of athletic skill? How may each be

estimated correctly, and by whom? Not by the general public, certainly; its judgment would be ridiculously inaccurate. The Exercise only possesses the necessary requirements and knowledge to form a just estimate between them. And the judgment will be that every iota of what is contained in the words "athletic sport," or its softer expression, "recreation," cannot by any means be admitted to comparison with our Art. In point of intelligent skill, we stand above all: and are as wide asunder as the poles when mental qualifications are considered. We advise any athletic body of sportsmen who doubts this, to try and imitate the feat just done by Mr. TWIGG and his friends.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Hon. Secretary acknowledges, with thanks, receipt of the contributions for the current year from the following societies, since the date of previous notice:—Bath and Wells, Sussex County, and Lancashire. He would be greatly obliged if the Hon. Secretaries of the following societies, who were on the list for 1896, would be kind enough to pay the contributions for 1897, without further delay, at the same time forwarding the names and addresses of their representatives, and the number of members in the society represented:—Archdeaconry of Stafford, Yorkshire, S.W. Middlesex, Salisbury Diocesan, Liverpool Diocesan.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Hon. Sec., C.C.

Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn, 9th April, 1897.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 10, 1897, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN, STEPNEY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 32 cwt. in D.

JAMES SCHOLES* Treble.	HENRY SPRINGALL 6.
JAMES PETTIT 2.	EMANUEL HALL 7.
ARTHUR BARKUS 3.	*ERNEST CLAYTON 8.
SAMUEL JOYCE 4.	SAMUEL HAYES 9.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN.* .. 5.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON, and
Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

*First peal of Treble Bob Royal.

The Provinces.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PETER-AT-ARCHES SOCIETY, LINCOLN.

On Thursday, April 8, 1897, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-AT-ARCHES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

JAMES R. MACKMAN Treble.	GEORGE CHESTER 5.
GEORGE FLINTHAM 2.	ARTHUR CRAVEN 6.
JOSEPH B. FENTON 3.	JOHN W. WATSON 7.
GEORGE W. BEMROSE 4.	CHARLES W. P. CLIFTON .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

This peal has the 6th the extent wrong, and 4th, 5th and 6th the extent in 6th place the latter at five course-ends in the minimum number of courses.
The bells were rung half muffled as a token of regard to the late Theodore Trotter, Esq., J.P., a much respected citizen.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD
of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 1s. 2d.; cloth do., 1s. 8d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading, Berks.

HALIFAX, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, January 30, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

D. R. SMITH Treble.	J. BRAZEY 5.
J. JENKINSON 2.	R. RYLANDS 6.
T. POLLITT 3.	W. BARRACLOUGH 7.
J. SUGDEN 4.	B. F. LAMB Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by D. R. SMITH.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 8, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ALFRED LAMB* Treble.	WILLIAM STORY 5.
FRANCIS LEES 2.	*JOHN W. DAWSON 6.
ROBERT O. HALL† 3.	F. J. HARRISON 7.
HUGH D. DALL 4.	ERNEST E. FERRY Tenor.

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE and Conducted by F. J. HARRISON.

*First peal and first attempt. †First peal with a bob bell.

STEYNING.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 10, 1897, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

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

EDWIN RAPLEY* Treble.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 5.
JOHN SMART* 2.	GEORGE GATLAND 6.
FRANK BENNETT 3.	HARRY WESTON 7.
CHARLES SMART 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal of Double Norwich.

HORBURY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 10, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES; Being 720 each of the following:

Primrose, Tulip, College Treble Bob, City Delight, Arnold's Victory, Duke of York and Oxford. Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE E. MERLOR* .. Treble.	HERBERT ROWLEY 4.
REV. C. B. D. FARROW .. 2.	GEORGE BOLLAND 5.
GEORGE HUNT 3.	FREDK. W. HARGREAVES .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE BOLLAND.

*First peal. Rev. C. Farrow and G. E. Mellor hail from Darton; Messrs. Bolland and Hargreaves from Tong; Messrs. Hunt and Rowley belong to the local band.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.—THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD AND THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, April 10, 1897, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE, HEAVILEY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES. Tenor 29 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs. in D flat.

JAMES BOOTH Treble.	THOMAS MARSHALL 6.
WILLIAM WALMSLEY 2.	JOHN W. BAYLEY 7.
GEORGE E. TURNER 3.	ANDREW SIDEBOTTOM 8.
SAMUEL BOOTH 4.	SAMUEL WOOD 9.
HARRY CHAPMAN 5.	ALFRED CROSS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

This is the first ten-bell peal on this grand ring of bells, which were cast by Mears and Stainbank. First peal of Caters by Messrs. J. Booth, Marshall, Bayley, and Sidebottom, who are members of the local band; Walmsley from Macclesfield; S. Booth and Wood to the parish church, Ashton-under-Lyne; Turner, Chapman, and Cross from Pendleton. This peal contains the 5th and 6th each twenty-four times before the 7th in the titmuss position. The figures of this composition will appear in due course.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 10, 1897, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM GROOM* Treble.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 5.
ALFRED W. GRIMES† .. 2.	WILLIAM GRIMES 6.
WILLIAM RUMSEY 3.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. 7.
WILLIAM WIGHTMAN† .. 4.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

*First peal, and his first attempt, age fifteen. †First peal with a bob bell and first attempt, age sixteen. This is a two-part peal with the 6th twelve times wrong and her extent right, with all the 6-4s and 4-6s and all the 6-5s and 5-6s, and the 2nd and 3rd never in 6th at a course-end. Rung as a birthday compliment to A. S. Wightman his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day. The brothers Wightman hails from Creetingham, the rest are local men.

WARNHAM.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 10, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14½ cwt.

WALTER CHARMAN Treble.	FRANK KNIGHT 5.
ARTHUR CHARMAN 2.	JAMES GARMAN 6.
WILLIAM HOOKER 3.	JOHN COOK 7.
HENRY BURSTOW 4.	WILLIAM STANFORD Tenor.

Conducted by FRANK KNIGHT.

SOWERBY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(HALIFAX BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 10, 1897, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

J. COTTERELL Treble.	J. BRAZEY 5.
R. RYLANDS 2.	J. DAWTREY 6.
T. POLLITT 3.	W. BARRACLOUGH 7.
J. SUGDEN 4.	B. F. LAMB Tenor.

Composed by A. CRAVEN and Conducted by B. F. LAMB.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 10, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. in F♯.

HARRY SIMMONDS Treble.	JOSEPH HANDS 5.
ALBERT CULLUM 2.	GEORGE ESSEX 6.
EDWIN J. MENDAY 3.	HARRY W. SMITH 7.
ERNEST W. MENDAY .. 4.	THOMAS NEWMAN Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, of Lincoln, and Conducted by THOMAS NEWMAN.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

Date Touches.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Saturday, March 23rd, at St. Mary's church, a date touch, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins., being 720 Oxford Single, 360 each of College Single and Canterbury Pleasure, and 457 Bob Minor. G. Cornell, 1; H. Gowers, 2; J. Mardell, 3; W. Miller, 4; E. Wightman (conductor), 5; J. Marks, 6. Rang the day after the birthday of J. Marks, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

THE YORKSHIRE AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

STAVELEY (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, April 4th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 8 mins. H. Madin, 1; W. Worthington, 2; J. Worthington, 3; W. Daffin, 4; S. Smedley, 5; H. Mottershall, 6; J. Harris, 7; A.

Worthington, 8. Composed by A. Sykes, of Huddersfield, and conducted by A. Worthington. Tenor 19 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

JARROW-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, March 22nd, for practice at St. Peter's church, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). J. McHattie, 1; J. Brewis, 2; F. Harrison (conductor), 3; J. Dawson, 4; R. Hall, 5; R. Russell, 6. Tenor 8½ cwt. This is the first 720 of Minor by Messrs. McHattie and Brewis, and was rung at the first attempt. Messrs. Hall and Dawson hail from Newcastle.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Tuesday, March 23rd, for practice at St. Matthew's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 32½ mins. R. Duke, 1; A. Lamb (first 720 in the method), 2; R. Hall, 3; G. Dix, 4; H. Dall, 5; E. Ferry, 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Sunday evening, March 28th, at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins. W. Card, 1; E. Mankelow, 2; G. Smithers, 3; G. Head, 4; W. Latter, 5; H. Porter, 6; S. Perkins (conductor), 7; H. Wood, 8. On Thursday, April 1st, for practice, 336 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. J. Muggridge, 1; W. Latter, 2; G. Smithers, 3; W. Card, 4; E. Mankelow, 5; G. Head, 6; H. Porter, 7; S. Perkins (conductor), 8. On Sunday evening, April 4th, for Divine Service, 224 in the same method. W. Latter, 1; W. Card, 2; G. Smithers, 3; W. Pollard, 4; G. Head, 5; H. Ford, 6; H. Porter, 7; S. Perkins (conductor), 8. Also 228 Treble Bob Major. W. Pollard, 1; E. Mankelow, 2; H. Porter, 3; G. Head, 4; S. Perkins, 5; G. Smithers, 6; C. Chapman, 7; H. Card (conductor), 8. On Thursday, April 8th, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Mankelow, jun., 1; G. Smithers, 2; G. Head, 3; W. Card, 4; E. Mankelow, sen., 5; A. Welsh (conductor), 6; S. Perkins, 7; J. Latter, 8. And 224 Double Norwich. J. Muggridge, 1; W. Latter, 2; G. Smithers, 3; W. Pollard, 4; E. Mankelow, 5; W. Card, 6; H. Porter, 7; S. Perkins (conductor), 8.

BOBBING (Kent).—On Sunday, March 28th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Trowell, 1; W. Hyland, 2; J. Grinstead, 3; W. Walker, 4; W. Wilkins, 5; C. Millway (conductor), 6. This is most probably the first 720 in the method on the bells, and the first by Messrs. Wilkins and Trowell, and was rung at their first attempt. This is C. Millway's first 720 as conductor. Also 360 Kent Treble Bob, standing as before.

FOLKESTONE (Kent).—On Thursday, March 25th, on the occasion of the restoration of the belfry, 336 Grandsire Triples. R. Goodbourn, 1; A. Pitts, 2; G. Finn, 3; A. Potter, 4; S. Binfield, 5; S. Barker (conductor), 6; F. Finn, 7; H. Marchant, 8. And 420 Grand-Triples. S. Barker (conductor), 1; H. Petts, 2; G. Finn, 3; A. Potter, 4; S. Binfield, 5; G. Holdom, 6; F. Finn, 7; H. Marchant, 8. Also 168 with Messrs. Gower and Crunden standing in. On Tuesday, March 29th, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Miller, 1; A. Manning, 2; J. Fisher, 3; A. Petts, 4; S. Binfield, 5; S. Barker (conductor), 6; F. Finn, 7; O. Waghorn, 8. On Tuesday, March 23rd, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor. G. Miller, 1; J. Fisher, 2; A. Petts, 3; S. Binfield (conductor), 5; S. Barker, 6; F. Finn, 7; O. Waghorn, 8. Our correspondent adds: To volunteers visiting the South Eastern District on Easter Sunday, the tower will be open at 10 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.; other times by communication with the captain, S. Barker, High Street.

THE CUMBERLAND COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

KESWICK.—On Sunday evening, March 28th, for Divine Service, four 6-scores of Bob Doubles, each called differently. T. Telford (aged 13), 1; H. Hogarth (aged 14), 2; F. Grisdale (aged 15), 3; S. Hogarth (conductor), 4; G. Cartmel (aged 16), 5; R. Dennison, 6.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GREAT MUNDEN (Herts).—On Thursday, April 1st, the members of the members of the Little Munden paid a visit to this place to have a pull on the bells, there being no change-ringers there, and rang 360 Oxford Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. Also 180 Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; G. Carter, 2; A. Phillips, 3; J. Heady, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. After which 120 each of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were attempted, but could not be brought round owing to the treble slipping wheel a great deal, the frame being in a very shaky condition.

LITTLE MUNDEN (Herts).—On Monday, March 8th, 720 Oxford Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence (first 720 in the method), 2;

J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, March 14th, for Divine Service, three 6-scores of Bob Doubles, each called differently. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; W. Lawrence (conductor), 4; A. Phillips, 5; G. Phillips, 6. On Monday, March 15th, 720 Oxford Bob Minor in 25 mins. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Monday, March 22nd, for practice, 1080 of Minor, being 360 each of Grandsire, Plain Bob, and Oxford Bob in 44 mins. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, March 28th, for Divine Service, 360 Oxford Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. W. Lawrence (conductor), 1; A. Lawrence (first in the method, aged 13), 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; A. Wright, 6. On Saturday, April 3rd, 1440 Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. Also 108 Grandsire Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; W. Lawrence, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Smith (conductor), 5; J. Heady, 6. And 180 Oxford Bob. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; G. Carter, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. W. Lawrence (conductor), 1; G. Carter, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; A. Wright, 6. On Sunday morning, April 4th, for Divine Service, two 120s of Stedman, standing as above with the exception of the tenor-man, who was G. Phillips. And 216 Grandsire Minor. H. Carter, 1; G. Carter, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 360 Grandsire Minor (eighteen bobs and eleven singles). A. Phillips, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Lawrence (conductor), 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OSWALDTWISTLE.—On Sunday, March 7th, 720 Oxford Singles. J. Bentley, 1; J. J. Haworth, 2; I. Whalley, 3; W. Britcliffe, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 14th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. J. Bentley, 1; J. J. Haworth, 2; I. Whalley, 3; W. Britcliffe, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, April 23rd, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Smith (Blackburn), 1; J. J. Haworth, 2; W. Britcliffe, 3; I. Whalley, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. First Treble Bob by Haworth, Britcliffe, Whalley and Sharples, and first as conductor by Parkinson. Also 360 Grandsire Minor. J. Bentley, 1; J. Smith, 2; I. Whalley, 3; W. Britcliffe, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Canterbury Pleasure, standing as in the morning. *Handbell Ringing*.—On March 17th, at the residence of Mr. C. Sharples, 672 Bob Major. J. J. Haworth (longest touch), 1-2; I. Whalley, 3-4; C. Sharples, 5-6; R. Parkinson (conductor), 7-8. On Monday, March 22nd, 720 Bob Minor. J. J. Haworth, 1-2; C. Sharples, 3-4; R. Parkinson (conductor), 5-6. On Wednesday, March 24th, 1680 Bob Major, being the first part of B. Annable's 3-part peal in *Rope-Sight*. J. J. Haworth, 1-2; I. Whalley, 3-4; C. Sharples, 5-6; R. Parkinson (conductor), 7-8. Longest touch of Major by all the band.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORBURY (Cheshire).—On March 7th, at the parish church for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Dean, 1; S. Fernley (conductor), 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Rutter, 4; A. Fernley, 5; J. Shallcross, 6. For evening service 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 26½ mins. J. Dean, 1; S. Rutter, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; A. Fernley, 4; S. Fernley (conductor), 5; J. Shallcross, 6. On Sunday, March 14th, for morning service, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 24½ mins. J. Dean, 1; S. Fernley (conductor), 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; A. Fernley, 4; S. Rutter, 5; J. Shallcross, 6. On Sunday, March 28th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Dean, 1; S. Fernley (conductor), 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Rutter, 4; A. Fernley, 5; J. Shallcross, 6. First 720 of Oxford by all the band, and the first recorded 720 of Oxford on the bells.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

CAMBRIDGE.—During the term, on handbells, 720 Bob Minor. G. Woodhouse (conductor), 1-2; J. Rickman, 3-4; R. Whitford, 5-6. And 720 Bob Minor. J. Rickman, 1-2; G. Woodhouse, 3-4; Rev. A. Boughey, 5-6. Two 720s of Bob Minor (twenty-six singles and twenty-two singles). R. Whitford, 1-2; G. Woodhouse, 3-4; J. Rickman (conductor), 5-6. A 720 Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). R. Whitford (conductor), 1-2; G. Woodhouse, 3-4; J. Rickman, 5-6. A 720 Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles). R. Whitford (conductor), 1-2; J. Rickman, 3-4; G. Woodhouse, 5-6. A 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles). R. Whitford, 1-2; J. Rickman, 3-4; G. Woodhouse (conductor), 5-6. Also 720 Bob Minor standing as above. A 720 Bob Minor in 11½ mins. R. Whitford, 1-2; G. Woodhouse (con-

ductor), 3-4; J. Rickman, 5-6. A 720 Bob Minor. G. Woodhouse (conductor), 1-2-3-4; F. Edwards, 5-6. A 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles). J. Rickman, 1-2; Rev. A. Boughey, 3-4; G. Woodhouse (conductor), 5-6. A 352, 512, 688, 800, 848, 1008, and 1264 Bob Major. F. Edwards, 1-2; J. Rickman, 3-4; R. Whitford, 5-6; G. Woodhouse (conductor), 7-8. Two 288's of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Rickman, 1-2; Rev. A. Boughey, 3-4; G. Woodhouse (conductor), 5-6; R. Whitford, 7-8. Also 464 Bob Major. E. Woodhouse, 7-8; the rest as before. And 5088 as reported. A 504 and 350 Grandsire Triples, standing as in the Kent Treble Bob Major. And 630 Grandsire Triples. R. Whitford, 1-2; J. Rickman, 3-4; G. Woodhouse (conductor), 5-6; F. Edwards, 7-8. Two 360s, 540, 720, two 1080's, 1260, and 5040 (as reported) Bob Royal, 504 Grandsire Caters, and 120 Kent Treble Bob Royal. R. Whitford, 1-2; Rev. A. Boughey, 3-4; G. Woodhouse (conductor), 5-6; J. Rickman, 7-8; F. Edwards, 9-10. Also 540 Bob Royal. Rev. H. J. Elsee, 7-8; the rest as before. And a course of Cinques with C. W. O. Jenkyn, 3-4. On the apparatus in St. Mary-the-Great, 720 Bob Minor. J. Rickman, 1; R. Whitford, 2; H. Staffurth, 3; Rev. A. Boughey, 4; F. Edwards, 5; G. Woodhouse (conductor), 6. Another 720 (fourteen bobs and two singles), with Rev. A. Boughey, 3; H. Staffurth, 4; the rest as before. And 120 Stedman Doubles. J. Rickman, 1; R. Whitford, 2; Rev. A. Boughey, 3; F. Edwards, 4; G. Woodhouse (conductor), 5; S. H. Staffurth, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Monday, March 1st, for practice, 720 Coventry Surprise. A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. J. Cockroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. First in the method by the whole of the band, and was rung at the first attempt. On Sunday, March 7th, for afternoon service, 720 Coventry Surprise. For evening service, 720 Cambridge Surprise. L. Holt, 1; J. Smith, 2; G. Shottin, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Monday, March 8th, for practice, 720 Oxford Single Bob. A. L. Hardman, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Barnes, 3; G. H. White, 4; E. J. Cockroft, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. Also 720 Coventry Surprise. A. L. Hardman, 1; Z. Lord, 2; E. J. Cockroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 14th, for evening service, 720 Worcester Surprise, being the first in the method by the whole band. G. Shottin, 1; Z. Lord, 2; E. J. Cockroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Monday, March 15th, for practice, 720 Worcester Surprise. Z. Lord, 1; J. Smith, 2; G. Shottin, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 28th, for evening service, 720 Superlative Surprise. L. Holt, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. J. Cockroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; Z. Lord, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Monday, March 29th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. L. Hardman, 1; Z. Lord, 2; E. J. Cockroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 5; J. Brierley, 6. Brierley hails from Glossop.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Monday, March 22nd, on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. May and Miss Amos at St. Michael's church, 720 Bob Minor. H. Collins, 1; E. Watcher, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; C. H. Howard, 5; F. Slade (conductor), 6. Also another 720 Bob Minor. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; E. Watcher, 5; F. Slade, 6. Another 720 Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles). H. Collins, 1; C. H. Howard (conductor), 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; E. Watcher, 5; F. Slade, 6. On Monday, March 29th, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Webb, 1; H. Pilcher, 2; H. Collins, 3; W. Farrow, 4; C. H. Howard (conductor), 5; W. Hammond, 6. On Sunday, April 4th, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. A. C. Pilcher, 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Farrow, 4; F. Slade (conductor), 5; W. Hammond, 6. For evening service two 6-scores. H. Collins (conductor), 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; W. Hammond, 5; H. Coote, 6. On Monday, April 5th, three score of Grandsire Doubles. C. H. Howard, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Collins, 3; W. Farrow, 4; H. Hammond (conductor), 5; J. Partner (Black Notley), 8.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday evening, March 28th, at St Edward's church, 1344 Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. S. James, 1; B. Keeble (conductor), 2; R. Pye, 3; G. Roughton, 4; A. J. Perkins, 5; E. Pye, 6; L. Watson, 7; A. Dawkins, 8. This touch is the full extent of the twenty-four short courses with 6-7 at home, and if divided into six parts has also the second at home. The conductor would be glad to know how far it is original.

BLACK NOTLEY (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, April 4th, for Divine Service at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Collins, 1; E. Watcher, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; F. Slade (conductor), 5. Tenor 7 cwt.

GREAT TOTHAM (Essex).—On Monday, March 29th, for practice

at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Grandsire Doubles (being six 6-scores each called differently). W. Trowles, 1; Rev. H. Eyre, 2; T. Hammond (conductor), 3; A. Brookes, 4; C. Ballard, 5; J. Segar, 6. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor. And several courses of Grandsire Minor. A. Brookes, 1; W. Trowles, 2; Rev. H. Eyre, 3; S. Rushen, 4; C. Ballard, 5; T. Hammond (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, April 4th, for morning service, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Segar, 1; W. Trowles, 2; Rev. H. Eyre, 3; T. Hammond (conductor), 4; C. Ballard, 5; Geo. Segar, 6. And two 6-scores in the same method. J. Segar, 1; W. Trowles, 2; T. Hammond (conductor), 5; S. Rushen, 4; C. Ballard, 5; G. Segar, 6. On Tuesday, April 6th, for practice, a 300 Grandsire Doubles. W. Trowles, 1; T. Hammond (conductor), 2; Rev. H. Eyre, 3; S. Rushden, 4; C. Ballard, 5; A. Brookes, 6. J. Hammond is a member of the Chester Diocesan Guild (Wirral Branch) West Kirby.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WROXHAM (Norfolk).—On Wednesday, April 7th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Miss Beatrice Gower, 1; Miss Violet Gower, 2; C. E. Borrett, 3; J. A. Trollope, 4; F. H. Knights, 5; J. Gower (conductor), 6. Rung to celebrate the 13th birthday of Miss B. Gower, and is believed to be the first 720 of Treble Bob rung on tower bells in which two ladies have taken part. The Misses and J. Gower hail from Tunstead; the remainder from St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

STAVELEY (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, April 3rd, at the parish church, 320 Oxford Treble Bob Major. J. Worthington, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; J. Harris (conductor), 5; W. Worthington, 6; S. Smedley, 7; A. Worthington, 8. Also 576 Oxford Treble Bob Major. H. Madin, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; W. Worthington, 5; H. Mottershall, 6; S. Smedley, 7; J. Harris (conductor), 8. And 224 Kent Treble Bob Major. H. Madin, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; W. Daffin, 5; H. Mottershall, 6; S. Smedley, 7; J. Harris, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. Messrs. Price, Morton, and Robinson hail from Eckington; the rest belong to the local band. First touch on eight bells by Messrs. Morton and Robinson.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks.).—On Sunday, March 7th, at St. Giles parish church, for evening service, a 504 of Stedman Triples. G. Boddington, 1; H. Coffee, 2; A. E. Reeves, jun., 3; F. Tubb, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; F. Sweetzer, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; B. Smart, 8. On Tuesday, March 9th, 504 of Stedman Triples. G. Boddington, 1; H. Coffee, 2; C. Giles, 3; J. Tucker, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; A. E. Reeves, jun., 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8. And a 336 of Grandsire Triples. A. E. Reeves, 1; H. Coffee, 2; C. Giles (conductor), 3; A. Evans, 4; A. E. Reeves, jun., 5; H. Dibley, 6; J. Tucker, 7; W. Coldrey, 8. And on Sunday, March 14th, a 504 of Stedman Triples. G. Boddington, 1; H. Coffee, 2; J. E. Hern, 3; A. E. Reeves, jun., 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; F. Sweetzer, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8. On Tuesday, March 16th, 304 of Stedman Triples. G. Boddington, 1; A. E. Reeves, jun., 2; F. Tubb, 3; C. Giles, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; F. Sweetzer, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; A. W. Higgs, 8. And 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. King, 1; A. E. Reeves, 2; A. E. Reeves, jun., 3; F. Tubb, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; H. Dibley, 6; C. Giles (conductor), 7; C. House, 8. On Wednesday, March 21st, a 504 of Stedman Triples. G. Boddington, 1; A. E. Reeves, jun., 2; A. Evans, 3; C. Giles, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; F. Sweetzer, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8. And a 477 Grandsire Triples. A. E. Reeves, jun., 1; H. Coffee, 2; C. Giles, 3; H. Dibley, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; A. W. Higgs, 6; F. Sweetzer (conductor), 7; A. E. Reeves, 8. And on Wednesday, March 28th, a 318 of Grandsire Triples. H. Dibley, 1; H. Coffee, 2; G. Boddington, 3; A. Evans, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; A. W. Higgs, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Coldrey, 8.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, March 23rd, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 24 mins. F. Howorth, 1; J. Standing, 2; A. Whitworth, 3; J. Sutcliffe, 4; J. Shepherd (conductor), 5; J. Brierley, 6. J. Brierley hails from Glossop, and has settled in this town.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Tuesday, February 23rd, at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. S. Sargent, 1; A. Chaplin, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; F. Warren, 4; F. Radley, 5; E. Radley (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 2nd, 720 Double Court Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; C. Howard (conductor), 4; S. Sargent, 5; W. Grimwade, 6. On Thursday, March 4th, 720 Bob Minor. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; T. Hammond, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. Howard (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 7th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore,

3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent (conductor), 5; W. Grimwade, 6. Also 720 New London Pleasure, standing as before. On Sunday, March 14th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent, 5; S. Hayes (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; S. Hayes, 4; S. Sargent (conductor), 5; W. Grimwade, 6. On Tuesday, March 16th, 720 Bocking Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. Howard (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 21st, 720 Court Single. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 4th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley (first 720 in the method), 2; F. Rudkin, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent (conductor), 5; W. Grimwade, 6. Messrs. Chaplin and E. Radley hail from Stisted; T. Hammond from Totham; S. Hayes from London. On Tuesday, April 6th, for practice, 720 Cambridge Surprise. S. Sargent, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; C. Bearman (first 720 in the method), 4; W. Grimwade, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6.

CHADDLESLEY CORBETT (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, April 1st, for practice at the parish church, 504 Stedman Triples. *E. Playdon, 1; *E. Perry, 2; E. Gilbert, 3; J. Chante, 4; *W. Hemming, 5; *J. Perrins, 6; J. Broad, 7; T. Roberts, 8. *Longest length in the method.

COALEY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, March 28th, at the parish church, 6-score each of Plain Bob, Grandsire, and Stedman's Slow Course in 15 mins. W. Dean, 1; R. Prout, 2; F. Prout, 3; C. East, 4; T. Savage, 5; S. Smith, 6. Conducted by F. Prout. The 120 of Stedman's Slow Course was successfully rung at the second visit to the tower. The first practice resulted in a course, and the second two complete 6-scores.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday morning, March 21st, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Duke of York in 27½ mins. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; G. Norman (conductor), 5; G. Marsden, 6. On Monday, March 22nd, 240 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Hancock, 1; G. Norman, 2; W. Price, 3; J. Morton, 4; S. Robinson, 5; G. Norman (conductor), 6. Also three 120s of Kent Treble Bob. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; G. Norman, 5; G. Marsden, 6. First by Messrs. Morton and Robinson.

LONDON.—On a recent Sunday evening for Divine Service at the church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, three courses of Stedman Cinques. H. Newton, 1; F. Buck, 2; J. Oxborrow, 3; W. Sorrell, 4; *A. Ellis, 5; S. Andrews, 6; H. Ellis, 7; *F. Dench, 8; J. Willshire, 9; C. Brice, 10; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 11; J. Mansfield, 12. And three leads of Kent Treble Bob Royal. J. Oxborrow, 1; W. Sorrell, 2; A. Ellis, 3; S. Andrews, 4; H. Ellis, 5; F. Dench, 6; J. Willshire, 7; C. Brice, 8; F. Buck, 9; H. Newton (conductor), 10. *Longest touch on twelve bells.

NORTON FITZWARRREN (Somerset).—On Sunday, March 28th, for evening service, a plain course of Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Creed, 1; F. Saunders, 2; I. Creed, 3; H. Chaplin, 4; T. Creed, 5; J. Cridland, 6. First course by all. On Sunday, April 4th, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Maddock (conductor), 1; H. Creed, 2; I. Creed, 3; F. Millard, 4; T. Creed, 5; J. Cridland, 6. First 720 on the bells, and first by H. Creed, I. Creed, T. Creed and J. Cridland, and was rung at the first attempt. J. Maddock and F. Millard hail from Taunton. For evening service touches of Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Creed, 1; F. Saunders, 2; I. Creed, 3; H. Chaplin, 4; T. Creed, 5; J. Cridland, 6.

STEYNING (Sussex).—On Sunday, March 7th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Bristow, 1; H. Green, 2; E. Rapley, 3; J. Smart, 4; W. Woolgar, 5; C. Smart (conductor), 6; G. Smart, 7; A. Gatland, 8. For afternoon service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. E. Bristow, 1; H. Green, 2; C. Smart (conductor), 3; E. Rapley, 4; J. Smart, 5; A. Gatland, 6; W. Woolgar, 7; E. Turrell, 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. C. Smart, 1; W. Woolgar, 2; J. Matthews, 3; J. Smart, 4; G. Gatland, 5; A. Gatland, 6; G. Smart (conductor), 7; E. Rapley, 8. For morning service on Sunday, March 14th, 504 Grandsire Triples. D. Turrell, 1; H. Green, 2; E. Rapley, 3; G. Gatland, 4; J. Smart, 5; A. Gatland, 6; C. Smart (conductor), 7; W. Woolgar, 8. On March 21st, 503 Grandsire Triples. E. Bristow, 1; E. Rapley, 2; H. Green, 3; C. Smart (conductor), 4; W. Woolgar, 5; J. Smart, 6; A. Gatland, 7; E. Turrell, 8. Also 504 Stedman Triples. A. Gatland, 1; J. Smart, 2; W. Woolgar, 3; J. Matthews, 4; C. Smart (conductor), 5; E. Rapley, 6; G. Gatland, 7; E. Turrell, 8. On March 28th, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Turrell, 1; J. Smart, 2; G. Gatland, 3; E. Rapley, 4; W. Woolgar, 5; C. Smart (conductor), 6; A. Gatland, 7; H. Green, 8. Also 588 Grandsire Triples. E. Turrell, 1; E. Rapley, 2; H. Green, 3; A. Gatland, 4; J. Smart, 5; J. Matthews, 6; C. Smart (conductor), 7; A. Gatland, 8.

Notices.

The Essex Association.—A District Meeting of the above will be held at Bocking, near Braintree, on Easter-Monday. The towers of the following places will be open: Braintree (6 bells), Bocking (6 bells), Stisted (6 bells), Rayne (5 bells). A brake will leave Braintree church at 1.30 p.m. for Bocking, and Bocking at 2 p.m. for Stisted, returning in time for tea at The Black Boy, Bocking, at 4.30 p.m. The business meeting will follow the tea. The brake will convey ringers back to Braintree station, for the 7.10 p.m. train.

HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Ass. Sec.*
Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Ely Diocesan Association.—The local meeting of the above association will be held on Easter-Monday, April 19th, at Market Downham, Norfolk. All friends are invited.

R. M. CROFT, *Sec.*

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Trevelin, Pontypool, in the Schoolroom, at three p.m., on Easter Monday. There will be a short service in church at 2.30. Members who have not already done so are kindly requested to pay their subscriptions for current year at this meeting. The bells will be available for ringing.

D. H. GRIFFITHS, Salisbury Road, } *Hon.*
H. G. WHITE, 58, Paget Street, } *Secs.*

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The Annual Meeting of this Association will be held in the Chapter House, Worcester Cathedral, on Easter Monday, April 19th, at 2 o'clock prompt. The very Rev. the Dean has kindly consented to preside. The towers of St. John and St. Nicholas (six bells) will be open for ringing during the day. The cathedral tower will be open for ringing after evensong at 5 p.m. JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*
36, Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

The Ely Diocesan Association.—Sudbury Branch.—A meeting of this Branch will be held at Lavenham on Easter Monday. The bells of Lavenham (8) and Preston (6) will be available for the day. A meat tea will be provided at 1s. 6d. each, half-price to those shewing cards of membership for 1897, and life members. CHAS. SILLITOE, *Branch Sec.*

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—The annual meeting and dinner will be held at The New Inn, Norton, on Easter-Monday, April 19th, 1897. Dinner on the table at 1.30 prompt, tickets 2s. each, including refreshments. The new ring of eight bells will be open for ringing from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. All ringing will be arranged by the Secretary, time allowed to each company according to the number of members present.

E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*
26, Meersbrook Bank Road, Norton, Sheffield.

The East Derbyshire Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Clay Cross on Easter-Monday, April 19th. Bells (6) open at 9.0 a.m. Service in church at 4.15 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m., 1s. each. Business meeting after tea. T. ALLIBONE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Benhilton (Sutton) on Easter Monday. Tea at the Shaftesbury Coffee Tavern, 129, High Street, at 6 p.m. Representatives should notify Mr. Chas. Dean, "Royston," Court Road, Sutton, of the number who intend being present. The

bells of Benhilton (8) and Cheam (6) will be available by kind permission of the Vicar and Rector respectively.

R. B. BLANCHARD, *Hon. Sec.*
3, Shrubby Road, Streatham, S.W.

Midland Counties' Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Leicester on Easter Monday, April 19th. The following towers will be open for ringing from 10.30 a.m., viz: St. Margaret's (ten bells), St. Martin's (ten bells), St. Mark's (eight bells) and St. Saviour's (eight bells). A short service with an address by the Rev. A. M. Rendell, vicar of St. Margaret's, will be held at St. Margaret's church at 3 p.m., to which all members are earnestly invited. Committee meeting at 4 p.m., followed by a general meeting, both at St. Margaret's Coffee House, Lower Church Gate. Tickets for tea, 1s. each. Parties of eight or more can obtain fare-and-a-quarter tickets by giving three days' notice at any station.

J. O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.*
22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.

The Hertford Association.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans, on Easter-Monday, when the towers of the Cathedral and St. Peter's church will be open for ringing from 2 p.m. Divine service at the Cathedral at 5 o'clock, address by the Venerable the Archdeacon of St. Albans. Tea at the Town Hall, at 5.45, charge to members, 6d. each. A meeting for the election of officers and general business to follow. Members are reminded that the subscription for 1897-98 will be payable at the meeting; members in arrear with their subscriptions are requested to remit them without further delay.

St. Albans. E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

The North Notts Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Retford, on Easter-Monday, April 19th. Service will be held in West Retford church at 2.30 p.m. Business meeting in the schoolroom adjoining the church, immediately after the service. Tea in the Oddfellows' club-room, The Half Moon Inn, at 4.30 p.m. The towers of East and West Retford and Ordsall churches will be open for ringing all day. Members of kindred associations will be heartily welcome.

B. DARLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

The Bedfordshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Bedford on Easter-Monday. Special service at St. Paul's church, at 3 p.m.; preacher, Rev. W. W. Crump, hon. sec. Ely Diocesan Association. Tea and business meeting at All Hallows Lane School, at 4 p.m. The following towers will be open for ringing: St. Paul's (ten bells), St. Peter's (six bells), and St. Mary's (six bells).

W. W. C. BAKER, *Hon. Sec.*
Ridgmont Vicarage, Bletchley.

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—A meeting of the above Branch will be held at St. James's church, Rusholme, on Saturday, April 24th; bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting at 7 p.m., open invitation to all ringers. WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*
54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

The North Lincolnshire Association.—The annual general meeting will be held at Lincoln, on Saturday, April 24th. Tea in the Co-operative Hall, Silver Street, at 4.45 p.m., free to members who have paid their subscription; non-members, 1s. 2d. each. A business meeting will be held directly afterwards. The belfries in the city will be open to ringers during the afternoon and evening, except during

the hours of service. Those intending to be present are requested to write to me on or before Wednesday, April 21st.

REGINALD BOND, *Hon. Sec.*
5 Newland Street West, Lincoln.

The Heavy Woollen District Association, Yorkshire.—A contest will take place at Almondbury (8 bells), on Easter-Monday, when the association's cup and other prizes will be awarded for the best touch of 1344 Kent Treble Bob. Draw at 9.30; start at 10.

GEO. H. SIMON, *Hon. Sec.*
19 Albert Street, Batley Carr.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting of this Branch will be held at Haslingden, on Saturday, April 24th. The bells will be ready at 3.30 p.m.; business meeting at 6.30. J. H. BANKS, *Branch Sec.*
Helmshore Road, Helmshore.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The quarterly meeting in connection with this society will be held on Saturday, April 24th, at the parish church, Barton-under-Needwood. Bells will be available for ringing during the afternoon. Tea will be provided for all those sending in their names on or before the 20th inst., at 1s. per head, to

S. REEVES, *Hon. Sec.*
10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

The Ashton-Under-Lyne Society.—The annual meeting of the above society will be held at the Parish Church, Ashton, April 24th. Bells ready at 4 o'clock; meeting at 7.

S. BOOTH, *Hon. Sec.*
57, Alexandra Road, Ashton-U-Lyne.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next monthly ringing meeting of this society will be held at Rothwell (eight bells), on Saturday, April 24th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Meeting-house—The White Swan hotel. All members and ringing friends are cordially invited. The unveiling of a new peal-board recording the first peal rung by the society, will take place during the evening.

R. BINNS, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Irwin Street, Hogg's Field, Holbeck.

The Middlesex Association.—The next meeting of this association will be held on Saturday, May 8th, at St. Matthew's church, Upper Clapton, by the kind permission of the Rev. J. R. Cullin. The tower will be open soon after 5 p.m., and there will be a business meeting at 8 p.m., in a room adjoining the church. The hon. secretary hopes that members will endeavour to be present, and he extends, on their behalf, a cordial invitation to all friends of the association who are ringers.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—Owing to the bell-hanging operations in progress at the Abbey and other towers in Bath, the annual meeting proposed to be held in the city on May 1st, is unavoidably postponed to a later date, due notice of which will appear.

HY. W. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. and Treas.*
The Cottage, Old Cleeve, Washford.

The Yorkshire Association.—Preliminary Notice.—Negotiations are pending with Messrs. Swan and Leach to run a special half-day excursion for the meeting at Pontefract, on May 15th, by G. N. R., with bookings for Leeds, Bradford, Keighley, Dewsbury, Wakefield, and intermediate stations. Further particulars in due course. BEN. T. COPLAY, *Hon. Sec.*
14, Hillside Terrace, Brirdford.

Compositions.

PEALS OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

By ARTHUR KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

5082.

2 3 4 5 6

3 5 4 2 6 2 3 1
 6 2 5 3 4 11th in three.
 5 6 2 3 4 7th in four.
 6 3 2 5 4 11th in four.
 2 6 3 5 4 7th in four.
 3 2 6 5 4 7th in four.
 2 5 6 3 4 11th in four.
 5 3 6 2 4 11th in four.
 6 5 3 2 4 7th in four.
 5 2 3 6 4 11th in four.
 3 5 2 6 4 7th in four.
 2 3 5 6 4 7th in four.

5082.

2 3 4 5 6

3 5 4 2 6 2 3 1
 5 2 4 3 6 11th in four.
 4 5 2 3 6 7th in four.
 5 3 2 4 6 11th in four.
 2 5 3 4 6 7th in four.
 3 2 5 4 6 7th in four.
 2 4 5 3 6 11th in four.
 6 3 4 2 5 11th in three.
 4 6 3 2 5 7th in four.
 6 2 3 4 5 11th in four.
 3 6 2 4 5 7th in four.
 2 3 6 4 5 7th in four.

The above parts twice repeated; calling the first course of each part 11th in four, produces 23456.

5214.

2 3 4 5 6

6 5 3 2 4 2 3
 3 6 5 2 4 7th in four.
 6 2 5 3 4 11th in four.
 5 6 2 3 4 7th in four.
 6 3 2 5 4 11th in four.
 2 6 3 5 4 7th in four.
 3 2 6 5 4 7th in four.
 2 5 6 3 4 11th in four.
 4 3 5 2 6 11th in three.
 6 2 3 4 5 11th in three.
 3 6 2 4 5 7th in four.
 2 3 6 4 5 7th in four.

5214.

2 3 4 5 6

6 5 3 2 4 2 3
 3 6 5 2 4 7th in four.
 4 2 6 3 5 11th in three.
 6 4 2 3 5 7th in four.
 4 3 2 6 5 11th in four.
 2 4 3 6 5 7th in four.
 3 2 4 6 5 7th in four.
 2 6 4 3 5 11th in four.
 6 3 4 2 5 11th in four.
 5 2 3 6 4 11th in three.
 3 5 2 6 4 7th in four.
 2 3 5 6 4 7th in four.

The above parts twice repeated; calling the first course of each part 11th in three, produces 23456.

NOTE TO THE ABOVE FOUR PEALS.—Round from 23456 with bobs at 1 1 2 1 1 1 2 1 1.—If the ninth course of the third part

of the first peal of 5214, or the third course of the third part of the second peal of 4214, be called 11th in four s, and the whole repeated, both peals are increased to 10120, containing the 4th, 5th and 6th the extent in 6ths place.

5214.

2 3 4 5 6

6 5 3 2 4 2 3
 3 6 5 2 4 7th in four.
 6 2 5 3 4 11th in four.
 5 6 2 3 4 7th in four.
 2 5 6 3 4 7th in four.
 4 3 5 2 6 11th in three.
 6 2 3 4 5 11th in three.
 2 4 3 6 5 11th in four.
 3 2 4 6 5 7th in four.
 4 3 2 6 5 7th in four.
 3 6 2 4 5 11th in four.
 2 3 6 4 5 7th in four.

5214.

2 3 4 5 6

6 5 2 3 4 2 3
 3 6 5 2 4 7th in four.
 4 2 6 3 5 11th in three.
 6 4 2 3 5 7th in four.
 2 6 4 3 5 7th in four.
 6 3 4 2 5 11th in four.

5 2 3 6 4 11th in three.
 2 6 3 5 4 11th in four.
 3 2 6 5 4 7th in four.
 6 3 2 5 4 7th in four.
 3 5 2 6 4 11th in four.
 2 3 5 6 4 7th in four.

5346.

2 3 4 5 6

6 5 3 2 4 2 3
 3 6 5 2 4 7th in four.
 4 2 6 3 5 11th in three.
 5 3 2 4 6 11th in three.
 2 5 3 4 6 7th in four.
 3 2 5 4 6 7th in four.

6 4 2 3 5 11th in three.
 2 6 4 3 5 7th in four.
 6 3 4 2 5 11th in four.
 5 2 3 6 4 11th in three.
 3 5 2 6 4 7th in four.
 2 3 5 6 4 7th in four.

5346.

2 3 4 5 6

6 5 3 2 4 2 3
 3 6 5 2 4 7th in four.
 6 2 5 3 4 11th in four.
 4 3 2 6 5 11th in three.
 2 4 3 6 5 7th in four.
 3 2 4 6 5 7th in four.

5 6 2 3 4 11th in three.
 2 5 6 3 4 7th in four.
 4 3 5 2 6 11th in three.
 6 2 3 4 5 11th in three.
 3 6 2 4 5 7th in four.
 2 3 6 4 5 7th in four.

NOTE TO THE LAST FOUR PEALS.—These parts twice repeated; calling the first

course of each part 11th in three produces 23456. Round with bobs at 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1. If the 10th course of the 3rd part of the above peals of 5214 are called 7th in four s, and the whole repeated, both peals become 10,164. If the 4th course of the 3rd part of the above peals of 5346 are called 11th in four s, and the whole repeated, both become 10,384. These peals will then contain the 4th, 5th and 6th the extent in 6ths place.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH.

By W. MICKLEWRIGHT, *Dudley.*

5088.

2 3 4 5 6 1 4 5 6

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

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

Repeated.

ESTABLISHED AUTHORSHIP.—The 720 of Grandsire Minor published in your issue of April 3rd by H. G. Rowe, is the composition of Mr. J. J. Parker, Farnham Royal, Bucks.

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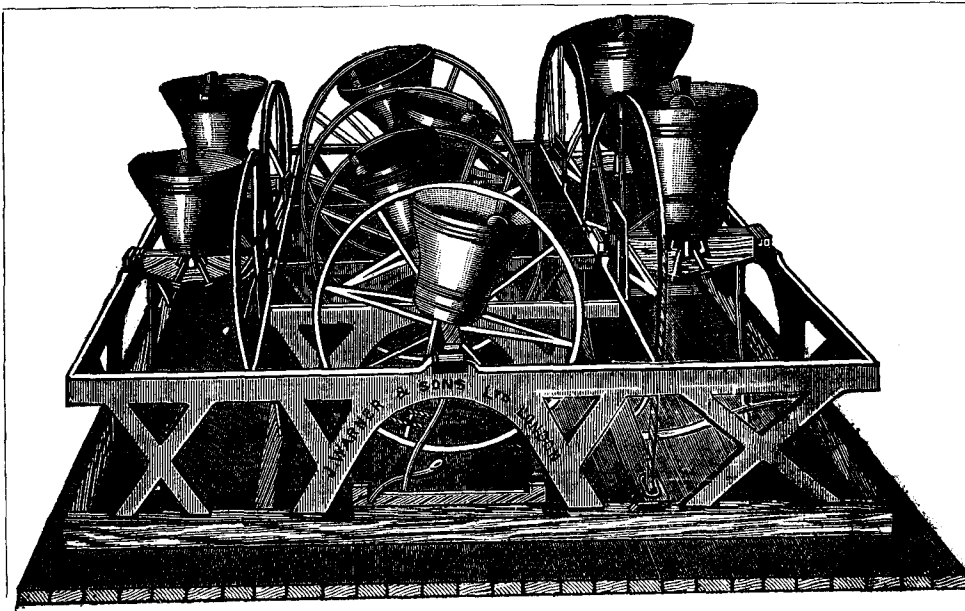
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derland, Morley,
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Northampton In-
stitute, London,
Manchester
Royal Exchange,
Westminster
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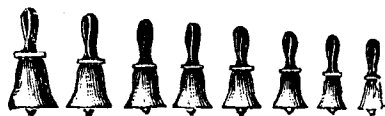
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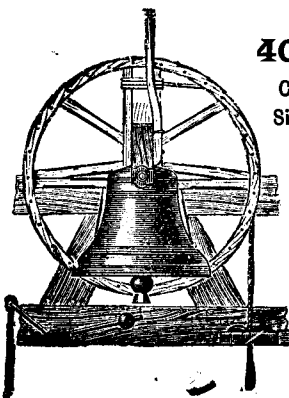
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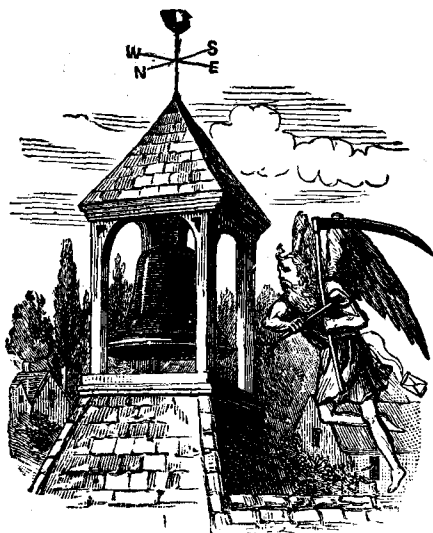
No. 785.—VOL. XV.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1897.

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N.S.W.	Church.)
Hammersmith Parish	Widernere Church.
Church.	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
Gateshead Clock Twr.	Dunstold Parish Ch.
Duke of Albany Memo-	Aylesford do.
rial, Cannes.	St. Mark's Church, St.
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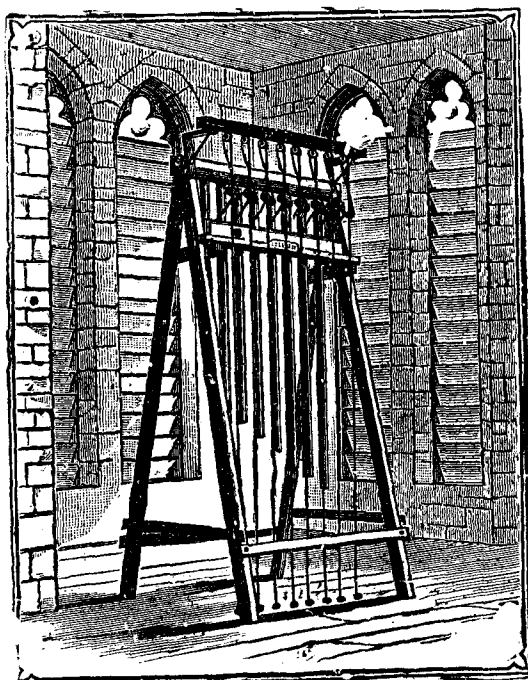
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- | | | | |
|--|----|---|---|
| No. 297.—The Poachers of Lincolnshire—"It's My Delight on a Shiny Night." | .. | 1 | 6 |
| No. 308.—Selection of Italian and German melodies (very pretty and effective) | .. | 1 | 6 |
| No. 309.—"The Angels' Whisper," and "The Maid of Llangollen." | .. | 1 | 6 |
| No. 319.—"Hark the Bonny Christ Church Bells," (for 6 ringers with thirteen bells
thus: C D E F G A B C D E F G A | .. | 1 | 6 |
| No. 320.—"The Mountaineers' Waltz on Swiss Melodies." | .. | 1 | 6 |
| No. 321.—"The Rose of Allendale March." (Well marked.) | .. | 1 | 6 |
| No. 110.—The Ivy Polka | .. | 1 | 0 |
| No. 117.—The Bell Flower Quadrille.. | .. | 2 | 0 |
| Both arranged for 6 ringers with two octaves in the chromatic scale—D 21 to D 7. | | | |
| No. 104.—Glee "Time fly with greater speed," for two octaves, chromatic—G 18 to G 4. | .. | 1 | 0 |
| No. 296.—"Merrie England" (new edition) selection of old English airs,
arranged as per list 5 | .. | 3 | 6 |
| arranged as per list 7 | .. | 3 | 0 |
| No. 312.—"I Dreamt I Dwelt in Marble Halls," for four ringers with medium peal. | .. | 1 | 0 |
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HALEY, Price 1s.

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HALEY, Price 1s. Auld Lang Syne, Hark! 'tis the Bells,
Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule
Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, The
Bellringer's Glee, The Star-Spangled Banner, Wait till the
Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 785.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1897.

[Vol. XV.]

THE VARIATION OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR.

By A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

In fulfilment of a promise given at the last meeting of the Central Council, I beg to place before the Exercise the history and distinguishing features of the now well-known variation of Cambridge. The ringing world will thus be in a position to decide whether it is best to continue to term the original method the standard one, or to adopt the Variation in its place.

In the original method there is but one peal, composed by Charles Middleton, of Norwich, and first published in the 1845 edition of Hubbard's book. About ten years ago I entered at length, in these columns, into the principles of the composition of this production, and shewed how apparently impossible it was that any other peal should be obtained. I pointed out, also, that this length of 5600 can be curtailed in several ways, either by leaving out two courses, when the number will be 5152, or by calling—as first noted by Mr. H. Johnson—the first course of any part B H, thus bringing up the third course-end and reducing the peal to 5056; further, that two variations each containing two bobs B, by Mr. Washbrook and myself respectively, are also available; each of the latter running to 5184. At the same time I explained how a slight alteration had occurred to me by which the false course-ends could be reduced to almost exactly the same that exist in Superlative. The St. Paul's company, Burton-on-Trent, were the first to achieve a peal in this Variation, and a number of others were subsequently rung on the same lines there and elsewhere. Some years later one of your correspondents—if I remember rightly, Mr. G. Lindoff—pointed out that the Variation was no novelty, for that in Thackrah's book on ringing, published in 1852, an account was given of a peal rung in what was undoubtedly the same variation. For the benefit of those who are not possessed of Thackrah's work, and in order to give your readers opportunity to judge for themselves, I give an extract (p. 116) which comprises all that appears in connection with the matter:

"In 'Clavis Campanologia' it is stated that fifteen courses are as many changes as can be obtained with the tenors together. Seven of the St. Peter's company, Huddersfield, and myself, rung (*sic*) at their parish church, on the 18th of February, 1822, 6720 changes of Cambridge Surprise, with the tenors together, in 3 hrs. 51 mins. I composed and conducted the peal, and introduced singles when the treble was dodging in 3-4, to take away the false changes, when liable. The singles made thus:—

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

"The changes then in their original state. It will run true to 6720 with these singles every time the treble is dodging in 3-4."

Now this variation on the original method is identical with that which occurred to me, an explanation of which I give below. We should like to know what the figures of the peal were. The only peal, a 6048, given by Thackrah, is in the original method, and is obtained by common bobs and what he terms "extremes"—in reality sixth-place bobs—all calls being at a

course-end. This composition is stated by Mr. Snowdon to be false. Whether the 6720 was on a similar plan or not we have no means of knowing. Thackrah, we may perhaps assume, was sufficiently a composer to know that a 6720 of Superlative had been already (1816) published by Shipway, and that the same composition was applicable to the Cambridge variation. In which case this was not improbably the peal he called. Unless, however, private documentary evidence turns up to throw light upon the matter, it is unlikely we shall get any further in the direction of ascertaining the exact nature of the composition.

I now give the rules for ringing the Variation where they differ from those for the original method:—

I.—The bell going down from the 5-6 place-making to do the single-dodge-and-whole-pull in front, when it gets to lead, *leads the whole pull before making the dodge*; and, conversely, the bell coming down from the double-dodge-whole-pull-and-single-dodge behind, *dodges before leading the whole pull*.

II.—The duty of the bell doing work with the treble in front is altered to suit the bells working according to Rule I. as follows: On coming to lead it dodges and leads a whole pull as usual, and then, instead of single-dodge-and-seconds-place, *makes the seconds-place before the dodge*; and, conversely, after the treble has left, it *dodges with the bell that comes to it before making the seconds-place*.

The whole alteration for the two bells concerned therefore merely consists in reversing the dodge and whole-pull which occurs when the treble is in 3-4. In regard to the term "singles" which Thackrah applies, and correctly, to this evolution, it is to be noticed that four bells similarly lie still in the original method and thus make a "single" but at a different change, so that nothing more illegitimate than is found in the original method is introduced in the Variation.

Now the advantage obtained is, as is generally known, that in the Variation any peal of Superlative will run true except the few that contains courses in which the bells in 5-6 appear reversed, *i.e.* both as 6 5 and 5 6. Two-part peals, if I recollect rightly, all contain this disability, and such compositions must be arranged differently for each method. Besides two-part peals there are very few that contain reversals in 5-6. At any rate a field is opened up both for conductor and composer as wide as in the case of any other Treble Bob method, and there is, at all events, a strong *prima facie* reason for allowing the original method to lapse so far as to permit peals in the Variation to be entitled simply peals of "Cambridge Surprise Major," seeing that the large majority of those rung in recent years have been in the Variation. To avoid confusion it might, however, be desirable to head any odd peals on the old plan as "Original Cambridge Surprise."

We are informed that Mrs. Matthew Gray, of West Hartlepool, who recently gave £10,000 for the erection of a church in memory of her late husband, has offered a further sum of £2000 for the erection of a spire and a ring of bells.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 1s. 2d.; cloth do., 1s. 8d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading, Berks.

STOCKTON-ON TEES.—A SPLENDID OFFER.

At the Easter Vestry on Thursday, the 15th instant, the Vicar of the Parish—the Rev. H. Martin, made the following remarks with reference to the bells of the Parish Church:—

A proposal has been made to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Queen's accession by increasing the peal of bell from six to ten in number. He (the vicar) said that although he had been approached on the subject, he had scrupulously refrained from putting forward any scheme of his own for a permanent memento. He cordially agreed with many who felt that a borough of the size and ancient history of Stockton should provide some fitting public memento of such a great historic occasion, but he thought it would be out of place for him to point out the kind of memorial that would be best, and particularly if it were one in any way connected with the church. He had, however, received a letter containing a proposal—a munificent offer—on the part of Mr. Clarkson. That gentleman, looking on the peal of bells as the property of the town, though located for convenience in the parish church, had generously offered the cost of one bell, amounting to £63, on certain conditions, which practically amounted to the scheme being taken up. It was a very feasible scheme, and would certainly not be onerous. Mr. Clarkson would pay for the first bell if a second were provided by the officials of the church, and the third and fourth by the public. The bell-ringers had agreed to forego their salaries for a year, amounting to £18, towards the cost of a second bell, which would be £78. The total cost of the proposed four bells would be £411, the hanging would amount to £111, and the repair of the tower frames to £200, making a total of £722. He (the vicar) had communicated with the Mayor of Stockton on the subject, but had not yet received a reply from his worship.

Mr. Frederick Robson expressed his appreciation of Mr. Clarkson's proposal, and the vestry approved of it.

To some of our younger readers the name of Mr. J. G. Clarkson may hardly be known. He is a most accomplished ringer; a very old friend of "THE BELL NEWS;" and formerly filled the position of Hon. Secretary to the Durham Association. He has been located in Stockton now for some years, but he has rung all over the country—we remember ringing with him at Walthamstow—and have seen his name on a tablet in Redenhall (Norfolk) tower in very excellent company. We compliment our friend upon his munificent offer, and hope his efforts to secure a good ring of bells for Stockton may be crowned with the success they deserve.

THORNABY PARISH CHURCH, YORKSHIRE.

JUBILEE GIFT BY MR. AND MRS. T. WRIGHTSON.

The Rev. H. Mellowes, vicar of Thornaby, has received the following letter from Mr. T. Wrightson:—

Dear Mr. Mellowes,—I am glad to hear that the inhabitants of Thornaby are at last taking up in earnest the completion of the parish church. It would be a real pleasure to Mrs. Wrightson and me to assist in so good a work, and we would like to present a peal of bells as a Jubilee gift so soon as you have the building of the belfry arranged. This, considering the amount of money you have already, should not be very difficult to accomplish. Mrs. Wrightson and I think that nothing would be more effective as a constant memorial of the happiness of Queen Victoria's reign than a peal of bells available for all occasions for rejoicing in the parish—Believe me, yours most faithfully,

THOMAS WRIGHTSON.

It is understood that the munificent gift is of the value of £400 or £500.

HANBURY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, April 4th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. G. Badger, 1; O. James, 2; T. Albutt, 3; G. Hayward, 4; G. Ward, 5; A. Moore, 6; J. Mason (conductor), 7; W. Moore, 8. Great credit is due to the ringers of the treble, 5th, and tenor, it being their first quarter-peal. Messrs. James, Albutt, Hayward, and Ward hail from Bromsgrove; Badger and Mason from Stoke; Moore (2) belong to Hanbury.

NEWARK-ON-TRENT, NOTTS.

The fine ring of ten bells in the parish church of the old historical town of Newark has recently undergone thorough restoration at the hands of Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and the bells were rung for the first time in their new hangings on Easter Sunday. It would be superfluous to praise the work done by this well-known firm.

The tower had for many years been in the hands of a few paid chimers, who on great and rare occasions so far forgot themselves as to ring rounds, varied by Queens and tittums, but last year a band of amateurs was got together, and under the energetic instruction of the Rev. C. W. H. Griffith (late of Bath, but now Rector of Winthorpe, near Newark), the intricacies of Grandsire are being steadily overcome. Change-ringing is at present almost dead in the neighbourhood, and the towers containing more than four bells can be counted on the fingers. Mr. Griffith and his band are going to try and improve matters, though their self-imposed task must be long and laborious. Let us hope it will not be vain.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HALESWORTH DISTRICT.—A district meeting in connection with this district was held at Cratfield on Easter Monday, when the following towers were represented: Huntingfield, Wissett, Cratfield, Halesworth, and Fressingfield, from whence came the veteran ringer, Mr. E. Chandler, whom the Queen presented with her portrait last year. Although eighty-five years of age, he walked over two miles to attend the meeting, the company all being very pleased to be honoured by his presence amongst them. Several touches were rang on the bells of Cratfield and Huntingfield churches, and the business of the day was transacted at The Bell inn, when five new members were elected. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the vicar of Cratfield and the rector of Huntingfield for the use of the bells. The handbells were then introduced, and with touches and songs a most pleasant meeting was brought to a close. Much credit is due to Mr. S. Smith and J. Balls, two of the Cratfield company, for the way they have repaired the frame and wheels of these bells, as a short time ago they were quite unringable. They are a fine peal of six, tenor 21 cwt.

THE MIDDLESBROUGH SOCIETY.

On Easter Monday there was quite a revolution amongst the bells of the parish church of Stokesley, where several of the members of the Middlesbrough branch of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association had arranged to visit, and it was a question whether the bells have ever been rung to the same extent before in one day. The bells are a light musical ring of six by Warner, and considering that so far have only been in the hands of call-change-ringers, are almost in perfect running condition, and well worthy a visit from other bands of ringers. During the day three 720s of Minor were rung in the methods of Kent, Oxford, and Plain Bob, and a 6-score of Stedman Doubles; and three courses of Minor in which the Rev. —. Wright rang the treble. The visitors who took part in the ringing were Messrs. Blakiston, Carter, Howcroft, Hall, Metcalfe, Mellanby, and Titchener, who wish to express, through this paper, their sincere thanks to the Rev. Canon Wright for so kindly placing the bells at their disposal; also to the Rev. —. and Mrs. Wright for their kind hospitality, each one having thoroughly enjoyed himself, and looking forward to a future visit.

PEAL BOOK, Price 2s. 6d. A book specially ruled for entering peals, date touches, etc. Handbell music arranged for any number of bells. Send for catalogue. W. H. GIGGLE, Queen Street, Horbury, near Wakefield.

Compositions.

The first three peals following are by WILLIAM WILLSON, of Leicester, and are published as "Commemoration" peals for the 60 years' reign.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5060.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	
5 4 1 3 6 2	2	(4s)	5	7		
4 3 1 2 5 6	4	6	15	16		
3 6 1 5 4 2	4	6	16			
3 6 2 1 4 5			16			
5 6 5 2 4 1			16			
5 6 3 1 4 2		5	16			
5 6 2 3 4 1			16			
5 6 2 1 4 3		(s5)	16			
5 6 3 2 4 1			16			
5 6 1 3 4 2			16			
1 6 5 2 4 3		5	16			
1 6 3 5 4 2			16			
3 6 1 2 4 5		5	16			
3 6 5 1 4 2			16			
4 6 5 2 3 1		4	5	16		
4 6 1 5 3 2			16			
4 6 2 1 3 5			16			
2 6 4 5 3 1		5	16			
2 6 1 4 3 5			16			
2 6 5 1 3 4			16			
5 6 2 4 3 1		5	16			
5 6 1 2 3 4			16			
1 6 5 4 3 2		5	16			
1 6 2 5 3 4			16			
1 6 4 2 3 5			16			

The last eleven courses twice repeated produce 561423, when bobs at 3 8 bring rounds on the second change of the 9th six. Go off quick. In opening course there are only seven sixes.

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL.

5060.						
2	3	4	5	6	W	M H
4 2 6 3 5	-	-				
6 2 5 3 4	-	-				
2 5 6 3 4	Bobs at 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6					
5 6 2 3 4	" " 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6					
3 2 6 5 4	" " 2, 3, 4, 5, 6					
2 6 3 5 4	" " 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6					
	W	M	H			
4 3 2 6 5	-	-	-			
6 4 2 3 5	-	-	-			
3 6 2 4 5	-	-	-			
2 4 3 6 5	-	-	-			
3 2 5 4 6	-	-	-			
4 3 5 2 6	-	-	-			
5 2 4 3 6	-	-	-			
3 5 4 2 6	-	-	-			
4 2 3 5 6	-	-	-			
5 4 3 2 6	-	-	-			
2 5 3 4 6	-	-	-			
3 4 2 5 6	-	-	-			
5 3 2 4 6	-	-	-			
4 5 2 3 6	-	-	-			
3 2 4 5 6	s	-	-			

Repeat the last seven courses, calling the first course H (omit the W). In the section where five or six running bobs occur, the courses are shortened to seven leads.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

5060.						
5 3 6 2 4	9th in and out at 3 x90					
3 2 6 5 4	11th in four.					
2 5 6 3 4	11th in four.					
6 2 5 3 4	7th in four.					
5 6 2 3 4	7th in four.					
6 3 2 5 4	11th in four.					
3 5 2 6 4	11th in four.					
2 3 5 6 4	7th in four.					
5 2 3 6 4	7th in four.					
6 2 4 5 3	11th in three & x90.					
2 5 4 6 3	11th in four.					
4 2 5 6 3	7th in four.					
5 4 2 6 3	7th in four.					
4 6 2 5 3	11th in four.					
6 5 2 4 3	11th in four.					
2 6 5 4 3	7th in four.					
4 6 3 2 5	11th in three & x90.					
6 2 3 4 5	11th in four.					
2 4 3 6 5	11th in four.					
3 2 4 6 5	7th in four.					
4 3 2 6 5	7th in four.					
3 6 2 4 5	11th in four.					
6 4 2 3 5	11th in four.					
2 6 4 3 5	7th in four.					
4 2 6 3 5	7th in four.					
5 3 2 4 6	11th in three.					
2 5 3 4 6	7th in four.					
3 2 5 4 6	7th in four.					
2 4 5 3 6	11th in four.					
4 3 5 2 6	11th in four.					
5 4 3 2 6	7th in four.					
3 5 4 2 6	7th in four.					
5 2 4 3 6	11th in four.					
2 3 4 5 6	11th in four.					
4 2 3 5 6	7th in four.					
3 4 2 5 6	7th in four.					

Round by bobs 1 1 2 1 1 2 1 plain course

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

By F. DENCH, Royal Cumberland Youths.

5056.						
2	3	4	3	6	B	M W H
4 5 2 3 6					-	-
6 3 2 5 4					-	-
2 6 3 5 4					-	-
5 2 3 6 4					-	-
3 6 5 2 4					-	-
5 3 6 2 4					-	-
6 5 3 2 4					-	-
3 2 6 5 4					-	-
5 6 4 2 3					-	-
3 4 6 2 5					-	-
6 3 4 2 5					-	-
4 2 6 3 5					-	-
5 6 2 3 4					-	-
2 5 6 3 4					-	-
5 3 2 4 6					-	-
2 4 5 3 6					-	-
5 2 4 3 6					-	-
4 3 5 2 6					-	-
5 4 3 2 6					-	-
3 5 4 2 6					-	-
4 2 3 5 6					-	-
3 4 2 5 6					-	-
2 3 4 5 6					-	-

The 6th the extent in 5-6.

A NEW MINOR METHOD—BURTON TREBLE BOB.

By ISAAC CAVILL, Stansted, Essex.

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

Call the 6th in, out, in. First rang at Stansted, April 26th, 1891.

A DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JOHN HOWES, Kingston-on-Thames.

1897.						
1 2 3 4 5 6 7						
1 2 4 3 5 7 6						
1 4 2 3 5 7 6						
1 4 3 2 5 6 7						
1 4 3 5 2 7 6						
1 3 4 2 5 6 7						
1 3 2 4 5 7 6						
1 2 3 5 4 6 7						
7 5 2 6 3 4	1	Go as usual				
6 5 7 4 2 3	5					
4 5 6 3 7 2	5					
5 6 4 3 7 2	4					
3 6 5 2 4 7	5					
7 2 3 4 6 5	1					
3 6 7 2 5 4	3					
5 4 3 7 2 6	2					
7 4 5 6 3 2	5					
6 4 7 2 5 3	5					
5 3 6 7 2 4	2					
6 2 5 3 4 7	3					
5 4 6 2 7 3	3					
P.L. 5 2 4 3 6 7	1					
Twice repeated.						

The Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Wolstanton, on Saturday next, May 1st. Members intending to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. W. Miller, School Board Cottage, Ellison Street, Wolstanton.
Rev. J. W. ALSTON, Hon.
W. TWIGG, Secs.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

One of the most successful district meetings in the annals of this Association took place at Bocking on Easter Monday. Upwards of seventy members were present from the following places: Braintree, Boreham, Broomfield, Bocking, Colchester, Colne, Coggeshall, Greenstead Green, Halstead, Kelvedon, London, Maldon, Stisted, Stansted, Springfield, Totham, and Witham. The Hon. Secretary of the Durham and Newcastle Association (Mr. T. Hudson) was also present. Ringing was commenced early in the day, and kept up till the evening in the following towers: Bocking, Braintree, Stisted, Rayne, and Black Notley, the first-named of these attracting most lovers of the Art, on account of the very fine peal this ancient church possesses. Complete 720s in the following methods were rung: London, Superlative, and Cambridge Surprise, New London Pleasure, Oxford and Kent, Double Court, Canterbury Pleasure, and Plain Bob.

The tea took place at The Black Boy inn, and through the generosity of the Dean and Rector of Bocking, and Colonel Savill (churchwarden), was free to members.

The business meeting was afterwards held, under the presidency of the Rev. H. J. Shildrick, Vicar-designate of the new church of St. Peter, Bocking. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Rev. Triffit Ward (Vicar of St. Peter's, Colchester) and the Rev. R. Hart (Vicar of Greenstead Green), were elected honorary members, and several ringing members were also elected. Messrs. B. Keeble (Romford) and C. H. Howard (Braintree) were re-elected auditors for the ensuing year.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Dean of Bocking and Colonel Savill for their kindness in subscribing towards the expenses of the tea, and to the several rectors and vicars for so kindly granting permission to ring at their respective churches. In seconding this, Mr. Samuel Hayes said he greatly regretted on that occasion the absence of the Churchwardens. He very earnestly hoped that the addition of two trebles to the present ring of six might be added to their present restoration scheme. He felt sure that if the restoration committee would devote their attention to such an important matter, the necessary funds would soon be forthcoming, and the parish of Bocking might then boast of a ring of eight second to none in the county. Many ringers outside the parish would be pleased to help by their subscriptions, several members present intimating their great willingness to do so, among them being the seconder of the proposition.

PUDSEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday evening, the 16th instant, upwards of twenty members of this Association, representing the towers of Armley, Tong, Pudsey, Calverley, Drighlington, and St. Michael's Headingley, met at the residence of Mr. T. Maude, by his kind invitation, to spend a musical evening.

After the usual greetings, and a look round the ringers' picture gallery—foremost among which is the London Surprise band—the call, "Come this way, gentlemen," was responded to with alacrity. At the head of the table, making a determined attempt on a large piece of beef, was our old friend Mr. George Bolland, opposite him being Mr. Haley, the senior ringer at Tong, and Churchwarden to boot. It need not be said that full justice was done to the good things provided; the host in his quiet manner seeing that the wants of his guests were satisfied.

The next item on the program was the special one of the evening—the opening of a new set of seventeen handbells in the key of E flat, recently purchased by Mr. Maude from the firm of Shaw and Son, of Bradford. It may not be out of place to say here that Mr. Maude is not a practical change-ringer though very anxious to become one, but that he is a staunch friend to the ringers of the district cannot be questioned, his chief delight being to do anything to promote unity and goodfellowship amongst them, and the advancement of the science. The bells were opened with a course of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, rung in Yorkshire style, followed by touches and courses of Grandsire Triples, Major, and Royal; Bob Major; Kent Treble Bob; Queens on twelve with an attempt for a course of Grandsire Cinques, which didn't come off. The courses were interspersed with tunes, and a clinking course on two peals of six was rung

to time and sounded well. After hearing the different peals comprised in this set of handbells, viz.: one of twelve, two of ten, four of eight, and the usual number of six, the ringers were unanimously of opinion that they were 'excellent in tone and finish, reflecting the highest credit on the makers.

Train time passed by unheeded, and the small hours were creeping on apace, when Mr. Bolland, on behalf of the company proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Maude for his kind hospitality. This was seconded by Mr. J. Thornton, and carried unanimously. Mr. Maude in reply reminded them that the tobacco was not finished, neither was the barrel "felled." They could stay as long as they liked; he never got tired of ringers' company; and hoped some day, when he had either bought or developed a capacity, to become a practical ringer. With an allusion to a projected summer trip usually arranged by him, Mr. Maude closed his speech; and thus ended one of the most pleasant evenings among ringers it has ever been the writer's lot to have.

H. W.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Clay Cross on Easter Monday, members being present from Ashover, Alferton, Clay Cross, Tibshelf, South Normanton, Ripley, North Wingfield, and Wingerworth.

At 4.15 p.m. Divine Service was held in the church, at which only fourteen members attended! Such a poor attendance was much to be regretted, as a splendid sermon was preached by the Rev. E. A. Morgan, Vicar of Tibshelf, from the words—"Take off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground." The rev. gentleman gave ringers some good hints about conduct in the belfry, and said the text from a ringer's point of view might be made to read—"Knock out the ashes from thy pipe, take off thy hat, subdue thy voice when in the belfry, curb thy temper, and if some thick-headed ringer spoils a peal do not use abusive language, but try again."

A splendid tea was provided by Mrs. Smith, of Clay Cross, to which only twenty-eight sat down, others preferring going round the town.

The business meeting was well attended. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The balance-sheet was considered very satisfactory, showing a balance of £5 9s. 1d. in the hands of the Treasurer. The following officers were then elected: President, Rev. E. A. Morgan; Treasurer, Rev. J. B. Nodder; Secretary, Mr. T. Allibone. The quarterly meetings were arranged to be held at Horsley in June, South Normanton in September, and Morton in December.

The advisability of uniting both East Derbyshire Associations was discussed at considerable length, but it was ultimately decided by a large majority that the question be not entertained. Votes of thanks to the Chairman, retiring officers, and the Vicar of Clay Cross for granting permission to ring, and for the use of the schoolroom, brought the meeting to a close.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SCHOLARS, STAMFORD.

On Tuesday, April 20th, an interesting wedding took place at St. Martin's church, between Frank Evans, Esq., second son of D. J. Evans, Esq., one of the churchwardens, and Miss Evelyn Margaret Emma Roper, of Stoke, Guildford, Surrey.

As the bride and bridegroom were leaving the church the bells were fired, followed by a 720 of Oxford Bob in 24 minutes, the ringers being E. Gale, 1; E. Popple, 2; C. Harper, 3; R. S. Cox, 4; F. Dennison, 5; Rev. H. L. James, 6. And a 360 of Plain Bob, standing as above, with the exception of the 3rd, which was taken by Mr. R. Wyche.

Another 360 of Oxford Bob greeted the pair as they were leaving for Essendine *en route* for Venice, and in the evening 480 of the same method. The ringing (Rev. H. L. James, conductor) was exceptionally good, and the striking like clockwork.

EVESHAM (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, April 10th, 720 Plain Bob. G. Williams, 1; A. H. Sharp, 2; H. Middleton, 3; W. Arkell, 4; F. Johnson, 5; F. Cook (conductor), 6. Also several 120s of Grandsire Doubles, with F. Styles, G. Streets, E. Tolley, F. Middleton, C. Hopkins, B. Harman and W. Attwood.

CURRENT TOPICS.

"Benenden, Biddenden, and Cranbrook, in Kent." We shall not forget for a while the appeal made in last week's paper to the inhabitants of these places. The writer appeals to them to show forth their claims to be English. He says: "Come Benenden; come Biddenden; come Cranbrook; be ye English." He would have them think that the peculiar institution which we know by the name of "Church Bells," is one especially English, or perhaps it ought to be more correctly said—British. He is not wrong by any means. Is there any foreigner alive who knows anything about Church bells? I mean our bells—British bells, all over the world. Of course not.

The second paragraph of this gentleman's appeal is certainly A 1. Says he: "Our forefathers went to a great expense in putting these bells into their beloved Church. Then is it not the duty of their children to keep them in order?" This question should meet with a sincere, genuine, and frank response from all real churchmen. English churchmen, "be ye English." The most prominent characteristic of your parish church is its steeple; the most valuable instruments your church contains are the bells, yet while you scurry to get a cheap new organ; or a painted window with doubtful portraiture; or a font the elaboration of which is sometimes as ridiculous as it is unnecessary; or a lectern which is mostly too brazen; while you rush to such small matters as these, you let your bells and their English oak frame go to pieces. This is un-English, very.

It is not always from want of means to repair them that our bells lie and decay. It is sometimes forgotten that a tower contains bells, because at different times they have become cracked from improper usage, and are in consequence not used. In such case it is a great pleasure to hear of a reformer coming along, and waking up the parish to its responsibilities. Then we see a grand change, especially if the said reformer has influence and wealth. But we must not wait for this kind of thing. If an augmentation to the peal is wished for, first ask some prominent churchman to give one bell; another churchman another, and so on. A little tact in this line may overcome all obstacles. At any rate it is worth a good try.

Reading that review upon a book about some Scotch bells generated the hope that our countrymen in the North would be led to interest themselves a little in bells. There was a great fuss some time ago in Aberdeen, and in consequence an idea seemed to get about that something big was looming in the distance—a heavy new peal of twelve, with clock and carillons, and I don't know what. But I haven't heard anything of this lately. Perhaps what is known as the "bang went saxepe" feeling interfered with it. Scotchmen have the character of being close-fisted; perhaps they are. I cannot speak from experience. If close-fistedness is intended to imply meanness I certainly have found this quality among the southrons.

Every reader will have perused that long extract from Mr. A. H. Cocks' work, which was given in the last number. I suppose the Editor has the idea in his mind that a great many are not able to possess a copy of this class of work, and that now and then he will bring out a tit-bit or two. All poorer ringers will be grateful, I am sure. It is astonishing what an immense amount has yet to be learned by really good ringers concerning the proper hanging of bells, and keeping them in order. Many there are who have yet to learn that a stay of extra strength is a source of danger to the bell. And yet it is very feasible. A stay of iron, for instance, like those short ones seen sometimes, or one of those immense wooden ones about the size of a small tree, does not give way, no matter how a clumsy learner "bumps" the bell. But it stands to reason that something must yield to such onslaught. If the stay won't give, or the slider, or the bell, or the frame, why then the tower will be sure to come down! Something must certainly res-

pond to these blows. And therefore it is best for the stay to be made of a material which will yield—wood, of the kind called "ash." I have seen people ring, or pull, a bell in such a manner that created an idea that one stay was not sufficient for them, that one each side of the stock was required; and these be it remembered, had the merit of being crack ringers. This introduction of Mr. Cocks' ought to be published by the Central Council as an addendum to their former excellent pamphlet.

Last week I made these observations: "Whatever comes we shan't have too many bells. I am afraid we shall in this respect have to be thankful for small mercies." Such opinion is not altered. I am grateful to see that we are getting some of these latter. Our paper told us that Messrs. Barwell are putting in a new peal of eight at Wolverhampton. There is something tangible about this. Then there are *proposals* to augment, increase, or repair, as the case may be, at Middlewich, in Cheshire, and at Clun in Shropshire. There is no doubt these "proposals" will come off, because they appear to be in the hands of those who are strongly concerned, but they are yet in embryo. Therefore we had only one certain event last week, the Wolverhampton. One a week—well, that is better than nothing. It is "steady," like the circulation of "THE BELL NEWS," which has reached its present proportions at about the same rate per week, I am told. Never mind. We ringers are awfully slow people, and apathetic, and all the rest of it. But we are sure, very sure, almost to vindictiveness.

A very nice comfortable meeting—that at Folkestone. A meeting to cheer a man on, and keep a ringing company in good temper for a long time. We can all understand and appreciate the fact that on the occasion "a very agreeable period was passed," and that parting-time came too early. They did not forget an old though defunct celebrity on this occasion, for his snuff-box was handed round by the Chairman, and the members present had the great satisfaction of titillating their olfactory nerves with some of the worthy old fellow's rappee. The report continues that this old worthy, James Harrison by name—had been Captain of the band for 50 years! And that "although a rate-collector was highly respected," etc., etc.

The phrase "although a rate-collector" put me one on. Is there anything degrading in being a rate-collector, then? Are rate-collectors generally classed among the ancient publicans? I did not know they were. Rate-collectors are an evil perhaps, but very necessary I expect. I don't pay rates directly, so I don't "feel the pinch," as it is called; but I have always regarded a rate-collector as a most useful and respectable individual. There are some public and semi-public officials with whom we don't care to familiarise with, the hangman, for instance; or any one of those who follow a calling the exercise of which causes misery to the unfortunate. But a rate-collector is a gentleman, generally, I think.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Thursday, April 1st, at Christ Church, 672 Grandsire Triples. S. Ansell, 1; J. Miller, 2; S. Wade, 3; J. Parker, 4; W. Ward (conductor), 5; H. Newby, 6; A. Miller, 7; C. Bale, 8. On Thursday, April 8th, 504 Grandsire Triples. S. Ansell, 1; A. Miller, 2; P. Darlington, 3; A. Darlington, 4; J. Waghorn, jun., 5; J. Miller (first 504 as conductor), 6; H. Newby, 7; C. Bale, 8. And 216 Stedman Triples. S. Wade (first in the method), 1; P. Darlington (first in the method with a bob bell), 2; J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 3; A. Darlington, 4; J. Miller, 5; H. Newby, 6; A. Miller, 7; C. Bale, 8. Also 384 Bob Major. *S. Ansell, 1; J. Miller, 2; *P. Darlington, 3; *S. Wade, 4; J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 5; A. Darlington, 6; H. Newby, 7; A. Miller, 8. *First in the method. And 168 Bob Triples. S. Darlington, 1; J. Miller, 2; S. Wade (first touch in the method), 3; A. Darlington, 4; A. Miller, 5; H. Newby, 6; J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 7; C. Bale, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

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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, APRIL 24, 1897.

It is customary for Archidiaconal Visitations to be held soon after the election of Churchwardens at the Easter Vestry. Before the close of May, the majority of newly-appointed Churchwardens will have met their respective Archdeacons at the several places to which they have been "cited." The following declaration, or one very similarly worded, will be signed by the incoming Churchwarden for the year 1897: "I do declare that I will faithfully and diligently execute the duties of Churchwarden of the parish of —, and that I will present such persons and things, as to my knowledge, are presentable by the Ecclesiastical Laws of the Realm."

The outgoing Churchwardens for 1896, consistent also with their knowledge, will sign "Articles of Enquiry," addressed to them by the Archdeacon. Such "Articles of Enquiry" are prepared, in compliance with one of the Canons, and—under various headings—often embrace as many as 150 queries. They set forth the various departments of which the Churchwardens have cognizance, and

the details thereof requiring their careful attention. We conclude that these archidiaconal papers—which may be considered official—are intended as information, more or less helpful to the Ordinary in aiming at the efficiency of parochial work. We are concerned only with the manifold queries in so far as they affect the interests of Church Bell Ringers.

In the letter before us, we may pass over the five questions having reference to the personal positions and numerical strength of the parish ringers. Under the "Fabric of the Church" come the following queries:—"Are the stages of the Tower firm and well boarded? Are the stairs and ladders in good order? Are the doors properly secured? How many bells are there? In what condition? Are the bell-frames in good order? Is the bell chamber kept clean and free from birds, and secured from wet by weather-boards in good repair? Is the ringing chamber separated from the church? By whose orders are the bells rung?"

Our point is that the above queries should be *truly* answered; either from knowledge acquired, or by personal inspection. Returns as to the conditions of towers and bells are annually made by Churchwardens, in a manner that must create comment.

Parishes could be enumerated where, during the year of office, churchwardens never set foot on the lowest tower step or rung of ladder, yet they are making their annual record. We can quite sympathise with church officers who are expected to reply in writing, however briefly, to 150 somewhat searching questions. Acting in concert with their rector or vicar, they can speedily give correct information on the majority of points. When, however, it comes to the tower and its bells, unless the incumbent be a practical ringer, the replies are usually framed without consultation of sexton, steeple-keeper or ringer. We do not hesitate to say that, in consequence inaccurate statements are too frequently filed.

If before making their annual return churchwardens cannot see the necessity for a personal inspection, they might, at least, learn from the proper source the true condition of a tower, its bells and their surroundings, just as the Vicar or Rector is the most suitable person for guiding their replies on other questions. We have said this much in the interests of neglected towers: at the same time there are churchwardens who officially, as well as energetically, associate themselves with church bell ringing and manifest a praiseworthy care for the tower and its contents. That they are in a minority does not detract from a due appreciation of them. We hope that many of their colleagues, now entering into office, will seek to follow their footsteps. Where local circumstances justify, have the clergy essayed to make churchwardens of ringers? or, where an old and respected family has long held office, have they entreated the sons of such churchwardens to become ringers?

NORTH'S ENGLISH BELLS AND BELL LORE.
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THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Hon. Secretary acknowledges, with thanks, receipt of the contributions for the current year from the following societies, since the date of previous notice:—Bath and Wells, Sussex County, and Lancashire. He would be greatly obliged if the Hon. Secretaries of the following societies, who were on the list for 1896, would be kind enough to pay the contributions for 1897, without further delay, at the same time forwarding the names and addresses of their representatives, and the number of members in the society represented:—Archdeaconry of Stafford, Yorkshire, S.W. Middlesex, Salisbury Diocesan, Liverpool Diocesan.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Hon. Sec., C.C.

Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn, 9th April, 1897.

*** We have a letter from a correspondent on the Wasingborough ringers. If the name and address of the writer is sent we will insert it. Several of our correspondents are again beginning to neglect this important particular.

The Metropolis.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Monday, April 19, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE, VASSEL ROAD, BRIXTON,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

ARTHUR R. DAVIS Treble.	ARTHUR J. NEALE 5.
FREDERICK G. PERRIN .. 2.	WALTER C. HASTED .. 6.
WILLIAM BEDWELL 3.	HAROLD N. DAVIS 7.
VICTOR W. WEST 4.	GEORGE W. WILD Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and
Conducted by HAROLD N. DAVIS.

This is the first peal of Major on this grand ring of bells, and was rung on the occasion of the election of churchwardens. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar, the Rev. C. E. Brooke, and churchwardens for kindly granting the use of the bells on this and previous occasions. This composition appeared in our issue of December 24th, 1892.

The Provinces.

BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD AND THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 13, 1897, in Two Hours Twenty-two-and-a-half Minutes,
AT THE GLOBE TAVERN, GRANVILLE STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

ROBERT J. HUNT 1-2.	WILLIAM A. HANCOX .. 5-6.
WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 3-4.	WILLIAM SHORT 7-8.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.
Referee—J. Porter. Witness—T. Wakeman, of Kidderminster. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

OSWALDTWISTLE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. (BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, April 14, 1897, in Two Hours and Twenty-six Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. R. PARKINSON,
ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s, each called differently.

I. WHALLEY 1-2.	C. SHARPLES 3-4.
R. PARKINSON 5-6.	

Conducted by R. PARKINSON.

Referee—A. Rushton. First peal by all, and first attempt. First peal of Minor on handbells by the Association, and first handbell peal by the Blackburn branch.

BANGOR, NORTH WALES.

On Friday, April 16, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DAVID,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 13½ cwt.

JOHN M. ROWLANDS Treble.	PHILIP W. DAVIES 5.
WALTER SCUTT* 2.	JOSEPH GAYTON 6.
REV. T. LEWIS JONES 3.	MORRIS J. MORRIS 7.
SAMUEL TAYLOR 4.	WILLIAM CRANE Tenor.

Conducted by MORRIS J. MORRIS.

*First peal with a bob bell. This peal was rung for evening service with the bells muffled.

HENFIELD.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 17, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ORIGINAL. Tenor 15½ cwt.

WILLIAM HILLMAN Treble.	JOHN SMART 5.
SAMUEL BURT* 2.	LAZARUS PAYNE 6.
HENRY STRINGER 3.	ALFRED W. GROVES 7.
GEORGE PAYNE 4.	ARTHUR HODGES Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED GROVES.

*First peal. The bells were rung half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. James Martin, who for many years was churchwarden at Henfield.

KILLAMARSH, DERBYSHIRE.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, April 17, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5400 CHANGES;

Being 360 each of the following:

Chelsea, Chester, Carlisle, Lincoln, Ely, Rochester, Coventry, London, Wells, York, Durham, Bristol, Lichfield, Worcester and Chichester. Tenor 11 cwt.

JAMES EMSEN Treble.	GEORGE BURNHAM 4.
THOMAS BETTISON 2.	WILLIAM H. TURTON 5.
WILLIAM LAMBERT 3.	CHARLES SEVERN Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS BETTISON.

This peal was rung after an attempt for a long peal in the above methods, which came to grief after ringing two hours. It was intended to have made the attempt for the long peal on April 10th (as per notice in "THE BELL NEWS") but had to be postponed on account of a funeral taking place on that day.

STANFORD-ON-SOAR, NOTTS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.
(LOUGHBOROUGH BRANCH.)

On Sunday, April 18, 1897, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720s. Tenor 17 cwt.

GEORGE DOUGHTY Treble.	JOHN YATES 4.
HARRY WHITTLE 2.	ARTHUR W. MATTHEWS 5.
WILLIAM PERVIN 3.	EDWARD READER Tenor.

Conducted by E. READER.

This is the first peal of Treble Bob Minor by all, and the first on the bells, and it is also believed to be the first in the District.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, April 18, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-seven and ½ Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13½ cwt. in F.

FREDERICK W. RICE Treble.	JOHN R. SHARMAN 5.
JOHN RICE 2.	GEORGE PAICH 6.
ARTHUR L. PREECE 3.	ROBERT JORDAN 7.
ALFRED CRIPPS 4.	FREDERICK DENCH Tenor.

Composed by FREDK. DENCH and Conducted by FREDK. W. RICE.

This is the quickest peal on the bells. First peal in the method and first attempt by A. L. Preece. Mr. A. Cripps was elected a member of the above Society previous to starting for the peal.

REIGATE, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 19, 1897, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt.

PELHAM E. J. KNIGHT .. Treble.	JOHN ANSELL 5.
FRANCIS T. HOAD, SEN. .. 2.	GEORGE F. HOAD 6.
GEORGE THOMPSON 3.	FRANCIS T. HOAD, JUN. .. 7.
FRANCIS J. SANDERS 4.	JOHN STEADMAN Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS T. HOAD, SEN.

J. Ansell hails from Betchworth. F. Sanders was elected a member of the above Association previous to starting.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 19, 1897, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM WIGHTMAN .. Treble.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN 5.
STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. 2.	WILLIAM RUMSEY 6.
ALFRED W. GRIMES* .. 3.	WILLIAM GRIMES 7.
GEORGE THURLLOW 4.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

*First peal in the method and first attempt. For calling see "Snowdon," part II. page 27.

BRISTOL.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE OXFORD SOCIETY.)

On Monday, April 19, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 21 cwt.

C. HOUNSLOW Treble.	C. H. EXON 5.
F. C. EXON 2.	E. HIMS 6.
F. W. ELLES* 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
F. PERRIN† 4.	W. JEFFERY Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

*First peal of Stedman Triples. †First peal of Stedman.

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 19, 1897, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.—CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM SOUTER Treble.	WILLIAM CHINERY 5.
W. C. WHISKENS 2.	WILLIAM P. ROUSE 6.
GEORGE ARCHER 3.	ABEL HART 7.
JOHN G. WADE 4.	JOHN SOUTER Tenor.

Composed by T. DAY and Conducted by JOHN SOUTER.

This peal is taken from Snowdon's Rope-Sight, part 2, page 18. Messrs. Whiskens Archer, Chinery, Hart, and J. Souter hail from Diss; the rest are local men.

HINGHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 19, 1897, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

STEPHEN BACK Treble.	*REV. D. HAMER 5.
GEORGE WHITEHAND* .. 2.	JAMES WELLS 6.
FRANK GEO. BURLEIGH .. 3.	EDWARD EAGLING 7.
WILLIAM TUTTLE* 4.	SAMUEL F. BURLEIGH .. Tenor.

Composed by FRANK HOPGOOD and Conducted by FRANK GEORGE BURLEIGH.

The ringers of the treble, 3rd, 6th, and tenor hail from Dereham; the rest belong to the local company. *First peal. This is the first peal in which a local ringer has taken part for over fifty years. The ringers wish to take this opportunity to thank the rector, the Rev. A. C. W. Upcher, for so kindly granting the use of the bells on this occasion.

SWINTON, LANCASHIRE.—LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 19, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION.

EDWARD OWEN Treble.	JOHN BROCKBANK 5.
CHARLES CASH 2.	EDWARD CASH 6.
RICHARD PEARCE 3.	WALTER HESKETH 7.
DAVID CLARKE 4.	JOHN THOS. JONES Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD CASH.

This peal was rung to celebrate the silver jubilee of the bells, which were opened twenty-five years since on the above date. Ringers from Eccles, Worsley, Walkden, and Pendlebury rang touches during the day. All the above belong to the local company.

NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 19, 1897, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WOOLOS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
F. E. WARD'S VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs.

JOHN VINNICOMBE Treble.	FREDERICK ATWELL 5.
JOHN W. JONES 2.	JOHN BUTLER 6.
HENRY MILLARD 3.	JOHN TROWBRIDGE 7.
EVAN DAVIES 4.	JOHN COX* Tenor.

Conducted by J. Cox.

*First peal. Rung on the anniversary of the opening of the bells. J. Vinnicombe hails from Penarth.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 19th, 1897, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM WIGHTMAN* .. Treble.	†WILLIAM RUMSEY 5.
FRED. E. W. MEADOWS .. 2.	†WILLIAM GRIMES 6.
ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 3.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. Tenor.

Composed by TOM LOCKWOOD and Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

*First peal in the method. †First peal of Kent. F. E. W. Meadows from Otley; W. Rumsey and W. Grimes from Debenham; G. Thurlow from Framsdon, the rest from Creetingham. For calling see "Snowdon" part II, p. 23.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 19, 1897, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

ERNEST PYE Treble.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN 5.
GEORGE R. PYE 2.	WILLIAM LINCOLN 6.
ERNEST W. DAVIES* .. 3.	JOHN DALE 7.
THOMAS LINCOLN* 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal in the method. This composition has the 4th, 5th and 6th their extent in 6ths place, the 6th being five course-ends at home and her extent wrong, which properties are obtained in the minimum number of courses. Rung as a birthday compliment to E. Wightman, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns.

LINCOLN.—NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Monday, April 19, 1897, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-AT-ARCHES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 20 cwt.

GABRIEL LINDOFF Treble.	THOMAS HODGSON 5.
GEORGE FLINTHAM 2.	ABRAHAM HAIGH 6.
ARTHUR CRAVEN 3.	GEORGE CHESTER 7.
GEORGE W. BEMROSE .. 4.	CHARLES W. P. CLIFTON Tenor.

Composed by A. CRAVEN and Conducted by G. LINDOFF.

A. Haigh and T. Hodgson hail from York. This composition contains the extent of 4ths 5th and 6th in 6ths place at a course-end at four, five and six course-ends respectively.

HECKINGTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 19, 1897, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

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

Tenor 19½ cwt.

FREDERICK HILTON Treble.	WILLIAM DICKENSON 5.
JOHN H. CLARK 2.	JOHN T. HOLMES 6.
JOHN HILTON 3.	EDWARD HOULDEN 7.
FREDERICK WARRINGTON .. 4.	GEORGE WARD Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN H. CLARK.

First peal by F. Hilton. First peal as conductor and first attempt. First peal by a local band. First peal with a bob bell by F. Warrington.

GUISELEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 19, 1897, in Four Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 8,128 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

JOSEPH BROADLEY Treble.	EDWIN WHEATER 5.
JOHN SUNDERLAND 2.	*BENJAMIN F. LAMB 6.
THOMAS B. KENDALL .. 3.	FREDERICK W. DIXON .. 7.
CHARLES PRATT 4.	FRANK BIRKS Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and Conducted by FREDERICK DIXON.

*First peal in the method. This peal is the longest by the Association, beating its previous longest performance by 2,080 changes. It was rung in honour of the jubilee of the bells. The churchwardens entertained the ringers to dinner after the peal. The bells were kept going during the whole of the day by companies from Shipley, Calverley, Bradford, Keighley, Kildwick and Addingham, in various methods.

WHITWICK, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(LOUGHBOROUGH BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, April 20, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

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

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN RAWSON Treble.	HENRY PARTRIDGE 5.
JOSIAH MORRIS 2.	WILLIAM WILLSON 6.
STORER W. WEST 3.	EDWARD E. SMITH 7.
WALTER WEST 4.	J. ALBERT MOULT Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WILLSON.

First peal with a bob bell by the ringers of the 2nd and 7th, who with the conductor belong to Leicester; the rest to the local society. Rang at the first attempt.

KING'S NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(THE KING'S NORTON GUILD.)

On Tuesday, April 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN WITHERS Treble.	ALFRED PRITCHETT 5.
W. S. PRITCHETT 2.	JOHN S. PRITCHETT 6.
FRED SUMNER 3.	FREDERICK CLAYTON .. 7.
THEODORE PRITCHETT .. 4.	WILLIAM H. BARBER .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and Conducted by W. H. BARBER.

Date Touches.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

HARTHILL.—On Wednesday, April 7th, at All Hallows church, a date touch of 1897 changes, being 720 of Oxford, 720 of Kent, 360 Merchant's Return and 97 Violet. J. Bilham, 1; J. Guest, 2; Rev. B. Darley, 3; T. Smith, 4; W. Newbury (conductor), 5; T. Laking, 6. Time 1 hr. 13 mins. Tenor 19½ cwt.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.)

POYNTON (Cheshire) - On Tuesday, April 6th, at St. George's

church, a date touch of Bob Minor, consisting of a 720 and 457. Composed by W. Walmsley, of Macclesfield. S. Smith, 1; J. Bowden, 2; J. Potts, 3; J. Wood, 4; W. Bowden, 5; J. Snape (conductor), 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—FYLDE BRANCH.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Thursday, April 8th, at St. Peter's church, a date touch of Minor, being 457 Grandsire, 720 College Single, and 720 Plain Bob, in 1 hr. 5 mins. G. Maries, 1; J. Pendlebury, 2; E. Forshaw, 3; W. Gillett, 4; J. Moore, 5; W. Tomlinson, 6. This is the first date touch by members of the Fylde branch; also the first on the bells. Conducted by G. Maries. Tenor 10½ cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

KILLMARSH (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, March 6th, 720 each of Chester Surprise and Carlisle Surprise, and 240 each of Lincoln Surprise, Ely Surprise, Rochester Surprise, London Surprise, and Wells Surprise. H. Greaves, 1; T. Bettison (conductor), 2; *W. Lambert, 3; G. Burnham, 4; C. Severn, 5; W. Turton, 6. First 720 of Chester Surprise by all. *First of Carlisle and hails from Treeton. On Sunday morning, March 14th, for Divine Service, 720 New College Treble. T. Bettison (conductor), 1; H. Greaves (first in the method), 2; J. Emsen, 3; G. Burnham, 4; W. Turton, 5; C. Severn, 6. For evening service 720 Ringers' Surprise (twenty-one bobs), and 120 College Pleasure. F. Hall, 1; H. Greaves (first 720 in the method), 2; T. Bettison (conductor), 3; the rest as before. On Monday, March 15th, for practice, 720 of Ebor. F. Hall, 1; H. Greaves, 2; J. Emsen, 3; G. Burnham, 4; T. Bettison (conductor), 5; C. Severn, 6. First 720 in the method by all. On Sunday morning, March 21st, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford. For evening service 720 Superlative Surprise. H. Greaves, 1; T. Bettison (conductor), 2; the rest as before. On Sunday, March 28th, 720 Chichester Surprise, standing as before. On Sunday morning, April 4th, for Divine Service, 240 each of Bristol and Lichfield Surprise. And for evening service 720 Chelsea Surprise, 240 Chester Surprise, and 120 each of Carlisle, Ely, Lincoln, London, and Wells, being the first 720 in the method by all. W. Lambert, 3; the rest as before.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, April 6th, for practice at All Saints church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor on the back six. J. Grundy, 1; A. Matthews, 2; W. Purvin, 3; H. Whittle, 4; G. Doughty, 5; W. Inglesant (conductor), 6. Also other touches in the same method, and a touch of Plain Bob with I. Lovett, of Sileby, taking part. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. Messrs. Grundy and Matthews belong to Loughborough; Purvin, Whittle, and Doughty to Stanford-on-Soar; Inglesant to Quorn.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHARING (Kent).—On Thursday, February 25th, 720 Grandsire Doubles. P. Edwards, 1; H. Ward, 2; W. Good, 3; H. Goodwin, 4; W. Spice (conductor), 5; J. Clifford, 6. On Thursday, March 4th, 720 Grandsire Doubles. P. Edwards, 1; E. Archer, 2; W. Good, 3; W. Spice, 4; H. Goodwin (conductor), 5; J. Clifford, 6. On Saturday, March 20th, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and eighteen singles). C. Young, 1; E. Dixon, 2; W. Hills, 3; W. Spice, 4; H. Goodwin, 5; T. Tabret (conductor), 6.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday, March 21st, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Lane, 1; H. Catton, 2; G. Hayes, 3; F. Ring, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. On Monday, March 22nd, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Avis, 1; R. Munn, 2; G. Hayes, 3; F. Ring, 4; J. Broom, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 4th, 720 Bob Minor. H. Catton, 1; H. Milhams, 2; G. Hayes, 3; F. Ring, 4; W. Martin (conductor), 5; W. Harper, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Lane, 1; H. Milhams, 2; G. Hayes, 3; F. Ring, 4; J. Broom, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. First in the method with a bob bell by H. Milhams.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HALE MAGNA.—On Sunday afternoon, March 28th, six members of the Heckington company paid a visit to the church of St. John the Baptist, and rang 720 Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. F. Hilton, 1; E. Houlden, 2; J. Hilton, 3; F. Warrington, 4; J. Holmes, 5; W. Dickinson (conductor), 6. These bells are a nice light ring of six, cast by Messrs. Carr, Smethwick, and is supposed to be the only maiden peal in the county.

HECKINGTON.—On Tuesday, April 6th, for Confirmation Service at

the parish church, 120 Grandsire Doubles. J. Hilton, 1; J. Holmes, 2; A. Creasey, 3; W. Dickinson, 4; E. Houlden, 5; G. Ward, 6.

LINCOLN.—On Sunday, March 28th, at the residence of Mr. G. W. Bemrose, 9, Hermit Street, on handbells, retained in hand, 1760 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 59 mins. G. W. Bemrose, 1-2; G. Lindoff (conductor), 3-4; Arthur Craven, 5-6; J. B. Fenton, 7-8. Longest length on handbells by the ringers of the trebles and tenors.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

COGGESHALL (Essex).—On Saturday, March 20th, 672 Double Norwich. J. Nicholls, 1; W. Keeble, 2; W. Dyer, 3; W. Elliott, 4; J. Sadler, 5; D. Elliott, 6; E. Beckwith (conductor), 7; J. Newman, 8. On Sunday, March 21st, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. C. Norfolk, a member of the local company, 1008 Bob Major. R. Potter, 1; W. Keeble, 2; W. Dyer, 3; W. Elliott, 4; J. Sadler, 5; D. Elliott (conductor), 6; E. Beckwith, 7; J. Newman, 8. And 288 Oxford Treble Bob Major, and 224 Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 22 cwt. in F.

KELVEDON (Essex).—On Wednesday, March 24th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor. G. King (first 720), 1; C. Mills (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; H. Elliott, 3; W. Keeble, 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott (conductor), 6. And 720 London Scholars' Pleasure. H. Elliott, 1; E. Beckwith, 2; D. Elliott, 3; the rest as before. First in the method by all and on the bells. Also 720 New London. J. Elliott, 1; H. Elliott, 2; H. Evers, 3; D. Elliott, 4; E. Beckwith, 5; W. Elliott (conductor), 6. On the previous Friday for a Confirmation Service 720 Woodbine. J. Elliott, 1; H. Elliott, 2; W. Keeble, 3; D. Elliott, 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott (conductor), 6. First in the method as conductor. Also 720 Double Court. C. Mills, 1; J. Elliott, 4; the rest as before.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Monday, February 1st, for practice, 756 Stedman Triples. R. Moncaster, 1; T. Lungley, 2; W. Lister, 3; R. Wilson, 4; J. Baxter, 5; G. Lungley, 6; W. Porter (conductor), 7; W. Patton, 8. On Sunday, February 7th, 720 Grandsire Minor. T. Scollick, 1; W. Patton, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; H. Taylor, 5; W. Porter, 6; J. Baxter (conductor), 7; W. Lister, 8. On Sunday, February 14th, 560 Canterbury Pleasure Major. T. Scollick, 1; R. Moncaster, 2; W. Patton, 3; A. Pilkington, 4; H. Taylor, 5; W. Lister, 6; W. Porter, 7; J. Baxter (conductor), 8. On Sunday evening, February 21st, for Divine Service, 560 Bob Major. T. Scollick, 1; R. Moncaster, 2; W. Patton, 3; A. Pilkington, 4; H. Taylor, 5; J. Baxter, 6; W. Porter, 7; T. Lungley (conductor), 8. On Sunday, February 28th, 560 Grandsire Triples. J. Baxter (conductor), 1; W. Porter, 2; W. Patton, 3; A. Pilkington, 4; H. Taylor, 5; W. Lister, 6; C. Moncaster, 7; J. Bolton, 8. For evening service, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. C. Moncaster, 1; J. Baxter, 2; W. Patton, 3; A. Pilkington, 4; H. Taylor, 5; W. Lister, 6; G. Lungley, 7; W. Porter (conductor), 8.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—On Sunday morning, April 11th, for Divine Service at the church of SS. Mary and Cuthbert, 720 Woodbine. J. Crawford, 1; J. Anderson, 2; G. Ward, 3; F. Sheraton, 4; W. Sheraton, 5; A. Meyers (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Plain Bob. W. Sheraton, 1; J. Crawford, 2; J. Anderson, 3; F. Sheraton, 4; G. Ward, 5; A. Meyers (conductor), 6.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TETTENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, March 8th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Jones, 1; B. Dalton, 2; W. G. Hall, 3; G. Burrows, 4; H. A. Hall (conductor), 5; A. Griffiths, 6. On Sunday, March 28th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Jones, 1; G. Burrows, 2; B. Dalton, 3; J. E. Groves (conductor), 4; H. A. Hall, 5; H. Knight, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

PENN (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, April 4th, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. F. Jones, 1; W. G. Hall, 2; J. E. Groves, 3; G. Burrows, 4; H. A. Hall (conductor), 5; A. Griffiths, 6. Also several 120s of Grandsire Doubles. Tenor 10½ cwt.

HANDSWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, April 4th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. A. Smith, 1; W. H. Godden, 2; B. Starkey, 3; W. Verry, 4; T. Westwood (conductor), 5; R. Faux, 6; T. Verry, 7; R. Speakman, 8. Composed by the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS."

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION

SHIREOAKS.—On Sunday morning, April 11th, for Divine Service at St. Luke's church, 720 Duke of York. S. Tomlinson, 1; D. Russon, 2; J. Fitzjohn, 3; T. Kitson, 4; W. Hargreaves, 5; B. Hall, 6. And 240 of Oxford standing as above. For Divine Service in the evening 720 Violet. D. Russon, 1; E. Russon, 2; W. Hargreaves, 3; T. Kitson, 4; B. Hall, 5; F. Hargreaves, 6. And 720 Arnold's Victory.

E. Russon, 1; D. Russon, 2; W. Hargreaves, 3; T. Kitson, 4; B. Hall, 5; F. Hargreaves, 6. Also 240 Kent Treble Bob. F. Hargreaves, 1; W. Hargreaves, 2; J. Fitzjohn, 3; T. Kitson, 4; D. Russon, 5; B. Hall, 6. All the above were conducted by W. Hargreaves. T. Kitson hails from Ecclesfield, and was on a visit to a cousin in the village of Shireoaks; F. Hargreaves hails from Worksop, and was formerly a member of the Shireoaks company.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GRAPPENHALL.—On March 5th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Mainwaring, 1; H. Moston, 2; S. Horsfall, 3; F. Spence (conductor), 4; C. R. Greenall, 5; J. W. Booth, 6. On March 7th, 720 London Treble Bob. J. Mainwaring, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. On March 9th, 720 Cambridge Surprise, being the first in the method by all. J. Mainwaring, 1; H. Moston, 2; R. G. Lewis, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; C. R. Greenall, 6. On March 11th, 720 Merchant's Return. J. Mainwaring, 1; S. Horsfall, 2; C. R. Greenall, 3; H. Moston, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; R. G. Lewis, 6. On March 14th, 720 College Exercise. H. Moston, 2; S. Horsfall, 3; R. G. Lewis, 4; J. Booth, 6; rest as before. On March 21st, 720 each of Bocking and London Treble Bob. H. Moston, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. Also 720 Double Stedman Slow Course (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. R. Greenall, 1; H. Moston, 2; R. G. Lewis (conductor), 6; the rest as before. On March 25th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. H. Moston, 1; S. Horsfall, 2; W. Brammer, 3; C. R. Greenall, 4; R. G. Lewis (conductor), 5; F. Spence, 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure. J. E. Ashcroft, 1; C. R. Greenall, 2; S. Horsfall, 3; W. Brammer, 4; R. G. Lewis, 5; F. Spence (conductor), 6. On March 28th, 720 each of College Exercise and College Pleasure. J. Mainwaring, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6.

THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

HINDLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday, April 11th, for morning service at St. Peter's church, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 36 mins. R. Calland (conductor), 1; W. Blakeledge, 2; J. Brown, 3; S. Tickle, 4; E. Tickle (first half-peal), 5; T. Tickle, 6; E. Prescott, 7; N. Gregory, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt. The 5th ringer was elected a member of the Guild before starting.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Monday, March 29th, for Confirmation Service at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. R. Howse, 1; A. Gower (longest length), 2; J. Smith, 3; G. Howse, 4; B. Hobbs, 5; J. Osborne (longest length), 6; J. Sharp (conductor), 7; A. Miles (longest length), 8.

BRIGHTON.—On Sunday, April 11th, for a Confirmation Service at St. Peter's church, 448 Superlative Surprise Major. J. Jay, sen., 1; G. Smart, 2; G. King, 3; G. Williams, 4; E. Merritt, 5; A. Fuller, 6; J. Frossell, 7; K. Hart (conductor), 8.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, March 21st, at the parish church, for evening service, a 448 of London Surprise Major. T. Wakeman, 1; E. C. Hunt, 2; W. H. Smith, 3; J. Bennett, 4; N. Davies, 5; T. J. Salter (conductor), 6; J. Crane, 7; J. Pagett, 8. On Sunday, April 3rd, for Divine Service in the morning, a 432 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. G. Wakeman, 1; N. Davies, 2; G. Salter, 3; E. C. Hunt, 4; J. Bennett, 5; T. J. Salter, 6; J. Crane, 7; J. Pagett (conductor), 8. On Sunday, April 11th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 1008 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. T. Elcock, 1; J. Bennett, 2; G. Salter, 3; W. Short, 4; W. H. Smith, 5; E. C. Hunt, 6; T. Salter, 7; J. Pagett (conductor), 8. S. Elcock hails from Areyley Kings and W. Short from Clent. Tenor 30 cwt.

WOLVERLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, March 23rd, for practice at the parish church, a 1260 of Grandsire Doubles. J. Smith, 1; T. J. Salter (conductor), 2; H. Fraizer, 3; P. Perry, 4; W. Perry, 5; J. Bryant, 6. Longest touch by all except the conductor. And on March 30th, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (thirty singles and six bobs). J. Smith, 1; T. Salter, 2; W. H. Smith, 3; T. Wakeman, 4; G. Salter, 5; J. Pagett (conductor), 6.

CHILDWYCKHAM (Gloucestershire).—Recently, at the parish church, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. S. Smith, 1; W. Halling, 2; J. Smith, 3; F. Johnson (conductor), 4; F. Cook, 5; J. Turner, 6. This is the longest length by the ringers of 1, 2, 3, 6.

CLAY CROSS (Derbyshire).—Recently, at the parish church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (forty-two bobs and two singles). T. Allibone,

1; T. Millington (conductor), 2; J. Maycock (first 720), 3; F. Maycock, 4; F. Marshall, 5; J. J. Cook, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt. in A.

FRITTENDEN (Kent).—On Monday, April 5th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 23 mins. E. Watson, 1; W. Pope, 2; F. Simmons, 3; C. Pearson, 4; W. Bridgland, 5; E. Pope, 9. On Saturday, April 10th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor, in 24 mins. E. Watson, 1; E. King, 2; W. Pope, 3; T. Daynes, 4; W. Bridgland, 5; E. Pope, 6. On Monday, April 12th, for practice, two 720s, the first in 24 mins., the second in 23 mins. E. Watson, 1; E. King, 2; R. Tyler, 3; W. Pope, 4; W. Bridgland, 5; E. Pope, 6. Second 720. E. Watson, 1; W. Pope, 2; F. Simmons, 3; R. Tyler, 4; W. Bridgland, 5; E. Pope, 6. W. Rofe covered with the tenor in all touches. All conducted by E. Pope. First 720 by F. Simmons, E. King, W. Bridgland and R. Tyler. Messrs. W. and E. Pope hail from Staplehurst; R. Tyler from Marden.

HATHEROP (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, April 6th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and a course of Kent Treble Bob. T. Barnett, 1; J. Kitchener, 2; C. Bate, 3; H. Griffin, 4; H. Roberts (conductor), 5; T. Smith, 6. The fifth bell is very badly cracked. H. Roberts hails from Cheltenham.

LITTLE COMBERTON (Worcestershire).—On April 12th, on handbells, six 6-scores, three of Canterbury Pleasure and three of Grandsire. H. Collins, 1-2; H. Salisbury (conductor), 3-4; C. Collins, 5-6.

PULFORD (Cheshire).—On Monday, March 22nd, at the parish church tower, on handbells retained in hand, 608 Bob Major. Also a plain course each of Kent Treble Bob Major and Forward Major. H. Wilde (conductor), 1-2; R. Williams, 3-4; J. Morgan, 5-6; G. Jones, 7-8. First course of Treble Bob and Forward Major on handbells by all the band.

SOLIHULL (Warwickshire).—On Sunday evening, April 11th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Haines, 1; F. Martineau, 2; G. Martineau (conductor), 3; G. Skuce, 4; W. Wall, 5; J. Bragg, 6; S. Bragg, 7; T. Markham, 8. First 500 by Messrs. Haines, Skuce, Wall, Bragg (2), and Markham.

STAPLETON NEAR BRISTOL.—On Thursday, April 8th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. C. Gordon, 1; J. Bawn, 2; T. Radford, 3; A. Bawn, 4; J. Long, 5; W. Hinton (conductor), 6. T. Radford hails from Taunton; W. Hinton from Bristol. Rung with the bells muffled owing to the burial that day of Mr. Alfred Pike, for many years a ringer at Stapleton, and who was much respected.

STONE, ISLE OF OXNEY (Kent).—On Sunday afternoon, March 28th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 120 Grandsire Doubles. F. Wenham, 1; W. Ford, 2; F. Bates, 3; C. Smith, 4; W. Cook, 5; W. Batehup, 6. Also 120 Bob Doubles. C. Tribe, 2; the rest as before. The above are the first 120s ever rung for Divine Service by a local band.

TREETON (Yorks).—On Friday, April 2nd, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six singles). O. Sadler, 1; W. Allwood, 2; J. Sadler, 3; T. Sadler, 4; S. Walker, 5; T. Whitworth (conductor), 6. On April 6th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. O. Sadler, 1; T. Whitworth, 2; J. H. Brothwell, 3; T. Sadler, 4; J. Sadler, 5; W. Lambert (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 11th, for Divine Service, 720 College New Treble. A. Woolenden, 1; T. Whitworth, 2; J. H. Brothwell, 3; T. Sadler, 4; W. J. Nicholson, 5; W. Lambert (conductor), 6. First in the method by all. For evening service 720 Ebor, standing as above, being the first in the method by all.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Saturday, March 6th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (six divisions, thirty singles). C. Wilson, 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Sunday morning, March 7th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (a two-part 720, thirty-four singles). In the evening 720 Canterbury Pleasure (a three-part 720, thirty-six singles). G. Somerville, 1; J. Bell, 2; C. Wilson, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Tuesday, March 9th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (a three-part 720, forty-two singles). G. Somerville, 1; C. Wilson, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Sunday evening, March 14th, 720 College Single Minor (a two-part 720, twenty-two singles). On Sunday morning, March 21st, 720 College Single Minor (a three-part 720, six bobs and eighteen singles). G. Somerville, 1; J. Bell, 2; C. Wilson, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. In the evening 720 Bob Minor (a three-part 720, fifteen bobs and twenty-four singles). G. Somerville, 1; J. Bell, 2; C. Wilson, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Rodger, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Sunday morning, March 28th, 720 Oxford Single Bob Minor (a three-part 720, twenty-four bobs and eighteen singles). In the evening, 720 Grandsire Minor (a two-part 720, thirty-eight bobs and fourteen singles). G. Somerville, 1; J. Bell, 2; C. Wilson, 3; H. Barker, 4; H. Rodger, 5; H. Harrison, 6. All the above 720s were composed and conducted by C. E. Wilson, Tenor 9 cwt.

Notices.

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—A meeting of the above Branch will be held at St. James's church, Rusholme, to-day, Saturday, April 24th; bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting at 7 p.m., open invitation to all ringers.

WALTER BROWN, Branch Sec.
54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

The North Lincolnshire Association.—The annual general meeting will be held at Lincoln, to-day, Saturday, April 24th. Tea in the Co-operative Hall, Silver Street, at 4.45 p.m., free to members who have paid their subscription; non-members, 1s. 2d. each. A business meeting will be held directly afterwards. The belfries in the city will be open to ringers during the afternoon and evening, except during the hours of service.

REGINALD BOND, Hon. Sec.
Newland Street West, Lincoln.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting of this Branch will be held at Haslingden, to-day, Saturday, April 24th. The bells will be ready at 3.30 p.m.; business meeting at 6.30.

J. H. BANKS, Branch Sec.
Helmshore Road, Helmshore.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The quarterly meeting in connection with this society will be held to-day, Saturday, April 24th, at the parish church, Barton-under-Needwood. Bells will be available for ringing during the afternoon.

S. REEVES, Hon. Sec.
10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

The Ashton-Under-Lyne Society.—The annual meeting of the above society will be held at the Parish Church, Ashton, to-day, Saturday, April 24th. Bells ready at 4 o'clock; meeting at 7.

S. BOOTH, Hon. Sec.
57, Alexandra Road, Ashton-U-Lyne.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next monthly ringing meeting of this society will be held at Rothwell (eight bells), to-day, Saturday, April 24th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Meeting-house—The White Swan hotel. All members and ringing friends are cordially invited. The unveiling of a new peal-board recording the first peal rung by the society, will take place during the evening.

R. BINNS, Hon. Sec.
18, Irwin Street, Hogg's Field, Holbeck.

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—Owing to the bell-hanging operations in progress at the Abbey and other towers in Bath, the annual meeting proposed to be held in the city on May 1st, is unavoidably postponed to a later date, due notice of which will appear.

HY. W. TOMKINS, Hon. Sec. and Treas.
The Cottage, Old Cleve, Washford.

The Kent County Association.—Lewisham District.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, May 1st, at Hayes (six bells) and West Wickham (five bells). The towers will be open from 3 p.m. It is hoped members will endeavour to be present.

W. BEDWELL, District Hon. Sec.
Albacore Crescent, Lewisham.

The St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 4th, at The Tamworth Arms, Moor street, Birmingham. Chair to be taken at 8.30 p.m.

W. H. GODDEN, Hon. Sec.
61, Roland Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

The Middlesex Association.—The next

meeting of this association will be held on Saturday, May 8th, at St. Matthew's church, Upper Clapton, by the kind permission of the Rev. J. R. Cullin. The tower will be open soon after 5 p.m., and there will be a business meeting at 8 p.m., in a room adjoining the church. The hon. secretary hopes that members will endeavour to be present, and he extends, on their behalf, a cordial invitation to all friends of the association who are ringers.

ARTHUR T. KING, Hon. Sec.
18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—The spring quarterly meeting will be held at Mortimer (near Reading), on Saturday, May 15th. The towers of St. Mary (eight bells) and St. John (six bells) will be open for ringing after 2 p.m. Evensong at St. John's church, at 4.45 p.m.; preacher, Rev. C. Lovett-Cameron. Tea, kindly given by the vicar, at the vicarage, at 5.45 p.m. Members who intend to be present at the meeting must send notice to me not later than Saturday, May 8th.

A. W. PIKE, Organising Sec.
Caversham, Oxon.

The Yorkshire Association.—Preliminary Notice.—Negotiations are pending with Messrs. Swan and Leach to run a special half-day excursion for the meeting at Pontefract, on May 15th, by G. N. R., with bookings for Leeds, Bradford, Keighley, Dewsbury, Wakefield, and intermediate stations. Further particulars in due course. BEN. T. COPLEY,

14, Hillside Terrace, Bradford. Hon. Sec.

The Borden Society, Kent.—All communications respecting the above should now be addressed to 28, Borden lane.

E. ALLEN, Hon. Sec.

Compositions.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By HENRY W. WILDE, Belgrave, Cheshire.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 1 4 6

2 4 3 5 6 S

6 5 4 2 3 - -

5 6 3 2 4 - -

2 3 6 5 4 - -

3 6 2 5 4 - -

6 2 3 5 4 - -

5 3 2 6 4 - -

3 2 5 6 4 - -

3 5 2 6 4 S

5 6 2 3 4 -

3 2 6 5 4 - -

2 6 3 5 4 - -

6 3 2 5 4 - -

5 2 3 6 4 - -

2 3 5 6 4 - -

Twice repeated.

This peal contains all the combinations of 4, 5 and 6 in 5-6, and the 2nd is never in 6th's place at the course-ends. It is believed by the author to be the first three-part peal published in this method, having these qualities, and only two singles in each part.

Handbells for Sale.

TO Handbell Ringers.—What offers, cash or exchange. Seventy-five Bells. 2½ to 1½ inches in diameter. Complete on wooden frame.—W. Mumby, Newark, Notts.

FOR SALE.—Complete set of Handbells in good condition, fully up to pitch, the property of the Birkby Baptist Chapel.—For particulars, apply to J. Wood and Sons, New Street, Huddersfield.

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Situations Vacant.

MARRIED COUPLE WANTED, to live in Vicarage.—Man to undertake the garden, must be a good kitchen gardener; wife to do the housework with the help of a young girl, latter must be a good plain cook, clean and economical. Apply, Rev. L. F. Hake, the Vicarage, Wraysbury, Staines.

TROUSER AND VEST HANDS WANTED.—Apply, J. Strutt, London Street, Kingston-on-Thames

Ringers Wanting Situations.

BOOT TRADE.—Change-ringer would be glad to hear of job on rivet or machine-sewn work, strong work preferred. R., care of editor. [Send stamped envelope.—Ed.]

COULD anyone help me to get a situation; I am willing to do anything. By trade a six-quarter Tapestry Weaver. Can ring Double Norwich, Stedman, Superlative, Cambridge, and London Surprise. Can conduct in method I can ring. I am willing to give my services as a ringer for getting employment. Married; 29 years of age; 15 years' character.—W. H. Smith, Lark Hill, Kidderminster.

GARDENER AND PARISH CLERK.—Understands both well; married; age 35; change-ringer, standard methods on eight or ten bells. Apply, office of this paper.

SITUATION Wanted as under Gardener, or single-handed am not particular as to any other sort of work. Age 21. Five years good character. Change ringer. Member of St. Mary's Society, Beedington.—A. Clayton.

WANTED by young man a situation as in-door servant, or would not object to other work; age 25; 10 years' experience as footman; 3½ years in present situation. Can ring Minor methods, and Grandsire and Plain Bob on eight. Member of Oxford Diocesan Guild. Address W. H., care of Editor.

WANTED.—Situation as gardener, single-handed or where help is given; age 29; single; change-ringer. R. Arnold, Betchworth, Surrey.

WANTED by a young man, light employment; age 23; change-ringer in four methods. Address, A. B. C., care of editor.

WANTED by widower, age 47, situation as stone-dresser or general miller, willing to take caretaker's place or any place of trust; 27 years' first-class reference; can ring standard methods and take charge of bells. A. Whight, 80, St. Ann's Road, Barking.

WANTED Situation as Sexton (understands duties), or any place of trust. Good change-ringer in all Standard Methods. Married; age 32; good testimonials. Member of Kent County Association and College Youths. Address, B.Y., care of Editor.

WANTED situation as Under Gardener, where two or more are kept; age 21; four-and-half years in last situation; good character and change-ringer. Address—F. Whiteman, Woodburn Town, near Maidenhead, Berks.

YOUNG MAN, 23, requires situation as clerk or position of trust; change-ringer and member of Durham and Newcastle Association; seven years' reference. Apply, Fred. P. Howcroft, 20, Westward Street, Middlesbrough, Yorkshire.

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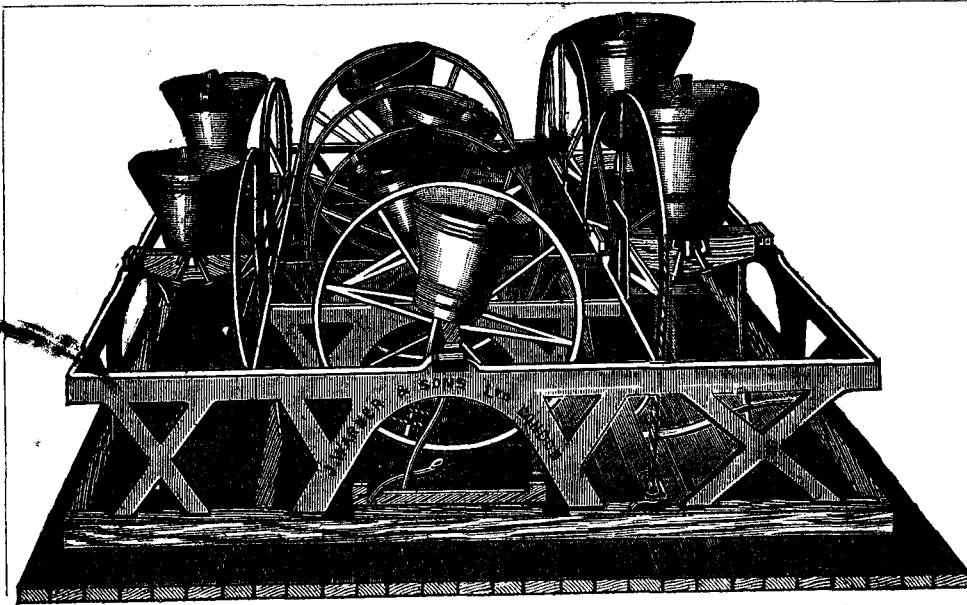
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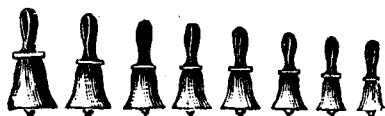
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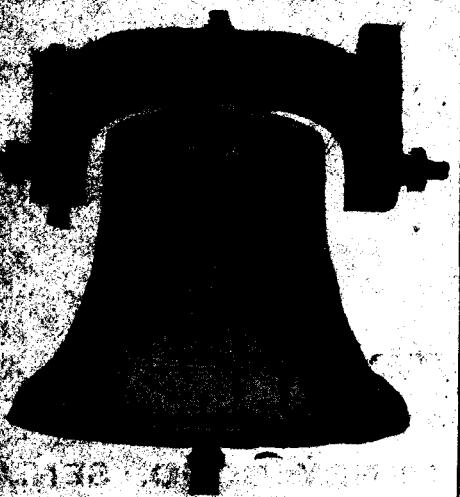
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